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Ground broken on Stone Street Amphitheater and Park

After more than three years of planning, community input, grant writing, and fundraising, construction has officially begun on the Stone Street Amphitheater & Park, a transformative project that will create a vibrant outdoor gathering space in the heart of downtown Falls City.

Located at the corner of 15th and Stone Street, directly across from the Falls City Library & Arts Center, the new park will become a destination for concerts, theater performances, library programming, artisan vendor fairs, public art, and community celebrations. The flexible green space will also provide an inviting place for residents, downtown employees, and visitors to relax, gather, and enjoy the outdoors.

The vision for the project originated during community listening sessions held in 2023 as part of Falls City's application to become a Nebraska Certified Creative District. Residents identified the need for a welcoming downtown green space that could serve as a hub for arts, culture, recreation, and community events. That vision has since evolved through public input, professional design, and partnerships among the City of Falls City, Falls City Creative District, Richardson County Arts & Humanities and Falls City Chamber & Main Street.

Construction of the park is being made possible through the generous donation of the property by Novak Realty, significant support from the Stalder Foundation, and multiple grant awards. Together, these investments have allowed the project to move forward with construction of the amphitheater, park, and surrounding ADA-compliant sidewalks. Construction is expected to continue through the summer and into the fall.

"We are incredibly excited to see this project move from a community vision to reality," said Amber Holle, Executive Director of Falls City Chamber & Main Street. "This park will become a gathering place where people of all ages can experience live music, art, educational programming, and community events while enjoying everything our downtown has to

offer."

Although funding has been secured to construct the Stone Street Amphitheater & Park, work to enhance the surrounding area will continue. Future fundraising efforts will focus on developing the City-owned Mini Park located directly across 15th Street. This property, generously donated by Southeast Nebraska Communications and Towle Realty, will complement the amphitheater by providing additional family-friendly amenities and improving connectivity throughout the district.

Plans for the Mini Park include a walking path that links the amphitheater to the public parking lot to the west, seating areas, children's interactive musical play equipment, landscaping, and the potential addition of public restrooms. Together, the amphitheater and Mini Park will create a cohesive arts and recreation campus that serves residents and visitors of all ages while further strengthening Falls City's downtown as a destination for community gatherings, cultural programming, and outdoor recreation.

Community members also have an opportunity to become a lasting part of the project. Individuals, families, and businesses interested in sponsoring a memorial picnic table, park bench, or decorative light pole are encouraged to contact the Falls City Chamber & Main Street for additional information. These commemorative gifts will provide meaningful ways to honor loved ones while helping complete one of Falls City's newest community landmarks.

The Falls City Chamber & Main Street extends its sincere appreciation to the City of Falls City, project partners, funding organizations, private donors, volunteers, and the many residents whose ideas and support helped bring the Stone Street Amphitheater and Park to life.

For more information about the project or sponsorship opportunities, contact the Falls City Chamber & Main Street at 402-245-4228 or visit www.fallscitychamber.com.

Battle between Count and Union ongoing

During Wednesday's County Commissioner meeting in Falls City, the Board met with special legal counsel Jerry Pig-sley to further discuss new grievances filed by two Road Department employees and a petition regarding the use of GPS and cameras in county vehicles.

The County and the Road Department union still have unresolved issues regarding the collective bargaining agreement that took effect on July 1, 2020, and expired on June 30, 2023. Road Department employees have worked without a raise since the CBA expired in 2023.

The latest complaints filed by NAPE/AFSCME Local 61 include grievances on behalf of employees Roger Glathar and Bryan Dettmann, as well as a petition to cease and desist the use of GPS and AI-integrated camera systems in county vehicles. The filing alleges that the County refuses to bargain over the terms of use of GPS and camera systems, while the County contends it has the "management 'right to establish, implement, modify and change...procedures and policies for the safety, health and protection of property and personnel interests,'" citing Article 19, Section 19.1(j) of the collective bargaining agreement. Meanwhile, the Union says the terms of the CBA were

violated. Article 1, preamble, and Article 1, Section 4 read, "The employer agrees that prior to making any change in terms and conditions of employment, which are mandatory subjects of bargaining covered by this contract, to meet and bargain with the Union in an attempt to reach an agreement." The current collective bargaining agreement contains no mention of the use of GPS and AI-integrated camera systems.

The grievances filed by county employees involve disciplinary reprimands.

An objection was filed by Bryan Dettmann following an incident on June 23, 2026, at 11:32 a.m. According to documents, Dettmann was found asleep in a maintainer at 713 Road and 642 Avenue with the machine running. According to the county, the employee violated work rule 20, creating an unsafe situation. Records show Dettmann previously received a verbal warning on October 16, 2025, to stop sleeping in the maintainer. Dettmann maintained he slept only during his breaks. The county maintains that he was advised not to sleep during work hours, regardless of whether it was a break. The union contends that Mr. Dettmann was sleeping during his unpaid lunch break, not during working hours, and therefore

Battle -PAGE 3



The Falls City Chamber & Main Street is excited to announce the theme for the 2026 Cobblestone Festival: "Stars and Stripes Forever" as a continued celebration of America's 250th Anniversary. The annual community celebration will take place August 20-23, bringing four days of family fun, entertainment, and community traditions to Falls City.

The festival kicks off on Thursday, August 20, with the Falls City Volunteer Fire Department's Annual Fishing Tournament at Stanton Lake.

On Friday, August 21, the excitement continues with youth wrestling on Stone Street, live music in the Elk's Beer Garden parking lot, Sam's Amusements carnival, food trucks, and a variety of sales vendors.

Saturday, August 22, begins with Community Medical Center's Fun Run, followed by the annual Cobblestone Parade at 11:00 a.m. down Harlan Street. Individuals, businesses, organizations, and community groups are invited to participate. Parade entry forms are available through the Falls City Chamber & Main Street.

Car enthusiasts are encouraged to enter the Cobblestone Car Show, located near the Grand Weaver Hotel. Vehicle registration will take place from 8:00 to 10:00

a.m., with awards presented at 2:00 p.m.

Saturday evening wraps up with one of the festival's most anticipated events, the Falls City Jaycees Demolition Derby, held south of town.

Throughout the weekend, Sam's Amusements will provide carnival rides from Friday through Sunday, while food trucks and vendor booths will offer plenty of shopping and dining opportunities. Businesses, artisans, crafters, nonprofits, and food vendors interested in participating are encouraged to contact the Chamber for an application.

The Chamber is also accepting Grand Marshal nominations for this year's Cobblestone Parade. Community members are invited to nominate an individual or couple who has made significant contributions to Falls City. Please submit nominations, along with a brief explanation of why they are deserving, to the Falls City Chamber & Main Street by Monday, August 3.

Additional festival activities and entertainment will be announced in the coming weeks. For parade entries, vendor applications, Grand Marshal nominations, or more information, contact the Falls City Chamber & Main Street at 402-245-4228 or visit www.fallscitychamber.com.



2026 FORD ESCAPE
\$35,700
-\$5,000
\$30,700





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

\$1.50



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JULY

16-28 -RC NE Extension Office
Closed 4H/FFA Fair Humboldt
27-31 -VBS, Christ Lutheran
Church, 9-11:30.
31 -Gehling Theater Curtain
Gallery Talk, 5:00PM

AUGUST

14-16 -Brownville Concert Series,
Lean Borchesi, Brassy,
Bassey & Broadway



EARLY DEADLINES COMING UP SEPTEMBER

3 -By Noon, no late submissions
can be accepted.
24 -By 9:00 AM, no late
submissions can be accepted



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OIL SALE

Auto Trans Fluid	Pack Size	Quantity Avail.	Discount Price
Auto Gold ATF DM	Case of 12 - 1 Qt Bottles	31 cases	\$43.80/case
Auto Gold MV ATF	Case of 12 - 1 Qt Bottles	81 cases	\$54.72/case

Engine Oil			
Auto Gold 10w30	2.5 gal. jugs	180 jugs	\$13.76 /gallon
Auto Gold 5w30	2.5 gal. jugs	10 jugs	\$14.04 /gallon
Irriflex 20w40	2.5 gal. jugs	8 jugs	\$15.76 /gallon
Maxtron DEO 15w40	Case of 12 - 1 Qt Bottles	42 cases	\$54.60/case
Superlube 518 SAE 10	2.5 gal. jugs	118 jgus	\$15.48 /gallon
Superlube 518 SAE 40	2.5 gal. jugs	62 jugs	\$15.54 /gallon
Superlube 518 SAE 50	2.5 gal. jugs	10 jugs	\$15.72 /gallon
Superlube CNG/LNG 15w40	55 gal. drum	1 drum	\$16.13 /gallon
Supertube518SAE30	Case of 12 - 1 Qt Bottles	90 cases	\$46.32/case

Gear Lube			
Maxtron EE GL 75w90	2.5 gal jugs	3 jugs	\$34.47 /gallon
Maxtron EE GL 75w90	Case of 12 - 1 Qt Bottles	3 cases	\$103.44/case
MP GL85w140	55 gal. drum	2 drums	\$16.36 /gallon
MPGL85w140	16 gal. keg	1 keg	\$17.39 /gallon

Hydraulic Fluid			
Hydrostatic ISO 46 MV	5 gal. pail	114 pails	\$78.49 /pail
Indol ISO 100	55 gal. drum	1 drum	\$13.10 /gallon
Indol ISO 100	Case of 12 - 1 Qt Bottles	48 cases	\$41.64/case
Indol ISO 150	2.5 gal. jugs	88 jugs	\$14.02 /gallon
Indol ISO 220	2.5 gal. jugs	201 jugs	\$14.14 /gallon
Indol ISO 32 Ultra Clean	2.5 gal. jugs	54 jugs	\$13.91 /gallon
Indol ISO 68 Ultra Clean	2.5 gal. jugs	64 jugs	\$13.82 /gallon
Maxtron R&O ISO 150	5 gal. pail	10 pails	\$31.19 /gallon
Maxtron R&O ISO 220	5 gal. pail	10 pails	\$162.23 /pail
Maxtron R&O ISO 68	55 gal. drum	2 drums	\$28.47 /gallon
Turbine Oil XL ISO 150	55 gal. drum	1 drum	\$13.76 /gallon
Turbine Oil XL ISO 68	55 gal. drum	1 drum	\$13.42 /gallon

Non-Detergent			
Econex 10 ISO 32	2.5 gal. jugs	20 jugs	\$13.04 /gallon
Econex 20 ISO 68	2.5 gal. jugs	20 jugs	\$12.90 /gallon
Econex 30 ISO 100	2.5 gal jugs	12 jugs	\$12.95 /gallon
Econex 50 ISO 220	2.5 gal jugs	24 jugs	\$13.18 /gallon
Econex ISO 100	55 gal. drum	1 drum	\$12.18 /gallon

Recreational			
ATVXtreme 5w40	Case of 12 - 1 Qt Bottles	1 Case	\$59.76/case

Tractor Fluid			
Maxtron Power Trans MV	5 gal. pail	9 pails	\$13.76 /gallon
Power Trans 50	2.5 gal. jugs	85 jugs	\$16.28 /gallon
Power Trans 50	55 gal. drum	1 drum	\$15.54 /gallon
STOU Transmission 15w40	55 gal. drum	1 drum	\$15.52 /gallon

Trans. Fluid			
Maxtron All Synth. HD ATF	55 gal. drum	1 drum	\$24.18 /gallon
Maxtron ATF SS8	5 gal. pail	6 pails	\$155.29 /pail
Maxtron MT 40	5 gal. pail	37 pails	\$186.94 /pail
Maxtron MT 50	2.5 gal. jugs	48 jugs	\$37.79 /gallon
Maxtron MT 50	16 gal. keg	1 keg	\$37.85 /gallon

Miscellaneous			
Chain Bar Oil	2.5 gal. jugs	12 jugs	\$6.72 /gallon
Chain Bar Oil	Case of 12 - 1 Qt Bottles	9 cases	\$20.40/case
Waylube ISO 68	55 gal. drum	4 drums	\$13.73 /gallon

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Community Spin Class celebrates one year of promoting health and wellness

What started with just a handful of stationary bikes and a vision to improve community wellness has grown into a successful fitness program serving Falls City residents of all ages and fitness levels.

Launched on July 4, 2025, by Racy Hullman – Director of Quality for Community Medical Center, the community spin class began with five stationary bikes purchased through generous donations from Community Medical Center and the Richardson Foundation. Her goal was simple: provide an affordable, accessible opportunity for people to improve their health through exercise.

As interest grew, Hullman was determined not to turn anyone away and personally purchased five additional bikes. Community support quickly followed, with funding from the Richardson Foundation, Frontier Bank, and the City of Falls City helping expand the program. Today, the City owns 10 stationary bikes, bringing the total number available for classes to 12, along with dedicated instructor equipment.

The program has also benefited from the support of Falls City Parks and Recreation, which provides space for classes at Prichard Auditorium.

What began as “Spin with Racy” soon evolved into a broader community fitness initiative. Additional instructors joined

the program, and the class became known simply as Spin Class. Its success has also inspired other fitness opportunities, including yoga and boot camp classes.

“One of my goals was to help create opportunities for people to improve their health without cost being a barrier,” Hullman said. “Regular physical activity can have lasting health benefits, and I wanted to help make fitness accessible to everyone.”

Stationary cycling provides a low-impact workout that can improve cardiovascular health, build endurance, and accommodate a wide range of fitness levels. Classes remain affordable at just \$5 per session, making them one of the most economical fitness options available locally.

Today, fitness classes are offered Monday through Friday at Prichard Auditorium and include spin, yoga, and boot camp sessions. Whether participants are experienced fitness enthusiasts or trying a class for the first time, everyone is welcome.

As the program celebrates its first anniversary, organizers remain focused on encouraging healthy lifestyles and providing accessible fitness opportunities for the community.

For class schedules and additional information, contact Falls City Parks and Recreation.

Board approves removal of antenna on tower of courthouse

By Brian McKim

The Board of Commissioners met at the courthouse in Falls City on Wednesday, July 15, 2026. The Board met with Highway Superintendent Steve Darveau Jr., Chief Deputy Dexter Holliday and EMA Director Brian Kirkendall before entering a closed meeting with special legal counsel Jerry Pigsley to discuss pending litigation and to protect the public interest.

The meeting with Mr. Darveau opened with the Commissioners asking if cameras had been installed in the county vehicles and if they were all working properly. Darveau replied that cameras had been installed and they were working, but with a few glitches “here and there.”

Darveau said his department was finishing work in the Barada area and would next move to the west end of the county.

A discussion was also held regarding work needed at the mouth of the Nemaha River. Darveau and Josh Keithley from Midwest Engineering inspected the area and will develop a repair plan.

Chief Deputy Holliday met with members of the Board and updated them on Law Enforcement Center activity. Holliday told the Commissioners that the jail currently had 14 inmates. He also advised Board members that maintenance had recently finished painting all remaining jail cells with truck bedliner.

He also requested ordering the deck storage system for the new patrol pickup. It had previously been discussed to include in the next budget. The cost of the apparatus was approximately \$1,500.

Holliday also relayed a request from Sheriff Hardesty to purchase three new patrol vehicles: two SUVs and one pickup. The vehicles will be included in the upcoming budget, but the Sheriff was

hoping for approval to begin the ordering process.

Commissioner Karas said after speaking with Anderson Ford, the vehicles would be at least four months out from delivery.

After a long discussion, the Commissioners contemplated ordering one vehicle but ultimately chose to place the vehicle purchase on the following agenda.

Emergency Management Director Brian Kirkendall presented a quote for the removal of an antenna located on the tower at the top of the courthouse. The quote, from Hayden Tower Services, Inc., totaled \$3,577.50. The antenna in question is bent and is no longer in use.

The bid was approved 3-0. The Board approved funding for FY26-27 for the Southeast Nebraska Development District for \$6,634.00.

The Commissioners considered two quotes for the repair and replacement of a building drain located on the southwest side of the courthouse. After a discussion, the Board approved a quote from Justin Vonderschmidt for \$5,752.00.

At 10:01, Chairman Caverzagie motioned to enter a closed meeting with Jerry Pigsley, special legal counsel, to discuss pending litigation and for the protection of the public interest.

The closed meeting ended at 10:25. At that time, the Commissioners voted to retain Jerry Pigsley as legal counsel to address new grievances filed by Road Department employees, Roger Glathar and Bryan Dettmann and to represent the County regarding a petition filed by NAPE/AFSCME Local 61 pertaining to an order temporarily prohibiting the use of GPS and or AI-Integrated camera systems.

The Board did its quarterly jail inspection, claims were paid, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:59.

Gary Allen Mick

Gary Allen Mick, 83, passed away on Thursday, June 25, 2026 at his home in Loveland, CO from complications from Parkinson’s disease.

Gary was born on May 2, 1943 in Falls City, NE to Paul and Venice Mick. He was a 1961 graduate of Falls City Senior High. After high school, Gary met the love of his life, Dorothy Pierce. The couple were married in Lincoln, NE on July 2, 1966. In 1971, Gary earned a civil engineering degree from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Gary worked as a civil engineer for the US Forest Service for 17 years. While in Alamogordo, New Mexico, he designed and built a family home for himself, Dottie and their two children, John born in 1970 and Sallie, born in 1975.

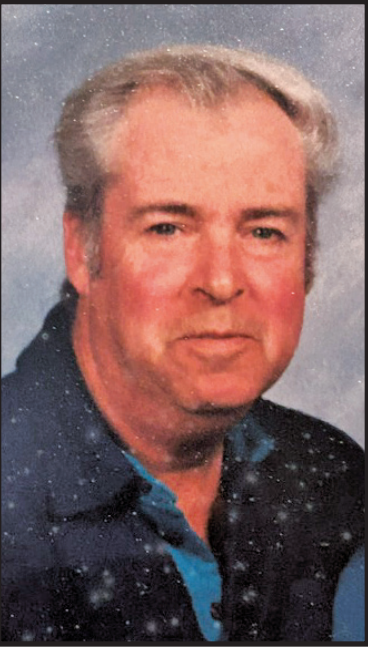
In 1988 Gary left the Forest Service for Lockheed Martin to work on the Space Shuttle program. He helped design an alternate landing site for the Space Shuttle program, located at the White Sands Missile Range. In 1995, after Lockheed lost the NASA contract, Gary and Dottie moved to Wisconsin where he worked as Director of Environmental Services for Milwaukee County.

Gary retired from Milwaukee County in 2007. They moved to Loveland, CO to be closer to their son John and his family. Gary and Dottie enjoyed travel in their retirement taking trips to Ireland, Spain, Russia and more. Motorcycles were a huge part of Gary’s life. Over the course of his life he rode, bought, sold and repaired too many motorcycles to count. He loved them!

Gary is survived by his wife, Dottie and their children, John (Jeanne) Mick of Fort Collins, CO; and Sallie (Matthew) Wild of Milwaukee, WI. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Paul and Ben Mick and Madeline Wild. And his sister Judith Nye of Florida.

He was proceeded in death by his parents, Paul in 1987 and Venice in 2011; and his sister Linda Mick-O’Hara in 2006.

William “Bill” Sipple



William Mac “Bill” Sipple passed away on Monday, July 6, 2026, at Falls City Care Center in Falls City, Nebraska. He was born August 31, 1943, in Linton, Indiana to Kermit W. and Marjorie I. (McQueen) Sipple. Bill spent his early childhood in Linton with his Grandparents, Everett and Gladys (Prater) McQueen.

He moved to Indianapolis and there he enlisted in the Air Force on June 1, 1966. He served in Lincoln, Nebraska and Guam for four years earning a National Defense Service Medal, an AF Outstanding Unit Award and an AF Good Conduct Medal.

Bill met and married Susan (Zimmerman) Chesnut and her two children, Timothy Dale and Angela Sue Chesnut on November 25, 1970, in Lincoln, Nebraska. The couple added two more children to their family, William Robert “Robbie” and Christina Elizabeth Sipple.

Bill was an over-the-road truck driver for over 35 years when health issues forced his retirement. He drove over three million miles without a chargeable accident winning several awards. Bill then went to work for Sac & Fox Tribe driving people to appointments and other errands. He retired from there in 2020.

Bill was preceded in death by his Grandparents, Mom Mom and Pop Pop McQueen and Frank and Priscilla (Williams) Sipple, his father Kermit and stepmother Jo Sipple, his mother Marjorie Sipple, and two sisters, Sharon Griffith and Sue DeKoker.

Bill is survived by his son Robbie Sipple and wife Amanda, their children, Kasen, Kamden, Kyler and Kemper Sipple of Falls City, daughter Christina Sipple, her children Derek Cook, Collin Cook, Mason Wurtele, and Noah Sipple, step children: Timothy Chesnut and wife Christi and their children, Jessica Hayes, Justin Chesnut, and Angela Quinn and her husband Shawn and her son Andy Dean, seven great-grandchildren, his brother Frank Sipple and wife Sharon, brothers-in-law Dale Griffith and Dave DeKoker, and many other nieces, nephews, relatives and friends

There will be no funeral services or visitation at this time. A private graveside service will be held at a later date. Memorial contributions may be given to the family’s choice with a later designation.

Condolences can be shared online at www.hallfuneral.net

Services entrusted to Hall Funeral Home-2403 Harlan St-Falls City, Nebraska 68355 (402) 245-3131

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John Lee Wilhelm

John Lee Wilhelm, 65, of rural Humboldt, Nebraska was born on September 29, 1960, in Falls City, Nebraska to Jerry Lee and Carol Lee (Kelly) Wilhelm. He was raised near Humboldt, Nebraska where he attended Humboldt High School. After his schooling, John began his lifelong passion of farming. He loved farming to his core and especially enjoyed spending time outdoors. John loved fishing, hunting, spending time with his family, and “socializing” with his friends and neighbors with a cold Busch Light.

John passed away unexpectedly on Thursday, July 9, 2026, at the Pawnee County Memorial Hospital in Pawnee City, Nebraska having reached the earthly age of sixty-five years, nine months, and ten days.

He was preceded in death by his mother Carol (Kelly) Wilhelm and brother-in-law Rick Dettmann.

John is survived by his children: Lindsay Davis and husband Kevin of Falls City, Matthew John Wilhelm of Rulo, NE; Nicole Stuart of Humboldt, NE; Shelby Wilhelm of Humboldt, NE; his father Jerry Wilhelm of Falls City, grandchildren: Tayler Rutland and husband Dylan of Falls City, Madisyn Davis and significant other Tyson Crosby of Falls City, Kacen Davis of Falls City, Kyler Stuart of Humboldt, NE; great-grandchildren: Julianne Crosby of Falls city, Sterling Rutland of Falls City, Tulsyn J. Rutland of Falls City, sisters: Julie Buss and husband Denny of Humboldt, NE; Joan Finner of Falls City, June Dettmann and friend Jim of Iowa, and many other nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

Services will be held at a later date with inurnment at the St. Mark’s Cemetery in rural Verdon, Nebraska.

Memorial contributions may be given to the family’s choice with a later designation.

Condolences can be shared online at www.wherry-mortuary.com

Services entrusted to Wherry Mortuary-207 Nemaha St-Humboldt, NE 68376 (402) 862-2915

Dorothy Costa

Dorothy Marie Costa, lovingly known to everyone as “Toots,” passed away peacefully on July 7, 2026, at the age of 95, surrounded by the love of her family.

Born in Verdon, NE, to Clyde and Vivian Burns on July 23, 1930, Dorothy was the oldest of eleven children. She moved to California in the early 1950s, where she married Walter Costa Sr. and built a life centered around family, and lifelong friendships. She made California her home, where she and her husband raised their family and created countless memories together. She had a gift for making people feel welcome, never met a stranger for long, and formed friendships that lasted decades. Her home was a place where family gathered, stories were shared, and everyone knew they belonged.

She experienced life’s greatest joys and its deepest sorrows with remarkable strength. She outlived many of the people she loved, including friends, siblings, and even her beloved son. Through every season of life, she carried herself with quiet resilience, grace, and unwavering faith. Toots was the heart of her family. She found joy in simple moments, sharing meals, laughing with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, celebrating holidays, and simply being together.

Her warm smile, and loving nature left an impression on everyone fortunate enough to know her. In her final years, she was surrounded by extraordinary love and care. Those years became an unexpected gift, allowing her family to spend precious time with her, hear her stories and make new memories. It was time that not every family receives, and it will forever be treasured.

Dorothy was preceded in death by her parents, Clyde and Vivian Burns; her beloved husband, Walter Costa Sr.; her son, Walter Costa Jr.; her brothers, Richard Burns, Ray Burns, Russel Burns and Ralph Burns; and her sisters, Joan Weber and Francis Burns.

She is survived by her daughter, Marcia Hartigan; her daughter-in-law, Chris Costa; her granddaughters, Stephanie Brady (Gary Brady) and Shayla Romero (Mike Romero); her great-grandchildren, Kollin Herrera, Felipe Brady, Nevi Brady, Annie Brady, and Tytan Romero; her great-great-grandson, Jaxton Herrera; her brothers, Roland Burns, Roy Burns, and Thomas Burns and her sister, Carol Clark; along with many beloved nieces, nephews, extended family members, and dear friends.

A viewing, Rosary, and graveside service will be held on July 23, 2026, at Skylawn Funeral Home, Memorial Park & Crematory in Half Moon Bay, California. The viewing will begin at 11:00 a.m., followed by the Rosary and graveside service. There will also be a celebration of life in Utah on August 8, 2026.

If you would like to honor Toots’ memory, in lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project in her name. This was a cause that was close to her heart.

The family would like to extend their heartfelt gratitude to the hospice team, caregivers, friends, and everyone who offered prayers, kindness, and support during Toots’ final journey. Toots taught us that a life isn’t measured by wealth or accomplishments, but by the people we love, the memories we create, and the kindness we leave behind. Her legacy lives on in every story told around the dinner table, every family gathering, and every heart she touched. She will be deeply missed, forever loved, and never forgotten.

Sarah (England) Weaver

Sarah Ann (England) Weaver, 80, passed away November 16, 2025 at Bryan Medical Center West, Hospice Care Unit, Lincoln, Nebraska. She was born in Ft. Smith, Arkansas, on November 25, 1944.

She was preceded in death by her parents, John and Mary (Howden) England.

She is survived by her husband Edwin Weaver, Lincoln, sister Debby England and nephews Tyson Meek and Kelly Meek.

She was a former Falls City Public school speech pathologist.

Her body has been cremated by the Nebraska Cremation Society. Her final resting place will be in Steele Cemetery, Falls City, after a private memorial service.

BATTLE

-Continued from Page 1

did not violate work rule 20.

Dettmann checked the box on the statement, agreeing with the employer’s statement.

The written grievance filed against Mr. Glathar alleges that he violated Work Rules 4, 7, and Article 15.2.

Work Rule 4 states that employees will not waste time at work, while Rule 7 states that employees will perform their jobs in a satisfactory manner. Article 15.2 prohibits work for any reason, including strikes or slowing down work.

NAPE/AFSCME Local 61 Executive Director Justin Hubly replied to the grievance on behalf of Mr. Glathar, denying all charges against the employee. He added that Mr. Glathar did not waste time and “has never participated in work stoppage, slowdown, or any other interference with the performance of his work.”

According to the employer’s statement, on June 25, 2026, Mr. Glathar had not left the building by 7:45 that morning to begin grading. Glathar advised that he had been burning trash and cleaning the shop. Road Department Foreman Julie Vollmer stated she had a discussion with Glathar regarding issues with leaving the shop late on two previous days, including not leaving the building at all on another day. According to Vollmer’s written statement,

Glathar admitted it was hard to be motivated given the Union/County issues that remain unresolved.

Glathar contends he didn’t violate any rules because he was picking up and burning trash as part of maintenance.

The next step in the grievance process is for the two sides to schedule a meeting during an upcoming Commissioner’s meeting that is convenient for both parties to attend

BUILDING PERMITS

Associated Bank, 1818 Harlan St.; sign replacement, \$1,000.00.

Stacy Potter, 1123 Chase St.; roof replacement, \$7,500.00.

Scott Magdanz,1417 Valley Ave.; roof replacement, \$28,861.00.

Ron Fisher, 1010 Stone St.; residential plumbing work, \$4,000.00.

Robert Brown, 3119 McLean St.; new water heater, \$1,200.00.

Campbell Construction, 523 Dorrington Ct.; setting concrete foundation (82’ x 42’), \$25,000.00.

Brent Elliott, 216 W 15th St.; Electric Water Heater Install, \$900.00.

Jeannie Coupe
Estate Sale
916 St. Mary’s Ave., Falls City
Fri., July 24 • 8AM-6PM
Sat., July 25 • 8AM-2PM
No Early Sales • Cash or Check

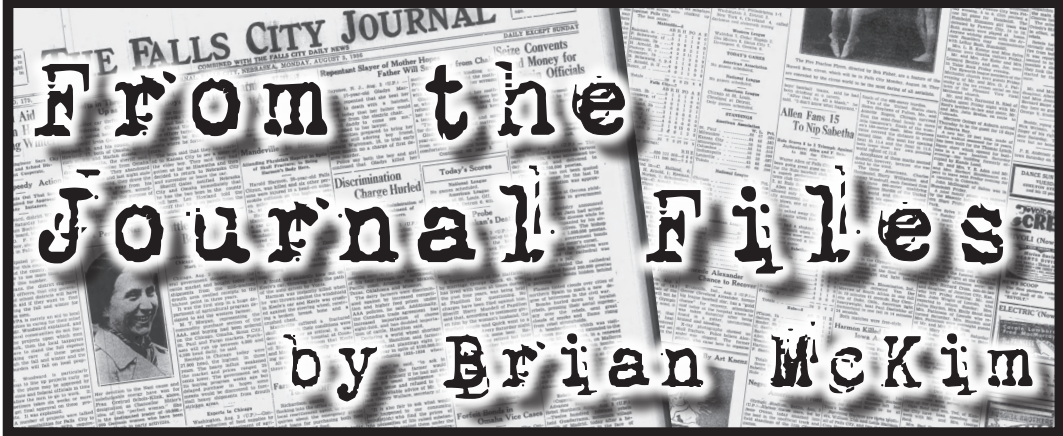
A Card Shower
IS BEING HELD FOR
Juanita James
who turned **77** years old on July 20, 2026.
CARDS MAY BE SENT TO HER AT
**Good Samaritan, 1322 U St,
Auburn, NE 68305 Room 302.**

GEHLING THEATER
CURTAIN GALLERY TALK
Stalder Gallery/Falls City Library and Arts Center
JULY 31 | 5:00 p.m.
Guest Speaker: Bill Rowan
Sponsored by: Richardson County Arts and Humanities Council

East View Apartments
Pioneer Plaza Apartments
Pawnee Village Apartments

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COUNTY COURT
Philip A. Guest of Falls City, count one, drive during revocation/im-pound-1st, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$200, license revoked for term of one year; count two, improper turn, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$25.

Joshua L. Packett of Nebraska City, count one, theft-unlawful taking \$1,500-4,999, amended to theft-unlawful taking \$501-1,499, pled no contest, found guilty and fined \$1,000.
Robert D. Moyer, count one, resist arrest-2nd/subsequent offense, amended to resist arrest 1st, pled no contest, found guilty. Sentence includes jail for term of 95 days, credit for 55 days served.

DISTRICT COURT
Andres Lopez of Bellevue, count one, possess controlled subs, pled guilty, found guilty. Sentence includes jail for term of nine days, credit for nine days served.

Kevin W. Ingmire of Tonkawa, OK, counts 1-8 amended to dropped/dismissed; count nine, del/dsp/dst/man/pos except haz drug w/gn; amended to possess controlled subs; Class 4 felony, pled guilty, found guilty. Sentence includes jail for term of 1-2 years, credit for 73 days served; counts 10-12 amended to dropped/dismissed; count 13, possess firearm while commit felony, pled guilty, found guilty. Sentence includes jail for 1-3 years, credit for 73 days served.
Jesse J. Stinnett of Highland, KS, count one, possess (meth)amphetamine 10-27 grams, amended to possess controlled subs, pled no contest, found guilty. Sentence includes custody of the department of correction for two years, credit for six days served.
Corbin A. Stoner of Humboldt, count one, as-

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sault-1st degree, amended to assault-cause bodily injury, plea changed to guilty, found guilty. Sentence includes probation for term of 12 months, probation admin enrollment fee of \$30; probation fee-regular of \$300, drug testing fee of \$60, restitution of \$2,928.80, jail for term of two days beginning on July 19, 2026, jail for term of two days beginning July 26, 2026, jail for term of two days beginning August 2, 2026, jail for term of two days beginning August 9, 2026, credit for six days served, jail for term of six days beginning July 14, 2026.
Blake Rolfe of Rulo, count one, sexual assault-1st degree, amended to sexual assault/child-3rd degree, pled no contest, found guilty. Sentence includes department of correction for term of three years, post rel supervision for term of 18 months, post rel supervision admin enrollment fee of \$30, post rel

supervision probation fee (monthly) of \$630, credit for 208 days served.

CITATIONS
Xavier Kienholz of Humboldt, count one, speeding 16-20 mph, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$200 and court costs. (Novak)
Maverick Frederick of Rulo, count one, no operator's license, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$75 and court costs. (Novak)
Rosniel Loriga Tumbeiro of Raytown, MO, count one, fail to use turn signal, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$25; count two, no registration, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$100; count three, cmv-operate vehicle w/o valid med cert., pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$25; count four, reciprocity-no trip permit/scale, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$25; count five, cmv-marking 390.21(A), pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$50 and court costs. (Rowell)

Richardson Co. Sheriff's Office reports week's calls

The Richardson County Sheriff's Office reported 120 calls for service.
Calls included 59 traffic stops, 10 paper services, eight Humboldt city ordinance calls and four motorist assists.
The office also reported three animal calls, three complaints, two 911 hang-up/misdial calls, two ambulance/EMS calls, two assist outside agency calls, two information-only calls, two transports, two

VIN inspections and two welfare checks.
One call each was reported for accident with injury, assault, civil standby, custody/civil dispute, disturbance, equipment, follow-up, harassment, HHS intake, mental, noise complaint, office/walk-in, parking complaint, railroad call, referred other agency, suspicious person/vehicle, theft, traffic complaint and warrant arrest.

Richardson Co. Sheriff's Dept. help locate missing adult

**Richardson County Sheriff's Office Press Release*
On July 15, 2026, at approximately 6:03 p.m., the Richardson County Sheriffs Office received a report of a missing vulnerable adult from the Humboldt area.
The individual was last seen walking near the railroad tracks in Humboldt, prompting an immediate search. The Richardson County Sheriffs Office contacted BNSF Railway, who assisted by monitoring the area. Approximately 30 minutes later, BNSF reported a possible sighting near 710 Trail and 641 Boulevard. Responding agencies quickly converged on the area, and at approximately 8:20 p.m., the individual was located

safely.
As a precaution, the individual was transported to Humboldt for a medical evaluation.
The Richardson County Sheriffs Office would like to extend our sincere appreciation to BNSF Railway, Humboldt Volunteer Fire Department, Humboldt Rescue, Richardson County Emergency Management, and Levi Koch for their assistance. Their quick response, communication, and teamwork were instrumental in bringing this incident to a safe conclusion.
We are grateful for the continued partnership and support of our emergency responders and community members who help keep Richardson County safe.

75 Years Ago, July 22, 1951 to July 28, 1951

Citizens of the Shubert area showed up in a big way to celebrate Dr. W.E. Shook on the occasion of his 50th anniversary as a doctor. Dr. Shook and his wife were honored with 475 adults and 72 babies in attendance. In his 48 years of service in the Shubert area, Dr. Shook delivered over 1,600 babies.
The nickel bottle of pop and five-cent cigar may soon be a thing of the past, according to a story out of Washington, D.C.
Eight Bradley University basketball players were accused of fixing scores for gamblers who paid them at least \$5,600. Four players had admitted to the charges. The four players who admitted guilt included All-American Gene Melchiorre.
Pvt. Gale N. Griffith of Verdon was awarded the combat infantryman's badge for "excellent performance of duty in ground combat against the enemy." Pvt. Griffith was in Korea with the 32nd "Queen's Own" infantry.
Over 50 people, ranging in age from eight to 23, turned out at the City Park for free tennis lessons. The classes were taught by Mrs. John Brumfield.
The Legion baseball team unloaded on Sabetha, defeating the Kansas team 19-5. Back-to-back home runs by Charlie Kottich and Keith Herbster helped push FC to the 14-run win. Richard Reschke pitched for the winners.
A tentative tax levy for 1951-52 was set for Richardson County by the board of County Commissioners at 6 mills.
Montgomery Ward advertised a Hawthorne streamlined tank bike, with a sealed-beam light for \$39.77 and a rapid-firing 5-shot, 22-cal automatic rifle for \$28.88. You could add a Moss-berg scope for just \$9.95.
Mr. and Mrs. Ray Mott purchased the Northvue Café on Highway 73 from Mr. and Mrs. Owen Kentopp.
Behind a two-hitter from Ned Eckman, Humboldt defeated the Falls City Legion team 4-1.
A grain shed at the Joe Kohmetscher farm, 6 ½ miles northeast of Falls City, was completely destroyed by a fire. The cause of the fire was unknown at the time. The shed contained seed oats, wheat and grass seed.
A large crowd attended the closing activities of the Shubert picnic, sponsored by the Lee Horn American Legion Post 222. Approximately 80 saddle horses from the area took part in the parade. Marlene Severin of Shubert won the top award for the best decorated bicycle, while Donny and Sherry Slagle of Auburn were also given prizes.
Mr. and Mrs. Ervin J. Dorste announced the engagement of their daughter, Miss Betty June, to Alvin R. Novotny of Omaha.

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

Peru St. head football coach Jerry Joy met with a group of interested backers at the Elks Club in Falls City to discuss the possibility of organizing an athletic booster club in the Falls City area. "I'm trying to bring the athletic program back to Southeast Nebraska," said Joy. Similar clubs were in the works in Nebraska City and Auburn.
To observe Bob Nelson's ninth birthday, his mother entertained a group of children at Sycamore Springs, where they swam and played miniature golf. The guest list included Scott Farmer, Billy Meinzer, Mike Kiekhaefer, Steve Hahn, Carrie Nelson and Michelle Hodge.
Harold Kopf was the third winner of the Vagabond Weekend sponsored by The Journal and 32 participating merchants.
Armbruster Motors became the first Summer Recreation Tournament champion, winning the Small Girls' League 6-5 over First National Bank. Kathy Nichols had a homer and two doubles for the winners, while Billie Hersh homered and tripled for the losing team.
Six Richardson County farm families were named to receive the Nebraska Pioneer Farm Award during the County Fair. The families included Mr. and Mrs. Carol Anderson, Harriett Jorm and Marion Dodderer, Albert and Lena Last, Mr. and Mrs. Roland Owens, Wilfred and Martha Slayton and Mrs. Joseph Tichy.
Cheryl Arnold, 18, reigned over the Falls City Riding Club's activities as queen during the annual Horseplay Days. Arnold rode her Palomino, Chief.
Frosty Queen Drive-In advertised a tub-o-chicken, 12 pieces, for \$3.99.
Company B National Guardsman Sp4 Leonard Bullock was pictured firing a M-60 machine gun in the Falls City unit's summer field training at Fort Carson in Colorado.
In Los Angeles, Patricia Hearst waived her right to a speedy trial, and her attorney launched a battle to prevent her from being tried at all. Meanwhile, the prosecutor in the case made it clear he intended to charge Miss Hearst with kidnapping, robbery and assault.
Coaching Big Red football was a job for all seasons, according to defensive end coach George Darlington. The Husker coach addressed 25 guests at the Rotary Club meeting held at Hotel Stephenson.
The Nebraska Public Power District said the Cooper Nuclear Station had reached 8 billion kilowatt-hours of net generation since it began commercial operation on July 1, 1974.

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

Senior 4-H Fashion Show honorees included Carrie Dunn, Amanda Vonderschmidt, Katie Vonderschmidt and Breanna Scholl.
Family Medicine at the Community Medical Center, 2307 Barada St., welcomed Dr. Todd Wollen to the staff. The 28-year-old grew up in Alma, NE.
Tanya Hinrichsen from Dawson-Verdon was one of 268 high school students from across Nebraska who were members of the seventh Masonic All-Star Marching Band.
Lucas Froeschl was the Junior American Legion Player of the Week. Froeschl went 4-for-12 at the plate with a double and threw 7 2/3 innings with a 0.95 ERA.
The 3-State Stockyards Men's softball team won the 24-team tourney in Greeley, finishing a perfect 6-0. Top hitters included Chad Scholl, .737 with six homers and Robbie Sipple, .682, with three home runs.
Four-H Council president Mike Finck was pictured congratulating Marvin and Pat Scheitel, whose business, Scheitel Feed & Seed, was honored as the 2001 "Very Valuable Booster" award winner.
A 50th wedding anniversary reception honoring Jerry and DeLauris Fankhouser was held at the Humboldt Christian Church. The reception was hosted by their children.
Arlene Feldmann Jauken, formerly of Honey Creek, returned from Canadian, Texas, where she was Grand Marshall in the July 4th Parade.

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SOCIETY NEWS

HUMBOLDT CH. 234 ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

By Donna Monnette, secretary

Humboldt Chapter 234 Order of the Eastern Star met on Thursday, July 3, 2026 at the Meeting Place at 2:00 p.m. The stated meeting met in long form with Worthy Matron Phyllis Kreutzer presiding in the East.

During the Opening Ceremony all eleven members sang, ‘America’ as their Opening Ode and gave the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.

The regular order of business followed with the reading of the previous meeting’s minutes which were approved. In the absence of the treasurer, Elizabeth Ketner gave her report.

Correspondence read included a thank you from Elizabeth Bstandig for the scholarship awarded to her.

Thank you notes from the Masonic Home Foundation for the memorial gift given in memory of Edgar Bredemeier and the \$50 donation for purchasing 4-H supplies for the children at Masonic -Eastern Star Home for Children at Fremont. The Nebraska OES News gave the Worthy Grand Patron Rick Baker’s Masonic history. It also told of the Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron’s receptions and their first Area 1 Visitation.

General Grand Chapter of the Eastern Star is celebrating 150 years. It is holding a special meeting with the old fashioned degree at Scottish Rite House of Temple, Open House and tours of International Headquarters in November.

Our Area Visitation with the Nebraska Grand OES Officers has been changed to October 3, 2026 on the Riverboat at Brownville. Nebraska. Humboldt Chapter is in charge of name-tags. Registration and meal costs will be announced later.

It was reported members enjoyed entertaining residents of Colonial Acres Nursing Home with Bingo on June 15.

A OES Memorial Service was held for Alma Mach at the Pawnee City Funeral Home on June 9, 2026. Alma had received her 50 year membership certificate after her death.

The Landmarks were read by all the members. Several members have made residence moves. Joan Wheeler has moved to Terrace Heights Drive in Auburn and Phyllis Williamson is now at South Lake Village in Lincoln.

There being no further business chapter closed with all signing “America the Beautiful.”

Donna Monnette served refreshments during the close of the meeting.



Know anything about this photo? Please email us at brian@fcjournal.net or nikki@fcjournal.net.

Washburn University Spring 2026 Dean's List

Washburn University has announced its spring 2026 Dean’s List honorees. To qualify for the Dean’s List, an undergraduate student must be enrolled in 12 hours of graded credits and earn a semester grade point average of 3.4 to 3.99.

More than 900 students qualified for the Dean’s List include these local students from Sabetha, KS.

Samantha Arnold, Jacob Grimm, Preston Michael and Audrey Tramp.

Congratulations to all these students, Washburn University is proud of their hard work and commitment to their education.

Washburn University announces Spring 2026 graduates

Washburn University is pleased to announce the students in its spring 2026 graduating class. These students completed their courses for certificates, associate, bachelor’s, master’s and doctorate degrees - more than 1,400 total from Washburn University, Washburn University School of Law and Washburn Institute of Technology (Washburn Tech).

“Commencement is one of my favorite traditions because it gives us the opportunity to celebrate our students and all they have achieved,” said Dr. JuliAnn Mazachek, president, Washburn University. “Their hard work, perseverance and commitment have brought them to this milestone. We are proud to welcome them into our alumni community and look forward to the impact they will make in their professions, communities and beyond.”

Local graduates included, Kenna McClarnen of Falls City and Samantha Arnold, Gavan Bergman, Kristi Edelman, Alaina Strahm and Kaine Teske all of Sabetha, KS.

Nelson graduates from Emporia State University

Sherri Nelson of Hiawatha, Kansas, was among more than 500 students who graduated from Emporia State University in May 2026.

Nelson graduated with a B.S. in Education degree in Elementary Education with a concentration in Elementary Unified.

During ceremonies Neelima Parasker, a member of the Kansas Board of Regents, gave remarks.

Emporia State University offers a range of academic programs through its seven schools: Applied Health Sciences, Business and Technology, Humanities and Social Sciences, Library and Information Management and Library and Archives, Science and Mathematics and Visual and Performing Arts, along with The Teachers College.

For more information on how to build your future at Emporia State University, please visit www.emporia.edu.

Missouri Western State University awards degrees

Missouri Western State University awarded degrees to 364 students at the end of the Spring 2026 semester.

Locals earning a degree included: Eliza Hope Kuker, of Falls City, Bachelor of Fine Arts in Art, Digital Animation.

Ethan Robert Grissom, Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Accounting; Melissa Nicole Shelton, Bachelor of Science in Nursing all of Hiawatha.



Rotary club current president, Merle Veigel, recently passed the gavel to incoming president, Ryan Larsen.

Washburn University Spring 2026 President's List

Washburn University is pleased to announce its President’s List honorees for the spring 2026 semester. To qualify for the President’s List, an undergraduate student must complete at least 12 hours of graded credits and earn a semester grade point average of 4.0.

More than 800 students qualified for the President’s List.

“These students have earned this recognition through their hard work, dedication and commitment to academic excellence,” said Dr. JuliAnn Mazachek, president, Washburn University. “We congratulate them on this outstanding achievement and are proud to recognize them among Washburn’s highest-performing students.”

Sabetha students announced to the list included, Annie Edelman, Kristi Edelman, Joshua Grimm and Alaina Strahm.

Founded in 1865, Washburn University is a public institution with more than 8,000 students involved in more than 200 academic programs.

Heil graduates from Bismarck State College

Joseph Heil, Humboldt, graduated from Bismarck State College with a Bachelor of Applied Science in Energy Management during the college’s 86th commencement ceremony on May 15, 2026, at the BSC Bavendick Center.

Students who completed the coursework to earn degrees from BSC in Fall 2025, Spring 2026 and Summer 2026 were eligible to participate in the 2026 BSC Commencement Ceremony.

This year’s ceremony marks the first commencement held in the newly opened Bavendick Center, with seating available for approximately 2,000 guests.

The 2026 BSC student commencement speakers were graduates Tanner Wanner and Alexis Ritzman. Wanner, of Belfield, N.D., graduated with an Associate of Applied Science degree in cybersecurity and computer networks, and Ritzman, of Mandan, N.D., graduated with a Bachelor of Applied Science in finance after completing her degree in three years.

The ceremony is available to view on the BSC website. Bismarck State College (BSC) is North Dakota’s Polytechnic Institution

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Senator Hallstrom Newsletter

The summer interim continues, but we still reflect on the results of the last session. Any new law enacted during the 2026 legislative session went into effect on July 17 unless it was passed with an “emergency” clause or had a specific operative date.

During was first two sessions I introduced a total of 40 bills, 33 of which were enacted into law. Among the bills of most significance to Legislative District #1, were the following:

LB575, amended into LB803, beginning in 2027 places limitations on property tax growth by requiring a two-thirds vote of the governing body to increase property tax collections and moves the joint pink post card public hearing to an earlier date to allow for citizen input in the budget-making process.

LB1191, which was amended into LB1165, provides a three-year extension on the deadline to meet job creation and investment requirements under the Nebraska Advantage Act. This will benefit NioCorp, among other companies.

LB784, which changes residency requirements for sheriffs in certain counties, modernizes requirements for uniforms for sheriffs and deputies, and reduces continuing education requirements for law enforcement officers in smaller law enforcement agencies.

LB1058, amended into LB 1071, creates a grant program which supports organizations providing visitor services through exhibits and trails, and may help bridge a funding gap for places like the Missouri River Basin Lewis and Clark Interpretive Trail and Visitor Center, which lost a portion of its funding from federal sources in 2025. Funding for the grant program will be derived from the State Visitors Promotion Cash Fund and will have no General Fund impact.

LB819, amended into LB768, which changes provisions of the Rural Workforce Housing Investment Act and the Middle-Income Workforce Housing Investment Act.

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

LB938, amended into LB803, beginning in 2027, creates the First-Time Home Buyer Savings Account



Locals join the Relay for America: The Relay for America passed through the area late on June 25 and early on Friday, June 26. The hot, humid temperatures and the middle-of-the-night slot didn’t deter many local enthusiasts from joining the fun.

Many members of the Falls City cross-country team, including coaches, joined the trek at 11:37 p.m. south of Falls City near Grimm’s Garden. According to Coach Cody Hawley, four Tiger runners took part: Peyton Weddle, Audrey Scrivens, Madalynn Hawley and Wyatt Counce. Coach Amanda Merz and Counce covered nearly 5 miles; Madalynn Hawley completed 6.8 miles, while Weddle and Scrivens ran 7.1 miles.

“Such a neat experience, even at that time of the night,” said Coach Hawley. “Several cars honked, and

people were outside their house cheering on in support.”

More local runners and supporters joined the trek as it neared Rulo and crossed the bridge into Missouri.

The 3,000-mile journey began on June 14 in San Francisco and ended on July 4 in Washington, D.C., to celebrate America’s 250th birthday. To reach the nation’s capital on July 4th, runners needed to average 9:30 per mile or faster.

The run lasted 20 days nonstop and covered 15 states along the way.

Every mile of the 3,016-mile trip honored a veteran’s name. Two hundred and fifty runners proudly carried the flag, passing it to the next runner, never stopping, rain or shine, day or night, to celebrate our country and the proud veterans who supported it.

Act, which allows individuals or couples to establish a savings account to be used for a down payment and closing costs associated with the purchase of a primary residence by first-time home buyers and allows a state income tax deduction for such contributions.

I will continue to travel the District over the summer and would welcome the opportunity to meet people from your community, either for an event or for a town hall meeting. I welcome your input on issues of interest and importance to you. I encourage you to follow along on my Facebook page designated as Senator Bob Hallstrom, for updates on legislation and District 1 activities. Please feel free to contact me directly at Senator Bob Hallstrom, District 1 State Capitol, PO Box 94604, Lincoln, NE 68509; Telephone (402)471-2733; or email me at bhallstrom@leg.ne.gov.

Richardson County Fair Queen candidate voting has officially started

Voting for the 2026 Richardson County Fair Queen started Monday, July 20. The field will be cut to the top 10 candidates Thursday, Aug. 6, and the final vote count will take place at noon Saturday, Sept. 12.

The queen will be crowned during the coronation at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 16, at Humboldt City Square Park.

Any girl who is at least 16 years old on or before July 31, 2026, and is not out of the 12th grade is eligible. The candidate must be currently involved in the community and must reside in the HTRS School District or live in Richardson County.

Anyone who does not want to run or will not be 16 years old on or before July 31, 2026, should contact Cheree Rist at the State Bank of Table Rock’s Humboldt branch at 402-862-2434.

Votes are given on transactions of at least 25 cents. Each cent equals one vote. Candidates may not receive votes at a business where they are employed; where their parents, sister or brother are employed; or if they are the daughter or sister of the business owner.

The businesses that can receive votes in 2026 are Ag Partners Cooperative, Inc.; AKRS Equipment Solutions, Inc.; Armbruster Motor Co. – Falls City; Bear Butte Enterprises, LLC; Blecha’s General Store; Bruna Bros Implement, LLC; Burgett Irrigation; Chaotic Coffee & Boutique; Colonial Acres Nursing Home; Community Insurance Group, Inc.; Creative Thoughts – Pawnee City; Davis Plumbing Heating & Electric – Stella; Family Medicine Clin-

ic – Humboldt; Fankhauser, Nelsen, Werts, Ziskey & Merwin, P.C., L.L.O.; Friends of the Humboldt Auditorium; Home In Bloom; Housing Authority of the City of Humboldt; Humboldt Community Thrift Store; Humboldt Standard; Lewis Implement Co.; Marburger’s Shoe Store; Meyer-Earp Auto Center Inc. – Auburn; Mezger Construction, Inc.; Nebraska Public Power District; Niders Grocery; North Fork One Stop; Phillips Plumbing & HVAC; Quad County Historical & Research – Museum; Sherman’s Station; State Bank of Table Rock; State-line AG Enterprises, Inc.; Stella Ag LLC; The Chop Shop; True Ag & Turf – Falls City; Weber Electric/Anytime Storage; Wherry Mortuary; and W-7 Design Company, INC – Falls City.

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Armbruster Motor Company, the 8U regular season and tournament champs. Back row: Coaches Becky Vonderschmidt, Celeste and Luke Jones, Amber Ramer, Amanda and Alex Seeba (not pictured Justin Vonderschmidt and Madi Jones) Aaron Whitebird, Cole Goff, Breckyn Gooch, Cooper Vonderschmidt, Griffin Seeba, Matthew Tollefson, Krew Jones, Dax Vonderschmidt and Noah Kopf. Front: Dawson Ramer

MEN’S GOLF LEAGUE RESULTS

Men’s golf league results from Tuesday, July 14, 2026. Scores shown are actual scores and handicap totals.

Early League: Team 1 (0.00) Liberty, Brandon (F); Veigel, Merle 62-42. Team 4 (6.00) Borg, Dave 43-37; Murphy, Jim 52-39.

Team 2 (0.00) Hays, Gary 45-37; Heinzelman, Denny 51-39. Team 3 (6.00) Ebel, Ron 42-36; Severin, Steve 53-33.

Team 5 (6.00) James, Charles 43-36; Rowland, Rod 48-38. Team 9 (0.00) Ebel, Bryce 43-39; Mullins, Jim 50-41.

Team 6 (5.00) May, Mark 40-33; Bennett, Chuck 47-35. Team 8 (1.00) Foster, Tim 45-38; Hillyard, Mark 45-36.

Team 7 (4.00) Sailors, Chuck 49-36; Romine, Alan 55-41. Team 10 (2.00) Hankins, Dan 56-43; Kermoade, Terry 51-37.

Late League: Team 1 (2.50) Dunn, Joe 38-37; Bippes, Drew 47-39; Coonce, Kyle (F). Team 6 (5.50) Bachman, Eli 42-40; Hullman, Ben 43-38; Witt, Wade 43-34.

Team 2 (2.50) Montgomery, Carter 44-41; Malone, Kevin (F); Sly, Tony 53-34. Team 5 (5.50) Simon, Steve 42-40; Daake, Brian 40-34; Merz, Mitch 67-40.

Team 3 (4.00) Aitken, Bob 41-33; Craig, Jake 44-35; Scheitel, Logan (F). Team 4 (4.00) Witt, Tom 41-37; Witt,

Weston 44-36; Hillyard, Mark 45-35.

Team 7 (2.50) Scheitel, Trent 41-38; Schawang, Cade 57-45; Bauman, Jackson 49-35. Team 19 (5.50) Davis, Darin 42-37; Gooch, Blake 46-36; Scheitel, Lane 53-40.

Team 8 (0.50) Simon, Dan 43-41; Harmon, Galen 50-39; Waller, Doug 60-42. Team 18 (7.50) Chesnut, Justin 40-33; May, Mark 47-39; Harmon, Jason 49-36.

Team 9 (6.50) Kirkendall, Jeremy 40-37; Witt, Rich 45-31; Craig, Robbie 51-37. Team 17 (1.50) Ebel, Bryce 43-36; Witt, Bailey 51-42; Godemann, Ted 53-39.

Team 10 (3.50) Gist, Thomas 45-39; Poppe, Brian 50-40; Keller, Bart 56-36. Team 16 (4.50) Hill, Dan 43-37; Steele, Brendan 52-40; Bauer, Trevor 50-37.

Team 11 (1.50) Siel, Jake 40-35; Froeschl, Joe 55-45; Dunkhas, Gale 50-35. Team 15 (6.50) Van Dyke, Kyle 37-32; Cole, Gavin 46-37; Froeschl, Ethan 46-37.

Team 12 (4.50) Ebel, Ron 44-40; McNeely, John 47-38; Bek, Adam 53-41. Team 14 (3.50) Gerweck, Rob 44-39; Meysenburg, Fr. James 48-37; McNeely, Erik (F).

Team 13 (3.50) Ferguson, Don 45-38; Malcolm, Terry 52-39; White, Christian 58-39. Team 20 (4.50) Anderson, Dusty 47-39; Bennett, Chuck 49-40; Heckenlively, Tim 41-31.



Jake Eickhoff of Arrington, TN, with the Championship Trophy from the 45th Bubba Conlee Junior Golf Tournament. (Photo credit: Kari Eickhoff)

Husker Men’s Golf commit wins National Junior Golf Tournament

Class of 2027 Nebraska golf commit Jake Eickhoff, son of Jamie Eickhoff (Auburn High class of ‘91) and Kari Eickhoff, and grandson of John and Diana Eickhoff of Auburn, won the 45th Bubba Conlee Junior Golf Tournament (thebubba.org) from July 7-9, 2026. The national event at Colonial Country Club in Memphis, TN, had 102 participants in the boys’ division, which played from approximately 7,350 yards.

Jake had a slow start to the tournament, shooting 73(+1) the first round, tied for 17th place and five strokes off the lead. He was sitting at -1 through five holes in his second round when lightning and rain caused tournament directors to stop play and make the decision to shorten the competition from 54 to 36 holes. Play resumed the following day with Jake making four more birdies and no bogeys for a 67(-5) in the second round and a -4 total. This included making a 20-foot birdie putt on the last hole. Two other players also finished at -4, which forced a three-man playoff about 2.5 hours after Jake’s group finished.

In the sudden death playoff, Jake and a player from IMG Academy in Florida both made birdies, while the third golfer from Stilwell, Kansas, made a par and was eliminated. In the second playoff hole, Jake’s opponent hit his approach shot over the green after a bad tee shot. Jake hit his approach shot from the fairway safely to the fringe, 20 feet from the hole. The boy from IMG hit a good chip for his third shot but could only get it to about 17 feet. Jake then putt to about two inches and tapped in for par. The IMG player missed his par putt, which sealed the win for Jake, the biggest of his junior golf career.

With the victory, Jake earned an exemption into the Jones Cup Junior in St. Simons Island, GA, in December. He also receives 12 months of fully-exempt status for the AJGA, the most competitive junior golf tournaments in the country. His AJGA ranking will also likely get him into The Junior PLAYERS Championship at TPC Sawgrass in early September.

You can follow Jake on Instagram at Jake_Eickhoff_Golf.



The Cob’s Weekly Archive Dive No. 5

Welcome to installment No. 5 of ‘The Cob’s Archive Dive’, where each week, I’ll share Associated Press headlines and excerpts from past articles printed in 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 gameday years ago.

On this day in Cornhusker Football History:
September 19, 1970 – Headline: Coaches Feel Tie Better than Losing

The football coaches of Nebraska and the University of Southern California are in complete agreement on one point today. “A tie? It’s better than losing,” said John McKay of the Trojans, following the 21-21 tie Saturday night with the Cornhuskers. “Hell no,” declared Bob Devaney of Nebraska, “I’m not satisfied with a tie but it’s better than losing.” Trailing most of the night Trojan quarterback Jimmy Jones guided Clarence Davis and his other backs 80 yards for the tying touchdown, 21-21. There was 8:16 remaining on the clock. Forcing the question: Did McKay consider a two-point conversion instead of the point after? “If we had scored with less than five minutes to play, we would have gone for two points,” McKay said. There were an estimated 8,000 Nebraska rooters on hand. They were happiest when Husker tailback Joe Orduna, cut loose for 67 yards and a 14-14 tie breaking caper in the third quarter.

(This game was pivotal for Nebraska’s 1970 season, as there is a good chance the Huskers do not win the national championship with a loss against USC. And as you can see, Husker fans traveling is nothing new.)

September 15, 1980 – Headline: ‘Huskers Can Still Improve’

A quick look at eighth-ranked Nebraska’s 55-9 season opening victory Saturday over Utah would indicate the Cornhuskers would need little polishing in pursuit of an impressive 1980 football season. The Huskers racked up 545 yards rushing, 127 passing, scored on their first three possessions and held Utah to under 150 yards rushing and 150 yards passing. Nothing wrong with that for a first game. Not so, according to coach Tom Osborne. “The poorest thing about the offense was we had three or four penalties to take us out of scoring situations. The defense gave up too many big plays and our play particularly dropped off after the first team came off the field.”

(In 1980 the Utah program was still part of the Mountain West Conference. It wasn’t until Urban Meyer was hired, they moved to the Pac-12, and Kyle Whittingham took over that the Utes became the powerhouse we know today.)

August 24, 1990 – Headline: Osborne on Huskers

Tom Osborne spoke to the Big Eight Skywriters in a news conference today, apologizing for his ability to put news reporters to sleep. Maybe part of that is due to Osborne’s consistency, he has never had a season without at least nine wins. He is the nation’s winningest active Division I coach, and reporters expect more of the same.

“I think our offensive strengths lie in two positions this year. We have outstanding tight ends, and we are particularly blessed at I-back. Leodis Flowers is a very good player,” Osborne said. Behind Flowers are pair of freshmen projected as future stars – Calvin Jones and Derek Brown. The Huskers have seven starters returning on defense, led by Reggie Cooper, Pat Tyrance, Mike Croel, and Bruce Pickens.

Bonus Story: Barry Switzer, head coach of Oklahoma, accused Lou Holtz and Notre Dame of inducing Tony Brooks by offering him a high paying job. Switzer said Brooks was given a job paying \$13.50 an hour after signing a letter of intent with the Irish. Several scandals, including NCAA rules violations, forced Switzer to resign before the 1989 season. (So, which is crazier, Switzer complaining about someone breaking the rules, or calling \$13.50 an hour a high paying job in today’s NIL world where players are making millions.)

September 2, 2000 – Headline: Huskers Put Heat on Spartans Early

Eric Crouch was off-limits to tacklers during fall camp. It looked like much of the same in the Husker’s season opener, when Crouch scored three touchdowns and passed for another as Nebraska beat San Jose State 49-13. Crouch only rushed for 57 yards, but he didn’t need to be the leading rusher. Dan Alexander ran for 208 yards and two TDs and Correll Buckhalter had 117 yards. The Huskers scored on their first four possessions and didn’t punt until the fourth quarter. “It was just option football – power football. That’s what we do,” Crouch said. Nebraska wore down the smaller Spartans on an afternoon when temperatures reached 120 on the artificial turf. The Huskers had 505 yards rushing, while winning their 15th straight opener. While the offense backed up Nebraska’s No. 1 ranking, the defense did not. The Spartans gained 346 yards and had three apparent touchdowns nullified because of penalties.

(This was Nebraska’s 15th straight home opening win. For reference, four of the teams were Iowa, Utah, Texas A&M, and Florida State. We continually hear about how hard Nebraska’s 2026 schedule is, but their home opener certainly isn’t of this caliber.)

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. Stay on top of Husker football at CarrikerChronicles.com.

Nebraska Extension –

Richardson County

The office will be closed

July 16 – July 28 for the 2026

4-H/FFA Fair in Humboldt.

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All things Nebraska

Second verse, same as the first-more budget cuts needed

By Paul Hammel, Retired Senior Reporter for Nebraska Examiner

Reporters take a lot of notes, and as I recall, the notes I took during 2023 when the state approved dramatic cuts in state income taxes had supporters saying: “don’t worry, if the state gets into financial straits, it could pause the cuts.”

Well, let’s fast forward to today.

Gov. Jim Pillen, in a recent letter to state agencies, told them to tighten the belt a little harder because the state is short of tax revenue. Again.

The governor said that agencies should cut spending by 5%, freeze new hiring, and restrain costs of travel, membership dues and new equipment.

This comes as state tax revenue continues to lag behind projections.

Ok, let’s go back a couple of years. In 2023, the state was swimming in extra cash, in large part due to funds sent to states to recover economically from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The State Legislature and Pillen, likely thinking that the “good times” were here to stay, passed a very ambitious, phased-in reduction in state income taxes, reducing the state’s top rate of 6.84% over four years to 3.99%.

(The battle cry was that if Nebraska didn’t lower its income tax rates, like several other states, people would not move here, or would move away. Research has also shown that to be a bunch of that stuff they scrape out of feedlots – people relocate primarily for other reasons: to be close to family, for a better job, or to retire in a better climate.)

Now, everyone loves a tax break, but a few savvy state senators posed the question: “That’s a pretty steep cut, what if the state runs short of money (something that happens pretty regularly) what do we do then?”

Again, my notes reflected reassurances from the tax cut proponents (who are now mostly gone from the Legislature) that “if times get tough, a future Legislature could pause the cuts.”

Well, that hasn’t happened. Lawmakers and the governor absolutely could not do that earlier this year because 2026 is an election year. Gotta think about getting re-elected.

This latest letter from Pillen means the third straight year of budget cuts for state agencies. Instead of maybe pausing the income tax cuts, or reducing their size (thereby preserving hundreds of millions in tax revenue), state leaders want state agencies who serve us to go on another fiscal diet, cutting services, laying off workers.

I thought University of Nebraska President Jeff Gold said it best after stating that NU faced another \$36 million in cuts, just after cutting \$20 million by eliminating programs and giving buy-outs to professors.

In so many words, Gold said it’s hard to build an excellent university “if we are operating in a constant cycle of cuts and related restrictions.”

According to the Legislative Fiscal Office and Department of Revenue, those income tax cuts were projected to reduce state revenue by between \$470 million and \$572 million in the fiscal year that just ended on June 30.

That ain’t chicken feed, and is one of the main reasons state agencies have had to make budget cuts the past two years, and are being asked to cut again.

Seems to me, we have some tough times, and it’s time to take a “pause” or slightly reduce the income tax cut for a year or two.

It would allow state agencies like the University of Nebraska to catch their breath a bit, and allow state income tax payment to catch up a bit. Maybe farm prices will improve, or foreign trade will resume.

The state could still, maybe a year or two down the line, reduce that top rate to 3.99%, which was a worthy but overambitious goal.

But of course, that would take some political courage and leadership. We will see.

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

SAY YOUR PIECE

“I am thankful for the newspaper”

Not that long ago, there was the topic of why do we need a newspaper in Falls City. Here is my response.

Two years ago, my son approached me about moving from McCook, NE to Falls City. Having lived in McCook for more than 30 years, it was a hard decision, but now being an octogenarian (80 yrs and up), I accepted and moved into Wilderness Falls, near my son and family.

I soon learned there was a weekly newspaper, which I quickly subscribed to.

As a “new-comer” to Falls City, it was very helpful to learn about my new environment. Finding all the different businesses and activities was SO helpful and enjoyable to experience.

I am thankful for the newspaper, and look forward to it every Wed.

I don’t have to be “connected” to any electric devices to read it.

In it, I find out what worthy organization is having a breakfast, fund raiser or just their business advertisements. I read about the town and county business.

I’m not an online shopper unless we don’t have what I need available in town. I prefer to “touch and see!” This makes the newspaper a great asset. Sure my neighbors and church friends could inform me of activities of businesses they frequent, but in the newspaper, I get the facts and can refer to it for details.

I have always liked His-

tory and so enjoy the page/pages of Falls City “History.”

There is always a chuckle inside when I am introduced to a “local” after the initial introduction of names, they will often add, “I used to be.....” and they add their former (maiden) name. Well, sorry to say, to a newcom-

er-that is futile, since they haven’t met the “Browns, Smiths, or” Just be who you are! Start with the great organization or whatever that you appreciated in Falls City. Keep it positive and simple!

Helen Bieker

PS: I believe a newspaper connects the people in a community.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- Listen to
- Presents
- A type of guitar
- Actor Idris
- A citizen of Iran
- Pretentiously artistic
- Harness
- Diamond weight measurement
- “Better Call ____”
- Fervent support
- Male cat
- Jewish spiritual leader
- Disposed to venture or take risks
- A way to nail
- Cool!
- Women’s ____ movement
- “Losing My Religion” rockers
- Step-shaped recess
- A princess can detect it
- Tractor-trailer
- Leslie and Leon are two
- Color at the end of the spectrum
- Lines where fabrics are sewn
- Dodgers great Hershiser
- Floor covering
- Traveled aimlessly
- Rocker Stewart
- Body art
- Congressman (abbr.)
- No seats available
- Breaks apart
- Hand gesture
- Ballplayer’s tool
- Sword
- Baseball team
- Upper bract of floret of grass
- Italian Seaport
- Mars crater
- Tube on a shoelace
- U. of Miami mascot
- South American nation
- Video game series “Max ____”
- Upper body part

DOWN

- German courtesy title
- Ancient Greek personification of mercy
- Jewish calendar month
- Family of long-legged frogs
- Photo
- Delivered a speech
- Lute used in Indian music
- Decorated
- Cease to stand
- The bottom layer
- Member of a Semitic people
- Part of a ticket
- Defunct monetary unit
- Challenges
- Body part
- Tell on
- By way of
- Shady green alcove
- Egyptian city
- ____ and flowed
- Widens a hole
- Eurasian wheat
- Act incorrectly
- “Be back later”
- Al Bundy’s wife
- Ocean
- Large root eaten as a vegetable
- Units of subjective loudness
- Music genre
- A way to drench
- Popular hot beverage
- Silk-like cotton fabric
- Rumanian city
- Come back
- Vaccine developer
- Canadian law enforcers
- Wings
- Observational comedian Bill
- Small fry
- ____ Clapton, musician
- Take a chance
- Semi-liquid food for babies
- Consumed food

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We always welcome and encourage letters to the editor “Say Your Piece.” 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.

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*Call ahead if you want to confirm we are in the office
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VILLAGE OF STELLA

Village of Stella Board of Trustees regular meeting, July 13, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. at the Stella Community Building
Present: Ira Hall, Rick Ramer, Jim Donahoe, Kyle Gossman, Heath Stanley

Absent: none
Guests: Kristy Fischer

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Stanley and roll call was taken. Chair Stanley noted the posting of the open meeting act and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion made by Hall and seconded by Ramer to approve the agenda as presented. All voted yea.

Motion made by Hall and seconded by Gossman to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. All voted yea.

Motion made by Ramer and seconded by Hall to approve the claims and payroll with the addition of Rick Ramer for the purchase of flags. All voted yea.

COMMUNICATIONS: Possible grant information, thank you for flowers for David Wheeler's funeral.

COMMITTEES: Streets – alley north of the Community Building and the street by Dave Lockard's need attention, Street lights – OK, Park – small park -repairs have been made to the pyramid and circle swing, Large park – damaged trees will be cut in August, Water and Sewer – written report, Library – OK, Maintenance – village tractor needs a new tire, Planning – OK, Community Building – bee problem has been addressed.

OLD BUSINESS: Sewer plant – diffusers were repaired, wipes are still coming in daily. Ordinance changes were noted and Nuisance properties were discussed.

NEW BUSINESS: Motion made by Ramer and seconded by Donahoe to increase the water and sewer operator's monthly salary to \$500 effective July 1, 2026. All voted yea. Budget preparations were noted.

Water shut offs were signed.

No questions from the audience.

Motion may by Ramer and seconded by Gossman to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 p.m. All voted yea.

The next meeting will be held August 3, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. at the Stella Community Building.

Jana Wheeler, clerk

Claims and Payroll for July 2026

Tracy Milke, water/sewer operator.....	350.00
Tracy Milke, expenses.....	444.40
Aaron Davis, assist water/sewer operator.....	300.00
Dennis Bahr, streets.....	172.50
Dennis Bahr, 3 mowings.....	540.00
Jody Bahr, cleaning.....	25.00
Ira Hall, library.....	108.00
Jana Wheeler, clerk.....	700.00
Jana Wheeler, stamps.....	156.00
Humane Society of Richardson County cats.....	600.00
SNC, June.....	231.91
SNC, July.....	232.22
OPPD, water.....	199.54
Berwick, streets – diesel.....	161.87
USA Blue book, sewer.....	183.17
American Recycling & Sanitation, 2 months.....	2573.00
Davis PHE, LLC, sewer.....	2276.69
Repairs.....	1159.79
.....	3436.48
Stella Ag, roundup.....	85.01
Board of Public Works, sludge.....	244.60
NE Public Health Environmental Lab ..	15.00

NPPD, June.....	525.88
streets.....	396.51
Sewer.....	48.81
Water.....	36.84
Com bldg.....	46.25
Greenhouse.....	36.84
Siren.....	52.56
Village barn.....	1143.69
IRS.....	359.55
Rick Ramer, flags.....	218.50
.....	ZNEZ

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

RICHARDSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS JULY 8, 2026 CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Richardson County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Caverzagie at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 8, 2026. Roll call was answered by Karas, Campbell and Caverzagie. The Invocation was given by Chairman Caverzagie and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Karas. Chairman Caverzagie announced that the open meeting laws have been posted at the entrance to the meeting room.

A motion was made by Karas to approve the minutes of the July 1, 2026, meeting as presented. Motion seconded by Campbell. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Caverzagie to approve the minutes of the Board of Equalization meeting of July 1, 2026, as presented. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

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

ROAD & BRIDGE DEPT.

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

Mr. Darveau presented to the Board quotes for the construction/erection of the Verdon County garage facility. The building was ordered and has been received. The quotes received and reviewed at last week's meeting were considered further.

Motion was made by Campbell to accept the quote from Froeschl Concrete for the erection of the building and the concrete at \$50,000 (trenching \$6,800, concrete \$30,600, floor drain steel grate \$600.00 and erect versatile bldg. \$12,000). Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER

Sheriff Hardesty updated the Board on the routine business at the Law Enforcement Center this past week.

AMANDA BARTEK-RAMSEY, COUNTY TREASURER

County Treasurer, Amanda Bartek-Ramsey presented to the Board the County Treasurer's Semi-Annual Report for January 1, 2026 through June 30, 2026.

Replacement of Pledge Securities with F&M Bank were also presented to the Board for approval. Motion was made

by Caverzagie to approve the replacement of pledge security receipt #93070 with F&M Bank for Receipt #94844 with F&M Bank. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Campbell to approve the County Treasurer's Semi-Annual Report as submitted for the period of January 1, 2026, through June 30, 2026. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER Fee Reports

Reports were approved for the following officials for fees they collected during the month of June, 2026: Pam Scott, Clerk of Dist Court, \$1,457.00; Mary L. Eickhoff, County Clerk, \$112.00; Mary L. Eickhoff, Register of Deeds, \$11,168.93.

CLAIMS

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

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

GENERAL FUND

Amazon, supp.....	11.62
Blue Valley Public Safety, serv. 15372.00	
Clerk of District Court, fees.....	183.00
CMC, serv.....	3235.18
Consolidated Management Co., serv ..	11079.25
Culligan, serv.....	11.70
Datashield, serv.....	62.75
Dept. of Correctional Services, serv.....	1467.43
Falls City Journal, adv.....	70.01
Falls City Mercantile, supp.....	112.46
Falls City Sanitation, serv.....	120.00
Farm & City Supply, supp.....	66.96
Fenix Industries, supp.....	200.75
Jim Hill's, serv.....	875.00
Koch's Auto Service, serv.....	246.02
Malcolm, Terry, serv.....	280.00
Merz Ink, serv.....	382.00
Midwest Auto Fire Sprinkler, serv.....	606.00
Midwest Mobile Radio Service, serv.....	30.00
Miller-Monroe, ins.....	910.00
MIPS, serv.....	4039.02
MIS, serv.....	110.00
ODP Business Solutions, supp. 478.19	
O'Reilly Automotive, supp.....	124.37
Pitney Bowes, supp.....	186.54
Quill, supp.....	506.69
Richardson County Court, fees 534.00	
Richardson County Sheriff, fees 722.96	
Richardson County Sheriff Petty Cash, reimb.....	2250.15
Richardson County Vendor, FICA/re- tire/etc.....	24067.15
Sapp Bros., fuel.....	238.69
Sherman's Station, fuel.....	660.62
SNC, serv.....	864.06
SumnerOne, serv.....	124.00

TK Elevator, serv.....	441.77
Verizon, serv.....	239.90
Payroll Expense.....	120809.55
TOTAL GENERAL FUND ...	\$191,719.79
ROAD & BRIDGE FUND	
Culligan, serv.....	52.50
East Richardson Rural Water District #2, serv.....	46.00
Falls City Utility Dept., serv.....	375.17
Helena, supp.....	252.50
Jim Hawk Truck Trailers, supp.....	221.54
Jim Hill's, serv.....	195.00
Martin Marietta Materials, rock.....	32431.40
Operation & Expense Acct., reimb.....	257.10
OPPD, serv.....	105.79
Richardson Co Vendor, tax.....	3198.00
Sapp Bros., fuel.....	19757.44
Schenkel Pest Control, serv.....	250.00
Unifirst, supp.....	145.05
Payroll Expense.....	35867.15
TOTAL ROAD & BRIDGE FUND.....	\$93,154.64

REG OF DEEDS P&M FUND

MIPS, serv.....	329.43
TOTAL REG OF DEEDS P&M FUND ..	\$329.43

SHERIFF COMMISSARY FUND

SNC, serv.....	172.00
TOTAL SHERIFF COMMISSARY FUND.....	\$172.00

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Karas to adjourn the meeting at 10:04 a.m. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. The Board will meet again on Wednesday, July 15, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. for the next regular weekly meeting in the Commissioner's Meeting Room, Courthouse, Falls City. The agenda is kept current at the County Clerk's Office.

John Caverzagie, Chairman
Amanda Morehead, Deputy County Clerk-ROD
ZNEZ

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

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

The meeting of the Richardson County Board of Equalization was called to order by Chairman Caverzagie at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, July 8, 2026. Roll call was answered by Karas, Campbell and Caverzagie; Assessor, Kim Riggs; and Deputy County Clerk-Register of Deeds, Amanda Morehead. Chairman Caverzagie announced that the open meeting laws have been posted at the entrance to the meeting room.

Motion was made by Caverzagie to approve the agenda as posted. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye,

Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. The agenda is posted at the Richardson County Courthouse in the First Floor Lobby, the Lower-Level Lobby and on the Commissioner's Meeting Room door on the 2nd Floor and on the Richardson County website www.richardsoncountyne.gov.

PROPERTY VALUATION PROTESTS

Property valuation protests were heard for filings #2026-0018 through 2026-026.

Tax Exemption Applications

Assessor Riggs considered the applications for tax exemption for Apace and Apace Foundation and recommended that they be approved with the penalties assessed for the late filing pursuant to Nebraska Revised State Statute 77-202.01 (2).

Motion was made by Campbell to advertise for a hearing to receive comments on the tax exemptions for Apace and Apace Foundation to be held on Wednesday, June 29, 2026, at 8:45 a.m. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Caverzagie to adjourn the meeting at 11:02 a.m. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

John Caverzagie, Chairman
Amanda Morehead, Deputy County Clerk-ROD
ZNEZ

Public Hearing Announcement

The Nemaha Natural Resources District (NRD) will hold a public hearing on Thursday August 13th, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. at the District office (62161 US Highway 136, Tecumseh, NE 68450) to receive written and oral testimony concerning the changes to the District's Groundwater Quantity Management Area (GWQMA) Rules and Regulations (R&Rs).

The changes to the GWQMA R&Rs will apply geographically to include all lands and water bodies within the boundaries of the Nemaha NRD. Also, the proposed changes will apply strategically to all groundwater located within the District. Upon NRD Board of Directors approval of the proposed changes to the GWQMA R&Rs, the following changes will be enacted:

1. Definitions – Additions, Deletions & Updates
2. Well Spacing – Any well requiring a well permit to pump greater than 50 gallons per minute shall be constructed at least 1,000 feet from any registered or known to the District

domestic, livestock or "other" type well.

3. Aquifer Regions – The District has been divided up into seven distinct Aquifer Regions comprised of the following: Paleoalluvial Alluvial Aquifer West, East & South; Missouri River Alluvial Aquifer; Big Nemaha Alluvial Aquifer; Bedrock & Shallow Aquifers.

4. Irrigation Wells & Acre Limitations – Only one irrigation well will be permitted for the Paleoalluvial Alluvial West & East Aquifer Regions. Two irrigation wells will be permitted for the remaining five Aquifer Regions. A total of up to 300 acres will be allowed to be irrigated within the Paleoalluvial Alluvial West Aquifer Region. A total of up to 25% of the acres within the irrigation wells' government survey section location will be allowed to be irrigated for the remaining six Aquifer Regions. The Missouri River Alluvial Aquifer Region will require a permit application, however, will not be subject to the District's Well Permit Ranking System.

5. Transfers – The transfer of groundwater will be allowed for domestic, municipal and remediation purposes. Irrigation transfers will be allowed on new & existing wells up to the number of irrigated acres allowable within the respective Aquifer Region as stated above on contiguous land owned by the well owner.

6. Well Permit Ranking System – The well permit ranking system's well density equations have been updated. Also, the minimum score required for well permit approval will vary depending upon the aquifer region underlying the well permit location.

These actions are a general description of the changes to the GWQMA Rules and Regulations. A complete copy of the document may be obtained from the District office or the District's website: www.nemahand.org.

Those who are unable to appear at the public hearing or with lengthy testimony may wish to submit in writing. For testimony to be considered by the NRD Board of Directors for the purpose of this hearing, such written testimony must be submitted and received by 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, August 12th, 2026, at the District office. The NRD Board of Directors will consider all testimony provided and consider whether to adopt or rescind any of the proposed changes to the GWQMA Rules and Regulations at the regularly scheduled Board meeting to be held on Thursday August 13th, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

22-29-5
ZNEZ

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Don Shafer, Moderator – 402-245-5209

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

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

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

Valley Avenue Baptist Church (223 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. fumc@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

Northridge (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/spfc Inquire classes by appt. Sacrament of Penance: Sat., 3:45-4:45PM, or by appt. *Fr. Jim Meyersburg, 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

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Dr. Danelle Bauman - Cramer
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FALLS CITY JOURNAL

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28-30

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28-31

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29-30

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29-30

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28-31

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PUBLIC NOTICES/LEGALS

VILLAGE OF SALEM

Village of Salem July 2026
The Salem Village Board met July 7, 2026 at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Building.
Chairman Strauch open the meeting, and the open meeting poster was acknowledged. Kean and Helmick answered roll, Wessel and Vogelewere absent.
The board was informed of a recent vandalism problem at the cemetery. The issued was discussed and the information will be given to the Cemetery Board.
Chairman Strauch moved to pass Resolution 2026-1, to appoint Bruce Dalluge as the Village of Salem attorney and Benjamin Beethe as the Village deputy attorney with a \$250.00 annual retainer. Motion seconded by Helmick. Resolution 2026-1 passed

with Helmick, Kean, and Strauch voting yes. Wessel and Vogele absent.
Kean moved to accept a contract with Robert Aitken CPA, P.C. for budget preparation and year end reporting. Strauch seconded the motion. Motion carried, Kean, Strauch, Helmick voting yes. Vogele and Wessel absent.
Claims were presented for payment. Kean moved to pay claims, seconded by Strauch. Motion carried, Kean, Strauch, and Helmick voting yes. Vogele and Wessel absent.
Strauch moved to adjourn at 8:38 p.m. seconded by Kean. Motion carried, Strauch, Kean, and Helmick voting yes. Vogele and Wessel absent. The next meeting will be August 4, 2026 at 7:30 in the Community Building.
Carolyn Glathar Village Clerk

Claims June 2026
OPPD 525.85 (utility) general 66.00
combl FRHL 33.20 street 358.70
Robert McHenry 700.00 (water operator) water
Village of Salem/ Water Fund 400.00 (

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transfer) general
NE Dept of Health Lab 30.00 (testing) water
Richardson Co RWD 1994.03 (water purchased for sale) water
Kawres 59.13 (office supplies) general
Falls City Journal 22.95 (publication) general
US Treasury 229.509 (withholding quarter 2) general
NE Dept of Revenue 444.45 (sales tax quarter 2) water
Carolyn Glathar 500.00 (salary) general
200.00 street general 200.00 water
100.00 Jodie Schuetz (mowing) 900.00 street

Schendel Pest Control 77.00 (service) combl 30.00 FRHL 47.00
SENDD 625.00 (adm. services) general
F&M Bank (checks) 139.00 general
Morrissey, Morrissey & Dalluge 250.00 (retainer) general
SENDD 300.00 (membership) general
Midwest Ready Mix (concrete) Fire Dept
Cemetery expenses
F&M Bank 34.00 checks
Barb Brown mowing 250.00
Dennis Rowland mowing 170.00
Bosselman fuel 145.00

ZNEZ



City of FC purchases spinal backboards

The City of Falls City recently purchased two spinal backboards for the Falls City Aquatic Center using funds from a \$500 Lean on LARM Safety Grant.

Briar Burr, City of Falls City Parks and Recreation Director, applied for the grant to aid staff in aquatic rescue operations.

“The addition of updated spinal backboards will enhance the Aquatic Center’s ability to maintain a safe environment for both patrons and staff while supporting comprehensive, hands-on emergency response training,” Burr said.

The League Association of Risk Management (LARM) offers the grant to its members to purchase safety items for their communities.

Pictured to the left, from the left with the spinal backboard are City of Falls City lifeguards Beata Clark and Grace Morris.

August 3, deadline for candidates who want to file

Monday, August 3, 2026, is the deadline for candidates to file who want their names included on the General Election Ballot for the following offices: Village Boards within the County and Educational Service Unit #4 Board.

A total listing of filings for Village Boards, Education Service Unit #4 is as follows: (*denotes incumbent—deadline for incumbents was July 15)

Barada—Carolyn E. Meckstroth* and Elaina J. Strecker* (elect 2)

Dawson—Larry A Koch* and Stephanie Ingraham* (elect 3)

Rulo—Regina Barber* (elect 3)

Salem—Casey Strauch* and Jon Kean* (elect 2)

Shubert—Gary Hays* and Linda Patchen* (elect 2)

Stella—Kyle Gossman*, Rick Ramer* and Ann Marie Gould (elect 2)

Verdon—Cody Bahr* and Denise Koso* (elect 2)

Educational Service Unit #4 Candidate filings for ESU #4 must be filed at the Office of the Secretary of State

District 1—June Bowers* (elect 1) represents

BUILDING PERMITS

Quentin and Megan Coatney, 2201 Fulton St.; Replace Furnace and A/C \$8,500.00

Paula Strasheim, 1512 Stone St.; Repair Flat Roof, \$13,600.00.

Tim Boatright, 2403 Stone St.; New Water Heater, \$1,200.00.

Falls City Wards I, II, III, IV.

For more information and details regarding the filing deadline or about the upcoming General Election please call the Richardson County Clerk’s Office at 245-2911 Extension 3.

Vacation Bible School

July 27-31, 2026
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*\$400 Begin Bonus Offer is available for a limited time and may be canceled without notice. Promotion is available from July 10, 2026, to September 30, 2026. One Begin offer permitted per household, available for new Equity Bank households only, and subject to review and approval. A new Equity Bank household for the Begin Bonus Offer is defined as applicant(s) not linked as an owner to an open Equity Bank consumer checking, savings or Money Market account within the past 180 days. The incentive may be paid for opening both a new checking and savings account during the promotion period. Incentive amount will be directly deposited into the customer's qualifying checking account after approximately 45 days of checking account opening, assuming all qualifications are met. To qualify for offer, customer must (1) open and fund both a new checking and savings account within 45 days of each other and no later than September 30, 2026, (2) maintain Equity Bank accounts in active and good standing at time of incentive payment, (3) receive a minimum of \$1000 in combined qualifying direct deposits into the new checking account within 45 days of account opening; (4) activate and use Equity Bank debit card within 45 days of account opening; and (5) When opening accounts online, enter "Begin" under "Enter Promotional Code." If customer opens the accounts at an Equity Bank location, mention "Begin" offer at time of opening. Promotion not available to current employees and employee household members of Equity Bancshares, Inc. or its subsidiaries. Customer will be issued a 1099-INT form for tax value of the incentive amount. Minimum \$100 deposit may be required to open Equity Bank checking and savings accounts. Minimum \$1,000 deposit may be required to open Equity Bank Money Market account.

Early Pay gives you access to your direct deposit up to two days early. Equity Bank cannot guarantee if or when ACH transactions can be credited to your account early. Our ability to credit your account depends on when your payer sends information to us and on certain information transmitted in the ACH electronic file. If you don't want to be enrolled in Early Pay you can visit your local branch or call Equity Bank Customer Care Center at (888) 733-5041 to opt out.

Where in the WORLD ARE YOU READING YOUR JOURNAL?

This week's featured destination: **Edinburgh, Scotland**

Falls City, Nebraska, USA

Edinburgh, Scotland

Approximate Distance:
4,350 miles

Estimated Flight Time:
8–9 hours
(Not including layovers)

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Scotland's historic capital, Edinburgh, founded in the 12th century, is known for its iconic Edinburgh Castle & historic Royal Mile.

EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND

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ARMBRUSTER’S “BACK IN THE DAY”

He was pictured presenting a \$300 check to coach Doug Goltz to help with travel expenses as Sacred Heart played in the 1988 state basketball tournament.

Last week was Sally Witt