

Falls City Plans Full Day of Activities Celebrating America's 250th Anniversary

While Falls City has not traditionally hosted a community-wide Independence Day celebration, 2026 is no ordinary year. To commemorate America's 250th Anniversary, the Falls City Chamber & Main Street has a full day of patriotic festivities unlike anything the community has seen in recent years. From a color run and a Fourth of July Parade to Extreme Bull Riding, live music, family activities, and fireworks, July 4 promises to be a memorable celebration of this historic milestone.

The day will begin with the Firecracker Color Run, hosted by Community Medical Center. Participants can choose between a timed 5K race or a 1-Mile Freedom Walk. Registration will begin at 7:30 a.m. at the Falls City Elks parking lot, with the event starting at 8:00 a.m. Participants are encouraged to register in advance by contacting Linda Santo at Community Medical Center at 402-245-6704, although same-day registration will also be available.

Following the run, community members can enjoy the Vendor and Farmers Market from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at 1500 Stone Street hosted by The Friends of the Library. The market will feature local vendors, farmers, crafters, food vendors, and other small businesses.

At 11:00 a.m., Falls City will have the opportunity to show their patriotic spirit with an America's 250th Anniversary parade. The parade will line up around Pio-

neer Park before traveling south on Chase Street to 14th Street. Organizers are inviting businesses, organizations, and families to decorate vehicles, tractors, UTVs, golf carts, bicycles and patriotic floats. Register by emailing amber@fallschamber.com with your entry details or simply show up at Pioneer Park by 10:45 a.m.

The evening festivities will take place at the Jaycees Community Field, just 1 1/2 miles south of Falls City, where gates open at 4:00 p.m.

Families will find plenty to enjoy throughout the evening, including a petting zoo presented by Treydon Witt, face painting, a mechanical bull, a 4-H Pick-a-Duck Game, a Hy-Vee Watermelon Eating Contest, mutton bustin,' a patriotic dress competition, plus other crowd participation games explained at the event.

Food trucks and beer garden will be available throughout the event, including Katie's Tropical Sno, Whit's Pit BBQ, Tippy Trailer, Las Nenas Mexican and the Jaycee's Concessions Stand ran by the Sacred Heart Boys Basketball Team featuring beef burgers, hot dogs, nachos, popcorn and other crowd favorites. No outside food or drink is allowed at the event.

The main arena entertainment begins at 6:00 p.m. with Extreme Bull Riding presented by Double S Bull Company. Up to 36 riders will compete for prize money in what promises to be an action-packed evening. Addi-

tional crowd participation activities will also take place throughout the event.

At 8:00 p.m., high-energy rock and country band 4 on the Floor will take the stage for a live concert before the evening concludes with a fireworks display presented by the American Legion Post 102 and Jonathan Kirkendall at dark.

"This is a unique opportunity for our community to come together and celebrate a historic milestone," Amber Holle, Falls City Chamber & Main Street Director said. "We've planned activities throughout the day so there is something for everyone, from young children to adults. Whether you join us for the run, the parade, shopping uptown, the bull riding, or the fireworks, we hope the entire community will take part in this special celebration."

Advance tickets for the evening activities at the Jaycees Community Field are available online at fallschamber.com and at Equity Bank, F&M Bank, and Nebraska Bank. Adult tickets are \$20, Children 5-14 are \$10 and under 4 are free. Attendees can save \$5 per adult ticket by purchasing in advance.

For additional information, parade registration details, vendor information, or event updates, contact the Falls City Chamber & Main Street office at 402-245-4228 or visit fallschamber.com.



Persistence pays off, and boy it did in a big way

FC Recreation receives check for \$25K from First Interstate Bank and First Interstate BancSystem

By Brian McKim

"If at first you don't succeed, try, try again," is a quote from English educator and author William Edward Hickson's 1857 publication Moral Songs.

That sentiment proved especially true for Shandelle Gooch, a local First Interstate Bank Associate Community Banker.

Each year since 2022, employees at First Interstate Bank in Falls City have been able to nominate a non-profit of their choice to apply for the bank's grant program. Gooch has nominated other non-profits in the area in the past, but this year

chose Falls City Recreation due to her strong feelings and connections to the program.

Gooch, along with fellow bank employees, presented Board members of Falls City Recreation with a check donation of \$25,000 from First Interstate Bank and the First Interstate BancSystem Foundation as part of their fifth-annual Believe in Local grant campaign on Wednesday, June 17, at Grandview Park.

"Believe in Local has been a cornerstone of who we are for five years now," said Gooch. "And it never gets old to cele-

FC REC DONATION -Page 2

Falls City History

and
resilience
as we celebrate
250 years
of America

Pages 9-12

Commissioners hear updates from Cooper Nuclear

The Richardson County Board of Commissioners convened on Wednesday, June 24, 2026, at the Richardson Co. courthouse.

Dakota Schulenberg, a representative of the Brownville nuclear plant, presented a quarterly report to the Board. Schulenberg stated, "We're ticking right along this past quarter. Still one hundred percent power, no challenges, creating stability."

The Emergency Preparedness Offsite Coordinator also said the plant is working to implement IPAWS. He added that it is in

COMMISSIONERS -Page 2

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JULY

- 3** -Richardson County Courthouse Closed
- 4** -CMC Firecracker Color run 8AM
- Vendor & Farmer's Market 9AM to 1PM at 1500 Stone St.

JULY

- 4** -American's 250th Parade 11AM-1800-1400 Chase St.
- Extreme Bull Riding 6PM FC Jaycees Field
- Fireworks and live music at dark

JULY

- 5** -Faith, Family & Freedom at Bethel Global Methodist Church, 10:30
- 16** -Bloodmobile at Prichard Auditorium Noon to 6PM
- 17** -Bloodmobile at Prichard Auditorium 9AM to 3PM



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FC REC DONATION

-Continued from Page 1

brate nonprofit organizations like Falls City Recreation that are making a real difference in the places we call home. Falls City is better because of the work they do, and First Interstate is proud to invest in that mission."

The bank launched the Believe in Local campaign in 2022 to celebrate its long-standing commitment to the communities it serves. Each year, 40 nonprofits receive \$25,000 grants, totaling \$1 million in gifts. This year, Falls City's submission was selected from more than 640 applications.

As the crowd gathered at Morehead Field on Wednesday night, Gooch told those in attendance, "First Interstate Bank is proud to be a community bank where we take care of the places we call home."

Gooch continued, "These grants are unique because they are employee-nominated, then selected out of hundreds of nominations."

Gooch and fellow bank employees then revealed the oversized check, made out to Falls City Recreation for \$25,000.

Gooch's involvement with Falls City Recreation is well documented: first, by participating in events years ago, and more recently, by coaching for multiple seasons. Now, her child often participates in the sports offered.

Gooch envisions the grant being used in many ways, from lowering the cost of entry to improving

equipment and possibly expanding programs and creating new opportunities.

"With additional resources, we could launch fresh activities tailored to different age groups, abilities and interests," Gooch said. "From youth development programs to adult wellness classes to inclusive opportunities for individuals with disabilities, the expansion potential is enormous."

The grant is believed to be the largest single contribution to Falls City Recreation since the campaign to renovate the ballparks, which ended with the unveiling of the Fiedler Family Ball Complex on April 28, 2013.

"This grant means we can open the door wider, offering low-cost registration, safer equipment, better fields and new programs for kids who haven't had a chance to participate before," said Falls City Recreation Treasurer Derrick Leyden.

Falls City Recreation is an all-volunteer nonprofit that provides youth sports programs, including soccer, basketball, softball, and baseball, to kids in the Falls City area, where access to organized recreation depends on the people who show up to make it happen.

"This program is especially meaningful to me," said Gooch. "I grew up participating in summer recreation activities, and those experiences shaped my childhood. I would love to see the program continue to grow and thrive so today's kids can create the same lifelong memories. This grant would truly help keep that tradition alive."

COMMISSIONERS

-Continued from Page 1

FEMA's hands right now and then goes to the NRC.

"We'd like to get away from these sirens as soon as we can," said Schulenberg.

Schulenberg stressed the ease of sending alerts via mobile phones, compared with the need to provide and maintain sirens in the area.

Commissioner Karas asked how citizens in the area who don't have a cell phone receive the alerts.

Schulenberg responded that before IPAWS goes live, a notification will be distributed through newspapers and other channels to inform people of what is happening.

He said the best option for people without phones is to use a weather radio.

Schulenberg said the sirens will still work for a while; they just won't be maintained by the plant. He said they would likely continue operating until they are decommissioned, which would be the following year at the earliest.

"They are going to do the upkeep on them for this year," Schulenberg said. "We have to for regulations. So, it will still sound if people want to sound, but I will not be maintaining it anymore."

Highway Superintendent Steve Darveau Jr. reported on upcoming work for the "dustless highway" and asked whether the Board wanted the company to add the "Boy Scout Road" and the courthouse parking lot to the work order. The Commissioners approved adding the mastic overlay to the "Boy Scout Road" and the courthouse parking lot. Darveau said a July 7th start date is scheduled.

The Board also asked

Leadership Nebraska announces Bletscher to new class



The Nebraska Chamber Foundation announces 36 members of the new Leadership Nebraska class, marking the 18th year in the program's history.

Leadership Nebraska, presented by Medica, was established in 2006 to identify and develop current and emerging leaders across the state. The program strengthens participants' leadership skills while providing a deeper understanding of the opportunities, challenges, and issues shaping Nebraska's future.

The members of Class XVIII were selected from communities throughout Nebraska and represent a wide range of industries, professions, backgrounds, and experiences. Each participant has demonstrated a strong commitment to leadership, community engagement and the

continued growth and success of Nebraska.

Over eight months in 2026-27, participants will explore key issues impacting the state, including economic development, workforce and education, agriculture and natural resources, health care, public policy, and community development. Through immersive experiences, statewide travel, and conversations with Nebraska leaders, participants will gain valuable insights into the people, industries, and communities that drive Nebraska forward.

"The Nebraska Chamber is excited to welcome the 18th Leadership Nebraska class," said Matt Williams, interim president of the NE Chamber. "These individuals represent some of the brightest and most engaged leaders from across our state. They bring diverse experiences, fresh perspectives, and a shared commitment to making Nebraska stronger. Through Leadership Nebraska, they will have the opportunity to learn from one another, explore the challenges and opportunities facing our state, and build relationships that will last a lifetime."

Williams added, "Every time I visit a Nebraska community, I am reminded that our greatest asset is our people. The success of our businesses, communities, and state depends on leaders who are willing to step forward, collaborate, and think boldly about the future. I am excited to see how this class grows through the program and the impact they will have in their communities, organizations, and across Nebraska for years to come, joining a network of more than 450 Leadership Nebraska alumni who continue to make a difference every day."

Kelly Bletscher, Great West, LLC of Falls City was selected to participate in Leadership Nebraska Class XVIII.

Bletscher serves as Head of Finance for Great West, LLC, where she oversees financial operations for the company's offices.

Since joining Great West in 2022, Bletscher has played a key role in the company's continued growth and was promoted to Head of Finance in January 2026. Her leadership combines strategic financial management with a strong commitment to operational excellence, helping position the company for continued success in the pet food ingredient manufacturing industry.

Before joining Great West, Bletscher and her family owned and operated SchillingBridge Winery and Microbrewery and SchillingBridge Cork and Tap House. Bletscher is deeply committed to community involvement and economic development. She previously served on the Falls City Chamber Board and currently serves on the Growth Enterprise Marketing and Sales Committee and Board of Directors, where she helps support initiatives that encourage business growth and strengthen southeast Nebraska. A graduate of Nebraska Wesleyan University with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree, she is passionate about giving back through local schools, churches, and community organizations.

Kelly and her husband, Mitch, are raising their three daughters on the family farm, where faith, hard work, entrepreneurship, and service are central to family life.

Leadership Nebraska, presented by Medica, was established in 2006 to develop and connect leaders who are passionate about Nebraska's future. The seven-month program provides participants with an immersive look at the issues shaping the state, including workforce and economic development, agriculture, education, health care, and government.

"We're thrilled to welcome Kelly and the rest of Class XVIII," said Matt Williams, Interim President of the NE Chamber. "These leaders are already making a difference in their communities, and the Leadership Nebraska experience will give them new perspectives, deeper connections, and even greater impact in the years ahead."

For more information about Leadership Nebraska, visit www.nechamber.com.

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Humboldt water sample tests positive for coliform

During routine water sampling this month, a City of Humboldt water sample tested positive for coliform, according to a public notice from the city.

Coliform is used as an indicator of water quality and does not necessarily mean harmful bacteria are present. At this time, there is no known health risk associated with the water supply.

As required by EPA regulations, the water system will undergo chlorination for approximately 30 to 60 days while additional monitoring and testing are completed.

Anyone with questions may contact Mike Adair at 402-677-3781.

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WILL BE
CLOSED ON FRIDAY, JULY 3
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INDEPENDENCE DAY

Scot Hartman



Scot Hartman, 51, of Falls City, NE, passed away June 23, 2026 at Falls City. He was born October 16, 1974 at Falls City to Ed and Sandra (Dennis) Hartman.

He married Amanda Prosser on February 1, 1997 in Jamaica.

Scot was raised in Falls City and graduated Falls City High School in 1993. When married the couple established their home in Omaha where he managed a lawn care company.

They moved back to the family farm in Barada in 2000 and he worked to manage the family farm with his father. In 2021, he and his son started S & J Hartman Farms.

Scot is survived by his wife, Amanda of Falls City, son, Jack and his wife Hailey of Barada, parents, Ed and Sandra Hartman of Falls City, sister, Kristen Poppe and her husband Brian of Falls City, grandson, Declan and one on the way.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents.

The family received friends on Monday, June 29, 2026 from 6:00-8:00 PM at Dorr and Clark Funeral Home. Cremation will follow.

A graveside service will be held on Friday, July 3, 2026 at 10:30 AM at Harris Cemetery in Barada.

Friends may sign the guest registry during regular business hours and on Sunday after 12:00 PM until 5.

Beverly Kimmel



Beverly Kimmel, 97, of Falls City, NE, passed away June 24, 2026 at Falls City. She was born July 17, 1928 at Falls City to James and Nina (Whitney) Sefried.

She married Leonard Kimmel on March 25, 1972 at Nebraska City, NE. He passed away October 23, 2007.

Beverly was raised in Falls City and graduated Falls City High

School in 1946. Her life was surrounded by music, animals, flowers, wonderful friends and chocolate.

Beverly sang professionally for a few years following graduation, traveling with the popular big bands at the time. Later she worked for the United Telephone Company of Kansas for over 30 years. She then attended Kansas School of Floral Design and opened The Flower Cart and worked there until retirement. She was a member of First United Methodist Church, Methodist Women's Group and Reavis Ashley Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She and JoAnn Dunn started the Humane Society of Richardson County.

Beverly is survived by her brother, James Sefried and his wife Diane of Falls City, niece-in-laws, Barbara and Kris Sefried, great-nieces, Rachel, Sarah, Katie and Cynthia, honorary daughters, Sharolyn Adams, Donna Simpson, Sherry Prater and Glenda Nelson.

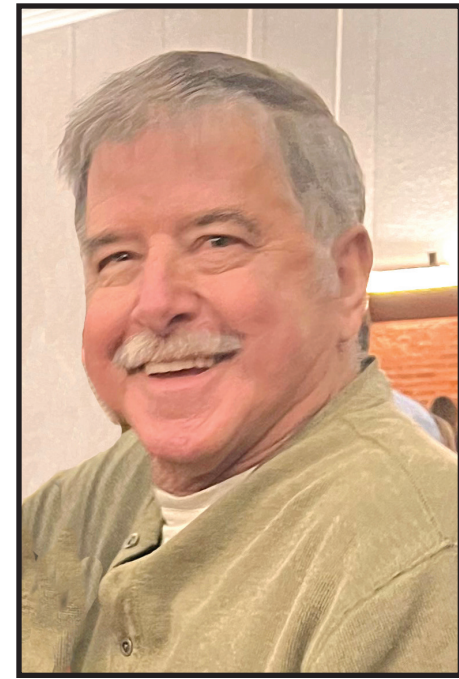
She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, nephews, Doug and Brad Sefried.

A graveside service will be held on Wednesday, July 1, 2026 at 11:00 AM at Steele Cemetery with Pastor Michelle Lessard officiating.

No viewing or visitation, friends may sign the guest registry during regular business hours at Dorr and Clark Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, family prefers memorials to the Humane Society of Richardson County or First United Methodist Church.

Fred Deckinger



Fred Leroy Deckinger, 78, of Falls City, passed away peacefully at his home, surrounded by his family, on June 27, 2026.

Born on July 25, 1947, in Humboldt, Nebraska, Fred was the son of Ralph Deckinger and Delma Fetzner. A true country boy, he grew up on the family farm near Preston and attended country

school before transferring to Falls City High School, where he graduated in 1965.

Fred spent many years at Seid Implement hauling machinery and painting tractors. He later worked several years in the auto body shop at Armbruster Motor Company. In September 1985, he purchased a lot on the south end of Falls City and opened Deckinger's Body Shop. He spent the next 38 years restoring tractors, repairing vehicles, and visiting with anyone who stopped by. The shop became a gathering place for friends, neighbors and family. Plenty of people stopped in just to see what Fred was up to and visit for awhile.

Outside of the shop, Fred proudly served nine years in the Nebraska National Guard and was a longtime member of the American Legion Honor Guard. He was an active member of Elks Lodge No. 963, where

he was named Elk of the Year in 2003, and was also a member of the Falls City Jaycees. In 2018, he and his wife, Gracie, were honored with the Jaycees Good Neighbor Award. Fred was a faithful member of Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus.

Fred married Gracie (Schawang) on September 14, 1968, and together they shared 57 years of marriage. Through the years, they enjoyed attending football, basketball and volleyball games, taking Sunday road trips and dancing to their favorite local band, Partners N Crime.

Fred truly didn't know a stranger. He was known for his jokes, his laugh and his ability to strike up a conversation with just about anyone.

He spent hundreds of hours cheering on the Irish and once attended a Sacred Heart State Tournament game the day after being released from the hospital. He loved John Deere tractors, cold iced tea and spending time in his "Man Cave" with his beloved dog, Rosie.

One of Fred's favorite titles was "Grandpa." If you talked to him for more than five minutes, chances were he'd tell you what one of his grandkids was up to. He was proud of every one of them and loved watching them grow into adulthood.

Fred was a friend to many, and a stranger to none. His stories, laughter and generosity will be remembered by all who knew him.

Fred is survived by his wife, Gracie; his children, Steve Deckinger, Christi Marx (Pat), and Julie Berten (Cody); his grandchildren, Eric Marx, Jordan Marx, Molly Roe (Mike), Preston Deckinger (Biyonka), Regan Deckinger, Saylor Hutfles, and Hudsyn Hutfles; his great-grandchildren, Dante Deckinger and Treyden Marx; his sister, Shirley Bradley; his brothers, Lanny Deckinger, Harlan Deckinger (Susan), and Curtis Deckinger (Teresa); his brothers- and sisters-in-law; and many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Fred was preceded in death by his parents, nephew, Isaac Deckinger and his in-laws, Paul and Bettie Schawang.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Friday, July 3, 2026 at 2:00 PM at Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church with Father Meysenburg as the presiding priest. Inurnment will be in Falls City Catholic Cemetery.

The family will receive friends on Thursday from 7-8:00 PM at Dorr and Clark Funeral Home.

No viewing, friends may sign the guest registry at Dorr and Clark Funeral Home during regular business hours.

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On behalf of the family of David Wheeler, we would like to thank everyone for the calls, texts, food and visits. He was loved by so many. We appreciate your kindness.

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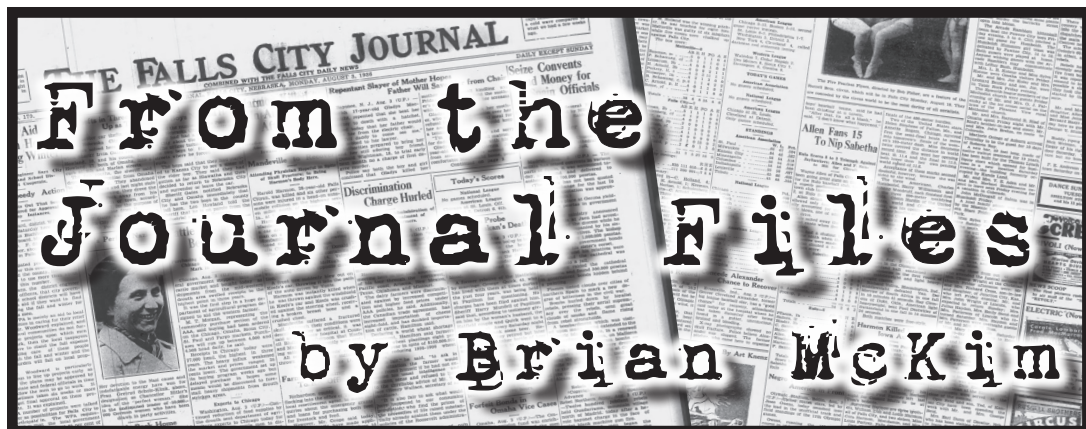


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COUNTY COURT

Jordan E. Kahbeah of Horton, count one, refuse to submit to test-1st, pled no contest, found guilty. Sentence includes cost-only judgement; count two, amended to dropped/dismissed; count three, operate motor vehicle/avoid arrest-misd, pled no contest, found guilty. Sentence includes jail for term of 180 days, credit for four days served, license revoked for term of one year; counts 4-7, amended to dropped/dismissed.

Janiel Diaz-Ortiz of Freeport, TX, count one, nonresident violate susp/rev order, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$150, license revoked for term of one year; count two, improper/defective vehicle lighting, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$25; count three, no valid registration, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$100.

Kiffen A. Hunzeker of Humboldt, counts 1-2, amended to dropped/dismissed; count three, possess controlled subs, amended to attempt of a class 4 felony, pled no contest, found guilty. Sentence includes jail for term of 30 days, credit for six days served; count four, contribute to delinquency of child, pled no contest, found guilty and sentenced to 30 days in jail; count five, contribute to delinquency of child, pled no contest, found guilty and sentenced to 30 days in jail; counts 6-7, amended to dropped/dismissed.

Steven B. Sayer of Falls City, count one, amended to dropped/dismissed; count two, intimidation-phone call/electronic comm, pled guilty, found guilty. Sentence includes fine of \$500, jail for term of five days, credit for time served.

Ashton J. Martin of Falls City, count one, possess controlled subs, amended to attempt of a class 4 felony, pled no contest, found guilty and fined \$750; count two, amended to dropped/dismissed.

CITATIONS

Nathan Peacock of Falls City, count one, fail to renew registration, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$25; count two, fail to use seat belt, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$25 and court costs. (Adams)

Sommer Bullard of Falls City, count one, no motorcycle operator's license, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$75; count two, violate stop or yield sign, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$75 and court costs. (Shiley)

Zachary Hilsabeck of Barnard, MO, count one, display fictitious plate, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$50; count two, fail to use seat belt, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$25 and court costs. (Adams)

Tucker Grimm of Hiawatha, KS, count one, speeding 21-35 mph, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$300 and court costs. (Agena)

Josiah McLaughlin of Lincoln, count one, dis-

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obey stop lights, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$75 and court costs. (Holliday)

Colton Harkendorff of Falls City, count one, display fictitious plates, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$50; count two, fail to use seat belt, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$25 and court costs. (Adams)

Donald Baxter of Falls City, count one, fail to renew registration, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$25; count two, fail to use seat belt, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$25 and court costs. (Adams)

Darrell Combes of Melvern, KS, count one, speeding 6-10 mph, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$75 and court costs. (Holliday)

Ralph Short of Meriden, KS, count one, speeding 11-15 mph, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$125 and court costs. (Holliday)

Alexis Falk of Verdon, count one, no valid registration, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$25; count two, fail to use seat belt, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$25 and court costs. (Adams)

Parking lot accident

A two-vehicle accident was reported at 9:20 a.m. June 3 on Barada Street in Falls City, according to a Falls City Police Department accident report.

The report states Merrill G. Rowell, of Falls City, was driving a 2025 Chevrolet Silverado. Ricky L. Harris, of Humboldt, was listed as the driver of a 2016 Honda CR-V.

According to the report, Rowell's vehicle hit Harris' vehicle while Rowell was attempting to turn into

Truck strikes power line in FC

A one-vehicle accident was reported at 9:27 a.m. May 13 on East 12th Street in Falls City, according to a Falls City Police Department accident report.

The report states Aaron Tremaine Swindle, of Omaha, was driving a 2024 Freightliner truck owned by Performance Food Service. Swindle was pulling away from the parking lot after delivering food goods to Luella's Cafe, 1124 Harlan St., and had started east on East 12th St. when the vehicle made contact with a power line running from an alley utility pole to a house at 1123 Lane St.

According to the report, the power line was pulled away from the house and onto the ground. Two utility poles were pulled over and were leaning. The Falls City Utility Department responded to correct the poles and reconnect power to the house.

The report listed damage to another structure owned by Rebecca L. Armbruster-Griffin, 1123 Lane St., Falls City, with an estimated damage amount of \$1,500.

a parking stall. The crash diagram listed the accident in the parking lot at 3307 Barada St. in Falls City.

The report listed \$1,500 in damage to Rowell's vehicle and \$1,500 in damage to Harris' vehicle. No apparent injury was listed for Rowell. Harris' injury status was listed as unknown in the report.

The accident was investigated by Officer Zackery Adams of the Falls City Police Department.

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75 Years Ago, July 1, 1951 to July 7, 1951

Eighteen boys from Boy Scout Troop 391 and 25 from Troop 392 arrived home from Camp Cedar near Fremont. Eldon Fryer, Scoutmaster of Troop 391 and Marion Wise, Scoutmaster of Troop 392, accompanied the youths.

The valuation of Richardson County for taxation purposes rose to over \$40,000,000, according to county officials.

Fireworks at Art's Service Station, 4 miles south of Falls City on the State Line. Hundreds of items to choose from. Art Dean.

The City of Auburn advertised spending the day in Auburn for the 4th of July. Events included Saddle Club entertainment, stock car races, a picnic lunch, fun at the swimming pool and golf on the 9-hole course at the Country Club.

The State Department of Roads and Irrigation announced the award of a contract to armor-coat the blacktop paving on Highway 4 between Falls City and Rulo. Steele Bros. of Dorchester submitted the low bid of \$11,356.30 for the nine miles.

Lyle Law, the former butcher at the IGA Store and his wife purchased the West Side Market on West 21st from Marland Voltmer.

An announcement was made of the purchase of the Falls City Coca-Cola Bottling Co. by Fred Windle and Jack Mitchell. Floyd Show, the plant's general manager, would continue in that position under the new ownership.

Will sell at cost. Highly desirable home sites in beautiful Meyers Heights, Falls City. 18 lots available in the block just north of 24th Street, between Morton and Wilson Streets. All paving and sewers paid for. Edwin S. Towle.

The bridge at the mouth of the Nemaha River was carried away by the flooding stream, and reports from other areas of the county indicated that, before the day was over, the county would have suffered a million-dollar blow to its bridges.

Jess and Howard Grush rescued about 65 head of cattle from the path of the floodwater in the Muddy Bottoms, north of Falls City.

M.C. Fidler took over the managerial post at the Hested Store, succeeding Ray Clough, who was named manager of a store in Fairbury.

Miss Margie Herold became the bride of Joseph Fleskoski at Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church on July 3rd. Msgr. Lawrence F. Obrist officiated the double-ring ceremony.

Junior American Legion Baseball vs. Nebraska City was taking place on Sunday, July 8, at City Park. Admission for the contest was 25 cents for adults and 10 cents for children.

50 Years Ago, July 1, 1976 to July 7, 1976

Governor J. J. Exon said that the state would end the fiscal year with a general fund treasury balance of approximately \$2 million. Exon said the balance was below what he had hoped for, but the state finished in the black nonetheless.

Over 10,000 people celebrated the 4th of July in Falls City in 1876, according to a 1876 Falls City Journal. Events included climbing a greased pole in an effort to get a \$5 bill, a greased-pig contest, followed by a sack race and a wheelbarrow race. A pigeon shooting competition was the main feature of the day. The day ended with fireworks and a dance at the courthouse.

As a Bicentennial tribute, the city employees lighted the water tower in red, white and blue. City employee August Strecker added his own patriotic touch, a flag patterned after the original flag of the 13 colonies. It measured five feet tall and nine feet long and was made up of 144 red, white and blue light bulbs.

The Supreme Court upheld the death penalty, ruling that it was not a constitutionally forbidden cruel and unusual punishment. The vote was 7 to 2, with Justices William Brennan Jr. and Thurgood Marshall dissenting.

Peru St. College President Dr. Douglas Pearson announced the promotion of Head Football Coach Jerry Joy to Athletic Director.

Mary Tauchen, Richardson County Heart Fund chairman for the previous four years, was elected to the Board of Directors of the Nebraska Heart Association.

The Shubert Bicentennial celebration drew over 500 people. The Falls City Girls' Softball League All-Stars played their first game of the summer, defeating Hiawatha 11-1. Ann Keeling led FC with a home run, a double and a single, while Chris Campbell, Debbie Kirkendall and Jan Kottich all added doubles.

Five of the ten members of the Nemaha High School class of 1926 held their 50th class reunion. Attending the dinner were Frieda Wolfe Boatman, Farson Dettmann, Mrs. Beulah Prall Duggan, Faye Moore and Everett Weddle.

A tradition that began 174 years prior ended as women prepared to join the ranks of the male cadets at the U.S. Military Academy in West Point, New York. West Point expected 118 women among the roughly 1,475 new cadets.

For sale—1-story 3-bedroom home completely remodeled inside and out. Located at 703 Lane St. Sale price \$12,000. Call Miller-Monroe Co.

25 Years Ago, July 1, 2001 to July 7, 2001

Scott Schock, managing editor of The Journal, was named publisher-editor, succeeding his father, Bill.

A milestone was reached in the effort to bring a new library to Falls City. With fundraising not yet reaching the one-year mark, efforts had already secured \$1 million.

The Nebraska Highway Program for 2002-2007 and beyond included five sizable Richardson County projects. Projects included a 7.6-mile section of Highway 8 between Falls City and Salem (\$855,000), a 7.1-mile section of Highway 105 south of Humboldt (\$795,000), a rebuilding of Highway 75 in Dawson (\$1,350,000) and a 1.6-mile section of Highway 73 north of Falls City (\$3,127,000).

On a 3-2 vote with one abstention, the City Council rejected the Chamber of Commerce request for a special two-day liquor license for the Jaycees' Tractor Pull and Demolition Derby.

Julie and Adam Froeschl were the parents of a son born at Community Medical Center. Max Daniel weighed 7 pounds, 10 ounces.

Husker volleyball players Angie Oxley, Kim Behrends and Jill McWilliams, all members of the 2000 undefeated national championship team, were in Falls City for the high school volleyball camp.

The Falls City Juniors Player of the Week was catcher Brent Shubert. Shubert went 10-for-18 for the week with four doubles and six RBI. The Elks' Midget Player of the Week was outfielder Adam Lippold. Lippold went 2-for-5 with four RBI and four stolen bases.

Jaycee president Brian Young presented Victoria Kirkendall and Lisa Palmer with 2001 Jaycees Scholarships.

Twins James and Jonathan Kirkendall enlisted in the United States Army on June 23 in Omaha. The twins would attend basic training at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, after completing their senior year.

Three Falls City High School students, Lauren Fischer, Rachel Isaacs and Brooke Stitzer, along with teacher Wanda Biel, returned from a trip to Europe. The group toured Germany, Austria and ended the trip in Paris.

Marty Froeschl and Burdeen Prater combined to shoot a one-under par 69 to win the July 4 Couples Alternate Shot/Scramble held at the Country Club.

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THURSDAY, JULY 2 - Regular Menu
FRIDAY, JULY 3 - New York Strip SPECIAL
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Bicentennial Quilt and Falter Art on display at museum

On July 4, to celebrate the 250 years of American History, the Richardson County Historical Society Museum will showcase two displays.

In 1976 Falls City North and South School Students created and painted quilt blocks depicting scenes from the Revolutionary War Era. The initials of the student artist and classroom name are shown on each individual block. The thirty-block quilt was completed by Retired Senior Volunteer Program volunteers. It was displayed in stores uptown and later at the Lydia Bruun Woods Memorial Library. Now it hangs in the Elementary School Room display at the Museum.

Also featured will be the six John P. Falter prints commissioned by the 3M Corporation for the Bicentennial Celebration fifty years ago. This "Sea to Shining Seas" series vividly portrays scenes from the nation's history in much detail. Falter hid a small modern item in each of the six.

The Museum will be open before, during and after the July 4th Parade.



This week's photo accompanies the story on the left. It says "Retired Senior Volunteer program volunteers, seated, are giving quilting demonstrations at North and South Elementary Schools. They are pictured here at South school with a group of students. May 1976."

Sacred Heart quarter four honor roll

Falls City Sacred Heart School has announced its Quarter 4 Honor Roll for the 2025-2026 school year. Students were recognized in two categories: Green Honor Roll, for averages of 94-100%, and White Honor Roll, for averages of 91-93%.

Seventh Grade

Green Honor Roll: Ashlyn Ahern, Kyla Bletscher, Marion Bristol, John Casey, Jack Delaney, Ben Geisendorf, Hadlee Georges, Mia Lemerond, Don Martineau, Reid Reschke, Olivia Santo, Gavin Schubert, Bryn Taft, McKenzie Tedman and Cassidy Tisdell.

White Honor Roll: Fischer Courtney and Anthony Martineau.

Eighth Grade

Green Honor Roll: Creighton Crofford, Chase Dishong, Halleigh Fritz, Raelynn Gruber, Peyton Hoffman, Kinlee Jackson,

Bernice Karire, Aven Kearney, Aliza Keller, Addy Kopf, Kaylie Lewis, Treyden Marx, Wyatt Nussbaum, JT Stice and Natalie Witt.

White Honor Roll: Michael Coetzee, Owen Howard, Kendall Johansen, Rhett Kimmi and Keira Lendermon.

Ninth Grade

Green Honor Roll: Carlee Bailey, Rachel Bauman, Ava Bletscher, Josie Bletscher, Jenna Geisendorf, Payten Georges, Kinley Lechtenberg, Bailey Lemerond, Aiden Scheitel, Kemper Sipple, Macy Taft, CeeJay Tisdell, Andrea Volmer, Stella Waller, Kamrie Wilson and Cash Witt.

White Honor Roll: Lena Delaney, Brooklyn Fletcher, Noah Howard and Treydon Witt.

Tenth Grade

Green Honor Roll: Milayna Crofford, Mya Dougherty, Jade Romo and

Ryann Westengaard.

White Honor Roll: JJ Lancaster and Reid Wustrack.

Eleventh Grade

Green Honor Roll: Hayden Clow, Emersyn Courtney, Renee Drummond, Willa Fritz, Kayden Groth, Hallie Jones, Isabelle Nussbaum, Alise Reschke, Charlie Rottinghaus, Justice Smith, Emily Tubbs, Ellery Vonderschmidt and Allarie Wilson.

White Honor Roll: Toby Baxter, Dorothy Crouse, Hudsyn Hutfles and Alex Nelson.

Twelfth Grade

Green Honor Roll: Eli Geisendorf, Mason Goltz, Parker Hoffman, Cooper Knobbe, Brenden Lemerond, Mari Marchica, Avery Santo, Kyler Sipple, Cole Taft and Daycee Witt.

White Honor Roll: Elijah Canonico and Alex Madsen.

Congratulations to all students recognized for their academic achievement during the final quarter.

Heckenlively graduates from Doane University

More than 300 students earned their degrees at Doane's spring commencement, held Saturday, May 16, 2026 on Doane University's Crete campus.

Students hailed from 70 Nebraska cities and towns, 23 states outside Nebraska and 12 countries outside the United States of America. Graduates included Falls City resident Timothy J. Heckenlively, Doctor of Education.

American Red Cross announces 2026 Scholarship recipients

The American Red Cross is proud to announce the recipients of their 2026 scholarships. Students from Falls City Sacred Heart are; Cooper Knobbe, son of Kent and Jackie Knobbe, is going to SCC in Milford, Brenden Lemerond, is going to SCC in Lincoln, Avery Santo, daughter of Luke and Jina Santo, is going to SCC in Lincoln, Kyler Sipple, son of Robbie and Amanda Sipple, is going to SCC in Lincoln, Cole Taft, son of Troy and Angie Taft, is going to SCC in Milford and Daycee Witt daughter of Monty and Nicole Witt, is going to SCC in Lincoln.

As of now no information has been received on Falls City High School students.

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MoWest names students to Dean's List

Missouri Western State University named 366 students to the Dean's Honor Roll for the spring semester of 2026.

Students who carried 12 or more hours of graded credit and earned a grade point average of

3.5 or above qualify for the honor. The local student named to the list Eliza Kuker of Falls City.

\$2000 JULY 4TH GIVEAWAY

SATURDAY 4pm - 8pm
20 HOT SEAT WINNERS WILL BE RANDOMLY SELECTED FROM 4PM - 8PM

USA JULY 4TH FLAG GIVEAWAY

SATURDAY Starting at 8am July 4

TRAEGER WOODRIDGE PRO GRILL + 1/2 BUFFALO GIVEAWAY

SATURDAYS JULY 11 • JULY 18 9pm

Earn 1 Entry for Every 10 Slot Points Earned
Drawing 1 | July 5 at 12:35AM to July 11 at 9:00PM to Qualify
Drawing 2 | July 12 at 12:35AM to July 18 at 9:00PM to Qualify

Guests may exchange \$50 in Comp Points for 1 Drawing Entry, with a cap of 2,500 drawing entries per promotional week.

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SATURDAY 4pm - 6pm July 11

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SATURDAY July 25 | 8pm

\$3500 CASH & FREE-PLAY AFTER SHOW DRAWING

Visit the Winner's Club for Details. Must be 21 years of age.

SOCIETY NEWS

Shubert American Legion Auxiliary Unit 222

By Tana J Brown, Secretary

The Shubert American Legion Auxiliary Unit 222 met June 9, 2026 at the home of Vicki Beilke. Co-President Vicki Beilke called the meeting to order and called for a moment of silence. In the absence of Chaplain Lacey Noa, Dona Hall offered the opening prayer.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The chorus of "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" was sung, and the ALA Preamble was recited.

District President Bobbi Albers was warmly welcomed.

Roll call was answered by seven members.

Secretary Tana Brown read the minutes of the May 12, 2026 meeting. They were approved as read.

Judy Schlosser gave the treasurers report.

Vicki Beilke reminded everyone of the upcoming Department Convention in June. An invitation was also shared from Falls City Care Center inviting all volunteers to come to an appreciation event. Sadly the invite did not arrive in the mail until a few weeks after the event.

District President Bobbi Albers spoke to the group. She shared that the district basket prepared to be auctioned at Department Convention for the AEF raffle has turned out very nice and thanked the Shubert Unit for their contributions. She highly encouraged the unit to send a report of our activities to Ruth Hietbrink for the submission she is doing for the Northwestern Division Accomplishments. She spoke about membership and how well the district has done this year. She is very proud of everyone.

Committee Reports: Judy Schlosser will take treats to the facilities in Falls City in June. Around 700 poppies were placed for Memorial Day in eight local cemeteries on the graves of Veteran and Auxiliary members.

President Bobbi Albers installed the Officers present for the coming year. Vicki Beilke as President, Judy Schlosser as Treasurer, Tana Brown as Secretary. Due to the sudden passing of Jana Wheeler's husband Dave, Jana, our upcoming Vice President and Lacey Noa as Chaplain were absent for the installation.

The Unit plans to be in the Brownville Parade on July 4th. Vicki Beilke will drive. We will gather at the church parking lot as usual.

There was discussion regarding a flag retirement ceremony. That was tabled for now.

Committee assignments were reviewed and most will remain as they have been.

The next meeting will be July 14, 2026 at the home of Vicki Beilke.

Dona Hall gave the closing prayer

President Vicki Beilke declared the meeting adjourned.

Notable events that have taken place on July 4th

July 4 has served as America's Independence Day for centuries, many other significant and memorable events have taken place on the fourth day of July.

1744: The Treaty of Lancaster is signed in Pennsylvania. The treaty dictates that the Iroquois will cede land between the Allegheny Mountains and the Ohio River to the British colonies.

1776: The United States Declaration of Independence is adopted by the Second Continental Congress. July 4 actually marks the day the final wording of the declaration, which had been submitted on July 2, was approved.

1802: The United States Military Academy officially commences operations. Located in West Point, New York, the USMA is the oldest of the five American service academies.

1826: On the fiftieth anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of the Independence, the second and third presidents of the United States, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson, respectively, pass away.

1913: President Woodrow Wilson addresses veterans of the American Civil War at a reunion marking the fiftieth anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg. More than 50,000 veterans of the war, including roughly 9,000 Confederate veterans, attend the reunion.

1939: New York Yankees first baseman Lou Gehrig announces his retirement to a crowd at Yankee Stadium, informing them he feels he is "the luckiest man on the face of the earth." Gehrig had recently been diagnosed with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, a disease that would later be widely referred to as "Lou Gehrig's disease."

1983: Twenty-four-year old New York Yankees left-hander Dave Righetti throws a no-hitter against the rival Boston Red Sox at Yankee Stadium. Righetti struck seven of the first nine batters he faced and even overcame a delay in the eighth inning when umpire Steve Palermo suffered a knee injury. Outspoken Yankees owner George Steinbrenner did not attend the game, as he was in Florida celebrating his 53rd birthday with family.

2004: The cornerstone of the Freedom Tower is laid on the World Trade Center site in New York City. Now known as One World Trade Center, the building formally opened in November 2014.



Brownville Concert Series presents SoulRoot Band

The Brownville Concert Series is thrilled to welcome back to Brownville, SoulRoot Band. Playing all your favorites from the last six decades, SoulRoot has become one of the most requested Top 40 cover bands in Missouri. Strong vocals with spot on four-part harmonies, blazing guitar licks, and a rock-solid rhythm section

is what you should expect! It's sure to be one you won't want to miss!

The show will be in cabaret on Friday and Saturday, July 10-11th at 7:30pm, and Sunday, July 12th at 2:00pm. We give special thanks to Dick and Jennifer James, J. Randel Smith and Jane Crooker Smith Charitable Trust, and Community Insurance Group and State Bank of Table Rock for helping to sponsor these shows.

What do you get when you put five guys together who have over 80 years combined experience, and all have a desire and passion for performing music? You get SoulRoot! An evening spent with SoulRoot will bring you the music that you love from many different genres.

SoulRoot has a deep love for live music that fuels everything they do. Back in 2012, lead vocalist Ron Schieferdecker and guitarish/vocalist Rob Frommel were looking for a misfit rhythm section and grabbed bassist Bill

Roe and drummer Johnny Walker. Together, the four of them forged the SoulRoot sound and rocked the socks off Mid-Mo. In 2017, the guys found their long-lost-sister, keyboardist/vocalist Thesee Weber. The band knew they had more adventures ahead and added their secret weapon, guitarist/vocalist Paul Kendrick in 2022.

Over the years, they have become family and love to hang out almost as much as bringing music to life on stage together. Come out and have some fun with SoulRoot!

Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$16 for Students. Purchase them online at www.brownvilleconcertseries.org, on Facebook or call 402-825-3331. The Nebraska Arts Council (www.nebraskaartscouncil.org), a state agency, supports this program through a matching grant funded by the Nebraska Legislature, the National Endowment for the Arts and the Nebraska Cultural Endowment.

BUILDING PERMITS

Sharon Harmon, 401 E 15th St.; Replace Roof, \$20,155.00.

ONJ Transport LLC (Otto Stice), 2104 Crook St.; Sidewalk Installation, \$7,000.00.

Barb Shurtleff, 1902 Abbott St.; House and Garage Siding, \$17,300.00.

Ronald Bennett, 507 E 17th St.; Demolition of the House, \$10,000.00.

Jason Richardson, 1102 McLean St.; Fence Permit \$1,000.00.

Keith Hayes, 2103 Morgan St.; Home Addition (12' x 20') \$21,000.00.

SENCA 320 W 14th St.; Sewer Line, \$2,500.00.

Wylene Picton, 817 E 17th St.; Roof Replacement, \$8,700.00.

Kyle Bangert, 2717 Towle St.; Wall Anchors, \$31,611.20.

Isaac Knight, 1801 Stone St.; Support Bowing Wall, \$8,012.48.

Cody Cochran, 415 Dorrington Ct.; New Prefab Home (93' x 37' 8"), \$420,396.00.

Larry and Bev Chesnut, 1024 Wilson St.; New Water Heater, \$1,200.00.

Josh Roys, 1801 Abbott St.; Wall Bracing for Bowing Wall, \$5,819.12.

Aaron Collier, 710 McLean St.; House Demolition, \$3,000.00.

Ashley and Brandon Keithley, 1803 Lane St.; Deck Installation, \$10,000.00.

Elizabeth Fritz 1808 Abbott St.; New Fence, \$500.00.

Emma Killingsworth and Jaden Nolte, 2018 Crook St.; New Fence, \$500.00.

Southeast NE Land Bank, 824 McLean St.; Demolition of House, \$5,000.00.

Scott Magdanz, 1515 Valley Ave.; Demolition of House, \$10,000.00.

Kenneth Frederick 710 W 21st St.; Demolition of House, \$8,090.00.

Falls City Journal

nikki@fcjournal.net
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Grandstand Events

Thursday, July 9 - 5-7 p.m. Midget Practice and Micro Qualifying, admission Beer Garden 5-8 p.m.

Friday, July 10 - 7:00 p.m. Midwest Midget Nationals Racing Beer Garden 4 p.m., Dance "Hockett" - 9:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m.

Saturday, July 11 - 7:00 p.m.- USAC Midwest Midget Nationals Racing Beer Garden & Dance "AM/FM BAND" - 9:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m.

Horse Arena Events-- Free Admission

<p>Tuesday & Wednesday, July 7 & 8</p> <p>Rough Stock Rodeo, 6:30 p.m. - Mutton Bustin' 7 p.m. - Barrels, Broncs and Bulls Freedom Riders</p> <p>Thursday, July 9</p> <p>7p.m. - Ranch Rodeo</p>	<p>Saturday, July 11</p> <p>8a.m. - 4-H Horse Show</p> <p>Sunday, July 12</p> <p>9 a.m.-Noon Extreme Trail Clinic 2 p.m. - Contest/Challenge</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Check out our Special Events</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"> Jefferson County Fair (Nebraska)</p>
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- Games & activities for all ages
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FAST Global Solutions and Unifi Aviation Partner on Breast Cancer Awareness Cart Initiative

FAST Global Solutions, a leading manufacturer of ground support equipment (GSE) and conveyor systems, announces a meaningful partnership with Unifi Aviation, North America's largest aviation services company, through the purchase of 25 breast cancer awareness Bravo Carts now actively deployed across five U.S. cities.

The specially branded pink carts are in service at Unifi operations in Atlanta, Bakersfield, Billings, Bismarck, and San Diego, bringing visibility to breast cancer awareness in high-traffic aviation environments.

A Partnership Rooted in Trust: This purchase reflects the deep, long-standing relationship between FAST and Unifi, built on years of reliable product quality and service. For Unifi, the Bravo Cart was a natural extension of their commitment to both operational excellence and social responsibility.

"Purchasing this is a celebration of our long-time relationship with FAST and our long-time support of breast cancer awareness." — Daniel Burtis, Senior GSE Buyer, Unifi Aviation

Unifi has a long history of supporting breast cancer awareness, and this purchase formalizes that tradition with purpose-built, high-visibility equipment from a trusted manufacturing partner.

The FAST Bravo Cart is a high-performance baggage cart engineered for reliability, safety, and long service life in demanding ramp environments. Compatible with FAST's full Bravo Series of ground support equipment, the Bravo Cart is trusted by aviation services providers across North America.

MEN'S GOLF LEAGUE RESULTS

Scores shown are actual scores and handicap totals.

Early League results from Tuesday, June 23, 2026.

Team 1 (1.00) Liberty, Brandon 41-39; Meysenburg, Fr. Jim 46-39. Team 10 (5.00) Hankins, Dan 44-33; Kermodae, Terry 51-39.

Team 2 (4.50) Hays, Gary 39-34; Heinzelman, Denny 45-34. Team 9 (1.50) Kurpgeweit, Lee 44-38; Mullins, Jim 41-33.

Team 3 (0.00) Ebel, Ron 49-45; Severin, Steve 56-38. Team 8 (6.00) Hilliard, Mark 41-33; Foster, Tim 42-33.

Team 4 (6.00) Borg, Dave 40-35; Murphy, Jim 46-34. Team 7 (0.00) Romine, Alan 54-44; Sailors, Chuck 54-43.

Team 5 (4.50) James, Charles 38-32; Rowland, Rod 47-40. Team 6 (1.50) May, Mark 44-39; Bennett, Chuck 47-38.

Late League results from Tuesday, June 23, 2026.

Team 1 (7.50) Dunn, Joe 36-37; Bippes, Drew 40-33; Coonce, Kyle 51-29. Team 3 (0.50) Aitken, Bob 42-38; Bredemeier, Logan 55-36; Scheitel, Logan (F).

Team 2 (4.00) Montgomery, Carter 39-38; Malone, Kevin 39-33; Sly, Tony 54-37. Team 20 (4.00) Anderson, Dusty 43-35; Heckenlively, Tim 49-40; Dunn, Mike 51-36.

Team 4 (8.00) Witt, Tom 36-33; Froeschl, Nathan 39-32; Morris, Adam 45-34. Team 19 (0.00) Da-

vis, Darin 39-34; Hillyard, Mark 46-38; Romine, Alan 56-45.

Team 5 (2.00) Simon, Steve 38-36; Daake, Brian 43-37; Merz, Mitch 63-36. Team 18 (6.00) May, Mark 44-39; Chesnut, Justin 41-35; Harmon, Jason 46-34.

Team 6 (2.00) Bachman, Eli (F); Witt, Wade (F); Leyden, Derrick 47-33. Team 17 (6.00) Borg, David 40-35; Witt, Bailey 36-26; Godemann, Ted 59-48.

Team 7 (6.00) Kurpgeweit, Lee 44-37; Schawang, Cade 56-47; Bauman, Jackson 43-30. Team 16 (2.00) Bennett, Chuck 47-40; Steele, Brendan 53-43; Heinzelman, Eric 49-37.

Team 8 (3.00) Simon, Dan 37-35; Rowland, Rod 44-39; Waller, Doug 50-33. Team 15 (5.00) Van Dyke, Kyle 39-36; Froeschl, Ethan 46-38; Cole, Gavin 40-32.

Team 9 (1.00) Kirken-dall, Jeremy 39-36; Witt, Rich (F); Craig, Robbie 47-34. Team 14 (7.00) Gerweck, Rob 39-35; Meysenburg, Fr. Jim 41-30; Jordening, Ron 46-33.

Team 10 (2.00) Gist, Thomas 44-39; Poppe, Brian (F); Keller, Bart 53-35. Team 13 (6.00) Ferguson, Don 44-40; Froeschl, Joe 41-33; White, Christian 53-34.

Team 11 (8.00) Ebel, Ron 38-36; Siel, Jake 42-38; Dunkhas, Gale 49-36. Team 12 (0.00) Liberty, Brandon 40-37; McNeely, John 48-41; Bek, Adam 48-38.



Welcome to installment No. 2 of 'The Cob's Archive Dive', where each week, I share Associated Press headlines and excerpts from past articles published by the Falls City Journal. Whether you are 20 years old or 80, hopefully you'll find a piece of Husker football history that takes you back to the sights and sounds of game-day years ago.

On this day in Cornhusker Football History:
August 28, 1970 – Headline: 'Black Shirts to Lack Experience'

They've come to be known as Black Shirts. They draw the assignment of shackling the offenses of Nebraska football opponents. Each year sees more turnover in personnel in this Husker defensive unit. But each year the Black Shirts seem to wind up as a prideful aggregation who hate passionately to give up yardage. "We made great progress with our defense in the spring," said Devaney. "The Black Shirt tradition has become a big pride factor on our team, and I don't think you can count our defense out-even though it lacks experience."

(Rhule needs to restore the pride involved in wearing a Black Shirt. It seems to have lost its meaning under him. Notable names from the 1970 Black Shirts, Jerry Martaug, Adrian Fiala, Larry Jacobson, Willie Harper, and Joe Blahak.)

August 13, 1980 – Headline: 'Preseason View, NU has Potential'

Talented running backs and a host of All-American candidates on defense have Nebraska coach Tom Osborne thinking his 1980 Cornhuskers, "have potential." In his eighth year as head coach, Osborne has a wait and see attitude toward many of his new faces, but he is also aware of the talent he returns. "Redwine is the biggest breakaway threat we've had since Johnny Rodgers," Osborne said. Behind Redwine is sophomore Roger Craig, who Osborne thinks could develop into the best back ever at Nebraska. Both I-backs will receive lead blocks from fullback Andre Franklin, "He's the best fullback I've ever coached, definitely an All-American candidate," Osborne said. As far as the 1980 schedule is concerned, "It's as tough as we've faced in a long, long time," Osborne said. Nebraska faces Utah, Iowa, Penn State, Florida State, and the usual Big Eight punishment.

(People want to talk about how tough Nebraska's schedule is in 2026, but it isn't even one of the top five toughest schedules in the Big Ten this season. Rhule would be moaning the blues if he had Utah and Florida State as part of his non-conference schedule this season.)

August 7, 1990 – Headline: 'Osborne Turns Down Pay Raise and Tenure'

Osborne tried to turn down his recent \$8,500 raise that will boost his salary for the 1990-91 fiscal year to \$114,000. "I'm not trying to be a martyr turning down money. I just feel we're going to have to bite the bullet in some areas. And this is a way to show football is a part of this too," Osborne said. Should Osborne ever seek a "lifetime" pact similar to Florida State's Bobby Bowden, 60, signed in January, NU Athletic Director Bob Davaney is ready to help. "Tom is as deserving of a lifetime contract as any coach in the country," Davaney said, "I'd recommend him for any length of contract he'd want. I think he's the best football coach in the country and one of the finest people in the game." Osborne finished with saying, "At Nebraska if you ever got complacent and your teams weren't performing on the field, life would become so miserable that it wouldn't be worth staying even if you had a lifetime contract"

(Oh, how times have changed. The first two headlines of August 1990 talk about television and what coaches are being paid. Today the Big Ten has a billion-dollar television deal and Nebraska head coach Matt Rhule makes \$7 million a year. I'm not sure you could get Rhule to leave no matter how miserable he was, especially with a lifetime contract.)

August 13, 2000 – Headline: Defense Seeks Identity Unfortunately for the Huskers, inseparable partners on NU's defense last season, Ralph Brown and Mike Brown aren't coming back. "Before I ever came to Nebraska," junior cornerback Keyo Craver said, "people told me we don't rebuild. We reload. I know it's an old saying, and everyone has heard it, but we're not into rebuilding. We also don't replace old players. We create new ones." An era of Nebraska football ended in January when Mike Brown and Ralph Brown played their final NU game. First-team All-Americans in 1999, Mike Brown as a rover and Ralph Brown as a right cornerback, the unrelated defensive co-captains started 91 games the past four seasons. Their departure leaves a gap in leadership for the defense of 2000 to reconstruct. With Mike Brown ranking as the no.2 tackler in NU history, that won't be easy.

(With having so much success through the mid to late 90's, it got harder and harder to replace guys like Ralph and Mike Brown. Having played for four full years there weren't a lot of opportunities for players behind them to get playing time, and they are just two examples of that.) Be sure to look for next week's edition as the 'Cob' dives into each week's headlines of the season as they once appeared in the Falls City Journal.

Go Big Red! Simple, Fast Violent!
All headlines and excerpts were gathered from Associated Press articles, and most but not all were published in the Falls City Journal. Home - Falls City Journal - Falls City, NE
Stay on top of Husker football at CarrikerChronicles.com.

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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 KTNB 1230am / 107.1fm) First Sun. fellowship 10:30; Adult Bible Study: 9:45AM. fmc@sentco.net *Pastor Michelle Lessard - 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. *Johanna Kathol, Pastor - 402-245-3828*
St. Thomas Episcopal Church (16th & Harlan) Sunday Worship, 10:30am (Holy Eucharist) https://stthomasepisc.com
Nortridge (1820 Morton St.) Sunday School, 9am; Worship, 10am. www.northridge-network.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/spcfc 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

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 Stases, 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 Seedorf, Pastor. 816-507-7339*

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By Brian & Nikki McKim

Last month, we announced that we had been selected to participate in a national newspaper initiative focused on the future of community journalism in rural America. The project included community surveys, focus groups and discussions meant to help the *Journal* remain strong, sustainable and community focused for generations to come.

That selection really meant the world to us. Over the next couple weeks, Brian and I will (*and already have been*) be doing a lot of discussing, making some decisions and really reflecting on what will be best for the *Journal* moving forward. We have been looking closely at the feedback we have received, the results of the survey and the conversations taking place through this initiative.

Some of the changes have already started. This week, we moved some pages around based on feedback we received. It may seem small, or big to some but it is the beginning of changes we will be making as we continue to evaluate what serves you, our readers best. We will make a more formal announcement in the coming weeks about some of the changes ahead and what we learned through this process.

In the meantime we want to take a moment to publicly thank someone who has quietly become such a blessing to our office: Uncle Matt. He has been painstakingly going through the old negatives we have been posting on Facebook and online, one by one. He has been cleaning up damaged ones, scanning them and uploading them. It's careful, time-consuming work. It's also work we don't have the time to do on our own.

Our family has stepped up in so many ways to help with things we can't get to, and having Uncle Matt and my dad around the office has been such a gift. A gift of hundreds of stories like how our office was the old Chat-n-Nibble where they spent time with their grandpa Harmon. The old photos Uncle Matt is helping preserve have brought joy to so many people. Every time someone recognizes a face, a building, a classmate, a parent, a grandparent or a long-forgotten moment, it reminds me why this all matters.

Researching the historical feature this week emphasized that even more deeply. It's wonderful to have things online. Facebook has its place. Websites have their place. Social media can spread a memory quickly. But there is something different about having it documented in the pages of the *Journal*.

The businesses that are here now. The organizations making a difference. The people giving their time, building things, helping others, opening stores, coaching teams, raising families, serving on boards, showing up when someone needs them. Those things can get lost online. A post can disappear in a feed. A photo can be buried. A computer can crash. A password can be forgotten. A platform can change.

But when it's printed in the newspaper, it becomes part of the permanent record of this community. It becomes our history. We were reminded of that this week when while researching Armbruster Motor Company to help find the date they will be celebrating their anniversary. After going through pages of our files, the information was found in our archives. That is what a newspaper does. It keeps track. It remembers.

Our own system is not perfect. Nothing is. We have more photos in our archives from 1951 through 2001, but like many businesses, we have also dealt with computer crashes (we lost everything when we had a computer crash in 2020!), aging computers, employee turnover and the constant danger of information being lost. That reality makes this preservation work feel even more urgent. Still, we believe in what we have here. We believe in this newspaper.

We believe in the history it holds, the community it serves and the future we are trying to build. And we are humbly asking for your help and your trust. Please help us continue to tell this community's story. Share photos and information if you're at an event we can't make. We will print it. Please join us on this new adventure.

Get a subscription for your kids, your grandkids, your neighbors or your friends. Encourage someone who moved away to reconnect with home through the pages of the *Journal*. Always be sharing your feedback, sending us your ideas. Tell us what you want to see more of and what would make this paper stronger.

Our emails are always on Page 2 of this paper. Our dropbox in our entryway is always open for notes. Our email is always there. Our door is open whenever we are in the office.

The views and opinions expressed in editorials, columns, opinion pieces, letters to the editor or other commentary published in the *Falls City Journal* are solely those of the individual authors or contributors and do not necessarily represent the official position, policy or viewpoint of the *Falls City Journal*, its owners, staff or management. Opinions presented in columns or opinion pieces are explicitly the viewpoints of the authors and should not be interpreted as factual assertions or allegations. Unless explicitly stated otherwise, opinions expressed by non-staff contributors do not reflect the positions of the newspaper or its employees.

We want this to be your paper. Because that is what the *Falls City Journal* has always been at its best not just our newspaper, but the community's newspaper. And with your help, we believe it can continue to be that for generations to come.

ALL THINGS NEBRASKA

Maybe smartphones don't make us 'smart'

By Paul Hammel, Retired Senior Reporter for Nebraska Examiner

A good buddy has a favorite saying: "We're all smart. We have smartphones."

It's funny, and I've used it several times.

After all, smartphones have, in a lot of ways, made our lives easier and smarter.

Got an unfamiliar address to find? Use the smartphone to give you directions.

Hungry for a burrito? Use a smartphone to find the nearest restaurant.

Engaged in a heated argument over who hit the most home runs, Willie Stargell or Harmon Killebrew? Google it on your smartphone.

They have basically killed a good bar bet.

But more and more evidence says smartphones haven't exactly sharpened our intellect.

(It's even been suggested that smartphones have contributed to a falling birthrate in the U.S. by replacing in-person relationships, those that could lead to a birth, with swiping on the smartphone.)

Lots of states, including Nebraska, now have laws that aim to eliminate or reduce smartphone use by students at school.

The book, "The Anxious Generation," argues that the advent of the smartphone — one that allows continuous access to the internet — was the main driver behind a sharp increase in teen depression and suicides in the 2010s after smartphones became widely used.

The author, Jonathan Haidt, maintains that as more and more teens went to their phones to check on social media rather than engage in unsupervised play, it created a "great rewiring" of sleepless nights, isolation from others and addiction to screen time.

Those video "reels" on Facebook are the most addictive to me. Stuff like scenes of ocean liners capsizing, huge walleye being caught somewhere, or my Pirates eking out a run. Ten minutes later — or even later — I snap out of it, and return to reality.

We've all been to restaurants and watched four teens, or even four adults, glued to the screens of their smartphones rather than engaging in any kind of conversation.

(And we've all glanced at a nearby driver who is staring into a smartphone instead of looking at the road ahead. Thirty-three states have bans on hand-held cell phone use while driving a car or truck. Nebraska restricts it only for school bus drivers and kids under 18 using a learner's permit.)

In the classroom, the research is somewhat mixed, with some studies showing that smartphone use can increase learning. But there's no doubt that smartphones can be a distraction, and

take away from person-to-person interactions.

I think Nebraska's law, which requires local school districts to adopt smartphone policies, makes sense. It allows local school boards and parents some flexibility on where to draw the line.

It's a complicated topic. Smartphones have become indispensable in a lot of ways. They're our football tickets, our wallets, our weather forecaster, our newspaper, our compass and a prime means of communication.

But too much screen time isn't very smart, it seems. But where to draw the line? (And where to draw the line on artificial intelligence or AI?)

My daughter, a third-grade teacher, says there's hope. "Her generation," she says, is setting limits, though she knows that some parents find it hard to say "no" and use smartphones to occupy their kids, rather than engage with them.

Setting limits and restrictions has also become a key topic for debate by lawmakers and school officials.

You can tell I'm getting old because I miss those days when a gang of kids would gather on a vacant lot and pick up teams for a wiffle ball match or football game. If there was a dispute, we'd work it out among ourselves — a really valuable life lesson — rather than deferring to a referee or coach in a sports club.

Such "unsupervised play" was recommended by the author of the *Anxious Generation*.

He also suggested that kids shouldn't get a smartphone till they turn 16. If they need to keep in touch with their parents, let them use an old-fashioned flip phone — one that doesn't allow constant access to the internet and social media, like Snapchat, Instagram and Facebook.

As parents, we could, and should, set our own limits. After all, we're all smart; we have smartphones.

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: Declaration of Independence

ACROSS

- Last name behind Waldorf Astoria
- Hawaiian flower garland
- What beanstalk did
- Pack animal
- Charged particle
- Lacking guile
- Lumen per square meter, pl.
- Crime scene evidence, acr.
- Roast host
- *Unalienable ones in the Declaration of Independence
- *Colony that originally abstained from voting on independence
- Baba of "One Thousand and One Nights"
- Parsley or basil, e.g.
- Mountain peak
- *Four Declaration signers were alums of this CT Ivy Leaguer
- Most mature, as in fruit
- It must go on?
- Small brook
- *...to assume among the powers of the ____
- Cap and gown accessory
- Where there's trouble
- Rani's dress
- Useful quality
- Volcano off Sicily coast
- State on Old Glory
- Dionysus' follower
- Dems' opponents
- Not divisible by two
- Like certain people's glasses
- Australia's flightless bird
- *First Declaration of Independence signer
- *Self-evident ones
- Not a minor
- *...it or lose it!"
- Songs for two
- Formally surrenders land
- *Last name of the only brothers to both sign the Declaration
- Last Supper cup
- "If you only ____!"
- Boy
- Item in diary

DOWN

- *...men are created equal
- Talk like a drunk
- Fare ride
- Opposite of alpha
- In a foolhardy manner
- Jar covers
- Long, long time
- Stupid or silly
- Risque
- Puerto ____
- ...and anon
- 168 hours
- Rookie
- Beauty pageant winner's headgear
- Make a blunder
- Serfdom, archaically speaking
- Indian black tea
- Capital of Tibet
- One's entourage
- *Liberty's partner
- Permission to leave
- Muse of love poetry
- Nickname for a certain violin
- *Certain George, with The 34. *...in the course of human events..."
- Like TV's famous ranger
- Candle shape
- Fortune teller's deck, pl.
- Who is Bugs Bunny talking to?
- Blemish
- Cranial bones + facial bones
- Driver's 180
- Bypass firewall, illegally
- Yemeni port
- Classic art subject
- Ball of yarn
- Started during the Ryder Cup, e.g.
- Miami basketballer
- Cookbook direction
- Shine one in "America the Beautiful"
- Sylvester Stallone's nickname

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
13						14				15				
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64								65	66			67		68
69								70				71		
72								73				74		

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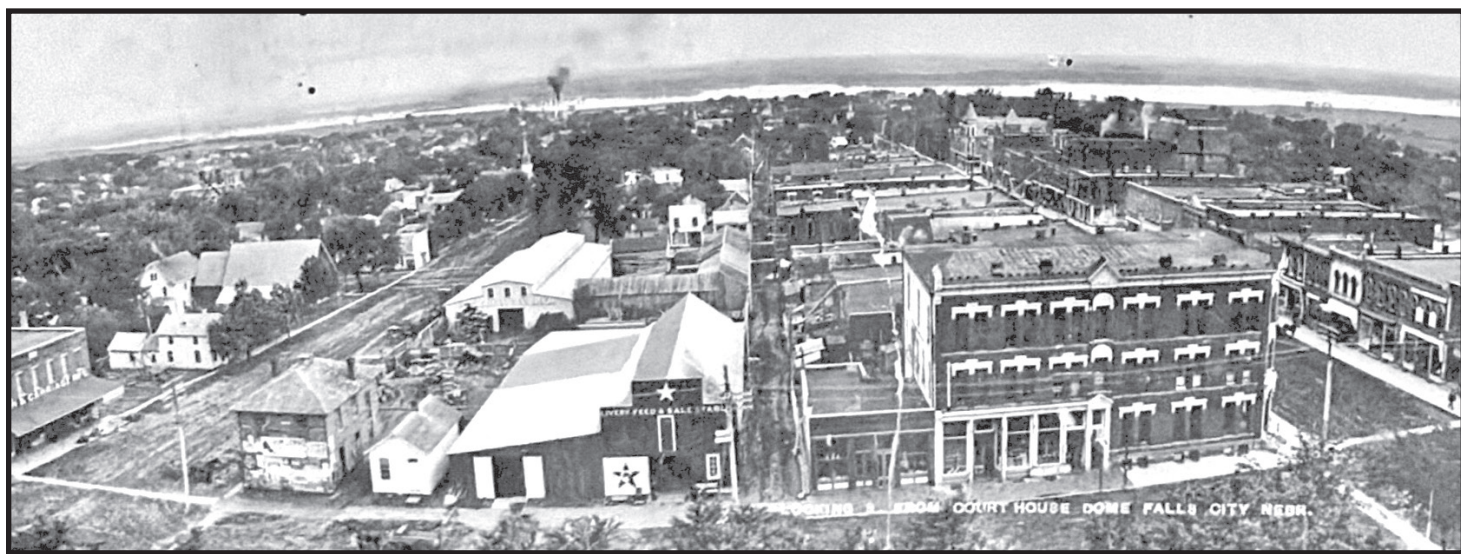
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"SEZ-I" LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We always welcome and encourage letters to the editor "Sez-I's." All letters sent to the *Falls City Journal* must include the authors full name, address and phone number for verification. We reserve the right to edit factual errors or not publish letters we believe to be in

poor taste, libelous, advertisements or not deemed fit for publication. Form letters or spam will not be published. Letters may be e-mailed to: nikki@fcjournal.net or mailed to the Editor at 1709 Stone Street, Falls City, NE 68355.



1906. Looking from Courthouse dome. Falls City

Falls City built by local hands, preserved in ink

Editor's note: Information for this article has been pulled primarily from the *Journal's* 1957 Historical Centennial Edition, published as Falls City marked 100 years, with brief references to later anniversary coverage. Information was also pulled from issues between 1876 thru 2017 and from *The Falls City Press*.

By Nikki McKim

Before Falls City had paved streets, electric lights, telephones, modern schools, banks, grocery stores, freight trucks, water mains, radio, television or the weekly rhythm of a newspaper over the counter, it had something every town needs before it can last.

It had people willing to build.

Falls City was founded in 1857, while Nebraska was still a territory. The United States itself was only 81 years removed from the Declaration of Independence. Nebraska would not become a state until 1867, and Falls City's earliest years belonged to a time when towns had to prove they could survive.

A town needed more than a name on a map. It needed streets, homes, merchants, tradesmen, schools, churches, banks, public buildings, newspapers, transportation, water, light, communication and most of all, confidence. It needed people who would open stores, teach children, organize congregations, argue public questions, haul freight, bake bread, repair machinery, build storefronts, attend meetings, vote on improvements and keep trying after wars, fires, storms and especially hard years.

That is the story preserved in the *Falls City Journal's* 1957 Historical Edition, published when the city marked its first 100 years. The edition is more than a record of old names and dates. It's a record of how Falls City became a working town, a county seat, a business center and a community that generations of families have called home.

This week, as America celebrates its 250th birthday, many of the places and names in those old pages still feel familiar: Stone Street, the courthouse, the water tower, Prichard Auditorium, Stanton Lake, local banks, churches, schools, the newspaper office and the downtown blocks people still drive every day.

The signs have changed. Some buildings are gone, some the same. Some businesses live only in advertisements, photographs and family memories. But the story is still there if you know where to look.

Falls City began in 1857, 10 years before Nebraska became a state.

Its early years were practical, but uncertain. Residents needed the basic pieces of community life: food, lumber, blacksmithing, wagons, tools, legal services, doctors, teachers, churches, stores, roads and a way to connect with the larger region.

Like many towns back then, Falls City grew because people supplied those needs one by one. Stores opened. Tradesmen went to work. Homes were built. Public questions were debated. Schools and churches began to develop. Businesses formed around what people needed most.

The first generations of Falls City residents were not building a historical attraction. They were building a place to live.

That is what makes the city's early history important. Much of what feels ordinary now, a downtown, a courthouse, a bank, a newspaper, a school building, a church service, a public utility, a grocery store, a repair shop had to begin somewhere.

In 1867, the same year Nebraska became a state, the *Falls City Journal* traces its beginning.

From that point forward, the newspaper became one of the community's most important witnesses. Long before residents could scroll through Facebook on a phone or a computer the local newspaper recorded what happened and preserved it for the future.

The *Journal* reported elections, court matters, school issues, public projects, business changes, church events, marriages, births, deaths, fires, floods, accidents, celebrations and disagreements. It printed advertisements showing what people bought and for how much, what businesses offered and what services the community depended on. The community shared their stories with the paper ensuring would be preserved for their family and for historical record for generations to come.

Before Falls City marked its own centennial or sesquicentennial, the community gathered for one of the biggest patriotic celebrations in its early history: America's Centennial in 1876.

The *Falls City Press* published a full program for the Centennial Celebration of Richardson County at Falls City, Neb., July 4, 1876, and the plans showed a town determined to mark the nation's 100th birthday in grand fashion.

The day's events were scheduled to begin with a procession forming at the courthouse square at 10 a.m. The published order of the day included the Falls City Cornet Band, the mayor and city council, military veterans, civic groups, young ladies dressed in white, mounted musicians and a martial band.

The formal exercises included prayer, a reading of the Declaration of Independence, music, a history of Richardson County by Hon. E.S. Towle, an oration by Hon. Calhoun of Nebraska City and volunteer toasts and responses. A dinner was advertised as "free to all."

The celebration was not limited to speeches. The program also promised pigeon shooting, baseball, a greased pole, foot races, sack races, wheelbarrow races, blindfolded races, football, horse racing, fireworks at dusk and a Centennial Ball to close the day.

A later *Falls City Journal* article, looking back on that 1876 celebration, reported that the event drew 10,000 people to Falls City. For a young community still building its identity, the turnout was remarkable.

By 1957, when Falls City turned 100, the newspaper had become an official historical record of the town's first century. The Centennial Edition gathered that history into a keepsake issue, preserving businesses, public buildings, churches, schools, utilities, railroads, civic groups and community memories that might otherwise have disappeared.

A town's history is not only found in official documents. Sometimes it is found in the old ads, photo captions, business profiles and weekly reports that show how people actually lived.

For generations, Stone Street was the heart of Falls City business life.

The 1957 Historical Edition included a photographic look at Stone Street and downtown Falls City during the city's centennial year. The images showed storefronts, banks, signs, awnings, cars, theaters, sidewalks and the familiar rhythm of a working downtown.

People came downtown to shop, bank, visit drug stores, buy groceries, pick up clothing, arrange insurance, eat, watch movies, get shoes repaired, buy hardware, pay bills, see friends and conduct business. Downtown was not just where people spent money. It was where the community met itself.

The Centennial Edition reads almost like a walk down Stone Street in 1957. There were places to buy bread, shoes, suits, groceries, farm machinery, gasoline, furniture, medicine and insurance. There were people repairing cars, cutting hair, cleaning clothes, hauling freight, selling feed, printing signs, working in banks and keeping the town moving.

Some names from those pages are gone. Others remain familiar. Some buildings have changed uses, but the downtown blocks still carry the shape of those earlier generations.

For some, it may be hard to imagine Stone Street as the center of nearly everything. But in 1957, downtown Falls City was where much of daily life happened.

The Centennial Edition is especially rich in business history documenting businesses that had served Falls City and the surrounding trade area for years, sometimes decades. Baker's Bakery, at 1713 Stone Street, was featured as a bakery that attracted customers from across the trade territory. Wittrock Dairy was featured as a dairy business operating in Falls City since 1911. Ideal Cleaners was described as having grown from a start in the back of a home into a larger cleaning business on Stone Street.

Falter's store was described as a father-and-son operation and a long-standing men's and boys' clothing business. Lichty-Tubach Agency was featured as an old Falls City business. Other Centennial-era business stories included Merz Farm Equipment, Edde Motors, Larson Van and Storage, Darling Transfer, McMahon's Grocery, Dunn's plumbing and heating business, Beck's Machine, Yoder's gas business and Brown's Shoe Fit.

Those names are important to our history because they show the kind of work that built our local economy.

Falls City was not built by one industry or one employer. It was built by many kinds of work: bakers, bankers, mechanics, grocers, clothiers, truckers, cleaners, dairymen, elevator operators, printers, barbers, builders, plumbers, electricians, shoe sellers, repairmen, insurance agents and farm equipment dealers.

The old business stories also show how much of local commerce depended on families. Many businesses began small, changed locations, added services, passed to new owners or grew with the town.

Every old advertisement and storefront photograph is a reminder that someone took a chance, built a new business and unlocked a door and hoped Falls City would support them, like we still do today.

Transportation shaped Falls City's future. The railroad connected the city to larger markets and made it easier to move people, livestock, grain, freight, supplies and manufactured goods. The Missouri Pacific appears throughout the Centennial Edition, with photographs and stories showing rail offices, locomotives, freight and railroad workers.

The rail service was a lifeline. It influenced business locations, travel, employment, shipping and the movement of goods in and out of town.

The railroad also supported related businesses. Freight companies, transfer services, hotels, restaurants, repair shops and merchants all benefited from Falls City's transportation connections.

Darling Transfer was one of the most striking examples in the Centennial Edition. The article said the company moved 90 million pounds of freight in the year before the 1957 Centennial Edition and operated regular routes connecting Falls City with larger regional markets.

Larson Van and Storage told another transportation story. The Centennial article said the Larsons got their start with a Model T car and \$5 in 1927. By 1957, the business had grown into moving, storage and household services.

Banks were and still are part of the foundation of Falls City's growth.

The Centennial Edition included features on First National Bank, Richardson County Bank and other financial institutions. These businesses were important because they helped finance the homes, farms, stores, equipment and buildings that allowed the community to grow.

A bank represented trust. It meant our earlier generations believed the town had a future worth investing in.

The old banking stories show that Falls City's development depended not only on labor, but also on credit, savings and local confidence. Businesses needed capital. Farmers needed financing. Families needed loans. Public improvements required planning and funding.

That tradition of banking is still very visible today. Stone Street is still home to banking services, a reminder that the financial institutions of a town often outlast storefronts and remain part of the community's core.

Falls City's economy was closely tied to agriculture, but wasn't limited to farming.

The Centennial Edition documented mills, creameries, dairies, poultry businesses, grain elevators, meat companies, machine shops, farm equipment dealers and food-related busi-

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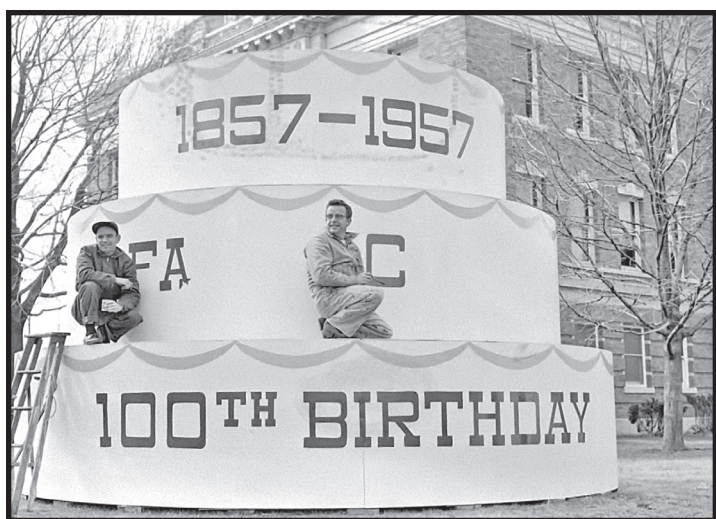
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North School Construction, October 1956



Aerial photo of Falls City, March 2, 1955.

Falls City built by local hands, preserved in ink

(Continued from Page 9)

nesses. Falls City served the surrounding farm region by processing, storing, repairing, selling and shipping what rural life required.

Englehart Elevator was featured for its growth in grain storage capacity. Falls City Wholesale Meat Company was featured for meat processing and distribution. The James companies were connected to poultry, dairy, butter, eggs and related production. Wittrock Dairy and other food businesses show how important dairy and local food processing were to the economy.

Farm equipment businesses also mattered. Implement dealers and repair shops helped keep farms operating. Machine shops and garages kept equipment, vehicles and businesses running.

Those stories help explain why Falls City became more than a place to shop. It became a working center for a larger rural region.

People came to Falls City because things could be bought, fixed, processed, shipped, stored, financed and sold.

Utilities changed everyday life in Falls City. Electricity, water, gas and telephone service were not small improvements. They changed homes, businesses, public safety, communication and expectations.

One article, "Expanding City Power Plant Meets Challenges," in the Centennial edition of the *Journal* described the development of the municipal electric plant. It said that 31 years earlier, Falls City's entire demand for electricity had been supplied by two small steam engines with a total capacity of 650 horsepower. By 1957, the city had six Fairbanks-Morse diesel engines with a combined capacity of 8,360 horsepower, and a new 3,500-horsepower engine was scheduled to go into service that fall.

The water and light plant was also pictured and described, with the plant identified as having been completed in June 1920.

Natural gas became another major part of modern living. The Gas Service Co. was featured in the Centennial Edition, which reported that the company served 2,050 customers in Falls City.

Electricity meant more than lights. It changed how businesses operated, how homes functioned and how public services worked. Water systems improved daily life and fire protection. Gas changed cooking, heating and commercial operations.

The utilities people now expect without thinking were once major steps in building a modern Falls City.

Telephone service brought another major change.

The Falls City Telephone Company, incorporated in 1895 purchased 100 telephones and a switchboard for \$1,200. By 1957, Southeast Nebraska Telephone Company, organized in 1906 had grown far beyond those beginnings, connecting thousands of homes, offices and businesses and serving communities beyond Falls City, including Rulo, Barada, Shubert, Salem, Verdon and Stella.

Today, Southeast Nebraska Communications continues local communications, offering modern telephone,

internet and television-related services in the same region once connected by switchboards and operators.

This is one of the best examples of how Falls City changed without losing the thread of its own history. The technology is different, but the idea is still the same, connecting people.

Falls City's first century was also built through schools and churches.

The 1957 Historical Edition preserved photographs and captions of Central elementary school, Grandview elementary school, North elementary school, Harlan elementary school, the junior high school and the senior high school. Several older buildings were being replaced or absorbed into newer school facilities during the centennial era.

Schools tell the story of generations. Every school building represents students, teachers, programs, games, graduations, arguments over location and funding and parents hoping their children would have better opportunities.

Schools and churches gave structure to community life. They were where children learned, families gathered, music was performed, meals were served, holidays were marked and neighbors supported one another.

Falls City's history is not only in its business blocks. It is also in classrooms, sanctuaries, fellowship halls and school gymnasiums.

Public buildings helped give Falls City its civic identity.

The courthouse, schools, post office, municipal facilities, water and light plant and Prichard Memorial Auditorium all represented stages

in our city's growth. They were places where people voted, paid taxes, attended programs, watched games, listened to music, mailed letters, conducted business and gathered for public events.

Prichard Auditorium, completed in the 1930s, became an especially important gathering place. It has been part of school activities, sports, performances, public meetings and community events.

The courthouse remained a central landmark. For many residents, the courthouse square and surrounding downtown blocks are among the most recognizable parts of Falls City.

Public buildings are often taken for granted because they are always there. But every one of them started as a decision. Someone had to propose it, pay for it, build it and maintain it. Some were a dream of a business, a goal of a family. Each one as important as the last.

The Centennial Edition included stories and photographs tied to recreation and public life: Crystal Beach, the Falls City Country Club, baseball, theaters, Chautauqua programs, parks, parades, concerts and celebrations.

Crystal Beach was pictured as an early swimming destination. The Falls City Country Club was shown west of town with its golf course. Baseball and school

sports were part of the city's social life. Theaters and programs gave people a place to gather for entertainment.

These pieces of history help many of us realize that it wasn't all work and building. It was also swimming, dancing, playing ball, watching parades, attending concerts, going to shows and laughing with friends.

The details change from generation to generation. The need for community and play does not.

Falls City's history like every town's history includes setbacks as well as progress. Economic hardship, the Great Depression, bank holiday effects, wartime changes and public disagreements. These events tested businesses, families, schools and public systems.

During the Depression, local banks, workers and businesses faced the same pressures felt across the country. Federal programs, relief efforts and public works became part of the local story. World War II brought rationing, scrap drives, bond drives, military service and home-front adjustments.

Falls City was repeatedly tested by fire, storm, flood and sudden loss and repeatedly forced to rebuild.

One of the most dramatic early accounts appeared in 1896, when a newspaper headline described a "Cy-

(Continued on Page 11)



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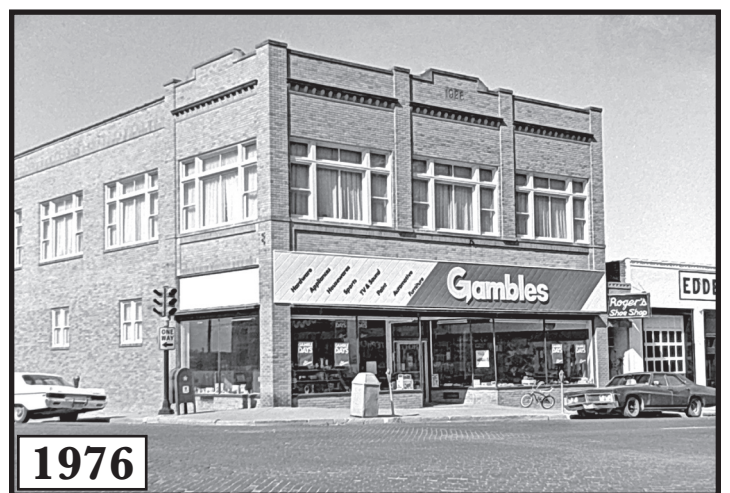
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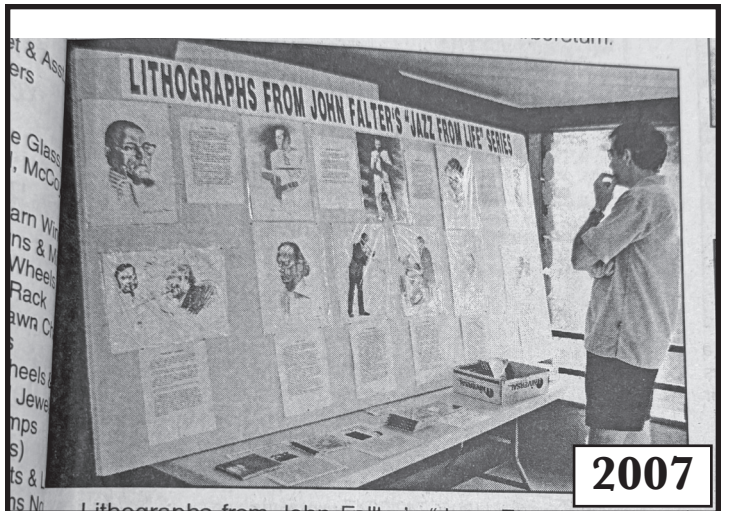
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1969



1976



2007

Falls City built by local hands, preserved in ink

(Continued from Page 10)

clone-Tornado" as a "double-header's destructive work." The article reported that Falls City had become known as a "cyclone starter" after a destructive storm that damaged multiple towns. The report listed four deaths and about 40 people wounded.

Fires also left a massive mark. In 1919, the Leo Vinegar Company plant was destroyed by fire. The loss was reported at about \$10,000, and the article said the company would rebuild. In 1928, the Crystal Lake Ice Company plant was also destroyed by fire.

A major business district fire followed in 1929. Newspaper reports described a blaze that spread through part of Falls City's business section, damaging buildings and adjoining stores. The loss was reported at approximately \$75,000, and firefighters from several nearby towns helped battle the blaze.

Falls City was again in fire headlines in 1932, when the First Christian Church was destroyed. The article reported that the brick church, built in 1910, burned after fire was discovered around midnight. The loss was estimated at \$16,635.

Weather made major headlines in 1949. On June 2, The Falls City Journal headlines read, "High Waters and Twister Combine for Heavy Loss." There was tornado in the county, floods and storm damage. It said no casualties were reported, but property loss was heavy.

In 1966, a report stated that fire destroyed the Werner Pelleting Company plant at Falls City. One of the most serious modern emergencies came in 1982, when the Sur-Gro Fertilizer and Chemical Company warehouse burned

in southeast Falls City. Reports said 1,000 to 1,300 people were forced from their homes because of poisonous smoke. No injuries or deaths were reported, but made National headlines.

In 1989, fire damaged downtown Falls City again. Flames destroyed a rooming house and six businesses, while two other businesses were heavily damaged by smoke and water. Firefighters from 10 departments in Nebraska and Kansas helped battle the blaze. Firefighters from 10 departments in Nebraska and Kansas battled the fire for about four hours. Businesses destroyed in the fire were Mary Tauchen Whitehouse's Sears catalog store, Susan Sipple's Tax Service, Tickled Pink Hair Salon, Farm and City Supply hardware warehouse, Al Pratt's Plumbing Service and The Country Store Health Foods. Novak Realty and KTNC Radio Station were heavily damaged by smoke and water.

In recent years, fire has remained part of Falls City's record. In 2018, a fire engulfed Potrillos Mexican Restaurant. No injuries were reported. Even more recently Smiley Bee's suffered damage from a storm having to close its doors to repair massive roof and water damage.

Together, these accounts show Falls City has been preserved by people who cleaned up, rebuilt, reopened and kept the dream going. Each time, the newspaper recorded the damage. Each time, the community wrote the next chapter. Falls City rebuilt, reorganized, modernized and kept moving.

By 1957, Falls City had reached its Centennial. The

Historical Edition made it clear that Falls City was immensely proud of its first century.

It showed a town still changing. Older school buildings were being replaced. Utilities were expanding. Businesses were modernizing. The *Journal* itself had just moved into their new building on Harlan Street.

In 1976, Falls City joined the nation in celebrating America's 200th birthday.

The *Journal's* Bicentennial coverage documented a courthouse lawn program, fireworks at Brenner Field, a Monday morning parade, a VFW and American Legion picnic at Stanton Lake, a military softball game, music, contests, dancing and community gatherings.

The celebration included a 19-gun salute by National Guardsmen from Company B, 134th Infantry. Mayor Dale L. Shaffer raised the flags and paid tribute to the pioneers of the past and the young people who would carry the country into its third century.

One of the most memorable Bicentennial images was the Falls City water tower lit in red, white and blue. City employee August Strecker created a 13-star flag, patterned after the original flag of the 13 colonies, using 144 red, white and blue light bulbs.

In 2007, Falls City celebrated 150 years since its founding.

The Sesquicentennial coverage focused on living history and community participation. A celebration at Stanton Lake Park included an old-fashioned picnic, historical displays, music,

demonstrations and community activities.

The History Walk invited families, businesses and organizations to submit important dates for inclusion, turning the community's timeline into a shared public project. The event also supported the Itha T. Krumme Memorial Arboretum.

Old-fashioned 1850s baseball returned as part of the celebration, with players in costume and the game played by historic rules. The Sesquicentennial logo, designed around railroad tracks forming the number 150, reflected the importance of transportation and local history.

The 2007 celebration showed Falls City still doing what it had done for generations: gathering, remembering and making history feel local.

Now, as America celebrates its 250th birthday, Falls City again has reason to look back.

Some names from the old papers still appear in town today. The *Falls City Journal* continues to publish. Southeast Nebraska Communications continues a communications story that began with early telephone service. Banking remains part of Stone Street's business life. Generations of families whose names you read every week in this paper are choosing to stay here and continue their family businesses right here in Falls City.

Other names survive in photographs, family stories, storefront memories and old advertisements. Baker's Bakery, Wittrock Dairy, Falter's, Ideal Cleaners, Darling Transfer, Larson Van and Storage, the James companies, local elevators, machine shops, groceries, garages and dairies all tell part of the same story.

Falls City was not built by one generation. It was built by many.

It was built by the people who opened businesses before they knew whether the town would support them. It was built by those who laid

water lines, installed switchboards, expanded power plants, hauled freight, taught children, raised church buildings, printed newspapers, paved streets, filled parade routes and showed up when something needed to be done.

That is why the old pages still matter.

They remind us that a town is not just buildings and streets. It is work, memory, risk, service, celebration and the ordinary people who keep

choosing to build where they are.

Falls City's story is still being written.

Today's dream, businesses built, children being taught, parades being planned, people stepping up.

It's why the new pages matter.

Like every generation before it, this one will leave a record for those who come next.

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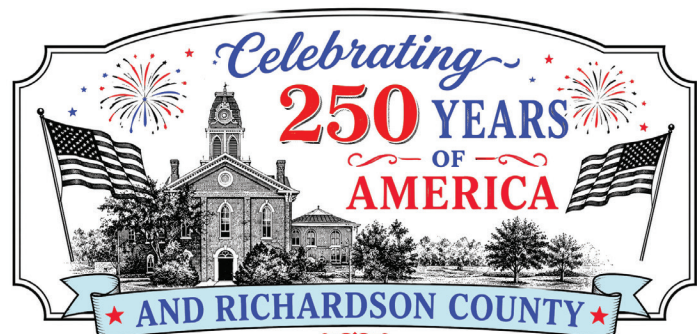
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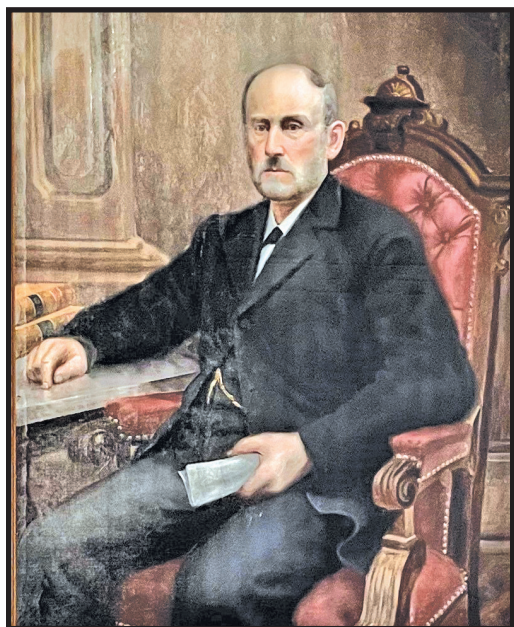
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Judge Elmer S. Dundy



As the United States celebrates its 250th anniversary in 2026, communities across the nation are reflecting on the people, places and events that shaped their local history.

The articles in this series have been

researched and written by members of the Richardson County Historical Society and the Underground Railroad Museum Board, drawing from historical records, local collections and years of preservation work dedicated to protecting our county's heritage.

Join us over the coming weeks as we celebrate 250 years of American history through the unique local stories that helped shape our corner of the nation.

To commemorate America's semiquincentennial, the *Falls City Journal* is proud to present a special five-part series highlighting some of the early founders and influential figures who helped establish Falls City. This is the final part of the series.

By Norma Kay Thompson

One hundred three years after the signing of the Declaration of Independence, 1879, an early Richardson County settler and then a founder of Falls City gained national prominence. Judge Elmer S. Dundy was the US District Court judge in the trial of Standing Bear vs. Crook.

Elmer Scipio Dundy was born on a farm in Ohio in 1830. By 1850 the family moved to Pennsylvania where he taught school a number of terms, was a principal in Clearfield, PA, and studied law in the office of William A. Wallace, a leading Pennsylvania politician. He was admitted to the bar there in 1853 which was the start of an illustrious law career.

He came west to Nebraska Territory in 1857 and soon took up residence in Archer, the county seat for Richardson County. He arrived with clothes, a few law books in a satchel, and his fiddle. He was described as popular at social gatherings playing his fiddle at dances.

In 1857 the Goodwin survey line negated the 1838 McCoy survey and so placed Archer within the Half-Breed Tract and thus out of the public domain. In 1934, David D. Reavis wrote in his "Through the Years in Falls City" articles in *The Falls City Journal* that only two marks of the Half-Breed line existed, one the creek by that name, and the other a small section of fence south of Shubert. Today, that fence is still visible west of Hwy 67 on Zentner land. In 1858, Dundy was sent to Washington on behalf of the Archer community resulting in the Goodwin line being cancelled by Congress. However, this was too late, since many had already resettled in newly established Falls City.

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Dundy himself moved to Falls City becoming a strong advocate for the new town in the county seat struggles. He is credited with getting the county seat away from Salem prompted by his strong feelings about the way Charles McDonald had managed to have the county seat removed from Archer and placed at Salem. In 1858 and 1860, Dundy was elected to the Territorial Council, the upper chamber. He was known as "a shrewd debater and advocate of every measure calculated to to develop the interests of his adopted state."

In the 1907 *Illustrated History of Nebraska* an article about the 1858 council election says that Charles McDonald of Salem had complained in 1904 that he had not had time to establish his right to reelection to his council seat and that Dundy had cajoled some democrats to desert him making democratic speeches, but soon after seated he acted as a thorough republican.

Dundy's law office was the first brick building in Falls City located where the Robert W. Aitken CPA office is today. The location of Dundy's first house in town is unknown. His second house was on the west side of Stone Street where the Keller Bakery is now. It was refurbished in 1878 into a boarding house, and at a later moved west onto Chase St.

In July 1858 a devastating flood covered the Nemaha and Muddy River bottoms and wiped out all the bridges. Falls City was shut off from supply sources and overflowing with displaced people. David Dorrington, recalling the time, wrote in 1875 that he first met Elmer Dundy when Dundy was on the Archer side of the Muddy and a committee of Dorrington and Buchanan asked him to take their money to obtain supplies which he did, even losing a raft and having to swim at one point.

In 1863, he was appointed by President Lincoln as one of the three federal judges for the Nebraska Territory. In 1866 he was defeated in his quest for the first Nebraska US Senate seat.

In 1868, with strong competition, but also strong support, he was appointed the first US District judge for the new state by President Johnson. In 1868, the 14th Amendment was enacted stating "nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law."

In April 1861 Dundy purchased by pre-emption 160 acres in Sec 11-T1N-R16E and 160 acres in Sec 10-T1N-R16E. Much of this land on either side of Fulton St. was sold by him to others as the city expanded and developed.

In 1874 The Dundy family built an elegant home at 18th & Fulton. They moved to Omaha in 1884. In 1891 the home became the convent and school for the Ursuline Order. The convent building was razed in 1973 to make way for the new Catholic church building.

In January 1875 Dundy was a republican candidate for US Senate. Before the 5th ballot he withdrew so that Algernon Paddock would win the nomination away from John Thayer. In 1878, besides the May and November court sessions in Omaha, a January court session was added in Lincoln. He was an early founder of the Nebraska State Historical Society and its 2nd vice-president 1878-1887.

The large 1879 Plat Map on a wall in the Bruun Memorial Library in Humboldt shows Dundy owning nearly 2000 acres south of Salem and near Falls City. Quarry land south of town, known as the Dundy Quarry for many years, was the source of stone for many Falls City buildings, including the 1872 jail on the northeast corner of the courthouse square and Prichard Auditorium. Dundy sold the stone for \$.25 per perch, about 25 cubic feet. Because of the difficulty in transportation, it cost \$1.12 to have that amount hauled across the Nemaha River bottom into Falls City.

In 1883, he sold 30 acres of land to the Nemaha Valley Fair Association with the understanding that he could use the track when no fair was in session. He agreed to extend 18th Street two blocks east from Fulton St. to the entrance to the fairgrounds. Nemaha, Valley, and Fair Streets were named for it.

He was a life-long avid sportsman and hunter credited with over sixty bear. In 1872, Judge Dundy, John Lee Webster, and two friends went on a buffalo hunt accompanied by William F. Cody, aka Buffalo Bill. In April 1879 he purchased a Winchester sporting rifle inscribed with his name. The rifle and letter about its shipment to him were acquired by the Nebraska Historical Society Museum in 2006.

Judge Elmer S. Dundy is most widely known for his decision in the Standing Bear vs. Crook court case.

In 1876 the U.S. Government removed the Ponca tribe from their peaceful home along the Niobrara River, which had been taken away from them by a treaty with the raiding Santee Sioux, to Indian Territory, Oklahoma. In January 1879 Ponca chief, Standing Bear, and 30 tribal members left the reservation in Oklahoma to return to their Nebraska home. Besides leaving the very bad conditions there, he was honoring

a promise to his son that he would return his bones home to the Niobrara. The trek north was miserable for the Ponca. They reached the Omaha tribe, who were related and sympathetic to them. However, in March Standing Bear and his men were imprisoned in the guard house at Ft. Omaha. General Crook, being sympathetic to them, delayed carrying out his orders to force them back to Oklahoma. With the aid of Thomas Tibbles, Omaha Daily Herald editor, two prominent lawyers, John Lee Webster and Andrew Poppleton volunteered to take the case pro bono. Webster is known to have been a guest in the home of Judge Isham Reavis in Falls City. Judge Dundy was on one of his hunting trips, and when finally located, agreed to hear the case April 29. A writ of habeas corpus was issued upon General Crook requiring him to show by what authority he held them on April 8, 1879, which was actually what Crook wanted to happen.

Holding out his hand, Standing Bear spoke through his interpreter, "That hand is not the color of yours, but if I pierce it, I shall feel pain. The blood that flows from mine will be the same color as yours. I am a man. The same God made us both." Referring to his wish to return to the Niobrara, he continued, "a man bars that passage. He is a thousand times more powerful than I. Behind him I see soldiers as numerous as the leaves on the trees. They will obey the man's orders. I too must obey his orders. If he says that I cannot pass, I cannot. The long struggle will have been in vain. We are weak and faint and sick. I cannot fight." Standing Bear turned to Judge Dundy and said, "You are that man."

On May 12, 1879, Judge Dundy ruled that the Indian could be considered, under the law, as a person, and that he had been illegally deterred and confined. Standing Bear was freed. The Judge stated that he had never been called to hear or decide a case that appealed so strongly to his sympathy.

In July 1879, an oil portrait of Judge Dundy by artist Herbert G. Conner was presented to his wife from the court officers. It is prominently displayed in the Hruska Federal Court Building in Omaha. Dundy was so impressed with it and the subsequent paintings of his family members that he urged Conner to come to FC for six weeks. During that summer he painted others, including the ones of Archibald J. and Martha Weaver which hang in the RCHS Museum.

In 1889, Nemaha County grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Burruss, were being sued for custody of the granddaughter they had raised since an infant by her father. By the time the case reached the District Court, popular sentiment was overwhelmingly in favor of the grandparents. Following the law, Judge Dundy granted custody to the father. The Omaha and Auburn papers reported the tears of all involved and the resulting abduction from a train in Council Bluffs as the father was trying to take the child with him to Ohio. The grandparents and child disappeared with help of the gathered crowd onto another train that left the station immediately. When the judge was told what happened and asked what he would do, he merely smiled, but the smile was broad and generous. "I am through with the case."

Over the years, he had railroad cases before his court. In the 1870s, he acted on several issues regarding the rights of counties to tax railroad land and in 1888 a Dundy injunction restrained the Union Pacific from interfering with the Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy strike. It was UP's responsibility to see that done even if threatened with strike by their own workers. Dundy said it was his decision regardless of newspaper opinion. In 1891 He ruled that the Union Pacific bridge from Omaha to Council Bluffs must be open to other lines. In 1893 when UP faced insolvency, Judge Dundy placed it under receivership with judicial custody. One action reduced wages and allowed the closing of auxiliary lines that were not profitable. In 1893 the Nebraska legislature passed its Newberry Law, allowing the state to regulate freight rates. Dundy issued an injunction which was upheld by the US supreme court justice for the 8th Circuit, thus killing the law.

In 1895 Dundy suffered a broken leg in a toboggan accident at Hot Springs, SD which is said to have been the only time he had missed a court session. Incidentally, C.F. Reavis, later a congressman, was one of the four in the toboggan. September 11, 1896 it was reported that Judge Dundy's son, Skip, and two friends had returned from a month of hunting in Montana, and that Judge Dundy would return the first of October.

His family life centered on his wife, Mary (Robinson), whom he married in 1861 in Omaha, three daughters; Luna Newman, Mary (Mae) Lee, and Elva Sue Enid whose death in 1870 at age 18 mo. was very hard on the Judge; and their first-born child, Elmer Scipio Dundy, Jr. ("Skip") who became US District Court Clerk in Omaha. Later, Skip, with a partner, built the amusement park on Coney Island he named Luna Park after his sister, and the New York City Hippodrome. A nephew, Charles L. Dunday was with family members and friends when Judge Dundy died of apoplexy October 28, 1896 at age 66. His body was taken to the Moravian Cemetery on Staten Island, NY in 1902.

Ended was the career of a pioneer, farmer, frontier lawyer, outdoorsman, political leader, and distinguished jurist, but not his influence. As early as 1871 in Pen Sketches of Nebraskans, A.C. Edmunds concluded his sketch of Dundy with "as a judge he is possessed of those peculiar qualities which render his judgements just. He is a shrewd observer of men, and detects the little idiosyncrasies of human life with amazing correctness."

At the Freedom 250 Great American State Fair, the Nebraska Pavilion on the National Mall is showcasing the 1879 Standing Bear court decision and the Union Pacific's transcontinental railroad, both impacted by our own county's Judge Dundy, who from his arrival in 1857 through his 28 years as US District Court Judge left his mark.

Ford Lincoln

HULLMAN'S FORD LINCOLN, INC.

Celebrate 250 Years with Something Special.

1416 Harlan St., Falls City, Nebr. 402-245-4413.

CITY CLAIMS

Claims Report - 06.02.2026
City of Falls City, NE By Fund
Payment Dates 5/20/2026 - 6/2/2026
Vendor Name Description (Item)
Fund: 100 - General

Table listing various vendors and their amounts for Fund 100 - General, including Nebraska Generator Service LLC, Principal Life Ins Co, and various utility and repair services.

FUND: 110 - POLICE

Table listing vendors for Fund 110 - Police, including Hullman's Ford Lincoln, Inc. Shop Supplies and Utility Dept Fire Station/Hydrants.

FUND: 115 - ANIMAL CONTROL

Table listing vendors for Fund 115 - Animal Control, including OPPD 4.3.2026 to 5.4.2026 and Utility Dept Animal Control.

FUND: 120 - FIRE

Table listing vendors for Fund 120 - Fire, including Utility Dept Ambulance Bldg, Utility Dept Fire Station, and various fire equipment suppliers.

FUND: 150 - PARKS

Table listing vendors for Fund 150 - Parks, including Hullman's Ford Lincoln, Inc. Vehicle Maintenance, Heritage Landscape Supply Group, and various landscaping services.

Table listing vendors for Farm & City Supply paint eater & knot cup, Farm & City Supply caulk, and various plumbing and hardware supplies.

FUND: 170 - LIBRARY

Table listing vendors for Fund 170 - Library, including Library Petty Cash May 2026 Petty Cash Reimbursement and Richard Girkerson Library Maintenance.

FUND: 180 - CEMETERY

Table listing vendors for Fund 180 - Cemetery, including Utility Dept Cemetery.

FUND: 190 - STREETS

Table listing vendors for Fund 190 - Streets, including Martin Marietta 1 1/2" crush & run and 159 Lumber & Rentals Lumber.

FUND: 195 - MECHANIC SHOP

Table listing vendors for Fund 195 - Mechanic Shop, including Berwick CO-OP Oil Co CHS indol ISO 22 Ultra and NMC Inc Parts.

FUND: 205 - DISPATCHING

Table listing vendors for Fund 205 - Dispatching, including Lumen Service and Southeast Nebraska Communications, Inc.

FUND: 206 - NG911-PSAP

Table listing vendors for Fund 206 - NG911-PSAP, including HEADSET PLUS INC. PLANTRONICS HEADSET and HEADSET PLUS INC. Wireless Adapter Single Channel.

FUND: 280 - HOUSING ABATEMENT/DEMOLITION PROGRAM

Table listing vendors for Fund 280 - Housing Abatement/Demolition Program, including General Petty Cash Postage-Certified Mail and Demolition Program Total.

FUND: 600 - ELECTRIC

Table listing vendors for Fund 600 - Electric, including American National Bank HSA, Wesco Distribution Ekstrom jumpers, and Nebraska State Fire Marshal - Fuels Division Annual Boiler Certificate.

FUND: 630 - WASTEWATER

Table listing vendors for Fund 630 - Wastewater, including Helena Chemical Co Promate, Midlands Contracting Inc/Johnson Service Co, and Wesco Distribution Bumdy Fastap.

Table listing vendors for Ameritas Billing 457 Pre Tax Percentage, Dearborn Life Ins Co Life Ins, and Ameritas Pension 457 Pre-Tax.

FUND: 610 - WATER

Table listing vendors for Fund 610 - Water, including Utility Service Co Inc, City Tank-Quarterly, and Midwest Laboratories, Inc Samples.

FUND: 800 - AIRPORT

Table listing vendors for Fund 800 - Airport, including Bosselman Pump & Pantry Inc April Fuel Expense, Falls City Mercantile Towel Dispenser, and various airport maintenance and supply services.

Table listing vendors for Service, Fund 800 - Airport Total, and REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY.

FUND: 998 - UTILITIES - POOLED CASH

Table listing vendors for Fund 998 - Utilities - Pooled Cash, including Payroll - Utilities - Pooled Cash Payroll.

FUND: 999 - GENERAL GOVERNMENT - POOLED CASH

Table listing vendors for Fund 999 - General Government - Pooled Cash, including Payroll 5.29.2026.

CITY CLAIMS

Claims Report - 6.16.2026
City of FC, NE By Fund
Payment Dates 6/3/2026 - 6/16/2026
Vendor Name Description (Item) Amount

Table listing vendors for Fund 100 - General, including American Natl Bank HSA and Farm & City Supply 2000 flushes cleaner.

FUND: 100 - GENERAL

Table listing vendors for Fund 100 - General, including American Natl Bank HSA, Farm & City Supply 2000 flushes cleaner, and various utility and repair services.

FUND: 110 - POLICE

Table listing vendors for Fund 110 - Police, including Harmon's OK Tire tires, NE tire fee, disposal, change, balance.

FUND: 115 - ANIMAL CONTROL

Table listing vendors for Fund 115 - Animal Control, including American Natl Bank HSA, OPPD (NC2)3459.0 MWh's NC2 participation power.

FUND: 120 - FIRE

Table listing vendors for Fund 120 - Fire, including US Signal Co LLC Microsoft CSP NCE Licensing, Halbert, Dunn & Burns, LLC monthly legal fees.

FUND: 130 - BUILDING INSPECTIONS & CODE ENFORCEMENT

Table listing vendors for Fund 130 - Building Inspections & Code Enforcement, including Verizon Service April 27-May 26, 2026.

FUND: 150 - PARKS

Table listing vendors for Fund 150 - Parks, including FC Sanitation Service April 2026, Municipal Energy Agency of NE Service Dues.

Table listing vendors for Pest Control Serv of SE NE spray, auditorium - stanton's cabin, Fund 151 - Auditorium Total.

FUND: 152 - AQUATIC CENTER

Table listing vendors for Fund 152 - Aquatic Center, including Farm & City Supply rubber orings, Amazon Capital Serv pH Indicator, Reagent.

FUND: 170 - LIBRARY

Table listing vendors for Fund 170 - Library, including Ingrambooks, FC Sanitation Service April 2026, Service.

FUND: 180 - CEMETERY

Table listing vendors for Fund 180 - Cemetery, including Milam's Greenhouse, Inlarge planters, Farm & City Supply multimeter.

FUND: 190 - STREETS

Table listing vendors for Fund 190 - Streets, including FC Sanitation Service April 2026, Service, Amazon Capital Serv XL Sleeveless T-Shirts.

FUND: 281 - SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Table listing vendors for Fund 281 - Sidewalk Improvement Program, including American Natl Bank HSA, OPPD (NC2)3677.0 MWh's NC2 Participation Power.

FUND: 600 - ELECTRIC

Table listing vendors for Fund 600 - Electric, including American Natl Bank HSA, OPPD (NC2)3459.0 MWh's NC2 participation power, Nebraska Dept Of Transportation ped module insert.

Table listing vendors for Management & Coordination, Olsson Associates Phase 20 - Planning, Regulatory, & Agency Coord., Farm & City Supply driver bit set.

FUND: 610 - WATER

Table listing vendors for Fund 610 - Water, including SCHEIB DRAINAGE PRODUCTS, INC12" solid pipe, SCHEIB drainage products, INC 6 pk tape, Wolfes Printing back flow prevention brochure.

Continued on Page 14

CITY CLAIMS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

Farm & City Supply fencer tool repair \$64.73
Farm & City Supply handling \$10.75
Farm & City Supply cleaner, primer, PVC cement, etc. \$120.71
El Camino Electric materials \$22.60
Core & Main LP2" retrofit kit \$554.39
Municipal Supply, Inc of Omaha 1" br curb stop \$382.53
Municipal Supply, Inc of Omaha Harco repair coupling \$88.69
Municipal Supply, Inc of Omaha 1/2 x 6 br nipple \$35.20
Municipal Supply, Inc of Omaha hex male insert \$61.45
Core & Main LPIPERL 6" trpl \$373.03
Farm & City Supply Tap & Blbt 3/8"-16NC x O \$19.34
Rieschick Drilling Co. Inc. 1 1/4 x 1 bushing \$8.49
Rieschick Drilling Co. Inc. 2 x 1 1/4 bushing \$24.56
Mississippi Lime Co/1/2 inch pebble lime \$10,059.96
Mississippi Lime Cofuel surcharge \$472.58
Mississippi Lime Co flat charge \$774.72
Edwards Chemicals monthly chlorine charges \$253.20
Farm & City Supply Coupling \$75.51
NDWEE - Fiscal Serv Grade 1 Water Operator License Application \$115.00
Farm & City Supply bushing, bits screws, connectors \$97.69
Farm & City Supply hose nozzle \$19.33
Farm & City Supply hose shut off \$13.96
LINDE GAS & EQUIPMENT INC safety and environmental fee \$34.76
Linde Gas & Equipment INC monthly co2 tank telemetry \$121.33
Linde Gas & Equipment Inc monthly co2 tank rent \$1,698.55
Nebraska Public Health Environmental Lab fluoride \$18.00
Nebraska Public Health Environmental Lab coliform by ColiLert \$90.00
Utility Dept Petty Cash stamps \$43.68
Municipal Supply, Inc of Omaha2" MIPT x CTS quick adapter C84-77Q (W934) \$602.00
Lincoln Winwater Works Co8" Hymax Gate Valve Series 65 (W1775)\$3,980.00
Lincoln Winwater Works Co4" Hymax Gate Valve Series 65 (W1755)\$3,824.00
Lincoln Winwater Works Co6" Hymax Gate Valve Series 65 (W1765)\$5,076.00
Verizon Service April 27-May 26, 2026 \$137.84
Utility Dept Rulo Water -Collector Well \$8,434.11
Utility Dept Rulo Water Plant North Well \$388.52
Utility Dept Water Tower \$215.72
NMC Inc rental of 306CR mini excavator \$680.00
US Signal Co LLC Microsoft CSP NCE Licensing \$13.13
Municipal Supply, Inc of Omaha8" valve \$1,685.71
Municipal Supply, Inc of Omaha6" valve \$1,058.41
Municipal Supply, Inc of Omaha8 x 6 MJ tee \$300.67
Municipal Supply, Inc of Omaha6" gate valve \$1,058.41
Municipal Supply, Inc of Omaha8" MJ mega lug \$443.76
Municipal Supply, Inc of Omaha8" gate valve \$1,685.71
Municipal Supply, Inc of Omaha8 x 6 MJ tee \$300.67
Municipal Supply, Inc of Omaha6" bolt pack \$127.45
Municipal Supply, Inc of Omaha valve box \$338.63
Municipal Supply, Inc of Omaha valve box \$338.63
Municipal Supply, Inc of Omaha8" MJ tee \$363.02
Municipal Supply, Inc of Omaha8" MJ plug \$134.40
Municipal Supply, Inc of Omaha500' reel tracer wire \$161.21
Municipal Supply, Inc of Omaha8" bolt pack \$180.12
Municipal Supply, Inc of Omaha6" MJ mega lug \$201.33
Municipal Supply, Inc of Omaha6" mega lug \$201.33
Municipal Supply, Inc of Omaha8" MJ bolt pack \$216.14
Municipal Supply, Inc of Omaha8" mega lug \$369.80
Municipal Supply, Inc of Omaha6" MJ bolt pack \$127.45
Municipal Supply, Inc of Omaha8: MJ plug \$134.40
Municipal Supply, Inc of Omaha500' reel tracer wire \$322.50
Municipal Supply, Inc of Omaha8" shur lock pipe \$8,010.90
Municipal Supply, Inc of Omaha8" C900 gasket joint pipe \$13,097.80
Municipal Supply, Inc of Omaha Mueller fire hydrant \$3,514.08
Municipal Supply, Inc of Omaha Mueller fire hydrant \$3,514.08
NMC Inc compactor plate CVP28\$556.00
Southeast Nebraska Communications, Inc. Telephone/Internet Service \$363.70
Lincoln Win water Works Co4"sleeve 4410000510900 (W1572) \$199.95
General Fund May 2026 water excise tax \$4,064.00
Bosselman Pump & Pantry Inc May Fuel Statement \$461.77
BOK financial fallctygow19 - go water 2019 \$23,728.75
BOK FINANCIAL FALLCTYCUR21 - CUR REF 2021 \$22,085.00
Fund 610 - Water Total: \$133,987.61
FUND: 620 - GAS
Utility Consultants, Inc Employee Fee Credit for 2 Qtrs \$2,720.00
FC Sanitation Service April 2026 Service \$65.00
Farm & City Supply pink paint \$21.48
Farm & City Supply elbow \$21.49
Farm & City Supply dwv couple \$25.79
Farm & City Supply rprcr \$26.86
Farm & City Supply pvc cement \$10.74
Farm & City Supply all purpose cleaner \$13.96
Farm & City Supply chain lubricant \$9.66
Farm & City Supply sawzall kit \$397.74
Farm & City Supply protectant \$12.89
Farm & City Supply key \$6.44
Utility Dept Petty Cash stamps \$174.72
Verizon Service April 27-May 26, 2026 \$177.93
Utility Dept Gas Dept. Office \$253.84
Utility Dept Gas Pipe Bldg \$57.29
Utility Dept Gas S Fulton St \$66.67
Utility Dept Gas W 21st \$70.49
Utility Dept Gas W 14th St \$66.81
Utility Dept Gas N Mclean St \$68.93
Utility Dept Gas S Fulton \$50.46
Southeast Nebraska Communications, Inc. Ditch Witch Directional Drill & Trailer w/ Mud Mix \$15,000.00
NMC Inc rental of 306CR mini excavator \$2,040.00
FC Sanitation Service May 2026 Service \$65.00
US Signal Co LLC Microsoft CSP NCE Licensing \$65.65

NMC Inc compactor plate CVP28 \$1,668.00
Halbert, Dunn & Burns, LLC monthly legal fees - May 2026 \$291.90
Border States Tee 1" x 1/4" X 1" Blk (G4021) \$92.88
Southeast Nebraska Communications, Inc. Telephone/Internet Service \$52.08
Clayton Energy Corp gas cost \$27,397.89
Clayton Energy Corp, transport reservation charge \$49,697.03
Clayton Energy Corp transportation commodity charge \$4,072.86
Clayton Energy Corp transport ACA surcharge \$8.23
Clayton Energy Corp transportation pipeline modernization \$7,457.72
Clayton Energy Corp transport GRI contribution charge \$55.91
Clayton Energy Corp May 2026 service fee \$2,111.00
Koons Gas Measurement (KGM) American regulator 1"x1" 3/16" purple spring6-15" \$6,786.15
Border States1" CTS EFV EP 800 (Perfect #51523010GN) (G4661) \$5,734.05
Ditch Witch Under Con Bomag BT60 tamper \$3,600.00
Paycom Payroll Holdings, LLC Initial Setup Payment \$550.40
General Fund Gas dept PILOT\$8,347.33
Bosselman Pump & Pantry Inc May Fuel Statement \$1,362.18
Fund 620 - Gas Total: \$140,775.45
FUND: 630 - WASTEWATER
Concrete Industries, Inc6" riser \$280.00
Concrete Industries, Inc4" riser \$240.00
Concrete Industries, Inc6" joint seal \$164.72
FC Sanitation Service April 2026 Service \$90.00
Harmon's OK Tire mower tires WWTF \$10.00
Brown Co Transfer sludge disposal \$225.00
Harmon's OK Tire lawn mower tires \$25.00
Amazon Capital Serv Lime Aways \$108.78
Amazon Capital Serv white bucket \$18.99
Farm & City Supply Supplies \$73.16
Verizon Service April 27-May 26, 2026 \$57.90
Utility Dept Waste Water Treatment Plant \$11,698.50
Utility Dept Lift Station \$73.44
NMC Inc rental of 306CR mini excavator \$680.00
FC Sanitation Service May 2026 Service \$90.00
US Signal Co LLC Microsoft CSP NCE Licensing \$52.52
Municipal Supply, Inc of Omaha18" x 8" eccentric pipe \$862.49
Municipal Supply, Inc of Omaha8" IPS spigot x 8" hub adapter \$109.33
Municipal Supply, Inc of Omaha18" x 14" sewer pipe \$421.40
Municipal Supply, Inc of Omaha18" clay x 18" PVC Fern \$151.31
Municipal Supply, Inc of Omaha8" X 14" sewer pipe \$264.58
NMC Inc compactor plate CVP28\$556.00
Midlands Contracting Inc/Johnson Service Co.2025 Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation \$348,309.84
Southeast Nebraska Communications, Inc. Telephone/Internet Service \$104.08
NDWEE - Fiscal Serv application for certification - Nathan Strecker \$125.00
NWEA Wastewater training Grade 3-4 - Jason Hartley \$450.00
NWEA2026 Heartland Conference - Jerry Roland \$100.00
NDWEE - Fiscal Serv application for certification - Jason Hartley \$125.00
NWEA Wastewater training - Nathan Strecker \$450.00
NWEA2026 Heartland Conference - Nathan Strecker \$100.00
Bosselman Pump & Pantry Inc May Fuel Statement \$809.59
Fund 630 - Wastewater Total: \$366,826.63
FUND: 820 - MUTUAL FINANCE ORGANIZATION
Village of Shubert May 2026 Allocation \$952.00
FC Rural Fire Dept May 2026 Allocation \$366.00
Humboldt Rural Fire May 2026 Allocation \$1,944.00
Dawson Rural Fire District May 2026 Allocation \$304.00
Verdon Rural Fire District May 2026 Allocation \$742.00
Stella Rural Fire District May 2026 Allocation \$1,675.00
General Fund May 2026 Allocation \$19,115.00
City of Humboldt May 2026 Allocation \$9,866.00
Village of Dawson May 2026 Allocation \$912.00
Village of Rulo May 2026 Allocation \$730.00
Village of Salem May 2026 Allocation \$1,009.00
Fund 820 - Mutual Finance Organization Total: \$37,615.00
FUND: 998 - UTILITIES - POOLED CASH
Elan Financial Serv Statement 4/25/2026 5/27/2026 \$2,998.85
Payroll - Utilities - Pooled Cash Payroll 6.12.2026 \$75,166.90
Fund 998 - Utilities - Pooled Cash Total: \$78,165.75
FUND: 999 - GENERAL GOVERNMENT - POOLED CASH
Payroll - General Fund - Pooled Cash Payroll 6.12.2026 \$92,792.63
VisaMay 2026 Statement \$3,783.89
Fund 999 - General Government - Pooled Cash Total: \$96,576.52
Grand Total: \$1,941,157.40
ZNEZ

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

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

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

NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION OF

HAYES FLATS, LLC

Notice is hereby given that Hayes Flats, LLC, a Nebraska Limited Liability Company, has been organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska with its registered office located at 1719 Stone Street, Falls City, Nebraska. The Limited Liability Company is organized to engage in and 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 Nebraska. Said Limited Liability Company was organized on April 20, 2026 and shall have perpetual existence. The affairs of the Limited Liability Company are to be conducted by one or more managers as provided in the Operating Agreement and the initial manager is Gabriel Hayes.

Gabriel Hayes, Manager
WEAVER & MERZ
Douglas E. Merz #12807
P.O. Box 569, 1719 Stone St.
Falls City, NE 68355
402-245-3015

24-1-8
ZNEZ

NOTICE IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF RICHARDSON COUNTY, NEBRASKA SHAWN D. KYKER, Plaintiff, vs. HEARTLAND TOWER, INC., and ROBERT NALL, individually, Defendants. Case No. CI 26-12

TO HEARTLAND TOWER INC., AND ROBERT NALL:

You are hereby notified that on February 18, 2026, Shawn D. Kyker filed his Complaint in the District Court of Richardson County, Nebraska, Case No. CI 26-12, naming you as Defendants. The object and prayer of said Complaint is wrongful detention of Plaintiff's personal property, the wrongful taking and detention of Plaintiff's 2024 Chevrolet Silverado 2500HD, VIN 2GC4YME76R1203516; and related claims including replevin, conversion, unlawful self-help exclusion, declaratory judgment, injunctive relief, and unjust enrichment, and such other and further relief as provided by law.

You are required to answer the Complaint on or before July 31, 2026. If you fail to do so, the allegations of the Complaint may be taken as true and judgment rendered accordingly for the relief requested by the Plaintiff. Please govern yourself accordingly.
DATED June 12, 2026.

Shawn D. Kyker, Plaintiff, pro se
1819 Lincoln St.
(402) 883-0338
kc0swg@gmail.com

17-24-1
ZNEZ

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING - Regular Meeting

Monday, July 13th at 7:00 PM

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Regular Board meeting of the Falls City Board of Education for District No. 74 - 0056 will be held on Monday, July 13th, 2026, at 7:00 P.M. in the Central Office in Falls City Middle School. This meeting is open to the public.

An Agenda for this meeting is kept continually current and is available for public inspection at the Superintendent's Office during regular District business hours. The agenda sequence is provided as a courtesy. The board reserves the right to consider items in the sequence it deems appropriate and may be modified at said meeting. Therefore, we encourage patrons to attend the meeting from the beginning.

Dr. Andrew Offner
Superintendent, Falls City Public Schools

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ZNEZ

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

REGULAR MEETING OF THE FALLS CITY BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

June 4, 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 4th day of June 2026 at 5:30 o'clock P.M. Present were: Board Members: Froeschl, Joy, Rieger and Koopman. Absent: Johansen. 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 agenda for June 4th, 2026, is hereby approved. 3. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY the Board of Public Works that the Consent Agenda for June 4th, 2026, is hereby approved. Roll was called on this motion and the members voted as follows: "YEA" Froeschl, Joy, Rieger, Koopman. "NAY" None. "ABSENT": Johansen. Motion carried.

TECHNICAL REPORT OF THE GPR CEMETERY INSPECTION FROM OLSSON

Campbell explained the GPR Inspection to the board. No motion was made.
LETTER AGREEMENT AMENDMENT FOR TRANSMISSION LINE AND SUBSTATION PLANNING AND ENGINEERING FROM OLSSON

A motion was made by Joy and seconded by Rieger to recommend City Council approve the letter agreement amendment as presented. Roll was called on this motion and the members voted as follows: "YEA" Froeschl, Rieger, Koopman, Joy. "NAY" None. "ABSENT": Johansen. Motion carried.
MASTER AGREEMENT WORK ORDER FOR THE NEBRASKA PLANT FEEDER STRUCTURE REPLACEMENT NOT TO EXCEED \$135,000 FROM OLSSON

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

LETTER REQUESTING INFORMATION FROM OPPD

Campbell discussed the letter to OPPD with the board. No motion was made.

PURCHASE OF AMOT VALVE PARTS IN AMOUNT OF \$7,791.00 FOR ENGINE 7

A motion was made by Joy and seconded by Koopman to approve the direct purchase of AMOT valve parts for Engine 7. Roll was called on this motion and the members voted as follows: "YEA" Joy, Rieger, Koopman, Froeschl. "NAY" None. "ABSENT": Johansen. Motion carried.

ENGINE 9 AUDIT AND TROUBLE SHOOTING REVIEW BY WARTSILA

A motion was made by Froeschl and seconded by Joy to recommend City Council approve an audit of Engine 9. Roll was called on this motion and the members voted as follows: "YEA" Joy, Rieger, Koopman, Froeschl. "NAY" None. "ABSENT": Johansen. Motion carried.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:00 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 June 4th 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

FALLS CITY CITY COUNCIL

May 20, 2026

A meeting of the City Council of the City of Falls City, Nebraska, was held in said City on the 20th day of May 2026, at 6:00 o'clock P.M. Council met in Regular Session on Wednesday, as the meeting originally scheduled for Monday was postponed to Wednesday at 6:00 PM by Mayor Harkendorff due to the threat of severe weather. Mayor Harkendorff was absent. President Leyde called the meeting to order, Clerk Jörn recorded the minutes of the meeting. On roll call the following Council persons were present: Buckminster, Fouraker, Ferguson, Kaster, F. Killingsworth, K. Killingsworth, Leyden. "NAY" None. "Absent" Ruiz. Motion carried.
ESTIMATE FROM NEBRASKA COMMERCIAL EQUIPMENT FOR AN UNDERGROUND LOCATOR IN THE AMOUNT OF \$21,186.00 TREVOR CAMPBELL - BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

A motion was made by Council person Fouraker and seconded by Council person K. Killingsworth to approve the locator bid for \$21,186.00. Roll was called on this motion and the Council persons voted as follows: "YEA" Buckminster, Fouraker, Ferguson, Kaster, F. Killingsworth, K. Killingsworth, Leyden. "NAY" None. "Absent" Ruiz. Motion carried.

RECORDS DESTRUCTION LIST

A motion was made by Council person Ferguson and seconded by Council person F. Killingsworth to approve the destruction of retention list and to notify the state. Roll was called on this motion and the Council persons voted as follows: "YEA" Buckminster, Fouraker, Ferguson, Kaster, F. Killingsworth, K. Killingsworth, Leyden. "NAY" None. "Absent" Ruiz. Motion carried.

UTILITY BILLING, GENERAL LEDGER, & PAYROLL SOFTWARE

Brad Griffen, Kevin Malone, and Megan Stamper spoke. A motion was made by Council person Buckminster and seconded by Council person F. Killingsworth to approve the purchase of Power Manager and PayCom. Roll was called on this motion and the Council persons voted as follows: "YEA" Buckminster, Fouraker, Ferguson, Kaster, F. Killingsworth, K. Killingsworth, Leyden. "NAY" None. "Absent" Ruiz. Motion carried.

OFFER OF \$340,000 FOR HOUSE AT 1612 FULTON

A motion was made by Council person Fouraker and seconded by Council person F. Killingsworth to accept the offer of \$340,000 for the house at 1612 Fulton. Roll was called on this motion and the Council persons voted as follows: "YEA" Buckminster, Fouraker, Ferguson, Kaster, F. Killingsworth, K. Killingsworth, Leyden. "NAY" None. "Absent" Ruiz. Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION- PROPERTY NEGOTIATION- TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC'S INTEREST

A motion was made by Council person Leyden and seconded by Council person F. Killingsworth to enter into closed session at 6:47 pm to discuss a property negotiation to protect the public's interest. Attendees for the closed session included City Council Members, Chief of Police Baker, City Administrator Jörn, Deputy City Treasurer Stamper. Roll was called on this motion and the Council persons voted as follows: "YEA" Buckminster, Ferguson, Kaster, F. Killingsworth, K. Killingsworth, Leyden. "NAY" None. "Absent" Ruiz. Motion carried.

MINUTES APPROVAL FOR MAY 4, 2026

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

CLAIMS APPROVAL FOR MAY 19, 2026

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

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR APRIL 2026

A motion was made by Council person Fouraker and seconded by Council person K. Killingsworth to approve the Treasurer's Report for April 2026 as presented. Roll was called on this motion and the Council persons voted as follows: "YEA" Buckminster, Fouraker, Ferguson, Kaster, F. Killingsworth, K. Killingsworth, Leyden. "NAY" None. "Absent" Ruiz. Motion carried.

MOU BETWEEN FALLS CITY RECREATION, INC. AND THE CITY OF FALLS CITY | FALLS CITY RECREATION, INC.

Derrick Leyden spoke for Summer Recreation. A motion was made by Council person Ferguson and seconded by Council person F. Killingsworth to approve the MOU between the City and Summer Recreation. Roll was called on this motion and the Council persons voted as follows: "YEA" Buckminster, Fouraker, Ferguson, Kaster, F. Killingsworth, K. Killingsworth, Leyden. "NAY" None. "Absent" Ruiz. Motion carried.

PROPOSAL FOR UPDATING PARKING BAN ON SIDE STREETS | VINCENT & CARLA BEHRENS

Vincent Behrens spoke in favor of updating the existing parking ban from a 24-Hour parking rule to a 7-Day standard rule. Ron Kelly and Bing Bindrum spoke against this update. The action died due to lack of motion.

REQUEST TO USE THE CITY LOT NORTH OF THE LIBRARY AT 15TH AND STONE STREET FOR AN EVENT FOR LEMONADE DAYS | AMBER HOLLE - CHAMBER OF COMMERCE DIRECTOR

A motion was made by Council person K. Killingsworth and seconded by Council person Leyden approve the request for Lemonade Days. Roll was called on this motion and the Council persons voted as follows: "YEA" Buckminster, Fouraker, Ferguson, Kaster, F. Killingsworth, K. Killingsworth, Leyden. "NAY" None. "Abstain" Leyden. "Absent" Ruiz. Motion carried.

RECOMMENDATION FROM BOPW FOR THE PURCHASE OF A 2000 DITCH WITCH 920L DIRECTION DRILL AND 2000 BELSHE DIRECTIONAL DRILL TRAILER WITH MUD MIXER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$30,000.00 FROM SOUTHEAST NEBRASKA COMMUNICATIONS, INC | TREVOR CAMPBELL - BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

A motion was made by Council person Ferguson and seconded by Council person Fouraker to approve the purchase of the Directional Drill for \$30,000.00 from SNC, Inc. Roll was called on this motion and the Council persons voted as follows: "YEA" Buckminster, Fouraker, Ferguson, Kaster, F.

Killingsworth, K. Killingsworth, Leyden. "NAY" None. "Absent" Ruiz. Motion carried.

LSLI SRF LOAN PREAPPLICATION | BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

A motion was made by Council person Fouraker and seconded by Council person K. Killingsworth to approve submitting a preapplication for the LSLI SRF Loan. Roll was called on this motion and the Council persons voted as follows: "YEA" Buckminster, Fouraker, Ferguson, Kaster, F. Killingsworth, K. Killingsworth, Leyden. "NAY" None. "Absent" Ruiz. Motion carried.

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Falls City, NE
4th of July Bash
 Celebrating America's 250th Anniversary!
Saturday, July 4th, 2026

Start your 4th with Community Medical Center's Firecracker Color Run at 8am
 Timed 5k or One Mile Freedom Walk Starting at the Falls City Elks Lodge

Vendor & Farmer's Market 9am to 1pm at 1500 Stone Street

America's 250th Anniversary Parade at 11am 1800-1400 Chase Street

Extreme Bull Riding at 6pm Falls City Jaycees Community Field
 Just 1 1/2 miles south of Falls City on Hwy 7

Live Music by 4 on the Floor - Firework Show at Dark

Gates open at 4pm for Food Trucks, Kid's Activities including Mutton Busting,
 Petting Zoo, Face Painting, Crowd Participation Games, Mechanical Bull

Adults \$15 when purchased online or at
 Nebraska Bank, F&M Bank or Equity Bank
 \$20 at the gate

Kids 5-14 \$10, 4 & Under Free

Purchase tickets & find more information here



Presented by: The Falls City Chamber & Main Street and the Falls City Area Jaycees
 Fireworks Presented by: American Legion Post 102
 Visit www.fallscitychamber.com for more informaton




(Above) Shortstop Noah Howard takes the throw on a steal attempt in action on Tuesday evening at SNC-Field.



(Right) Second baseman Paxton Holmes camps under a third-inning fly ball.



Gavin Shubert puts the ball in play in the first inning on Tuesday night.



CASINO WHITE CLOUD

Fourth of July

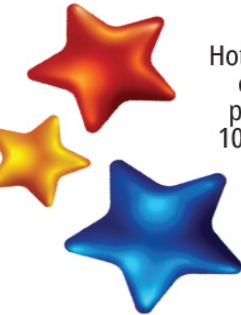
JULY 2026 PROMOTIONS

FRIDAY, JULY 3RD

Hot Seat Drawings to win up to \$200 in free play every 1/2 hour from 12pm-4pm, plus an extra entry into the CASH drawings starting at 10pm. Hot Seat Drawings to win up to \$500 in free play every 1/2 hour from 6pm-9:30pm, plus an extra entry into the CASH drawings starting at 10pm. HOT SEAT CASH Drawings to win up to \$500 in CASH every 1/2 hour from 10pm to 1am.

Hot Seat winners on July 3rd will get an extra entry into the **DRIVE AND RIDE GIVEAWAY** for Saturday, July 25th. Entry will be placed in the big barrel. Hot Seat winners will receive their extra entry registration ticket at the time they win a Hot Seat and will place the tickets in the small barrel at that time.

(At the Player's Club, see rules for all the details on **DRIVE AND RIDE GIVEAWAY** Drawings)



SATURDAY, JULY 4TH - "STARS, STRIPES AND JACKPOTS-CELEBRATE INDEPENDENCE DAY IN STYLE!" HAPPY FOURTH OF JULY!!

Hot Seat Drawings to win up to \$300 in free play every 1/2 hour 12pm-4pm, plus get an extra entry into the CASH drawings starting at 8pm.

Hot Seat Drawings to win up to \$500 in free play every 1/2 hour 6pm-12:30am, plus get an extra entry into the CASH drawings starting at 8pm. (Excludes drawings every hour 8pm-12:30am)

Registration CASH drawings to win \$500 every hour 8pm-1am. Registration begins at 6pm.

Hot Seat winners on July 4th will get an extra entry into the **DRIVE AND RIDE GIVEAWAY** for Saturday, July 25th. Entry will be placed in the big barrel.

Hot Seat winners will receive their extra entry registration ticket at the time they win a Hot Seat and will place the tickets in the small barrel at that time.

(At the Player's Club, see rules for all the details on **DRIVE AND RIDE GIVEAWAY** Drawings)



SATURDAY, JULY 25TH

"DRIVE AND RIDE GIVEAWAY" - ONE OF THESE THREE COULD BE YOURS: 2026 KIA K4, 2026 CFMOTO ZFORCE OR A 2025 HONDA TALON! UNLEASH THE POWER OF PURE ADVENTURE - YOUR NEXT WILD ESCAPE STARTS HERE!"

Hot Seat Drawings to win up to \$400 in free play every 1/2 hour 12pm-4pm, plus an extra entry into the big barrel for the VEHICLE QUALIFYING DRAWINGS.

Hot Seat Drawings to win up to \$500 in free play every 1/2 hour 6pm-12:30am, plus an extra entry into the big barrel for the VEHICLE QUALIFYING DRAWINGS.

Hot Seat Drawings for 2 Qualifiers every 1/2 hour from 8pm-10pm. Each Hot Seat winner will get a registration ticket put in the qualifier barrel. The first round of qualifiers will be picked at 11pm. The Qualifying Registration drawing to win one of the three Awesome Vehicles will be at 1am. Who will be the lucky winner and what RIDE will they win? At 1am, one of the qualifiers will be going home with one of the 3 Awesome Vehicles! Consolation prizes will be given to the remaining qualifiers.

(At the Player's Club, see rules for all the details on **DRIVE AND RIDE GIVEAWAY** Drawings)

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CWC Text Now Club - Text PLAYERSCLUB to (785) 377-0992 to sign up. Must be 21 years of age or older to participate in Casino White Cloud Promotions. Management reserves the right to cancel, modify or reschedule any promotion at anytime for any reason without notice. Any alteration, reproduction and/or unauthorized use of promotions will be voided. All drawings will be hot seat unless a registration is required for a giveaway. All registration drawings are Casino promotions. You must be present in the Casino to claim your prize and have a valid ID.

Froeschl Floors Post 102 drops double dip to Doniphan Co.

Froeschl Floors Post 102 dropped a heartbreaker to Doniphan County on Tuesday night at SNC Field, 6-5, in eight innings. FC dug a hole early, falling behind 4-0 after three innings. However, Post 102 chipped away, tying the game at 5-5 in the seventh. Unfortunately, the visitors plated a run in the eighth for the win.

The Juniors faced a similar fate in game two of the doubleheader, falling 8-3 and dropping to 7-7 on the season.

Down 4-0 in the bottom of the fourth, Kam Huppert reached on an error by the Doniphan shortstop. A stolen base and an RBI single by Brody Scholl put FC on the board, making it 4-1.

Flash forward to the fifth inning. Noah Howard reached on an error and later scored when Paxton Holmes reached on another Doniphan miscue. An RBI double by Gavin Shubert brought FC within one at 4-3.

The visitors added an insurance run in the seventh, but FC wasn't ready to call it a game yet. Howard reached base after being hit by a pitch. Holmes was walked, and Shubert followed with an RBI sac fly to make it 5-4. A walk by Huppert and an RBI single by Reid Kirkendall tied the contest at 5-5, sending it to extra innings.

Doniphan singled home a run in the top of the eighth, once again taking the lead.

The eighth inning opened with Scholl on second, and he quickly stole third. Baker Wissman and Carter Scholl walked to load the bases with one down. With the bases loaded, the next two batters struck out looking and flew out to left field to end the contest.

Shubert went 1-for-3 with a double and two RBI, while Kirkendall and Scholl collected singles. Holmes took the loss on the mound, tossing the final 4 2/3 innings, allowing three hits and two runs (none earned) while walking three and striking out five.

A six-run second inning proved enough in the night-cap for the visitors, who won 8-3 in four innings.

FC took the lead in the bottom of the second. Howard walked and promptly stole second and third. An error by the third baseman allowed Howard to score, tying the game at 1-1. Ryder Hullman then walked and advanced to third on a pair of passed balls. Hullman scored when Shubert reached on an error, giving FC a 2-1 lead after one frame.

Doniphan pounced on FC's pitching for six runs in the second, taking the lead for good, 7-2.

Howard had FC's lone hit, and Tatum Ramer had FC's only RBI. Elin Vonderschmidt took the loss, surrendering seven runs (three earned) in 1 1/3 innings.

The 7-7 Juniors played at Doniphan County on Tuesday, June 30, and at Hiawatha on Wednesday, July 1.



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ARMBRUSTER'S "BACK IN THE DAY"
 He was running for re-election
 as Richardson County Sheriff in 1978.

Last week's "Back in the Day" was Jeff Huppert

