



Area teams do battle

Homer, Ponca in action. Page 1B

Since 1909 DAKOTA COUNTY STAR

1000 West 29th St., South Sioux City, NE 68776

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Thursday, September 26, 2024

STAR CALENDAR

County Board to meet

The Dakota County Board of Commissioners will hold their next meeting on Monday, Sept. 30 at 3 p.m. in the Dakota County Courthouse.

An agenda for the meeting is available for download at www.dakotacounty.ne.gov.

Auxiliary craft fair set

The South Sioux City American Legion Auxiliary Unit 307 is hosting its annual Autumn Craft and Vendor Fair on Saturday, Sept. 28 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the American Legion Hall, located at 109 East 19th Street.

A variety of craft items and vendor wares will be available, with a bake sale, concessions and door prizes. Admission is free.

Rainbow of Gems show

The 57th annual Rainbow of Gems Show will be held Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 28-29, at the Cottonwood Inn and Conference Center, located at 4401 Dakota Ave.

Hours for the show are 9 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturday and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on Sunday.

Cardinal Vision meeting

The second in a series of five Cardinal Vision workshops will be held Tuesday, Oct. 8 at 6 p.m. in the South Sioux City Middle School.

More information on the workshop is available at www.cardinalvision.org.

Chamber Coffee Friday

The Morning Optimists will host this week's Chamber Coffee on Friday at 9:30 a.m. at the American Legion Club, located at 109 East 19th Street.

The coffee begins at 9:30 a.m., with the program starting at 10 a.m. The club is hosting in honor of its 40th anniversary since it began in 1984.

Got an event?

If your school, church or nonprofit has an upcoming event that you'd like to promote, send the information to the Dakota County Star at least two weeks ahead of time.

Information can be sent to news@dakcostar.com or call (402) 494-4264.

Subscribe to the Star

Update or start your subscription to the Dakota County Star by calling Laury at (402) 494-4264, Mondays through Thursdays, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

LOCAL WEATHER

Data Courtesy National Weather Service FOR WEEK OF SEPT. 26-OCT. 2, 2024

THURSDAY



83 53
Mostly sunny.

FRIDAY



81 53
Cloudy.

SATURDAY



78 51
Mostly cloudy.

SUNDAY



78 51
Mix of clouds and sun.

MONDAY



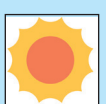
75 50
Mix of clouds and sun.

TUESDAY



73 49
Mostly sunny.

WEDNESDAY



73 50
Mostly sunny.

Cardinal Vision workshop focus on buildings

By MICHAEL CARNES
Star Publisher

South Sioux City Community Schools Superintendent Dr. Rony Ortega is asking for the community's help.

At the first of five Cardinal Vision workshops held last Wednesday in the middle school gymnasium, school officials presented information about the school district's challenges dealing with a growing enrollment and educating those children in buildings that, in some cases, are well past their age of usefulness.

The average age of a school building in the United States is 49 years. Of the SSC district's seven buildings where children are going to school, the average age of the district's buildings is at 59 years, led by Covington Elementary, which reached the 100-year mark this year.

Dakota City Elementary is 76 years old, followed by Swett Elementary (64), Lewis & Clark Elementary (64), the high school (56), and middle school (49). Only the district office (46) and the Cardinal and

Harney elementary buildings (both 31) are below the average age.


"It's all concerning," Dr. Ortega said after Wednesday's initial workshop, which drew a reporter-estimated 160 local residents. "When we talk about aging facilities and increasing enrollment, those are big concerns. With a 100-year-old building and the youngest at 31, and four of those schools already exceeding capacity, we have no room."

South Sioux City Community Schools has not built a new building since Cardinal Elementary and Harney Elementary were constructed in 1992. The only other significant construction came when the high school and middle school were connected in 1999.

Many of the buildings are either at or near capacity. Covington, Cardinal and Dakota City elementary schools are all above capacity, and Harney Elementary is expected to reach capacity by 2028.

"We expect to see another 500 kids come to our school district in the next 10 years," he said, adding

SEE CARDINAL VISION, 2A



Cardinal VISION

One Community. One Vision.

Next Meeting - Tuesday, Oct. 8, 6 p.m.
at SSC Middle School gym



(PHOTO BY MICHAEL CARNES)

The ribbon was cut during Chamber Coffee on Friday to officially open Northeast Community College's new commercial trucking facility at its campus in South Sioux City.

New NECC facility in SSC helps address area trucking needs

By MICHAEL CARNES
Star Publisher

More than two years ago, it was an empty space.

Today, the new buildings that house Northeast Community College's truck driving and welding classrooms are open and college officials are looking forward to meeting two growing needs in the Siouxland area.

At Friday's Chamber of Commerce Coffee Hour, college officials and community leaders came together to cut the ribbon and officially open the new facilities,

which will help address the need for more commercial truck drivers and welders in the region.

Northeast Community College officials were aggressive in communicating the need with then-Gov. Pete Ricketts to put funds in the hands of the college to address needs that have been expressed by business and industry leaders in their 20-county service area.

"When the ARPA dollars became available, we told the gov-

SEE NECC, 2A

Taxpayers air frustrations at Monday public hearing

By MICHAEL CARNES
Star Publisher

The pink postcards mailed out by the State of Nebraska made a lot of Dakota County taxpayers see red, and they were able to vent their frustrations at a public hearing Monday at the SSC Fire Department's Memorial Hall.

A mix of residents and city and county officials were on hand for a 90-minute discussion concerning fiscal year 2024-25 budgets approved by both the Dakota County Board of Commissioners and the City Council of South Sioux City that were above the 2 percent limit made by the State of Nebraska.

When a public body puts its budget together, they are subjected to being

put on pink cards that are mailed by the state if their budgets exceed 2 percent of the previous year's budget. This was the first time Dakota County was on the pink card in the three years the state has required these public hearings, thanks to a budget increase of more than 10 percent, while the City of South Sioux City was on for the second time in three years after its budget went up by more than 5 percent.

County Board chairman Martin Hohenstein laid out several reasons for the county's budget increase, with the county's insurance one of the biggest culprits.

"Last year, we paid \$1,752,923 in insurance, and this year it's \$2,433,403," Hohenstein said. That

increase, alone, put the county above its allowable growth limit of just over \$400,000.

He said the county's department heads did everything they could to minimize their needs for the coming fiscal year.

"We asked for the department heads to come up with something and we felt they did a great job," he said. "Other than employee and insurance costs, there wasn't much."

"The cost of everything has gone up," he added, noting the increase in meals served at the Dakota County Jail.

"We served 125,925 meals at the jail, and if those meals go up 10 cents

SEE FRUSTRATIONS, 2A

Council gives final budget approval

By MICHAEL CARNES
Star Publisher

After attending a public hearing on the city and county budgets, the City Council of South Sioux City gave its final approval on the 2024-25 fiscal year budget.

The 5 percent increase in the city's tax asking prompted its presence at a state-mandated public meeting Monday evening, attended by about 50 people who offered their comments on the city's and county's budget for the coming fiscal year.

For the city, the tax asking rose from \$4,138,533.03 to \$4,362,489.64, an increase of 5 percent. The city's levy dropped 4 percent, from 40.94 cents per \$100 of valuation to 39.4573 cents, thanks to a valuation that rose 9 percent, from just over \$1.01 billion to \$1.10 billion.

The City Council also discussed a potential cryptocurrency mining building that would be built in the industrial park on the south end of town, just north of neighboring Dakota City.

Concerns about noise coming from such a facility was shared by resident Sheri Malcolm, who had heard reports of noise complaints from residents living near a similar structure in Stanton County. That, and a story in a previous issue of the Dakota County Star regarding the city selling property for such a facility, led her to do research on the topic.

Malcolm said that persistent noise coming from fans

that work 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to keep working computer equipment cool has the potential to create health issues for nearby residents who live within a mile of such a facility.

"Can you imagine not going to sit on your deck because the noise is always there, and you can't open the windows at night because of the noise," she said.

Malcolm encouraged the Council to proceed carefully with approving such construction, suggesting steps to mitigate the noise and enforce any related ordinances.

Yash Milak, representing Radiant Tech, which runs a similar facility in Beatrice and is looking to build one here, said that he doesn't want his company to be a bad resident or create issues with residents in the community.

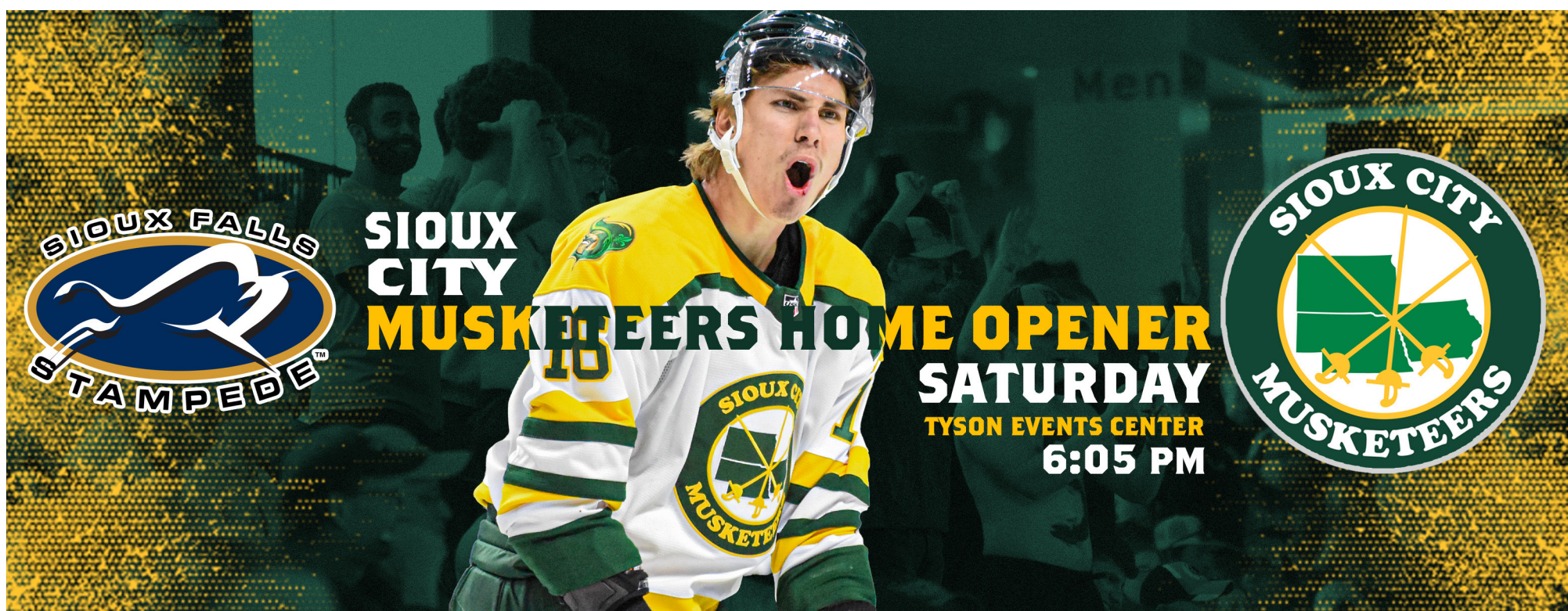
"If there is an issue, we can mitigate it," he said.

Councilman Rick Bousquet said that Woodbury County in Iowa has passed an ordinance that would not allow such facilities to be built in that county. He said he was in favor of having such a facility in the county, with some limitations.

"I think we need to have a limit, something like 50 decibels for the safety of our residents," he said.

City Administrator Lance Hedquist said this would actually be the second such facility in South Sioux City, as another facility is in operation here. He said the city

SEE COUNCIL, 2A



SIoux FALLS STAMPEDE

SIoux CITY MUSKETEERS HOME OPENER

SATURDAY

TYSON EVENTS CENTER

6:05 PM

SIoux CITY MUSKETEERS

CARDINAL VISION: Age of buildings a major concern

from Page 1A

to the district's 3,730-student enrollment.

Finding a place for those kids in the current setup will be difficult, if not impossible, to achieve, Ortega said.

"We deny every option enrollment we get because we don't have any room for those kids, and we are sending kids from one school to another to create space where we can," he said. "I've walked the hallways of our schools and it's just full, it's not educationally adequate what we are providing our kids."

In addition, many of the buildings have significant internal issues that require immediate attention, from an aging sewer pipe at Covington Elementary to trailers outside the high school and middle school where classes are being held.

"There are no secure vestibules in our building," said Erin Heinemann, director of facilities and business operations for the district. "While you have to buzz in to get in the building, there's nothing stopping someone from going elsewhere once they get in."

Trailers outside the school require students and teachers to leave the

main building to access those trailers, which Heinemann said, creates concerns with people who might walk by the buildings as well as protecting students during a lockdown or severe weather.

The district's two newest buildings — Cardinal and Harney Elementary — were both built during the early days of computers, but can not handle the needs of today's equipment, especially when everybody has their own computer device (cell phone, tablet, laptop, etc.).

Many of the buildings have pieced together such things as HVAC equipment, but even those systems are reaching or surpassing their expected life spans.

"We're on borrowed time before they're no longer functional," Heinemann said.

Some of the older buildings were constructed in days before handicap access became a concern. Covington Elementary is a three-story building with no elevator, and many of the older buildings were built with narrow doors that create mobility issues for handicapped individuals.

If an issue pops up at one of the older buildings, it creates a major issue for the district.

"This is what happens when you

don't do a capital improvement for 25 years," Heinemann said. "If something caused a shutdown of one of the buildings, we don't have another facility to send students to if one of our facilities becomes unusable."

Dr. Ortega said he hopes people who attend the workshops can see what challenges the district is facing, and he wants public input that can be used to provide a solution that can be agreed upon by the district's taxpayers.

"What we hope comes out of this process is that the community discovers our challenges and helps create solutions," he said. "We don't want to come to the community with a predetermined plan; we'd rather build this with the community from the ground up. We're putting a spotlight on the challenges and trying to work on solutions together. It's going to be from the ground up, not top-down."

Wednesday's workshop is the first of five scheduled by the school district, with future workshops set for Oct. 8, Oct. 29, Dec. 10 and Jan. 14. Those participating in the workshop will put together a report that will be presented to the Board of Education at its Feb. 10, 2025 meeting.

FRUSTRATIONS: Increased taxes draw taxpayers' ire

from Page 1A

each, that adds up in a hurry," he said.

South Sioux City's City Treasurer, Nanci Walsh, said that the city's tax rate is relatively stable when taking into account the services the community is accustomed to get from the city.

Completion of the new wastewater treatment plant helped bring the city's budget request down by 15 percent, but the continued growth of the city creates additional demands, she said.

After the county and city presented their information, they were peppered with questions, complaints and accusations by several city and county residents.

Several speakers asked how the city and county can justify asking for more money in the current economic climate, where everybody seems to be struggling to make ends meet.

"(The) cost of food has gone up, cost of insurance has gone up, but we don't get to take money from others to make it," resident Brian Becker said. "Is there a reason why you can't cut budget to match income, because that's what everybody else does."

County resident Kathy Merithew expressed concerns about what will happen when the city expands out into her area.

"The city is coming that way and I don't want them to come any closer to my property," she said. "Anything having to do with building on property where you have to have an inspector come out because county doesn't have one, I don't want to have anything to do with the city."

Several expressed concerns with skyrocketing valuations.

"I've lived in same place about 50 years, and 20 years ago I bought farmland at \$1,400 an acre," Don Kubik said. "Last year it was appraised at around \$8,000 an acre, and this year it's \$19,531 per acre. I can't understand how things like this can be done. My attorney recommended I have a psychiatrist help me out."

Many area farmers are negatively impacted as well.

"Farm income is going down," Richard Lieber explained. "I wish I could be on a fixed income and I'd know what my income is, but a lot of farmers have no idea how their crops are going to go. Then seed

corn and fertilizer goes up whenever corn prices go up and tractor companies charge more, but when the price drops to half that, they're not there saying they'll cut their prices."

Many expressed frustration with how the pink cards were mailed out. Many received theirs a couple of weeks before Monday's meeting, but after both the city and county boards

approved their budgets.

Both boards have public hearings in the weeks before their budgets are up for final approval. Hohenstein said the county usually begins its budget discussions in the spring before their budget is approved in late August or early September, while the city starts work in May ahead of approving its budget sometime in September.

Prokop receives academic achievement award

Summer Prokop of Ponca received the Clifford A. Rae Academic Achievement Award. The award was given to nine Buena Vista University business students and nine science students for the 2024 academic year.

The awards, which range up to \$10,000, were created by two separate \$750,000 endowments from the foundations established by Dr. Harold Walter Siebens and named after the long-time advisor and counsel to Siebens and the foundations. The endowments support annual awards for up to three pre-qualified, academically high-performing BVU business and science students in each of the second, third, and fourth years of school.

These awards often help students offset the personal costs associated with completing an internship or experiential learning initiative, providing them with opportunities they otherwise would not be able to experience.

COUNCIL: Final approval of FY 2024-25 budget given

from Page 1A

could put limits on the amount of sound that would be coming from this facility.

"We need to take a look at this and make up some rules and regulations," Mayor Rod Koch said. "If, say, five years from now they would want to build a bigger one, this could be an issue. We have some homework to do on this."

In other action: — The Council heard an updated

report on the summer season of activity at the swimming pool, which is run by the nearby Norm Waitt Sr. YMCA.

Rhonda Robson, CEO of the YMCA, reported that the pool had one of its best summers in recent memory.

"We actually made \$1,900 this year," she said. "It had been (in negative numbers) for years, so it was nice to have that."

More than 6,000 people visited the pool this summer, keeping the

32-member pool staff busy.

She also reported on the YMCA's expansion project, a 12,000-square foot addition that will be home to early learning and youth development when it opens next year. She said about \$4 million of the \$5 million needed for construction has been raised.

— A report on the Community Orchard from Carol Larvick and parks director Gene Maffitt included an update on new trees that were planted after rabbits ate the bark off some of the trees the previous winter.

— Police officer Rick Comstock was also recognized for 35 years of service with the SSC Police Department.

The City Council's next meeting is Monday, Oct. 14 at 5 p.m. in Council chambers at City Hall.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

Harris Snadra, to Harris Sandra Trustee, Harris Kyle Trustee, Sandra Harris Trust, S-T-R 6-27-9 E SE 1/4 SW 1/4, E PT SW 1/4 SE 1/4, S-T-R 32-29-9 E PT LOT 4, 5-27-9 E PT LOT 4, S-T-R 6-27-9 E PT SE 1/4 SW 1/4, PT SW 1/4 SE 1/4, S-T-R 32-28-9 PT LOT 4, S-T-R 5-27-9 PT LOT 4, S-T-R 30-28-9 E PT W 1/2 NW 1/4, S-T-R 30-28-9 E 1/2 NW 1/4, E PT W 1/2 NE 1/4

Ahmed Mohamed, Chaffe Ayantu, to Ahmed Mohamed, Chaffe Ayantu, LOT 11 LIN DU ADDITION OF SSC

Witzka Darlene L., to Witzka Darlene L Trustee, Darlene L Witzka Revocable Living Trust, LOT 3 IN BLOCK 9, CENTRAL ADDITION

Lane Robert, Lane Patricia, to Alba Patricia Margarita Perez, PT LOT 11, 12 IN BLOCK 172, DAKOTA CITY

Valdivia Jose L. Nuno, Mares Yadira, to Garza Alma Cantu, LOT 11,12,13,14,15,16 IN BLOCK 3, MARTINS ADDITION OF SSC

BOUTTHAVONG PANYA, BOUTTHAVONG BOUNCHANH, TO TOBAR NURIA M, LOT 3 AND PT LOT 2 IN BLOCK 25, MOANS ADDITIONS OF SSC

Cloud Lisa C, Cloud Karl, Miller Monica A, to Cardinal Capital Group LLC, PT LOT 31,32,33, 34, 35, 36, MARTINS SUBDIVISION OF SSC

Security National Bank of Sioux City Trustee, Carol A Marmo Revocable Living Trust, to JCO Holdings LLC, LMO Holdings LLC, Olson Gary E, Olson Victoria J, Olson Steve M, S-T-R 1-88-48 W PT LOT 2,3

Bracht Properties LLC, to Roth-Hanna Karen H Trustee, Karen H

Roth-Hanna Revocable Trust, PT LOT 2 OAK PARK ADDITION OF SSC, UNIT 3 BRODEE CONDOS

White Donald J, to White Donald J, White Colby J, Lot 31 Western Park First Filing of SSC

Siouxland Bank to KCFT INC DBA Knights of Columbus, PT LOT 8,9,10,11,12 JOY PLACE ADDITION OF SSC

Hovey Developers LLC, to Hovey Construction Inc, LOT 1 HOVEY SECOND SUBDIVISION OF SSC

Albenesius Larry, Albenesius Claudette, to Robinette Michael, LOT 11 ROTTUNDA PLACE PHASE 6 OF SSC

Kenney Virginia L, to Kennelly Virginia L Trustee, Revocable Trust of Virginia L Kennelly, LOT 6 AND PT LOT 7 IN BLOCK 25, MOANS ADDITION

Siouxland Federal Credit Union, to Castro Jose, LOT 42 SOUTH RIDGE ESTATES SECOND FILING OF SSC

Garcia Guadalupe Alejandro deceased Garcia Elvia T, to Lopez Ramiro Chilel, LOT 6 IN BLOCK 1, FIRST ADDITION SSC

Grant Donald, Grand Julie, DBA J & J Auto Sales, to Ramirez Juan, Perez Elvia, S-T-R 12-88-48 W PT SE 1/4 NW 1/4

Hernandez Jose L, Guzman Claudia M Alamillo, to Fernandez Emma, LOT 11,12 IN BLOCK 7, FIRST RAILWAY OF SSC

Curiel Sheila R fka Sheila R Breyer, Curiel Gonzalo, to Curiel Sheila R Trustee, Sheila R Curiel Revocable Trust S-T-R 30-28-9 E PT SW 1/4, LOT 2,3 COVINGTON ADDITION OF SSC

NECC: New SSC facilities are open

from Page 1A

error that the community colleges needed to invest in facilities, and we used our \$10 million here in South Sioux City," said NECC President Dr. Leah Barrett at Friday's event.

Citing the area as the fastest-growing population in the region, Barrett said it was important to invest in the area to provide career and technical opportunities for people in the area. Meetings with industry partners led to the discovery that transportation and welding workers were among the area's biggest needs.

With that, construction of the two buildings began in earnest 18 months ago. The driving range for the trucking program opened up last fall, and the buildings were completed earlier this summer.

"Transportation is one of the largest industries we have in our region, and the need for commercially-licensed drivers is out there," Barrett

said. "These are two of the top positions needed by our industry partners."

Bradley Ranslem, Northeast's Dean of Applied Technology, said the new buildings provide a terrific opportunity for people looking to enter the trucking or welding career fields.

"It really is a tremendous opportunity of growth to expand our footprint here in SSC and help contribute more workers to the truck driving industry," he said.

Ranslem said the need for people who want to get a CDL license and drive trucks is tremendous, and the college will be looking to hire more instructors as word gets out about the program.

It's a dream come true for the college, Ranslem added.

"Two and a half years ago, we were just conceptualizing the facility and the driving range, and to see it all come together is amazing to see," he said.

Card shower for Leonard and Marguerite Cain

Cards can be mailed to P.O. Box 15, Homer, NE 68030

Leonard and Marguerite met at Zenith Radio in Sioux City in 1973. Leonard was a QC Foreman when Marguerite bid for and got a QC job.

I knew I wanted to date him. He was also looking for someone to complete his life. It's been a wonderful life ever since. We were married in 1974 and moved to Homer soon after. We were blessed with five awesome children — Heidi Stewart (Jeremy Stewart), Penny Epting, Jody Cain, Kimberly Woltman (Justin Woltman), Ryan

Cain (Brittani Cain) and 11 grandchildren. Leonard was employed at IBP/Tyson Foods for 36 years as an electronics technician. Marguerite loved her jobs and her customers as manager of convenience stores in South Sioux City, Homer and Hubbard for a total of 30 years. Both are now retired and enjoying their precious family! Best advice for all couples is "Love and respect always and show it every single day!"



Senior Center Fundraiser

1 Ticket - \$1
5 Tickets - \$6

Drawing Monday, Sept. 30

Tickets available at NE Neb. Senior Center

Artwork by Ron McKewon
Proceeds benefit Northeast Nebraska Senior Center

Rummage Sale

Salem Lutheran Church
Friday, Sept. 27, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 28, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Beds, couches, chairs, tools, household items, bedding, adults and childrens clothes, shoes, and so much more, including a bake sale.

1753 G Ave.
(Three miles west of Dakota City)

Follow balloons and signs

Flu Shot Clinics

Wear clothing with easy access to arms for adults and legs for children.

Pender Evening Drive-Thru Clinics

Wed, Oct. 2 4:30 - 6:30 PM Hospital Main Entrance
Wed, Oct. 9 4:30 - 6:30 PM Hospital Main Entrance

Pender Morning Drive-Thru Clinic

Fri, Oct. 4 7:00 - 8:30 AM Apothecary Drive Thru

Emerson Evening Drive-Thru Clinic

Tues, Oct. 1 4:00 - 6:30 PM Sacred Heart Parking Lot

Bancroft Evening Drive-Thru Clinic

Thurs, Oct. 3 4:00 - 6:30 PM St. Paul Lutheran Church

Lyons Mid-Day Drive-Thru Clinic

Fri, Oct. 4 11:00 - 1:00 PM St. Joseph Church Parking Lot

Save time & fill out your required forms ahead of time!

pchne.org/FluShotForm
pchne.org/FluShotSpanish

Pender Community Hospital
PENDER Medical Clinic

www.dakotacountystar.net

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2 year: Nebraska & Woodbury County, Iowa ----- \$ 99
1 year: Out of State & Other Iowa ----- \$ 60
2 year: Out of State & Other Iowa ----- \$101
Student Subscription* ----- \$ 39

(*September 1 - April 30) all areas

STAR DEADLINES

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Friday
Saturday-Sunday

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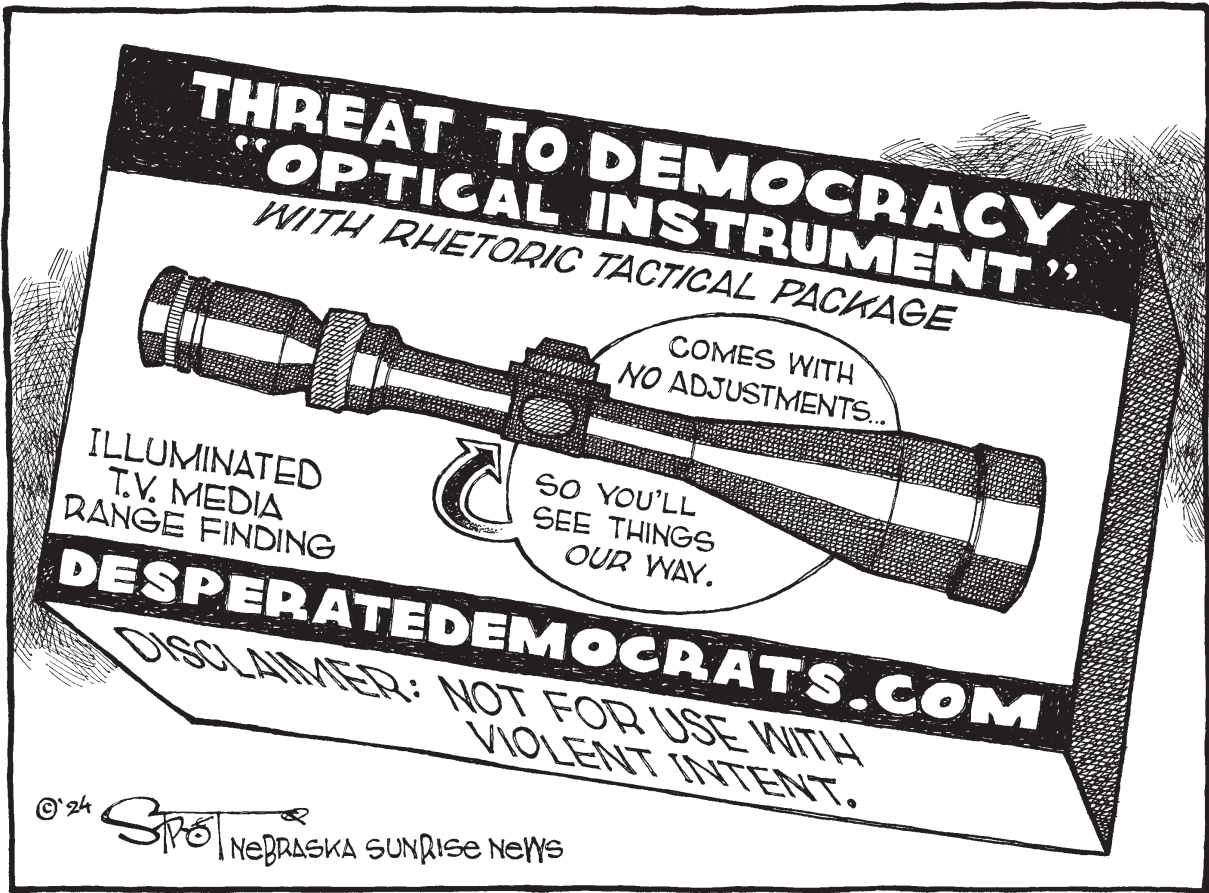
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Fall means it's almost time to vote

The feeling of fall is in the air as we have seen cooler temperatures in recent weeks. The autumnal equinox took place on Sept. 22 and marks the end of summer and the beginning of fall. Harvest will start soon as well as watching the trees turn their beautiful fall colors. Days will begin to get shorter and shorter leading up to the holidays ahead.

As you are all aware, election day is right around the corner. On Tuesday, Nov. 5, you will be asked to vote for the president and vice president of the United States, your Senator and Representative to Congress, your Nebraska State Senator, and many other offices at the local level.

First of all, I would encourage you to make sure you have registered to vote. This is one of the most important rights you have as a United States citizen. In order to vote in Nebraska, you must be a United States citizen; live in the state of Nebraska; be at least 18 years of age on or before the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November; have not been convicted of a felony, or if convicted, your civil rights have been restored; and have not been officially found to be mentally incompetent. The online registration deadline to register is 11:59 p.m. Central Time on the third Friday before the election. The only thing you need to register online is your Nebraska driver's license or state-issued identification card. If you are not sure you have registered to vote, go to www.votercheck.necvr.gov/voterview and enter your information. It will tell you if you are registered and where your polling location is.

Over the next several weeks I would like to highlight the ballot initiatives and referendums that will be on the 2024 General election ballot. It is good to do our research and know what we as voters are being asked to approve or not approve for the Nebraska Constitution through initiatives and referendums so we are informed when we fill out our ballot. Bob Evnen, Nebraska Secretary of State, certified the final list of candidates on Friday, September 13th. Many of these ballot initiatives were challenged before the Nebraska Supreme Court and their rulings came out before the certification of the 2024 ballot.

There have been six initiative and referendum ballot measures. They

Legislative Update

Sen. Joni Albrecht
District 17



include 'Protect Women and Children'; Private Education Scholarship Partial Referendum; 'Paid Sick Leave'; 'Nebraska Medical Cannabis Patient Protection'; 'Nebraska Medical Cannabis Regulation'; and 'Protect the Right to Abortion'. This means that each initiative met the threshold for signatures and now goes to the voters of Nebraska. Per state law, Bob Evnen will hold hearings on the ballot measures in each of Nebraska's three congressional districts. This week I would like to talk about 'Protect Women and Children' and 'Protect Our Right to Abortion' initiatives.

'Protect Women and Children' (Initiative Measure 434) says Except when a woman seeks an abortion necessitated by a medical emergency or when the pregnancy results from sexual assault or incest, unborn children shall be protected from abortion in the second and third trimesters. This initiative creates basic constitutional protections for preborn children in Nebraska. If passed, Nebraska would be the first state in the nation to provide constitutional protection to preborn children in a state constitution. This initiative establishes a floor of protection, not a ceiling, meaning preborn children must, at a minimum, be protected by the second trimester, and stronger pro-life laws could still be passed going forward. This initiative would retain current Nebraska law that prevents elective abortions after 12 weeks with noted exceptions.

'Protect the Right to Abortion' (Initiative Measure 439) says All persons shall have a fundamental right to abortion until fetal viability, or when needed to protect the life or health of the pregnant patient, without interference from the state or its political subdivisions. Fetal viability means the point in pregnancy when in the professional judgment of the patient's treating health care practitioner, there is a significant likelihood of the fetus' sustained survival

outside the uterus without the application of extraordinary medical measures. This initiative contains a vague "health exception" determined entirely by the abortionist. Exceptions could include non-physical factors, such as emotional, spiritual, and financial health. This opens the door to abortions up until birth. Viability is defined as being solely based on the abortionist's judgment and would allow abortions in the second and third trimesters. Babies feel pain before viability—at 15 weeks or earlier. Babies who can experience pain would be subjected to painful late-term abortions. The initiative creates a fundamental right to abortion for "all persons," including children and minors. This would eliminate our state's parental consent law, meaning parents will not have any ability to consent or even know if their child seeks or obtains an abortion. Furthermore, the negation of parental notification laws could lead to the protection of child predators and human traffickers. A "fundamental right to abortion without interference from the state" puts existing medical safeguards that protect the health and safety of women at risk of being eliminated. This includes informed consent statutes and requirements that the abortion be performed in person and by a licensed doctor.

As you can see, these two initiatives are very different from one another. I would encourage you to make sure you read the wording of each one carefully. Make sure you know what you are voting for when you check "Yes" or "No".

As always, I invite you to let me know your thoughts, ideas, concerns, or suggestions by calling my office at (402) 471-2716 or emailing me at jalbrecht@leg.ne.gov.

When the kicked can kicks back

Being the world-class procrastinator that I am, there's a well-worn phrase that I always try to refer to in my oft-failed attempts at beating this issue — don't put off until tomorrow what you can do today.

It's a phrase that says so much about taking care of business now, rather than waiting until later, especially in this day and age when waiting can end up costing you more than if you had just done it when the opportunity first presented itself.

I was at the first Cardinal Vision workshop that was held last week at South Sioux City Middle School, and the focus of the meeting centered around the school district's building needs as it looks at the growing enrollment that the district will have to deal with in the coming years.

One of the biggest surprises that I gleaned from the meeting is not only the age of some of the district's buildings, but the work that has been put off in maintaining the buildings for reasons that, obviously, we'll probably never get an answer to.

The average age of a school building in the United States is 49 years — five of the buildings in the South Sioux Community School District are beyond that age, including Covington Elementary, which was built 100 years ago this year.

Just from a few pictures that were shown during the presentation, one gets the idea that previous school administrations and school boards were, as the old saying goes, kicking the can down the road on such things as century-old pipes running under Covington Elementary and pieced-together electrical and HVAC systems at some of the other older buildings.

The fact that the school district hasn't seen a major building campaign in more than a quarter century (Cardinal and Harney Elementary were built in the early 1990's and the middle and high school buildings were connected later that decade) is amazing in and of itself. Throw in the fact that some of the issues that are now critical enough that they must be dealt with sometime within the next 3-5 years, and one wonders why we are where we are today with some of the district's older buildings.

Now, the can that kept getting kicked down the road is kicking back, and the question now is what can WE do to take care of these issues?

That is the focus of the Cardinal Vision workshop that will continue during the next few months. Workshops are scheduled for Oct. 8, Oct. 29, Dec. 10 and Jan. 14, all scheduled to start at 6 p.m. at the Middle School gymnasium. The public is not only invited, but encouraged, to attend these workshops for two very important reasons:

1. You will find out significant details of where the school is at with its current and potential enrollment numbers, both of which impact the buildings our students are currently

Don't Get Me Started

By Michael J. Carnes
Star Publisher

learning in.

2. You will see important information about the issues that each building has and have an input into what is ultimately brought before the Board of Education early in 2025.

Having been in this business for four decades and reported on situations like this before, I'm not going to beat around the bush — these are SIGNIFICANT concerns that the school district is facing, and the cost to fix these issues is not going to be cheap, especially in today's horrendous economy where the price of everything short of breathing has gone up.

Schools are probably THE most important thing we pay taxes for. We are educating our young people and preparing them for the future. These are our next generation of doctors, teachers, lawyers, physical therapists — who knows, maybe there's a future award-winning journalist or two in there somewhere (and if so, you need to see me about a job). In other words — this is our future that we're talking about, and we need to make sure they can grow and learn in an environment that allows for that to take place.

If you're a taxpayer in the South Sioux City Community Schools district, this is an open invitation to learn about the district and have a say in its future. Ignorance is no excuse, especially on this issue. The two hours you'll spend at each of the future workshops will be an important piece in the puzzle that is being put together for the students of today and tomorrow.

We've kicked this can down the road long enough.

I woke up early Saturday morning, wondering to myself what I would see when I peeked out the window.

The Nebraska football team lost yet another heartbreaker Friday night, letting one get away in overtime as Illinois came back to beat our beloved Big Red, 31-24.

It was supposed to be a huge night, what with it being the 400th consecutive home sellout for the Huskers, a streak that dates all the way back to 1962 (they lost that day as well, falling to Missouri).

With some of the comments I was seeing on social media late Friday night, I thought the end of the world would take place before sunrise, so I braced myself as I opened the shutters.

And guess what?
Nothing changed.

The sun peeked over the horizon, a morning breeze began to blow and life went pretty much back to normal.

While some nutball fans think ANY loss is grounds for firing the coach, athletic director, everybody at the school and that the college president be burned in effigy in front of the school library, those of us who have an understanding of how a college football team works from day to day understands that, while it was a tough loss to take, it is an opportunity for the young men to learn and fix the mistakes as they prepare for next week's game.

Husker fans were spoiled by the generations of success the program had when Bob Devaney and Tom Osborne were leading the team. Both coaches were criticized early and often, and both nearly lost their jobs when they failed to come through with the national title the fan base demanded each season.

After back-to-back 6-4 seasons in 1967 and 1968, there was a statewide petition drive to fire Devaney. When that failed, Devaney moved one of his young assistants to the offensive coordinator position, which resulted in the team getting back on track with a 9-2-1 season in 1969, followed by back-to-back national titles in 1970 and 1971.

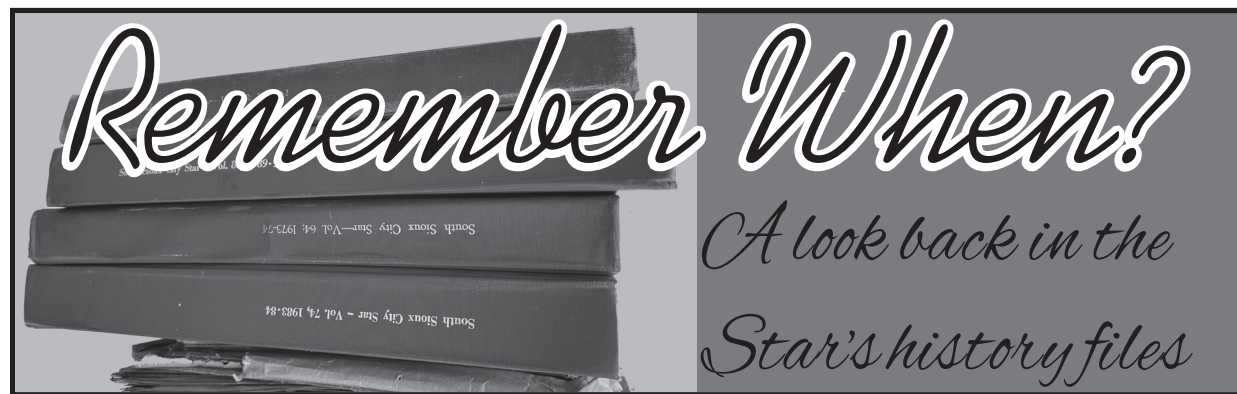
Who was that young man, you ask? A guy with the last name of Osborne.

A few years later, after starting season as the top-ranked team in the country and stumbling to a 9-3-1 season, the Huskers ended the year coming from behind to beat Texas Tech in the now-defunct Astro-Bluebonnet Bowl. After the game, one of the Board of Regents greeted Osborne and told him he was glad that the Huskers won, because he had been sent there to fire him if they had lost that game.

Husker fans face a similar situation today as Ruhlle tries to bring Husker football back to respectability and being a perennial national contender.

One loss does not take away from that effort, as some Husker fans seem to think after Friday's loss. It takes a long time to build a program, much longer than it takes to see one go from the penthouse to the outhouse.

Purdue is up next on the road this weekend, followed by a return home to face Rutgers. For those hand-wringing Husker fans who think last Friday's loss is the end of the world, I'll leave you with a quote from an old Army sergeant, Sgt. Hulka — Lighten up, Francis.



10 YEARS AGO

SEPT. 25, 2014

Health Care Hero Award

Bringing life, love and fun to residents of Regency Square Senior Living, the assistant activity director was recognized with the Health Care Hero Award from the Nebraska Nursing Facility Association. Heidi Swart has been working at Regency Square for almost eight years. Mary Beth Gehling, activity director nominated Swart for the award because of her positive contributions to Regency.

20 YEARS AGO

SEPT. 23, 2004

Gambling in Nebraska

Residents in Nebraska have 40 days to gather information, take a pro or con position and head to the polls to vote on gambling. Voters will have two choices that include Class III gambling on the ballot. The first option, Amendment 3, would allow two casinos to be built anywhere in Nebraska with one more than likely built in the Omaha area. The second option, initiatives 417-420, would allow 4,900 video slot machines throughout the state and two casinos in Omaha. Along with the initiatives, a license fee of \$100 will apply, whereas other states have licenses fees up to millions of dollars. According to the Keep the Money in Nebraska website, Dakota County

could receive an estimated \$177,390 and South Sioux City an estimated \$335,000.

30 YEARS AGO

SEPT. 29, 1994

Developers of The Year

Two South Sioux City men were honored by the Dakota Industrial Development Corp. at its annual "Developers of the Year" banquet Thursday night at the Marina Inn. They were Paul Donaldson, owner of D&D Construction and Gerald Curry, a retired owner of several South Sioux Business ventures. They were presented with plaques by Gov. Ben Nelson who complimented them on their contributions to the community of South Sioux City. Donaldson's company built 50 homes in 1993. At one point, earlier this year, his company had 22 homes under construction at the same time. Curry is a life-long resident of South Sioux City. He assumed control of the Curry Floor Co., in 1962 and retired in 1986.

40 YEARS AGO

SEPT. 27, 1984

New Deputy County Attorney named

Charles Luebe, 31, a native of Pierce, will assume the duties of Deputy Dakota County Attorney next Monday. County Attorney

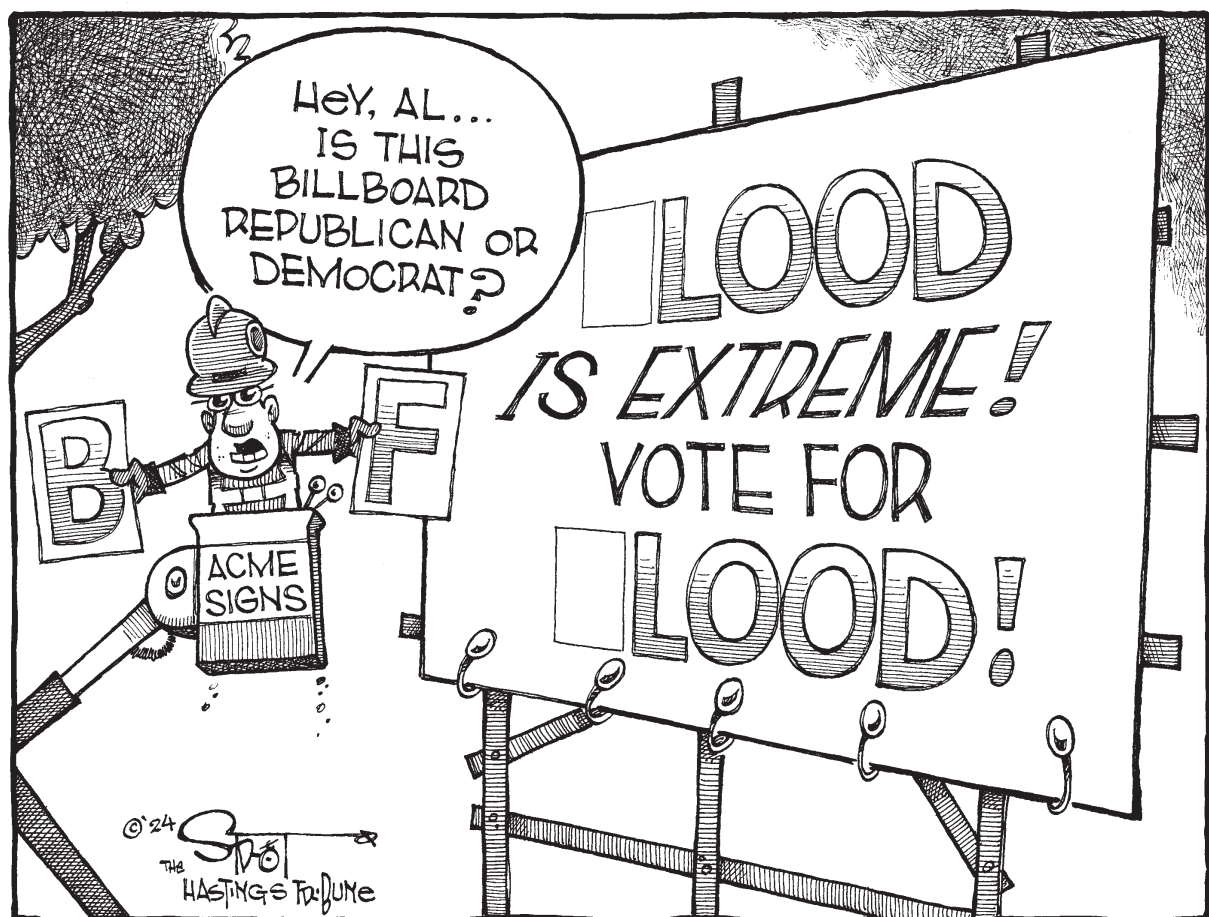
Bruce Smith announced Luebe's appointment at this week's meeting of the Dakota County Board of Commissioners. Luebe replaces Harry A. Moore, 34, who was relieved of his duties last summer. Luebe was graduated from Creighton University Law School in Omaha. He did his undergraduate work at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln. Luebe will be the third deputy county attorney under Smith's administration. He was sworn into office in January of 1983.

50 YEARS AGO

SEPT. 26, 1974

Displeasure expressed

South Sioux City Planning and Zoning Commission Chairman Francis "Red" Persinger expressed some displeasure with the Mayor's "retirement" of two commission members and reappointment of two to replace them. At the last City Council meeting, Mayor Ferris appointed and the Council approved Rod Brandt and Louis Marmo to replace Marv Harris and Arden Stinger as P & Z Commission members. Persinger made these comments after the meeting. "In the first place Marv Harris is the only Commission member who knows the first thing about the Crystal Lake renovation project. As it happens, he's going to cooperate with us and give us all his information. We're just lucky he didn't get offended and tell the city to get their own information."





Photos by Michael Carnes



Homes are Getting Smarter. Is Your Internet Ready?

Sponsored Advertorial

Smart homes demand a bigger Internet bandwidth. Is your Internet service provider prepared to deliver?

In 2015, American households had an average of eight Internet-connected devices. Today, that average is 17.

In less than a decade, Americans have doubled the amount of Wi-Fi-enabled technology in their homes. More devices mean a higher demand for Internet bandwidth and speed – but not all types of Internet are prepared to deliver on that demand.

This article explores how increasingly-smarter homes are reshaping the way you use your home Internet – and how you can ensure your Internet is prepared to keep up for years to come.

What is the Internet of Things?

The drastic increase in devices per household isn't because more types of gadgets have been invented—though new smart home tech is constantly being invented.

Instead, everyday items you already own have been replaced with “smarter” versions equipped with Wi-Fi capabilities. This idea is called the Internet of Things – ordinary physical objects that now communicate via the Internet.

Speakers are a perfect example. They've existed since the invention of the telephone 150 years ago. But in 2014, Amazon launched the first smart speaker – Amazon Echo with Alexa voice recognition. Now, our speakers connect to the Internet, and we talk to them as often as they talk to us.

However, many devices in the Internet of Things are objects that were not previously considered “technology.”

Consider something as simple as your doorbell – an object most people don't think of as a “device.” Twenty percent of homes in the United States have replaced their regular doorbell with a video doorbell, such as a Ring camera, allowing people to answer their door from anywhere in the world.

Light bulbs, thermostats, vacuum robots, fridges, garage door openers, and picture frames – these are just a few of the household items that are now commonly connected to the Internet, contributing to the growing In-

ternet of Things.

How does the Internet of Things affect home Internet?

All this smart home innovation hinges on one key factor: your Internet.

Think of your Internet as a highway and your devices as cars. If you add more vehicles without increasing the number of lanes, traffic will build up and slow down.

Similarly, increasing the number of devices in your home without increasing your Internet bandwidth will cause slowdowns, lagging, and buffering.

In other words, as Internet-capable technology progresses, your Internet must progress along with it.

Your current Internet service may work for your digital needs now – but can it scale to meet your home's digital needs in the future?

This is where the type of Internet connection you have matters. Not all Internet technologies are created equally – and not all are prepared to handle the smart homes of the not-so-distant future.

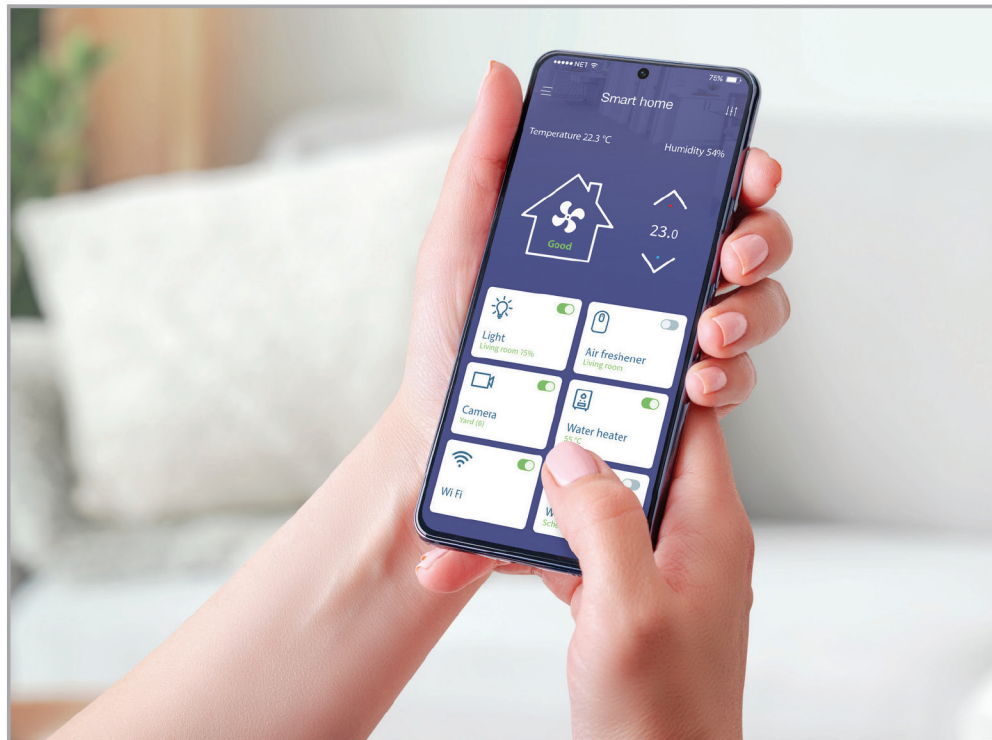
What type of Internet is best for smart homes?

Ultimately, it comes down to the material each type of Internet uses. Of the current Internet technology that's available today – cable, 5G, and fiber – fiber is widely regarded as the best option for smart homes.

Cable Internet is made of copper coaxial wires, which use electrical signals to send Internet data over the network. These electric signals degrade over distance and are impeded by nearby electromagnetic signals – everything from lightning to power lines to your microwave.

As a result, the maximum speed and bandwidth an all-cable network can deliver is limited. Many cable Internet providers today offer speeds up to 1 Gigabit per second (Gbps) for residential customers – but that is only possible using a hybrid of fiber and cable coax.

5G home Internet uses airwaves to trans-



mit data, operating on the same network as your cellphone. These signals also degrade with distance. Plus, physical objects between the cell tower and your home – like trees and buildings – weaken the signal.

Like cable, these pitfalls limit the maximum speed and bandwidth 5G can deliver, both now and in the future. While it's sufficient today, cable and 5G likely won't be able to keep up with smart homes in the decades to come.

Fiber, on the other hand, has often been dubbed “future-proof.”

That's because fiber optic cables are made of tiny strands of glass that transmit data using pulses of light. These pulses of light can travel much further without weakening and are resistant to the factors that interfere with cable and 5G signals. It's why fiber can easily power 15+ devices at a time with 1 Gbps of speed.

In fact, many fiber providers offer top speeds of 1-2 Gbps for homes, but that's far from the limit of what fiber can do. The fastest-ever recorded fiber speed is 319 Terabits per second, which translates to 319,000 Gbps.

Put simply, fiber has the current and future bandwidth capacity to power smart homes. When the average of 17 devices per household becomes 30 or even 50, fiber has the

scalability to handle that extra traffic.

Because fiber will be so valuable to future connectivity, it's often considered an amenity in the housing market. A recent study from the Fiber Broadband Association found that fiber Internet can increase a single-family home's value by up to 4.9%.

Fiber also has unbeatable longevity. Though it's made of glass, it's surprisingly durable. Unlike copper, which is easily damaged by the extreme cold and heat in the Midwest, fiber is weather-resistant by design.

As a result, the fiber cables laid today by companies like ImOn Communications will still be around for decades to come, ready to power your smart home.

If you're ready to future-proof your home with fiber Internet, visit ImOn.net. We are happy to help increase your bandwidth and ensure your Internet can keep up with all of your devices – now and for years to come!



ImOn Communications
www.ImOn.net

Busy week for state-rated Homer volleyball

Homer girls wins seven of eight, ranked No. 7 in OWH C-2 Top 10

Homer's volleyball team justified its ranking in the Omaha World-Herald Class C-2 top 10 with seven wins in eight games last week.

Homer opened the week with a home triangular sweep on Tuesday, beating Osmond (25-15, 25-16) and Winside (25-10, 25-11).

Against Osmond, Tori Walker had 15 kills, Janessa Overgaard added five and Rylie Harris and Kinley Murphy each had three. Harris had 20 assists. Chayce Abts and Madi Roeber both had eight digs, Walker added six and Kacie Harris and Rylie Harris both had four.

Walker had six kills and Overgaard added five in the win over Winside. Rylie Harris put up 15 assists. Abts had three ace serves, Walker led in digs with 11 and Abts added seven.

Homer swept Ponca in three sets at home Thursday, winning 25-19, 27-25, 25-15.

Walker had a big night, hitting .400 for the match and recording a season-high 31 kills. Overgaard and Taiah Bird both added eight kills. Rylie Harris had 46 assists.

Bird had four blocks in the win. Rylie Harris had 16 assists and Walker, Abts and Kacie Harris each had 10.

On Saturday, Homer stumbled in the first round against Yutan (25-18, 25-18), but bounced back with wins over Logan View (25-13, 25-16) and Schuyler (25-18, 25-12) to finish fifth.

Against Yutan, Walker had 12 kills

and Abts and Bird each had three. Rylie Harris had 19 assists. Abts had seven digs, Kacie Harris added five and Walker and Roeber each had four.

In the Logan View win, Walker recorded 13 kills, Abts had five and Rylie Harris had four to go with 23 assists. Roeber recorded three ace serves and Overgaard had two blocks. Bird and Rylie Harris both had five digs and Walker, Abts and Anna Harris each had four.

Highlights from Schuyler included Abts leading with six kills, Murphy and Anna Harris each had five and Bird recorded four. Rylie Harris had 22 assists. Kacie Harris had three ace serves and Walker and Roeber each had two. Rylie Harris led in digs with eight and Abts had six.

On Monday, Homer continued its winning ways, improving to 14-3 with wins over GACC (25-23, 25-17) and host Bloomfield (25-16, 25-16).

Against the Bluejays, Walker recorded 15 kills and hit .375 in the win. Rylie Harris had 21 assists. Walker had 13 digs and Abts and Rylie Harris each had 10.

In the win over the Bees, Walker had 10 kills and Abts and Rylie Harris each had six. Harris had 21 assists. Overgaard had two blocks. Roeber led in digs with nine while Walker added eight.

Homer played at Hartington-Newcastle on Tuesday and will be at Bancroft-Rosalie on Tuesday.



Annah Harris (10) and Janessa Overgaard team up to block an attack by Ponca's Carlee Beckner in an area matchup Thursday at Homer High School.

(PHOTO BY MICHAEL CARNES)

T.P. hits 3K as Cards bury Links

Senior running back Tony Palmer was 57 yards short of reaching the 3,000-yard plateau for his career heading into Thursday's matchup at Lincoln High.

And he got there — with a yard to spare.

Palmer only carried the ball six times but netted 58 yards to send his career total to 3,001 yards and help the South Sioux City Cardinals to a 43-9 win over the Links, improving SSC's record to 3-1 on the season.

Coach Jackson Dickerson said hitting the 3,000-yard mark is a testament to Palmer's hard work and dedication as a student-athlete.

"He's done nothing but work his tail off since he came into our program and that's paid off," he said. "He also has a great offensive line in front of him that has done a great job creating space for him. I don't think it's a surprise that he has reached this mark because he's done nothing but work for it."

SEE PALMER, 2B



Palmer



Tri County Northeast quarterback Ben Jorgensen tries to get past a Pender defender during Friday's matchup at Isom-Hill Field in Allen. The Wolfpack fell to the visiting Pendragons, 31-12.

(PHOTO BY MICHAEL CARNES)

Second half gets away from 'Pack

ALLEN — Pender pulled away in the second half to defeat Tri County Northeast 31-12 in action Friday at Isom-Hill Field.

Pender scored first to take the early lead, and Tri County Northeast was able to get back within a point late in the first quarter when Ben Jorgensen rumbled 42 yards for a touchdown. The point-after was missed, making a 7-6 game.

Both teams' defenses were able to hold serve in the second quarter to keep the game close at the half, but Pender was able to pull away in the second half, scoring three touchdowns and getting a field goal to put the game out of reach.

Jorgensen led the ground game with 56 yards on eight

carries and was 8-of-18 passing for 106 yards and a touchdown, throwing a 42-yard strike to Bryan Isom in the second half.

Brayden McCorkindale had 50 yards on 15 carries. Isom led the receiving effort with 64 yards on three catches. Thatcher Lamp caught three balls for 19 yards and Jackson Belt had two for 23 yards.

On defense, Isom had 16 tackles, Belt and Dylan Boyle both had 10, Jace Malasek and Bernard Juarez each had seven and Jorgensen, Lamp and McCorkindale had six stops apiece.

The 1-3 Wolfpack host Wisner-Pilger on Friday in Emerson.

Eagles fly past Ponca, 33-13

PONCA — O'Neill scored 20 unanswered points to take control and claim a 33-13 win over Ponca in high school football action here Friday.

The Indians took a 7-6 lead late in the first period when Tucker McGill raced home for an 11-yard score. Trystan Bevelhymmer's point-after kick gave Ponca its only lead of the night.

O'Neill responded in the second with a short touchdown run to take a 13-7 halftime lead, then scored a pair of touchdowns in the third to make

it 26-7.

Ponca responded in the fourth quarter with a 31-yard touchdown pass from Austin Dengerger to Connor Schamp, but O'Neill countered with a late score for the final margin of victory.

O'Neill had a 330-251 edge in total offense, including 278 yards on the ground. Their defense forced four turnovers that helped in the victory.

Dengerger was 7-of-15 for 102 yards throwing the ball. Caden Cleveland caught two passes for 34

yards, McGill had two receptions for 19 yards and Schamp caught a 31-yard touchdown pass.

On the ground, Bevelhymmer rushed 12 times for 70 yards, McGill had 40 yards on eight attempts and Cleveland rushed six times for 19 yards.

Defensively, McGill had nine tackles, Bryce Pokorny had seven and Schamp and Mickernon Peterson both had six.

The 1-3 Indians travel to top-ranked Norfolk Catholic for a 7 p.m. matchup Friday.

Ponca's Brennan, Homer boys win at Pender

PENDER — Area runners made a strong showing at Thursday's Pender Invitational at Twin Creeks Golf Club near Pender.

Both Homer and Ponca finished in the top three in the team standings of both races, and Tri County Northeast also had some solid individual finishes to make a strong showing in the 13-school races.

In the girls race, Ponca's Ava Brennan won the race to lead the Lady Indians to a third-place finish, while Homer claimed runner-up honors with all three runners finishing in the top 11.

Homer was led by junior Lilly Harris, who lost a shoe early in the race and ran the last 3,000-meters without it to earn a fourth-place finish in 21:26.69. Teammates Jaedyn Bousquet and Tawny Bolles followed in sixth and 11th place, respectively, to round out the Lady Knights' team scoring. Okie Bolles was 19th and Natali Cardasias finished 26th.

Ponca was three points behind Homer in the team race, with Laken Pfister finishing eighth and Addyson Chytka taking 15th behind Brennan's winning time of 20:22.45.

Tri County Northeast had two of its three scoring runners finish among the top 15 medalists. Bre Millard was 10th and Alejandra Hermosillo finished 12th, followed by Jenni Olson in 29th, Hailey Millard in 32nd and Chloe Peters in 39th.

Homer's boys beat Ponca 22-30 in the race for the team title, while Tri County Northeast tied for fifth.

All three of the Knights' scoring runners placed in the top 10. Caden Barclay was sixth, Jessup Snowball was seventh and Triston Owens placed ninth to lead the way. Junius Snowball was right behind in 10th and Aayden Harris finished 11th as the Knights came away as winners.

Ponca was led by Gannon Pfister and Broderick Hogan, who finished second and third, respectively. Zyan Conrado finished 25th.

Jude Ridenour and Alex Snyder were 12th and 14th, respectively, to lead the Wolfpack, with Devon Lewellen finishing 38th.

Ponca competed in the West Monroe Invitational on Tuesday, Tri County Northeast runs in the Crofton meet on Thursday, and Homer and Ponca will both compete in the UNK Invitational Monday in Kearney.

Pender Invitational Girls Team Standings

Pender 10, Homer 21, Ponca 24, Oakland-Craig 37, LCC 42, Tri County NE 48, Yutan 67, Winnebago 94, Lyons-Decatur 99.

Area Results

PONCA — 1. Ava Brennan, 20:22.45; 8. Laken

SEE PENDER, 2B



(PHOTOS COURTESY JASON STUREK)

(top) Ava Brennan won the girls 5,000-meter race to help Ponca finish third at the Pender Invitational. (above) Homer's Lilly Harris lost her shoe about a mile into Thursday's race, but still managed a fourth-place finish to help the Lady Knights to a runner-up effort.

AREA SCORES ONLY

(NOTE: Statistics not available at press time)

Volleyball

Tuesday, Sept. 17 Results

LCC def. Tri County Northeast, 23-25, 25-12, 25-14, 25-15
Ponca def. Winnebago, 25-8, 25-5, 25-11

Saturday's Results at Stanton Invitational

West Point-Beemer def. Ponca, 23-25, 25-21, 25-21

Ponca def. Arlington, 25-16, 21-25, 26-24
Stanton def. Ponca, 25-16, 25-22

Monday's Results

Tri County Northeast def. Wausa, 25-13, 25-16, 25-15

Football

Friday's Result

Guardian Angels Central Catholic def. Homer, 47-6

Bennington Invitational

SSC Girls Results

12. Jacqueline Salgado, 21:54.03; 30. Melanie Magana-Pineda, 23:59.92; 44. Abigail Cisneros, 26:02.75; 50. Lexi Chavez, 27:02.76; 59. Abigail Perez, 28:30.48; 61. Katharine Nunez Cruz, 29:20.99.

SSC Boys Results

5. Melchisedek Munzambi, 17:28.42; 8. Luke McGinty, 17:56.24; 14. Melusi Ngeleka, 18:29.70; 16. Leandro Magana, 18:37.01; 21. Nabil Yussuf, 18:49.13; 32. Misael Orozco, 19:36.77.

were Melusi Ngeleka in 14th place, Leandro Magana in 16th, Nabil Yussuf came home in 21st and Misael Orozco was 32nd.

On the girls side, SSC finished seventh and had one medalist in Jacqueline Salgado, who finished 12th in a time of 21:54.03.

Melanie Magana-Pineda finished 30th, Abigail Cisneros was 44th and Lexi Chavez came home in 50th to round out the scoring runners. Abigail Perez finished 39th and Katharine Nunez Cruz was 61st.

BOYS TENNIS HOSTS HOME INVITATIONAL



(PHOTO BY LANCE SWANSON) South Sioux city boys tennis player Jonathan Torres returns a serve during action at Saturday's SSC Invitational, held at the SSC High School tennis facility. Results of the tournament were not turned in a press time.

Softball gets win at Pierce tourney

The South Sioux City softball team picked up a win in three games during Saturday's Pierce Invitational, defeating Ord 17-10.

The Lady Cardinals scored seven runs in the first inning and led 11-6 after two before the Chanticleers came back to get within three. SSC put the game out of reach with a six-run fourth inning.

Alciah Paizley had three hits and three RBI's while scoring two runs to lead the SSC offense. Izzie Tranmer and Paisyn Ross both had two hits and two RBI's, Sky Palmer had two RBI's and scored three runs, and Cheyenne Toricill, Laela Montes and Keyana Weaver each scored twice.

Khenzie Rager went the distance in the win, striking out two and walk-

ing one.

The win was sandwiched in between two losses during the eight-team tournament. SSC opened with an 8-0 loss to the host Bluejays and ended the day with a 15-0 loss to Central City.

Paizley and Montes had hits in the loss to Pierce. Toricill had the lone hit in the loss to the Lady Bison.

SSC had a rough going in a pair of triangulars, losing to Tekamah-Herman (14-6) and Ponca (9-6) in a triangular at Ponca on Thursday, and falling at home to Platteview (11-2) and Logan View/Scribner-Snyder (11-5) in a Friday home triangular.

In the loss to Tekamah-Herman, Weaver, Izzie Tranmer and Sky Palmer each had two hits and Tran-

mer and Toricill both had two RBI's.

Against Ponca, Palmer and Toricill both had three hits as SSC outthrew Ponca 14-9. Payton Derochie added two hits and an RBI and Izzie Tranmer had two RBI's.

In Friday's loss to Platteview, Tranmer and Montes both had a hit and scored a run, while Paizley singled and Ross had an RBI.

SSC tried to come back from a 7-0 deficit against LV/S-S but came up short. Derochie, Palmer, Toricill, Aubrey Tranmer and Izzie Tranmer each had a hit and scored a run. Izzie Tranmer had two RBI's.

SSC played at Omaha Skutt on Tuesday. They host Omaha Bryan on Thursday and have a home triangular on Saturday.

Ponca softballers struggle at Pierce

It was a rough week for the Ponca softball team, as they lost five of six games on the schedule.

The Lady Indians' lone win came in a triangular at home Tuesday as they defeated South Sioux City, 9-6.

Ponca trailed 6-2 in the fifth before exploding for seven runs to come from behind for the victory.

Cora Rushing had a three-run double and drove in four RBI's to spark the Ponca attack. Lyndsee Waldee had two hits and two runs, Kora Bruening added a two-run triple, while Lily Egendorf, Gracie Coughlin, Jordyn Fleury and Sophia Cleveland added hits. Waldee got the pitching win, striking out two.

In the second game, Ponca fell to Tekamah-Herman, 9-0. The Indians were limited to three hits, two coming from Waldee. Fleury had a hit as well.

On Thursday, Ponca dropped a home matchup to North Bend, 11-5. Coughlin had three hits and two runs, Waldee had a double and two RBI's, Jaeden Hughes had two hits and Cleveland and Jocelyn Kastning both added a hit.

Ponca went 0-3 in Saturday's Pierce Invitational, falling to O'Neill (13-1), Central City (15-3) and Ord (12-2).

Against O'Neill, Rushing had an RBI double and Waldee and Hughes both had hits.

In the loss to Central City, Coughlin had a two-run double, Waldee had a double and Fleury singled and scored a run.

In the loss to Ord, Waldee had an RBI double, Hughes had two hits, Rushing singled and scored and Fleury added a hit.

PENDER: Area runners score well, Homer boys take title

from Page 1A

Pfister, 22:21.15; 15. Addyson Chytka, 23:28.77.

HOMER — 4. Lilly Harris, 21:26.69, 6. Jaedyn Bousquet, 21:58.05; 11. Tawny Bolles, 22:46.89; 19. Okie Bolles, 24:15.82; 26. Natali Cardasias, 24:44.45.

TRI COUNTY NE — 10. Bre Millard, 22:39.03; 12. Alejandra Hermsillo, 22:49.48; 29. Jenni Olson, 26:13.70; 32. Hailey Millard, 27:34.95; 39. Chloe Peters, 28:51.67.

Boys Team Standings

Homer 22, Ponca 30, LCC 43, Oakland-Craig 44, Yutan 64, Tri County NE 64, Winnebago 65, Cedar Bluffs 69, Tekamah-Herman 78, Archangels Catholic 90, Bancroft-Rosalie 90, Humphrey-Lindsay HF 102, Pender 127, Randolph 153.

Area Results

PONCA — 2. Gannon Pfister, 17:50.13; 3. Broderick Hogan, 18:17.26; 25. Zyan Conrad, 20:29.86.

HOMER — 6. Caden Barclay, 18:33.48; 7. Jessup Snowball, 18:44.10; 9. Triston Owens, 18:54.10; 10. Junius Snowball, 18:58.67; 11. Aayden Harris, 19:06.72.

TRI COUNTY NE — 12. Jude Ridenour, 19:09.07, 14. Alex Snyder, 19:12.17; 38. Devon Lewellen, 22:13.53.



Jude Ridenour finished 12th to highlight the Tri County Northeast boys' effort at the Pender Invitational.

(PHOTO BY JASON STUREK)

PALMER: SSC senior back eclipses 3,000 yards for career

from Page 1A

After a 390-yard performance two weeks earlier, Palmer added another 180 yards in last week's 50-7 homecoming win over Omaha Bryan, capping the evening with a 74-yard touchdown run. It was his final run of the night, and he had to wait until Thursday to gain membership in the 3,000-yard club.

As for the Cardinals' win, Dickerson said that the team started a little sluggish and didn't play as well as he had hoped early on, but were able to right the ship and cruise to the win.

"We started a little slower than I would have liked, but we stuck to the plan and made some adjustments," he said. "It wasn't the prettiest we've had this season, but we got the job done."

South Sioux City built a 29-3 half-

time advantage on their way to the easy win, doing a good job of mixing the run and pass to rack up 408 yards in total offense.

Cristian Campos was 16-of-24 passing for 145 yards and a touchdown, while freshman Brady Daugherty was 3-of-3 for 28 yards.

"We were able to throw the ball around more and our quarterback play was much improved," Dickerson said. "Our receivers did a great job getting open and the quarterback was on time delivering the ball."

Lucas Sulzbach was the top receiver, catching 10 passes for 92 yards and a score. DJ Helms had 41 yards on five receptions.

The Links' defense keyed on Palmer, which opened up SSC's ground game. Brock Anderson led the team with 109 yards on 12 carries and a touchdown, followed by Palmer's 58 yards on six attempts.

Helms had three carries, two for scores, and 23 yards on the ground. Adrian Pastran rushed three times for 20 yards, Jackson Jensen had two carries for 15 yards and Campos gained 10 yards on three tries.

Defensively, Taye Baker led the team with seven tackles, Erick Moreno had six tackles with a quarterback sack, Kayden Melchor had five stops and Anderson, Jonathan Garcia-Lupercio, Adrian Curiel and Teodulo Perez all had four tackles apiece.

The Cardinals go after their fourth straight win on Thursday when they head back to Lincoln to face the winless Silverhawks.

"They like to spread it around and run the ball and are big up front on both sides," Dickerson said. "They're 0-4, but have faced a lot of good teams so they'll come out ready to play."

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Haunts and Bones at the SSC Library

October is a time when things get darker — nights become longer. Leaves and fields start to turn yellow, orange, and gray. It is a great time to think of hauntings and old bones.

The Most Haunted Place in Nebraska: Hummel Park is called Nebraska's most haunted place. Hummel is located in the far northeast part of Omaha. It is a city park with playground equipment, Frisbee golf, and day camp activities. But it is also a place for young people to get a scare. We will look at the things that may make Hummel Park haunted. We will also look at the urban legends about the park. The Most Haunted Place in Nebraska is held on Thursday, Oct. 10 at 6 p.m. Register online to insure you have a place to sit.



Dan Nieman

Digging Up Bones: This program has impacted me since August of 2001. In Digging Up Bones we look at a disturbing case that impacted the pre-9/11 world. We will talk about the background of the Sioux City case. Look at articles about the country, and learn how to research old cases that shaped your life, using materials that are available through the library. This is held on Thursday, Oct. 17 at 6 p.m.

More Haunted Nebraska: The following are materials about haunted Nebraska.

"A guide to the ghosts of Lincoln," by Alan Boye (NEBR 133.1 BOY). This expanded, updated, and revised edition of A Guide to the Ghosts of Lincoln takes you on a tour of the known and the obscure sites in Lincoln, Nebraska, where on a dark and silent evening you might feel a slight chill in the air, hear the faint calling of a lost soul, or see the ghostly shape of a spirit fade into blackness. Since its original publication, hundreds of people have submitted stories about the haunted places of eastern Nebraska. The best of those stories have been added to this new edition along with updated versions of all the old,

classic stories. A book for both the easily frightened and the hardened skeptic, A Guide to the Ghosts of Lincoln is guaranteed to send shivers of fear down any spine. Alan Boye includes the famous story of the apparition at the C.C. White Building, as well as those of the Capitol Building ghost, the haunting of the university's Temple Theater, and the woman at Antelope Park. The new stories introduce readers to the details of Lincoln's haunted bike path, the mysterious story of Captain Jack, the fervent face in the window of a church, and the chilling girl on the other side of the mirror in the locker room of a local high school." — from the publisher.

True Crime in the Heartland: These are books that look at true crime in the heartland.

"Dancing with the Octopus: A Memoir of a Crime," by Debora Harding (BIO HAR). For readers of Educated and The Glass Castle, a harrowing, redemptive and profoundly inspiring memoir of childhood trauma and its long reach into adulthood, named one of the Best True Crime Books by Marie Claire. One Omaha winter day in November 1978, when Debora Harding was just 14, she was abducted at knifepoint from a church parking lot. She was thrown into a van, assaulted, held for ransom, and then left to die as an ice storm descended over the city. Debora survived. She identified her attacker to the police and then returned to her teenage life in a dysfunctional home where she was expected to simply move on. Denial became the family coping strategy offered by her fun-loving, conflicted father and her cruelly resentful mother. It wasn't until decades later — when beset by the symptoms of PTSD — that Debora undertook a radical project: she met her childhood attacker face-to-face in prison and began to reconsider and reimagine his complex story. This was a quest for the truth that would threaten the lie at the heart of her family and with it the sacred bond that once saved her. Dexterously shifting between the past and present, Debora Harding untangles the

incident of her kidnapping and escape from unexpected angles, offering a vivid, intimate portrait of one family's disintegration in the 1970s Midwest. Written with dark humor and the pacing of a thriller, "Dancing with the Octopus" is a literary tour de force and a groundbreaking narrative of reckoning, recovery, and the inexhaustible strength it takes to survive. This is the 2024 One Book One Nebraska book.

"World, Chase Me Down" by Andrew Hilleman (FIC HIL). "Resurrecting a forgotten American folk hero who captivated the nation as an outlaw for economic justice, World, Chase Me Down is a debut novel of adrenaline-fueled, page-turning suspense based on the first great crime of the last century: the revenge kidnapping by out-of-work former butcher Pat Crowe of the 16-year-old son of Omaha's wealthiest meatpacking tycoon — the man who forced him out of business — for a ransom of \$25,000 in gold. What follows is a manhunt that was dubbed "the thrill of the nation," as Crowe burgles, safe-cracks, and bond-jumps his way from Omaha to Butte, Mont.; Columbia, Mo.; Nogales, Ariz.; New York City; London; Durban, South Africa; Philadelphia; and ultimately back to Omaha, where he turns himself in, reunites with the woman he never stopped loving, and rallies public sentiment behind him in a triumphant circus trial. Once the most wanted man in America, Pat Crowe is beset by vices yet unyielding in his sense of right and wrong. As if channeling Mark Twain and Charles Portis, Andrew Hilleman has given us a character who is bawdy and soulful, grizzled, salty, and hard-drinking, and with a voice as unforgettable as that of Lucy Marsden in Alan Gurganus's Oldest Confederate Widow Tells All — an anti-hero you can't help rooting for" — from the publisher.

We have Bilingual book club on Thursday, Oct. 26 at 6:30 p.m. Tech Monday is at 5 p.m. on Monday. And Tangled Yarns is on Tuesday at 6 p.m.

Have a great week and visit us at the library.

OBITUARIES

Shirley J. Munhofen, 95

Shirley J. Munhofen, 95, of South Sioux City was escorted to heaven by our Lord and Savior on Tuesday, Sept. 24, 2024 surrounded by family. Services will be 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 21, at the Dakota City United Methodist Church. Burial will be at Memorial Park Cemetery. Visitation will be 5-7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 20, at Mohr & Becker-Hunt Funeral Home in South Sioux City. Online condolences may be directed to meyer-broschapels.com.

Survivors include a son, Lawrance (Linda) Munhofen of South Sioux City, a daughter, Kendra (Charles) Cigard of Springfield, Mo.; two foster daughters, Vicky (Paul) Greening of Kingman, Ariz. and Toby Varvais of South Sioux City; a daughter-in-law, Sherry Munhofen; 11 grandchildren, Troy Munhofen, Tracy (Kevin) Likes, Jennifer (Tim) Bulzick, Kristy (Rich) Sindt, Robert Cigard, Tyler (Kristin) Cigard, Rachel (P.J.) Justice, Laura (Brandon) Coffman, James (Reno) Varvais, Timothy (Kristen) Varvais, Wendy Nebbia; 21 great-grandchildren, Krystopher, Easton, Bryce, Zach, Lewis, Alexa, Brandon, Bentleigh, Audrey, Ava, Kaden, Zoe, Caleb, Tate, Teagan, Brylee, Kennedy, Austin, James, Nicholas, Brianna; and 1 great-great grandchild, Brielle. Also, her beloved cat, Curry AKA "the boss".



Dryden

Shirley was born the daughter of Vance and Rachel (McCroly) Burris on Jan. 12, 1929 in Sioux City, Iowa. She graduated from Central High School in 1947. She married Kenneth J. "Kenny" Munhofen on Nov. 11, 1947 in Sioux City.

Shirley was a maid and caretaker for several South Sioux City and Sioux City families. She had a special relationship with the Kline family, with whom she worked for many years.

She enjoyed spending time with her family and grandchildren. She also liked reading, doing embroidery, gardening, fishing and traveling. If someone was going somewhere, she was going too!

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Kenny; son, John; sister, Amber; and cherished aunt, Zola.

The family would be honored to have donations given to The ALS Association.

Krusemark part of Kiewit Engineering Academy

Brody Krusemark of Emerson is among 40 first-year students in the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's College of Engineering, who have been chosen for the 2024-25 cohort of the Peter Kiewit Foundation Engineering Academy at Nebraska.

The new cohort includes students on the college's campuses in Lincoln and Omaha and is the third group for the academy. Krusemark, a recent graduate of Pender Public School, is majoring in mechanical engineering on the Lincoln campus.

Academy students receive a scholarship that covers full tuition and fees and may receive funding for a fifth year on a case-by-case basis. The scholarship also covers students' housing and meals for up to four years in a University Housing residence. Academy students have a common living experience during

their first two years in the program, enroll in cohort-specific freshman and sophomore seminars, and receive success coaching from dedicated program staff. S

The academy's work is grounded

in the Complete Engineer, a College of Engineering initiative designed to ensure students participate in experiential learning in tandem with the technical expertise provided by a Big Ten degree.

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- Jose L. Angulo Valtierra, 25, South Sioux City; no operator's license fine \$500
- Kyle A Mills, 34, Omaha; theft-shoplifting \$0-500, jail 6 days
- Chad L. Wendte, 49, South Sioux City; criminal trespass 2nd degree jail 3 days
- Amber R. Zickefoose, 37, Emerson; theft-unlawful taking \$501-1,499, fine \$500, jail 14 days
- Jason J. Burke, 54, violate harassment protection jail 45 days
- Omar Hermosillo Jimenez, 31, South Sioux City; criminal trespass 1st degree, fine \$500, probation 18 months, commit child abuse negligently fine \$500, probation 18 months
- Christopher A. Redenius, 46, South Sioux City; assault threaten jail 90 days, resist arrest -1st offense jail 45 days
- Brad Geshhausen, 53, Dakota City; defendant failed to appear
- Herbert W. Lias Jr., 48, Sioux City, Iowa; defendant failed to appear
- Autumn P. Makwinja, 50, theft-shoplifting \$0-500, fine \$500
- Guillermo Mendoza-Bautista, 45, Omaha; DUI.15+ (1 prior conviction) fine \$1,000, jail 120, revoked license 5 years, no operator's license jail 7 days
- Delyv L. Zavala Lugo, 23, South Sioux City; no opera-

- tor's license fine \$300, drive under/suspension before reinstated fine \$300
- Hugo Albay Estrada, 41, South Sioux City; criminal mischief \$501-1499, jail 57 days, probation 12 months
- Ashley M. Carman, 34, North Sioux, S.D. DUI.15+ (1 prior conviction) fine \$1,000, jail 30 days, probation 18 months, leave accident fail to furnish info 1st fine \$500, jail 2 days, probation 18 months
- Toni A. Lauer, 67, South Sioux City; DUI -alcohol-1st offense fine \$500, probation 6 months, revoked license 60 days
- Dillion A. Grillet, 27, Sioux City, Iowa; fail to appear or comply with citation jail 3 days
- Clyde A. Hoffman III 34, waiver of extradition (Iowa) fugitive from justice
- Matthew D. Hurlbert, 47, Omaha; waiver of extradition (Iowa) fugitive from justice
- Kevin Tebo, 44, Winnebago; drive under suspension/before reinstated jail 30 days, fail to appear or comply with citation jail 10 days
- Michael R. Drabing, 42, South Sioux City; resist arrest 1st offense fine \$1,000, probation 24 months, disturbing the peace probation 24 months, criminal trespass 2nd degree, fine \$500, probation 24 months
- William Samson, 30, South Sioux City; no valid reg fine \$150, drive under suspension before reinstated fine \$100, no operator's license jail 14 days, no proof of insurance fine \$150

MARRIAGE LICENSES

- Juencio Martinez Jr, 32, South Sioux City, and Beatriz Adriana Mena Sandoval, 42, South Sioux City
- Emmanuel Ramirez-Saldana, 39, South Sioux City, and Marisol Munoz Munoz, 47, South Sioux City

Phommavanh on UNMC dean's list

The University of Nebraska Medical Center has announced its summer 2025 dean's list for students enrolled in nursing and the allied health professions. To qualify for the dean's list, nursing and the allied health students must be enrolled for 12 or more hours

during the semester and have a grade point average of 3.75 or above.

Area students making the list include Nataly Phommavanh of Dakota City at the Norfolk program.

On the web - www.dakcostar.com

South Sioux City American Legion Auxiliary Unit 307

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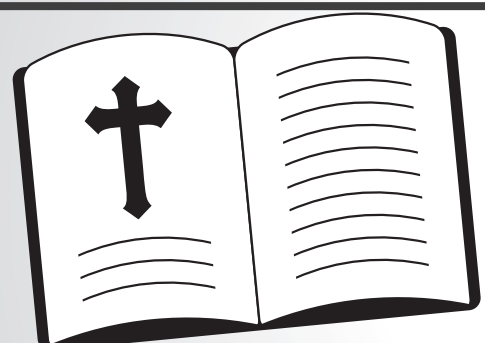
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3 FAMILY RUMMAGE, 1925 F Street SSC, Sat 8-4, Ladder, Hall Tree Stand, microwave, table with leaves, two desk chairs on wheels, house plants and yard plants, bicycle, fishing poles, jewelry, household items, Lots of Misc.

NEIGHBORHOOD RUMMAGE, Sept 27-28th, 8-5, assorted adult, children, infant clothing, shoes, jackets, bedding, Lots of Misc.

Legal Notice

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF DAKOTA COUNTY, NEBRASKA
 Case No. CI 24-119
ELOISA IGNACIA VALDEZ v. JAIME RUDY ARGUETA SANCHEZ
 TO: Jaime Rudy Argueta Sanchez, whose whereabouts are unknown and upon whom personal service of the Notice of Hearing cannot be had, is the Defendant in the above proceedings. You are notified that the Hearing on the Complaint against you in the District Court of Dakota County, Nebraska, at Case CI 24-119, the object of which is to dissolve the marriage and determine the care, custody, and control of minor children, among other things, is scheduled for October 2, 2024, at 9 a.m., at 1601 Broadway Street, Dakota City, Nebraska 68731, before the Honorable Judge Meisner.

Eloisa Ignacia Valdez
Plaintiff

John Landrie, #27423
Immigrant Legal Center
 4223 Center Street
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 4402-898-1349
 john@immigrantlc.org
 Publish in the Dakota County Star
 Thursday, September 12, 19 and 26, 2024. - ZNEZ

Legal Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE
 Pursuant to the Neb.Rev.St. §§ 21-193 & 21-117, notice is hereby given that the undersigned has formed a limited liability company under the Nebraska Uniform Limited Liability Company Act.

The name of the Limited Liability Company is **K&K Nails Spa, LLC**

The street address and mailing address of the Company's initial registered office in Nebraska is 2323 Dakota Ave, South Sioux City, NE 68776 and the name of its registered agent at such address is Bao V. Hoang.

The street address and mailing address the Company's initial designated office in Nebraska is 2323 Dakota Ave, South Sioux City, NE 68776.

This company is organized to engage in and to do any lawful business for any lawful purpose, for which a limited liability company may be organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska.

The Company's duration is perpetual beginning on the date the Certificate of Organization was filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Nebraska.

The affairs of the limited liability company are conducted by managers, members and such other officers as may be provided for in the Operating Agreement.

Bao V. Hoang
Member

Robert J. Rehan, Organizer
 700 4th Street, #300
 Sioux City, IA 51101
 Publish in the Dakota County Star
 Thursday, September 12, 19 and 26, 2024. - ZNEZ

Legal Notice

Notice is hereby given that **Sage, LLC**, a Nebraska Limited Liability Company, has been organized under the laws of the state of Nebraska, with its initial designated office at 522 Eagle Dr., Dakota City, NE 68731. The initial agent for service of process of the Company is Lita Hirschman, 522 Eagle Dr., Dakota City, NE 68731.

Publish in the Dakota County Star
 Thursday, September 19 and 26, 2024 and October 3, 2024. - ZNEZ

Legal Notice

NOTICE
 IN THE COUNTY COURT OF DAKOTA COUNTY, NEBRASKA
 Estate of Alfredo Coss, Deceased

Notice is hereby given that on August 27, 2024, in the County Court of Dakota County, Nebraska, the Registrar issued a written statement of formal Appointment of Personal Representative in Intestacy of said Decedent and that Myriam Coss, whose mailing address is 1530 Edwards Avenue, South Sioux City, NE 68776, was formally appointed by the Registrar as Personal Representative of the Estate.

Creditors of this Estate must file their claims with this Court on or before November 12, 2024, or be forever barred.

/s/ Kerri L. Wiese
Clerk of Court
 Dakota County Court
 Address of County Court:
 1601 Broadway Street
 Dakota City, NE 68731

/s/Robert N. Stewart
 Robert N. Stewart, NSBA # 24759
 329 Pierce Street, Suite 200
 Sioux City, IA 51101
 712-277-4561

ATTORNEYS FOR THE ESTATE
 Publish in the Dakota County Star
 Thursday, September 12, 19 and 26, 2024. - ZNEZ

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION OF

JM BACON FARMS, LLC

Notice is hereby given that a Nebraska limited liability company has been organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska, as follows:

1-The name of the limited liability company is **JM BACON FARMS, LLC (the "Company")**.

2-The street and mailing address of the initial designated office of the Company is 426 Poplar St., Hubbard, NE 68741.

3-The street and mailing address of the Company's registered office in Nebraska is 1419 Dakota Ave., P.O. Box 215, South Sioux City, Nebraska 68776, and the name of the Company's registered agent at that office is John C. Ehrich.

4-The company was organized and commenced on September 10, 2024, and its duration is perpetual.

JM BACON FARMS, LLC

By: **/s/ Jeremy D. Bacon, Organizer**

John C. Ehrich (Bar # 24140)
 Ehrich Law Office, P.C., L.L.O.
 1419 Dakota Ave.
 P.O. Box 215
 South Sioux City, NE 68776
 Phone: 402-412-2080
 jehrich@ehrichlawoffice.com

Publish in the Dakota County Star
 Thursday, September 19 and 26, 2024 and October 3, 2024. - ZNEZ

Legal Notice

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
SOUTH SIOUX CITY
PLANNING COMMISSION
REZONING REQUEST
 448 Golf Road

Notice is hereby given that the Planning Commission of the City of South Sioux City will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, October 9, 2024 at 4 p.m. in the South Sioux City Council Chambers, located at 1615 1st Avenue, South Sioux City, Nebraska. This meeting will be open to the public in the matter of rezoning 448 Golf Road from R2b to C4, legally described as, Tract C Section 20, Township 29, Range 9 East of the 6th P.M.

Publish in the Dakota County Star
 Thursday, September 26, 2024. - ZNEZ

Legal Notice

KOLEY JESSEN P.C., L.L.O., Attorneys
 1125 South 103rd Street,
 Suite 800
 Omaha, Nebraska 68124

NOTICE OF CONVERSION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Nelson Enterprises, Inc. has been converted into **Nelson Enterprises, LLC**, under the laws of the State of Nebraska. The Designated Office of the company is 1334 West Sarpy Road, Jackson, Nebraska 68743. The Registered Office of the company is 1334 West Sarpy Road, Jackson, Nebraska 68743 and the Registered Agent at such address is Bruce Nelson. The conversion of the corporation into the limited liability company was accomplished by the filing of Articles of Conversion and a Certificate of Organization with the Nebraska Secretary of State on August 30, 2024, dated effective September 1, 2024, at 12:01 a.m.

Publish in the Dakota County Star
 Thursday, September 12, 19 and 26, 2024. - ZNEZ

Legal Notice

F&L Drywall LLC
NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION
 Notice is hereby given that

F&L Drywall LLC has been organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska. The address of the designated office of the Company is 322 W 16TH ST. The initial agent for service of process is Jose Dolores Leon Tirado & Juan Jose Ferrusquia Leon, 322 W 16th St., South Sioux City, NE 68776. The general nature of the business will be to engage in the transaction of any or all lawful business, for which a limited liability company may be organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska. The Company commenced its existence on 07/16/2024, and its duration shall be perpetual.

Organizer Name:
Jose Dolores Leon Tirado & Juan Jose Ferrusquia Leon

Publish in the Dakota County Star
 Thursday, September 19 and 26, 2024 and October 3, 2024. - ZNEZ

Legal Notice

NOTICE

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF DAKOTA COUNTY, NEBRASKA
 Estate of CAROL ANN CAMPBELL, Deceased

Notice is hereby given that on September 16, 2024, in the County Court of Dakota County, Nebraska, Kirk James Campbell of 4104 Hickory Lane, Sioux City, Iowa 51106 and Todd James Campbell of 19158 Greenwood Ridge Rd., Lebanon, Michigan 65536 were informally appointed by the Registrar as Co-Administrators of the Estate.

Creditors of this Estate must file their claims with this Court on or before November 26, 2024, or be forever barred.

SEAL
Kerri L. Wiese
 Clerk of the County Court
 Address of County Court
 County Court of Dakota County
 P.O. Box 385
 Dakota City, Ne 68731

Attorney of Estate
Dean A. Fankhauser NE #26143
TIGGES, BOTTARO & LESSMANN, LLP
 613 Pierce Street
 P.O. Box 1557
 Sioux City, Iowa 51101
 712-252-3226
 dfankhauser@siouxcitylawyers.com

Publish in the Dakota County Star
 Thursday, September 26, 2024 and October 3 and 10, 2024. - ZNEZ

Legal Notice

SMITH PAULEY LLP
 3555 Farnam Street Suite 1000 Omaha NE 68131
NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION

RG Greenfield Holdings LLC, with its designated office located at 2520 Dakota Ave., South Sioux City, NE 68776. Attn: Randy Groetken gives notice that it filed a Certificate of Organization with the Secretary of State on August 29, 2024. The registered agent is Katherine A. Rehan and the Registered Office is 3555 Farnam St., Ste. 1000, Omaha, NE 68131. The company may engage in any lawful business or commercial activity for which a limited liability company may be organized.

Publish in the Dakota County Star Thursday, September 12, 19 and 26, 2024. - ZNEZ

THE CHILD CARE CRISIS IN NEBRASKA IS HURTING EVERYONE.



Quality, affordable child care is hard to find across Nebraska. Let's come together to solve the problem. Because it's not going to solve itself. **Care for Nebraska.** Solve the child care crisis.

NebraskaCaresForKids.org

We Care for Kids



NOW HIRING!

WITH SIGN ON BONUS FOR FT & PT

- Licensed Mental Health Therapist (full-time)
- Outpatient Clinic/ Surgery Registered Nurse (full-time)
- Registered Nurse (full-time & part-time)
- Unit Secretary (part-time)
- Nursing Assistant (full-time, days/evenings)
- RHC Administrative Assistant (full-time)
- Clinic RN/LPN/CMA (PRN)
- Child Development Program Manager (full-time, exempt)
- Pharmacy Cashier (part-time, Emerson)



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View more openings online! Apply today at pchne.org.

THIS INSTITUTION IS AN EEO/AA EMPLOYER AND PROVIDER, PROTECTED VETERANS AND INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES.

Legal Notice

ADULT NAME CHANGE

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF DAKOTA COUNTY, NEBRASKA Case Number: D70CI240000154

IN RE NAME CHANGE OF: Seth Michael Shilling

Notice is hereby given that on the 28th day of August 2024, a petition was filed in the District Court of Dakota County, Nebraska, the object and prayer of which is for the change of the petitioner's name from Seth Michael Shilling to Seth Michael Simon.

A hearing will be had on said petition before the Honorable Bryan C. Meisner in courtroom no. 1, 1601 Broadway St., Dakota City, NE 68731 on the 8th day of October 2024 at 1 p.m., or as soon thereafter as will be convenient for the court and that unless sufficient cause is shown to the contrary, the petitioner's name will be changed from that of Seth Michael Shilling to Seth Michael Simon.

Seth Michael Shilling
212 East 10th Street
South Sioux City, NE 68776
712-260-7791

Publish in the Dakota County Star Thursday, September 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2024. - ZNEZ

Legal Notice

Western Iowa Community Improvement Regional Housing Trust Fund (WICIRHTF)

Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Council (SIMPSCO) will be holding a public hearing regarding the Housing Trust Fund grant application on September 26, 2024, at 11:15 a.m. at SIMPSCO, 6401 Gordon Dr, Sioux City, Iowa 51106.

The funds from this grant will be used to assist income qualified low to moderate income homeowners in Woodbury, Plymouth, Monona, Cherokee and Ida counties. Qualified homeowners will receive assistance with addressing health and safety issues found within their homes. This meeting is open to the public for input on the application and anyone interested in attending are encouraged to do so.

For questions or information, please contact Jenny Anderson at jenny@simpco.org or call 712-279-6286.

Publish in the Dakota County Star Thursday, September 26, 2024. - ZNEZ

Legal Notice

Village of Homer

Sealed Bids

1979 Ford F600

Water Tank Truck

Call 1-712-259-0301

with Questions

Bids are due to

Village Office

by Thursday, October 10th

at noon.

Publish in the Dakota County Star Thursday, September 26, 2024 and October 3, 2024. - ZNEZ

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Dakota County Board of Commissioners will hold their regular scheduled meeting on Monday, September 16, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. at the Dakota County Courthouse, 1601 Broadway Street, Dakota City, and which said meeting is open to the public. The agenda for this meeting will be kept continually current and available to the public at the County Clerk's Office.

Cherie Conley, County Clerk

Publish in the Dakota County Star Thursday, September 26, 2024. - ZNEZ

DAKOTA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS/EQUALIZATION

Dakota County Board of Commissioners Monday, September 16, 2024 3: p.m.

County Board Meeting Room, First Floor Dakota County Courthouse, Dakota City, Nebraska

Legal Abbreviations for this ad: the title Commissioner has been omitted before each Commissioner's name, "-" = moved, seconded by; Roll Call Vote Unanimous Motion Carried = RCVUMC

Chair Hohenstein called the meeting to order at 3 p.m. Present at Roll Call: Hohenstein, Love, Van Berkum, Giese, Launsby. Absent: None. Also present was Kim Watson, County Attorney and Cherie Conley, County Clerk, acting as Board Secretary. The location of the Open Meetings Act was noted.

Love "-" Van Berkum to approve the consent agenda items: (a) approval of the previous meeting minutes - September 3, 2024; (b) approval of payroll claims for September 1 to September 14, 2024; (c) approval of payroll accounts payable claims; (d) approval of monthly accounts payable claims except the M.E. Collins Contracting claim; and (e) approval of Officials Reports - Register of Deeds, County Clerk and Clerk of District Court. RCVUMC.

Payroll: General Fund: Gross Salaries - \$185,183.19; Net Pay-\$132,332.61; Total Retirement-\$13,289.89; Total FICA-\$13,636.20; Health Plan-\$45,360.00; Dental Plan-\$1,620.00; Life Insurance-\$212.94; **Road Fund Employer:** Gross Salaries-\$21,573.44; Net Pay-\$15,362.22; Retirement-\$1,456.17; Total FICA-\$1,545.70; Health Plan-\$5,600.00; Dental Plan-\$200.00; Life Insurance-\$24.61; **Health Planning Grant Employer 2502:** Gross Salaries-\$1,550.25; Net Pay-\$1,203.25; Retirement-\$104.64; Total FICA-\$118.60; Health Plan-\$560.00; Life Insurance-\$2.55; Chloe Coover-\$1,550.25; **Health Planning Grant Employee 2502:** Federal Tax-\$101.35; State Tax-\$57.29; FICA-\$96.12; Medicare-\$22.48; Extra Fit-\$0.00; Exrta Sit-\$0.00; Retirement-\$69.76;

Health Program Grant Employee 2504: Gross Salaries-\$1,786.40; Net Pay-\$1,403.50; Retirement-\$112.62; Total FICA-\$133.85; Health Plan-\$560.00; Dental Plan-\$20.00; Life Insurance-\$2.55; Mohamad Ibrahim-\$117.92; Yesica Saldana Cisneros-\$1,668.48; Health Program Grant Employee 2504: Federal Tax-\$90.66; State Tax-\$46.65; FICA-\$108.48; Medicare-\$25.37; Retirement-\$75.08; Dental Plan-\$21.00; VSP Vision Base-\$15.66; **Juvenile Services Aid Employee 2507:** Gross Salaries-\$1,560.00; Net Pay-\$1,268.48; Retirement-\$105.30; Total FICA-\$115.80; Dental Plan-\$20.00; Life Insurance-\$2.55; Kristin

Robinette-\$1,560.00; **Juvenile Services Aid Employee 2507:** Federal Tax-\$32.05; State Tax-\$27.22; FICA-\$93.85; Medicare-\$21.95; Retirement-\$70.20; Dental Plan-\$21.00; VSP Vision Prem-\$25.25;

Payroll Accounts Payable: General Fund: Collection Service Center, garnishment-\$564.45; Colonial Life & Accident, life insurance premium-\$282.18; Dental Account, premium-\$2,187.00; FSA Dep Care - \$416.66; FSA Medical - \$950.87; Health Plan, premium-\$49,460.00; Fraternal Order of Police #49, union dues-\$510.00; Federal Withholding, federal taxes-\$13,197.58; Globe Life Liberty, premium-\$154.04; Legalsield, premium-\$128.64; Life Insurance, premium-\$212.94; Nationwide Retirement Solutions, contributions-\$1,090.00; Nebraska Child Support, garnishments-\$766.61; Neb Dept of Revenue, state taxes-\$6,730.78; Ameritas Retirement, contributions-\$22,486.98; Social Security, FICA & MEDI-\$27,272.40; VSP, premium-\$558.48.

Road Fund: Colonial Life & Accident, life insurance premium-\$73.33; Dental Account, premium-\$305.00; FSA Medical - \$108.69; Health Plan, premium-\$6,650.00; Federal Withholding, federal taxes-\$1,344.63; Globe Life Liberty, premium-\$6.50; Legalsield, premium-\$58.36; Life Insurance, premium-\$24.61; Neb Dept of Revenue, state taxes-\$702.33; Nebraska Public Empl Local 251, union dues-\$165.00; Ameritas Retirement, contributions-\$2,427.01; Social Security, FICA & MEDI-\$3,091.40; VSP, premium-\$80.84;

Insurance Fund 1275: Mid-American Benefits-medical claims \$26,210.95; **Health Fund 2502:** Medical Account, premium-\$560.00; Federal Withholding, federal taxes-\$105.35; Life Insurance, premium-\$2.55; Neb Dept of Revenue, state taxes-\$57.29; Ameritas Retirement, contributions-\$174.40; Social Security, FICA & MEDI-\$237.20; **Health Fund 2504:** Dental Account, premium-\$41.00; Health Plan, premium-\$560.00; Federal Withholding, federal taxes-\$90.66; Life Insurance, premium-\$2.55; Neb Dept of Revenue, state taxes-\$46.65; Ameritas Retirement, contributions-\$187.70; Social Security, FICA & MEDI-\$267.70; VSP, premium-\$15.66; **Juvenile Services Fund 2507:** Dental Account, premium-\$41.00; Federal Withholding, federal taxes-\$32.05; Life Insurance, premium-\$2.55; Neb Dept of Revenue, state taxes-\$27.22; Ameritas Retirement, contributions-\$175.50; Social Security, FICA & MEDI-\$231.60; VSP, premium-\$25.25.

Accounts Payable: General Fund: 0802 Road Improv, fund transfers-\$4,139.28; A Team, bldg repair-\$3,066.71; Ace/Refrigeration, repair-\$133.50; Advanced Correctional Healthcare, doc fee & med-\$10,647.17; Angela Abts, reimb-\$133.33; Arthur Gallagher, notary bond-\$45.00; AutoZone, materials-\$18.28; Availity, medical-\$128.75; Axon Enterprises, cartridges-\$533.72; Becky Broer, reimb-\$9.84; Bekins Fire & Safety, extinguisher maint-\$173.90; Billion, vehicle repair-\$78.73; Cherie Conley, reimb-\$80.40; Christy Abts, reimb-\$400.69; City of Dakota City, utilities-\$3,021.02; City of So Sioux City, fuel-\$8,116.24; Com-Tech, bldg repair-\$3,919.84; Cray Huff,

atty fees-\$294.50; Crystal Oil, fuel-\$25.40; Dakota County Court, court cost-\$2,112.25; Dakota County ROD, reimb-\$10.00; Dakota County Sheriff, papers, warrants-\$1,504.22; Dakota County Star, public-\$1,399.82; DCVS, veterans aid fund-\$4,500.00; Dakota Food & Fuel, fuel-\$16.89; DAS State Acct, state printer/tech fees-\$1,041.64; Diamond Drug, inmate supp-\$2,285.30; District Court, court fees-\$800.00; Dr Thomas Wentz, physician fee-\$250.00; Drain Specialists, bldg repair-\$1,875.00; Eakes, supp-\$3,570.18; Egley, Fullner, Montag Morland, & Eastland, atty fees-\$1,506.35; Electronic Engineering, monitoring-\$29.95; Farmer's Pride, diesel-\$493.11; Fibercomm, phones-\$744.47; Fremont Tire, tire repair-\$254.63; Fund 2750-Sinking RTI, moving money to IT fund-\$25,000.00; Gill Hauling, dumpster-\$554.60; GreatAmerica Financial, copier contract-\$352.77; GRP, disposals-\$53.00; HNH Auto Repair, vehicle repair-\$485.04; Hot Water Products, plumbing parts-\$1,566.16; Innovative Appraisal, re-assmnt hrs-\$2,064.50; Jack's Uniforms, uniforms-\$1,658.20; Julie Boyle, reimb-\$444.81; Leads Online, leads online serv-\$3,016.00; Leaf, copier contract-\$725.03; Linda Carson, PYS-\$11.00; Major Refrigeration, repairs -\$1,039.20; Marco, copier contract-\$569.71; Marco Tech, copier contract- front area-\$257.40; Margie Rahn, PYS-\$12.00; Maria Garza Magana, witness fee, mileage-\$28.04; Melissa Collins, reimb-\$51.76; Menards, supp-\$1,102.72; MercyOne, EAP-\$234.84; Microfilm Imaging, scanning-\$177.00; MidAmerican Energy, utilities-\$804.59; MIPS, software, scanning-\$3,722.19; NACO, conference-\$35.00; Beatrice State Development Center, institution-\$276.00; Lincoln Regional Center, institution-\$855.00; Nebraska.gov, certified records-\$66.00; Nicholas Nieman, reimb-\$556.65; Norm Waitt, membership-\$184.50; NPPD, utilities -\$5,926.40; Nutrition Action, newsletter-\$49.99; One Office, copier usage, supp-\$890.37; Phoenix Plumbing, bldg repair-\$3,533.54; Physicians Lab, autopsy-\$3,050.00; PMRNRD, rent-\$750.00; Randy S Hisey, atty fees-\$1,529.50; Region 4 Behavioral Health, Qrt 2 FY25 mental health-\$10,822.75; Richard Thrammer, atty fees-\$1,923.75; Robert Wichser, atty fees-\$5,643.39; Robertson, sharpen blades-\$18.00; RTI, IT support-\$7,294.90;

Sandhill State Bank, lease pymt-\$18,197.49; Security Shredding, shredding-\$120.00; Siouxland Federal Credit, pymt-\$2.29; Siouxland Hospitalists, medical-\$1,836.00; St. Lukes Regional Medical, medical-\$822.40; Stanard Appraisal, resid eval-\$18,766.00; Stuart B Mills, atty fees-\$1,493.75; Summit Food, food & bev-\$28,836.54; Tammy Peterson, reimb-\$52.26; Team Trouble Chasers, supp-\$50.00; TK Elevator, elevator maint-\$251.11; TR Harris Construction, replaced sidewalk-\$6,352.00; TransUnion Risk & Alternative, searches-\$123.00; Trembly, pest control-\$100.00; UnityPoint at Home, medical-\$9.00; US Bank, supp, workshop, lodging, postage, fuel, mics-\$9,029.71; Van Diest Supply, chemicals-\$736.15; Verizon, phones-\$42.93; Wells Fargo, copier lease-\$508.19; Wilmes Hardware, supp, tools-\$543.20; WIT, training, first aid-\$1,118.00; Woodhouse, vehicle repair-\$938.42

Road Fund: American Underground Supply, culverts-\$488.46; Backus Sand & Gravel, gravel-\$3,062.23; Bosselman Pump & Pantry, fuel-\$5,660.13; DSG-Dakota Supply Group, culverts-\$1,755.00; Frame Aligners, parts, supp-\$346.19; Gary Backhaus Gravel, gravel-\$21,010.31; Gill Hauling, dumpster-\$144.36; Graham Tire Sioux City, tires-\$2,211.56; Grosenburger Imp, tractor rental-\$236.13; H204U, water-\$52.00; J&J's Pronto, fuel-\$242.03; Jackson's Heavy Equip., training-\$7,505.34; K&K Hubbard Mini Mart, fuel-\$369.52; Lamp Construction, bathroom install-\$4,384.50; L.G. Everist Inc, gravel-\$8,934.81; Matheson, oxy/acetylene-\$167.80; Matteo Sand & Gravel, gravel-\$3,827.60; Medical Enterprise, drug testing-\$185.00; Arnie Mellick, PYS-\$13.00; MidAmerican Energy, utilities-\$15.83; Midwest Svc & Sales, traffic signs-\$3,508.00; NPPD, utilities-\$100.37; Northeast NE Telephone, phones-\$129.52; Northeast Power, utilities-\$322.57; Northside Glass, parts-\$280.00; O'Reilly Auto Parts, supp-\$47.91; Petersen Metal Products, parts, labor-\$1,282.85; Power Plan, parts, labor-\$4,955.78; Siouxland Hydraulics, parts-\$461.34; Strivens Sewer Pumping, shop work-\$210.00; Titan Machinery, shop supp-\$207.80; UnityPoint Clinic, drug testing-\$32.00; US Bank, supp, parts, mics-\$97.35; Verizon Connect, GPS-\$471.70; Verizon Wireless, phones-\$82.91;

Village of Emerson, utilities-\$43.73; Warren Oil, diesel-\$4,565.70; Wilmes Hardware, supp, tools-\$60.28; Ziegler, parts-\$4,364.50;

0802 Road & Bridge Improvement: Veenstra & Kimm, S bluff Road culvert extension-\$4,139.28; **Visitor Promo:** SSC Chamber of Commerce, visitor promo-\$30,792.57; **P&M Fund:** Microfilm Imaging, scanning-\$210.00; MIPS, software-\$616.23; **Health Grant 2502:** US Bank, seminars, mics-\$140.76; **Health Grant 2504:** NE Public Health, water testing-\$35.00; US Bank, seminars, misc-\$269.17; Verizon, phones-\$82.94; **DCHD Covid fund 2508:** Ford Motor Credit, lease pymt-\$912.16; US Bank, phones-\$179.80;

ARPA Fund: Civil Engineers, 60% plans/engineering-\$23,811.00; Dakota County Treasurer, Forti-ERD Licenses-\$4,800.00; FarrWest, drug detector drive-\$32,432.40; One Office, public defender furniture-\$619.00; Universal Windows, basement widows-\$1,101.68; Ziegler, semi-trailer of motor grader blades-\$28,110.40.

Love "-" Giese to approve the M.E. Collins Contracting Change Order #2 for \$12,403.45 for overrun of concrete due to the full depth repairs required for the Jackson/Homer Bridge deck repairs. RCVUMC.

Hohenstein "-" Love to approve the accounts payable claim to M.E. Collins Contracting for final payment of the Jackson/Homer Bridge deck repairs in the amount of \$116,338.05 from the ARPA funds. RCVUMC.

Love "-" Hohenstein, to approve increasing the base restricted funds of the 2024-25 budget by an additional 1% in the amount of \$66,976.33. RCVUMC.

Love "-" Hohenstein to approve Resolution 24C-023 for the Adoption and Appropriations of the Proposed 2024-2025 County Budget. RCVUMC.

Love "-" Van Berkum, to approve Resolution 24C-024 setting the County Property Tax Request at \$8,241,966.08. RCVUMC.

Love moved to award the bid for the Likuwanta Drive road project to Steve Harris Construction Inc. for \$1,273,127.87 because of previous time frames, and staking costs and the money saved on engineering costs and Hohenstein seconded the motion. There was further discussion. RCVUMC. 4-Yes, 1 No.

Chair Hohenstein noted the agenda item and asked Commissioner Love to amend his motion. Love "-" Hohenstein to award the bid for the Likuwanta Drive road project to Steve Harris Construction Inc. for \$1,273,127.87 because of previous work done, staking costs and the money saved on engineering costs, and approve Chair to sign the contracts when prepared. RCVUMC. 4-Yes, 1 No.

Love "-" Van Berkum to approve Resolution 23C-025 permitting additional pledged securities. RCVUMC. Giese "-" Launsby, to approve each officer's notarized inventory statement of all county personal property as of June 30, 2024 and to file them in the Office of County Clerk. RCVUMC.

Love read the Road Report for

September 1 to September 14, 2024. Love "-" Giese to approve the Dakota County Health Department to offer free flu shots to county employees. RCVUMC.

Love "-" Van Berkum to approve the accounts payable claim to Midwest Engineering Inc. for engineering cost of the Jackson/Homer Bridge decking projects for a total of \$16,350.00 to be paid using ARPA funds. RCVUMC.

Hohenstein "-" Van Berkum to approve the quote from Albireo Energy for \$43,070 to install an updated Smoke Evacuation System and Building Automation System to be paid from ARPA funds. RCVUMC.

Van Berkum "-" Love to approve the quote from Major Refrigeration to replace the jail walk-in refrigerator door for \$4,634.55 and be paid from ARPA funds. RCVUMC.

Love "-" Van Berkum to approve the R. Rohan Electric quotes to repair and update the electrical and lighting in the County Attorney's office-\$1,857.72, courthouse bathrooms-\$1,123.09, and the worked needed done on the area for the DMV for \$4,456.37 to be paid from ARPA funds. RCVUMC.

Van Berkum moved to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Chair Hohenstein adjourned the Board of Commissioners meeting of September 16, 2024 at 4:06 p.m.

Dakota County Board of Commissioners Martin Hohenstein, Chair

Cherie Conley, County Clerk/Board Secretary

Publish in the Dakota County Star Thursday, September 26, 2024. - ZNEZ

NOTICE OF CHANGES IN PUBLISHED PROPOSED BUDGET AND TAX REQUEST DAKOTA COUNTY 2024-2025

In compliance with the provisions of State Statute 13-506, that if the adopted budget statement reflects a change from that shown in the published proposed budget statement, a summary of such changes shall be published within 20 days after its adoption, but without provision for hearing, setting forth the items changed and the reasons for such changes. Budget was adopted September 16, 2024.

| | | |
|--|---|-----------------|
| General Fund 2024-25 | Requirements... | \$14,206,757.89 |
| Reduced to \$14,123,219.71 | for expense adjustments | (-\$83,538.18) |
| Road Fund 2024-2025 | Requirements..... | \$ 2,432,317.35 |
| Increased to \$2,433,000.11 | for expense adjustments | (+\$682.76) |
| 2024-25 Property Tax Request..... | \$ 8,325,253.03 | |
| Reduced to \$8,241,966.08 | due to expense adjustments (-\$83,286.95) | |
| Tax Rate | 0.306960 (+1.95%) | |
| Reduced to 0.303889 | (+0.93%) due to adjustments..... | (-1.02%) |
| Reasons for such changes: Adjustments / Corrections to expenses. | | |

Cherie Conley, County Clerk
Publish in the Dakota County Star Thursday, September 26, 2024. - ZNEZ

2024 GENERAL VOTE BY MAIL APPLICATION

Nebraska Driver's License or State ID Number

If you do not have a Nebraska Driver's License or State ID, include a photocopy of your ID (see voterid.nebraska.gov for valid IDs and how to get a free State ID) that has your picture and your name. It can be expired.

Print FIRST & LAST name of Voter: _____

Current Physical Home Address: _____

City: _____ County: Dakota State: NE Zip: _____

Address where ballot is to be mailed (if different than above): _____

City: _____ County: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number (____) _____ - _____

Email: _____

Date of Birth of Voter: ____ / ____ / ____ Date: _____, 2024.

I hereby declare, under penalty of election falsification, that the above information is true.

SIGN HERE Signature of Voter or Agent*: _____

Printed Name of Agent* (if applicable): _____

*An agent is a person who requests a ballot for another voter. An agent may request ballots for up to two (2) voters per election.

Mail to or drop off at: Dakota County Clerk, 1601 Broadway, PO Box 39, Dakota City, NE 68731

Email: pledema@dakotacounty.ne.gov

Publish in the Dakota County Star Thursday, September 26, 2024. - ZNEZ



L-2400507



GROSVENOR LAND AUCTION

SIMULCAST LIVE AND ONLINE

1,312± Acres • Dixon County, Nebraska
Ponca State Park | 88090 Spur 26E, Ponca, Nebraska
Thursday, October 17, 2024, at 10:30 AM

Bidding starts | Monday, October 7, 2024 at 8:00 AM
Bidding closes | Thursday, October 17, 2024 at close of live event
 To register and bid go to: WWW.FNCBID.COM

-- Several size tracts -- Easy access -- 12 tracts in all! --

For more information on property details, please contact:



Wendi Schutte, Broker
Phone: (402) 518-0115
WSchutte@FarmersNational.com
www.FNCRealEstate.com/Laurel

HOMER COMMUNITY SCHOOL MINUTES

HOMER COMMUNITY SCHOOL MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING BOARD OF EDUCATION HOMER COMMUNITY SCHOOL Monday, September 16, 2024

A meeting of the Board of Education of Homer Community School was convened in open and public session on Monday, September 16, 2024 at 7:00 PM in the Library at Homer Community School, Homer, Nebraska.

The following board members were present or absent: Byron Hall: Present, Ryan Harris: Present, Tyler Kirkholm: Present, Dr. Kristina Nelsen: Present, Aaron Reis: Absent, Paul Tighe: Present.

Administration present: Superintendent Dr. Joseph Lefdal, Principal Abbie Uhl, Principal Tom Coviello, and Board Secretary Amy Brand

Visitors present: Several

Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication and/or posting in accordance with the Board approved method for giving notice of meetings. Notice of this meeting was given to all members of the Board of Education. The Secretary of the Board maintains a list of the news media requesting notification of meetings and advance notification to the listed media of the time and place of the meeting and the subjects to be discussed at this meeting was provided. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the publicized notice and a current copy of the Agenda was maintained as stated in the publicized notice. All proceedings of the Board of Education, except as hereinafter noted, were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

I-2024-25 Budget Hearing
II-Call Hearing to Order
III-The purpose of the Hearing is to review, discuss, consider and receive input, and or support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of taxpayers relating to the proposed budget.

III.A-Public Comment There was none.

III.B-Discussion
IV-Adjourn Budget Hearing Motion was made by Dr. Kristina Nelsen and seconded by Byron Hall to adjourn. On roll call vote the Board voted as follows: The motion carried

Byron Hall: Yea, Ryan Harris: Yea, Tyler Kirkholm: Yea, Dr. Kristina Nelsen: Yea, Aaron Reis: Absent, Paul Tighe: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1
V-2024-25 Levy Setting Hearing VI-Call Hearing to Order

VII-The purpose of the hearing is to review, discuss, consider and receive input, and or support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations from taxpayers relating to the proposed tax levy.

VII.A-Public Comment There was none.

VII.B-Discussion
VIII-Adjourn Levy Setting Hearing Motion was made by Byron Hall and seconded by Dr. Kristina Nelsen to adjourn. On roll call vote the Board voted as follows: The motion carried

Byron Hall: Yea, Ryan Harris: Yea, Tyler Kirkholm: Yea, Dr. Kristina Nelsen: Yea, Aaron Reis: Absent, Paul Tighe: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1
IX-Open the meeting

IX.A-Call meeting to order and notice of Open Meetings Law

IX.A.i-Declaration of Open Meeting

IX.A.ii-Publication of the meeting
IX.B-District Mission Statement
X-Board Member Roll Call Motion was made by Byron Hall and seconded by Ryan Harris to excuse member Reis. On roll call vote the Board voted as follows: The motion carried

Byron Hall: Yea, Ryan Harris: Yea, Tyler Kirkholm: Yea, Dr. Kristina Nelsen: Yea, Aaron Reis: Absent, Paul Tighe: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1
XI-Approval of agenda and changes to agenda Motion was made by Dr. Kristina Nelsen and seconded by Byron Hall to approve the agenda as presented. On roll call vote the Board voted as follows: The motion carried

Byron Hall: Yea, Ryan Harris: Yea, Tyler Kirkholm: Yea, Dr. Kristina Nelsen: Yea, Aaron Reis: Absent, Paul Tighe: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1
XII-Approval of Consent Agenda Motion was made by Ryan Harris and seconded by Byron Hall to approve the consent agenda. On roll call vote the Board voted as follows: The motion carried

Byron Hall: Yea, Ryan Harris: Yea, Tyler Kirkholm: Yea, Dr. Kristina Nelsen: Yea, Aaron Reis: Absent, Paul Tighe: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1
XII.A-Claims and Accounts
XII.B-Minutes from the August 14th Regular Board Meeting

XII.C-Minutes from the August 29th Special Meeting

XIII-Public Comment Jeff Reed stated the Sparq Data is not showing on the public page. This will be looked into.

XIV-Informational Reports

XIV.A-Administrator Reports Principals Uhl and Coviello discussed

staff professional development and the PD schedule that is on the Staff Hub. They also discussed the participation numbers in all activities as well as an update for the beginning of the school year.

XIV.B-Superintendent Report Dr. Lefdal reviewed Rule 10 requirements, updated the board on OCR website concerns, discussed setting a negotiations committee meeting in October, informed the board of a safety inspection on September 25th, discussed strategic planning in January or February, updated the board on enrollment numbers of 452 and enrollment resolution, discussed the State Education Conference, as well as setting the American Civics committee for October.

XV-Discussion Items
XV.A-Annual Report Dr. Lefdal will wait to discuss until they release the 2024 data. This will be posted on our website.

XV.B-Board Goals These will be discussed at either the October or November meeting.

XVI-Action Items
XVI.A-Consider, discuss and take action to approve the 2024-25 Budget as advertised. Motion was made by Byron Hall and seconded by Tyler Kirkholm to approve the 2024-25 Budget as advertised. On roll call vote the Board voted as follows: The motion carried

Byron Hall: Yea, Ryan Harris: Yea, Tyler Kirkholm: Yea, Dr. Kristina Nelsen: Yea, Aaron Reis: Absent, Paul Tighe: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1
XVI.B-Consider, discuss, and take action to approve the 2024-25 Levy Resolution as advertised. Motion was made by Tyler Kirkholm and seconded by Byron Hall to approve

the 2024-25 Levy Resolution as advertised. On roll call vote the Board voted as follows: The motion carried

Byron Hall: Yea, Ryan Harris: Yea, Tyler Kirkholm: Yea, Dr. Kristina Nelsen: Yea, Aaron Reis: Absent, Paul Tighe: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1
XVI.C-Consider, discuss and take action to approve the amended and updated policies from NASB. Dr. Lefdal discussed the updates that Jim Luebbe sent from NASB. These were clerical errors that needed to be fixed. No major changes were made, so the board can approve in a single meeting. Motion was made by Dr. Kristina Nelsen and seconded by Ryan Harris to approve the amended and updated policies from NASB. On roll call vote the Board voted as follows: The motion carried

Byron Hall: Yea, Ryan Harris: Yea, Tyler Kirkholm: Yea, Dr. Kristina Nelsen: Yea, Aaron Reis: Absent, Paul Tighe: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1
XVII-Next Meeting The next regular board meeting will be Wednesday, October 16th at 8:00 p.m.

XVIII-Adjournment Motion was made by Dr. Kristina Nelsen and seconded by Byron Hall To adjourn the meetin at 7:44 p.m. On roll call vote the Board voted as follows: The motion carried

Byron Hall: Yea, Ryan Harris: Yea, Tyler Kirkholm: Yea, Dr. Kristina Nelsen: Yea, Aaron Reis: Absent, Paul Tighe: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1
Dated this Monday, September 16, 2024.

ATTEST:

Dakota County School District #31R
a/k/a Homer

Community School

BY: Paul Tighe, President

Dr. Kristina Nelsen
Secretary

Angela Ford 59.94; Appearance 117.52; AT&T 83.24; Blick Art Materials 1,839.05; Capital One 397.78; Dakota Supply Group 59.34; Eakes Office Solutions 222.78; Electronic Contracting Company 600.00; ESU #1 9,061.44; Fastwyre Broadband 7.95; Fleet US 364.00;

Fouk Brothers Plumbing & Heating 45.39; Gill Hauling 1,021.49; Heartland Counseling Services, Inc. 218.36; Her Health 850.00; Hilliard & Sioux Falls Branch 1,643.70; Homer Community School 100.00; Home-town Leasing 1,610.70; J & J Pronto 768.77; Jay-lan 814.25;

JW Pepper & Son Inc 221.49; Kristina Noren 58.96; Language Link 2.80; LaQuinta Inn and Suites 321.00; Lessman Electric Supply Co 313.50; Menards - Sioux City 178.70; Mid-bell Music, Inc 83.99;

Morningside University 225.00; Nebraska Dept of Labor 14.78; Nebraska Rural Community School Association 850.00; One Source 142.00; Robertson Implement Co. 215.21; Sam's Club 499.31; Shawn Spurrell 438.60; Signs By Tomorrow 510.00; Sioux City Winnelson Co. 13.30; Siouxlant Lock & Key 28.50;

Software Unlimited, Inc. 5,800.00; Spurrell, Cassandre 251.84; Time Management Systems 85.00; Wayne State College 50.00; Wenger Corporation 136.29; Wilmes Hardware Hank 71.72; Fund Number 01 30,397.69

Checking Account ID1: 30,397.69

Publish in the Dakota County Star

Thursday, September 26, 2024. -

ZNEZ

VILLAGE OF HOMER MINUTES

Village of Homer Public Meeting September 8, 2024

A public meeting consisting of the Chairman and the Village of Homer, Nebraska, was held Thursday, September 8 at 6 p.m. at the Village Hall in said village.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance being posted in three (3) public places as shown by the Certificate of Posting Notice on file at the Village Hall.

Notice of the meeting was given to the Chairman and all Trustees and a copy of their Acknowledgement of Receipt and the agenda is on file at the Village Hall. Availability of the agenda was communicated in advance notice. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open at the attendance of the public.

The Chairman informed the public

of the Open Meetings Act posted on the west wall of the meeting room.

Present at the meeting were Trustees A Barclay, Utemark Chairperson Pro Tempore Cain, Maintenance Supervisor Elvin Vavra, Clerk/Treasurer Melissa Rushing.

The Chairman called the meeting to order.

Utemark motioned, 2nd A Barclay, to approve August 8 and September 3 minutes. Motion carried 3-0

A Barclay motioned, 2nd Utemark, to approve financial statements. Motion carried 3-0

Utemark motioned, 2nd A Barclay, to pay bills. Motion carried 3-0

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE 2,000.33; NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE 1,111.61; ELVIN VAVRA 1,615.71; BRUCE R UBBINGA 901.37; MELISSA R RUSHING 1,250.95;

LIAM VAVRA 380.81; TR HARRIS CONSTRUCTION INC 2,156.25; ELVIN VAVRA 1,615.71; BRUCE R UBBINGA 852.32; MELISSA R RUSHING 1,241.07; LIAM VAVRA 353.21;

CENTURY LINK 341.38; CRARY HUFF LAW FIRM 620.00; MARX DUST CONTROL 720.00; MIDWEST ALARM 110.93; FIRSTNET AT&T 51.43; ANALYTICAL & CONSULTING SERVICES INC 429.75;

BOMGAARS 354.29; CANON FINANCIAL SERVICES 42.89; DAUM TREE SERVICE 2,511.00; FLEET 336.00; HOMER COMMUNITY SCHOOL 20.00; IMMENSE IMPACT, LLC 665.00; LUX BROS INC. 1,318.05; NPPD 789.90;

RP CONSTRUCTORS LLC 1,860.00; THREEOAKS INC 27,000.00; UECO 790.59; BLACK HILLS 49.73; GILL HAULING 3,924.57; ONE CALL CONCEPTS, INC 3.58; ELVIN VAVRA 1,615.71;

BRUCE R UBBINGA 720.46; MELISSA R RUSHING 1,185.0; ASTC INC DBA K&S SERVICE 2,674.29; CRARY HUFF LAW FIRM 1,765.63; DAKOTA COUNTY STAR 87.44; J AND J'S PRONTO 382.95; JC ROOFING & INSULATING 450.00; NPPD 1,240.40; RAILROAD MANAGEMENT COMPANY 379.14;

SMITH FARM SERVICES INC 181.87; CENTURY LINK 102.57; WALL OF FAME 288.90

A Barclay motioned, 2nd Utemark, to approve resolution 24-05 one percent (1%) restricted funds. Motion carried 3-0

Utemark motioned, 2nd A Barclay, on resolution 24-06 property tax request. Motion carried 3-0.

A Barclay motioned, 2nd Utemark, on resolution 24-07 adopting 2024-2025 budget. Motion carried 3-0

Water main replacement- tabled

Insolation- tabled

Citizen Concerns-School would like access to village dumpster, clerk will request a letter from admin asking for a charge to be adding to monthly bill.

Board Reports-N/A
Maintenance report- Received bid on old water truck, will run bid in paper.

Clerk Report- Dividen Check received from EMC for \$657.19.

Utemark motioned, 2nd A Barclay, to go into executive session for Melissa Rushing review.

Motion carried 3-0 6:35 p.m.

Utemark motioned, 2nd A Barclay, to come out of executive session. Motion carried 3-0 6:45 p.m.

A Barclay motioned, 2nd Utemark, to adjourn. Motion carried 3-0

Attest:

I, the undersigned Village Clerk for the Village of Homer, Nebraska,

hereby certify that the forgoing is a true and correct copy had and done by the Chairman and Board of Trustees September 08, 2024; that the subjects included in the foregoing proceedings were continually current and available for public inspection at the office of the Village Clerk; that subjects were contained in said agenda for at least 24 hours of said meeting; that the said minutes of the Chairman and Board of Trustees of the Village of Homer, Nebraska from which the foregoing proceedings have been extracted were in written form within 10 working days and prior to the next convened meeting.

IN WITNESS HERETO, I have hereunto set my hand September 18, 2024.

Melissa Rushing, Village Clerk

Publish in the Dakota County Star

Thursday, September 26, 2024. -

ZNEZ

CITY OF SOUTH SIOUX CITY — AUGUST CLAIMS

City of South Sioux City August 2024 - Claims

ABREVIATION FOR THIS DOCUMENT: adv.-advertisement; equip-equipment; exp-expense; imp-improvement; ipay-incentive pay, ins-insurance; inv-investments; mi-mileage; mve-motor vehicle expense; pen-pension; pt - parts pub-publication; re-reimbursement; rep-repairs; rpt-report, rt-rent; salaries; se-services; su-supplies; tx - taxes; wh-withholding

3E-ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING, SE, \$3,962.02; A&R CONSTRUCTION, EXP, \$66,411.66; ACCESS SYSTEMS, EXP, \$793.65; AIRGAS USA, LLC, SU, \$194.95; AJ PHILLIPS PUBLISHING INC, SE, SU, \$856.41; ALS GROUP USA CORP, EXP, \$2,754.50; APX INC, EXP, \$70.86; AQUA CHEM INC, SU, \$3,895.45; ARTISAN PRESS, PUB, \$2,450.00; AT&T MOBILITY, SU, \$2,719.89; A-TEAM HEATING & COOLING, REP, \$368.58;

BAKER & TAYLOR BOOKS, SU, \$2,187.66; BARNES & NOBLE, SU, \$57.74; BELLINO FIREWORKS, RE, \$1,000.00; BNSF RAILWAY, SE, \$2,249.83; BOMGARRS, EXP, \$154.99; BOUND TREE MEDICAL, SU, \$1,136.39; CENTURY BUSINESS LEASING, SU, \$456.75;

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION OF

GV OLSON HOLDINGS, LLC

Notice is hereby given that the following Nebraska limited liability company was organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska effective September 23, 2024:

1-The name of the limited liability company is **GV Olson Holdings, LLC**.

2-The address of its designated office is 141 Rottunda Way, South Sioux City, NE 68776.

3-The address of its registered office is 233 South 13th Street, Suite 1900, Lincoln, NE 68508, and its registered agent is CSC-Lawyers Incorporating Service Company.

GV OLSON HOLDINGS, LLC
By: **Gary Olson, Organizer**

Publish in the Dakota County Thursday, September 26, 2024 and October 3 and 10, 2024. - ZNEZ

CHARITY ALLEN, EXP, \$294.78; CHRYSLER CAPITAL, MVE, \$1,480.97; CITY OF SIOUX CITY, EXP, \$149,815.02; CITY OF SSC, INS, \$132,037.40; CIVIC PLUS, SE, \$7,547.40; COLLECTION SERVICE CENTER, WH, \$387.68;

COLONIAL LIFE & ACCIDENT INS, INS, \$929.45; COMBINED SYSTEMS, SU, \$158.10; CONTINENTAL FIRE SPRINKLER, REP, \$675.00; CORE & MAIN, EXP, \$22,564.46; COYOTE ENTERPRISES DAKOTA PC, SU, \$79.99; DAKOTA CO STAR, ADV, \$3,197.82; DAKOTA CO TREASURER, EXP, \$9,179.12; DAKOTA COUNTY REGISTER OF DEED, EXP, \$214.00; DAKOTA COVINGTON RURAL FIRE, EXP, \$185.76; DANIEL GESY POWER WASHER, SE, \$170.00; DEPOSIT REFUND, RE, \$6,533.08;

DEPT OF ENERGY, SE, \$72,692.37; DG NE ENERGY STORAGE, EXP, \$8,595.00; DIAMOND VOGEL, SU, \$1,782.50; DRAGER, REP, \$1,251.90; DRIVEN AUTO BODY, REP, \$5,794.25; EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS, SU, \$1,159.77; ELECTRIC PUMP, REP, EQUIP, \$4,886.42; EMAINT ENTERPRISES, EQUIP, \$3,213.00; ENGINEERED EQUIPMENT SOLUTIONS, EXP, \$35,432.15; ESRI, EXP, \$2,056.67; EUROFINS EATON ANALYTICAL, SE, \$500.00;

FIBERCOMM, EXP, \$27.82; FIRE DPT LOCAL 644-MIKE WRIGHT, EXP, \$859.68; FIVE STAR PROFESSIONAL CLEANING, SE, \$1,112.80; FLOW CONTROL AUTOMATION, REP, \$840.00; FREMONT TIRE, REP, \$1,609.95; GLOBE LIFE, INS, \$209.50; GRAHAM TIRE, EXP, \$221.92; GROVES EMERGENCY LIGHTING INST, MVE, EXP, \$3,245.00; H2O 4 U, SU, \$233.50; HACH COMPANY, SU, \$6,230.90;

HAWKINS, SU, \$20,162.69; HD ARMS LLC, EXP, \$575.63; HDR ENGINEERING, EXP, \$194,526.67; HEALTHINVEST HRA PLAN, INS, \$1,895.76; HEARTLAND BACKFLOW, REP, \$1,325.50; HEIMAN FIRE EQUIPMENT, EQUIP, \$679.77; HOA SOLUTIONS INC, EXP, \$1,710.00; HOOPLA, EXP, \$545.85; HUNDETRMARK PRESSURE INC, PTS, \$697.38; I & A CONSTRUCTION LLP, IMP, EXP, \$25,887.96; IMAGE TREND INC,

EXP, \$618.00; INGRAM LIBRARY SERVICES, EXP, \$36.67; IOWA ONE CALL, SE, \$19.80; IRS, TX, \$63,789.60; J C ROOFING & INSULATING, REP, \$652.00; JACKS UNIFORMS & EQUIP, EXP, \$1,493.94;

JEO, EXP, IMP, \$22,505.50; JERRY'S SERVICE, SU, \$2,733.21; JOSE PEREZ, EXP, \$340.00; JS BROTHERS INC, EXP, \$7,476.00; K&L GATES LLP, SE, \$2,750.00; KABOOMERS ENTERPRISES, RE, \$1,000.00; KEVIN O'DELL ELECTRIC, REP, \$10,899.96; KNIFE RIVER MIDWEST, EXP, \$1,841.00; KNIGHT & DAVE, SE, \$42,490.95; KNOX COMPANY, SU, \$21,026.58; KOLEY JESSEN P.C, SE, \$6,180.00; L G EVERIST, SU, \$977.21;

LEAGUE OF NE MUNIC, EXP, \$42,588.00; LEAGUE OF NE MUNIC-UTIL S, EXP, \$7,051.00; LEC, SA, \$40,935.05; LEC, SA, \$21,159.65; LEGALSHIELD, SE, \$90.66; LEWIS ELECTRIC CO, EXP, \$2,932.00; LINCOLN ELECTRIC SYSTEMS, EXP, \$2,600.00; LINDBLOM SERVICES, SU, \$160.00; LONG LINES, EXP, \$3,666.59;

LP GILL INC, SE, \$25.00; LP GILLINC-HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE, SE, \$69,858.50; M/C, SA, \$180,862.81; MACQUEEN EQUIPMENT GROUP, EQUIP, \$2,735.76; MAIL HOUSE, PUB, \$1,473.20; MAIN CITY, SA, \$193,655.82; MAIN CITY, SA, \$199,503.08; MARCO, SE, \$359.52; MATHESON TRI-GAS INC, RT, \$171.05; MAX WALKER, SU, \$933.66; MEDICA, INS, \$12,108.24; MENARDS, EXP, \$614.97; MERCYONE SIOUXLAND OCCU HEALTH, SE, \$631.00; METRO ELECTRIC, REP, \$775.35; MICHAEL TODD & COMPANY, EQUIP, \$327.91; MID-AMERICAN BENEFITS, INS, \$85,265.75; MIDAMERICAN ENERGY, SE, \$236.78; MIDWEST LABORATORIES, EXP, \$13.36; MIDWEST WHEEL COMPANIES, SU, \$57.65; MISSION SQUARE, PEN, \$36,177.48; NAVSURFWARE CRANE, EQUIP, \$900.00; NE CHILD SUPPORT, WH, \$992.72; NE DEPT OF REVENUE, TX, \$224,257.63; NE MUNIC CLERKS ASSOC, EXP, \$150.00;

NE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES, EXP, \$605.00; NE PUBLIC HEALTH ENVIRO LAB, EXP, \$917.00; NE PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT, SE,

\$210,251.49; NE STATE FIRE MARSHALL, EXP, \$314.00; NEBRASKA FOP, EXP, \$728.00; NETSYS, SE, \$3,249.94; NEWMAN SIGNS, EXP, \$1,772.11; NEXTLINK INTERNET, EXP, \$598.12; OCLC INC, EXP, \$1,055.09; OLSSON, EXP, \$43,531.42;

ONE CALL CONCEPTS, EXP, \$169.96; ONE OFFICE SOLUTIONS, SU, \$1,456.59; ONESOURCE, SE, \$109.00; O'REILLY AUTO PARTS, SU, \$220.56; OSCAR GOMEZ, RE, \$514.21; POINT C, EXP, \$4,946.77; POLICE OFFICERS ASSOC, EXP, \$57.86; PREMIER FENCE & GATE, REP, \$1,875.00; PROGRESSIVE NORTHERN INS, WH, \$742.02; RAILROAD MGMT CO, EXP, \$758.19; REAMS SPRINKLER SUPPLY, PTS, \$342.07; RHOMAR INDUSTRIES, EXP, \$1,373.04;

RIVER VALLEY UNDERGROUND, EXP, \$124,835.00; ROBERTSON IMPLEMENT, REP, \$5,390.56; ROSENBAUER SOUTH DAKOTA LLC, MVE, \$370,510.00; SAPP BROS PETROLEUM, EXP, \$16,399.62; SERVICE MASTER OF SOOLAND, SE, \$4,800.00; SIGN MASTERS, EXP, \$3,295.00;

SIGNS BY TOMORROW OF SIOUXLAND, EXP, \$1,064.80; SIOUX CITY TRANSIT, EXP, \$5,695.83; SIOUXLAND CONCRETE, SU, \$2,911.05; SNAP ON TOOLS, SU, \$80.54; SOOLAND BOBCAT, REP, \$3,365.11; SOUTHWEST POWER TOOL, EXP, SE, \$32,953.33; SS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION, EXP, \$80.00; SSC ANIMAL HOSP, EXP, \$47.00; SSC POLICE OFFICERS ASSOC, EXP, \$535.00; STAN HOUSTON EQUIP, PTS, EQUIP, \$6,772.24; STANDARD INSURANCE CO, INS, \$167.75;

STANLEY PETROLEUM MAINT, REP, \$390.00; STATE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS, EXP, \$866.18; STATELINE ELEC & AUTOMATION, SE, \$288.90; STEPHAN WELDING SHOP, EXP, \$155.00; SUPERION LLC, EXP, \$2,340.00; SUSAN COMSTOCK, SE, \$250.00; SWANK MOTION PICTURES, EXP, \$535.00; TODD MASTERS ROCK CRUSHIN, SE, \$10,653.14;

TRANSPARENT LANGUAGE, EXP, \$756.00; TRAVELERS, INS, \$38.00; TREMBLY TERMITE & PEST CONTROL, EXP, \$3,691.00;

TRI-STATE COMMUNICATIONS, EQUIP, \$150,871.15; TRI-STATE PHYSICIANS, EXP, \$1,900.00; TY HOUSH, RE, \$30.00; UNITED STATES TREASURY, EXP, \$546.00; UNITED WAY SIOUXLAND, EXP, \$278.00; UTILITY SERVICE, EXP, \$54,557.26; VAN METER, EXP, \$294.10; VERIZON WIRELESS, EXP, \$1,845.49; VERMEER, EXP, \$187.19; VISUAL EDGE INC, SU, \$412.32; WASHINGTON NATIONAL, INS, \$14.40; WILMES HARDWARE HANK, SU, \$1,750.89; WRENN'S PLUMBING & HEATING, REP, SU, \$2,489.98;

ZIMCO, SU, \$68.00; ZORTS POWER SOURCE, RE, \$1,000.00;

Grand Total: \$3,237,932.55;

CDA: A-TEAM HEATING COOLING, SE, \$159.63; BAIRD HOLM LLP, SE, \$3,181.50; CITY OF SSC, EXP, \$1,149.68; CRARY HUFF LAW FIRM, SE, \$9,352.25; CUSTOM BUILDERS, REP, \$7,570.00; EXECUTIVE LAWNS, SE, \$714.10; NPPD, SE, \$68.57; OVERHEAD DOOR CO, SE, \$250.00;

Grand Total: \$22,445.73

Publish in the Dakota County Star

Thursday, September 26, 2024. -

ZNEZ

www.nepublicnotices.com



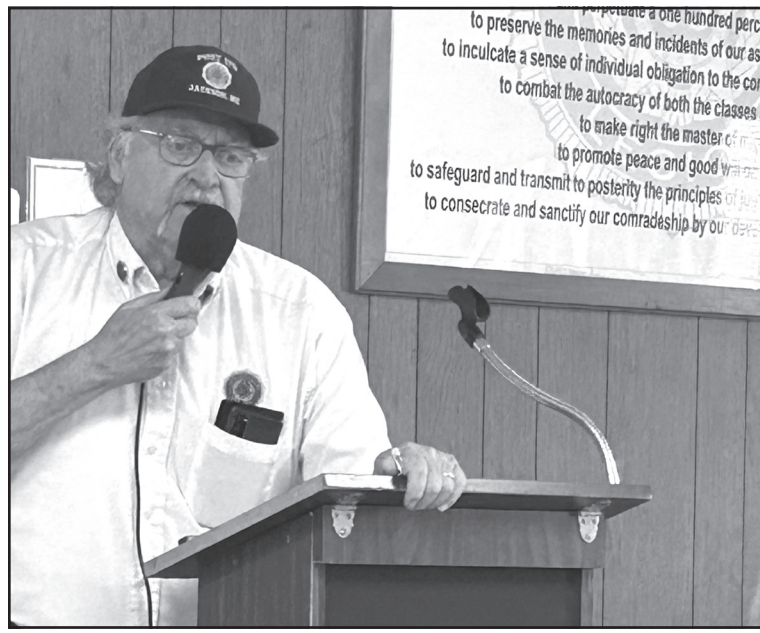
Jackson News

By Laura Sullivan



(PHOTO BY LAURA SULLIVAN)

Norfolk veterans travelled in a handicap accessible vans to the Legion Post in Jackson on Sunday Sept 15 for a noon luncheon. Nine veterans and several workers came to Jackson from the Norfolk Veterans Home.



(PHOTO BY LAURA SULLIVAN)

Dan O'Neill, Adjutant of the Harty-McNally American Legion served as MC of the veteran's luncheon. He entertained everyone with his amusing stories. South Sioux City Auxiliary provided the desserts and Jackson Auxiliary provided lunch. A drawing was held where each veteran won three gifts and each one got to choose an Afghan or blanket.

Red Hat News

The Scarlet Sorority of Red Hats are meeting at Los Amigos in South Sioux City on Saturday, Oct. 5. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Alpha Program

Holy Apostles Family is starting a new evangelical program called Alpha. Meetings will be held every Monday from 6-8p.m. at the lower level of the St. Augustine's Church in Winnebago. Everyone is invited to attend and dinner is provided. Dinner and the discussion will be very informal. For more information contact Ellie Dutcher at 402-369-2203 or emdutcher@archomaha.org.

Nebraska Cottage Foods

Would you like to become a Cottage Food Producer before the holiday season? Nebraska Extension can help you! Nebraska Extension is collaborating with the Nebraska Department of Agriculture to offer a live Q & A Zoom. This is your chance to ask all of your questions about what you can and cannot sell. We will also introduce the new Cottage Food Specialist with the Nebraska Department of Agriculture—Baylen Whitehead. Registration is free, so save your spot at go.unl.edu/nebrascacottagefoods.

Also, a live Zoom class will be offered on Oct. 30 at 6 p.m. The class lasts about 1 1/2 hours and fulfills the food safety training requirement. The cost of the class is \$25. Upon completion, you can register with the Nebraska Department of Agriculture and become a registered producer that night! Register at go.unl.edu/cottagefoodtraining.

ber selections are "The Current" by Tim Johnston and "The Sentence" by Louise Erdrich. November reads are "We are the Mulvaney's" by Joyce Carol Oates and "The Coincidence of the Coconut Cake" by Amy Reichert. The big book for this year is "Don Quixote" by Miguel de Cervantes.

Hours of Operation

Bank of Dixon County — Monday through Thursday, drive-through 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Friday 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m.; Lobby is open 10 a.m.-12 p.m. and 2-4 p.m.
Lunch Box — Tuesday through Saturday — 7:00 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Northeast Nebraska Telephone Company — Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
United States Postal Services — Monday through Friday 12-4p.m., Saturday 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
Pump and Pantry - Daily 4:30 a.m.-10 p.m.
Morrow's House Moving — 402-632-4555 - for estimates and appointments.
Bridal Sweet - by appointment
Jackson Public Library open Mondays and Thursdays from 6-8 p.m.
St. Patrick's — Sunday 9:15a.m. services
MC Salon — Men's day every Thursday. No appointment necessary. Call 632-2011 for appointments.
Palermo Italian Cuisine and Bar — Monday closed, Tuesday through Thursday 4-9 p.m.; Friday and Saturday 4-10 p.m.

Bible Study

Tess Etherington is organizing a Women's Bible Study, Mondays from 7-8:30 p.m. The meetings will be held at Tess's home at 262 E. Elk Street in Jackson. This will be an 11-week study of the Gospel of John. Contact Tess at 712-490-9077 is you are interested. Everyone is welcome!

St. Patrick's CCD

Every Wednesday from 7-8 p.m. at Providence Hall in Jackson.

Book Club

The group met and discussed: "Remarkably Bright Creatures" by Shelby Van Pelt, a very good with a good discussion, and "The Audacity of Sara Grayson" by Joani Elliott was a good light read. The October meeting is Oct. 15 at Chris Gill's. Octo-

Homer News

By Stacie Johnson



LAURITSEN INSURANCE

Book club at Good Roots

Join the Good Roots Book Club on Monday, Oct. 7 at 6 p.m. This month's book is "The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue" by V.E. Schwab.

Over the River Coffee Crawl set for Oct. 12

You may have heard of the traditional pub crawl, but how about a coffee crawl? Saturday, Oct. 12, is the date of this exciting new adventure for the boutique and coffee lovers out there, new to Homer, for sure.

It's a self-guided event to boutique shops while sampling some of the best drinks and eats along the Missouri River.

Towns on the 8 a.m.-3 p.m. route include Tekamah, Onawa, Mapleton, Sloan, Sergeant Bluff, Homer, and Lyons.

Get your shed, ATV tickets

Homer Industrial Tech is holding a Shed Raffle.

The shed is a smart-looking structure, 8 feet wide by 12 feet long with 2" x 8" floor joists, an 8-foot wide side wall height and 6-foot by 7-foot doorway.

Shop class members will paint the shed in the winner's choice of color, but please note the winner will be responsible for moving the shed.

Tickets can be purchased from shop students or contacting the school. Prices run from one ticket for \$30, two tickets for \$50, and five tickets for \$100. Only 250 total tickets will be sold with the drawing taking place once all tickets are sold.

Funds raised will help the industrial tech department to enhance educational opportunities.

Contact austinlambert@homerknights.org with any questions.

An online sign-up is available at volunteersignup.org/8LLKT.

Also, the Homer football team is raffling off an ATV for \$25 a ticket.

A drawing will take place after 250 tickets have been sold, or at half time of the last home basketball game, whichever comes first. The prize cannot be exchanged for cash.

Contact Coach Shawn Spurrell with any questions.

Homer's 150th

If you are wanting to help with Homer's celebration next year, let village organizers know! Or if you have any ideas on fundraising and want to help, they can use all the help they can get.

Call 402-698-2155 or email homer.150@outlook.com to get started.

School activities

Thursday, Sept. 26 — Parent-Teacher Conferences, 4-7 p.m.; SB at Logan View, 4:30 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 27 — No School; FB vs. Pender, 7 p.m.

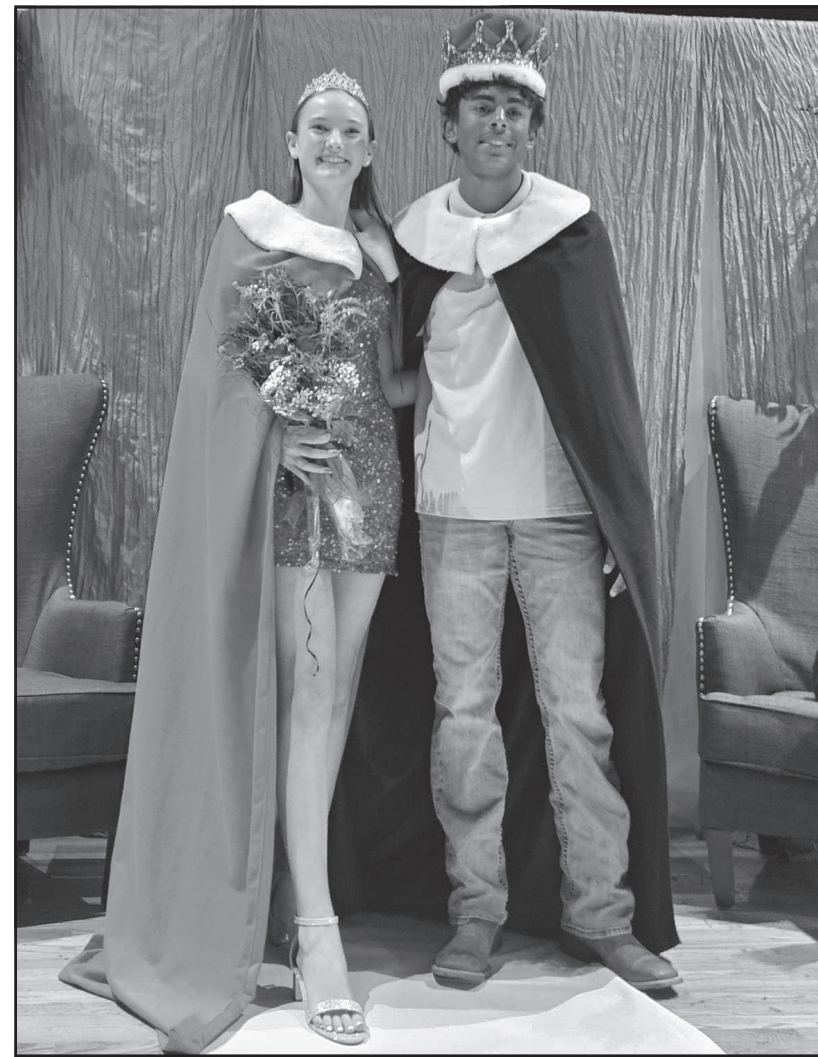
Saturday, Sept. 28 — SB at Tekamah-Herman, 9 a.m.

Sunday, Sept. 29 — Jr. Knights FB at Ivan Krumwiede Field, 2 p.m. start time

Monday, Sept. 30 — XC at Kearney CC, 2:30 p.m.; JV FB vs. Lyons-Decatur, 5 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 1 — JH VB vs. Tekamah-Herman, 3 p.m.; SB vs. Pender at Ponca, 5 p.m.; VB at Bancroft-Rosalie, 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 2 — Spanish Class Cultural Fair, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m., aux gym.



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Queen Hadyn Vanschoiack and king Isaac Barclay reigned over this year's royalty for Homer's homecoming.



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Rylie Harris, Homer volleyball senior setter, recently broke the school's career assist record.



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Emerson News

By Luene Sebade

Robotics Club fundraiser

The Robotics Club fundraiser is Friday, Sept. 27, with a meal served at 6 p.m. at the Emerson-Hubbard welding shop. You can eat in or take out.

Homecoming week

This is Homecoming week at Emerson-Hubbard. The coronation will be in the high school gym at 12:30 p.m. Plans are for the parade to start at 2 p.m., up Main street to Sixth street east to the nursing home.

The Homecoming dance will be Saturday, Sept. 28. Grade 7-8 dance will be at Allen from 7-9 p.m., and the high school dance will be at Emerson, 7-10 p.m.

King and Queen candidates are

seniors Myleah Mackling, daughter of Scott and Trisha Mackling; Rylinn Mitchell, daughter of Melissa Twohig and Mike Mitchell; and Micala Tornez, daughter of Mike and Marie Sunderman; Jackson Belt, son of Kevin and Trisha Belt; Jace Malasek, son of Jeff Malasek and Penny Mrsny; and Bernard Juarez, son of Emma Littlegeorge.

Book Fair week

This week is Book Fair week. If you wish to contribute please call the Emerson-Hubbard Elementary office at 402 695 2654.

Scholarship information

If Emerson-Hubbard seniors are planning on attending college, they

need to get scholarship information from Counselor Sandy Ahlers soon.

Emerson-Hubbard School

Friday: Homecoming activities.
Saturday: JH Volleyball at Ponca; JV Volleyball at Emerson; Homecoming dances.
Monday: JH Football vs Wakefield at Emerson; HS Volleyball at Emerson; JV

Football at Emerson.

St. Luke/St. Paul's Church

Sunday: Worship at St. Luke, 9 a.m.; Sunday school 10 a.m.
Wednesday: Friends of Faith, 3:45 p.m.; Supper, 5 p.m.; Bible church, 5:45 p.m.; confirmation, 6:30 p.m.

Dakota City News

Dakota City Public Library

Book Club continues to read "Lessons in Chemistry" by Bonnie Gamus. The group meets on the first Monday of each month and will discuss this book in October. This story takes place in the 1960s when an all-male team at Hastings Research Institute takes a very unscientific view of equality. Elizabeth zott finds herself as a single mother and the reluctant star of America's most beloved cooking show, Supper at Six. Her unusual approach to cooking proves revolutionary as she not only teachers women to cook, but dares them to change the status quo.

Children enjoyed a demonstration on beekeeping and making honey during the September Story Hour. Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center sent a representative to visit with the children. For more information on the art of beekeeping, check out the Nature Center and the Siouxland Beekeeping Club.

Library Board of Directors will meet on Monday, Sept. 30 at 5 p.m. and there will be a joint meeting at 6 p.m. with the Friends of the Library. The two groups will discuss needs and goals of the Library for the fiscal year 2024-2025. Meetings are open to the public.

We will continue to supply books for both children and adult in the Little Free Library until it begins to snow. This is a great opportunity to share good books with the community. We encourage you to "Take a Book; Leave a Book."

New items added: "Fatal Intrusion" by Jeffrey Deaver, "By Any Other Name" by Jodi Picoult, and "Passions in Death" by J. D. Robb.

Hubbard News

By Lori Overfelt

Farmer's Market held

Last week, Hubbard held their farmer's market at the Hubbard Community building. We were small in number in attendance, but still had good sales between a wide variety of products. Several sold out of their goods. I reiterate that I don't believe you can find this quality of product at these prices! Even the Trinity Lutheran Church providing supper choices. There will be one more opportunity to support them on Thursday, Oct. 17.

Also coming at the end of October is the Hoot-N-Hallerween held at Kramper Lake. Activities will start in the afternoon on the 26th. I'm still waiting for details on the prizes for the different categories. I also have a few more awards to report on.

I'll take any good news stories I can share with the readers.

DISABILITY: Advocating for You

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

Contact the League and see how we can help you get the services you need to maintain your independence.



Phone 833-800-5643

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PAPIO-MISSOURI RIVER NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT

September 2024

PAPIO MISSOURI RIVER NRD
 Natural Resources Conservation Service Staff
 Mahkenna Koinzan, Program Specialist
 Jon Krause, Field Representative
 Jason McCauley, Resource Conservationist
 Jorden Smith, Forester
 Ashley Oblander, Wildlife Biologist

DAKOTA COUNTY
 Rural Water System Employees:
 Lance Olerich, Water System Supt.
 Bill Woehler, Water Supply Operator

Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District Board of Directors

Ted Japp • Larry Bradley • Josh Hennigsen • Richard Tesar • Patrick Bonnett • Kevyn Sopinski • Fred Conley • Jim Thompson • Tim Fowler • Phil Davidson • Tim McCormick

Sept 10th - Oct 10th
1,332 Miles Outdoors!



Studies have shown that spending 120 minutes outside throughout the week improves mood and life satisfaction. Even small bursts of outdoor time add up and can provide a mood boost.

Join us along with the Nebraska Department of Education to compete with Mental Health Outdoor Challenge! We encourage you to get outside, enjoy the beautiful fall weather, and move your body. Take a walk, go on a run, get pedaling on your bike or even get stretching with some outdoor yoga!

Log your miles or minutes on the Walk to Unlock Nebraska site, and watch your progress as you move around our state! The perimeter of our state is 1,332 miles, and we know you can accomplish this in October! Join other fellow Nebraskans as we aim to log 50,000 miles together in awareness of better mental health.

Nine Mile Prairie, LLC

In January 2024, Jon and Bill Oberg and family placed their 75-acre property in a conservation easement with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District.

The property is close to Lincoln, and lies a quarter of a mile from Nine Mile Prairie, a large, protected tract of virgin prairie owned by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Foundation.

Being close to Nine Mile Prairie, the conservation easement on the Oberg property adds more land to the tallgrass ecoregion.

About the Property

The Obergs purchased the property in the early 2010s from the Eager and Furrer families who contributed importantly to the history and development of the city of Lincoln and the state of Nebraska.

Since purchasing the property, Obergs have strived to maintain the property in a native state.

Prior to the Obergs owning the property, most of the property was terraced and farmed.

In the early 1980s and 1990s thousands of black walnut trees were planted with the intent to harvest a walnut crop or potentially harvest timber in the future.

Why the Landowner Chose Permanent Protection

The land is an important grassland of significance because of its virgin prairie and its importance to Lincoln's greenspace.

Located within the tallgrass ecoregion, the Oberg property contains one of the most imperiled ecosys-

tems in the world, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. The native prairie that is located in the southeast corner of the property has remained unplowed since the Otoe-Missouria Tribes cession of the land to the United States.

The property contains a diverse suite of habitats from a riparian corridor, woodlands planted to black walnuts, virgin prairie, and wetlands. The diversity of habitats provides home to multiple wildlife species including at-risk-species listed in the Nebraska Natural Legacy Plan.

Tallgrass prairie once covered more than 170 million acres of the United States, from Indiana to Kansas and from Canada to Texas. Nearly all of it is gone, plowed under for agriculture or urban development, according to the National Park Service.

Protecting the Oberg property with a conservation easement close to Nine Mile Prairie is essential to the preservation of the tallgrass ecoregion.

How the Land Was Protected

The conservation easement was made possible through a partnership between the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Through its Agricultural Conservation Easement Program - Agricultural Land Easement (ACEP-ALE), NRCS purchased the easement with Inflation Reduction Act funding, the largest investment in climate action in history.

The Oberg easement provides an environmental resource as a greens-

pace to the city of Lincoln, Nebraska. Protecting land near Nine Mile Prairie was listed as critical in the 2020 Nine Mile Prairie Environs Master Plan.

ACEP-ALE helps landowners and other eligible entities conserve, restore, and protect wetlands, productive agricultural lands, and grasslands at risk of conversion to non-grassland uses.

What Was Accomplished

The Oberg easement property is used primarily for hay which helps maintain the health of the prairie.

The intent of the Oberg easement is to protect the agricultural, aesthetic, and ecological value of the property that has been maintained by the Oberg family for more than 10 years.

About the Partners

Lower Platte South Natural Resources District

The Lower Platte South Natural Resources District is comprised of a six-county area of southeastern Nebraska, consisting of about one million acres and 350,000 residents. Its mission is to maintain a sustainable environment through the conservation of land, water, and wildlife. The Lower Platte South Natural Resources District has a history of innovation and leadership being among the first of the natural resource districts to utilize conservation easements as a resource's protection tool, to develop and manage recreational trails, to acquire and restore wetlands, and to partner with the City of Lincoln in stormwater quality and quantity management.

USDA providing funds to protect, restore lands in Nebraska

USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is now accepting applications for the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP).

This voluntary program, authorized in the 2018 Farm Bill, provides funding for the purchase of conservation easements to help productive farm and ranch lands remain in agriculture. In conjunction with restoration to help protect critical wetlands and grasslands.

Nebraska State Conservationist, Robert Lawson said, "Conservation easements are a great tool to ensure natural resources are conserved and protected for all Nebraskans. We encourage Indian tribes, local governments, non-governmental organizations and private landowners to contact their local NRCS office to find out how to apply."

The main goal of ACEP is to prevent productive agriculture land from being converted to non-agricultural uses and to restore as well as protect wetlands and wildlife habitat. Cropland, rangeland, grassland, pastureland and nonindustrial private forestland are eligible.

Applications can be submitted at any time, but to be considered for fiscal year 2025 funding opportunities, applications in Nebraska must be received by one of three funding deadlines: Oct. 4, Nov. 15 and Dec. 20.

The Oct. 4 and Dec. 20, batching periods are specifically for funding from the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). The Nov. 15, batching period will be using Farm Bill funds.

For IRA ACEP-ALE, Nebraska NRCS is prioritizing and securing the following:

— Grasslands in areas of highest risk for conversion to non-grassland uses, in 9 Native Grassland Types

— Agricultural lands under the threat of conversion to non-agricultural uses.

For IRA ACEP-WRE, NRCS is prioritizing the following:

— Land with soils high in organic carbon.

— Several geographically specific priorities (e.g. playas and ephemeral wetlands).

"IRA funds are designed to support climate-smart mitigation activities and other conservation activities that facilitate them," said Lawson. "By getting applications in early, NRCS staff will have time to assist in planning conservation practices and wetland restoration needs."

On March 13, NRCS announced Agricultural Producers to Conserve Land through Climate-Smart Easements as part of President Biden's Investing in America Agenda. This will invest approximately \$138 million of financial assistance from the IRA in 138 new climate-smart conservation easements, through which farmers and ranchers are conserving wetlands, grasslands, and prime farmlands.

NRCS also provides financial assistance to eligible partners for purchasing agricultural land easements that protect ag land use and conservation values of eligible land. For working farms, this program helps farmers keep their land in agriculture. Agricultural land easements also protect high quality grasslands under threat of conversion to cropping, urban development, and other non-grazing uses.

NRCS provides technical and financial assistance directly to private and tribal landowners to restore, protect, and enhance wetlands through the purchase of conservation easements. Applications are currently being accepted for both agricultural land easements and wetland reserve easements. Eligible landowners may choose to enroll in a permanent or 30-year WRE easement. Tribal landowners have the option of enrolling in 30-year contracts.

"NRCS staff will work with all interested applicants to help them through the application process and provide one-on-one assistance to create the conservation easement option that works best for their farming or ranching operation," Lawson said.

All wetland reserve easement applications will be ranked according to the easement's potential for protecting and enhancing habitat for migratory birds and fish along with other wildlife habitat. Eligible applicants will be compensated with a payment rate comparable to the local land use value.

Applicants will need to provide accurate records of ownership and ensure they have established fiscal year 2025 ownership eligibility with USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA). Application information is available at your local USDA Service Center and at www.nrcs.usda.gov/GetStarted.

For more information about the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and the programs and services it provides, visit your local USDA Service Center in Dakota City.



PAPIO MISSOURI RIVER NRD

Papio NRD Board decreases property tax levy, lowest in 25 years

At its Sept. 12 meeting, the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District (Papio NRD) Board of Directors voted to approve the Fiscal Year 2025 general operating budget that includes a significant decrease in the Papio NRD property tax levy.

"Again, the District has prepared a budget that reduces the tax levy to its lowest in 25 years while funding the increasing need for additional flood mitigation, water quality, recreation opportunities, maintenance of aging infrastructure, and erosion control," said Tim McCormick, chairman of the Papio NRD Board of Directors. "The system was tested by this past year's record storms and worked as designed but is at its capacity. As our region develops, additional capacity is required to provide adequate flood mitigation. I commend the District's ability to do so much while holding tax requests in check," said McCormick.

For 19 out of 20 years, the Papio NRD has either decreased or kept the property tax levy the same. This

fiscal year's total tax request is 2.5 percent above last year's budget. The District will drop its property tax mill levy by 5.61 percent this fiscal year.

"The Papio NRD clearly understands that high property valuation assessments and taxes are negatively impacting many of our constituents' finances," said John Winkler, general manager of the Papio NRD. "Through consistent, methodical and conservative financial and operational management, as well as, securing hundreds of millions of dollars in grant funding and cost shares over the last twenty years, this budget allows the Papio NRD to once again lower its property tax levy while simultaneously funding critical safety projects and programs," said Winkler.

Winkler says over the last five years the Papio NRD's actual tax request increase has been below inflation and averaged five to ten percent below the average assessed valuation increase.

The Papio NRD's FY25 property

tax levy would drop to 0.029568 per \$100 of assessed valuation from the District's FY24 property tax levy of 0.031324 per \$100 of assessed valuation. Under this budget, a homeowner in the District with property valued at \$150,000 would pay \$44.36 a year or \$3.70 a month in property taxes next year to support Papio NRD projects, programs, and services. The budget calls for an estimated \$31.5 million in revenue from the Papio NRD's property tax levy. The total operating budget is estimated at \$118.3 million. The property tax levy is based on an estimated 8.6 percent increase in valuations across the district, which includes all of Sarpy, Douglas, Washington, and Dakota counties, plus the eastern 60% of Burt and Thurston counties.

The Papio NRD receives less than 2 percent of all property taxes collected within the District's six-county area. The remaining 98 percent goes to schools, cities, counties, and other taxing entities.

And now a Joke with Jorden Smith

Q: What is every single tree's least favorite month?
 A: SepTIMMMBERRR!

If you would like another tree joke or have a question about a tree, ask Jorden Smith, our local forester at the Dakota City office, 1505 Broadway, Dakota City or call (402)494-4949.



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Facts with Kaden Kneifl

The state of Nebraska got its name from the Native American word Nebrathka or Ni Btháska, which means "flat water." This refers to the Platte River, which runs through the state and is known for being wide and shallow. Nebraska is famous for its plentiful natural resources, including fertile land that supports diverse agricultural activities, substantial water resources like the Ogallala Aquifer, and significant mineral deposits.

If you would like another Fact or have a question about a program, ask Kaden Kneifl, our local Field Representative at the Dakota City office, 1505 Broadway, Dakota City or call (402)494-4949.