

THE FALLS CITY JOURNAL

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WWW.FCJOURNAL.NET

RENAMED IN 1882 AS FALLS CITY JOURNAL



The night Falls City answered *Remembering Braniff Flight 250*

By Nikki McKim

Editor's note: This is the second installment of a three-part series commemorating the 60th anniversary of Braniff International Airways Flight 250, which crashed northeast of Falls City on Aug. 6, 1966, killing all 38 passengers and four crew members aboard. The series was compiled from the Falls City Journal's archival coverage; contemporary newspaper reports from communities along the flight's route and the victims' hometowns; the official Civil Aeronautics Board investigation and accident record preserved by the National Transportation Safety Board.. Because some accounts published immediately after the crash con-

tained conflicting names, ages, locations and other details, information has been compared across multiple sources, with later corrected records and official findings used whenever available.

Falls City didn't have time to prepare a formal plan for a disaster of this size. It had people who knew their duties, people who improvised and people who offered whatever was needed.

Those in charge had decided that none of those aboard the plane should be moved in the dark. In the light National Guardsmen and volunteers started the

BRANIFF FLIGHT 250 -PAGE 6

County Commissioners hear reports from local historical societies

By Brian McKim

The Board of Commissioners held its weekly meeting at the courthouse in Falls City on Wednesday, July 29, 2026. All Board members answered the roll call.

Highway Superintendent Steve Darveau Jr. met with the Board, and the session quickly entered a closed meeting at 9:05 a.m. The regular meeting resumed at 9:11.

The Highway Superintendent advised the Board that the mastic overlay project on the Dustless Highway and Boy Scout Road would be behind schedule after the recent rains.

Mr. Darveau also said his crews have been working on Pony Creek Road and are getting close to completing the project. Ditches have been cleaned in the area, and the roads have been raised to help when floodwaters approach.

Sheriff Rick Hardesty met with the Board, updating them on routine business within the Law Enforcement Center.

A discussion was held about replacing patrol vehicles. Hardesty would like to cycle out three units, while the Commissioners said they are leaning towards two vehicles in the upcoming budget. Hardesty advised the Board that if two vehicles could be purchased, he would prefer two Ford Explorers because the Department already has the equipment to outfit them.

The meeting entered a closed meeting at 9:37 with the Sheriff and County

Attorney Samantha Scheitel to review a personnel situation and for the needless injury to the reputation of an individual. The regular meeting resumed at 9:49.

Michelle Heim presented an annual report from the Pennsylvania Colony Historical Society. The Historical Society requested funding of \$5,000 from the County. No action was taken as the Board advised a decision would be made at a later date.

Sandra and Dwaine Stalder of the Quad County Historical and Research Society supplied an annual report to the Commissioners. A request for \$5,000 funding for the upcoming fiscal year was made. The Commissioners took no action on the matter at this time.

Leon Wilhelm, a representative of the Richardson County Historical Society, provided an annual report of the organization. Wilhelm requested \$10,000 in continued funding from the County. No action was taken at this time.

The Board entered its third closed meeting of the morning to discuss a general assistance application. The applicant for the assistance did not appear before the Board, and the meeting resumed in regular session.

County Clerk Mary Eickhoff presented the FY26-27 budget with each of the department's proposed budgets. The Commissioners will hold meetings with each department over the next few weeks

COMMISSIONERS -PAGE 2



You spoke. We listened. How the *Journal* is moving forward

For weeks, we asked readers what they want from the *Falls City Journal*, what they value most and what we must do differently to remain an essential part of this community.

You answered.

A total of 186 people completed our reader survey, including current subscribers and people who do not presently subscribe. We also held focus groups where everyone was encouraged to speak candidly about the newspaper, what they appreciate, what they skip and what they hope to see in the future.

We listened carefully. Now we are preparing to act.

The *Journal* will be making several changes in the coming months, including expanded youth coverage, a more active digital presence, more local features and changes designed to make better use of the limited space in each printed edition.

However, before we explain where we are going, we need to be honest about what it takes to produce this newspaper every week so you understand some of our changes.

A single copy of the *Falls City Journal* currently sells for \$1.50. It costs us approximately \$3 per copy to produce, print and distribute the newspaper.

That cost includes far more than paper and ink. It includes printing, postage and mailing expenses. It includes software, service subscriptions, graphic resources and other essential tools required to design, produce and distribute a modern newspaper. Those expenses come before all your other basic office expenses, leases, staff pay and "tech."

A print subscription presently costs \$55 a year, which works out to approximately \$1.05 per week, or about 15 cents

per day.

That price no longer reflects the actual cost of producing the newspaper.

Unfortunately, subscription prices will be increasing. We have not made that decision lightly and we know every household and business is watching its expenses. However, the current pricing structure is not sustainable if Falls City is to continue having a locally owned, locally staffed newspaper.

Our survey showed that readers understand the seriousness of the situation. Seventy-four percent of respondents said they would pay more if they knew the newspaper was struggling. Among current subscribers, 79% said they would pay more, and two-thirds of non-subscribers who responded indicated they would be willing to help. The survey also found that 80% of respondents were willing to pay at least \$2 per issue.

We do not share those figures to pressure anyone. We share them because transparency matters. Readers deserve to know what it costs to produce the newspaper and why changes are necessary.

As of July 2026: A 20-ounce bottle of Coca-Cola was listed at \$2.49 at Hy-Vee. A specialty coffee can typically cost \$6.00 or more.

A bottle of pop may be gone in 20 minutes. A cup of coffee while completely necessary may last through the morning. For \$1.50, the *Journal* provides a week's record of local government, schools, businesses, achievements, deaths, celebrations and community life.

At \$2 per issue, the *Falls City Journal* would still cost less than many bottled drinks, specialty coffees and snacks. Two dollars buys one week of locally reported and *verified* news.

JOURNAL -PAGE 2



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



**2025 FORD
F-150**
11K MILES, XLT
\$44,950



\$1.50



CONTENTS

Obituaries Page 3
Public Record/Menu..... Page 4
From the Journal Files Pages 4
Editorial Page 8
Notices/Legals Pages 10-11
Classified Ads..... Page 11

AUGUST

10 -Good Samaritan Auburn
Hiring Open House, 10-4PM

14 -American Legion Fish Fry

-Live music at Stanton Lake,
6:30 Pm

15 -House of Hope Open House,
2003 Abbott St., 1-3PM

17 -Bingo at the American Legion

28 -Rally for Democracy,
Tecumseh Community
Building 5:30 PM

31 -Bingo at the American Legion

**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

No checks? No problem!
Pay using Venmo!



@FCJournal

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JOURNAL

-Continued from Page 1

A \$75 annual subscription would be \$1.44 per weekly issue; \$6.25 per month and 20.5 cents per day.

It costs the *Journal* nearly \$3 to produce, print and distribute each copy, yet we currently charge only \$1.50. Three dollars may purchase a drink or a snack. At the *Journal*, \$3 nearly pays for the production and distribution of an entire newspaper containing the permanent record of one week in our community.

The clearest message from the survey and focus groups was that readers want more local people, local stories and local connections.

The five subjects receiving the greatest interest were obituaries and announcements (baby/wedding), feature stories, local government, local activities and school stories. Readers also expressed strong interest in historical photographs, human-interest stories, youth writing and more coverage of local businesses and community members.

Feature stories received particularly strong support. Readers want to learn more

about the people, businesses, traditions, organizations and histories that make Richardson County distinctive.

We agree.

You will see more locally focused features in the newspaper. Some may be historical. Others may introduce readers to an interesting neighbor, a longtime employee, a volunteer, a business owner, a student, an artist, an athlete or someone making a difference.

Readers can help us find those stories.

We cannot know every person, project or idea worth covering. Readers are encouraged to email us, stop by the office or leave a note when we are away. A good feature idea does not have to involve a major award or a dramatic event. Often, the best stories begin with an ordinary person doing something extraordinary or simply something interesting.

But, this is a partnership. We would ask that events that we cover with stories be advertised.

This is your newspaper and we want the people of this community reflected throughout its pages.

One of the changes we are most excited about is a

proposed page focused on local youth.

We hope to work with area schools, teachers, parents, organizations and students to feature photographs, classroom projects, achievements, artwork, writing and other activities involving young people. We hope the schools will be as excited to participate and work with us as we are to feature our local students.

Children deserve to see themselves and their accomplishments recognized in their hometown newspaper. Parents and grandparents also deserve a newspaper that preserves those moments in a permanent, printed record.

Adding new material means making difficult decisions about how we use space.

Based on reader feedback, the weekly church-information section has been removed from the printed newspaper and placed online. The printed church information occupies a significant amount of space that can be used for youth coverage, feature stories, photographs and other material readers requested.

This does not mean church news is unimportant. Churches remain a vital part of the community. The information will remain available, but it will be delivered in a format that allows us to use the printed newspaper more effectively.

The public-record page has also been tightened and better organized. Our editorial and opinion pages have been condensed so more space can be devoted to locally produced material.

We have also found a new crossword puzzle host who offers us movie reviews, entertainment stories, games and comics.

Not every change will happen immediately. Some require new partnerships, new technology or additional revenue. However, the work has begun as we are sure you have noticed in the new format of the paper.

One of the most promising ideas under consideration is an additional e-edition for digital subscribers.

This edition would give us space to publish material we cannot always fit into the printed paper, including additional photographs from community events, recipes and other items that may not have enough advertising support or available space for print.

A printed newspaper has physical limits. Every additional page increases printing and mailing costs. A second digital edition would allow us to provide more content without removing material from the weekly newspaper.

We have also met with a service that is going to change how the e-edition is delivered. Our goal is to make it possible for subscribers to receive the newspaper directly in their email inbox rather than requiring them to remember to visit a website and log in. We believe easier delivery is an important step toward making the *Journal* more accessible. If you are a current e-edition subscriber please keep an eye out for more information as this moves forward this month.

Readers also made it clear they want to hear from us more often between printed editions.

Seventy-four percent of survey respondents said they would like to see more newspaper content posted on social media. The *Journal* presently has approximately 5,600 Facebook followers and 336 Instagram followers, giving us an opportunity to reach readers throughout the week.

We are working to become more active on Facebook and Instagram with additional photographs, short videos, HS sports interviews and previews of stories appearing in the newspaper. Most stories may be available exclusively to subscribers. Our goal is not to replace the printed newspaper with social media. It is to use each platform for what it does best.

The newspaper will remain the complete, permanent record of the week. Social media can help us deliver timely information, introduce readers to upcoming stories and keep the community connected between editions.

Subscriptions are essential, but subscriptions alone cannot support a community newspaper. Local advertising makes local reporting possible. When a business purchases an advertisement, it is not

simply buying space on a page. It is helping pay for coverage of city government, schools, sports, public records, local organizations, community events, elections and the people who call this area home.

The company who is going to change the way we deliver our E-edition will also be taking over our website to streamline the sign-up process, get articles online and on social media quicker. We are so excited about this change and hope you will be too. This month you will see changes and updates to our website. We will keep you updated on the process.

Our focus groups also told us that businesses are interested in more modern advertising choices. We are exploring options and attending classes that help us understand social-media advertising, sponsored videos, digital advertising, sponsorships and Facebook photo sponsorships. We want to give local businesses more ways to reach customers while continuing to offer professionally designed print advertising. When local businesses support the *Journal*, they support a newspaper that reports on their customers, employees, schools.

We are still learning, listening and looking for better ways to serve this community. We know we need to make a greater effort to hear from teenagers, young adults, parents and younger families as we plan the *Journal's* future. We want the *Falls City Journal* to be a newspaper for people of every age not only those who have read it for decades, but also those who may be discovering community journalism for the first time.

If younger readers have ideas for stories, videos, social-media content, school coverage, community projects, youth columns or other ways to make local news more engaging, we are ready to listen. We also welcome suggestions from teachers, parents, students, young professionals and community organizations about how we can encourage more people to read, participate and become invested in what is happening locally.

Community journalism works best when the community takes part in it. That might mean suggesting a feature story, submitting a photograph, writing a guest column or “Say Your Piece,” helping us connect with students or simply telling us what would make the newspaper more useful to you.

We strongly encourage you to use the pages of our paper to “Say Your Piece.” Facebook can be great for a lot of things, but we found from our focus groups and surveys that the community does read the paper. It’s an excellent way to get information and ideas to the public. Take advantage of an excellent resource you have right here.

We will not get every change exactly right on the first try. We will continue to evaluate what works, make adjustments and evolve as our readers and community change.

The *Journal* has served generations of local families, but preserving that legacy requires us to reach the generations who will carry it forward. We are open to new ideas, ready to experiment and commit-

ted to building a newspaper that remains relevant, welcoming and valuable to everyone.

We can’t begin to express to you, our readers how important this newspaper is to us and how much we want to get this right for you.

Thirty-six percent of the people who completed our survey were not current subscribers. Their participation tells us that even people who do not presently receive the *Journal* consistently care about whether this community has a newspaper.

The *Journal* cannot survive on concern and good wishes alone.

It needs subscribers. It needs people who purchase single copies.

It needs businesses and organizations that advertise.

It needs schools, clubs, churches and community members who send us information and photographs.

It needs readers who tell us when we are doing something well and when we need to improve.

We know asking people to pay more is difficult. We also know that disappearing quietly, reducing coverage or allowing the newspaper to become less useful would be worse.

We are choosing to invest in the future. We are choosing more local stories, more young people, more photographs, more digital access and more communication with readers.

We are choosing to change with the times while protecting what makes a community newspaper irreplaceable: locally verified information, public accountability and a permanent record of life in Richardson County.

You spoke, and we listened. Now we are asking you to move forward with us.

Subscribe. Purchase a newspaper. Advertise your business. Send us your story ideas. Share our work. Encourage your school, organization or employer to participate.

The *Falls City Journal* is YOUR newspaper. With your support, it can remain that way for generations to come.

COMMISSIONERS

-Continued from Page 1

to review the proposals.

The Commissioners received a claim filed by Ron Jordening for medical expenses incurred in an accident on February 16, 2026, on the sidewalk of the courthouse. A motion was made to table the claim and send it to the insurance carrier for review.

A complaint from Deven Nycum was received. Nycum filed a formal complaint on July 15, 2026, regarding official misrepresentation, public records violations and county liability inducement by Sheriff Rick Hardesty. Nycum requested that the complaint be submitted to the Commissioners and formally logged as an official matter of public record.

The Board reviewed the complaint with Hardesty, who noted that he had fulfilled and complied with the public records request as stated in the complaint.

Claims were paid, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:32 a.m.

★

SOUTHEAST NEBRASKA

RALLY FOR DEMOCRACY

★

HOSTED BY

Johnson, Otoe, Nemaha, Pawnee and

Richardson County Democrats

FEATURED SPEAKER

Lynne Walz

Ben Steffen

Sarah Slattery • Jocelyn Brasher

Becky Stille • Michaela Conway

DINNER

Smoked Pork Chop Meal

CASH BAR • LIVE AND SILENT AUCTION

LIVE MUSIC BY GREG'S GOOD TIME POLKA BAND

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28, 2026

Social Hour 5:30 p.m. • Dinner 6:30 p.m.

TECUMSEH COMMUNITY BUILDING

355 Clay Street • Tecumseh, Nebraska

Purchase

TICKETS

secure.actblue.com/donate/

nerally4dem

Paid for by Richardson County Democrats.

BLACKSTONE

GRIDDLE & ACCESSORIES

+ \$500 CASH

3 GIVEAWAYS

EACH SATURDAY

SATURDAYS

August 1, 8, 15, & 22

7pm, 8pm, 9pm

Earn 1 Entry for Every 10 Slot Points Earned

Drawing 1 | July 26 at 12:15AM to August 1 at 9:00PM to Qualify

Drawing 2 | August 2 at 12:15AM to August 8 at 9:00PM to Qualify

Drawing 3 | August 9 at 12:15AM to August 15 at 9:00PM to Qualify

Drawing 4 | August 16 at 12:15AM to August 22 at 9:00PM to Qualify

NEIL

DIAMOND

THE TRIBUTE

Starring

ROB GARRETT

SATURDAY

August 29 | 8pm

\$3500

CASH & FREE-PLAY

AFTER SHOW DRAWING

\$12,000

FAB

FRIDAY'S

FREE PLAY HOT SEATS

FRIDAYS

4pm - 10pm

20 HOT SEAT WINNERS WILL BE

RANDOMLY SELECTED FROM

4PM - 10PM WEEKLY

\$12,000

WILD

WEDNESDAY'S

FREE PLAY HOT SEATS

WEDNESDAYS

2pm - 8pm

20 HOT SEAT WINNERS WILL BE

RANDOMLY SELECTED FROM

2PM - 8PM WEEKLY

Sac & Fox

casino

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

Hi, Want to

chill?

ADOPT Me

Have your people

call my people

(Humane society

402-245-2338)

and we can

make it happen

THE HUMANE SOCIETY

Zita Ebel



Zita Ebel, 75, of Lincoln, NE, formerly of Falls City, NE, passed away July 29, 2026 at Lincoln. She was born April 2, 1951 at Falls City to Pete and Zella (Schlicker) Schawang. She married Gene Ebel on September 13, 1969 at Falls City. He passed away July 23, 2004.

Zita was raised at Falls City and graduated from Falls City High School in 1969. When married the couple established their home in Falls City and later moved to a farm west of Reserve, KS. She was a homemaker and farm wife. She worked as a secretary and bookkeeper for various places in and around Falls City, including the farm and G and Z Trucking. She retired in 2012. She moved to Lincoln in 2023 and has lived there since. She was an active member of St Paul’s Lutheran Church at 20th and Towle St. in Falls City and DOES Drove of Falls City.

Zita is survived by her children, Gena Vang and her husband Chris of Elkhorn, NE, Karen Soward and her husband Levi and Marissa Ebel both of Lincoln, Chip and his wife Sara of Falls City, brothers, Joe Schawang and his wife Cheryl of Olathe, KS, Mike Schawang and his wife Janet of Omaha, sister, Lisa Moormeier and her husband Kiven of Roca, NE, grandchildren, Connor and Camden Soward, Isaiah and Noah Vang.

She was preceded in death by her parents and husband.

Her funeral was held Tuesday, August 4, 2026 at 10:30 AM at St. Paul’s Evangelical Lutheran Church at 20th and Towle St. with Elysia McGill officiating. Interment will be in Steele Cemetery. The family received friends on Monday from 7-8:00 PM at Dorr and Clark Funeral Home.

August scam alerts

Fraud schemes are constantly evolving but understanding how they work is one of the best ways to stay protected. Whether it’s a suspicious pop-up on your computer, a frantic phone call, or someone claiming they found your missing pet, knowing what to look for can go a long way toward protecting your money and personal information.

Tech Support Scams: Criminals use scary, warning pop-up messages or cold calls pretending to be a major software company to gain access to your device.

Many modern tech support alerts closely resemble real system warnings, making them difficult to detect at first glance. Vulnerable targets include standalone home computers, tablets used for online banking, and personal laptops used in busy, public Wi-Fi areas.

If your screen freezes or a strange alert pops up, pause before reacting. Reflect on what you might have heard (or read) about scams that start out like this. To help stay safe, keep your operating system and antivirus software up to date.

Is It Really Your Grandchild on the Phone?: Receiving a panicked call that a grandchild is in danger triggers immediate fear and an overwhelming emotional panic, which is exactly what criminals exploit to override our logical thinking.

Scammers contact targets feigning to be their grandchild who is in trouble and needs urgent financial help. Oftentimes, they request money through unconventional payment methods like gift cards or cryptocurrency.

If you receive an unexpected call that your grandchild is in jail or a hospital, take an active pause and reflect on the call—does it make sense? Have you heard about a scam like this? Then, hang up and contact your grandchild directly or call another relative to confirm they are okay. Also, check with your phone provider to see if they offer spam and scam call-blocking features.

Lost Pet Scams: Heartless scammers actively patrol missing pet forums to exploit that pain by claiming they have found your animal.

Typically, these criminals

will spin a frantic story. They might claim your pet is injured and needs immediate money for a vet bill or demand a reward upfront. To heighten the panic, they will pressure you to pay immediately via mobile apps or gift cards, refusing to actually meet in person until you send funds.

If someone contacts you claiming to have your missing pet, take a deep breath. Never send money before seeing your pet. Demand that the caller send a fresh photo of the animal (and inspect it closely) or ask them to describe a unique physical trait not mentioned in your post. If they make excuses, hang up.

Fraud Victims, Revictimized: Having money stolen from you in a scam can be devastating. Unfortunately, scammers know that victims are often eager to recover their money, and they use that

William “Gene” Ballue



William “Gene” Eugene Ballue, 57, of Beatrice, NE, passed away July 26, 2026 at his residence. He was born October 2, 1968 at Auburn, NE to James and Dorothy Ballue.

He married Patricia Kaster in 1988 and they divorced in 1991, in 1993 he married Lori Bradley and they divorced in 1996. He married Darla Adams in 2006. She passed away in 2018.

Gene worked as a welder for many years until his health forced him to retire. He had a great love for tinkering with anything he could do in the garage. One of his joys was taking his children fishing and spending time with his grandchildren doing various fun activities. He encouraged others to stop by and chat as that was what he loved to do. His love for fireworks and the 4th of July and love for homemade fireworks took him to the ER to come home with a finger missing for a great conversation piece. The Nebraska Cornhuskers was one of his favorite things to watch on TV.

Gene is survived by his children, Corey and his wife Molly Ballue of Beatrice, Cameron and his wife Beth of Nehawka, Ashley Gibson and her wife Megan of Beatrice, Adam Gibson and fiancé Brittney of Beatrice, 13 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

He was preceded in death by his parents, grandparents Cecil and Helen Miller, Uncle Norman Miller, Aunt Evelyn Hoak, and wife Darla.

Gene’s memorial service was held Monday August 3, 2026 at 10:00 AM at Dorr and Clark Funeral Home. Burial will be in the Maple Cemetery in Salem Nebraska.

There will be no viewing or visitation. You may sign the registry or leave condolences at Dorr and Clark Funeral Home during regular business hours.

hope to strike again.

In what’s known as a recovery scam, criminals pose as government officials, private investigators, or “recovery experts” who claim they can help get your money back. They may contact you through emails, texts, social media, or websites that look legitimate. But instead of helping, they’re trying to steal more of your money or personal information. Experts believe this could become the most common scam of the year.

Ignore any unsolicited offers to get your money back, as much as you want to believe it’s possible.

Learn how to spot and avoid scams with the AARP Fraud Watch Network™. If you suspect a scam, call the free Helpline at 877-908-3360 to speak with a trained fraud specialist about what to do next.

LIVE MUSIC

FRIDAY NIGHT

AUGUST 14 • 6:30 P.M.

LARGE SHELTER AT STANTON LAKE

MUSIC BY

THE MAXWELLS

KATHIE VICE

LEE SMITH

DARLENE NEMECHK

John Wilhelm



John Lee Wilhelm, 65, of rural Humboldt, Nebraska was born on September 29, 1960, in Falls City, Nebraska to Jerry Lee and Carol Lynn (Kelly) Wilhelm. He was raised near Humboldt, Nebraska where he attended Humboldt High School. After his schooling, John began his life-long 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 Dyland 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.

Graveside Inurnment Services for John will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, August 15, 2026, at the St. Mark’s Cemetery in rural Verdon, Nebraska. A Celebration of John’s Life Reception will be held at 1:30 p.m. at the Richardson County Ag Museum in Falls City. Please bring your beverage of choice to the celebration if desired, tea and water will be provided.

Join us with your favorite memories and best stories of John!

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

LICHTY-TUBACH-SIKORA

INSURANCE AGENCY, LLC

113 East 17th Street, Falls City, NE 68355

FRED & NIC SIKORA, LICENSED AGENTS

Phone 402-245-2313

Your Local “Farmers Mutual Insurance of Nebraska” Agency

“Insuring the Midlands Since 1891”

Automobile, Home Owners, Farm Owners, & Umbrella Policies.

“Please Prepare Your Insurance Plan For The Future, Today.”

Join the

Richardson County

House of Hope

for an

OPEN HOUSE

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 2026

1 – 3 p.m.

2003 Abbott Street, Falls City, NE

RC HOH Board members welcome you.

Julie Bauman

Austin Duerfeldt

Kailyn Frederick

Sherry Huddleston

Gene Rowell

Jerry Yount

Tim Boatright

Jessica Fischer

Kathy Gulland

Gayle Keller

Linda Santo

Kelly Werts

Learn about the Mission.

Tour main level living.

Light Refreshments Available.

RICHARDSON COUNTY

House of Hope

17th Annual

Cobblestone Fun Run 2026

"STARS & STRIPES FOREVER"

Location - Community Medical Center, 3307 Bill Schock Blvd., Falls City, NE

NATURE TRAIL

SCHEDULE

• 6:30 a.m. Late Registration

• 7:00 a.m. 1 Mile Run/Walk, 5K Run/Walk & 10K Run (run only)

FEE

• \$25 Registration if postmarked by August 17, 2026

• \$30 Registration (after Aug. 17)

AWARDS

*Awards to 1st place Female & Male in Each race; 1 Mile, 5K & 10K and Divisions

DIVISIONS in all races

~ 1 MILE RUN/WALK ~ 5K ~ 10K

*Boys & Girls ages 12 & under

*Female & Male ages -

- 13 thru 25

- 26 thru 40

- 41 thru 59

- 60 and up

* Traveling trophy for business with Highest percentage of participants. Get your business to participate

NOTE: Not a "timed" race but will have a running clock.

REGISTRATION - SCAN THE QR CODE or fill out this form

NAME: _____

AGE (as of August 1, 2026) _____

SEX: M F (circle)

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

STATE: _____

ZIP: _____

BUSINESS NAME: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

CELL PH #: _____

SHIRT SIZE: YOUTH: S M L XL (circle) ADULT: S M L XL XXL 3XL (circle)

(Circle) ENTRY: 1 Mile Run/Walk 5K Run/Walk 10K Run

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Cobblestone Fun Run MAIL TO: PO Box 399, Falls City, NE 68355

In consideration of your acceptance of my entry, I hereby, for myself, my heirs and executors, waive and release any and all rights and claims which hereafter accrue against organizers, all sponsors, meet officials and the City of Falls City for any injuries or health problems suffered by me in connection with this event. I further certify that I am in good enough physical condition to participate in this event. No refunds due to inclement weather or participant's inability to attend for any reason.

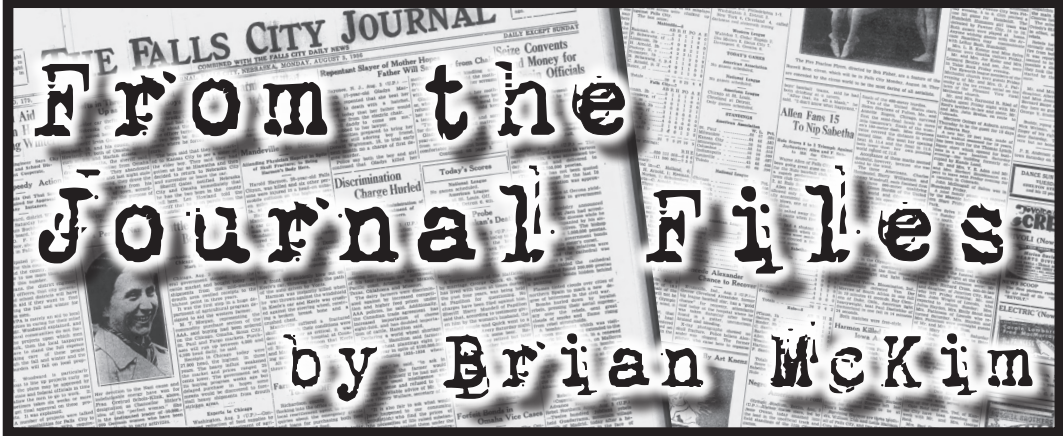
SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

SIGNATURE OF PARENT/GUARDIAN (if under 19 years of age): _____

For additional information contact Linda at CMC (mobile number) 402-245-0645

PROCEEDS GO TO THE FALLS CITY HUMANE SOCIETY



COUNTY COURT
Jose A. Caro of Wichita, KS, count one, possess firearm by prohibited person-1st, amended to carry concealed weapon-prohibited person-1st, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$1,000.
Kiffen A. Hunzeker of Humboldt, count one, DV assault-3rd/cause bodily injury, pled no contest, found guilty. Sentence includes jail for term of 150 days, credit for two days served.
Wade M. Tackett of Falls City, count one, willful reckless driving-1st, pled no contest, found guilty. Fined \$200 and license revoked for 30 days; count two, disturbing the peace, pled no contest, found guilty and fined \$100; count three, criminal mischief less than \$500, pled no contest, found guilty and fined \$100.
Harold A. Dobbie of Meridian, KS, count one, possess controlled subs, amended to attempt of a class 4 felony, pled no contest, found guilty and fined \$400.
David H. Genoa of Humboldt, count one, drive under susp/before reinstated, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$100; count two, no operator's license, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$75.
CITATIONS
Joel Crotty of Auburn, count one, no valid registration, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$25 and court costs. (Novak)
TJ Merrill Newman of

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Stella, count one, no valid registration, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$25 and court costs. (Novak)
Hunter Hestermann of Peru, count one, no valid registration, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$25; count two, drive left of center, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$25 and court costs. (Novak)
Jeffrey Carlson of Papillion, count one, speeding 11-15 mph, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$125 and court costs. (Agena)
Gunner Mitchell of Jones, OK, count one, speeding 11-15 mph, pled

guilty, found guilty and fined \$125 and court costs. (Agena)
Clinton Fleming of Merrill, IA, count one, speeding 11-5 mph, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$125 and court costs. (Holliday)
Carlos Dehou of Omaha, count one, careless driving, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$100; count two, fail to yield ROW, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$25; count three, disobey stop lights, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$75 and court costs. (Holliday)

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

The Richardson County Sheriff's Office reported 20 total inmates and 157 calls for service.
Calls included 83 traffic stops, 10 paper services, six Humboldt city ordinance calls, five suspicious person/vehicle calls and five traffic complaints.
The office also reported four motorist assists, four VIN inspections, three animal calls, two 911 hang-up/misdial calls, two assist public calls, two jail assists, two

information-only calls, two traffic hazards and two transports.
One call each was reported for accident with injury, accident without injury, alarm, ambulance/EMS, burn permit, civil standby, complaint, disabled/abandoned vehicle, fire call, follow-up, fraud, HHS intake, jail, juvenile, littering, miscellaneous, noise complaint, office/walk-in, protection order entry, railroad call, sex offender registry, suicide at-

tempted, theft, vandalism and welfare check.
Arrests and jail bookings
On July 19, Corbin Stoner, 38, of Humboldt, was booked into the Richardson County Jail on a court commitment, with a release date of July 27 at 9 a.m.
On July 21, Tiannie Dawn Mackey, 32, of Dawson, was arrested on two Richardson County warrants for fail to appear, with bond set at \$7,500, 10%, or \$750. Mackey remains in custody.
On July 25, Emilio C. Brassell, 23, of Lincoln, was booked into the Richardson County Jail on a court commitment, with an out date of July 30 at 9 a.m.
On July 26, Corbin A. Stoner, 38, of Humboldt, was booked into the Richardson County Jail on a court commitment, with an out date of July 27 at 9 a.m.



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Short-term rentals on the rise in Falls City

By: Amber Holle

Recently, Falls City has seen a noticeable increase in short-term rental options, offering visitors an alternative to traditional lodging. Two new hosts and members of the Falls City Chamber of Commerce are bringing unique properties and personal motivations to the market, while also highlighting a growing demand for flexible, comfortable accommodations in rural Nebraska.

For Hiawatha Native host Aubrey Wright, the journey into short-term rentals began with a love for a home she simply couldn’t pass up.

“I fell in love with the house when I first saw it listed and didn’t want to miss the opportunity to purchase it,” she shared.

While she eventually plans to move back into the home herself, Wright recognized a gap in the community for quality short-term housing. Opening the property to guests in the meantime has allowed her to both protect her investment and provide a welcoming space for visitors.

Thanks to a full remodel and major addition completed in 2020, the home already had strong bones. Wright focused on cosmetic updates including fresh paint, added shelving, and finishing touches like closet doors, before turning her attention to what she considers the most rewarding part: furnishing and decorating the space to feel like home.

Wright’s Airbnb offers a spacious three-bedroom, two-bath layout designed with comfort and connection in mind. The home sleeps 10 guests thanks to bunk beds in one of the bedrooms and offers a fully stocked kitchen, large gathering spaces, and a generous outdoor area. The home caters especially well to families and groups and guests have taken notice! Her listing has earned Airbnb’s “Top 5% of Homes” badge based on ratings, reviews, and reliability.

Wright says hosting has been overwhelmingly positive.

“Every guest has been respectful and appreciative,” she said. “I especially love being a part of bringing families together.”

Many of her guests have ties to the area, returning for holidays, reunions, and even military transitions. Others include work crews staying for extended periods. Beyond simply providing a place to stay, Wright has seen her guests actively supporting the local economy, frequenting businesses like Farm & City Supply, Memory Lane, White Cloud Casino, A&G’s, Frosty Queen, Luella’s Café, One Stop Café, and Swinging Doors in nearby Rulo.

“People often say they feel ‘at home’ here,” she added. “That’s something they don’t always get with a hotel.”

She also noted that getting started as a host is more approachable than many might think. Platforms like Airbnb guide users step-by-step through the process from uploading photos to selecting amenities, making it relatively simple for new hosts to launch their listings.

Another Falls City Airbnb, owned by Donnie and Julie Stice, had a different starting point but landed in a similar place. With a personal connection to their property, the Stices purchased the home to preserve it and bring it back to life.

“We saw its potential and hated the possibility of the house not being kept up,” they explained. The idea of turning it into an Airbnb came later, after recognizing the same growing need for short-term rentals in the area.

Taking inspiration from a popular HGTV show, “No Demo Reno”, they updated the home without removing walls, added a bedroom and bathroom, installed new flooring throughout, and modernized the space with fresh finishes and plenty of hands-on effort.

Their property now offers a four-bedroom, two-bath home in a quiet, centrally located neighborhood, complete with a back deck, grill, patio seating, and off-street parking, ideal for both relaxation and convenience.

Like Wright, they’ve been pleasantly surprised by the response.

“It’s been amazing to see how quickly our Airbnb has taken off,” Julie notes. “We’ve had families, construction workers, and even a group of out-of-state hunters stay with us.”

Both hosts agree: the demand is real and growing. “I wasn’t expecting to receive as much business as I have,” Wright noted, pointing to a particular need for larger spaces that can accommodate groups, something often lacking in traditional hotel options.

As more travelers seek out experiences that offer space, comfort, and a more personal touch, Airbnbs are filling a niche in Falls City. Whether its families gathering under one roof, workers settling in for a week-long project, or visitors returning home for meaningful moments, these properties are helping redefine what it means to stay and belong in a small town.

And in the process, they’re not just providing a place to sleep, they’re helping visitors feel right at home.

Visit [Airbnb.com](https://www.airbnb.com) for more information.



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Brownville Concert Series presents “Brassy, Bassey and Broadway”

The Brownville Concert Series is thrilled to welcome Manhattan Association of Cabaret Award (MAC) winner and acclaimed vocal powerhouse, Leanne Borghesi in her newest theatrical cabaret show, “Brassy, Bassey and Broadway.”

It’s sure to be one you won’t want to miss! The show will be in cabaret on Friday and Saturday, August 14th and 15th at 7:30pm, and in concert Sunday, August 16th at 2:00pm. We give special thanks to J. Randal Smith and Jane Crooker Smith Charitable Trust for helping to sponsor these shows.

Join Leanne Borghesi, award-winning cabaret and comedic Chanteuse, for “a one of a kind, 75-minute comedic nightclub act of swinging jazz, bawdy comedy, and over-the-top bling.” -Broadway World. Recognized for her vibrant stage presence and red-hot mama flair, Leanne Borghesi’s been hailed “a sumptuous feast of outrageousness” -Broadway World. while captivating audiences with her powerful vocal chops, bawdy comedy and brassy belts.

“Brassy, Bassey and Broadway” features iconic Broadway composers such as Jerry Herman, John Kander, Irving Berlin and Cy Coleman and Jazz composers: Henry Mancini, Harold Arlen and more. The show presents a sizzling array of songs that are Brassy (Mambo Italiano, Meglio Stassera, Old Black Magic), tunes made famous by Dame Shirley Bassey (Diamonds are Forever, Goldfinger, This Is My Life) and celebrates the dynamic spirit

and artistry of Broadway (No Business Like Show Business, I Am What I Am, When You’re Good To Mama) Musical Direction by Ross Gualco, Drums: Mike Warren, Bass: Hans Sturm. “A delightful Leanne Borghesi...knows no bounds” -Dennis Harvey, Variety

Leanne Borghesi’s vibrant performance career ranges from stages to screen in musical theater, cabaret/nightclubs and film with performances in such

prestigious venues as New York’s, Jazz at Lincoln Center, Frederick P. Rose Hall, Carnegie Hall, and San Francisco’s, Palace of Fine Arts, Herbst Theater, and Marines Memorial Theater. Borghesi’s dynamic stage presence, powerful vocal chops and theatrical spin have led to sold-out shows in celebrated venues such as Birdland Jazz Club, The Triad Theater, Feinstein’s at the Nikko, The Laurie Beechman Theater, Don’t Tell Mama, The Duplex, Martuni’s and more. Her duo comedic cabaret act: “The ShowBroads” alongside legendary New York cabaret artist, Marta Sanders, has garnered sold out houses and acclaim from New York to San Francisco.

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

Richardson Co. Fair Queen voting update

Fair queen field to be narrowed to top 10 Aug. 6. Voting continues for the 2026 Richardson County Fair Queen. The field will be narrowed to the top 10 candidates Thursday, Aug. 6.

The vote totals as of July 30 are: PJ Howe - 29,781,807; Shyla Clark - 8,706,978; Nora Jacobitz - 2,374,819; Eden Stewart - 912,424; Rayna Reyes - 672,575; Eden Duryea- 630,304; Shawna Richey - 356,267; Hallie Jones - 292,314; Ryann Westengaard - 180,000; Georgianna Melcher - 156,237; Harlee Hardesty - 90,991; Camryn Vaughan - 87,970; McKenna Dunlap - 62,742; Colby Hedden - 49,957; Miranda Rist - 38,398; Emma Bredemeier - 33,167; Emersyn Courtney - 28,435.

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 has not completed the 12th grade is eligible. The candidate must be currently involved in the community and must reside in the HTRS School District or Richardson County.

Votes are given on transactions of at least 25 cents, with each cent equal to 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.

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BRANIFF FLIGHT 250

-Continued from Page 1

heartbreaking task of loading the hastily assembled stretchers with those lost in the night sky.

Prichard Auditorium was converted into a temporary morgue. Forty-two metal caskets waited in line to receive the lost souls. Civil defense workers coordinated communications and security while Police controlled access. Firefighters remained at the scene. Volunteers brought food and coffee. Local officials found space, equipment and manpower while federal investigators traveled to Nebraska.

Mrs. L. David Foster of Omaha wept quietly near the front of the Auditorium as her 16 year old son Stephen sat in the front seat of a car, face covered in grief. A neighbor said she had been happily awaiting the arrival of her husband at Eppley Air Field when she received news of the crash. She came to identify her husband’s body while her two other boys waited at home. The neighbor who traveled with her didn’t want to put her through the agony of “any more of this,” and sent her home while he stayed to make the identification.

The response altered the town’s public life. Horseplay Days continued, but not unchanged. The 4-H fair was moved from Prichard Auditorium to smaller quarters at Tiehen Gym. Parade routes and activities were adjusted out of respect for the dead and the families gathered near the auditorium. Celebration and mourning occupied the same town.

Curiosity also arrived in droves, as it does. Cars followed emergency vehicles north of town. Small planes crowded the Airport and the airspace above the site. It was estimated that somewhere from 20 to 30 airplanes were at the airport here at times throughout the day. One pilot who flew over the crash scene said it was about like the traffic over KC airport, “you really had to be on your toes.”

Newspapers from across the country called. Reporters, photographers, airline representatives and investigators filled local rooms and telephone lines. A farm field had become national news.

Yet the heart of the response remained here. Mrs. Schawang served coffee and cake to a stream of neighbors, newsmen and volunteers. Guardsmen and officers worked in mud and rain. Funeral directors waited for release of the bodies. Clergy stood with families. The community’s work was immediate and largely unseen in the national headlines.

Nebraska Gov. Frank Morrison publicly praised the response, emphasizing the professional work of local law enforcement, fire and civil defense organizations and the leadership that reduced panic and confusion.

Early bulletins reported 41 people aboard. As the manifest was reconciled, the number became 42: 38 passengers and four crew. The correction had immeasurable meaning. Each number was a household receiving a call, a family waiting at an airport, a workplace losing a colleague or a town preparing for a funeral.

They didn’t know they were traveling toward tragedy. They boarded that plane traveling toward everyday things: a new job, a family visit, a return home, a school term, a military transfer, a business appointment, all unfinished journey’s.

Cheryl Lynn Jordan was 22, a graduate student and substitute teacher. She had met Jeff Jordan at the University of Tulsa, where both were students and they married in March 1965. Jeff was beginning his second season as a professional football player with the Minnesota Vikings. Jordan learned of the plane crash on his car radio early Sunday, but was not sure if his wife was aboard that plane. He later learned of his wife’s death from officials. Cheryl had recently completed graduate work in Tulsa and was flying to Minneapolis to see him and prepare for their move there on August 20. Some accounts said she intended to enroll at the University of Minnesota for a master’s degree. To readers in Tulsa and Minneapolis, she was not just a passenger; she was a young teacher, daughter and wife.

Ruth Kuhr, 32, and her five-year-old son, Mitchell, were returning to Omaha after a trip to the Kansas City zoo and a visit with relatives. Ruth’s husband, Robert, worked for Braniff. He was among the early arrivals at the crash scene and faced the devastating task of identifying his wife and son. Ruth was survived by her husband and 18-month old daughter.

Nancy Ann Chamblin, 18, and Susan Carol Chamblin, 15, left Fort Smith, Arkansas, to visit an older sister in Lincoln. Nancy had graduated from high school that spring. Susan was scheduled to enter high school in the fall. They boarded at Fort Smith Municipal Airport at about 8:30 Saturday evening. They were only minutes from the Omaha stop that would end their trip. Arkansas newspapers reported the details of two sisters, one recently graduated, the other looking toward a new school year, because those details made the headlines of “42 lives lost,” human.

Mary Kay Hamm, 16, and Susan Hamm, 17, of the Houston area were traveling to visit their grandparents in Nebraska. Houston papers reporting that three sisters had planned to make the trip and that it was their first flight. A missed connection separated them: Mary Kay and Susan secured places on the later Braniff flight, while the third sister remained behind. What had seemed a frustrating travel delay became an accident of chance.

Patricia Jacobson, 21, of Fargo, North Dakota, was returning from National Teachers Corps training in New Orleans. She had earned a music degree from Minot State Teachers College and had accepted a position at Fargo Central High School. She had been active in music groups singing with the Concert choir and working on the student newspaper.

Airman Second Class Robert D. Welter, 19, of Des Moines, was traveling home from Lackland Air Force Base on two weeks’ leave before a transfer to Topeka. He was expected to reach Des Moines by bus at 8 o’clock Sunday morning after landing in Omaha. His mother had



gone to the bus station to meet him.

Captain Donald G. Pauly, 47, of Minneapolis, had flown for 24 years and had begun flying jets about two years earlier. He and his wife had four children, ranging in age from 13 to 20 and he had recently returned from a family vacation in Europe. His wife said he “liked very much to fly.” Capt. Pauly was the pilot of a BAC-111 that landed safely in Omaha the previous October after its front landing gear struck a deer upon take-off from Sioux Falls, S.D.

First Officer James A. Hilliker, 39, of Bloomington, Minnesota, had been a pilot for ten years and a jet pilot for about one. He, too, was a husband and father of four. A relative said he “loved his job and was sold on flying.”

Flight attendants Ginger Elaine Brisbane and Sharon Eileen Hendricks were both 21. They were roommates in the Minneapolis area and recent graduates of stewardess school; Hendricks had joined Braniff the previous December. Their careers were only beginning, while the pilots beside them brought decades of combined experience to the cockpit. Together, the four were responsible for the 38 passengers through the last, terrifying minutes of the flight.

Many other passengers were in the middle of working lives. John M. Paul, 44, an Overland Park hosiery salesman, was making his first swing through Nebraska for an Omaha gift show after joining his firm only weeks earlier. Donald K. Wright, 36, was returning from a business conference in Dallas. Garrett F. Redington, 32, was coming home to Omaha from a business trip, as a telephone-company analyst; Donald L. Eschbach, 44, and salesman L. David Foster, 42, after work in Houston and Pennsylvania.

Others were moving between service and civilian life. Donald R. Smith, 41, of Bellevue worked in the Strategic Air Command public information office. Andrew D. Broadfoot of Omaha had retired from the Air Force as a master sergeant and continued at SAC as a civilian. Morgan Mills, a third-grade teacher from Gonzales, Texas, was headed to visit relatives in Nebraska. L. M. Graeber, 61, of Spring Park, Minnesota, was returning from his brother Clyde’s funeral in Tulsa, already carrying the weight of unmeasurable grief. Adolf Mayer, 64 and Richard Gummers, 46 both were flying back to Omaha after attending a funeral for a traffic accident victim in Memphis.

The manifest also included young servicemen whose ages made the unfinished future especially stark: Pvt. Larry J. Bosted, 19; Pvt. Danny Ray Cox, 18 was returning from a two week leave from Fort Polk, LA. He had entered the service on June 6. Pvt. Ronald L. Deines, 19 had just completed a Vietnam oriented infantry training course and was headed home on leave before departing for Vietnam. Pvt. Charles E. Howard Jr., 21 was returning from Fort Polk, LA for leave after basic training. Pvt. Russell E. Hudson, 19 was going to Omaha to visit this girlfriend ; Pvt. William O. Johnson, 23; Pvt. Bohdan Kowtaliw, 18; Pvt. Eugene P. McConnell, 18; and Pvt. William Murphy, 19. Air Force M. Sgt Donald Ferraro was assigned to the First Detachment, 55th Reconnaissance Wing at Offutt and was returning from a temporary assignment in Hawaii. Reports said a number of the military passengers were traveling home, between assignments or on leave.

Lottie Gummers, 46, of Omaha was remembered by

her family as a worker and entrepreneur. A 2016 anniversary story by Bill Schock reported that her father had returned home in silence after waiting at the Omaha airport for news. Jeanae Duerksen, 22, was mourned by a family whose younger children first learned of the crash through radio reports while waiting for her return.

Because early newspaper accounts differed on individual itineraries, the record preserves only those travel details that can be tied to a named passenger.

Newspapers in the victim’s hometowns told their story. Minnesota papers wrote of the pilots, flight attendants and travelers bound for Minneapolis. Arkansas papers wrote of the Chamblin sisters. Texas papers wrote of the Hamm sisters and other Texans. Nebraska papers counted the residents of their state. Their final common fact was Flight 250, but their lives were larger than the manner of their deaths.

CREW Donald G. Pauly , 47(pilot) - Minneapolis, MN; James A. Hilliker, 39 (pilot) - Bloomington, MN; Sharon E. Hendricks, 21 (stewardess) - Sawyer, ND and Ginger E. Brisbane, 21 (stewardess) - Minneapolis, MN.

PASSENGERS Pvt. Larry J. Bosted, 19 – Omaha; Andrew D. Broadfoot, 54 – Omaha; Nancy A. Chamblin 18 - Fort Smith, AR – 18; Susan C. Chamblin, 15 - Fort Smith, AR; Pvt. Danny Ray Cox, 18 – Omaha; Pvt. Ronald L. Deines, 19 - Bayard, NE; Jeanae C. Duerksen, 22 - Bridgewater, SD; Ava Dyer, 46 - Washington D.C.; Donald L. Eschbach, 44 – Omaha; Kenneth Eskelinen, 25 – Omaha; M/Sgt. Donald Ferraro, 34 – Bellevue; Leslie David Foster, 41 – Omaha; Patricia L. Gilbertson, 21 - Little Rock, AR; Lyman M. Graeber, 61 - Spring Park, MN; Lottie Gummers, 46 – Omaha; Mary Kay Hamm, 16 - Houston, TX; Susan R. Hamm, 17 - Houston, TX ; Pvt. Charles E. Howard, Jr., 21 – Omaha; Pvt. Russell E. Hudson, 19 - Jackson, MS; Patricia Jacobson, 21- Fargo, ND; Pvt. William O. Johnson , 23- Glen Fora, WI; Cheryl Lyn Jordan, 21- Minneapolis, MN; Pvt. Bohdan Kowtaliw, 18 - Chicago, IL; Ruth Kuhr , 32- Omaha; Mitchell L. Kuhr , 5- Omaha; Pvt. Eugene P. McConnell, 18 - Council Bluffs, IA; Adolf Mayer , 64- Omaha; Opal Jeanette Smith (Mrs. Morgan Mills), 51 - Gonzales, TX ; Pvt. William Murphy, 19 - Sauk Village, IL; John H. Paul, 44 - Overland Park, KS; Sgt. Garrett G. Redington, 32 - Mason City, IA; Grace B. Roettger , 56- Decatur, TX; Donald R. Smith, 39 – Bellevue; Virginia Tejada - Guatemala City, Guatemala; Charla J. Ward , 16- Omaha, NE; A2C Robert D. Welter, 19 - Des Moines, IA; Frank A. Wilson , 40- Fremont, NE; Donald K. Wright – Omaha.

At Prichard Auditorium, the work of identification was tedious. The Civil Aeronautics Board controlled release of the remains. Fingerprints, personal effects, dental information and other evidence were used to establish identities.

The auditorium floor held metal caskets in rows. Funeral homes and airline representatives coordinated transportation to communities across the country. Some families came to Falls City, others waited at home. The building, intended for public gatherings became the place where a national tragedy with each name learned.

Police guarded the doors. Rain eventually discouraged some sightseers, but the town continued to absorb visitors, calls and questions.

Part three next week

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MEN’S GOLF LEAGUE RESULTS

Men’s Golf League results from Tuesday, July 28, 2026. The scores shown are actual scores and handicap totals.

Early League

Team 1 (2.00) Dunn, Chaz 38-37; Bippes, Derrick 55-41. Team 6 (4.00) May, Mark 45-38; Bennett, Chuck 50-37.

Team 2 (5.00) Ebel, Bryce 42-36; Hays, Gary 45-38. Team 5 (1.00) James, Charles 49-42; Rowland, Rod 47-38.

Team 3 (0.00) Ebel, Ron 43-37; Severin, Steve 58-39. Team 4 (6.00) Borg, Dave 42-36; Murphy, Jim 46-33.

Team 7 (5.00) Sailors, Chuck 48-35; Romine, Alan 57-41. Team 9 (1.00) Kurpgeweit, Lee 44-36; Mullins, Jim 53-45.

Team 8 (5.50) Foster, Tim 41-34; Hillyard, Mark 44-35. Team 10 (0.50) Kermoade, Terry 52-38; Hankins, Dan 52-37.

Late League

Team 1 (6.50) Dunn, Joe 40-39; Bippes, Drew 43-35; Coonce, Kyle 62-39. Team 8 (1.50) Simon, Dan 43-40; Harmon, Galen 46-35; Waller, Doug 68-50.

Team 2 (1.00) Montgomery, Carter 39-36; Malone, Kevin 47-41; Sly, Tony 60-43. Team 7 (7.00) Scheitel, Trent 35-31; Bauman, Jackson 52-40; Bennett, Chuck 51-41.

Team 3 (6.00) Witt, Tom 41-37; Froeschl, Nathan 48-38; Morris, Adam 49-36. Team 5 (2.00) Simon, Steve 46-44; Bredemeier, Logan 52-32; Merz, Mitch 67-40.

Team 9 (5.00) Kirkendall, Jeremy 40-38; Witt, Rich 44-31; Craig, Robbie 56-42. Team 19 (3.00) Borg, Dave 45-38; Gooch, Blake 47-37; Scheitel, Lane 52-38.

Team 10 (5.00) Gist, Thomas 41-34; Poppe, Brian 48-38; Keller, Bart 59-40. Team 18 (3.00) Chesnut, Justin 39-32; May, Mark 46-38; Harmon, Jason (F).

Team 11 (5.50) Froeschl, Lucas 47-39; Kurpgeweit, Lee 43-34; Froeschl, Joe 48-39. Team 17 (2.50) Ebel, Bryce 44-37; Witt, Bailey 46-37; Godemann, Ted 53-39.

Team 12 (6.00) Dunn, Chaz 37-35; Hullman, Ben 42-37; McNeely, John 48-39. Team 16 (2.00) Hill, Dan 44-38; Steele, Brendan (F); Romine, Alan 49-35.

Team 13 (3.50) Ferguson, Don 45-38; Schawang, Cody 46-37; White, Christian 54-36. Team 15 (4.50) Van Dyke, Kyle 45-40; Cole, Gavin 43-34; Froeschl, Ethan 46-37.

Team 14 (0.00) Gerweck, Rob 43-38; Hillyard, Mark 53-43; Witt, Tyler 60-44. Team 20 (8.00) Anderson, Dusty 45-35; Malcolm, Terry 47-34; Dunn, Mike 58-39.



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Eric Klepper Poker Run

Saturday, Aug. 29th

DuBois, Nebraska

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DINNER: 5 PM

AUCTION: 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

CORNHOLE: 6:30 PM

BURNOUT CONTEST: 6:30 PM

LIVE BAND: 8 PM (Shawn Cole and Drunk Monkey)

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Beneficiaries - Goldie Friedly and Kelly Klepper

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Chantel Farwell 402.862.5165 or Bonnie Kanel 402.239.8842

The 2026 Richardson County 4-H & FFA Market Animal and Static Exhibitors would like to say “THANK YOU” to these businesses and/or individuals for their support at the 2026 Richardson County Junior Fair Livestock and Static Support Auctions, where 54 livestock exhibitors and 22 static exhibitors participated. Your support of the 4-H program and the 4-H members is greatly appreciated!

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Brewer Fertilizer	Equity Bank	Jason Snethen Farms	Rock Creek Quilt Co.
Bruna Implement	F&M Bank	JT Farm Service	Scheitel Feed & Seed
C&H Howe Farms	Falls City Mercantile	Margie Broman	Seeba Transportation
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JOURNAL SPORTS



College football season is approaching fast- so fast that this sports enthusiast hasn’t had time even to comprehend that the season is literally weeks away.

What can we expect in Lincoln this fall? Is this the year we finally break through and pass seven wins, or is this the year the sellout streak comes to a crashing halt?

My educated guess is neither is going to happen, but don’t be surprised if they do.

The Big Red hasn’t eclipsed the eight-win mark since finishing 9-4 in 2016 under coach Mike Riley. Neither Scott Frost nor Matt Rhule has been able to accomplish that feat since.

In reality, neither has even come close. Frost won five games in 2019, the most in his short, but too-long tenure. Meanwhile, Rhule has finished 7-6 the last two seasons and is 19-19 in three seasons. Hardly the type of record Husker fans were hoping for after three seasons at the helm.

To take it a step further, Nebraska has only been ranked in four of the last ten years. The 2016 season looked promising as the Huskers bolted to a 7-0 mark to open the year. Unfortunately, Nebraska lost four of the final six contests, and hopes of a big year fell to the wayside. By October 23, 2016, Nebraska reached a high of seventh in the country, a spot the Huskers wouldn’t get close to again over the next decade. In 2019, Nebraska was ranked 24th to open the year; in 2024, the Big Red clocked in at 22nd; and in 2025, Nebraska achieved an AP ranking of 25th.

So, what can we as part of the Big Red faithful expect in 2026? I would keep expectations low and hope for seven wins. Eight is not out of the question; however, neither is six. This is a must-win season for Rhule. The grace period is over, and fans demand a more polished product. If not, maybe it’s time to move on, again.

That brings me to part two of my soapbox tour. Is the sellout streak really in danger? I hate to break the news, but the streak has been a sham for years. Donors or corporations coming in to scoop up tickets at the last minute really defeats the idea of a sellout. Also, I know technically it’s called a sellout, but how many times have seats remained empty over the past two decades?

Now our fans are the greatest in sports. How else can you explain the dedication of a nearly full stadium, week after week, despite the fact that we have done nothing of importance since falling to Miami in the championship game in 2001.

Since that 37-14 loss, Nebraska is 167-135, not exactly what we had become accustomed to. From 1976 to 2001, Nebraska went 269-51, in case you were wondering.

Yet, week after week, year after year, Husker fans show up. Why? I have no answer other than we are loyal to a fault. I guarantee no other program in the nation could withstand the utter mediocrity as we have and yet boast crowds upwards of 70,000 to 80,000 every week.

In recent years, the ticket department has had to get creative to get fans in the door. I don’t remember receiving invites to purchase three- or four-game plans in the 1990s. Last week I even received an email offering four tickets for \$100 to the season-opener. Crazy.

I know the Ohio Bobcats aren’t a college football juggernaut, but neither was Louisiana Tech in 1998, and I bet those tickets sold quickly, and above face value.

I know, I know. What point am I driving at? Good question. Maybe I just needed to vent. Or, maybe, we should allow the streak to end. We should show the team and university that we won’t continue to support a product that doesn’t live up to our expectations.

Either way, Husker fans are truly the greatest around. How else can you explain our devotion to a program that has been passed over by schools we used to dominate?

Since the 2004 season, Nebraska is ranked 53rd with 150 wins.

K-State has 159 wins, Ohio is at 162, and the Toledo Rockets have won 168. Alabama leads the way with 248 wins, followed closely by Ohio St. with 245.

Not a spot we ever thought we’d be in. Were we too arrogant? Unlucky? Or have we just made some bad coaching and recruiting decisions?

My guess is it’s all the above.

My heart belongs to the Big Red, but my head says things aren’t getting better. Coach Rhule will likely see his exit in the next year or two, and we will start yet another rebuild.

Anyway, hopefully I’m wrong. I usually am.

Go Big Red.



The Cob’s Weekly Archive Dive No. 7

Welcome to installment No. 7 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. No matter what your age, hopefully you’ll find a piece of Husker football history that makes you feel the sights and sounds of gameday.

On this day in Cornhusker Football History:

September 26, 1970 – Headline: Nebraska Blackshirts Lead Win Over Army

Nobody’s saying precisely what Nebraska football coach Bob Devaney told his Cornhuskers during the halftime intermission Saturday, but whatever it was, it was enough to prompt a second half surge good for a 28-0 victory over Army. An offensively unimpressive first half – although the defense was superb from start to finish – had put Nebraska in the dressing room ahead only 7-0. Fumbles and penalties had kept the Huskers off the scoreboard until less than five minutes remained in the second quarter when Jerry Tagge hit Johnny Rogers with a 43-yard touchdown pass.

“Coach Devaney gave us a good talking to at halftime,” Rogers said. “And we knew what he meant.” In any event, the Huskers settled down, racked up two touchdowns in the third quarter and scored again early in the fourth quarter.

(Bob Devaney had a much different personality than Tom Osborne, and you can bet he let his team know what he wanted to see from them. It was Devaney’s fiery attitude and Osborne’s cool demeanor that worked.)

September 25, 1980 – Headline: ‘Huskers may Find Lions To be Crabby’

Penn State’s football trip to Lincoln last season was a frustrating and humbling experience. Nebraska racked up 553 yards in total offense for a 42-7 win against Penn State’s All-American defensive tackles. Crab-blocking had taken the “awe” out of the Nittany Lions awesome tackles. “Nebraska doesn’t come straight at you. All they did was that leg-blocking and that’s frustrating,” said Matt Millen. “Those guys would be monkeying around at your feet with those leg-blocks. It’s not physical, but it’s effective,” said Bruce Clark. “The point is you don’t block shoulder to shoulder against big, strong guys like that. The crab-block is a matter of leverage,” said Cletus Fischer, Nebraska’s veteran offensive line coach. Nebraska will carry a 2-0 record and a No. 3 national ranking into the nationally televised contest. Penn State is also 2-0 and holds the 11th spot in the AP poll.

(While Nebraska has always been known for their big powerful offensive lineman, offensive line coach Cletus Fischer taught technique and methods to give players an advantage.)

September 7, 1990 – Headline: Mickey Joseph to Start at Quarterback

Mickey Joesph will start at quarterback for Nebraska against Northern Illinois, Cornhusker coach Tom Osborne said Thursday. Mike Grant, who started against Baylor, is still nursing a bruised knee. About 300 tickets are still available for Saturday’s game at Memorial Stadium, NU ticket manager Joe Selig said. Nebraska’s junior varsity will open its five-game season Friday against Snow Utah Junior College at 1 p.m. in Memorial Stadium.

(This headline carries three significant storylines about Husker football. 1. Nebraska’s competitive QB competition. 2. Only a day or two before the game there were still tickets available. 3. Nebraska still had a Junior Varsity which helped players hone their ability and gain experience.)

September 10, 2000 – Headline: High Husker Drama

Notre Dame battled top-ranked Nebraska to the wire before the Huskers protected their No.1 status with a spine-tingling 27-24 overtime victory. Two touchdowns behind, 21-7, midway through the third quarter, Notre Dame romped back into a tie on two sensational runs – a 100-yard kickoff return for a TD, then an equally-dazzling 83-yard punt return for another touchdown. In all the Irish totaled 317 yards in kick returns, but when all the returns were in, Nebraska had just enough to pull it out. With the game going to overtime Nebraska won the toss. On offense first, the Irish made the eight-yard line, but after being sacked on third-down they settled for a 29-yard field goal to take a brief 24-21 lead. The overworked Irish defense got within two plays of possible victory as the Huskers were third-and-nine at the 24. That’s when Nebraska QB Eric Crouch made what he called the biggest play of the day. Throwing from the spread formation he hit tight-end Tracey Wistrom with the back breaking nine-yard gainer to the 15. The rest was easy. Alexander ripped up the middle for 8. Crouch then faked to him again, pulled the ball back and ran around left end to the end zone for the win.

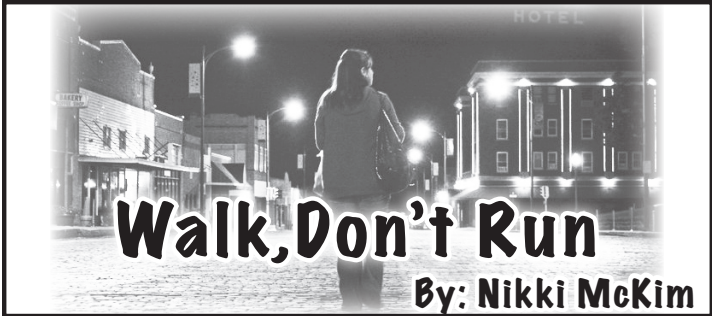
HuskerNation turned Norte Dame Stadium into a sea of red. The red clad fans appeared to fill about a third of the 80,232 seats in the stadium. Adding insult to wounded pride, Husker fans chanted “Husker, home game!” Although NU was allotted just 4,000 tickets, some 20,000 to 30,000 fans made the trip from Lincoln. Clearly, many were able to buy tickets from Notre Dame fans. “Disappointing, very disappointing,” said Notre Dame AD Kevin White.

(Husker fans have an always will travel well, especially if Rhule gets them back on the winning track)

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.



Visiting Nebraska, paper by paper

There are worse ways to attend a board meeting than beginning the day with breakfast at an award winning diner and shopping in antique and thrift stores. If every meeting came with an itinerary like that, participation might go through the roof.

Last week, I traveled to St. Paul for Nebraska Press Association board meetings. Our host was Michael Happ, publisher of newspapers serving Elm Creek, Palmer, Ravenna, St. Paul, Loup City and Central City.

Michael bought his first newspaper when he was just 21 years old. Since then, he has built an amazing career doing exhausting and award winning work. I am grateful to him for welcoming us and giving publishers and editors from across Nebraska the opportunity to gather in his home.

Those of us attending came from places including Bridgeport, Stanton and Fairbury. We represented different parts of Nebraska and newspapers of different sizes, but we all understand the of responsibility, worry, pride and complete exhaustion that comes with publishing a community newspaper.

There is something so valuable about sitting around a table with people who understand the work you're always doing. They know about deadlines, rising expenses and the pressure of trying to give readers something worthwhile every single week. They also understand why, despite all of those challenges, we continue to love and believe in what we do.

Some of the most useful conversations don't happen during the meetings. They happen over meals, car rides, brewery tours or when someone mentions a problem and someone says, "I have an idea for you."

Those conversations have been really valuable to me, to us. Ideas and advice I've brought home from NPA gatherings have helped improve the *Journal*. They have made me a better writer and publisher and they have left me far more excited about the future of Nebraska's community newspapers.

There are always hard days or weeks. There are days when the list of things that need to be done is longer than the hours available to do them. On those days, it is easy to feel alone on your own tiny newspaper island.

Then you spend time with other newspaper people and remember you're never alone. There are others who are slightly out of their minds and eternally optimistic.

We may work in different towns, but we care about the same things. We want our newspapers to remain strong, useful and worthy of the trust readers place in us.

And we are willing to help one another. Getting to visit communities like St. Paul with places like Skyline Diner and Loup River Distilling, has been one of the unexpected benefits of becoming more involved with the Nebraska Press Association. Every trip has been an education in journalism and newspaper publishing, but it has also been an education in Nebraska.

Last year, I traveled west to visit John Erickson at the *Bridgeport News-Blade*. During that trip, I saw Chimney Rock for the first time. It was a place I knew, but never visited.

Through the association, I have been able to crisscross our state and visit communities I might never have thought to seek out on my own. Each trip reminds me how much there is to see in Nebraska and how many wonderful people are working to keep their towns strong.

I returned from St. Paul with new ideas, renewed energy and an even greater appreciation for the people who go into work nine to five, but the five is five a.m.

In a few years, it will be Falls City's turn to host the board. I want our guests to experience the things that make Southeast Nebraska special.

If you have suggestions for places we should take them, things we should show them or experiences that would help them remember Falls City, I would love to hear them.

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FALLS CITY JOURNAL

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We always welcome and encourage letters to the editor. All letters sent to the Falls City Journal must include the authors' full names, addresses and phone numbers for verification.

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

SEND LETTERS TO:

Email: nikki@fcjournal.net

Mail: Editor, Falls City Journal

1709 Stone Street Falls City, NE 68355



"72 HOURS" (R) -- Comedian/actor Kevin Hart ("Jumanji: Open World") leads this comedy film releasing on July 24, and he's got a handful of fellow comedians who round out the rest of the cast, including Marcello Hernandez, Ben Marshall and Kam Patterson (all of whom you might recognize from "Saturday Night Live"). Hart plays Joe, a 40-year-old business executive who's feeling desperate to cling to his remaining youth. So, when Joe gets added to a group chat for a three-day bachelor party with twenty-somethings, he's overjoyed that he gets a chance to reconnect with his inner rager. But it doesn't take long for poor Joe to realize in those mere 72 hours that he's in way over his head. (Netflix)

"THE SHEEP DETECTIVES" (PG) -- This family-friendly film, out now, isn't just a fun blend of a mystery and comedy movie that's appropriate for all ages; it features a stacked ensemble cast that is full of familiar faces and voices. Taking place in a small English village, a shepherd named George (Hugh Jackman) reads murder-mystery novels to his flock of sheep each night. When George suddenly passes away and is found outside his trailer, the sheep overhear the local police's hunch that it was a murder. With an extensive background in mystery-novel sleuthing, George's sheep are convinced that they can track down the murderer themselves. The live-action cast features names like Nicholas Braun ("Succession"), Emma Thompson ("Dead of Winter"), and Hong Chau ("Wuthering Heights"), while the voice cast includes Bryan Craston ("Chili Finger"), Julia Louis-Dreyfus ("Thunderbolts") and Regina Hall ("The Five-Star Weekend"). (Amazon Prime Video)

"LUCKY" (TV-MA) -- Under her production company Hello Sunshine, Reese Witherspoon ("You're Cordially Invited") serves as an executive producer for this new crime-thriller miniseries, which just premiered the first two episodes out of its seven-episode season. Starring Anya Taylor-Joy ("The Super Mario Galaxy Movie") as the titular character, this series follows Lucky Armstrong -- a con artist who pulls off a multi-million-dollar heist with her husband/partner-in-crime, Carey (Drew Starkey). When Carey goes missing with the money the very next day, Lucky is forced to live on the run from her boss, Priscilla (Annette Bening), who's also her mother-in-law and was expecting the money. Oh, and the FBI's hot on her heels as well. Sounds like Ms. Armstrong is not-so-lucky! (Apple TV)

"MARC BY SOFIA" (PG-13) -- Director Sofia Coppola ("Priscilla") just released her first feature-length nonfiction film! The topic? TITLE: None other than American fashion designer Marc Jacobs. With footage that leads up to his 2024 paper doll runway show, Coppola interviews her close friend about his early life, his creative process, and the details of how he produces a show. Jacob also speaks about his time at Parsons School of Design in New York and working for Perry Ellis. Other faces who appear in the doc include actress Chloe Sevigny ("The Five-Star Weekend"), musician Kim Gordon, filmmaker Spike Jonze ("Her"), and former model/creative director Grace Coddington. Out now! (HBO Max)

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King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Efron of "Parkland"

4 "For — the Bell Tolls"

8 Maui's — Highway

12 Rock's Brian

13 Continental coin

14 Petri dish gel

15 Scrape (out)

16 Shakable paperweight

18 Egypt's Anwar

20 Quibble

21 Composer Bartok

24 Informative

28 Hall & Oates ballad of 1976

32 Scarce

33 Galley item

34 Must, casually

36 Plant seeds

37 Radar dot

39 "Gems" found on a beach

41 "Bye!"

43 Poetry contest

44 Vat

46 Foolish

50 Scott Evil actor in the Austin Powers films

55 Blue bird

56 Saab model

57 Nest egg choices

58 Broad st.

59 Wee songbird

60 Lacking slack

61 Wine choice

19 Six-pack muscles

22 Novelist Anita

23 Poker pot starters

25 "That — close one!"

26 "No seats" signs

27 Evergreens

28 Weeps

29 Robust

30 Buffalo's lake

31 List-ending abbr.

35 Not for

38 Large constrictor

40 Run after K

42 Summer mo.

45 Telly watcher

47 Slightly open

48 Cathedral area

49 Kept tabs on

50 Cutting tool

51 Chariot trailer

52 Three, in Rome

53 Notable time

54 Vichy water

DOWN

1 Dazzling duo?

2 "Diana" singer

3 Not single-sex

4 Locale in "The Great Gatsby"

5 Attila, e.g.

6 Acapulco gold

7 Cut, as a lawn

8 Summer top

9 Previously

10 Collar

11 Common verb

17 Tonic's mixer

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CELEBRATING
**OUR YOUNG
COMMUNITY**



SCC announces Spring graduates

Southeast Community College has announced their 2026 spring graduates. Locals are listed below.

Sabetha, KS: Colin Jay Menold, Associate of Applied Science in Agriculture Management and Production.

Auburn, Colby Reice McConnaughey, Associate of Applied Science in Computer Information Technology, Application Development.

Rock Port, MO, Jonathan Gregory Raison, Associate of Applied Science in Culinary/Hospitality.

Falls City, Kadyn Andrew Strecker, Associate of Applied Science in Electrical and Electromechanical Technology, Electrical Technician.

Auburn, Ian Michael Maahs, Associate of Applied Science in General Motors Automotive Service Educational Program.

Rock Port, MO, Dalton Lyle Stevens, Associate of Applied Science in Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Technology.

Falls City, Kemper Joshua Foster, Associate of Applied Science in John Deere Tech.

Auburn, Zandra Elizabeth Hoff, Associate of Arts in Early Childhood Education.

Auburn, Zoe Alexis Baltensperger, Certificate in Precision Agriculture.

Rock Port, MO, Dalton Stevens, Certificate in Business

Auburn, Noah Erickson, Certificate in Computer Information Technology, General Technician

Auburn, Isaac Hoff, Certificate in Diesel Technology-Truck Maintenance and Light Repair

Falls City, Evan Bailey, Certificate in Diesel-Ag Equipment Service Tech Maintenance and Light Repair

Humboldt, Hunter Bohling, Certificate in Diesel-Ag Equipment Service Tech Maintenance and Light Repair

Falls City, Caden Han-

dley, Certificate in Diesel-Ag Equipment Service Tech Maintenance and Light Repair

Salem, Derek Helmick, Certificate in Diesel-Ag Equipment Service Tech Maintenance and Light Repair

Pawnee City, Winn O'Donnell, Certificate in Electrical and Electromechanical Technology, Electromechanical Industrial Maintenance Technician

Falls City, Adisen Fischer, Certificate in Fundamentals of Agriculture

Sabetha, KS, Colin Menold, Certificate in Precision Agriculture

Table Rock, Hayden Binder, Certificate in Welding

Table Rock, Wyatt Blank, Certificate in Welding

Pawnee City, Giovanni Chaney, Certificate in Welding

Pawnee City, Quinn Friedly, Certificate in Welding

Falls City, Jaxten Jorgensen, Certificate in Welding

Du Bois, Kaminn Koester, Certificate in Welding

Falls City, Ashton Martin, Certificate in Welding

Falls City, Ryker McCullough, Certificate in Welding

Falls City, Cooper Nelson, Certificate in Welding

Falls City, Blakely Sells, Certificate in Welding

Falls City, Tallan Zimmerman, Certificate in Welding

Nemaha, Carson Youngquist, Certificate in Welding Technology

Pawnee City Neveah Blecha, Diploma in Practical Nursing

Auburn, Jemma Crosier, Diploma in Practical Nursing

Falls City, Madison Dougherty, Diploma in Practical Nursing

Falls City, Shaylee Mackey, Diploma in Practical Nursing

Rock Port, MO, Jayden Krutz, Diploma in Precision Agriculture

Stalder named to Deans' Commendation List at University of Nebraska

Andrew Stalder of Humboldt has been named to the Deans' Commendation List at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln for the spring semester of the 2025-26 academic year.

Stalder, a senior majoring in electrical engineering, was named to the Dean's Commendation List for the College of Engineering.

Nearly 500 students at Nebraska were named to the Commendation List for the spring semester.

The Commendation List recognizes students in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, College of Arts and Sciences, College of Education and Human Sciences, College of Engineering and/or College of Journalism and Mass Communications who met or exceeded a specified grade-point average and carried six to 11 graded semester hours.

Qualification for the Commendation List varies. Listed below are the minimum requirements for each college and the name of its respective dean. All qualifying grade-point averages are based on a four-point scale. Students can be on the Commendation List for more than one college. College of Engineering, 3.7; Dean Lance C. Perez.

For the full Deans' Commendation List, visit <https://go.unl.edu/commendation-spring26>.



Racy Hullman (R)- Elks Secretary, presenting a \$200 donation to Paige Vitosh (L), sponsor of the Falls City Sacred Heart Robotics program. The donation will help offset program expenses and support students as they develop valuable skills in science, engineering, and mathematics. The Falls City Elks are proud to support educational programs that inspire innovation, teamwork, and future success for our local youth.

Falls City Sacred Heart to start 136th school year on Wednesday, Aug. 12

The school doors will open for the 136th year at Falls City Sacred Heart Catholic School on Wednesday, August 12. School will start at 7:55 am and dismiss at 3:10 pm for pre-kindergarten through sixth grades and dismiss at 3:23 pm for grades 7-12th; school lunches will be served. There will be a flag raising ceremony at 9:25 am.

The Sacred Heart Staff for 2026-27 includes Doug Goltz, Chief Administrative Officer and Activities Director; Jenny Dunn, Principal and School Counselor; Father Samuel Beardslee, Religion; Father Leo Seiker, Support Staff; Father James Meyenburg, Religion; Father Loudon Redinger, Religion; Angela Simon, Librarian; Tiffany Keithley, Library; Alicia Schock and Julie Stice, Preschool; Emma Ebel, Kindergarten; Sue Ahrens-Ebel, First; Betsy Nelson, Second; Emily Clark, Third; Jenna Schawang, Fourth; Mackensie Nelson, Fifth; Julie Froeschl, Sixth; Angie Taft, Math; Paige Vitosh, Science; Sherrie Hoffman, Spanish, Reading Interventionist and Guided Learning; Luke Santo, Social Studies; Kylee Reschke, English & Technology; Stephenie Bippes, Language Arts/Speech; Christina Wertenberger, K-12 Art; Sebastian Boelhower, K-12 Vocal/Instrumental Music; Joyce Hundley, Accompanist; Katie Thiltges, Language Arts/Publications; Brian Lemerond, Physical Education; Adam Santo and Holle Lancaster, Guided Learning; Joe Neri, Speech Pathologist; Taylor Kearney, Title I; Cathy O'Grady, Molly Kirkendall and Adam Santo, Office; Beth Vonderschmidt, Nurse; Renee Kopf, Advancement Director; Lisa Dougherty, Beth Fischer, and Lindsie Jones, Lunchroom; and Mary Darveau, Custodian.

Preschool hours are Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 3:10 pm. Contact Alicia Schock 402 801-0120 for more information and to register your child.

After School Daycare will be available for Sacred Heart families beginning the first day of school. Please contact Sue Ebel for more information and to sign up for this service.

Hot lunches will be served Monday through Friday in the school cafeteria. Meal prices will be \$3.30 for preschool, \$3.85 for K-6th and \$4.00 for 7-12th grade students. Free and reduced lunch applications

have been emailed out to all Sacred Heart families and need to be returned to school as soon as possible. Milk break will be available for K-2nd grades at .60 cents per milk. In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

The mission of Sacred Heart is to be "a Family Educating Heart, Mind, Body and Spirit for this Life and the Next." Families and students of all faiths are welcome to share in this great experience in an environment centered on our faith in Jesus Christ and the way it is lived in the Catholic Church. Sacred Heart is fully accredited by the State of Nebraska through Cognia Accreditation and is in compliance with all state curriculum standards.

Sacred Heart offers a comprehensive human formation curriculum to students in grades 9-12. This strong academic program offers Religion, Language Arts, Advanced Science, Calculus, Math, English, Social Studies, Spanish, Computer Technology, Speech, Band, Music, Art, and Physical Education. There are diverse activities, athletics, and fine arts programs available to all students. Sacred Heart is a member of the Nebraska School Activities Association, the Nebraska Pioneer Conference and the MU-DECAS Association. A variety of clubs and national organizations are available for students; among these are National Honor Society, Student Council and Helping Hands Service Club.

Sacred Heart operates on the generosity of many benefactors and assessments from the area parishes: Sts. Peter and Paul, Falls City; St. Mary, Dawson; St. Anne, Shubert; Immaculate Conception, Rulo; St. Mary, Arago. These funds, along with the Diocesan Good Shepherd and local Guardian Angel Scholarships, keep tuition affordable and allow Catholic education to be accessible to any family who desires it.

Sacred Heart welcomes and invites all families living in Falls City and the surrounding communities to find out more about our school; please call 402-245-4151 or visit our school website <http://fcsacred-heart.org> for more information.

W7 DESIGN COMPANY

STORE ADDRESS:
805 STONE ST FALLS CITY, NE 68355

PHONE: 402-245-4151
STORE: 402-245-4151

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EMAIL:
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E-mail: bharsin@amfam.com
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Christian Gift & Bookstore

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402-245-4922

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Dr. Steve Severin
Dr. Danelle Bauman - Cromer

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Fax: 245-3928 • Toll Free: 800-947-2127
e-mail: ahcfc@scentco.net

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PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Richardson, Nebraska will meet weekly for a regular meeting on Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m., Room 202 in the Richardson County Courthouse for the purpose of conducting any and all county business that will come before the Board. The agenda for the meetings are kept continuously current and are available for public inspection at the office of the Richardson County Clerk, Courthouse, Room 203, 1700 Stone Street, Falls City, NE during normal working hours. The agenda is closed 24 hours prior to the start of the meeting and is posted on the Commissioner's Meeting Room door, the 1st floor lobby and the Lower-Level lobby of the Courthouse and also on the Richardson County website www.richardsoncounty.ne.gov. The specific meeting dates are: July 22 and 29; August 5, 12, 19 and 26; September 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30; October 7, 14, 21 and 28; November 4—no meeting scheduled, Tuesday the 10th, Wednesdays the 18th and 25th; December 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30.

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

Mary L. Eickhoff
Richardson County Clerk

ZNEZ

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF RICHARDSON COUNTY, NEBRASKA
Estate of DAVID KEITH WHEELER, Deceased
Estate No. PR 26-35

Notice is hereby given that on the 24th day of July 2026, in the County Court of Richardson County, Nebraska, the Registrar issued an Order of Intestacy, Determination of Heirs, and Appointment of Personal Representative for the Estate of David Keith Wheeler, and that Ms. Jana L. Wheeler, whose address is: 64092 718 Road, Stella, Nebraska 68442, was informally appointed by the Registrar as Personal Representative of the Estate. Creditors of this Estate must file their claim(s) with this Court on or before the 29th day of September 2026 or be forever barred.

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

Angelo M. Ligouri (22926)
Ligouri Law Office
1118 15th Street
P.O. Box 99
Auburn, Nebraska 68305
Telephone:(402) 274-5484

29-5-12
ZNEZ

NOTICE

In the County Court of Richardson County, Nebraska
Estate of Wayne E. Strauss, Deceased
Estate Number: PR26-31

Notice is hereby given that on July 16th, 2026 in the County Court of Richardson County, Nebraska, Troy Lee Strauss was informally appointed as Personal Representative(s) of the Estate.

Creditors of this Estate must file their claims with this Court on or before September 22, 2026 or be forever barred.

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

Dylan L. Handley (24152)
Handley Law Office
217 E 18th Street
Falls City, NE 68355
Phone: (402) 245-3088
Fax: (402) 245-2664
Email: dylanlhandley@hotmail.com
Attorney for Applicant

29-5-12
ZNEZ

22-29-5
ZNEZ

NOTICE

In the County Court of Richardson County, Nebraska
Estate of Scot Hartman, Deceased
Estate Number: PR26-30

Notice is hereby given that on July 9th, 2026 in the County Court of Richardson County, Nebraska, Amanda Hartman was informally appointed as Personal Representative(s) of the Estate.

Creditors of this Estate must file their claims with this Court on or before September 22, 2026 or be forever barred.

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

Dylan L. Handley (24152)
Handley Law Office
217 E 18th Street
Falls City, NE 68355
Phone: (402) 245-3088
Fax: (402) 245-2664
Email: dylanlhandley@hotmail.com
Attorney for Applicant

22-29-5
ZNEZ

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF RICHARDSON COUNTY, NEBRASKA
Estate of John Lee Wilhelm, Deceased
Estate No. PR 26-32

Notice is hereby given that on the 16th day of July 2026, in the County Court of Richardson County, Nebraska, the Registrar issued an Order of Testacy, Determination of Heirs, and Appointment of Personal Representative for the Estate of John Lee Wilhelm, and that Ms. Lindsay Davis, whose address is: 2610 Schoenheit Street, Falls City, Nebraska 68355, was informally appointed by the Registrar as Personal Representative of the Estate. Creditors of this Estate must file their claim(s) with this Court on or before the 22nd day of September 2026 or be forever barred.

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

Angelo M. Ligouri (22926)
Ligouri Law Office
1118 15th Street
P.O. Box 99
Auburn, Nebraska 68305
Telephone:(402) 274-5484

22-29-5
ZNEZ

NOTICE OF INFORMAL PROBATE AND NOTICE TO ALL CREDITORS IN THE COUNTY COURT OF RICHARDSON COUNTY, NEBRASKA
Estate of Joe David Taylor, Deceased.
Estate No. PR26

Notice is hereby given that on July 24, 2026, in the County Court of Richardson County, Nebraska, the Registrar issued a written statement of Informal Probate of the Will of said Deceased and that Dawn M. Metschke, whose address is 63296 730 Road, Auburn, Nebraska 68305 has been appointed Personal Representative of this estate. Creditors of this estate must file their claims with this Court on or before September- 29, 2026 or be forever barred.

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

Tracy A. Burns, #25398
Michael R. Dunn, #16825
Halbert, Dunn & Burns, LLC
111 East 17th Street
Post Office Box 44 7
Falls City, Nebraska 68355-0447
Phone: (402) 245-4486

29-5-12
ZNEZ

NOTICE

In the County Court of Richardson County, Nebraska
Estate of David J. McPherson, Deceased
Estate Number: PR26-19

Notice is hereby given that on July 15th, 2026 in the County Court of Richardson County, Nebraska, Dylan L. Handley was appointed by the Court as Personal Representative(s) of the Estate.

Creditors of this Estate must file their claims with this Court on or before September 29, 2026 or be forever barred.

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

Dylan L. Handley (24152)
Handley Law Office
217 E 18th Street
Falls City, NE 68355
Phone: (402) 245-3088
Fax: (402) 245-2664
Email: dylanlhandley@hotmail.com
Attorney for Applicant

29-5-12
ZNEZ

NOTICE

In the County Court of Richardson County, Nebraska
Estate of Wayne E. Strauss, Deceased
Estate Number: PR26-31

Notice is hereby given that on July 16th, 2026 in the County Court of Richardson County, Nebraska, Troy Lee Strauss was informally appointed as Personal Representative(s) of the Estate.

Creditors of this Estate must file their claims with this Court on or before September 22, 2026 or be forever barred.

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

Dylan L. Handley (24152)
Handley Law Office
217 E 18th Street
Falls City, NE 68355
Phone: (402) 245-3088
Fax: (402) 245-2664
Email: dylanlhandley@hotmail.com
Attorney for Applicant

29-5-12
ZNEZ

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN in compliance with the provisions of Section 5 of 2023 Neb. Laws 243, that the Board of Education for Falls City Public Schools will meet on Monday, August 10th, 2026, at 7:00 P.M. in the Central Office in Falls City Middle School to discuss, consider and possibly vote to approve an increase to the school district's property tax request authority by an additional six percent, or other maximum amount as permitted by law, above the base growth percentage.

Dr. Andrew Offner
Superintendent, Falls City Public Schools
ZNEZ

Kyle Hilgenfeld
Board President
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: Paleovalley 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 Paleovalley 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 Paleovalley 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

NOTICE

In the County Court of Richardson County, Nebraska
Estate of Paul H. Benitz, Deceased
Estate Number: PR26-33

Notice is hereby given that on July 16th, 2026 in the County Court of Richardson County, Nebraska, Paula Kaslon was informally appointed as Personal Representative(s) of the Estate.

Creditors of this Estate must file their claims with this Court on or before September 22, 2026 or be forever barred.

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

Dylan L. Handley (24152)
Handley Law Office
217 E 18th Street
Falls City, NE 68355
Phone: (402) 245-3088
Fax: (402) 245-2664
Email: dylanlhandley@hotmail.com
Attorney for Applicant

22-29-5
ZNEZ

Public Meeting Notice
Board of Education District #70

Notice is hereby given that a regular board meeting of the Board of Education of the Humboldt Table Rock Steinauer School District #70 will be held at 7:00 PM on Monday, August 10th, 2026 in the Conference Room. The purpose of such meeting is to do regular business. A current agenda is available at the Superintendent's Office.

Dr. Andrew Offner
Superintendent, Falls City Public Schools
ZNEZ

Kyle Hilgenfeld
Board President
ZNEZ

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING – Regular Meeting

Monday, August 10th at 7:00 PM

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Regular Board meeting of the Falls City Board of Education for District No. 74 – 0056 will be held on Monday, August 10th, 2026, at 7:00 P.M. in the Central Office in Falls City Middle School. This meeting is open to the public.

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

Dr. Andrew Offner
Superintendent, Falls City Public Schools
ZNEZ

RICHARDSON COUNTY EMPLOYEES/OFFICIALS SALARIES AS OF JULY 1, 2026 Pursuant to NE Rev. State Statute 23-122.

The listing below are the current salaries of the positions held by employees of Richardson County as of July 1, 2026, which the County Board of Commissioners are required to publish between July 15 and August 15 of each year. Records are kept current at the County Clerk's office.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

District 1.....\$36,743.70 Annual
District 2.....\$36,743.70 Annual
District 3.....\$36,743.70 Annual

COUNTY CLERK/REGISTER OF DEEDS/ ELECTION COMM.

.....\$76,487.30 Annual
Deputy County Clerk.....\$28.25 Hour
Deputy Register of Deeds..\$28.25 Hour
Deputy of Elections.....\$28.85 Hour

COUNTY TREASURER

.....\$73,487.30 Annual
Deputy County Treasurer \$28.25 Hour
Chief Clerical.....\$22.00 Hour
Regular Clerical.....\$20.00 Hour

COUNTY ASSESSOR

.....\$73,487.30 Annual
Deputy County Assessor..\$28.25 Hour
Regular Appraiser.....\$22.44 Hour

CLERK OF DISTRICT COURT

.....\$73,487.30 Annual
Deputy Clerk of District Court.....\$28.25 Hour

COUNTY ATTORNEY

.....\$95,533.55 Annual
Deputy County Attorney.....\$76,426.74 Annual
Part-time Attorney..\$70,000.00 Annual
Clerical.....\$28.00 Hour
Part-time Clerical.....\$19.00 Hour

LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER,

.....\$84,510.45 Annual
Chief Deputy Sheriff.....\$34.49 Hour
Sergeant.....\$33.22 Hour
Deputy with 4+ years experience.....\$32.15 Hour
Deputy with 3+ years experience.....\$31.52 Hour
Deputy with 2 years experience.....\$30.57 Hour
Deputy with 1 year experience.....\$28.40 Hour
Jail Administrator.....\$24.00 Hour
Jail Supervisor.....\$22.00 Hour
Jailers.....\$20.00-21.00 Hour
Dispatch (Day) Director.....\$27.00 Hour
Dispatchers.....\$20.00-25.00 Hour
Administrative Assistant...\$25.00 Hour

HUMBOLDT LAW ENFORCEMENT CONTRACT

Deputy.....\$32.15 Hour

COUNTY SURVEYOR

.....\$15,882.00 Annual

VETERAN'S SERVICE OFFICER

.....\$30.00 Hour
Regular Clerical.....\$23.55 Hour

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Director.....\$71,089.46 Annual
Deputy.....\$23.35 Hour
EMA Specialist II.....\$17.00 Hour
EMA Specialist I.....\$15.50 Hour

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

Regular Clerical.....\$18.31 Hour

COURTHOUSE MAINTENANCE

Custodian.....\$23.35 Hour
Seasonal.....\$15.50 Hour

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Highway Superintendent.....\$70,227.04 Annual
Road Foreman.....\$27.11 Hour
Regular Clerical.....\$19.00 Hour
Mechanic.....\$20.67 Hour
Welder.....\$20.41 Hour
Operator: Equip., Maintainer, Dragline.....\$20.41 Hour
Truck Driver.....\$20.26 Hour
Laborer.....\$20.26 Hour
Sign Employee.....\$20.26 Hour
Seasonal Equipment Operator.....\$20.41 Hour

John Caverzagie, Chairman
Richardson County Board of Commissioners

Mary L. Eickhoff
Richardson County Clerk

5
ZNEZ

PUBLIC NOTICE

The U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA) is considering a request for Federal assistance from The City of Falls City to construct an electrical substation for their Energy Forward Transmission Substation Project in Falls City, Richardson County, Nebraska. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), EDA is conducting an assessment of the potential of the proposed project to affect the environment and/or historic properties. Notice is hereby given that the project is proposed to be located in, or may affect, a floodplain and/or wetland as defined by Executive Order (EO) 11988 and/or EO 11990.

The substation for the Energy Forward Transmission Substation Project will be located on the south side of West 14th Street/706 Road on City of Falls City Property (40°03'25.2"N 95°36'54.6"W) approximately 1,000 feet west of the Union Pacific rail line. The purpose of the project is to build a substation that supports electrical redundancy and resilience for Falls City Utilities. The Project will be located adjacent to the floodplain because this is the most cost-effective location for Falls City Utility rate payers and is the recommendation of engineering professionals after evaluation of multiple sites. The mechanisms to be utilized to mitigate the impacts of the EDA Project will be the engineering of an appropriate foundational structure. The site is unencumbered by the threat of flooding and the foundation will be sufficiently engineered mitigating any flooding risks. Project information is available for review at the office of Falls City EDGE, 1705 Stone St., Falls City, NE 68355, and 402-245-2105.

If you have any information regarding potential environmental impacts associated with this proposed project, please provide it in writing to:

Environmental Compliance
Review Officer
US Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
Denver Region
drfeto@eda.gov
(206) 450-8251

Comments received in the EDA Regional Office by 5:00 pm on September 3, 2026 will be considered. A copy of the NEPA/NHPA decisional.

5
ZNEZ

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

RICHARDSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
JULY 22, 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 22, 2026. Roll call was answered by Campbell and Caverzagie. Commissioner Karas was absent. The Invocation was given by Chairman Caverzagie and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Campbell. Chairman Caverzagie announced that the open meeting laws have been posted at the entrance to the meeting room. A motion was made by Caverzagie to approve the minutes of the July 15, 2026, meeting as presented. Motion seconded by Campbell. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-absent, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Caverzagie to approve the minutes of the Board of Equalization meeting of July 15, 2026, as presented. Motion seconded by Campbell. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-absent, 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-absent, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. The agenda is posted at the Richardson County Courthouse in the First Floor Lobby, the Lower-Level Lobby and on the Commissioner's Meeting Room door on the 2nd Floor and on the Richardson County website www.richardsoncounty.ne.gov.

LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER

Sheriff Hardesty updated the Board on the routine business within the Law Enforcement Center this past week. There are 16 inmates currently being held in the jail. The Jail Standards will be conducting the annual jail inspection on September 10. Sheriff Hardesty also reported that 2 deputies will be completing their training at the Law Enforcement Academy on August 20.

Discussion was held on the purchase of a patrol unit and the Board will consider this request at a later meeting after reviewing the proposed budget document.

Maintenance of the Law Enforcement Center was discussed and the Sheriff reported that cleaning duties are usually done by selected inmates and that a current staff member of the Law Enf Center also assists with maintenance items throughout the work week.

BRIAN KIRKENDALL, EMA DIRECTOR

EMA Director, Brian Kirkendall, met with the Board to discuss the procedure to offer for sale a surplus large

format printer that the EMA office has on their inventory.

Motion was made by Campbell to authorize the sale of the surplus large format printer on the auction site, gov. deals. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-absent, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

SENCA

Sherry Huddleston, Family Development Specialist, SENCA Falls City Outreach office presented to the Board an update on the activity with the organization and how many persons have been served with the programs available.

HOUSE OF HOPE

Sherry Huddleston, representing the House of Hope, informed the Board of the progress of the organization. A request is being made from the County's receipt of OPIOID settlement funds to assist with the organization and it's program.

The Board suggested that a formal letter be presented to the Board with the request and how these funds would be utilized to be in accordance with the OPIOID settlement agreements and the remediation uses.

FC EDGE

Lucas Froeschl, Director of the Falls City Economic Development & Growth Enterprise presented to the Board the quarterly report of the organization and updated them on the current activity with projects.

CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER

Mileage Reimbursement Resolution

Motion was made by Caverzagie to adopt Resolution 2026-2027-2 regarding the rate of mileage reimbursement per NE Dept of Administrative Services, from 72.5 cents/mile to .76 cents/mile. Motion seconded by Campbell. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-absent, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. (Resolution Book 29, Page 5)

Subdivision

Motion was made by Caverzagie to approve a subdivision for Peggy L and Jim D. Easternwood located in S18, T2, R14 and to adopt Resolution 2026-2027-3. Motion seconded by Campbell. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-absent, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. (Resolution Book 29, Page 6)

CLAIMS

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

159 Lumber, supp.....110.69
Amazon, supp.....522.67
AT&T, serv.....1012.23
Capital Business, serv.....400.00
CMC, serv.....5000.00
DAS State Accounting, serv.....493.50
Dollar General, supp.....17.55
Falls City Mercantile, supp.....255.68
Farm & City Supply, supp.....12.49
First Concord, fees.....592.50
Galls, supp.....420.84
Handley, Dylan, serv.....200.00
IAO Electric, serv.....90.00
Idemia, fees.....2917.00
Jones Air Conditioning, supp...279.00
KexRx, supp.....876.35
KS HCI Haug Communications, serv.....135.50
Mellage, Mary, serv.....100.00
Medica, ins.....71941.42
Miller Farrell Ins., ins.....190662.40
NE Assoc. of Extension Boards, dues.....100.00
NE Dept. of Health & Human Services, serv.....90.00
NE Law Enforcement Training Center, fees.....150.00
Nestor & Mercure, serv.....9333.33
OPPD, serv.....33.12
ProServ Business Systems, serv.....266.48
Ram Exterminators, serv.....48.00
Richardson County Vendor, FICA/retire/etc.....23653.55
Sapp Bros., fuel.....5057.68
SE NE Development Dist., dues.....6634.00
Summit Fire Protection, serv.....837.75
Tichy Land Survey, serv.....1007.35
Visual Edge, serv.....235.90
Weaver & Merz, reimb.....901.94
Payroll Expense.....118020.19
TOTAL GENERAL FUND \$442,409.11

ROAD & BRIDGE FUND

Black Hills Energy, serv.....49.80
City of Humboldt, serv.....89.76
Falls City Auto Supply, supp.....31.49
Farm & City Supply, supp.....1068.19
Grainger, supp.....976.20
Tire Cutters, serv.....25754.23
Martin Marietta Materials, rock.....28543.50
Miller Farrell Ins., ins.....153164.00
NPPD, serv.....110.52
Operation & Expense Account, reimb.....300.62
Payroll Expense.....36172.36
TOTAL ROAD & BRIDGE FUND\$246,260.67

DRUG COURT FUND

Hawkins, Seth, serv.....1300.00
Morrissey, Morrissey & Dalluge, serv.....1300.00
TOTAL DRUG COURT FUND.....\$2,600.00

INHERITANCE TAX FUND

County Treasurer, contribution.....10173.08
TOTAL INHERITANCE TAX FUND\$10,173.08

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Caverzagie to adjourn the meeting at 11:37 a.m. Motion seconded by Campbell. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-absent, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. The Board will meet again on Wednesday, July 22, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. for the next regular weekly meeting in the Commissioner's Meeting Room, Courthouse, Falls City. The agenda is kept current at the County Clerk's Office.

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



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IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING

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SURGERY NURSE: Full-Time position working 4 days a week with 6-8 nights On-Call per month. Current KS RN license is required. Responsible for scrub, pre-/post-op and circulating duties. Experience preferred, but on the job training available.

SURGICAL SCRUB TECH: Full-Time position working 36-40 hours a week with 6-8 nights On-Call per month. Responsible for assisting the surgeon with procedures in a safe and aseptic environment, along with decontamination & sterilization processes. Experience preferred, but on the job training available.

SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST: Part-Time position working 32 hours a week. Current KS SLP license is required. Responsible for evaluation, diagnosis and treatment of speech, language, communications and swallowing disorders.

PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSISTANT: Full-Time position working 40 hours a week. Current KS PTA license is required. Responsible for the application of physical therapy procedures as directed by the Physical Therapist.

RADIOLOGY OR MRI TECHNOLOGIST: Full-Time or Part-Time position with approx. 6 nights On-Call per month. Responsible for performing radiology exams as directed by practitioners to provide data for diagnosis, treatment and prevention of disease. Additional modalities a plus. Must have a Kansas LRT.

HOUSEKEEPER: Full-Time position working 36-40 hours per week, including every 4th Sat & Sun morning. Previous experience preferred but not necessary. Responsible for cleaning and servicing assigned areas. Possibility of cross-training in other departments.

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Seeking Bids: Furniture & Equipment for New 2 Class Room
Child Care/Early Learning Center

The Sac and Fox Nation of Missouri in Kansas and Nebraska is requesting quotes/seeking to purchase Full Setup of Furniture & Equipment for New 2 Class Room Child Care/Early Learning Center. To request the RFP packet, or to submit questions in writing, email Kevin Burnison, Executive Director, kevin.burnison@sacandfoxks.com. The RFP packet can be picked up at the Sac and Fox Tribal Administrative Office, 305 N. Main Street, Reserve, KS or requested via phone at (785)742-7471 Ext 2500. Responses can be either hand delivered, emailed, or US mailed, received at the Sac and Fox Nation of Missouri in Kansas and Nebraska, 305 North Main Reserve, KS 66434 no later than 2 PM Thursday, August 20, 2026. Emailed submittals will be accepted at: kevin.burnison@sacandfoxks.com Native American preference is given.

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VILLAGE OF RULO

Village of Rulo

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Advanced notice of public meet-
ing provided to the public by 2:00PM
on Monday, July 13, 2026 at the Rulo
Library, Swingin' Doors and Wild Bill's
Tuesday, July 14, 2026 at Rulo Library
at 6:00 PM

Board Chairperson, Rebecca Sim-
monds, called the meeting to order at
6:02PM. Roll call - PRESENT: Rebecca
Simmonds, Regina Barber, Todd
Thompson, Mike Keller and Clerk, Ra-
chel Jean; ABSENT: Kraig Coonce

A motion was made by Keller and
seconded by Thompson to approve the
June meeting minutes. Roll - AYE: Keller,
Thompson, Barber, Simmonds. Motion
carried.

The Open Meetings Act announce-
ment was made.

Jan Price, owner of Swingin' Doors,
appeared before the Board to discuss
approval of Swingin' Doors Saloon LLC
as a sales outlet for Keno. R. Jean
reported that Four Sons is ready to
install equipment as soon as applica-
tion is approved. A motion was made
by Thompson and seconded by Barber
to approve the location as a sales out-
let for Keno in the Village. Roll - AYE:
Thompson, Barber, Keller, Simmonds.
Motion carried.

Thompson moved to pass Reso-
lution 072026-01 to waive connection
fees for property owners that have wa-
ter meter pits for other residences on
their property. That action was second-
ed by Keller. Roll - AYE: Thompson,
Keller, Barber, Simmonds. Resolution
passed.

R. Jean presented Fire House se-
curity concerns to the Board. Action to
be taken as approved under current
purchase policy.

The Board discussed a request
from Rulo Fire to purchase a Multi-Gas
detection unit. The Board was informed
the City of Falls City uses a more so-
phisticated device that requires calibra-
tion and there should be consideration
given to liability issues if a detector
does not function properly. No action
taken.

A motion was made by Barber and
seconded by Keller to accept the 2026
Budget Proposal from Robert W. Aitken,
CPA. Roll - AYE: Barber, Keller,
Thompson, Simmonds. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Thompson
and seconded by Keller to approve the
2026 salaries as presented. Roll
- AYE: Thompson, Keller, Barber, Sim-
monds. Motion carried and list will be
published pursuant to Neb Rev. Stat.
19-1102.

R. Jean reported the 2026 Miles
Lane Report has been completed and

submitted with no changes.
R. Jean delivered information from
EMA regarding emergency siren con-
cerns from the storms in early June. No
action necessary.

R. Jean reported that we are still
waiting on the dates for water tower
maintenance to be completed by Vi-
king. No action necessary.

A motion was made by Barber and
seconded by Keller for the following:
\$10,000 from the Roads account to
be placed in a 6-month CD with F&M
Bank per rates reviewed. \$30,000 from
the Keno account to be placed into a
6-month \$15,000 CD with F&M Bank
and a 12-month \$15,000 CD with F&M
Bank. Motion includes granting Clerk
all necessary powers to complete
transactions listed. Roll - AYE: Barber,
Keller, Thompson, Simmonds. Motion
carried.

R. Popejoy reported on various
road improvements approved through
a previous motion to ensure continu-
ous work.

A motion was made by Barber and
seconded by Thompson to approve
painting the Library in preparation of
priming the building. Roll - AYE: Bar-
ber, Thompson, Keller, Simmonds. Mo-
tion carried.

R. Jean reported May Keno totaled
\$3,075.92 and 15 accounts are pend-
ing disconnection for water bills.

A motion was made by Thompson
and seconded by Keller to approve July
claims. Roll - AYE: Thompson, Keller,
Barber, Simmonds. Motion carried.

GENERAL - Grey Snow \$55.00
(svcs), OPPD \$994.91 (electricity),
SNC \$51.41 (phone/internet), FC Jour-
nal \$24.84 (publications), Hometown
Lumber \$22.98 (supplies), Shawn
Thompson \$120.00 (svcs), US Treas-
ury \$2063.34 (payroll tax), NE Dept
of Revenue \$218.87 (payroll tax),
True Ag & Turf \$247.43 (parts), payroll
\$2749.46

ROADS - Grandview Oil \$285.50
(fuel), Falls City Auto Supply \$123.82
(supplies), Bletscher Trucking
\$2248.40 (svcs), Whetrock Quarry
\$4972.80 (gravel), Rutana Tire and
Service \$464.40 (equip. repair)

WATER - NE Dept of Revenue
\$32.88 (sales tax), City of Falls City
\$3431.50 (water), Wolfe's Printing
\$23.00 (office supplies), NE Public
Health Env Lab \$15.00 (sample test-
ing)

KENO - NE Charitable Gaming
\$2495.22 (Keno tax)

CEMETERY - 4B Lawncare LLC
\$1950.00 (June cemetery mowing)

A motion was made by Thompson
and seconded by Keller to adjourn
the meeting at 7:25PM. Roll - AYE:
Thompson, Keller, Barber, Simmonds.
Motion carried.

ZNEZ

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 24 mins.

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EKE SNOWGLOBE
SADATNIT
BELANEWSY
SHESGONE RARE
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Beilke earns National recognition

Vicki (Hall) Beilke of Stella, Neb., was recently honored at the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) International Convention in June in Scottsdale, Arizona. Beilke received the Jennie award for her commitment to community service.

The GFWC Jennie Award honors one clubwoman from each of the eight regions for outstanding commitment to club, community, and family. They are chosen by their clubs to compete at state, region, and national levels for the Federation's highest honor.

The Jennie Award is named after Jane Cunningham Croly, the founder of GFWC who worked as a journalist using the pen name "Jennie June." The women honored with this award are a true reflection of the spirit of GFWC's founder, whose independence and courage led her to form the General Federation of Women's Clubs in 1890. As the only award at the Federation level that recognizes individuals for their service, it is truly the highest honor a clubwoman can receive.

Much like Jennie June, these women are committed to improving the lives of those around them. They live and breathe volunteer service, and are completely devoted to their clubs, communities, and families.

Although GFWC has many awards for states and clubs, the GFWC Jennie Award is the only national honor that recognizes individual members for personal excellence.

Beilke represented the Mississippi River Valley region. She has been a member of the GFWC/NFWC for 52 years following in the footsteps of her mother, Nadine. Vicki has been the president of the Stella Research Club for 25 years, is in her third term as the District 1 President in Nebraska and has chaired statewide club committees.

Vicki has coordinated many service projects for both local and statewide events. She also leads the local Legion Auxiliary, serves in several leadership positions in the Stella Community Church, has served on the local town board and commit-

tees, is an officer on the Stella Cemetery board and the Stella Garden Club, and assists with local Veterans Day and Memorial Day programs, local holiday youth events, and the maintenance of the Stella Arboretum and Memorial Rose Garden.

In addition, she has organized several public forums on current events such electoral college information and the U.S. Supreme Court. Under her leadership, the local GFWC regularly contributes to many charities through volunteer work, monetary contributions, and donations of food, clothing, and children's supplies. Beilke belongs to the Stella Garden Club and assists with the greenhouse projects.

She can be counted on to organize and lead community service projects. She has been especially focused on supporting the Child Savings Institute in recent years through her club and church efforts as she was adopted from that organization at the age of two months by Stanley and Nadine Hall of Stella, Nebraska.

Also, Beilke has led the Stella Research Club for many years, served on the church councils of both the Shubert Christian Church and the Stella Community Church. She has also led the church's women's group, oversees Christmas activities, and directs and hosts the church's very successful annual fundraiser. Beilke served on the Stella Town Board for ten years and is a member of the Stella Cemetery Association. And don't let the kids know, but she has been the Easter bunny for many years. Finally, she chairs the Southeast Nebraska School alumni group.

Helping others has been a very rewarding calling for her and she was deeply honored to receive this recognition. Beilke commented.



Pictured are back row L-R, Monica Lechtenberg, RN, Elisa Mount, Elizabeth Maxwell, Lilly Popejoy, RN, Marcia Harmon, RN. Front row left to right – Rory Casey and Violet Mount.

Town and Country 4-H club makes donation

Submitted

A big shout out to Town and Country 4-H for all your hard work to help members of our communities.

The club has donated catheter bag covers so our registered nurse patient care manager can distribute them to the medical clinics and hospital in Richardson County.

These bags will give a person privacy, conceal the collection bag, prevent skin irritation, and increase mobility. The bags can be washed, dried and reused. This useful bag can give the people who must use catheters bags more confidence and dignity to continue to live their lives to the fullest.

One of our local nurses asked 4-H club leader and longtime CMC and Family

Medicine Clinic employee, Vicky Yoesel, if the club would be interested in making fabric catheter bags with elastic tops. The club enthusiastically said yes, and the nurse donated the supplies for the project.

During three weeks of weekly two-hour meetings the club made 10 bags. The 4H'ers learned to iron, measure with a ruler, cut fabric with a rotary cutter, pin material, and sew with a machine and by hand. With each bag, their skills improved and they gained confidence in their abilities. This also gave the members, their parents, and club leader some time together to work on this project.

This will be an ongoing project for the club when there is a need for the bags.

3/1/1992 - 8/1/2000

Kelly Wiltsie

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and memories a lane, I'd
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