

Falls City JOURNAL

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Falls City, Nebraska

Tuesday, March 3, 2015

Would you believe that we read both the Omaha and Lincoln newspapers Monday and didn't see a single word written about the Keystone Pipeline?

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD SHAWN FOURAKER

Photo by Jason Schock



This is the Sixth and final article in a series of features the Falls City Journal published about the winners of the Jaycees Distinguished Service Awards.

'Jack of all trades'

By Nikki McKim

This year's Distinguished Service Award winner, Shawn Fouraker is truly a "Jack of all trades, master of plenty."

Shawn has been a dedicated and important part of the Falls City Jaycees for the last 12 years. He was president for two years working tirelessly for the new Jaycee's Arena that opened south of Falls City in 2011.

The future of the Falls City Area Jaycees Demolition Derby and Tractor Pull was questionable only four short years ago when the traditional site for the events became unavailable.

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WEEZY DOES IT!



Falls City High senior guard Weston "Weezy" Witt drives through the Boys Town defense and drops in the game-winning shot with 1.9 seconds remaining to lift the State Tourney-bound Tigers to a thrilling 50-48 victory over Boys Town last night in the Class C1-1 District Final Monday at Nebraska City High School. The 22-3 Tigers return to the state tourney in back-to-back seasons for the first time since World War II. They are expected to be a No. 5 seed and play Columbus Scotus at 3:45 p.m. Thursday, March 12, at the Devaney Center.

Photos by Jason Schock

Contents

Four arrests made in connection with thefts at Golf Club

Four Falls City citizens have been formally charged with felonies in connection with the thefts of batteries at the golf cart sheds at the FC Golf Club.

Joshua Choate, 27, currently faces five felonies related to thefts - both at the FCGC and at a residence at 2302 Schoenheit St. He is expected back in Court March 28 for a preliminary hearing on four counts of Class III Felony Burglary, and theft by receiving stolen property, a Class IV Felony.

Authorities allege Brian McFeeters, 26, Leann Willets, 41, both of FC, and Amber Barr, 31, of Verdon, all assisted Choate in the battery thefts. McFeeters and Willets are each charged with three felony counts of aiding and abetting. McFeeters is expected to be arraigned in District Court today; Willets' preliminary hearing is set for March 16. Barr has a preliminary hearing on a felony count of theft by receiving stolen property (\$500-\$1,500) set for March 11.

RC Deputy Sheriff Roland Merwin headed the investigation leading to the arrests.

Six batteries were taken from the shed of Linda Jones, who reported property damage of nearly \$1,400. More than \$1,000 damage was incurred by Golf Club shed renters Jim Mullins and Chuck Bennett, and Gary Liberty also reported a theft from his shed.



FC North and South School P.E. teacher Joe Dunn, far right, with the help of Partners In Education, directed 15th annual Jump/Hoops for Heart event and raised more than \$6,000 - twice as much as any previous year.

Jump/Hoops nets more than \$6,000

Falls City Public Schools elementary physical education instructor Joe Dunn and his students have participated in the Jump/Hoops for Heart 15 consecutive years, but until now never raised more than \$3,000 for the American Heart Association. This year, with the help of Partners In Education, though, they more than doubled that target, raising just over \$6,010!

"I thanked all the parents, Kristen Poppe and the P.I.E. helpers, and participants, not only for collecting this year, but for all the years in the past. A startling fact is that in the 15 years of hosting the event in Falls City, we have never raised under \$3,000," Dunn said. "I believe this says great things about the people in Falls City and the people who donate to this great cause."

"Next year it would be awesome if we could have even more parent volunteers to help," Dunn said.

More than 125 students — from Kindergarten through sixth grade — signed up and many of them made it to the event. All kids attending the event received this year's "Lifesaver Duck," compliments of the AHA.

Ella Glathar was the top hoops collector, with \$250, and Delaney Godeman was the top jump collector with \$350.

"Jump and Hoops for Heart is successful because of all the good people in our community who donate to a wonderful cause," Dunn said. "I want to personally thank everyone who competed or donated. We will

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Lacey Licka

Your glorious sunsets!

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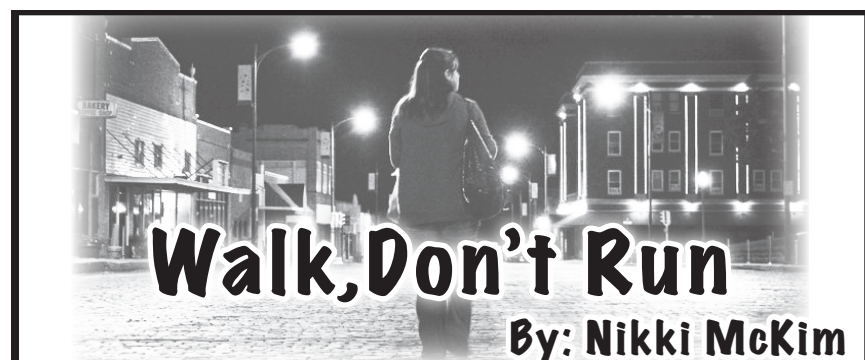
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Last week an unaffiliated Baptist “church” protested a couple of schools in our area. The *Falls City Journal* received the press release directly from this group over a week before the scheduled protest. We often receive the press releases letting us know their agenda. When I received my first correspondence from them nearly five years ago, I was quite jarred. The reasons for their anger and protest were insane to me (and most everyone else). I studied it, got incredibly angry and took it to my editor-Jason. He didn’t read it or mince words when he told me that *The Journal* would not give them the time of day or space in the paper. It was then and there I realized how brilliant of a strategy that was.

What this group does is show up on the front steps of our tragedies, schools or businesses to protest something as minor as being a teenager. They hold up signs that are deeply offensive and shout out all the reasons they think God hates us and what we’re doing. What often happens is a counter protest with signs of our own that we hope will offend them or convince them that they are wrong. Many will take photos of their protests while others will write about them in newspapers or online.

Now imagine if nobody covered them at all. What if all news outlets ignored their press releases and nobody shared their photos on Facebook or Twitter. What if we just ignored them and walked on by as if they weren’t even there? No photos, no response at all – just complete and total acceptance. Then what? Would they continue on the path they’re on if they knew they wouldn’t be heard by anyone? If they knew that nobody really listened to their “message?”

What’s happening now is exactly what they want. I have an incredibly hard time with their group and their message. In fact a few years ago while I was in Denver, I came face to face with their group and others whose only mission was to get someone like me to respond negatively - I did. I got angry and in a pack of thousands of people I was the only idiot who fell into their trap – yelling and cussing at them. They loved it; they got a reaction out of me. While I so enjoyed the things I said to them, I am ashamed that I reacted exactly the way they wanted. I, out of thousands of people huddled together was the one who “broke” so to speak.

The moment Jason told me to ignore them, they have ceased to exist. Until they pop up in my office. It’s easy to ignore them until they are right there in front of you.

But, I did decide that they are no longer a group of people I will devote any more of my life or anger to. Now I know someone is reading this saying, “You’re devoting time and space in the paper to them right now.” That is true but it’s only because I want to really drive home the idea of ignoring this group if they come into our area. What happened last week and in the days leading up to their protest was exactly what they wanted. Media outlets covered them, discussing what actions should be taken and what we should all do, and somewhere they were online reading everything that was being said and loving every second of it. They knew they were getting a reaction and getting people riled up.

I’ve been asked a few times in recent days if *The Journal* would be covering it or why we didn’t cover it. I can’t speak for the others who work here but I imagine the answer to “Will you guys cover them?” will always be a hard “No.” We will not give them the satisfaction of seeing themselves in this paper. They are not worth the time or trouble.

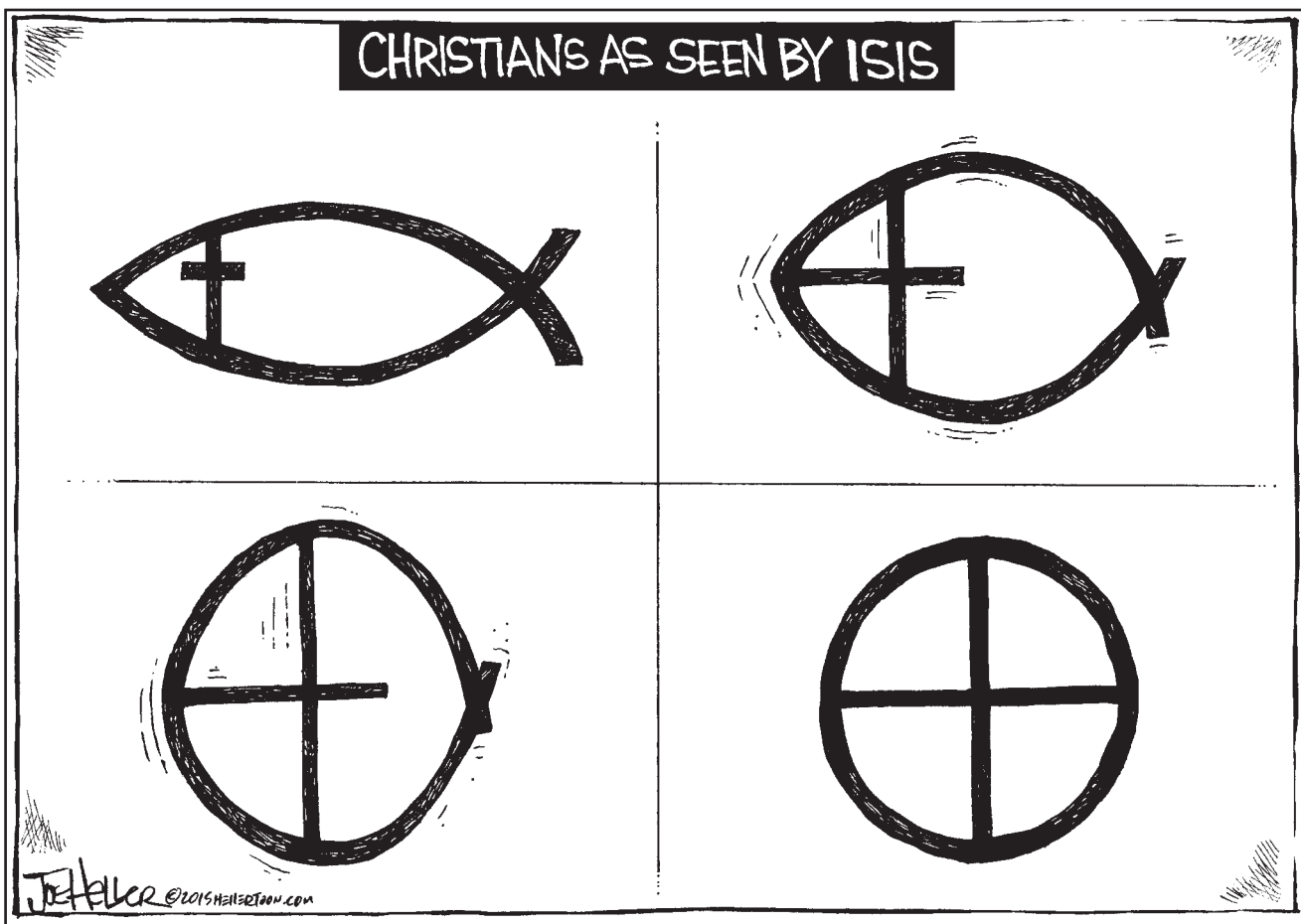
We share one major first amendment right; “Congress shall make no law...abridging (limiting) the freedom of speech, or of the press...” Freedom of speech is the liberty to speak openly without fear of government restraint. It is closely linked to freedom of the press because this freedom includes both the right to speak and the right to be heard. In the United States, both the freedom of speech and freedom of press are commonly called freedom of expression. Therefore they may choose to protest and we may choose to ignore that fact.

This group has made their way into Falls City but I only remember them being here one time and that was because I physically saw them with my own two eyes. If they had been here any other time, I’m not aware of it. That shows what the power of press and news media is capable of. It wasn’t acknowledged at all and that’s the way it should always be.

The point of this column was to let readers know this is why we didn’t cover their recent events. They can email us, call us or fax us practically begging us to pay attention to them but we won’t.

It reminds me of the Simpson’s episode when Springfield’s advertising statues come to life to terrorize the town. Lisa goes to the ad agency that created the advertising characters, and an executive suggests the citizens stop paying attention to the monsters as they are advertising gimmicks, and attention is what keeps them motivated. Lisa and Paul Anka later perform a catchy song (“Just Don’t Look”) and the citizens of Springfield stop looking at the monsters, who lose their powers and become lifeless. The end.

Just don’t look, take away their power by not paying attention. Life is too short to waste on such hate.



Lawmakers Just Say “No” to Needless Legislation

Capitol View
By J.L. Schmidt
Statehouse Correspondent
The Nebraska Press Association

There is such a thing as a needless bill. And then, there’s a needless bill with an estimated \$1 million price tag. Fortunately, Nebraska lawmakers voted to table the voter photo ID bill for the remainder of the 2015 session.

In “bracketing” the bill (LB111) until consideration on the final day, the officially non-partisan Nebraska unicameral stopped the Republican Party’s goal of a requirement that voters must show government-issued photo IDs. Supporters say it’s important to prevent voter fraud. Opponents suggest the real motivation is to further disenfranchise people groups who tend to vote for Democrats.

Nebraska is a predominantly Republican state. There have been no reported cases of voter fraud in the state. Proponents said everyone who wants to vote would be issued a free photo ID. The fiscal note attached to the bill for that provision would be about \$1 million. So let’s recap: Republicans already have the edge on votes; there have been no reported cases of voter fraud; to make the bill happen would cost \$1 million.

Freshman lawmaker Sen. Adam Morfeld of Lincoln said the bill would place a burden on a fundamental constitutional right to vote. Freshman Sen. Brett Lindstrom of Omaha said the measure is fiscally irresponsible. Freshman Sen. John McCollister of Omaha said voter fraud is not a problem in Nebraska. Lindstrom and McCollister are both Republicans and were joined by 10 other Republicans in voting to table the bill. The final vote, 25 to 15 to NOT do something stupid.

In a second breath of fresh air, a legislative committee voted NOT to advance a proposal to the full Legislature that would have allowed Nebraska bars to stay open 24/7. The General Affairs Committee, chaired by Sen. Tyson Larson of O’Neill, said NO to Larson’s proposal, which would have been part of an omnibus liquor bill. Larson had said the elimination of “last call” would keep bars from dumping too many people in the street all at once.

Bar owners and law enforcement agencies have spoken out against the proposal. Lincoln Police have installed cameras at a busy downtown intersection to monitor the activity of people from a cluster of bars and have found no major concerns over the swell of people from closing time. Bar owners obviously struggle with staffing and cleanup and maintenance if the doors never close.

Omaha Sen. Bob Krist probably summed it up best when he questioned whether lawmakers should have the no-last-call conversation this year, “or we should ever have it in this millennium.”

Larson said he’d wait to try the measure again after the next election (in two years) with a new batch of lawmakers.

The bill (LB330), sans the 24/7 option, would also: motivate people

to use locally grown beer ingredients; to allow bars to sell growlers of beer brewed elsewhere; and to eliminate a requirement that filings to the Liquor Control Commission be made in triplicate. Those items were previously included in other bills.

In addition, the committee advanced a bill (LB460) by Sen. Jeremy Nordquist of Omaha to allow drinking on pedal pubs, or beer bikes. The bike owners would need to be licensed and serve drinks in opaque containers with unique logos.

The committee removed a major piece of that bill, a provision that would have allowed the Liquor Control Commission to regulate buses and limousines that allow alcohol on board. A Nebraska Wesleyan student who had been on a so-called party bus last year was killed when he wandered away from the bus and was hit by a car while walking along the Interstate.

Well snap, I guess you can’t always regulate stupid.

NOTE: J.L. Schmidt has been a registered non-partisan for 16 years. He also operated a bar and restaurant in a college town (Peru) 40 years ago.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THEME: March Madness

ACROSS

- Tire pattern
- Small lump
- Confidence trick
- Blood line
- Hockey legend
- With ample space
- Full of vigor
- Bearded antelope
- Deserving of respect?
- “Frozen” song
- Final Four destination
- Bird word
- Result of tying
- Gastrointestinal tract
- Type of word
- Overthrow
- All over again
- Harry Potter’s mark
- Plural of pileus
- Sorvino
- North Pole workers
- Precedes “pong”
- Our mother?
- de-camp
- *ESPN analyst and former coach Greenberg
- As opposed to federal
- Chronic drinkers
- Movie theater candy
- Do this upon a star
- Also
- *Do you fill this out?
- *16, e.g.
- Dough or cabbage
- American Nurses Association
- Critically
- Early anesthetic
- Tolstoy’s given name in Russian
- Tsar’s edict
- Sound of relief
- Pilot’s deadline
- Avatar’s creator

DOWN

- *Profile of most NCAA March stars
- Profligate
- At a previous time, archaic
- V.C. Andrews’ “Flowers in the _____”
- *Host of 2015 First Four play-in games
- Canceled
- Mantel piece
- *Mascot of #29 Down
- Musical compositions for one
- Musical finale
- End of grace
- Gore Vidal’s “— Breckinridge”
- High quality hay for cattle
- *If it’s good for the —, it’s good for the gander*
- 1990s catchword
- Puck, “that shrewd and — sprite”
- *8 of these in Sweet 16
- Uniate, alternative spelling
- It can be firma or incognita
- *School with most titles
- Hearts and diamonds, e.g.
- Applied, as in one’s trade
- Slow, musically
- *Elite number
- W on a bulb
- Do over
- Brief fight
- Street salesman
- Tall tale
- Woodlouse
- Like old cracker
- Japanese port
- *What the ref did to his whistle
- Babe
- Advil target
- Captain and his party
- Mount Vesuvius output
- Dutch cheese
- *Or —!
- Textile worker
- *Winners’ memento

CROSSWORD													
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GUEST EDITORIAL

Legislature opts to fund seven big schools, let property owners pay for the other 181

By Tim Heckenlively
Falls City Public Schools Supt.

Though more than half of our Falls City Public School children live in poverty, nearly 80 percent of them meet or exceed state reading standards and score significantly higher on the ACT than do their Nebraska peers, yet the legislature has allocated \$0 to *our kids'* education in 2015-16. That's nearly \$590 million less than they are giving the seven largest school districts in our state. As a result, our property taxes have increased by 85 percent over the past decade.

When we consider 86 percent of our budget is spent on the people educating our children, with the remaining 14 percent spent on building maintenance, utilities, and student transportation, the loss of state funding for our children forces all of us to ask the scary questions as we look into the future. Do we need to look at reducing staff or programs again? Our school district has seven fewer teachers than it had six years ago, during the 2008-09 school year. Can we try to flat-line our spending by delaying another round of textbooks, not updating our aging vehicle fleet, getting by with the technology we have, and not adding to our cash reserve? But then what?

Nebraska lawmakers are currently considering several property tax relief proposals. Some address the relationship between property taxes and K-12 school funding, while others simply do not recognize the reliance school districts have on property taxes. Several of their proposals are likely to fall short in truly addressing the real issues of K-12 school funding and our property taxes.

Of the proposed policies relating to property tax relief, some would reduce our agriculture land valuations for taxation purposes from the current level of 75 percent of market value to 65 percent. Research conducted by the OpenSky Policy Institute, a Nebraska-based, non-partisan organization dedicated to fiscal research and analysis, shows this would lower property taxes significantly for farmers and ranchers living near urban areas where taxes could be shifted onto residential and commercial real estate. In rural areas such as ours, this becomes unrealistic, forcing rural schools like ours to increase our property tax levies or make significant program/staff cuts to make up for the lost revenue.

Taking a broad view of the 2014-15 fiscal year, your local school district is able to function like a "normal" school district. By that, I mean we are able to make the textbook updates without delaying like we have in past years, upgrade some outdated computers, purchase a school bus for our children in place of a 23-year-old unit; while still adding to a cash reserve that currently sits at only 60 percent of its recommended level.

- A closer look at the fiscal year reveals the following:
- Our '14-15 state aid is only \$359,658 - *more than \$2.2 million less* than it was in 08-09. **State aid will be \$0 for FCPS next year.**
 - Adjusted property valuation is \$810 million; which is \$389 million higher than it was in 2008-09.
 - Our local property tax levy is nearly 17 cents lower than it was a decade ago.
 - Our general fund property taxes account for \$7.4 million of our annual revenue; nearly \$3.3 million more than it was in 2008-09.
 - Our projected total spending in 2014-15, as compared to six years, shows the largest increases in the areas of special education and the maintenance, utilities, and operation of our school facilities.

Looking ahead to the 2015-16 school year

Our new 2015-16 fiscal year will begin on Sept. 1, 2015. Your local school district will receive nothing in state aid support, as a primary result of the dramatic increase in our property values. We pride ourselves with doing more with less even though the number of students we serve living in poverty and having special needs is at an all-time high. However, the ever-growing question is this: *How do we continue to provide a top-notch, quality education for our children when the state will not provide our school with any funding?*

Little Known Facts on Our School Funding

- Our public school, along with 188 other Nebraska schools, will not receive any state aid next year, leaving only 86 school districts that will.
- Of the 86 school districts still receiving state aid, many receive only minimal support, accounting for only a small fraction of their revenue.
- The largest 15 schools in Nebraska will receive an increase of just over \$66 million in 2015-16, with the total projected increase statewide to be \$38.7 million. The increase in state aid those seven schools will receive is almost \$62 million.
- The large districts support the notion that the state aid system is providing the funding as it should, and that the money is following the students.
- Our property taxes have risen statewide in recent years, increasing by 38 percent in the state's urban areas and by 85 percent in our rural areas over the last decade.
- Our local property valuation from agricultural land, agricultural improvements, and farmsites account for 66 percent of the total taxable valuation in District 56.
- Presently, about 48 percent of K-12 funding comes from our property taxes, compared to a national average of 29 percent.
- That reliance is largely a result of historically low state support for our schools. When they enacted our current school funding system in the 1990s, we ranked 49th in state support as a share of K-12 funding. More than 20 years later, we still rank 49.
- In 2013, we hit a historic low in state support for K-12 education as a share of the economy since the implementation of the current state aid formula. While we bounced back slightly, the projections in the Governor's budget would take us back to that historically low level.
- For 2013-14, our local property taxes accounted for 62 percent of our school's revenue. In 2013-14, state aid accounted for just 3 percent.
- State Aid makes up 31.6 percent of Nebraska public school districts' revenue; the national average is 45.5 percent.

Simply put, the over-reliance Nebraska schools have on our local property taxes can be seen. Many of the proposed policies that attempt to reduce the heavy reliance on our property taxes, while well-intentioned, have unintended consequences that ultimately reduce our ability to invest in the education of our children in District 56. Moreover, proposed reductions to income taxes will further reduce available revenue streams that support our investment in education, further exacerbating the reliance on our property taxes to fund schools.

So, what if they reduce our agriculture land valuation from 75 percent to 65 percent, will that not be a good thing? If they value our ag land at only 65 percent of its full market value, it would likely force our school district to increase the property taxes we pay, or force reductions in the educational opportunities we are fortunate to provide our children. Reductions to our ag land valuations lead to significant revenue losses at the local level and for K-12 education, which would not be made up by increases in state aid.

According to the OpenSky Policy Institute, K-12 schools in our state would lose approximately \$91 million/year if state lawmakers reduce the value of our ag land. The reduction in local resources would trigger a net loss to K-12 education of \$66 million/year for our state.

In closing, we are relaying the facts out to our school district patrons. Locally, our property taxes have become the lifeblood supporting our children's education, and ultimately their future. Many of the proposed policies they have proposed to reduce our heavy reliance on property taxes, while well-intentioned, have unintended consequences that ultimately reduce our ability to invest in the education of our children. We have a system that is in dire need of reform. We need the State of Nebraska to take more of a responsibility in the education of our children, and afford all students equal educational opportunities, regardless of whether they attend school in Falls City or Lincoln.

SEZ-I

'Grateful' for the FFA

When I picked up Tuesday's *Journal*, the first thing that caught my eye was the FFA emblem at the top of the front page. I still have a pin with that eagle atop an ear of corn with an owl perched on a plow and the sun coming up in the background. The words "Agricultural Education" predominate and give meaning to what it's all about.

I was born on a farm southeast of Shubert some 81 years ago and guess I had the love of agriculture from the very beginning. When I was just four we moved to my great-grandfather's farm north of Barada. I attended school at Barada and when I was old enough, I got to help my dad with the crops and take care of the livestock and poultry.

After graduating from the eighth grade it was my privilege to enroll at FC High School, where my main subject was agriculture. My instructor for the next four years was O. C. Hatch.

According to the editorial in *The Journal* the first National FFA Week was held that year 1948. It was an honor to study agriculture with the other farm boys from around the area and at the same time practice what I had learned taking ag.

Each year we took a vote in the fall whether to attend the FFA convention or the America Royal in Kansas City. Needless to say, the Royal won out every year and the horse and livestock show was an enjoyable event.

It also was an honor my senior year to have my project chosen as the top one in my class. It consisted of raising eight head of steers and 10 acres of wheat. I remember taking the steers to the Omaha Stockyards.

After graduating from FCHS, I did farm work up until I was drafted. After my military service, I came home and I farmed my Grandfather Birdsley's farm. Dad and I together farmed back and forth both places. In my spare time, I helped shell corn and haul livestock to Omaha and St. Jo for the farmers around the area.

Then it all came to an end when my grandparents sold their farm. I still have my FFA jacket with my name sewed on one side and the memories of all the friends I came to know over the years and work with. It's hard to believe all the changes that have occurred over the years since the 30s. I'll always be grateful for the experience. I believe in the FFA (Future Farmers of America) and know it will continue in the years to come.

Ralph Birdsley

Shawn Fouraker

'15 Distinguished Service Award

(Continued from Page 1)

Cory Snethen and his children stepped up to donate 8 1/2 acres of ground. But preparing that land for the events carried a price tag of approximately \$77,500. Jaycee members assisted as much as they could with the work thus saving money in the long run.

Fouraker stepped up putting in countless hours into assisting the project that took him away from both his business and family. It took 24 days but due to the dedication of Shawn getting things lined up and boosting both community and Jaycee support, the project was finished and went on as scheduled on August 5, 2011, opening to a record setting crowd.

In last Year's Distinguished Service Award winner Jennifer Willman's introduction she said "I have been so impressed with this person and look up to him because when the going gets tough he takes care of business." And Business is something Shawn also excels at. He's been running his own successful local business W&D's Auto Care in Falls City for the past 11 years. He is also co-owner of F&F Fireworks and a crop insurance salesman with some big plans up his sleeve for the future.

As devoted Fouraker is to the Jaycees he also spends plenty of time giving back to the community. He is active in the Falls City Rural Fire Department, Elks Club, and in 2013 formed a committee to bring back the Whitetails Unlimited Banquet to Falls City. Founded in 1982, Whitetails Unlimited is a national non-profit conservation organization that has remained true to its mission and has made great strides in the field of conservation. They have gained the reputation of being the nation's premier organization dedicating our resources to the betterment of the white-tailed deer and its environment.

Above all Fouraker is a devoted husband and father spending much of his summer coaching his children's softball and baseball teams. Chances are if you're from the Falls City Area you know Shawn and you like him. He is just an all around nice guy who is doing the best he can for the community, and that's someone we should all aspire to be.

Jump/Hoops nets over \$6,000

(Continued from Page 1)

continue to celebrate February as American Heart Month in physical education by jumping rope in physical education all month long."

This year's results:

Kindergarten

Best of 5 free-throws: 1. Evan Ogden; 2. Bowdy Jones; 3. Thomas West.

Dribble Race: 1. Bowdy Jones; 2. Tucker Coupe; 3. Thomas West.

30-Second Jump Count: 1. Paxton Armbruster; 2. Thomas West; Tucker Coupe.

Jump Rope Race: 1. Thomas West; 2. Chance Strothkamp; 3(tie). Tucker Coupe/Sophie Kirkendall.

1st Grade

Best of 5 free-throws: 1. Ethan Chapple, Brooklyn Denton; 2. Brock Niedfeldt, Carlea Dunkhas; 3. Chase Simpson, Madyson McAfee.

Dribble race: 1. Brock Niedfeldt, Brooklyn Denton; 2. Brock Caudle, Carlea Dunkhas; 3. Madyson McAfee.

30-second jump count: 1. Vaden Leyden, Brooklyn Denton; 2. Emmett Daake, Madyson McAfee; 3. Brock Niedfeldt, Carlea Dunkhas.

Jump rope race: 1. Ethan Chapple; 2. Madyson McAfee, Brock Niedfeldt; 3. Zavier Ebel, Brooklyn Denton.

2nd Grade

Dribble King: 1. Isaac Frederick; 2. Emilou Schulerberg; 3. Riley Crawford.

Best of 5 free-throws: 1. Rome West; 2. Eric Heinzelman; 3. Derrick Helmick.

Dribble race: 1. Isaac Frederick; 2. Emilou Schulerberg; 3. Eric Heinzelman.

30 second jump count: 1. Makenzie

Johansen; 2(tie). Derreck Helmick/Trinity Price; 3. Emilou Schulerberg.

Jump rope race: 1. Emilou Schulerberg; 2. Makenzie Johansen; 3. Rome West.

3rd Grade

Dribble King: Daniel Hollens; 2. Emily Vitosh; 3. Nevada West.

Best of 5 free-throws: 1. Ava Armbruster; 2. Elizabeth Saul; 3. Gannon Ogden.

Dribble Race: 1. Daniel Hollens; 2. Emily Vitosh; 3. Nevada West.

30-second jump count: 1. Ava Armbruster; 2. Daniel Hollens; 3. Jude Chaple.

Jump rope race: 1. Nevada West; 2. Ava Armbruster; 3. Damian Rowland.

4th Grade

Dribble King: 1. Sam Dunn; 2. Jaxyn Strauss; 3. Hannah Collier.

Best of 5 free-throws: 1. Sam Dunn; 2. Hannah Collier; 3. Elyse Poppe.

Dribble Race: 1. Sam Dunn; 2. Jaxyn Strauss; 3. Kellen McAfee.

30 Second jump count: 1. Sam Dunn; 2. Elyse Poppe; 3. Alijah Hernandez.

Jump rope race: 1. Sam Dunn; 2. Jaxyn Strauss; 3. Kyler Frederick.

5th/6th Grade

Dribble King: 1. Will Vitosh; 2. Kyle Eickhoff; 3. Tyler Uhri.

Best of 5 free-throws: 1. Tyler Uhri; 2. Will Vitosh; 3. Eryn Snethen.

Dribble Race: 1. Will Vitosh; 2. Tyler Uhri; 3. Madison Stamer.

30 Second jump count: 1. Courtney McClintock; 2. Kyle Eickhoff; 3. Emma Killingsworth.

Jump Rope Race: 1. Will Vitosh; 2. Nia Crawford; 3. Courtney McClintock.

Photo by Ryan Larsen



Firefighters allow the home of Bill and Linda Sailors to burn after the structure was beyond saving early Wednesday, Feb. 25.

Morrill housefire leaves family homeless

By Ryan Larsen

A Morrill, KS, family feels lucky to be alive after escaping from a fire that destroyed their house at 202 Roxanna St. on Wednesday, Feb. 25.

Linda Sailors awoke around 12:30 a.m. to find her house filling with smoke. She investigated and found a large fire running up a kitchen wall, quickly spreading across the ceiling. She woke her husband, Bill, and they called to their daughter, Laura who lived upstairs with her twin, two-year-old sons, Ethan and Eli. Laura and the boys came downstairs past the flames and the family evacuated the rapidly burning home, unable to bring any possessions with them.

None of the family members suffered serious injury. They were

able to get their dog to safety, but were unable to locate their cats in the smoke and confusion. One was found outside the home the next morning, and they hope the other three will turn up soon.

The Morrill Rural Fire Dept. responded quickly, but could do nothing to save the house. They were able to extinguish the fire around 4:30 a.m., but rising wind two hours later caught an ember and reignited the fire. The firefighters responded again, but since the structure was beyond saving and no longer a threat of spreading, it was allowed to continue burning, reducing remaining material to ashes.

Bill is a disabled veteran of the U.S. Navy. Linda is a certified nursing assistant at Falls City Healthcare Community, where she has worked for more than 21 years.

The cause of the fire is not yet known, though Bill and Linda suspect a gas heater located near the area in which the fire was found.

Representatives of the Hiawatha Ministerial Alliance, Kansas Red Cross, and the Hiawatha L.D.S. Church met with the family to provide temporary assistance. The house was not insured. Richardson County Bank has agreed to accept contributions on behalf of

the family, though shaken by the experience, was grateful that everyone was safe. They also expressed gratitude to the firefighters, aide workers, friends and family who helped them in the hours following the fire.

One remarked, "Walls and things can be purchased; lives cannot."

HTRS begins enrollment for '15-16 preschool

HTRS Early Childhood Education Center will have enrollment packets available on March 16 and available at the superintendent's office in Humboldt or can also be mailed.

The forms should be returned by April 30 so parents can be notified by May 31 which days their students will be attending.

Four-year-old students may attend from 8 a.m. until noon, tuition-free. To enroll with regular tuition fees, children must be three on or before July 31, 2015 and potty trained. HTRS preschool is not able to enroll students who are eligible for Kindergarten (those who will turn five on or before July 31, 2015). Details about attendance times and fees are on the enrollment forms. Enrollment will be limited to 20 students per day. Half day (morning only) or full day attendance is available.

Priority will be given to four-year-olds (as of July 31) in the order in which their completed paperwork is received. After they are served, three-year-old children will be enrolled in the order that their completed paperwork is received.

After April 30, students will be added to a waiting list. Depending on the number of students enrolling, and in order to serve as many students as possible, it may be necessary to limit attendance to two or three days per week.

For more information, call the school at 402-862-2151.

VA Representative in Shenandoah Monday

A representative from the Veterans Administration facility in Shenandoah, IA, will be at the Legion Club at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 10, to explain to veterans what services are available there.

She will point out the advantages of going to Shenandoah rather than to Lincoln or Omaha VA facilities. And the distance is about cut in half.

A number of Richardson County veterans enrolled in the VA health system are fulfilling appointments at Shenandoah.

Veterans seeking more information may contact Mona Godemann, county veterans' service officer, at the Courthouse. The phone number is 402-245-3722.

ATTENTION EMPLOYERS:

Reach even more applicants with **NEHires.com**, a job website owned and operated by Nebraska's newspapers. Call us or the Nebraska Press Association, 1-800-369-2850, to learn how to get your ad on **NEHires.com**.

FCHS Band Parents team up with Schwan's for fundraiser

Falls City High School Band Parents have started a fundraiser to help students defray their costs for an educational trip to California in May 2016. Traditionally, the band has taken a "big trip" every four years, and generally that trip has been to Florida. The students wanted "something different" for this trip and have chosen California as their destination.

The trip is organized through WorldStrides Educational Travel Company. WorldStrides is the nation's largest and most respected accredited travel organization, helping 300,000 students travel each year to destinations in more than 90 countries.

The trip is planned for May 31 to June 5, 2016. The students will have the opportunity to visit attractions such as the Golden Gate Bridge, Alcatraz Island, and the cable cars in San Francisco. They will also visit Universal Studios with an "active" back lot tour at the studios, the La Brea Tar Pits and the Griffith's Observatory in Los Angeles. The students will have the opportunity to turn the information they learn during these activities into school credit when they get home through an on-line program with WorldStrides.

This fundraiser is implemented through Schwan's Cares Fundraising. Current Schwan's customers only need to place their orders "on-line" or "phone in" prior to their next scheduled delivery date (the campaign started March 1) and have the Campaign number "18227" available when checking out. If you have not ordered from Schwan's before, but would like to help out the FCHS Band, go to www.schwans.com to get details and place your order. Please note, orders must be placed ahead of delivery and the campaign number entered. The sales at your home do not count towards the fundraising campaign.

The fundraiser runs through Feb. 28, 2016. The Band Parents will receive a higher portion of the profits in the first 45 days of the campaign (March 1 through April 15, 2015), but will continue to raise funds throughout the rest of the year.

SOCIETY

AREA BRIDGE

The prizewinners when five tables of women played bridge at the Falls City Area Bridge session Feb. 24 at the Elks Club were Laura Kottich, Nancy Demmel, Lorna Simon, and Merry VonSeggern. Shirley Holle and Marilyn Kentopp were hostesses.

Nancy Demmel and Leona Knobbe will host the next meeting on March 10.

SHUBERT AUXILIARY

The Shubert American Legion Auxiliary Unit 222 met Tuesday, Feb. 10, at the Legion Building. President Tana Brown called the meeting to order and prayer was given by Chaplain Eleanor Last. Everyone pledged to the flag, sang "God Bless America" and repeated the Preamble.

Secretary Elizabeth Ketner took roll call, with eight members present, and read the minutes from the previous meeting. Treasurer Lana Willman gave her report.

The District 13 convention was to be held Saturday, Feb. 21, in Tecumseh. All reports, the history and publicity books have been submitted and poppy centerpiece is done. All were to be judged.

Mrs. Last and Mrs. Ketner are working on getting children involved in the Americanism Essay Contest.

Linda Patchen reported the pancake/sausage fundraiser for the Legion building was very successful considering the very bad weather on the day of the event. Plans were discussed for the fundraiser concession stand at the auction of Bus Hall on March 14 in Stella.

Everyone was reminded of the Legion Birthday potluck supper on at 5 p.m. Sunday, March 15, at the Legion Building. Held to honor the members, the event is for all Legion

and Auxiliary members and guests.

Membership is almost 100 percent, but if you have not paid to Treasurer Last yet, please do so.

The next meeting will be at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 10, at the Legion building. Remember this year's theme: "Freedom, Faith and Family."

SENCA Head Start taking applications for next school year

By Susan Phillips-Keholm

Will your child be ready for Kindergarten? Why not give your child a Head Start in the right direction! Southeast Nebraska Community Action Head Start is now taking applications for the 2015-16 school year. Head Start is a tuition free high-quality child and family development program for preschool children ages three to five years of age. Program services include education, nutrition, health and disability services, transportation and family support.

To qualify for the program, household income must fall within federal standard guidelines, or applicant must meet minimum eligibility requirements, whichever more accurately reflects the family's current needs. Individual attention is also given to children with disabilities. For age requirements, children born between July 31, 2010 and July 31, 2012 may be eligible.

For more information, contact Karrie Bauman, Family Service Advocate, at the SENCA Head Start center in Falls City at 402-245-4983 or SENCA Head Start Central Office toll Free at 1-888 313-5608 and speak with Mary Jane at Ext. 110.

Space is limited, so don't delay, give our child a Head Start today!

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I strive to give you the best service.

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402-245-4397

RULO CATHOLIC CHURCH MEN'S CLUB PORK BARBECUE

Sunday, March 8 — Serving 4:30-7:30 P.M.

MEAL WILL BE SERVED AT
STS. PETER AND PAUL'S; O'CONNOR HALL
1724 Fulton St. • Falls City, NE

COST: \$10.00 Adults

\$6.00 Children (4-12 yrs.) Under 4 Free • Carry-Outs Available

Serving BBQ Pork, Au Gratin Potatoes, Baked Beans, Slaw, Relishes, Homemade Pie and Drink



FARMERS — PLEASE VOTE!

Let's work together to keep rural math and science programs growing. Back for a fourth year, America's Farmers Grow Rural Education encourages farmers to nominate their local school districts to apply for a grant of up to \$25,000! Since 2011, America's

Farmers Grow Rural Education has awarded over \$7 million in grants to over 500 rural public school districts. Falls City Public Schools has received two grants totaling \$50,000. Help us get funded for a third time! Farmers nominate your local school district January 1 through April 1, 2015. Visit

<http://www.americasfarmers.com/recognitionprograms/grow-rural-education/>

and click on farmers nominate now to vote!

Link also available on school website: www.fctigers.org



6th Annual EMPTY BOWLS SOUP SUPPER

Proceeds to Benefit the children of the Falls City Backpack Program.

Tuesday, March 10

Prichard Auditorium, 5 - 7 p.m.
Free Will Donation



Southeast Nebraska COMMUNICATIONS
People • Service • Quality

Serving a Variety of Soups from Falls City's Fine Restaurants and Volunteers

For more information contact
Debbie Witt, dkwitt@sentco.net or
Chuck Whitney, cwhitney@sentco.net or
call (402) 245-4451

FALLS CITY FIRE STOMPERS

Classes Start Thursday, March 19 at
7:00 P.M. at the Fire Station
6 Week Course - Pick Up Sign-up Sheets At
The Schools or The Fire Station



The family of Bob and Patricia Parks invite you to join them on Sunday, March 8, 2015, at 709 Oregon, Hiawatha, Ks., from 2-4 p.m. with an open house to celebrate the couple's anniversary.

Bob Parks & Patricia Dannecker were married March 5, 1946 at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

in Rulo, NE. They have lived in Hiawatha most of their married life, except for a few years in Iowa. They are long time active members of St. Ann's Catholic church and have been involved in the Hiawatha community all of their lives.

Your presence and laughter is all that is requested as we celebrate the long marriage of our parents, their 87th and 90th years of life and the wonderful examples they have been to us all.

SOCIETY

HUMANE SOCIETY

The Humane Society held their regular monthly meeting on 2-17-2015 at the Sunmart cafeteria. President Ardis Ramsey called the meeting to order with 9 members present. Pastor John Hogue offered prayer. A special moment of reflection and silence was offered in memory of Kathleen Duey, a long-time Humane Society supporter, and board member who recently passed away. Our condolences to her family. She was a truly lady to remember, an animal lover and a ray of sunshine, she will be missed. Secretary's and treasurer's report was given by Julie Phroper, it was approved as read. Unfinished business, the awesome fellows of Breezy Hill. Greg & Lloyd sponsored a Soup Supper for the Humane Society. It was a great night of warm and delicious soup and great company! We thank all who helped, donated soup and who helped make it a success! Business memberships are under way and almost done. New business is Spay Day USA, we will have a drawing for 2-70.00 spay/neuter vouchers to celebrate. We now have the option to microchips our animals. Annual report is almost done.

Bills were submitted and paid. Animal report. Star, a bigger dog, who has been at the Shelter 3 years has been adopted, our animals don't have expiration dates, and thanks to our dedicated volunteers, our k-9 family has a comfortable stay until they are adopted. We also have new face, Duke a Boston terrier mix joined us. And so did Curly, an orange tabby joined us. Next meeting will be held on March 17, all are welcome. Meeting was adjourned.

FALLS CITY DOES

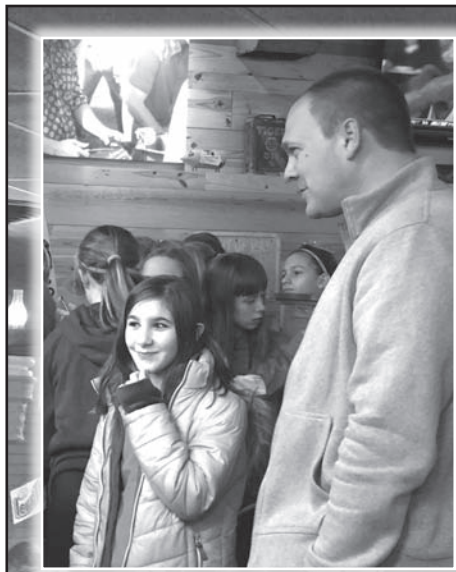
Falls City drove #56 met Monday evening, Feb. 23, at the Elk's Lodge. President Phyllis Kreutzler, called the meeting to order. Secretary Mary Wiltse read the minutes and they were approved as read.

The Drove had three members pass away during the month of February: Maxine (Mick) Story, Lucille Janovec and Evelyn Gatz. Memorial Resolutions were read and the Charter was draped for each member by the officers.

Committee reports were given and Donna Harmon gave the Treasurer's report. Courtesy Chair Marlene McKim sent get-well cards to Joann Jones and Darlene Tisdell. She also sent sympathy cards to the families of the three departed members. The Elk's PER Cancer Benefit is coming up in March. Members should be thinking about what they want to bake and donate for the auction. More details to come at the next meeting.

The Coin March was held and "Happy Birthday" was sung to Sandy Johnson. Phyllis thanked the committee for the evening; Zita Ebel, chairman, with Sharyn Gibbs and Tiny Buchholz as hostesses.

The next meeting will be at 7 p.m. Monday, March 9, at the Elk's Lodge, with Linda Frost as chair and Karey Jo Weaver as hostess.



Lines extended out the door last Wednesday at Dickey's BBQ during the Hailey Dorste Benefit. Some diners spent time outside in 14 degree weather to feast on barbecue in support of the Dorste family. Dickey's sold



out of nearly everything on hand. They will continue to have a donation bucket in their Falls City location until the end of the month with all proceeds going to Hailey and her family.

Humboldt woman airline pilot flies the friendly skies of United

(The following story was featured in a recent edition of the Pawnee Republican.)

By Ray Kappel, News Editor, The Pawnee Republican

Lorrie Novak's mission as an Air Force pilot was flying into Damascus, Syria, in 1986 to pick up released hostage Fr. Lawrence Jenco and the negotiator Terry Waite. (Waite was later held hostage himself for four years.)

She was part of the crew on that flight as she has been on countless others. This Humboldt born and raised farm girl attended Grand Avenue country school to the 7th grade and then onto high school at Humboldt, graduating in 1980. She is still very much a Humboldt girl though she has flown to many places overseas. She and husband Mark and their two children live a half-mile from her parents. (Glenn and June Hayward)

She left Humboldt High School for the Air Force Academy because she wanted to be a pilot. She had been around airplanes for a long time as her mother's two brothers were engineer types who built and flew model airplanes in the 1930s. They weren't small models, some of them had wingspans of 8 feet.

After the Air Force came a career as a pilot with United Airlines. She is a co-pilot but has enough seniority to put in for pilot status. The problem with this is she no longer would get to have her weekends at home with her two children Nick, 15, and Natale, 12. The couple has two children by Mark's previous marriage.

She was on active duty in the Air Force for eight years, spending four years in Germany and two in Japan. She flew Medivac missions, the military medical arm. The

planes she was flying were DC 9s.

Although she was around airplanes early she didn't take her first plane ride until she was on her way to the Air Force Academy.

"Kinda dumb but very Nebraskaish," she said with a laugh.

Husband Mark was also in the Air Force at the same time but they didn't date until after she was training to be an airline pilot. Their paths crossed, began dating and were married in 1991.

She said electrical fires were her biggest fear and one happened during a flight in Spain while in the Air Force. By the time they got the plane in for landing, there was smoke coming from the cockpit.

Novak said there haven't been close calls as an airline pilot, but there was a hydraulic issue while a plane was still on the ground once.

One of favorite memories as an airline pilot was the day she met actress and singer Michelle Pfeiffer. She said she was shocked that the actress agreed to have her picture taken with the crew. It was an all-woman crew and that was the reason. Novak remembers the actress wouldn't take off her sunglasses because she didn't have her make-up on. "She still looked so beautiful," she said.

Novak flies out of Chicago for United to mostly places in Europe. She doesn't have much time for sightseeing as she has to be ready to fly after landing in 24 hours. That means she has to get in a good night's rest before reporting for return flight duty. Her favorite town is Munich but likes London though she said it is very expensive.

The plane she is flying is a Boeing 767. Typical routes are besides Munich and London, Paris, Brussels, Rome and Frankfurt. She gets to her job in Chicago by taking a flight from Omaha.

The biggest change has been in security since started flying. She said she can't really talk about that, but there is a lot more security than what you see. The TSA agents that pat you down are a small part. She goes through the same process of being patted down and her luggage searched though not in front of the public, before she is allowed on the plane.

She loves flying because of the challenge and the view.

"When you get up above the craziness down here, it's beautiful up there," she said.

Food for seniors

The Commodity Supplemental Food Program distribution clinic will be held in Humboldt on Tuesday and Thursday, March 17 and 19. An appointment is suggested.

CSFP provides nutritious foods to seniors who are age 60 or greater who live in Nebraska and are under the program income guidelines.

Foods given through CSFP include canned fruits and vegetables; bottled juice; 1 percent liquid and non-fat dry milk; hot and cold cereals; canned meat; peanut butter and dried beans; cheese; pasta or rice.

To schedule an appointment or obtain information on how to qualify for CSFP, please call Blue Valley Community Action at 402-729-2278.

Notice of Meeting

Regular quarterly meeting and of the Housing Authority of Falls City will be held Wednesday, March 18, 2015 at 12:00 Noon in the office of the Housing Authority, 800 E. 21st.

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VERDON VOLUNTEER FIREMEN SOUP SUPPER

Sunday, March 15 - 3-7 P.M.

Verdon Fire Hall, Verdon, NE

Chili, Chicken Noodle, Vegetable Beef, Ham and Bean, Pie and Beverage.



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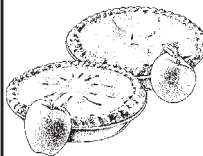
FALLS CITY HEALTHCARE COMMUNITY BAKE SALE FUNDRAISER FOR LINDA SAILORS & FAMILY

Thursday, March 5

10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Linda lost her house & all of her belongings in a fire last week.

2800 Towle St., Falls City



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NOTICE OF DALE E. HEINEMAN & EILLEN M. HEINEMAN SCHOLARSHIP

The Richardson Foundation, Inc. is taking applications for the Dale E. Heineman and Eileen Heineman Scholarship. Any student who has graduated from a Richardson County, Nebraska High School and who will be enrolled in a college or university program in medicine or other health care related field in the Fall of 2015 may apply.

Applications may be obtained online at: <http://www.fctigers.org/vnews/display.v/ART/50bce5c490f4f> or from any Richardson County High School Guidance Counselor.

Complete applications and supporting documents must be received by March 24, 2015. They may be turned in to any Richardson County High School Guidance Counselor, or mailed to Heineman Scholarship, c/o The Richardson Foundation, P.O. Box 161, Falls City, Nebraska, 68355 or emailed to: kotts@sentco.net. One award for \$2,000.00 will be given in 2015 and will be sent directly to the College or University Financial Aid Office for the Fall 2015 term.

SOUP SUPPER
 at Shubert Christian Church
 on
Sat., March 7
5-7 P.M.
 Serving: Chili, Chicken Noodle, Vegetable Beef, Also, Pantry Shelf.
Freewill Offering Proceeds to Missions

Schwan's Cares™ A Fundraising Network

Falls City Band Parents asks that you Support Us. Giving back to your community never tasted so delicious.

Schwan's Home Delivery offers over 350 delicious foods, flash-frozen at the peak of freshness and conveniently delivered to your door. Through Schwans-Cares.com, you can order from Schwan's Home Delivery and help our organization meet its fundraising goals. When you order by April 15, 2015, 20% of product and 40% of e-certificate sales will go back to the organization. In addition, Schwan's will contribute 5% of all orders to our organization for the rest of the year!

Here are two ways to support us!
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 1. Visit Schwans-Cares.com
 2. Enter Campaign Name or ID: **18277** into the search box located in the upper right hand corner then click to open campaign.
 3. Click the "Buy Now" button to purchase an eCertificate or "Shop Now" to place a product order.

Order by Phone:
 Call 1-855-870-7208 and provide Campaign ID: **18277** and Fundraising ID: **45254**

Shop online at Schwans-Cares.com or call 1-855-870-7208

WEEE'RE BAAAACK!

*Tigers 50,
Boys Town 48*

By Jason Schock

The Falls City High School boys' basketball team, for the first time since the United States entered World War II, are making consecutive trips to the State Basketball Tournament.

Tiger senior Weston Witt's dribble, drive and drop, with 1.9 seconds remaining, broke a 48-48 tie and gave the State Tourney-bound Tigers a thrilling 50-48 victory over Boys Town in the Class C1-1 District Championship Monday at Nebraska City High.

Falls City, which repeats as C1-1 District Champs, returns to the Bob Devaney Sports Center in Lincoln, the site of last year's heartbreaking overtime loss to Wahoo in the opening round, when FC seemingly took a two-point lead with 1.5 seconds left in regulation. Another 1.2 seconds was added and the rest is history.

It's history - Witt and the 2015 Tigers made sure of it.

Witt, who scored 19 game-high points and dished out five assists to become the school's all-time single-season leader (breaking a record held by Max Milam since 1978), was the obvious go-to guy when FC Coach Don Hogue called time to set up the dramatic final sequence. A year ago, it was "The Red Menace" who came off the bench and torched Lincoln Christian with five three pointers on the very same hardwood in Nebraska

(Please turn to Page 8)

(CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP LEFT) The Falls City High School boys' basketball team celebrates a second consecutive C1-1 District Championship and State Tournament berth Monday night in Nebraska City; senior Jack Hartman battles for one of his team-high eight rebounds in FC's dramatic 50-48 win over Boys Town - Hartman also scored 10 points and dished out four assists, but picked up his fourth foul with 6:07 to play and fouled out with 1:34 remaining; Fab Freshman Brandt Chapple puts the Tigers up 43-41 with 4:43 left. Though he didn't even get a varsity uniform until January, Chapple is a big reason FC is moving on, as his 10 first-half points propelled the Tigers to a subdistrict final victory over JCC last week; sophomore Kyle Leafy (10 points, two huge charges, seven rebounds) seemingly finishes the break after getting what appeared to be an assist from senior Weston Witt with about three minutes to play. The bucket would've given FC a 49-44 lead, but was negated when the referee called Witt for a mystical moving screen. Boys Town's Kharee McKoy quickly drained a three-pointer with 2:48 left to tie it.

Regardless, Witt's dribble-drive dagger, with 1.9 seconds remaining, gave the State Tourney-bound Tigers a thrilling 50-48 victory. With a team-high five assists, (to go with 19 game-high points), Witt also becomes the school's all-time leader in assists in a season, with 125 (and counting). Max Milam set the previous record in 1978. The 22-3 Tigers return to the state tourney in back-to-back seasons for the first time since World War II. They are expected to be a No. 5 seed and play Columbus Scotus at 3:45 p.m. Thursday, March 12, at the Devaney Center.



Photos by Jason Schock

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Tigers

(Continued from Page 7)

City. "We wanted the ball in his hands," FC Coach Don Hogue said.

With the game tied at 48 and less than 10 seconds left on the clock, Witt caught the inbounds pass from sophomore Kyle Leafy (10 points, two drawn charges, seven rebounds) near the elbow, put his head down and charged to the bucket, where the Cowboys' 6-6 senior Knowledge Darby was wait-

ing. Darby was in position, but his massive swat drew nothing but air, while Witt manipulated his body to avoid contact, squared up and dropped the ball through the net with 1.9 seconds to go.

"It worked perfect," Witt said. "My teammates got the ball inbounds, I got the look I wanted and it's all a blur from there."

"He uses his body so well," Hogue, the winningest coach in Tiger history and architect of one of the biggest turnarounds in Nebraska high school basketball history. "Weston can create around bigger guys - he's done it all his life."

He'll not likely to ever create

anything bigger than that shot last night - then again...

"Now we want to win it all," Witt told the *Omaha World-Herald* after the game.

Falls City last won a state championship in 1963 - it was the school's last state title in athletics. The program didn't win a single district game for more than three decades; now Hogue has led them back to the state tournament for the third time in five years. It's FCHS' first back-to-back state tourney berths since 1941.

"In 2010, it was historic because it had been so long," Hogue said. "Then in 2014 it was nice because we didn't go another 40-some years," he said, jokingly. "But I think we've really started to make a name for ourselves and a lot of kids have been part of this thing. It hasn't just been one group. We're building consistency."

Falls City proved to be the team that had "been there" when the opening tip became an 11-2 Tiger lead in fewer than three minutes and Darby, a transfer from New York City, picked up his second

foul and sat the final 5 1/2 minutes of the opening period.

"We needed to play ahead," Hogue said. "We saw some film on them and we were ready."

Unfortunately, FC failed to capitalize on several opportunities to put the Cowboys (15-10) away. The Tigers were 3-of-9 from the line in the fourth quarter and senior Jack Hartman, the team's leading scorer all season, was limited by foul trouble most of the second half and just as he was starting to heat up. Hartman (10 points, team-high eight rebounds, four assists) hit a bucket with 2:47 to play in the third quarter to give FC a 32-30 lead. Less than a minute later, he finished an "and 1" and FC was up five, 35-30. But Hartman drew a fourth foul less than two minutes into the fourth quarter and fouled out with 1:34 to play.

With Hartman out, FC relied on seniors Zach Jordening, sophomore Kyle Leafy and freshman Brandt Chapple to battle in the paint and they came through. Boys Town climbed back into the game by hitting the offensive glass (they got seven "do-overs" in the first half - two in the second). Leafy pulled down seven and also drew a pair of key charging calls, while Jordening and Chapple each hit big shots in the fourth quarter.

"Credit to them," Boys Town Coach Tom Krehbiel said. "The whole game, the whole night was played at their pace, except for maybe a spot in the fourth quarter where we sped them up. Then they got their composure, and they're a good team. They've very confident, and you can see why they've beaten a lot of teams."

"The atmosphere bothered us (more than 3-2) at the start. The kids were wide-eyed and playing soft. We kind of picked it up the middle of the first quarter, and then it was a battle. I'm proud of my

guys for giving them a battle, but at the end of the day we have to figure things out better at the end of the game to win something like this in this environment."

They also started draining threes and had some ridiculous calls go their way. The Cowboys were a collective 0-for-8 from downtown the first three periods, then drained four in the final period.

Boys Town's last lead, 44-43, came on a three by DeAngelo Saun-soci with 4:25 left, but the Tigers nearly broke the game open shortly thereafter. Senior Jordy Stoller split a pair of free throws - his only point of the night - to tie it at 44. A Witt steal and two-pointer, followed by a Leafy steal and Witt came to the line for two. He split them to make it a three-point game with fewer than three minutes to play. Then came what could've been a back-breaker for Boys Town: Yet another FC steal gave the Tigers numbers and an easy fastbreak - Witt dishd to Leafy for an easy lay-up to seemingly give the Tigers a five-point lead at 49-44. But the referee astoundingly called Witt for an illegal screen after he made the pass - basket was no good. Seconds later, a Cowboys three tied it at 47.

On their final possession, with the game tied at 48, Javon Hopkins came up short on a lay-in in the paint, one his coach said he makes nine times out of 10.

McKoy led Boys Town with 15 points, followed by Darby with 11.

The 22-3 Tigers are expected to be a No. 5 seed and play Columbus Scotus at 3:45 p.m. Thursday, March 12, at the Devaney Center.

"I think they believe there's some unfinished business up there," Hogue said. "I hope so, because we're at the doorstep again. We had an opportunity last year and let it slip out of our hands. We'll be ready."

Jail bids to be opened today

The Richardson County Board of Commissioners last week voted unanimously to confirm the decision of Sheriff Don Pounds to dismiss David Clark from his position of jail administrator and today (Tuesday) are expected to act on the dismissal of former Sheriff's Office employee Julie Houser at 11:30 a.m.

The Board held grievance hearings for both at the Feb. 10 meeting. Pounds said Clark contributed to "a hostile work environment" and had cooked meals in the jail, which is against health department regulations.

Clark said he was allowed to cook for inmates by then-Sheriff Randy Houser and also suggested that the new sheriff fired him because a department employee had an agenda against him.

Mrs. Houser, a temporary, part-time dispatcher and jailer was tabled alleges she was being discriminated against due to her age and for being married to the former sheriff.


Sheriff Pounds said Houser was not fired, though it was revealed while Commissioners were discussing the Houser grievance that she has filed for unemployment benefits and recently applied for full-time work in the department. Pounds said there are no full-time

positions open.

This afternoon - at 2 p.m. - Commissioners David Sickel, Jim Davidson and James Standerford will open sealed bids for the proposed County Law Enforcement Center, to be located at the armory building west of Falls City.

The Commissioners were also planning to field a request for funding from the Falls City Ambulance Squad this morning.

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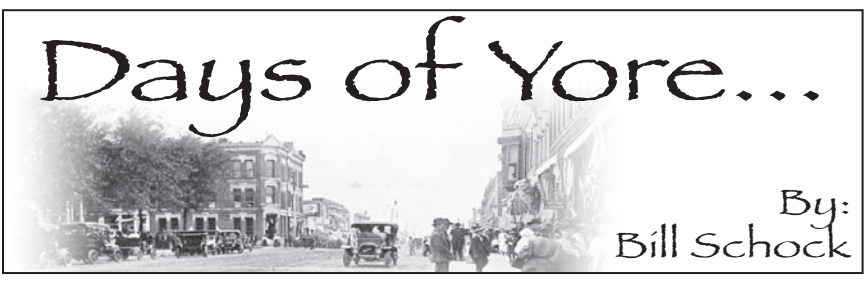
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50 Years Ago (March 1-6, 1965)

Keith Sherburne, Humboldt, was named chairman of the Richardson County Centennial Committee.

City employees went on a 44-hour week and the Water & Light Office was going to be closed on Saturdays.

Tom Dunbar, FC Sacred Heart, and Jack Cook, FCHS, were the American Legion's selections to attend Cornhusker Boys State in June.

Debbie Reynolds, Tony Curtis and Pat Boone were starring in "Goodbye Charlie" at the Rivoli. The KTNC Theater was showing Steve McQueen and Lee Remick in "Baby the Rain Must Fall."

Ernie McNeely was elected Commodore of the Rulo Boat Club and Jim Rider Vice Commodore.

Carol Sue Hall, FC, a senior at UNL, was one of five students to win a \$1,000 Ford Foundation Scholarship to study in Europe in the summer.

The FC Lions Club's "Traveling Trotters" went to Humboldt in Roger Kiekhaefer's Volkswagen bus adorned with a "Traveling Trotters" banner to play the Humboldt Lions, and got nudged, 21-19. There was local talk of hanging Lions Coach Lowell Lewis in effigy.

The stork report; twin sons March 1 to Mr./Mrs. James Hall, Rulo; son March 3 to Mr./Mrs. John Parrish, FC; daughter March 6 to Mr./Mrs. Rodney Knap, FC.

Girls' dress jeans were \$2 at Penney's. Wayne Burow was named president of the O.A. Cooper Co. at Humboldt.

Tom Perry's bucket at the buzzer gave the FCHS Tigers a 57-55 win over Papillion in the first round of the Class B District Tourney at Nebraska Wesleyan in Lincoln. In the second round they lost to Millard, 51-46.

An item from United Press: Bari, Italy—Mrs. Isabelle Zotti gave birth by caesarean section to a son weighing 19 pounds, five ounces. It was her fourth child.

25 Years Ago

The FC Pride Committee members added a new fashion note. They selected navy blue blazers and gray slacks and shirts to welcome visitors to town while promoting the quality of life in this area.

A ribbon cutting was held at FC Telemarketing, 1709 Stone St. The owner/president was Edwin S. Towle III, and Judy Spencer was manager of 24 employees. A ribbon cutting also was held at Mommy and Me at 2302 Harlan St., owned by Bob and Angie Hunzeker.

In the Ladies Major Bowling League, Marsha Roland posted a 224 for High 10. High 30 was the 572, bowled by Sandy Gilbert.

Pictured in the FFA Week ice cream eating contest: Keith Kennedy, Sean Ramsey, Jim Herling and Sam Cockerham. Norm Fritz was the advisor.

On the UNL Deans Lists: Daniel Couse, Sean Gatz and Thomas Wenz, FC; Ann Dovel and Jamie Weyers, Humboldt.

Members of Company B, National Guard, spent the weekend on maneuvers on the Dale Duerfeldt farm in the Barada area, sleeping in pup tents on a cold Saturday night.

Jason Kreutzer was the Middle School's Student of the Month. Angie McLaughlin, DV, was named to the Homesteader Conference All-Star Team.

15 Years Ago

The Sacred Heart girls won a third straight Class D2 state basketball title, bumping Red Cloud, 42-38. Dennis Prichard coached all three state championships. Sacred Heart also won the Sportsmanship Award.

A ribbon-cutting was held to announce the alignment addition at Mid-Town Service Center, 1501 Harlan St., owned by Jerry and Nancy McKim.

The Journal's County Athletes of the Week were Julie Froeschl, Sacred Heart, and Russell Plager, Humboldt-Table Rock.

JoAnn Koso, 6th grade teacher, was named Educator of the Year by the Nebraska Assn. of Middle School Educators.

Proceeds from the Beta Sigma Phi Sorority's Youth Basketball Tourney were donated: \$200 for children's equipment for the Volunteer Ambulance Squad, \$250 to The Learning Center, \$200 to Lydia Bruun Woods Library, three trees for city parks, plus various other amounts to deserving organizations.

Dearle K. Marrs rejoined Clark Funeral Home after being employed by Wherry Funeral Homes.

Haley Milam, FC, won 1st place in the Knights of Columbus state free-throw shooting contest in Columbus.

River Twin Cinema was showing "Boys Don't Cry," Hollywood's version of the widely publicized triple murders south of Humboldt.

Obituaries

'Pat' Joseph W. Martin

"Pat" Joseph W. Martin, 77, of Salem, died Sunday, March 1, 2015 at Salem. He was born Dec. 9, 1937 at Falls City to the late Joseph and Loretta (Mahoney) Martin.

On Oct. 15, 1960 he married Marilyn Sue Schwab, at Falls City. They were later divorced.

Pat was raised at Falls City and graduated from FCHS in 1955. He then worked for the railroad. He graduated from Peru State College in 1963 with a Bachelor of Science Degree and taught biology at Bellevue Junior High School. He owned his own businesses the majority of his life and worked for Restaurant Management Corp. and lived various places, managing their restaurants. He moved back to Bellevue and then to Salem in 1994.

Pat was a member of Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church at Falls City and Pheasants Forever.

He is survived by sons, Robert (Mary) Martin, of Sacramento, CA, Mitchell (Jennifer) Martin, of Lee's Summit, MO, and Michael Martin, of Omaha; grandchildren, Candy, Jessica, Brecklynn and Caden Martin; great-grandson, Hunter Cruz; ex-wife, Marilyn Sue Martin, of Omaha.

Pat was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Tom; and sister, Mary Elizabeth Williams.

The body of Mr. Martin has been cremated and the services, arranged by Dorr & Clark Funeral Home, of Falls City, are currently pending.

Patrick J. McDermott

Patrick J. McDermott, 88, of Las Vegas, NV, died Feb. 8, 2015.



He served in the 96th Infantry in the Asiatic Pacific during World War II from Aug. 26, 1944 to Aug. 28, 1946.

Patrick was awarded the Bronze Star and Purple Heart, among other

medals. He was a very active member of the VFW and American Legion Clubs and was the Richardson County Veteran's Service Officer from 1947 until 1988.

Patrick is survived by his wife, Gladys, of Las Vegas; daughter, Sharlin McDermott, of Firth; sister, Beatrice McDermott, of Falls City; nieces and nephews.

Terry M. Shores

Terry Michael Shores, 67, of Kearney, MO, passed away Wednesday, Feb. 25, 2015, at home, surrounded by his family.



He was born April 22, 1947 in Falls City, to Arthur and Ramona (Oldfield) Shores.

Terry married his wife, Peggy (Waggoner), in 1967 and they started their family in White Cloud, KS. He worked at Union Pacific Railroad, a dedicated conductor with nearly 50 years of service. Terry was proud to serve in the US Army during the Vietnam War. He enjoyed spending time with his family and loved classic cars. Terry attended the First Baptist Church, of Kearney.

Peggy, of Kearney; two daughters, Terri Corder, of Lee's Summit, and Rebecca (Tom Jr.) Modin, of Kearney; a son, Colby Shores, of Kearney; six granddaughters, Leah, Kourtney, Kirsten, Malory, Adelynn and Cadence; a great-granddaughter, Brooklyn; and great-grandson, Kaden; his mother-in-law, Mary Waggoner; two sisters, Vikki Nichols, of Tulsa, OK, and Andrea Shores, of Ohio.

Memorial Services for Terry will be held at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 3, 2015, with visitation beginning at noon, at the First Baptist Church of Kearney. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that contributions be made to St. Luke's Hospice House, (816) 502-8935.

Hidden Valley Funeral Home and Cremations of Kearney in charge of arrangements.

Gertrude 'Gertie' Mae Gatz

Gertrude (Gertie) Mae Gatz, 87, died peacefully on Thursday, Feb. 26, 2015, at Maple Heights Nursing Facility in Hiawatha, KS. Gertie was born Jan. 25, 1928 in Falls City, the daughter of Antone and Dora Gerweck.

Sunday, March 1, at Chapel Oaks Funeral Home in Hiawatha, led by Carol Rieger and Brian Lillie. Family visitation followed. Memorial donations may be sent to the Brown County 4-H Foundation, 4-H Extension Office, 601 Oregon Ste. 105, Hiawatha, KS 66434. Messages may be sent to the family at www.chapeloaksfuneralhome.com

In 1947, Gertie married Warren Gatz, of rural Falls City. To this union was born three children: Rita, Roger and Teresa. Gertie enjoyed being a wife, homemaker and 4-H mother and was known for her cooking, baking and sewing skills. She embraced the role of grandmother and great grandmother with love and enthusiasm.

Gertie was a member of St. Ann's Catholic Church.

She is survived by her husband, Warren, of 68 years; son, Roger (Peg) Gatz, of Hiawatha; daughters, Rita (Bob) Haley, of Denver, CO, and Teres (John Krueger) Lambert, of Windsor, CO; grandsons, Taylor, Walker and Parker Gatz, and Trey Lambert; granddaughters, Holly Holland and Brittany Haley; six great-grandchildren; and a sister, Dorothy Fisher, of Falls City.

Gertie was preceded in death by her parents; eight brothers and sisters; and one great granddaughter, Renna Rose Gatz.

A Parish Rosary was recited

Lillian M. Burch

Lillian Mae Burch, 87, of Falls City, passed away Saturday, Feb. 28, 2015 at Lincoln. She was born April 1, 1927 at Ft. Dodge, IA, to the late Peter and Anna (Steiner) Rodenborn.

She was a member of Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church of Falls City.

Lillian is survived by her children, Lee (Eloise) Burch, of Omaha Beach, MO, Dennis (Alice) Burch, of Alamosa, CO, Nancy (Rick) Brown, of Colorado Springs, CO, Jerry (Pam) Burch of Otsego, MI, Laura (Steve) Smith, of North Pekin, IL, Patty (Dave) Runyan, of Falls City, Richard (Debbie) Burch of Westminster, CO, and Diane (Larry) Smith, of Colorado Springs; 19 grandchildren; 19 great grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; six brothers, Dick, Eugene, Bill, Jim, Pete and Don Burch; and two sisters, Anne Johnston and Laura Tilton.

The body of Mrs. Burch has been cremated and a Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10 a.m. Tuesday, March 10, 2015 at Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church, with Msgr. Robert A. Roh officiating.

Dorr & Clark Funeral Home, of Falls City, is in charge of arrangements.

Making It Right

—In the Feb. 24 edition of The Journal, in the obituary of Sharon Bentley Mitchell, it was reported that "her father, a Navy Seal, got orders to California." It should've read, "her father, a member of the Navy Seabees..."

Also, in the obituary of Paula J. Moore Jones, it lists her age as 56, born on March 13, 1958. Paula, 55, was actually born in 1959.

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Our Lenten Worship continues Wednesday, March 4th, at 7:30 p.m. at Christ Lutheran, 2310 Barada. Sunday Morning Worship: Christ at 9:00 a.m. and St. Paul's (6n) at 10:30 a.m. Please see our website www.fallscitylcms.com or call Christ: 245-3324 or St. Paul's: 245-4643.

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2015 Class D2-1 District Champion FC Sacred Heart Girls Basketball Team, front row, from left: Abby Magdanz, Kelsi Fouraker, Elizabeth Magdanz; middle row, Abby Fiegenger, Thea Schulenberg, Maddie Hup-

pert, Taylor Cooce and Bailey Cooce; back row, Coach Adam Santo, Lauren Parrish, Sara Wertenberger, Jade Hill, Maggie Goltz, Rachael Keithley, Alexis Barnes, Haylee Heits and Coach Luke Santo.

Lady Irish have just one more thing to do

The Falls City Sacred Heart Lady Irish girls' basketball team has individually and collectively won just about every trophy, honor and milestone out there, from MUDECAS and Pioneer Conference trophies to all-state honors and state records to a 200th coaching victory, and all the nylon that comes with district titles, not to mention the long-lasting and bittersweet after-taste of — not one, but two — consolation game wins.

The Lady Irish again left with the nets Friday at Norris Middle School, beating Hampton like a drum and winning a Class D2-1 District they didn't even need to bother themselves with. That's because FCSH, 25-2 and winners of 20 in a row, were this weekend's top state seed regardless of what they did in districts. Yet they went about their business and did so in, depending on your perspective, methodical or horrifying and ruthless fashion. If you're FCSH, which has missed the state tournament twice in 20 years, it was business as usual. If you're one of the other seven teams in the 2015 Class D2 field, you're scared out of your wits.

Sacred Heart won three postseason games by a combined score of 168-63, capped by a 53-23 dismantling of a 20-win Hampton team that wound up qualifying for state regardless.

That's just how it's been for the Irish ever since Christmas. No game during its winning streak was decided by single digits, yet it was against arguably the toughest slate FCSH has seen in years. There was a 16-point win over then-unbeaten and current Class C2 No. 4 and 24-3 state qualifier Freeman, and

more victories - not just won, but dominated. Since a 39-31 loss to Class C2 Sutton on Dec. 30 at Adams, the Irish have held teams to about 27 ppg.

"We're just locked in defensively," FCSH Coach Luke Santo, who captured career win No. 200 in that aforementioned conference title

They have the individual records, and chronic aches (Abby, 61 threes at a 42-percent clip, 94 assists and 54 steals - all with an arthritic back) and pains (Elizabeth, 9.9 ppg. on a broken leg) to prove it. Fouraker, furthermore, is coming off major knee surgery, junior all-stater Maggie Goltz, who scored 30 in her

state debut two years ago, has been hindered by a mysterious leg injury for more than a year now, playing three or four minutes at a time yet averaging nearly 10 ppg., and Haylee Heits, perhaps the best athlete of the bunch, has been forced to miss her entire sophomore volleyball, basketball and track seasons due to a knee injury. Their coach wants each to have more than a pair of third place D2 trophies and a mountain of regular season triumphs to show for their troubles.

"I'd love to send the seniors out with a championship," Santo said. "And I know they want to get it done. There have been a lot of great years, but no championships."

That's expected to change. At 10:45 a.m. Thursday at Lincoln North Star, a 21-3 Crawford team is likely in for a rude awakening and 450 miles from home. FCSH, with Goltz at 6-1, a pair of 6-foot freshmen post players in Sara Wertenberger and Lauren Parrish, and 5-10 sophomore Jade Hill, is a match-up nightmare for the Rams, who don't boast a single player over 5-8.

"We're longer and taller than most teams," Santo said. "The girls play hard and play smart. We're good at guarding the ball and we've really done a better job of communicating as the season has progressed."

Against Hampton at Norris, Goltz hit 6-of-8 shots and scored 12, adding six rebounds and a couple blocks, while sophomore guard Alexis Barnes drained 3-of-6 threes and scored nine. Hill hit the boards for seven rebounds, four of which were offensive.

FCSH, after missing six layups and leading by two, 10-8, after one quarter, used a 14-2 second quarter run to turn this into a yawner. The Irish owned a 31-20 rebounding edge and harrassed Hampton into 8-of-41 shooting.

Stuart, which came within a point of Wynot in the District Final, will likely be waiting in Friday's 2 p.m. semifinal at the Devaney Center. The third-ranked Broncos have the size, but not the pedigree - it's been 22 years since Stuart won a state tourney game. No way they're getting two in a row this time.

That leaves a 4:30 p.m. title game with No. 1 FCSH vs. No. 2 Wynot. The Blue Devils will be seeking a 15th straight state tournament win and fifth title in five years.

But minus all-stater Maggie Schulte, this isn't your big sister's Blue Devils. Nor, perhaps, is this your big sister's Lady Irish.

"It seems like its our time now - but somebody has to be them when it matters.

"It's time we finally get this done," he said.

2015 NSAA State Girls Basketball Championships - Class D2		
Location: Lincoln, NE		
Tournament Notes: All championship games at Pinnacle Bank Arena.		
Bracket Notes: Quarterfinals at Lincoln North Star HS. Semifinals at Sports Center. Championship at Pinnacle Bank Arena. Third-Place game at Lincoln Southwest HS.		
Mar 5 Quarterfinals	Mar 6 Semifinals	Mar 7 Championship
G1 3/5 @ 9a 5 Stuart 4 Mullen	G5 3/6 @ 2p Winner G1 Winner G2	G7 3/7 @ 4:30p Winner G5 Winner G6
G2 3/5 @ 10:45a 8 Crawford 1 Sacred Heart	G6 3/6 @ 3:45p Winner G3 Winner G4	G8 3/7 @ 9a Loser G5 Loser G6 Lincoln Southwest HS
G3 3/5 @ 7p 3 Sandhills/Theadford 6 Giltner		
G4 3/5 @ 8:45p 2 Wynot 7 Hampton		
Championship		
3rd Place		

a 17-point win in a rematch with Class D-1 No. 9 Friend, 21-5 and, too, a state qualifier, in the Pioneer Conference Tourney Championship last month. The team has won 12 times against teams with 15 or

game, in this just his ninth season.

"In December I thought we were an OK team, but it's pretty amazing how far we've come," Santo said. "Some of it, we didn't know our roles yet. But it all just clicked right before MUDECAS and I don't really know why," he sort of joked. "We're focused and on a mission, I guess."

"I really like how we're playing right now, our schedule has actually been tougher than in the past and I think we're ready, but I've thought that before. The bottom line is we gotta show up and make plays," Santo said.

Yes, FCSH has done it all — like make 12 trips to Lincoln — since the glory days of the '90s, but this month, oddly only because of their unmatched consistency, marks the 15th anniversary of the Lady Irish's last state basketball championship. One year, FCSH found itself in the All-Class Top 10 after winning MUDECAS, yet couldn't string together three-straight against Class D2 come March. It was just three years ago when the Lady Irish took an 18-game winning streak into a "meaningless" District Final only to lose back-to-back games against Deshler. Since the "threepeat" of 98-99-00, FCSH has finished runner-up three times and won the consolation game in each of its three appearances.

"These girls have done just about everything, but they haven't played in a championship game," Santo said. "I have a good feeling, but I had it last year, too. Hopefully we show up with a sense of urgency."

For three seniors (Kelsi Fouraker and the Magdanz twins - Abby and Elizabeth), whose state tournament careers started with a loss to four-time champion Wynot, there will likely be both a sense of urgency and sense of relief. All three have played hundreds of basketball games and been on the winning side, at least during the winter months, 75 times to just 10 defeats, and at least twice have come within a mere handful of possessions shy of the winner's circle. The twins have started every game for four years and compiled epic high school basketball careers.

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How to Get Your Teenagers to Become Lifelong Readers

(StatePoint) In today's age of technology, it's easy for teens to reject books in favor of gadgets. As these emerging technologies become increasingly important in society, parents should reinforce the educational and entertainment benefits of reading.

Here are a few tips for encouraging your children to love the written word.

Treat Reading Like a Privilege - If your kids believe that reading is a chore, they'll stop as soon as your influence over them begins to wane or they are no longer required to read for school. Instead, show them that reading is a source of fun.

In order to do this, position reading as a "reward." When they get good grades, take them to the bookstore. When they finish their homework in the evening, give teens "reading privileges," as you may be inclined to do with electronic sources of media.

Offer Compelling Literature - One of the most important things you can do is make sure that your kids have positive early experiences with books. This will shape their opinions of reading for the rest of their lives. Beyond school assignments, be sure your teens are reading compelling literature for fun.

The best way to do this is to give them books that you know they'll enjoy -- that way, they'll always be either reading or anticipating their next read. Serial literature can be a great way to accomplish the goal of keeping kids interested.

One great example is "Hollow City," the second novel in the "Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children" series, a unique combination of fantasy and haunting vintage photography. And since that first book is in the process of being adapted into a movie, kids awaiting its release can read "Hollow City" in the meantime.

Model Good Reading Behavior - Let your kids see you reading. If they know that you like to read, then they'll imitate your behavior. Teens may not always act like it, but they do look up to you.

Don't replace reading with interacting with your teens; instead, read at a time when they are already engaging in independent activities.

Start your own little household book club. During dinner or another portion of the day spent together, discuss what you both are reading and what you like about the books. Make recommendations and swap great books.

So when your kids are staring at their screens, remember that this generation can find just as much joy in books as you did when you were younger. All you need to do is give the extra push.

Daylight Saving Time is coming. Spring clocks ahead Sun. March 8th Kids: color stuff in!

Newspaper Fun!

www.readingclubfun.com Annimills LLC © 2015 V12-10

Arts are Alive!

Practice, practice, practice!

What does the word **art** mean to you? Art is what someone does creatively to share their view of the world with other people. Their expressions may be shown through painting, drawing, poetry, dance, sculpture, acting, music or other art forms.

Music is the art of making sounds. It can be created by making sounds with your voice or by playing instruments. You can keep a piece of music "alive" by writing it down or recording it.

Dance is created by moving the body. Many of the actions or movements are repeated. People in all parts of the world enjoy dance. It is kept in memories and on film. It is passed on from one person to another.

Art lets us create using materials. Paint, charcoal, clay, paper and glue are just a few things you can use to share your ideas and express your feelings.

Free Stuff!

Print out free puzzles: **All About The Arts, African-Americans Shaping Our World, Animals in Ice and Snow @ www.readingclubfun.com**

Read the clues to fill in the puzzle with people creating art!

- thinks about color, light, form; uses brushes, paints, canvas to make a picture
- plays a character in a movie, TV show, on radio or on the stage
- writes and directs musical scores for an orchestra, theatre, film, radio
- takes photographs with film or digital cameras; the use of light is important
- makes images in frames that are moved quickly to bring action in cartoons, movies, on web sites
- creates the look, details of clothing fashions, new items, games
- makes art using the tools on a computer: posters, websites, video games
- plays instrument(s); may play in different styles
- moves the body to rhythm or music to show feeling or idea, tell story
- uses words to express feelings, tell story
- blends words with drawings to make us laugh or to make a point
- blends illustration with engineering to create buildings, bridges

animator photographer composer dancer digital artist

actor cartoonist designer musician painter architect

Read the clues to fill in the music puzzle:

- leads an orchestra
- song for two
- group of church singers
- sailor's working song
- large group of musicians
- written music
- tune, song
- makes up musical works

Music

chantey orchestra score composer air choir duet conductor

I love to paint designs on items. I save my money and buy paints and brushes. I choose what I want to give and decide how I'm going to decorate it. Each gift is 'one of a kind', so you won't see someone else wearing the same T-shirt!

Art

Things you can paint for gifts: T-shirts, clay pots, wood boxes, pillowcases, photo frames, wood trays, birdhouses, poster boards

Where do we get things with which we draw and paint? Match each item to things they might be made from:

- pencil
- crayon
- chalk
- paper
- chalkboard
- colors
- paintbrush
- eraser

A. flowers, berries, bark, ground eggshells
B. animal tails, plastic 'hairs'
C. rubber tree juice
D. powdered rock
E. steel sheet and coating
F. bits and pieces of wood
G. wax and powdered colors
H. clay, graphite and wood

What art project would you be getting ready for if you had:

- newspaper and wallpaper paste?
- clay and kiln?
- paint and a wall?
- paper and pencil?
- loom and yarn?
- magazine and posterboard?
- dye and a shirt?

(Hint: Get a piece of paper to unscramble the answers!)

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Long-term care insurance may provide little assurance

"Thinking About Health," is part of the Nebraska Press Association's partnership with Rural Health News Service, which will provide Nebraskans with unbiased health-related information, designed to help better understand the health issues facing our communities, state and nation.

By Trudy Lieberman, Rural Health News Service

The U.S. has no national policy to pay for long-term care---no payment system for nursing home, home care or dozens of other services many people need as they age. And almost as bad, there has been little public discussion about this looming crisis in American healthcare. You'd think it might surface as an election issue in the coming presidential campaign, but it hasn't so far.

Last Dec. 31, the youngest of the 76 million Baby Boomers turned 50, and the time when many will start needing long-term care services is only two decades away. The need is already here for older Boomers who are moving into their 70s when the infirmities that come with growing older often show up.

When a loved one needs care many families eventually turn to Medicaid, the jointly funded federal and state program that pays the medical bills for the poor. But it also pays for nursing home stays for middle class families. Medicaid pays for nearly half of all long-term care, and families who have no resources or run out of money turn to it as a last resort. Medicaid pays after someone needing care first spends all of his or her their income and almost all assets on care. They must make themselves "poor" to qualify, a demeaning and frustrating process. This often leaves the spouse at home with very little to live on.

Often they have no choice. The annual cost of a nursing home private room averages about \$84,000 in Nebraska, South Dakota, Colorado, Wyoming, California, Indiana and Illinois, the seven states participating in the Rural Health News Service partnership. Home care can also cost \$40,000 to \$50,000 a year depending on how much and what type of care is needed.

Despite a tax deduction for premiums and lots of media hype, long-term care insurance has yet to catch on. Policies are expensive. It's not uncommon for a couple to pay \$10,000 to \$12,000 a year for two policies. Those buying at younger ages may pay less, but unless they've purchased inflation protection---a costly add-on---an individual or couple can still be unprotected. As nursing home costs escalate---they averaged \$40,000 a year in the 1990s---the benefit bought years ago covers much less.

Insurance companies also carefully check an applicant's health. If you have conditions like Parkinson's disease or diabetes, you may not get a policy even if you can pay for it. Insurers don't want people with illnesses that will land them in a nursing home or require lots of home care. This kind of insurance doesn't work like Obamacare plans which must cover everyone whether they are sick or well.

Policies have also been around long enough now to gauge how well companies pay claims. Trying to snag customers, many insurers priced their policies too low when they first offered them. Now they are raising prices as consumers file costly claims. Some companies have tried not to pay claims at all, leaving policyholders stranded.

Because of the large out-of-pocket costs for policies and uncertainties about paying claims 20 or 30 years later, long-term care insurance has never gone mainstream, and while some people are glad they were covered when they needed care, it's not the solution for financing long-term care for everyone who will eventually need it.

Last week, another one of those over-simplified advice stories showed up in the *New York Times* with financial advisers telling people to shop around for rates and consider buying a policy with fewer benefits to make coverage more affordable, a move that kind of defeats the purpose of having the insurance in the first place.

Journalist Jane Gross, a former *Times* reporter and author of "A Bittersweet Sweet Season: Caring for Our Aging Parents---and Ourselves," shot back in a letter to the editor summing up the problem this way: "When it comes to long-term care, the elderly, and families struggling to care for them, are being ignored by the government and by the private sector."

Paul Kleyman who directs the Ethnic Elders Newsbeat at New America Media is as fierce an advocate for better long-term care financing as anyone I know. He told me even though families have been hit hard nationally by the lack of long-term care protection, it's been difficult to fight politically for better ways to finance care.

This is something that affects the middle class, a voting block politicians covet. But unless there's a collective voice raising the cry about the hardships aging people face, long-term care won't even be a whisper in next year's election.

We'd like to hear about your experiences paying for long-term care. Write to Trudy at trudy.lieberman@gmail.com.

Editor's note: The Rural Health News Service is funded by a grant from The Commonwealth Fund and is distributed through the Nebraska Press Assn. Foundation, Colorado Press Assn., South Dakota Newspaper Assn., Hoosier (IN) State Press Assn., Illinois Press Assn., Wyoming Press Assn. and California Newspaper Publishers Assn.

Healthy Living Day at FC Sacred Heart

Friday, Feb. 27 was an exciting day for students in grades 7-12 as FC Sacred Heart sponsored a special Healthy Living Day.

A number of speakers from the Falls City health community gave classes on a variety of topics, and students were able to sign up for sessions such as Nutrition, CPR and First Aid, Yoga-style Stretching and Breathing, and Zumba. Students also attended some mandatory sessions given by Dr. Alan Tramp, Celeste Jones, and Julie Fiegener focusing on health issues for men and women such as cancer screening.

They also discussed careers in the health field and a team of hospital personnel, led by Denise Metzner, discussed the growing need for medical technicians. Joe Froeschl, counselor at Blue Valley Mental Health, gave classes on topics such as Friendships, Dealing with Depression and Anxiety, and Personalities.

A special presentation was given to all high school students by the Nebraska Highway Safety Commission. These speakers discussed the effects of drinking and driving, and students used a special simu-



Sacred Heart students, Nathan Bird, Sara Wertemberger, Keith Salimo, and Abbey Needenriep stretch during their Exercise Class on Healthy Living Day.

lator to experience the effects of impaired driving. They were then given key chains as a reminder to make good choices about driving, and signed a banner promising not to drink and drive.

Fr. Christopher Kubat, of Lincoln, ended the day by speaking to all students about the correlation

between good health and spiritual health. He told about his vocation to become a priest, and about his mission as director of Catholic Relief Services in Lincoln.

A big thank-you goes out to all the volunteers who helped make this a fun and educational day for Sacred Heart students.

FC, HTRS students compete at 42nd annual PSC Business Contest

Fifteen area high school students, including Brady Wilkerson and Allie Binder of Humboldt-TRS, took top honors at Peru State College's 42nd Annual High School Business Contest, each walking away with a \$500 tuition scholarship to Peru State.

Students competed with their peers from a record 27 high schools in Nebraska (including HTRS and Falls City High), Missouri and Kansas in 15 business disciplines, including accounting, advanced accounting, business communications, business law, business math, computer concepts, economics, entrepreneurship, introduction to business, job interview, keyboarding objective, keyboarding skills, marketing, personal finance and Web page design.

"This year's contest was another successful event that brought a record 27 high schools to our campus for a day of exciting competition," Contest Director and Business Professor Dr. Judy Grotrian said.

"A contest of this magnitude is only achieved through the outstanding work, collaboration and cooperation of the entire Peru State community as well as the participating high school instructors and students. Congratulations to the winners and all of the students who competed."

This contest marks the last to be led by Grotrian, who has served as director for 17 years. The event will continue under Lisa Parriott,

instructor of business and computer management information systems.

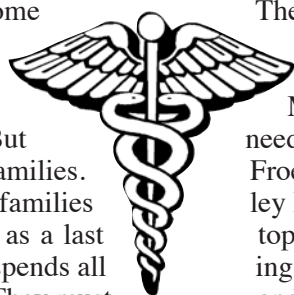
"This is a bitter-sweet ending to my involvement in such a popular event," Dr. Grotrian said. "I am humbled that the late Jack Hamilton, founder of the High School Business Contest, entrusted me to take the helm of the event back in 1998. I am also grateful to the Peru State administration, faculty, staff and students who have lent their support to the competition throughout the past 17 years."

"The excitement on campus the day of the contest was palpable," PSC President Dan Hanson said. "I congratulate all of the students who worked so hard to prepare for and participate in this rigorous competition. Our annual Business Contest has become a tradition thanks to the leadership of both Jack and Judy. I want to thank Dr. Grotrian for her good work on what has become an important outreach program for the college and an opportunity for area students to earn scholarships and invaluable experience."

Wilkerson and Binder placed first in Introduction to Business and Keyboarding I (Skills), respectively. They're both instructed by Joan

Dreier and Matt Mezger. Wilkerson also came in fifth in Marketing.

Students who placed from Falls City High were: Abby Gilkerson (third, Advanced Accounting) and Danielle Kirkendall (fourth, Advanced Accounting). They're taught by Donna Eickhoff.



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- South Heartland District Health Dept. 877-238-7595
- Three Rivers Public Health Department 402-727-5396
- Great Plains Colon Cancer Task Force 402-354-6333

Department of Health & Human Services
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NNRD

NOTICE

The Nemaha Natural Resources District Board of Directors will hold its regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, March 12, 2015, at the NRD headquarters in Tecumseh. Individual committee meetings begin at 6 p.m. An agenda is being kept current at the office - 62161 Hwy 136, Tecumseh, NE 68450.

Village of Salem

VILLAGE OF SALEM

Chairman Strauch opened the February 3, 2015 regular Salem Board meeting at 7:45 p.m. in the Community Building. Kean, Vogege, and Wessel answered roll. Rowley was absent.

The Board reviewed the State of Nebraska Highway 8 improvement plan. Strauch moved to adopt and approve the agreement with the Department Roads, State of Nebraska for project N.STP-8-7(115). Motion was seconded by Kean and passed, all voting yes. Chairman and Clerk signed the documents. Fred Reimers reported on the operation of the water system. Claims were presented for payment. Wessel moved to pay claims, seconded by Vogege, motion carried. Clerk noted that the liquor license for the Big Red Inn has been advertised and no objections for renewal have been filed. Strauch moved to adjourn at 8:25, seconded by Kean. Motion carried. The next meeting will be March 3, 2015 at 7:30 p.m.

Carolyn Glathar, Village Clerk

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Village of Salem

Chairman Kenneth Strauch open the Salem Village 1 and 6 year street hearing at 7:30 p.m. on February 3, 2015. Board members Kean, Wessel and Vogege answered roll. Rowley was absent.

The Board reviewed the street plan. Kean moved to adopted the plan as presented, seconded by Wessel. Motion carried, all voting yes. Strauch moved to close the hearing at 7:45, seconded by Wessel. Motion carried Hearing closed.

Carolyn Glathar, Village Clerk

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8-9

Southeast Nebraska Community Action Partnership Inc. (SENCA) is accepting applications for a full-time Program Support Specialist. Primary responsibilities include data entry, answer and route telephone calls, process mail, maintain office inventory, and assist with other departments as needed. General office experience, excellent interpersonal and communication skills, and intermediate computer skills required and must be willing to submit to a pre-employment drug test and random drug & alcohol testing. SENCA offers a competitive benefit package. Complete job description and applications are available online at www.senca.org, or for more information contact Becky Littrel at 402-862-2411 ext. 119. This position is 100% federally funded. EOE

8-9

Southeast Nebraska Community Action Partnership Inc. (SENCA) is now accepting applications for a Family Service Advocate at our Head Start program located in Table Rock. Primary responsibilities include recruiting Head Start children and coordinating delivery of services to Head Start families. Minimum qualifications include: high school diploma or equivalent, ability to submit timely accurate reports, basic computer skills, and be willing to submit to a pre-employment drug test and random drug & alcohol testing. Experience working in the human services field is highly desirable. This position is full-time and will run 9 months out of the year. SENCA offers a competitive benefit package. A complete job description and application are available at www.senca.org. For more information contact Becky Littrel at (402) 862-2411, extension 119. Position is 80% federally funded. EOE

8-9

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8-9



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jsuhr@triple-c-inc.com

9

Southeast Nebraska Community Action Partnership (SENCA) is now accepting applications for a Bus Driver/Teacher Aide at our Head Start program located in Falls City. Primary responsibilities include providing safe transportation for children, monitoring/scheduling routine maintenance of the vehicle, and maintaining accurate records. Minimum qualifications include: must be at least 21 years of age, possess or be willing to obtain a CDL/School Bus Permit, have excellent driving record, and submit to pre-employment drug test and random drug & alcohol testing. All expenses for obtaining and retaining required permits are reimbursed. This position is full-time and will run 9 months out of the year. SENCA offers a competitive benefit package. A complete job description and application are available at www.senca.org. For more information contact Becky Littrel at (402) 862-2411, extension 119. Position is 80% federally funded. EOE

8-9

HELP WANTED

Golden Triangle Energy in Craig, Missouri, has one new position available in the operations department. Job duties include testing and monitoring of the ongoing process, recording data, minor plant maintenance and repair. Work hours are 7:30 p.m. until 7:30 a.m. (12 hour shifts).



Competitive wages and benefits are offered to our employees. Applications may be picked up at Golden Triangle Energy, 15053 Hwy. 111, Craig, MO, or online at www.goldentrianglenergy.com.

9



WELDER

Triple C, Inc. has an opening available for an experienced welder. Qualified individuals must have attention to detail, positive attitude, excellent attendance habits and self-motivation. Benefits include BCBS medical, 401(k) retirement program, paid holiday and vacation time, and a profit sharing program. Qualified candidates may apply by picking up an application at Triple C, 902 Hwy K246, Sabetha, KS.

9

Southeast Nebraska Community Action Partnership (SENCA) is now accepting applications for the position of Retrofit Installer/Technician in the Housing department. The primary responsibility for this position consists of applying Weatherization measures to homes within SENCA's service area. These measures include replacing doors and windows, crawling into small crawl spaces & attics, blowing insulation and other measures necessary to increase the energy efficiency of the homes. Applicants should possess a demonstrated knowledge of construction fundamentals. Must be at least 19 years of age, have a valid driver's license with acceptable driving record and be willing to submit to a pre-employment drug test and random drug & alcohol testing. This position is full-time 40 hours a week and will be based in Humboldt. SENCA offers a competitive benefit package. Complete job description and applications are available online at www.senca.org, or for more information contact Becky Littrel at 402-862-2411 ext. 119. Preference is given to applications received by March 16, 2015. This position is 100% federally funded. EOE

9-10

NOTICE

AQUATIC PARK JOB OPENINGS

Applications will be received at City Hall, 2307 Barada Street, Falls City, Nebraska until 4:00 p.m., March 18, 2015, for the positions of Manager, Assistant Manager, Lifeguards and Concession Workers for the City of Falls City Aquatic Park, Falls City, Nebraska. Please bring valid I.D. and Social Security card when returning your application. Pre-employment drug testing is mandatory. The job descriptions and qualifications for the positions are at City Hall or on the web at www.dol.nebraska.gov. The City of Falls City is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

9-10

On Site Job Fair!



C.J. Foods, Inc.

On Site Interviews!

No Appointment Needed

Thursday, March 12

8am - Noon & 3pm - 7pm

Check out our current open positions, fringe benefits and online application at our website:

www.cjfoodsinc.com

FULL TIME DIRECTOR OF NURSING

Sabetha Community Hospital is accepting applications for the Director of Nursing position. Applicants must be a Kansas licensed Registered Nurse and should have knowledge of medical practices, procedures, laws, regulations and guidelines governing hospitals. The Director of Nursing will plan, organize, develop and direct the overall operation of the Nursing Services Department.

An excellent base salary is offered including vacation, holiday, and sick time. Benefits include group health with dental, eye and a prescription drug rider, pension plan, group life insurance with dependent life, long term disability, long term care, TDA's, cancer plan and numerous other benefits. If interested in this opportunity visit the hospital's website at www.sabethahospital.com or call Julie Holthaus, Human Resource Director at 785-284-2121 ext 584.

7-10

Falls City Healthcare Community

is seeking energetic, reliable & compassionate Licensed Nurses and Certified Nursing Assistants. FCHC offers competitive wages, excellent benefits package & flexible scheduling. Apply in person at 2800 Towle Street, Falls City, NE, or contact Kathy Messner, DON at 402-245-5252 or apply online at www.welcov.com

EOE

9-10

Drivers: Company, O/OP's Midwest Regional. Dry Van. Excellent wages and benefits. Quarterly bonus program. Newer trucks with APU's, scanners, and pre-pass plus CDL A. 855-904-1395.

9

Meyer-Earp Chevrolet of Auburn has two positions available. One position is for an ASE Certified Technician. The second position is for an Oil Change Tech. Great wages and benefits. Call 402-274-3160 for more information.

8-9

The City of Horton is currently accepting applications in our electrical department. Experience preferred. Salary is dependent upon qualifications and knowledge. Benefits include vacation, holidays, retirement plan and group health insurance. Send resume to City of Horton, P.O. Box 30, Horton, KS 66439, or apply online at cityofhorton.com. Applications will be taken until position is filled.

8-9

IMMEDIATE OPENING AVAILABLE: FULL TIME COOK: 32-40 hours a week Must have experience. Sunday evening and Mondays off. Apply in person at Breezy Hill Café! 402-245-2229.

9-10

Falls City Mercantile - DRIVER POSITION OPEN. Contact Dan Simon at, 402-245-2716.

9-10

HERZOG RAILROAD SERVICES INC.

is hiring full time Railcar repairman/certified welders at our Falls City, NE facilities. Candidates must have strong general mechanical ability, and pass AWS D15.1 certified welding exam using flux core wire. Drug, physical, and background screening required. Newly increased wage scale for those who qualify. Second shift. TO APPLY VISIT www.hrsi.com (careers tab) HRSI is an EOE.

8-10



Licensed RNs, LPNs and CNAs

Pawnee Manor
438 12th Street
Pawnee City, NE 68420
402-852-2975

Submit resumes to:
Jo Vrtiska, DON
JEVrtiska@SavaSC.com

9-12

Vehicle For Sale

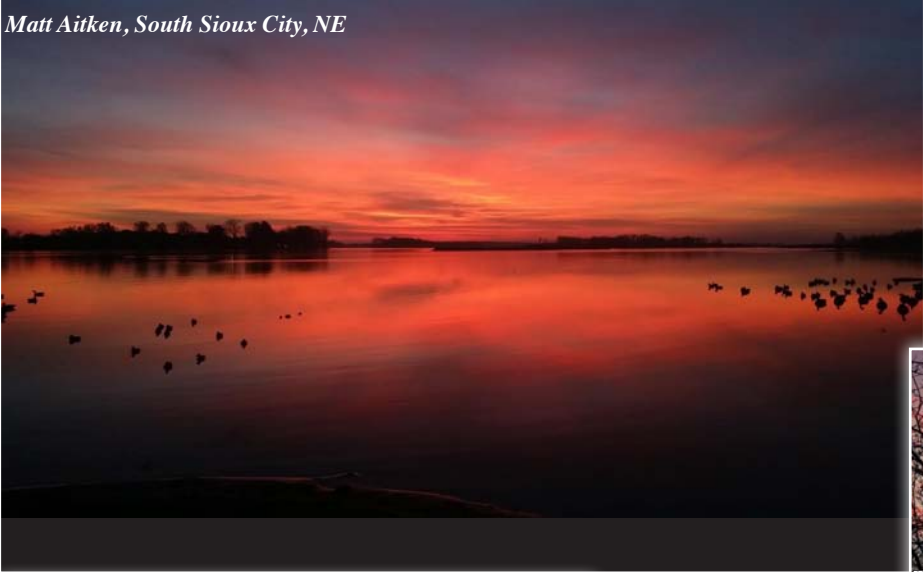
1999 Ford Explorer XLT, Black. 178K miles, fully loaded, has tow pkg. Asking \$3,600, details call 402-245-2671 after 5 p.m.

8-9P

WANTED

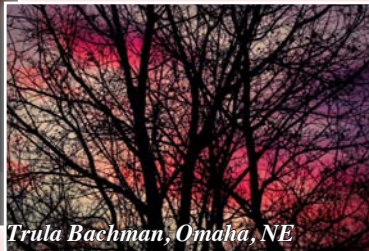
AMERICAN WALNUT. Buying standing walnut timber, 25 or more. Call 816-232-6781 in St. Joseph for details.

47-tf



Matt Aitken, South Sioux City, NE

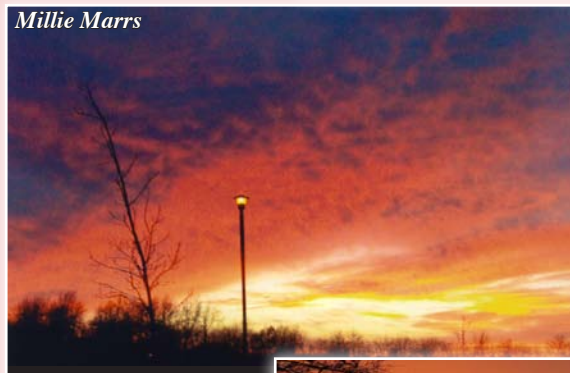
FALLS CITY JOURNAL READER PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Trula Bachman, Omaha, NE



Jessica Ahern, Shubert, NE



Millie Marrs



Kristi Schawang, Falls City, NE



Lacey Lieka



Kim Buckminster, Falls City, NE



Chloe Schock, Falls City, NE



Rachel Dunn, Falls City, NE



Lena Lippold, Dawson, NE

Thank you everyone for your photos! Each week we will give you a new topic or subject. You can enter a new photo every week, one photo per week per person with the photographers name and location. Please no logo's, or copywritten work. The Falls City Journal will choose a photo to be featured in the paper the following week with the new topic. Submit photos to: journalpotw@gmail.com before Noon on Monday.

NEXT WEEK: BASKETBALL FANS



William Sharp's 1854 chromolithograph "American Water Lily, Intermediate Stages of Bloom" from the collection of the Sheldon Museum of Art.

Sheldon Statewide Exhibition 'Depicting Nature' at FC Library & Arts Center's Stalder Gallery

Sheldon Museum of Art's 2014-15 Sheldon Statewide exhibition, "Depicting Nature: From the Scientific to the Sublime," opens at Stalder Gallery inside the Falls City Library & Arts Center, 1400 Stone St., with a reception at 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 10, hosted by the Richardson County Arts and Humanities Council. The reception and exhibition are free and open to the public.

The exhibition opens Thursday, March 5, and can be viewed during regular library hours: Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; and Saturday, 9 a.m. to noon. On view at the Stalder Gallery through April 5, the exhibition includes works of art that span 150 years, and range from early botanical studies to contemporary photography. Although varying in subject, style, and technique, the objects speak to the enduring fascination artists have with nature.

Approximately 20 works from the Sheldon's permanent collection make up "Depicting Nature." These include prints, photographs, and paintings by artists including Imogen Cunningham, Edward Weston, Dana Fritz, Albert Bierstadt, Seiko Tachibana, and Doug and Mike Starn.

Area teachers are invited to a free, hands-on workshop that makes connections between the exhibition and the recently adopted Nebraska visual arts standards from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. Tuesday, March 10, at the FCL&AC. Participants will receive hands-on art-making experience and take-home curriculum resources. Lunch is included. For more information or to register, contact Mary Stoner at mary.stoner@unl.edu

Bus grants are available through the Nebraska Arts Council to assist with workshop participants' expenses, but must be applied for immediately due to a four-week application deadline. For more information on bus grants, visit nebraskaartscouncil.org/grants

Sheldon Statewide is an outreach education and exhibitions program of the Sheldon Museum of Art in Lincoln. Since its inception in 1987, the program has reached more than 285,000 people in 24 Nebraska communities. It is made possible by the generous support of Farmers Mutual Insurance Company of Nebraska, James and Rhonda Seacrest, the Sheldon Art Association, the Nebraska Arts Council, and the Nebraska Cultural Endowment. NebraskaLand National Bank and Mike Jacobson, President and CEO, sponsor the North Platte exhibition.

The Sheldon Statewide exhibition schedule for 2014-15 is: Aug. 27 through Sept. 29, Edgerton Explorit Center, Aurora; Oct. 1-29, McKinley Education Center, North Platte; Oct. 31 through Dec. 2, High Plains Museum, McCook; Jan. 7 through Feb. 2, Chadron State College, Chadron; Feb. 5 through March 3, Cornerstone Bank, York; **March 5 through April 5, Stalder Gallery, FC Library & Arts Center**; April 7 through May 6, Morton James Public Library, Nebraska City; May 8 through June 9, Fremont Area Art Association, Fremont. Dates may be subject to slight modification.

Happy 23rd Birthday to our Beautiful Princess Kelly



March 1, 1992 Always in our Hearts!



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