



# TICKETS PUNCHED

Area teams earn state XC bids. Page 1B

Since 1909

# DAKOTA COUNTY STAR

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

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\$1.00

Thursday, October 24, 2024

## STAR CALENDAR

### Early voting available

Registered voters in Dakota County can still request and early voting ballot by sending their early voting application to the Dakota County Clerk's office. The daedline for requesting an early ballot is Friday, Oct. 25.

Early voting ballots are due back to the Dakota County Clerk's office by the close of polls on Tuesday, Nov. 5 at 8 p.m. County election offices will not accept late ballots, even if the post-mark date is before the election.

Registered voters can begin early voting at the Dakota County Clerk's office on Monday, Oct. 7. The deadline to register to vote is Friday, Oct. 25.

### Chamber Coffee

This week's Chamber Coffee will be hosted by Sweetwater Cafe, located at 2701 Flatwater Drive in South Sioux City.

Coffee begins at 9:30 a.m., with the program starting at 10 a.m. All are welcome to attend.

### St. Paul dinner Nov. 2

St. Paul United Methodist Church will host its annual pork chop dinner on Saturday, Nov. 2, from 4:30-7 p.m. at the church, located at 2003 A Street.

The menu includes grilled pork chops, cheesy potatoes, applesauce, green beans and homemade pies and desserts.

Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$5 for children 7-under. Carryout service is also available.

### O'Connor House Tours set

The 2004 O'Connor House Christmas Tours are scheduled for Saturdays and Sundays, Nov. 2-3 and Nov. 9-10, at the house, located at 2470 Blyburg Road in Homer.

Tours are available from 1-4 p.m., and admission is free. Donations are greatly appreciated.

The tours are hosted by the Dakota County Historical Society. For more information, go to [www.dchsne.org](http://www.dchsne.org) or check out the Dakota County Historical Society's Facebook page.

### 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](mailto:news@dakcostar.com) or call (402) 494-4264.

## LOCAL WEATHER

Data Courtesy National Weather Service  
FOR WEEK OF OCT. 24-30, 2024

THURSDAY		74	38	Mix of clouds and sun.
FRIDAY		62	31	Partly cloudy.
SATURDAY		64	42	Partly cloudy.
SUNDAY		69	51	Mostly sunny.
MONDAY		76	56	Partly cloudy.
TUESDAY		64	39	Partly cloudy.
WEDNESDAY		58	38	Mix of clouds and sun.

# Golf carts may soon roam city streets

By MICHAEL CARNES  
Star Publisher

With ATV's and UTV's already allowed on city streets, you may soon see golf carts rolling down the street soon in South Sioux City.

At Monday's Public Works meeting, the committee decided to seek more information before making a final decision to allow golf carts to be driven on city streets.

The city already has an ordinance regarding licensed ATV and UTV vehicles, but that ordinance does not include golf carts.

Jeremy Liu came before the committee to request the committee look at his vehicle, which looks like a golf cart but is not labeled as one. The vehicle has front and rear lights and is listed as a neighborhood electric vehicle, which can legally be on city streets.

"It can go up to 25 miles per hour and has all the features of a UTV," he told the com-

mittee. He said he was contacted by a South Sioux City Police officer who said the vehicle was not legal, and he came seeking clarification from the city on the issue.

City Attorney Mike Schmiedt said that a golf cart can not be driven on a city street without city approval, but he would have no problem if the Public Works board wanted to amend the city's current ordinance to add golf carts.

"A number of cities already allow it, so it would be no problem," he said.

City Councilman and committee member Ben Schultz said he had been contacted a number of times recently about the issue.

"I think there is a want for it and I want to make sure it's safe," he said.

Schmiedt said that drivers of such vehicles have to have insurance under state law, and the city can require lights and limit where the vehicles can be driven in town.

More discussion is expected on the issue and it was put on the agenda for the next Public Works meeting on Monday, Nov. 4.

The committee also delayed a decision on a request by the co-owner of South Sioux City Townhomes regarding an alley that they would like the city to help in making it a private road.

More than 30 families use the alley connected to the townhomes, which are in the 3100 block of Dakota Avenue, but the alley is also being used by non-residents and efforts to deter those drivers have not been successful.

"We have do not enter signs up that are either not recognized or knocked down," said Emily Trimberg, a co-owner of the townhomes.

She asked for the city to assist with paving the alley, and Mayor Rod Koch told the Dakota County Star that the city has plans to

overlay what is now a public alley, although the townhomes' tenants are the only ones who use the alley.

Councilman and committee member Rick Bousquet asked for the city street department to provide more information and moved the item to the committee's Nov. 4 meeting as well.

Items moved to next week's City Council meeting included:

- a request to rezone space at 448 Golf Road from R2B to C4 to allow construction of a storage building addition for Hinds Hardware.
- a final plat for Hans Addition, pending approval from the Planning Commission that was set to meet on Wednesday.
- a one-lot subdivision in the 1500 block of Gateway Drive.



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Sioux City Musketeer players (clockwise from left) Owen Keefe, Giacomo Martino, Nikita Klepov, Justin Stupka, Trey Jefferis and Cole Tuminaro enjoy a night out with Claudia and Mike Ratkowitz. The Ratkowitz are a billet family for the Sioux City Musketeers, hosting players on the team for more than 20 years. Martino is the only one pictured who does not live with the Ratkowitz family.

# Ratkowitz family fills empty nest with Sioux City Musketeer players

By MICHAEL CARNES  
Star Publisher

More than 20 years ago, Mike and Claudia Ratkowitz decided to start a new family.

With their daughter graduated and out of the house, the couple were approached about starting a "billet family" to help out the Sioux City Musketeers hockey program.

"We had raised a daughter and had two foster sons and several exchange students over the years, and after 9/11 we took a couple of years off," said Ratkowitz, vice president for K&B Transportation in South Sioux City.

Prior to the start of the Musketeers' 2003-2004 season, he and his wife — a retired elementary school teacher who taught here for 45 years — were approached about hosting a couple of the new Musketeer players who

were coming to Sioux City to play for the United States Hockey League team.

With their daughter out of the house and wanting to fill up their "empty nest," they decided to take on this new responsibility.

"One of my employees, who was a hockey player, suggested that we get into it," Ratkowitz said. "I didn't know much about hockey, but he introduced us to the coach and his wife and we spent a Sunday afternoon talking about it."

Before long, the Ratkowitz's hosted two kids and over the years have hosted as many as five in a season. In the two decades they have served as a billet family, they have hosted 65 players, about a third of whom have gone on to play in the National Hockey League.

Billet families host junior hockey players

in their homes. The players arrive prior to the start of a season and stay until the season's end, a stay that can last up to nine months from training camp to the league playoffs.

The families receive a stipend from the team for each player to help out with household expenses, groceries and other related items. In exchange, the families provide each player with a bedroom, three meals a day and serve as de facto parents, making sure they adhere to the rules of the house. Players serve as a role model for the family's children and are asked to be active in off-ice activities, including the home, where they are assigned chores and make sure their rooms are picked up.

"You are essentially their parents for the

SEE EMPTY NEST, 2A

## RETIRED COLONEL SHARES EXPERIENCES AT FREEDOM BALL

(PHOTO BY LANCE SWANSON)

Retired Col. Lee Ellis shares a story as the guest speaker during the annual Siouxlnd Freedom Ball Saturday at the Marriott Riverfront in South Sioux City. Col. Ellis served as an Air Force fighter pilot, flying 53 combat missions over North Vietnam. In 1967, he was shot down and held as a POW for more than five years in Hanoi and surrounding camps. He has authored and co-authored five books on leadership and career development, including his latest book, "Leading With Honor." More than 200 people were in attendance for the annual banquet, which raised more than \$80,000 to support projects at Freedom Park in South Sioux City, including development of a story room and the Bud Day Memorial Wall. Next year's Freedom Ball is set for Oct. 11, 2025. More Photos on Page 4A.





## MULTICULTURAL CLUB SPEAKS TO SCHOOL BOARD



(PHOTO BY LANCE SWANSON)

The Multicultural Club at South Sioux City High School has been instrumental in fostering a positive and inclusive school culture. This group has actively worked to bridge gaps between different student groups, reduce incidents of bias and discrimination, and empower students to embrace their identities. Through their efforts in raising awareness and educating their peers, the club contributes significantly to a more harmonious and respectful learning environment, emphasizing the importance of diversity and cultural awareness within the school community. Recognized by the SSC School Board, the club showcased its impact through the presence of its members, each introducing themselves and sharing their grade and unique contributions to the group. Under the dedicated guidance of co-sponsors Carrie Boteo and Danna Sanchez, the Multicultural Club has transformed from a passive gathering into a dynamic group of student leaders. Their efforts have turned the club into a platform for cultural exchange, education and advocacy, enhancing the school community’s understanding and appreciation of diversity and inclusion.

## EMPTY NEST: South Sioux family opens home to Musketeer players

from Page 1A

year,” said Travis Morgan, Musketeers fifth-year CEO. “We vet them out pretty extensively for the players’ safety, and most billet parents usually house 2-3 kids.”

Not the Ratkowitz family — they house five players on the 25-man Musketeer roster, including Owen Keefe, Nikita Klepov, Justin Stupka, Trey Jefferis and Cole Tuminaro.

“We have our own line — all we’re missing is a goalie,” Ratkowitz joked.

For most of the players on the team,

this isn’t the first time they have lived away from home and know that it’s a part of being in junior hockey. Many are working toward an opportunity to play college-level hockey with the hopes of reaching the National Hockey League.

Being a billet parent is a big deal, Morgan said, and not just anybody can handle the responsibilities that come with it.

“You need good parents who are going to be parents and not fans,” he said. “You need people who have some discipline, who know the rules and hold them accountable for it.”

“Mike is the man at this,” Morgan said of Ratkowitz and his family. “There are rules in his house and they follow them. They have responsibilities at their house and he runs a tight ship. But you get to live in a great house with all the love they give and they spare no expense on the players.”

Ratkowitz said the players have responsibilities at his house, and rare are the times that a problem comes up.

“With the exception of Christmas and spring break, they live here 24/7,” he said. “They’re expected to pitch in, make their bed, help out with laundry. It’s highly organized and they help out.”

That’s been especially important in their house as Mr. Ratkowitz has been battling Stage 4 colon and liver cancer the last several years. While he recently got a clean bill of health in August, it’s been great to have these young men in the house.

“You would not expect a 16-17 year old to be that caring and compassionate, and they have been a pleasure to have around. They’re a very close-knit group and they function in our house like they do on the team.”

That has helped Ratkowitz in his battle immensely.

“You need help from a higher power and surround yourself with good doctors and a good support

system,” he said. “You don’t realize how strong a hockey family is until you become a part of it.”

Having the Musketeer players living with them has provided a ton of fun memories. When the players move on, they continue to keep in touch with Mike and Claudia.

“It can be a tug on the heart when they move on. You can’t live with someone for nine months and not get emotionally attached,” Ratkowitz said. “They’re like our own kids and we love to stay in touch with them.”

“People like Mike and Claudia are the lifeblood of our hockey team,” Morgan said of the billet families that host the Musketeer players. “You need these kids and the parents of these kids to have 100 percent trust and faith in your organization that they’re here not only to play hockey, but to grow as human beings. We’ve seen so many players come in as immature kids and leave as men, and a lot of that comes from the support of these billet families who help us out.”

And who knows? The Ratkowitz family might just be hosting a future NHL all-star — or a group of players who become Clark Cup champions.

“I think there’s as good a chance, if not better than when they won it two years ago,” Ratkowitz said of the Musketeers’ potential to win the USHL championship. “These kids are sharp and big and physical, so there’s a good chance the Musketeers can get another Clark Cup.”

## Temporary campfire ban in effect

The Nebraska Game and Parks is implementing a temporary ban on campfires at all Nebraska state park areas and wildlife management areas until further notice.

Camp stoves using liquid or gas fuel are permitted as they reduce the likelihood of ash or hot charcoal being discarded before they are extinguished. These types of stoves also do not produce blowing embers, further reducing wildfire potential. Propane fire pits are not permitted.

Campground and WMA visitors should be mindful of changing conditions.

With dry conditions in mind, Game and Parks urges people to take the following precautions to avoid the risk of wildfire:

— Restrict driving to established roads and trails.

— Avoid parking vehicles in tall vegetation.

— Dispose of cigarettes and other flammable objects appropriately.

— Ensure your vehicle, trailers and other equipment are well-maintained.

— Make sure no chains are dragging from your vehicle.

— In the morning, before driving and while the exhaust/catalytic converter system is cool, inspect it to see no debris is clinging to it.

— Carry a fire extinguisher in the vehicle.

Stay tuned to local emergency managers and fire departments for any potential regional fire ban updates.

Find park contact information at [outdoornebraska.gov](http://outdoornebraska.gov).



### Join us for the 2024 O'Connor House Christmas Tours

**Saturday & Sunday**  
**Nov 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> and Nov 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>**  
**1 - 4 p.m.**

**2470 Blyburg Road, Homer, NE**

**FREE ADMISSION**  
*Donations are greatly appreciated!*

DAKOTA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC (402) 698-2288 [www.dchsn.org](http://www.dchsn.org) PO Box 971 DAKOTA CITY, NE 68731 facebook.com/DAKCTYHSTSOC

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### Northeast Nebraska Senior Center Menu

**1501 W. 29th St.**  
**Luncheon meals served**  
**Mondays through Fridays, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**  
**Coffee and socializing will be served Mondays from 9-11 a.m.**  
**Please call the day before to reserve a lunch — (402) 494-1500**

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**Thursday, Oct. 24** — Ham and bean soup, cottage cheese, pickled beets, apricots, glazed carrots, corn bread

**Friday, Oct. 25** — Chicken noodle soup, cole slaw, tropical fruit, tomato juice, broccoli

**Monday, Oct. 28 (Evening meal)** — BBQ ribs, scalloped potatoes, glazed carrots, baked beans, broccoli, applesauce

**Tuesday, Oct. 29** — Spaghetti and meatballs, lettuce salad, green beans, mandarin oranges, garlic bread


**Wednesday, Oct. 30** — Chicken tenders, steak fries, broccoli and cheese, ruby applesauce, fruit salad

**Happy BIRTHDAY.**

Anita Rector is turning 90 on Nov. 3.

Please help our Mom and Grandma celebrate with a card shower!

Cards can be sent to:  
212 East 32nd Street  
South Sioux City, NE 68776



## Craft and Vendor Show

Saturday, Dec. 14 • 9 a.m.-2 p.m.  
Northeast Nebraska Senior Center  
1501 W. 29th St., South Sioux City  
Registration Deadline – Tuesday, Nov. 26

### SAVE YOUR SPOT NOW!!!

E-mail: [seniorcenter1501@gmail.com](mailto:seniorcenter1501@gmail.com)  
or call (402) 494-1500 for more information

## Medicare assistance available

Local SHIP volunteer Brad Grier is available this open enrollment season to assist those wishing a review of their Medicare plans.

Open enrollment runs through Dec. 7. He is trained by the Nebraska Department of Insurance to provide this free service.

For more information, call (712) 281-5318.

## Call (402) 494-4264 to subscribe

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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

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### STAR DEADLINES

News	12 p.m. Mondays
Advertising	4:30 p.m. Fridays
Classifieds/Legals	11:30 a.m. Mondays



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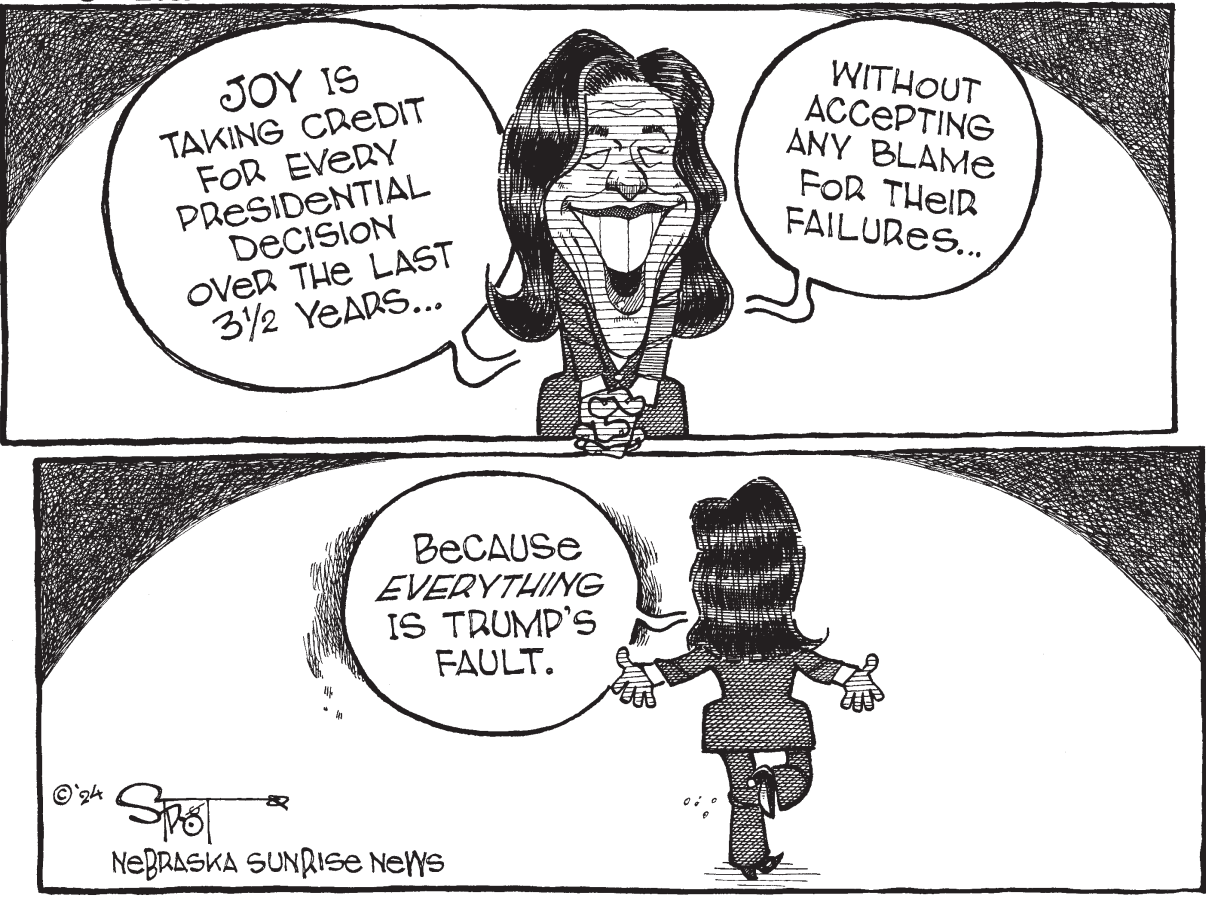


**Noodles**  
Director of Security





The 3rd Rail



USDA giving out \$3.55 million in grants

Harvest is in full swing and things have become busy for us. We just finished harvesting soybeans and are now on to harvesting corn. Due to very dry weather and high winds, we have had to be extremely careful as we have had a high chance for fires to develop. We are watching for Red Flag Warnings as they are announced.

The USDA Rural Development office from the U. S. Department of Agriculture announced last week that \$3.55 million in investments are being awarded to nine Nebraska projects to improve educational and business opportunities for rural businesses and Native American tribes. “Rural Development is excited to partner with these community institutions of education and entrepreneurship,” said Cindy Axne Rural Development Senior Advisor for Rural Engagement, Delivery and Prosperity. “When we invest in our rural community partners, we strengthen Nebraska and expand opportunities for all the people in the state.

Congratulations go out to the following projects in Legislative District 17.

— A \$199,368 grant will help expand and enhance the Makerspace Project in Thurston and Knox counties for the Center for Rural Affairs. This project will provide technical assistance for prospective and current small business owners and expand Makerspace opportunities and offerings through online training courses and a video library of how-to videos. This project is expected to assist a minimum of seven small and emerging businesses over the next three years.

— A \$900,000 grant will help construct a 6,195 square foot business incubator wing on the Nebraska Indian Community College in Macy. The business incubator space will include 10 private offices, two conference/meeting rooms, two classrooms, commercial kitchen space, recording studio, and a storage room. This project is anticipated to assist a minimum of four small and emerging businesses over the next three years.

— A \$278,216 grant will help construct a Career and Technical Education (CTE) building on the Winnebago Reservation to house a carpentry/construction program. The facility will include space for a classroom, restrooms, a break room, an office, a mechanical and tool room. The new programming will increase enrollment at Little Priest Tribal College, bring in a different demographic, and aid in fulfilling the career and technical job needs of the Winnebago

Legislative Update

Sen. Joni Albrecht  
District 17



Tribal Community and employers of the area.

— A \$259,150 grant will help purchase food processing, preservation, and packaging equipment for the Nebraska Indian Community College in Macy. The equipment will aid the training and distribution of agricultural products produced by the students to local markets. This project is anticipated to assist four small and emerging businesses over the next three years.

— A \$300,000 grant will help continue rehabilitation and construction of the Susan LaFlesche Picotte Center of Walthill. This is a multi-phase project with total investment of over \$2.5 million. Funding will continue construction for the business incubator and space for business training and entrepreneurial development. There will also be business services provided including business training and technical assistance. This project is expected to assist a minimum of eight small and emerging businesses over the next three years.

Today’s investments are being made through several different Rural Development programs. Rural Business Development Grants (RBDG) promote economic development and job creation projects through the awarding of grant funds to eligible entities. Applications will compete in two separate categories, business opportunity grants and business enterprise grants, for use in funding various business and community projects that serve rural areas.

Socially-Disadvantaged Groups Grants (SDGG) provide technical assistance to socially-disadvantaged groups through cooperatives and Co-operative Development Centers. Tribal College Initiative Grants provides funding to 1994 Land Grant Institutions (Tribal Colleges) to make capital improvements to their educational facilities and to purchase equipment.

USDA Rural Development provides loans and grants to help expand economic opportunities, create jobs and improve the quality of life for millions of Americans in rural areas. This assistance supports infrastructure improvements; business

development; housing; community facilities such as schools, public safety and health care; and high-speed internet access in rural, Tribal and high-poverty areas. Visit the Rural Data Gateway to learn how and where these investments are impacting rural America. To learn more, visit [www.usda.gov](http://www.usda.gov).

SOS Ballot Initiative Public Hearings

The Nebraska Secretary of State’s Elections Division began holding public hearings for the six ballot initiatives appearing on Nebraska’s general election ballot. “This is a record number of petition-initiated ballot measures on a Nebraska general election ballot,” Secretary of State Bob Evnen said. “Voters should take the time to review each measure before they step into the voting booth.”

State law requires that the Secretary of State’s office hold public hearings in each of Nebraska’s three congressional districts. The Elections division prepared informational pamphlets on the ballot measures, which are available online in English and Spanish. You can find them at [sos.nebraska.gov/elections/2024-elections](http://sos.nebraska.gov/elections/2024-elections).

Congressional District 1 took place at the State Capitol Oct. 14-16, and Congressional District 3 were held Oct. 21-22 in Ogallala at the NACO West Training Center.

Congressional District 2 will take place in Omaha at the Thompson Alumni Center. October 25 and October 26.

Friday, Oct. 25: 1:30-4:30 p.m. — Paid Sick Leave Initiative (436) 6-9 p.m. — Medical Cannabis Patient Protection & Regulation initiatives (437 & 438)

Saturday, Oct. 26: 9:30 a.m.12:30 p.m. — Protect Women and Children Constitutional Amendment (434) 1:30-4:30 p.m. — Protect the Right to Abortion Constitutional Amendment (439) 6-9 p.m. — Private Education Scholarship Partial Referendum (435)

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](mailto:jalbrecht@leg.ne.gov).

Celebrating 30 years of UN-wedded bliss

“Marriage is a wonderful institution . . . but who wants to live in an institution?” — Groucho Mark

\*\*\*\*  
“My wife was too beautiful for words, but not for arguments.” — John Barrymore

\*\*\*\*  
“The poor wish to be rich, the rich wish to be happy, the single wish to be married and the married wish to be dead.” — Ann Landers

\*\*\*\*  
Grandma and Grandpa Carnes were married for 69 amazing years, and I’m not sure there is not a better example of what being married is all about.

Grandpa would always call Grandma “Mother,” recognizing her role as the CEO of the family farm. And for as sweet and caring as Grandma was, she didn’t think twice whenever she needed to chastise her husband for telling their grandson an off-color joke — her stern “ELMO!” was, more often than not, funnier than the blue punch line.

Celebrating wedding anniversaries is always a great moment in the lives of a married couple. But what about those us who couldn’t cut it in the world of matrimony?

Next week will mark 30 years since a Sarpy County judge gave me back my freedom, approving my divorce after 5 1/2 years of marriage. Some are happily married, but I can safely say that I’m probably the most happily divorced person that I know.

I met my former spouse at a skating rink one Friday night back in the late 1980’s — I was the rink’s DJ who spun all the popular tunes of the day, and she was a regular who was always there every Friday and Saturday night.

I hadn’t really noticed Brenda until the night we had an all-night skating party, one that started at the usual Friday evening time and went all the way through to the following Saturday morning. By the time the night was over, all the energy of countless young people skating and running around and playing games left everybody tired.

We had two DJ’s working that night and I had the late shift, due to the fact I was working at a nearby radio station and had to run the broadcast for a high school football game before I could make my way to the rink. The DJ who handled the first shift was, to put it mildly, a hyperactive metalhead who was a HUGE Metallica fan before Metallica was cool. His shoulder-length, curly black hair bounced around as he jammed out to the music blasting on the speakers, and he was in the middle of a bender consisting of Jolt cola (twice the caffeine and sugar of Mountain Dew) and M&M’s, so by the time I relieved him in the booth,

Don’t Get Me Started

By Michael J. Carnes  
Star Publisher



he was like a steel ball on an overplayed pinball machine.

At some point in that late shift, everybody was tired of skating and the rink turned into a giant dance floor. Alan, the other DJ, asked me to play “Every Rose Has It’s Thorn” by Poison as he asked Brenda to dance. By the time the song was over, the couple separated and she made a beeline for the DJ booth, asking if I could hide her so that Alan wouldn’t bother her anymore.

Happy to oblige, we spent the next three hours talking about our favorite music, what concerts we’d seen, and a variety of other things. By the time the night was over, I overcame my fear of rejection and asked for her phone number, and she was happy to give it to me.

I hadn’t planned on seeing her for the evening session that Saturday, but as I stepped outside for a breath of air before the evening’s session, she surprised me by pulling into the driveway and jumping out of her car. She spent the evening hanging out with me in the DJ booth, and at the end of the night, the normal Saturday night crowd had left early and the only people left in the building were the owner, the skate guard and the two of us.

I put some slow tunes on the stereo and we went out and danced as the owner told me to lock up, as they were taking off. A few nights later, we went out on our first date and, a week after that, were engaged.

It was a whirlwind relationship — we married 3 1/2 months from that first night at the skating rink — and a little more than a year later I was developing my writing chops at a small-town newspaper during the day and enjoying life with a beautiful wife and daughter at home.

Being a career-oriented guy with professional goals, it became tough juggling home and work life and the support at home wasn’t what I was expecting. I felt that she wanted a 9-to-5 husband, and that wasn’t possible in the profession that I was in. Eventually, our marriage had reached the point where neither was willing to compromise, and we decided on a divorce.

Now — most of the times when you hear a divorcee talk about their marriage, there is a lot of sarcasm and mean-spirited things said about the other side. While she had already

found someone before we made it official, I’ve never really had anything bad to say about how things ended.

My ex-wife is an amazing woman — her mother died of cancer when she was a teenager, and her home life was, to put it mildly, chaotic with a younger sister that completely lacked any sort of discipline. She was a de facto mom to her sister before she became a mother to our daughter.

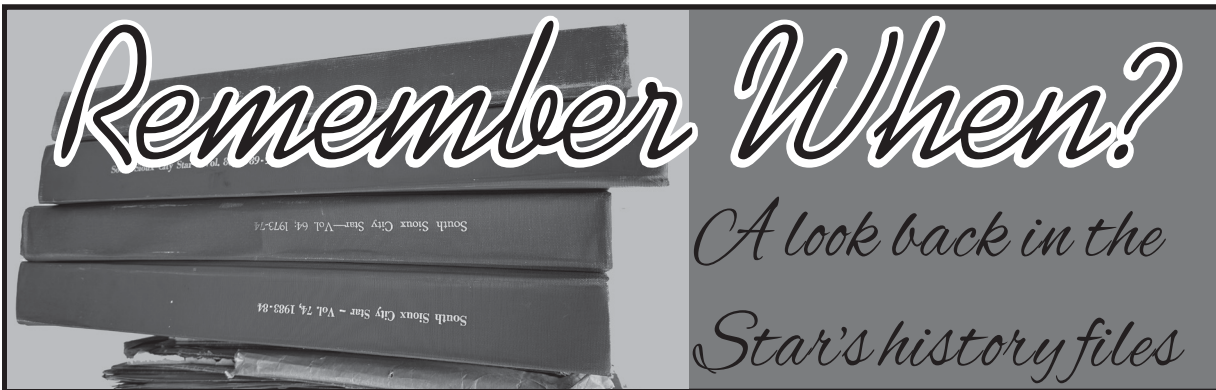
She had beautiful, sparkling eyes that, combined with her warm smile, could always stop me in my tracks. I’ve dated a lot of women, before and since, and I can tell you that the combination she possessed has never been replicated, before or since.

Over time, I’ve come to appreciate the impact that my former spouse has had on my life. My parents became close friends in the years after their divorce, and while I can’t see my ex and I going in that same direction, I know that I’m happy that she was a part of my life then and, with our daughter and granddaughter, that she’ll be a part of my life long into the future.

The bottom line is — I can celebrate 30 years of being divorced because I believe we both ultimately got what we wanted out of our relationship. We share a beautiful daughter (who gave us an even MORE amazing granddaughter almost 10 years ago), and we’ve both been able to develop the careers that we wanted. I can tell you that there is no way on this planet that I would be doing what I’ve done in the 25 years since we split up — the chance to move to a daily newspaper, being a groundbreaking entrepreneur covering the sport of wrestling, and the chance to develop the skills that helped bring me to this position today — none of this happens if I stayed married to her.

I’ve been in a number of relationships since the marriage, and all have failed for one reason or another. Maybe someday, the right woman will come along who will be able to be that Yin to my Yang. If not, I’m happy to be living solo and not having to concern myself with those things that married people need to take into consideration.

So cheers to 30 years — of UN-wedded bliss.



10 YEARS AGO

OCT. 23, 2014

Emerson man dies in auto accident

An Emerson man died in an automobile accident in the early morning hours of Oct. 18. In a statement from the Nebraska State Patrol, Chase Miller, 21, was pronounced dead at the scene of the rollover accident on First Avenue near Emerson. Miller was a 2011 graduate of Emerson-Hubbard High School. The five other occupant in the vehicle were transported to a Sioux City hospital.

Jail population highest since 2010

The Dakota County Jail’s inmate population for the month of September was the highest since 2010, according to jail director Terry Kern. Kern said the increase is due in part to individuals coming back for sentencing. Twice in September the jail was within four beds of reaching maximum capacity, he said.

20 YEARS AGO

OCT. 21, 2004

Matney’s Colonial Manor

Making life comfortable for seniors is the goal at Matney’s Colonial Manor in South Sioux City and they’ve been doing it for local residents for more than 30 years. Back in 1973, Edward Matney, Sr. started the nursing home with his wife, Lilie, but in 1981 Edward Matney, Jr.

purchased the business from his parents and has expanded on his father’s dream, turning it into a nursing home and senior apartment complex, including a large dining area and other accommodating expansions that make life at Matney’s comfortable, affordable and enjoyable.

Cleanup on Highway 77

A Nebraska State Patrol officer cleans up after a three-vehicle accident last Wednesday at the intersection of Futures Drive and Highway 77 in South Sioux City. According to SSC Police Officer Greg Koinzan, two white vans were traveling south on 77 and a red Buick, going north, turned into the path of the oncoming vans. Three people were treated and released.

30 YEARS AGO

OCT. 20, 1994

Old dredge to make Crystal Lake cleanup a reality

A tranquil, sandy beach, a clear, deep pool of water — those are the dreams of a few area visionaries who hope to make them come true at old Crystal Lake. To do so will require some 200,000 cubic yards of sediment be removed from the bottom of what was once the area’s recreation “hot spot.” The lake used to be crystal clear, reports Chris Voss, who oversees the project. But the flood of 1952 caused it to silt in to its present depth of about 5 feet. The project is a joint effort by members of the American Legion and Crystal Lake Project Inc. Recently steps have been taken

enabling Dakota County to obtain a long-term lease on about 40 acres of land. It’s all public use land now.

40 YEARS AGO

OCT. 25, 1984

John Lovell honored by Optimist Club

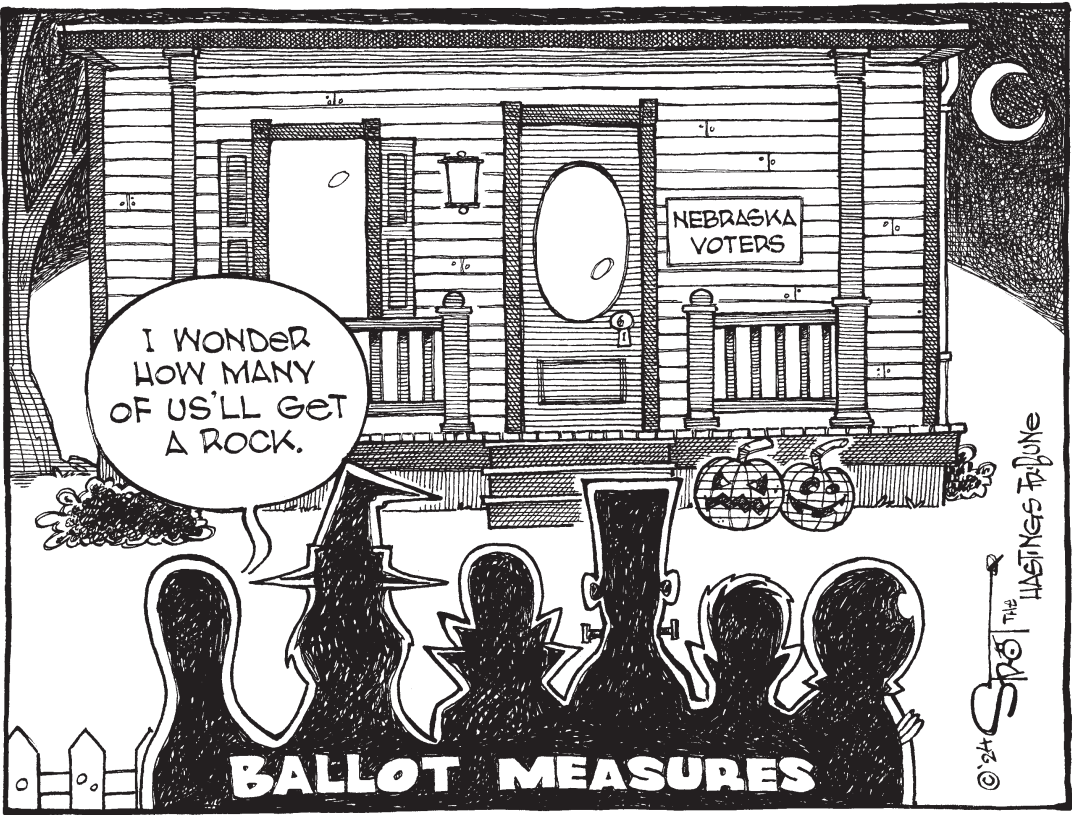
Jim McBride presented the South Sioux Optimist Club’s “Service to Youth Award,” to John Lovell at halftime of the football game against Omaha North Saturday in the Dakota Dome at Vermillion. Mrs. Dona Lovell, who also teaches in the school system, looks on. Lovell was the freshman football coach here for 23 years, the engraving on the plaque reads: “In appreciation for 25 years of dedicated service in support for the development of youth in the South Sioux City schools and community.

50 YEARS AGO

OCT. 24, 1974

South Sioux attorney jogs over 2,000 miles

“For the last couple of years, I’ve wanted to run my 2,000th mile before my 50th birthday,” notes South Sioux Attorney Norris Leame. Norris celebrated his 2,000th mile Thursday and his 50th birthday Saturday — just in time, he said before Friday’s morning jog session. “I started in April of 1968 it just occurred to me that I needed more exercise. I’ve kept records since then.”







# The Dakota County Star presents a *Spotlight* on Area Community Events

A monthly  
feature of the  
**STAR** newspaper  
focusing on a  
local event or  
community  
festival



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Photos courtesy Lance Swanson

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FROM THE BLEACHERS



By Michael Carnes

Fall flies by for area sports teams

Holy cow — we’re done with fall sports already??? Wasn’t it just a couple of weeks ago that we started the 2024-25 school year and the fall sports schedule that always comes with it? I barely wore the tread off of the new set of tires. And yet — here we are.

\*\*\*\*\* Cross country season gets an extra week this week for runners at all four of the Star’s area schools. Homer, Ponca and South Sioux City’s boys will be joined by Homer’s girls in their respective team races at Friday’s Nebraska State Cross Country Championships, which start at High Noon at the Kearney Country Club. The Cardinal boys were the best of the rest in a two-team chase between top-ranked Fremont and Omaha Westside. Getting around the 5,000-meter monster course at the Kearney Country Club will be a challenge, and I’m optimistic the seven SSC runners can finish somewhere in the middle of a very talented Class A lineup. Homer’s boys have shown to be a consistent top-shelf team this fall. Their pack-style running that keeps them within a few spots of one another could be a big help. If they finish close enough together and up near the front third of the pack, they could be in the hunt for a Class D team title. Likewise, the Homer girls can post a strong finish if they can match the boys’ packrat attack. Based on district times, the Lady Knights might not be in the Class D title hunt, but if there’s one thing I’ve learned over the years while covering high school sports, it’s that you should always expect the unexpected. Ponca’s boys have made quite a statement the past few weeks, particularly with the improvement shown by their three-man band. All three have moved up significantly from where they began the year, and they could surprise some people in the Class D boys race Friday afternoon. Ponca’s Ava Brennan ought to be in the mix of the best runners in the Class D race. Her district-winning time of 20:07.42 was the third fastest among the Class D girls qualifiers. If she can run as well as she did in Pender last week, she might be in the hunt for an individual state championship. Tri County Northeast will have a runner in both Class D races. Jude Ridenour’s move from football to cross country has paid off nicely as he was able to get in on his first try. Alejandra Hermosillo earned her first trip last year and was the last girl in this year. Medal or not, both will gain a lot from the experience and will bring that back to the Wolfpack lineup in 2025.

\*\*\*\*\* When I was a kid growing up, watching the New York Yankees and the Los Angeles Dodgers square off in the World Series was something to experience. Some of the greatest players of that era were part of two of the landmark teams in Major League Baseball. Their matchups in 1977 and 1981 were must-see TV back in the day, especially with legendary broadcasters Keith Jackson and Howard Cosell calling the action. One of the most amazing moments of those matchups came in 1977 when Reggie Jackson was officially dubbed “Mr. October.” His performance in the pivotal Game 6 that wrapped up the title for the Yankees was the stuff of legend and arguably one of the greatest single-game performances in World Series history. Jackson saw a grand total of three pitches in that game, each resulting in a massive home run that helped the Yankees to an 8-4 win to claim the title. Each pitch came from a different pitcher — Burt Hooton in the fourth, Elias Sosa in the fifth, and knuckleballer Charlie Hough in the eighth, a bomb that was hit so high and so far that it nearly brought the stadium down. This will be the 12th time that the Bronx Bombers and Dodger Blue will decide baseball’s world championship, and it should be a fun one to watch once again. Give me the Dodgers in six.

Three teams, three individuals earn state trip

By MICHAEL CARNES  
Star Publisher

PENDER — Starting a 5,000-meter race with a chilly 20 mile-per-hour wind in your face doesn’t sound like a lot of fun. Runners from Homer, Ponca and Tri County Northeast made the most of the opportunity Thursday at Twin Creeks Golf Club, and all three schools will be represented in the state cross country meet after their performances in the D-2 District race. Three of the six teams will have individual runners competing while three teams will go down for a chance at winning the Class D title, led by the Homer boys, winners of the boys team title. The race for the top spot in the boys 5,000-meter race was close, with only six points separating the three qualifying teams. Homer’s boys did it with depth, as all three of their scoring runners finished in the top 10 to knock perennial district power Norfolk Catholic off the mantle and claim the district title. “It was a tight race and we knew it was going to be,” coach Aaron Sasges said. “Norfolk Catholic has been district champs the last four years, but our boys really showed up today and ran really well.” Aayden Harris and Caden Barclay have been the leaders of the pack of Knights throughout most of the season and were at the front once again Thursday. Harris finished fourth in a time of 17:52.89, with Barclay taking seventh at 18:14.28. Following them was Jessup Snowball, whose time of 18:17.05 was less than three seconds behind his teammates and good for eighth place to give the Knights three individual medalists and a three-point cushion over the Norfolk Catholic quintet. “Aayden and Caden ran really close again and Jessup caught up at the end,” Sasges said. “They were back a little bit at first but kept moving up and getting stronger and did a great job.” While Homer took top honors, Ponca also punched a team ticket with a pair of individuals in the top six, led by district medalist Gannon Pfister.

Pfister seemed to take control of the race early and had a comfortable cushion during the last 500 meters the race, breaking the tape in 17:28.74 for the district individual title. “I thought the wind was going to get me, but down that last stretch I just tried to stride out and felt like I had a lot left and I used it,” Pfister said. “I tried to be mentally prepared for the wind today and it wasn’t as bad at the end, so I was ready for it.” “With the wind, I was a little worried how we would do going in,” Ponca coach Kory Pfister said. “We’d had one windy meet earlier and didn’t perform as well, but the kids have been working hard and we talked about willing to go out and compete in this and everybody was able to do that.” Broderick Hogan followed Pfister home in sixth place and Zyan Conrad showed his continued improvement with an 18th place finish. The younger Pfister said he was really happy to go as a team, especially for Conrad. “We got Zyan Conrad in there, so he’s going to make it a lot of fun,” he added. Tri County Northeast sophomore Jude Ridenour added his name to the guest list for Kearney after a 12th place finish in the boys competition. “He played football last year and has been nothing but a workaholic for us and it paid off,” coach Dave Uldrich said. “We talked about running hard that first mile and breaking contact with the second group and that put him in a good spot to qualify for state.” In the girls competition, Ponca made it a clean sweep in the individual medalist division as Ava Brennan claimed top honors, and the Homer girls had just enough to hold off Ponca for the third and final team spot behind perennial powers Pender and Crofton. Brennan and Lilly Harris of Homer were leading the pack up until the 2,000-meter mark when Brennan began to pull away. Her time of 20:07.42 was the best of the day in the girls race and was the third best overall among Class D girls runners in the state’s six district races. “The first mile was pretty rough for me, and after we turned with the wind I just tried to stride out and run my race,” Brennan said. “Once I got into that second and third mile it felt pretty good.” Brennan said she was surprised to have so much distance between herself and the rest of the field. “Coming around the 2 1/2-mile mark and going around that one green, I took a peek back and was like ‘Wow!,’” she said. “We’ve run this course before, so I just got the arms pumping and kept going.” Homer’s girls were led by Harris, who finished fourth overall, and scored just enough with Jaedy Bousquet in 13th and Tawny Bolles in 17th to finish with 32 points, three ahead of Ponca. Pender won the district with 14 points while Crofton was second at 19. “The girls competed well today,” Sasges said. “The wind wasn’t the best but everybody had to run in it and the girls competed hard. Some of them had personal bests today, so you can’t be mad about it.” Pfister said he wasn’t surprised with Brennan’s time, and while the girls team came up short, he had no problem with the effort. “When we ran here a few weeks ago she had a time of 20:14, so I knew she could do it,” Pfister said. “It wasn’t the best round all the way around, but the girls ran well and we don’t have any seniors, so we’re looking forward to next year.” Tri County Northeast will be represented in the Class D girls race by Alejandra Hermosillo, who edged out Ponca’s Addyson Chytka for the last spot among the 15 individual qualifiers with a time of 21:40.73. “She missed by three-tenths of a second as a freshman, so she’s made it her mission to not miss out on state,” Uldrich said of the junior. “We thought there were about 22 girls

SEE THREE, 2A



(PHOTOS BY MICHAEL CARNES)

(Above Ponca’s Ava Brennan starts to pull away from Homer’s Lilly Harris during the girls race in the D-2 District cross country meet Thursday in Pender. Brennan won the individual title and had the third-fastest time among all Class D girls runners who qualified for state. (right) Ponca’s Gannon Pfister cruises to victory in the boys race.



(PHOTO BY MICHAEL CARNES)

(Clockwise from above) Jude Ridenour of Tri County Northeast became the first Wolfpack boy to earn a spot in the state cross country meet after his effort in the D-2 district meet, finishing 12th. Tri County Northeast junior Alejandra Hermosillo was the last of the individual qualifiers from the girls race to qualify for state. Aayden Harris was the first one home for the Homer boys, placing fourth to help the Knights win the district title and qualify for state.

SSC boys third in A-1, earn trip to state cross country

PAPILLION — The South Sioux City boys managed to earn a trip to state as a team after running in a tough A-1 district race Thursday at Papillion’s Walnut Creek Recreation Area. With favorite Fremont leading the way and Omaha Westside claiming the runner-up position, the race for the third and final state qualifying spot was a close one, with the Cardinals’ 102 team points finishing three better than Elkhorn South and 13 ahead of Lincoln High in the eight-team race. Luke McGinty and Melchisedek Munzambi both finished among the top 15 individual qualifiers that automatically qualified for state.

McGinty was eighth in a time of 17:04.3 and Munzambi was right behind in ninth at 17:05.7. Their top-10 finishes helped get the Cardinals to the state meet this Friday in Kearney. Joining the duo will be Melusi Ngeleka (23rd), Nabil Yussuf (30th), Leandro Magana (32nd), Nathan Robles (41st) and Yahir Majia-Covarrubias (42nd). The young South Sioux girls squad was not able to get an individual to state and finished sixth out of seven teams in the girls’ 5,000-meter race. Jacqueline Salgado led the Lady Cards with a 25th place finish, followed by Melanie Magana (36th), Abigail Cisneros (38th), Kallianne Norton (41st), Alexandra Chavez (42nd), Abigail Perez (48th) and Esmeralda Munoz (50th). The SSC boys will run at the Class A State Cross Country Championships Friday afternoon at the Kearney Country Club. Their race will begin around 12:30 p.m.

**A-1 District at Walnut Creek**  
**Boys Team Standings (Top 3 to state)**  
Fremont 25, Omaha Westside 54, South Sioux City 102, Elkhorn South 105, Lincoln High 115, Lincoln Northeast 161, Omaha North 183, Omaha Bryan 218.  
**Area Results**  
SSC — 8. Luke McGinty, 17:04.3; 9. Melchisedek

Munzambi, 17:05.7; 23. Melusi Ngeleka, 17:52.9; 30. Nabil Yussuf, 18:18.3; 32. Leandro Magana, 18:38.0; 41. Nathan Robles, 19:26.0; 42. Yahir Mejia-Covarrubias, 19:35.6.  
**Girls Team Standings (Top 3 to state)**  
Millard West 21, Papillion-LaVista South 58, Elkhorn South 73, Omaha Westside 103, Lincoln Southeast 122, South Sioux City 182, Fremont 207.  
**Area Results**  
SSC — 25. Jacqueline Salgado, 22:28.1; 36. Melanie Magana, 23:30.1; 38. Abigail Cisneros, 24:04.5; 41. Kallianne Norton, 24:36.9; 42. Alexandra Chavez, 24:44.1; 48. Abigail Perez, 27:18.3; 50. Esmeralda Munoz, 28:33.6.



Muskies Minute

Dakota Country Star’s weekly update of Sioux City Musketeers hockey

Musketeers manage weekend home split

Courtesy Sioux City Musketeers

The Sioux City Musketeers fought their way to a weekend split with the Green Bay Gamblers, falling on Friday night 5-2 and taking Saturday night 2-0. A physical tilt on Friday favored the visiting Gamblers. A Luke Garry goal cut the Gamblers 2-0 lead in half at the end of the first period, but a pair of unanswered Gambler goals pushed their advantage to 4-1 before Gavin Garry struck on the power play for his third of the season. Lev Katzin scored an empty-

netter to finish off the 5-2 Green Bay victory. Saturday night featured a re-invigorated Musketeers squad as well as a pink ice sheet for the Musketeers annual Pink in the Rink game. Passions were high to kick off the contest with a full-line brawl breaking out after the opening face-off. After the aggressors were penalized, a physical defensive matchup ensued for the next 56 minutes as both goalies duelled it out. Samuel Urban was magnificent

for the Musketeers as he turned away all 28 shots that he faced for the second shutout of his career, and first of the season. On the campaign, Urban now holds a 1.93 GAA and a 0.929 save percentage to go along with a 5-0 record in six games. Gavin Moffatt, the Green Bay netminder, matched Urban shot for shot until late in the third period when former Gambler, Landen Gunderson, broke the scoreless deadlock at the 16:52 mark of the third period.

Trey Jefferis put home an empty-netter at 18:48 in the third to finish off the Musketeers’ victory. Sioux City sits at 6-2-0-0 currently in second place in the USHL western conference. The Musketeers face a long road trip this upcoming weekend when they travel to Youngstown and take on the Phantoms for a pair of games beginning on Friday, with puck drop scheduled for 6:05 p.m.



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Musketeers goalie Samuel Urban returned to netminder duties Saturday and recorded a shutout in a 2-0 win over Green Bay.



HOMER CLAIMS L&C TITLE



(PHOTO COURTESY MIKE RASMUSSEN)  
Homer's Chayce Abts tries to attack in the Lady Knights' win last week over Pender. The Homer girls won the Lewis & Clark Conference tournament title Tuesday night with a straight-set win over Wynot, 25-16, 25-17, 25-18. Stats and highlights will be in next week's edition of the Dakota County Star.

Knights close out season with 50-29 home win

Axton Casey threw for 159 yards and three touchdowns as the Homer football team ended the season on the right note with a 50-29 win over Wakefield.

Caskey was near-perfect on the night, going 7-of-8 passing for 159 yards. All three of his touchdown passes went to senior Jsue Munoz, who ended his high school career in fine fashion by scoring six touchdowns and putting up a combined total of 272 yards to help the Knights finish their season with a 2-6 record. Munoz rushed 24 times for 123

yards and also caught six passes for 149 yards to lead Homer to victory.

Homer had 403 yards in total offense, with Isaac Barclay rushing eight times for 53 yards and Ethan Roberts adding 45 yards on nine carries.

Munoz also led the way on defense for Homer, finishing the night with 15 tackles, 12 of them solo.

Benjamin Roost added eight tackles, Reed Modlin had seven stops, Austin Pelster made six and Isaac Barclay made four.

THREE: Area teams qualify for state

from Page 1A

who could qualify, and when she got to those last 500 meters she had to run. She's not a sprinter, but she got to the finish line and held on."

Class D runners will run in the late session, with the boys running at 2:30 p.m. and the girls at 3:30 p.m. at the Kearney Country Club.

**D-2 District at Pender**

**Boys Team Standings (Top 3 to state)**

Homer 19, Norfolk Catholic 22, Ponca 25, Crofton 44, LCC 46, Stanton 49, Tri County NE 74, Wisner-Pilger 83, Osmond 90, Bancroft-Rosalie 102, Lutheran High NE 104, Pender 131, GACC 136, Randolph 157.

**Area Results (Top 15 to state)**

HOMER — 4. Aayden Harris, 17:52.89; 7. Caden Barclay, 18:14.28; 8. Jessup Snowball, 18:17.05; 17. Junius Snowball, 18:41.27; 19. Caylix Huffman, 18:58.21.

PONCA — 1. Gannon Pfister, 17:28.74; 6. Broderick Hogan, 18:06.93; 18. Zyan Conrad, 18:42.23.

TRI COUNTY NE — 12. Jude Ridenour, 18:32.95; 25. Alex Snyder, 19:37.14; 37. Devon Lewellen, 20:32.34.

**Girls Team Standings (Top 3 to state)**

Pender 14, Crofton 19, Homer 32, Ponca 35, LCC 59, Wisner-Pilger 68, Tri County NE 69, Stanton 70, Lyons-Decatur NE 109.

**Area Results (Top 15 to state)**

HOMER — 4. Lilly Harris, 20:50.47; 13. Jaedyn Bousquet, 21:34.71; 17. Tawny Bolles, 21:58.99; 21. Liliyanna Dziurawiec, 23:04.73; 23. Okie Bolles, 23:08.04.

PONCA — 1. Ava Brennan, 20:07.42; 16. Addyson Chytka, 21:54.26; 20. Laken Pfister, 23:01.90.

TRI COUNTY NE — 15. Alejandra Hermosillo, 21:40.73; 19. Bre Millard, 22:45.78; 43. Chloe Peters, 26:18.03; 44. Hailey Millard, 26:31.86; 45. Jenni Olson, 27:46.41.

Cardinals outscore Rockets

The South Sioux City football team racked up 440 yards in total offense and rolled to a 42-22 win at Lincoln Northeast Friday night.

The Cardinals did most of their damage on the ground Friday as senior running back Tony Palmer exploded for 308 yards on 27 carries and scored three touchdowns, including a 47-yard run.

The Cardinals also went to the air effectively, completing 5-of-9 passes for 117 yards. Cristian Campos was 4-of-7 for 70 yards and two scores while DJ Helms completed 1-of-2 for

47 yards and a score. Three different receivers scored through the air, including Palmer, Helms and Alabama Villeda. Lucas Sulzbach also caught a pair of passes for seven yards.

The SSC defense did a great job of silencing the Rockets' offense for most of the game. Helms led the defense with seven tackles, Taye Backer added six and Kayden Melchor and Colten Burns both had five tackles. Adrien Curiel picked up four tackles and Palmer and Alexander Maya both recovered a fumble.

Wolfpack gridders fall 46-6

The Tri County Northeast football team were no match for district leader Guardian Angels Central Catholic on Friday, as the Wolfpack finished its season with a 46-6 loss to the Bluejays Friday in Beemer.

Quarterback Ben Jorgensen scored the only touchdown of the game for the 3-5 Wolfpack, scoring on a six-yard run. The Bluejays defense was solid in limiting the Wolfpack to 112 yards in total offense.

Jorgensen was 5-of-11 passing for 37 yards. Isom had 32 yards on 10

carries and caught four passes for 30 yards. Jackson Belt caught one pass for seven yards.

On the ground, Isom had 32 yards on 10 carries, Dylan Boyle had 18 yards on five attempts, Brayden McCorkindale had 15 yards on four attempts, Jorgensen had nine yards on six carries and Blake Kneifl carried twice for one yard.

Defensively, Isom led the Wolfpack with 12 tackles, Thatcher Lamp added nine stops and Jorgensen made seven tackles.

Ponca falls at WP-Beemer

The Ponca football team got off to a quick start but couldn't maintain the momentum as host West Point-Beemer posted a 30-6 win over the Indians on Friday.

After a scoreless first quarter, the visiting Indians hit paydirt early on a two-yard run by Tucker McGill to take a 6-0 lead.

The lead didn't last long, however, as the Cadets answered with a score and a two-point conversion to take the lead for good. They added another score to lead 14-6 at the half, then scored twice in the third quarter to put the win away.

Austin Dendinger was 8-of-14 passing for 97 yards for the Indians. McGill caught four passes for 52 yards, Caden Cleveland had 23 yards on two catches, Cooper Stewart had a 12-yard reception and Jace Wahls had 10 yards on one catch.

McGill led the ground game with 56 yards on 12 tries, Trystan Bevelhimer added 54 yards on 11 tries, Dendinger had 25 yards on seven attempts and Lane Rohan had 20 yards on three tries.

Defensively, Bryce Pokorny had a team-best 11 tackles and Dendinger and McGill had six tackles each.

SSC tennis winless at state

LINCOLN — The South Sioux City boys tennis team came up empty during the first day of the Class A State Boys Tennis Tournament.

In singles action, both senior Keaton Ross and sophomore Adam Debuhr lost in first-round matchups. Ross was shut out 8-0 by Joshua Bartsch of Omaha North, while Debuhr was defeated 81 by Noah Lozier of Papillion-LaVista.

In doubles action, junior Thomas Nguyen and sr. Jonathan Torres-Gomez dropped an 8-0 decision to Nivesh Reddy and Nick Fischer of Elkhorn South at No. 1 doubles, 8-0.

In No. 2 doubles action, junior Jack Diaz and senior Edgar Romero fell to Seth Halsted and Colton Peters of Papillion-Lavista, 8-1.

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# It was the week before Halloween at the South Sioux City Library

The week before Halloween is full of all sorts of activities. Haunted House is on Thursday, Oct. 24 all day in the book sale room and Café area. Join us for a fun Halloween event! We'll be having a party in the cafe and a haunted house to follow! From 4:30-5:30 p.m., we will be having an Easy Haunt with the lights on! From 6-7:30 p.m., we'll turn the lights off and hope the screams follow! Registration is required. There are 353 seats available.

Story Time is on Friday, Oct. 25 from 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Bring your little one to sing, read, and do a fun activity with Miss Donna. This program is for children ages 3-7 years old.

Tween Time is on Friday, Oct. 25 from 3:45-4:45 p.m. This is a program for ages 8-12 years old. They are invited to come join us for some tween activities. Crafts and challenges, activities and events, come hand out with us and learn new skills or make new friends.

We have a Halloween Party on Saturday, Oct. 26 from 1-3 p.m. Join us in the youth area for a Halloween party! We'll have activities, games, crafts and candy! Costumes welcome. Costume parade at 2 p.m.

The book sale will be held on the last Saturday of each month from 1-4 p.m. Check or Cash is accepted. Books, DVDs, CDs, vinyl, audio-books, and puzzles available.

Cover to Cover Book Club meets on Monday, Nov. 28 at 3:30 p.m. This week we discuss "Dancing with the Octopus: a memoir of a crime." This memoir is described by the publisher, on an "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



Dan Nieman

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.

Let's Craft is on Monday, Oct. 28 from 4:30-5:30 p.m. Join our youth librarian in making a fun craft! All supplies are provided and all ages are welcome.

Tech Help Monday: Join Reenie to have your technology questions and get useable answers, on Monday, Oct. 28 from 5-8 p.m.

Toddler Time is on Tuesday, Oct. 29 from 10-11 a.m. Bring your little one to sing, read, and do a fun activity! This story time is designed for children 2 years and under.-11:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. For National Treat Your Pet Day, learn how to make homemade pet treats (for dogs and/or cats) and explore what is safe for your pet to eat. All materials provided. Registration is required. We Will be handling peanut butter, so those with allergies be aware! Instructor is not a licensed professional, all information is from websites!

Spin Club — Robots and Drones is on Tuesday, Oct. 29 from 4-6 p.m. Join us for a special Interest Club meeting! This month we'll be looking at robots and flying drones in the library.

Teen Time is on Tuesday, Oct. 29 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Events, crafts, and activities just for Teens. (Ages 12-18). From anime nights to school DIYs and much more. Come on Tuesdays to have some fun and make some friends.

Teen and Tween Anime Club is on Wednesday, Oct. 30 from 4:45-5:45 p.m. Events, crafts, and activities just for Teens. (Ages 12-18). From anime nights to school DIYs and much more. Come on Tuesdays to have some fun and make some friends.

Bilingual book club is on Wednesday, Oct. 30 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. We will discuss the book "Crying in the Bathroom" by Erika L. Sanchez (book can be read in either Spanish or English). This is for those looking to strengthen their Spanish speaking skills or for some English Speaking Practice.

Haunted Reads: These are a few haunted reads for the week.

"Age of Revolutions: progress and backlash from 1600 to the present," by Fareed Zakaria (303.64 ZAK). The CNN host and best-selling author explores the revolutions--past and present--that define the polarized and unstable age in which we live.

"The Amish Wife: unraveling the lies, secrets, and conspiracy that let a killer go free," by Gregg Olson (364.152 OLS). "In 1977, in an Ohio Amish community, pregnant wife and mother Ida Stutzman perished during a barn fire. The coroner's report: natural causes. Ida's husband, Eli, was never considered a suspect. But when he eventually rejected the faith and took his son, Danny, with him, murder followed. What really happened to Ida? The dubious circumstances of the tragic blaze were willfully ignored and Eli's shifting narratives disregarded. Could Eli's subsequent cross-country journey of death-including that of his own son-have been prevented if just one person came forward with what they knew about the real Eli Stutzman? The questions haunted Gregg Olson and Ida's brother Daniel Gingerich for decades. At Daniel's urging, Olsen now returns to Amish Country and to Eli's crimes first exposed in Olsen's *Abandoned Prayers*, one of which has remained a mystery until now. With the help of aging witnesses and shocking long-buried letters, Olsen finally uncovers the disturbing truth-about Ida's murder and the conspiracy of silence and secrets that kept it hidden for forty-five years." — from the publisher.

"The Briar Club" by Kate Quinn (FIC QUI). "The New York Times bestselling author of *The Diamond Eye* and *The Rose Code* returns with a haunting and powerful story of female friendships and secrets in a Washington, DC, boardinghouse during the McCarthy era." — from the publisher.

Happy reading! We will see you at the library.

## OBITUARIES

### Bill Jay Gotch, 88

Bill Jay Gotch, 88, of South Sioux City, passed away on Tuesday, Oct. 15, surrounded by his family. Funeral services with Military Rites to celebrate Bill will be at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 20, at Mohr & Becker-Hunt Funeral Home in South Sioux City. Visitation will begin at 2 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home. You may forward memorial designations in Bill's memory to the family for future designation. Online condolences may be directed to meyerbroscapels.com.



Gotch

Bill was born on Jan. 28, 1936, in rural Waterbury, Nebraska to Roy and Leona (Brownell) Gotch and grew up in Allen. He attended and graduated from Allen High School in 1953. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy from 1955-1957 with friends from Allen. Once Bill returned from the Navy, he farmed with his family. He married Myrna Faye Osbahr on May 28, 1960 and they were married for 64 years. They have three sons.

Bill held various jobs throughout his life. He farmed from 1960-1974. He had several positions at the Farmers Co-Op in Allen, and eventually became the manager at the Farmers Co-Op, until 1983. He and Myrna spent a brief period in California and when the family began to grow it brought them back to the area. They moved to Hurley, S.D., where he was the assistant manager at Terra. Bill and Myrna were shareholders in Siouxland Bank. Bill was never one to sit idle and so he held various positions as time went by.

Bill knew people everywhere he traveled and made friends easily. He was successful in all his many endeavors. He was always ready to lend a helping hand

to everyone and could fix anything needing repaired. Bill enjoyed cheering on the Nebraska Cornhuskers, be it football or volleyball, playing cards, golfing with family, winning golf league and getting and hole-in-one at Covington Links Golf Course, but his greatest joy was his family. He was extremely proud of his grandchildren and great grandchildren. He and Myrna attended every event of their grandchildren and great grandchildren that was possible through the years. Family gatherings were such joy as he played Pinochle/Pitch cards, ate, laughed, and played or carried the youngest members of the family around. His grin and laugh were infectious to all.

Left to cherish his memory are his wife, Myrna Gotch of South Sioux City; sons, Larry Gotch of Allen, Bart (Terri) Gotch of South Sioux City, and Rick (Carmin) Gotch of Dakota Dunes, S.D.; grandchildren, BJ (Sara) Gotch of Valley, Bryan (Jess) Gotch of Newcastle, Cory (Nikki) Gotch of Allen, Jenny (Haiden) Smith of Elk Point, S.D., Brett (Kyna) Gotch of South Sioux City, Brent (Emily) Gotch of South Sioux City, and Sara (Zach) Larson Cedar Rapids, Iowa; and great grandchildren, Wyatt Gotch, Brinley Gotch, Kennedy Gotch, Dane Gotch, Sonny Gotch, Michael Gotch, Weston Gotch, Emmersyn Gotch, Emma Gotch, Mia Gotch, Jay Gotch, Grady Gotch, Brook Gotch, Kate and Alex Smith, and Chandler and Sage Larson.

Preceding him in death were his parents; parents-in-law, Myron Sr. and Julia Osbahr; brother and sister-in-law, Cliff and Rose Gotch; sister and brother-in-law, Ruth and Don Jensen; sister, Joan; and infant great grandchild, Jesse Gotch.

## DAKOTA COUNTY COURT NEWS

Jose M Perez Escobar, 29, South Sioux City; domestic intentional assault cause body injury jail 90 days, fail to appear jail 14 days

Miguel A Almaraz Escamilla, 22, South Sioux City; no valid registration fine \$50

Darwin Y Diaz Flores, 32, South Sioux City; no valid license fine \$150, disobey stop light fine \$75

Crystal A Estep, 44, Sioux City, Iowa; defendant failed to appear Basit A Fazulyar, 21, South Sioux City; no proof of insurance fine \$100

Ernesto M Marinez Deniz, 30, Sioux City, Iowa; defendant failed to appear Glenn A Moore, 51, Sioux City, Iowa; DUI.15 fine \$500, jail 2 days,

probation 6 months, revoked license 1 year

Michael P Pol, 29, South Sioux City; no operator's license, fine \$500 Jocelyn M Rivera, 23, South Sioux City; procure/ sell alcohol to minor, fine \$300

Carlos Riz De La Cruz, 24, Wakefield; DUI.15+ fine \$500, jail 2 days, probation 6 months, possess open alcohol container fine \$100

Vaughn A Robichaux, 36, South Sioux City; no operator's license fine \$50

Maico J Diaz Castelan, 32, South Sioux City; nonresident violate 30-days immunity, fine \$25

Serigio J Ibarra, 22, South Sioux City; defendant failed to appear

## MARRIAGE LICENSES

Marlon Ivan Rodriguez Henandez, 27, South Sioux City, and Yeriz Yaeliz Herrera Alaniz, 22, South Sioux City

Oswaldo Valovinos Mendez, 31, South Sioux City, and Lisette Quiroz-Lopez, 31, South Sioux City

## Visit Nebraska opens grant cycle

Visit Nebraska's application cycle is open for both the Visit Nebraska Marketing Grand Program and Community Impact Grant Program.

The programs offer funding opportunities to organizations to promote their events, destinations, community or region to travelers.

The Visit Nebraska Marketing Grant Program encourages applicants to request funding for a variety of marketing activities to promote their destination or event.

The grant cycle is open until Dec. 18. Grant recipients will be announced Feb. 14, 2025. To view the grant guidelines, go to visitnebraska.com/media/industry/category/grants.

## Dakota City News

### Dakota City Public Library

Book Club is currently reading "Night Road" by Kristin Hannah. The author of "Firefly Lane" and "True Colors" has written another powerful story of misunderstanding, family, love, and strong fairy women. This story weaves fairy tales into reality; fairy tales that don't always have the expected endings. In this story, a mother has a series of choices: to hold on, to let go, to forget and to forgive. One decision will change the course of her children's lives. In the years to follow, each must face the consequences of that single night and find a way to forget..or the courage to forgive.

The Book Club group meets on the first Monday of each month to discuss the month's selection. New members are welcome to join anytime. Extra books available to read during the month.

The Dakota City Public Library will participate in the Trunk or Treat activity at the Dakota City Public Elementary School on Monday, Oct. 28 from 6-7 p.m.

National Friends of the Library Week is Oct. 20-26. The Dakota City Public Library staff and Board members would like to thank those who have been active in the Friends of the Library organization through the years. The library depends on the Friends of the Library group for their help in running programs and activities at the library. For more information on how you can become a Friends member, please contact a Friends member or library staff.

# DONE DEAL.

Nebraska's Supreme Court says voters with past felonies must be allowed to register and vote.

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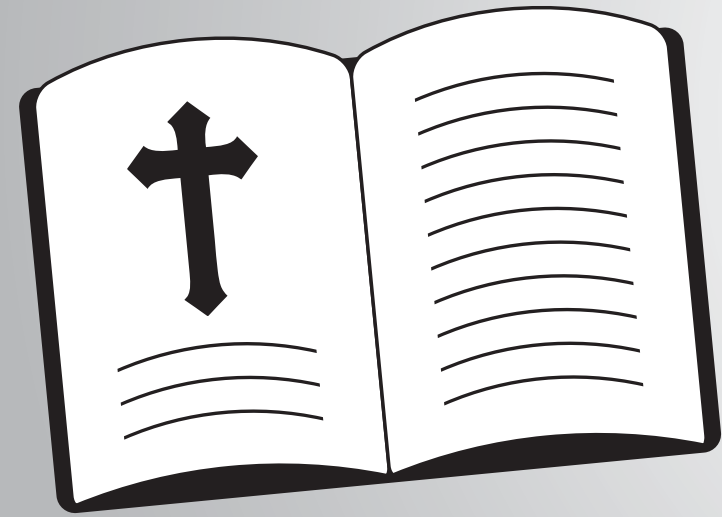
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# CHURCH DIRECTORY



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Sunday Worship..... 11:00 a.m.

Rev. Julie Raridan

### SIUXLAND COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

17th & B Street

402-241-0744

Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.  
Worship Service.....10:35 a.m.  
Wed. Prayer/Bible Study.....6:30 p.m.

"Reformed by His Grace"

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Pastor Richard Peralez

### HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

218 West 18th Street

402-494-1847

Sunday Worship .....9:30 a.m.  
Sunday School, Adult Bible Class  
and Fellowship Hour.....10:30 a.m.

Rev. Michael Awe

### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

21st & A Street, South Sioux City  
402-494-1868

Worship ..... 10:00 a.m.

Rev. Beth Hamilton

### FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

ELCA

3601 Dakota Avenue

402-494-5461

Sunday School ..... 9 a.m.

Sunday Worship ..... 9:30 a.m.

Pastor Patti Meyer

### RIVER HILLS CHURCH

1101 5th Avenue

402-494-1852

**Sundays**  
Sunday School ..... 9:00 a.m.  
Morning Worship ..... 10:15 a.m.  
Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m.

**Wednesdays**  
Family Ministries.....6:30 p.m.

Pastor Kevin Roach

### GLAD TIDINGS LIGHTHOUSE

410 East 10th Street  
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Sunday Worship Services:  
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Wed. Night Family Night: 7:00 p.m.

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4BR, 2.5BA \$460,000



1520 Main Street Sioux City, IA  
2BR + Dormer, 1BA \$149,950



1724 S. Saint Aubin Street Sioux City, IA  
3BR, 1.5BA \$179,000



1309 Iowa Street Sioux City, IA  
3BR, 3BA \$199,000



1815 Florence Ave. Sioux City IA  
4BR, 2BA \$322,500



25 Quail Court Sioux City, IA  
6BR, 3.5 BA \$540,000



315 N 17th Street Dakota City, NE  
5BR, 3BA \$259,900

## CRAFT FAIR

PONCA CRAFT FAIR Saturday, Nov. 9, Ponca Public School, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Interested vendors please email Kristin at kschmidt3@gmail.com or call /text 402-917-7468 for more information.

## STATEWIDES

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## Legal Notice

**NOTICE OF MEETING BOARD OF EDUCATION HOMER COMMUNITY SCHOOL**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, the Board of Education of the Homer Community School will meet for regular session on Tuesday, November 12, 2024 at 7 p.m. in the Library at the Homer Community School, Homer, Nebraska. An agenda for the meeting and public hearings, which shall be kept continually current, is readily available for public inspection at the Superintendent's office during normal business hours; however, the agenda may be modified at such meeting.

**Amy M Brand**  
School Secretary  
Publish in the Dakota County Star  
Thursday, October 24, 2024. - ZNEZ

## Legal Notice

**NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION OF MI PATIO LLC**  
Notice is hereby given that **MI PATIO LLC**

has been organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska. The address of the designated office of the Company is 623 1ST AVE, SOUTH SIOUX CITY, NE 68776. The general nature of business is to engage in and to do any and all business, other than banking and insurance, for which a Limited Liability Company may be organized under the Nebraska Uniform Limited Liability Company Act. The Company commenced its existence on SEPTEMBER 19, 2024 and its duration shall be perpetual. The affairs of the Company are to be conducted by the Managing Member and/or Members as authorized by the Company's Operating Agreement. The initial agent for service of process is LBS, INC at 1413 BROADWAY ST, DAKOTA CITY, NE 68731

**Lydia Pintor**  
Organizer

Publish in the Dakota County Star  
Thursday, October 10, 17 and 24, 2024.

## Legal Notice

**FOR NAME CHANGE OF A MINOR CHILD**  
In the District Court of Dakota County, Nebraska.

Case Number CI 24-168  
In rename change of GRIM ROCK BEARSHIELD

Notice is hereby given that on the 20th day of September 2024, a petition was filed in the District Court of Dakota County, Nebraska, the object and prayer of which is to change a minor child's name from GRIM ROCK BEARSHIELD TO LOGAN GLENN HULS.

A hearing will be had on said petition before the Honorable Judge Bryan C. Meisner, courtroom #1, 1601 Broadway Street, Dakota City, Nebraska on the 26th day of November 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 minor child's current name will be changed to the preferred new name listed above.

October 8, 2024  
**John S. Moeller**  
701 Pierce St., Suite 205  
P.O. Box 3223  
Sioux City, IA 51102-3223  
Telephone number: 712-255-0147  
Email address: johnsmoeller@gmail.com

Publish in the Dakota County Star  
Thursday, October 17 and 24, 2024. - ZNEZ

## Legal Notice

**NOTICE OF MEETING**  
Notice is hereby given that a regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council of the City of South Sioux City will be held on Monday, November 11th and 25th, 2024 at 5:00 p.m., in the CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 1615 – 1ST AVENUE. All meetings will be open to the public. An agenda for such meeting, kept continuously current, is available for public inspection at the office of the City Clerk at the City Hall.

**/s/ Nanci Walsh, City Clerk**  
Publish in the Dakota County Star  
Thursday, October 24, 2024 - ZNEZ

## Legal Notice

**NOTICE OF MEETING**  
Notice is hereby given of the following meetings located at the CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 1615 – 1ST AVENUE. All meetings will be open to the public. An agenda for such meeting, kept continuously current, is available for public inspection at the office of the City Clerk at the City Hall.

**/s/ Nanci Walsh, City Clerk**  
**Community Development Agency**  
11 a.m. on  
Tuesday, Nov. 12 and 26, 2024  
**Finance Committee**  
12 (noon) p.m. on  
Wednesday, Nov. 6 and 20, 2024  
**Public Works Committee**  
5 p.m. on  
Monday, Nov. 4 and 18, 2024  
**Design Committee**  
8:30 a.m. on  
Thursday, Nov. 7 and 21, 2024  
**Planning and Zoning**  
4 p.m. on  
Wednesday, Nov. 13 and 27, 2024  
**Parks Board**  
5 p.m. on  
Monday, Nov. 4, 2024  
**Rental Inspection Board**  
5 p.m. on  
Thursday, Nov. 7 and 21, 2024  
Publish in the Dakota County Star  
Thursday, October 24, 2024 - ZNEZ

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Online

## Legal Notice

**NOTICE OF NON-PROFIT INCORPORATION**  
The name of the Corporation is **Ministerio Pentecostes Jesucristo El Buen Pastor, Inc.**

The address of the registered office is 2020 G St., South Sioux City, NE 68776 and the registered agent of said Corporation is Ramon P. Juarez Mendoza. The Corporation shall engage in any lawful business for which a corporation may be formed under the Nebraska Non-Profit Corporation Act. The Corporation is a religious corporation. The Corporation shall have members. The name and address of the Incorporator is Ramon P. Juarez Mendoza, 2020 G St., South Sioux City, NE 68776.

**Ramon P. Juarez Mendoza**  
2020 G St.  
South Sioux City, NE 68776  
Phone #: 712-301-1422

Publish in the Dakota County Star  
Thursday, October 24 and 31, 2024 and November 7, 2024. - ZNEZ

## Legal Notice

**NOTICE OF MEETING DAKOTA COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 011 IN THE STATE OF NEBRASKA**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a **Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Board of Education of Dakota County School District 011, more commonly known as South Sioux City Community Schools**, will start at 4:00 P.M. on Monday October 28, 2024, in the South Sioux City High School Library, 3301 G Street, South Sioux City, Nebraska, which meeting will be open to the public. An agenda for such meetings, kept continually current, is available for public inspection at the School Administration Office of said District, at 210 West 39th Street, South Sioux City, Nebraska, during normal business hours.

**Dr. Rony Ortega,**  
Superintendent  
Publish in the Dakota County Star  
Thursday, October 24, 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, October 28, 2024, at 3 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, October 24, 2024 - ZNEZ

## CD RATE SPECIALS

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## Village of Homer is looking for a Clerk/Treasurer Part-time or full-time.

*Must have computer skills, do the budget, payroll, state and local taxes, and be responsible for all of the duties required to run the Village office.*

Please call 402-698-2155 or 712-898-4880



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- **Child Development Program Manager** (full-time, exempt)



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HOMER COMMUNITY SCHOOL

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING BOARD OF EDUCATION HOMER COMMUNITY SCHOOL Wednesday, October 16, 2024

A meeting of the Board of Education of Homer Community School was convened in open and public session on Wednesday, October 16, 2024 at 8 p.m. 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. Tyler Kirkholm: Absent. Tyler Kirkholm left the meeting at 8:13pm

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-This Public Meeting for American Civics Committee https://nebraskalegislature.gov/laws/statutes.php?statute=79-724

IA-Public Comment There was none.

IB-Discussion Dr. Lefdal discussed our Social Studies alignment to the standards.

II-Opening the Meeting II.A-Call Meeting to Order and Notification of Open Meeting Law II.A.i-Posted in the room II.A.ii-Publication of Meeting was provided according to 84-1411

II.B-District Mission Statement:

III-Board Member Roll Call

IV-Excuse Absent Board Members Motion was made by Byron Hall and seconded by Ryan Harris to excuse the absence of 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

V-Approval of the Agenda and changes to the Agenda Motion was made by Dr. Kristina Nelsen and seconded by Tyler Kirkholm 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

VI-Consent Agenda Motion was made by Dr. Kristina Nelsen and seconded by Ryan Harris to approve all items presented on the Consent Agenda. On roll call vote the Board voted as follows: The motion carried

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

Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

VI.A-Approval of Minutes from the September 16th regular board meeting

VI.B-Approve claims and accounts

VII-Public Comment

VIII-Information Items: Reports

VIII.A-Administrator reports Principals Uhl and Coviello discussed attendance for Parent-Teacher conferences. Positive feedback was heard about secondary staff holding conferences in their classrooms. Elementary Enrichment and Student Council activities were discussed, as well as the Homer Fire Department tour. Trunk or Treat will be inside on October 31st. The next Knight PRIDE Celebration will be the 24th of October. Elementary Book Blast was a great success. Mr. Coviello reported that fall sports are coming to an end and Cross Country was Conference Champions. Many students are taking classes for college credit.

VIII.B-Superintendent report Dr. Lefdal discussed the Labor Rela-

tions Conference he recently attended. He also provided a Rule 10 update. The OCR compliance visit will be next week regarding website compliance. We received the results of our safety visit and the report shows good results. We are working through our Emergency plan and our financial audit is nearly complete for the year. Dr. Lefdal also informed the board that Negotiations conversations will be starting soon.

IX-Discussion Items

IX.A-Board Goals Dr. Lefdal discussed he would like to tie board goals to our Strategic Plan.

IX.B-Lifetrack Data and Post Graduate Survey Dr. Lefdal encouraged the board to look at the data from the post graduate survey.

IX.C-Superintendent Evaluation Dr. Lefdal presented the board with a self evaluation for the board to look at. This will be discussed in future board meetings.

IX.D-Enrollment and Attendance Data Dr. Lefdal discussed current enrollment, student movement, average daily attendance and absences.

IX.E-Van and transportation discussion New legislation has been passed regarding school vans. For now, the only vehicle that will need to be addressed is the 15 passenger van.

IX.F-ESU 1 Annual Report Dr. Lefdal shared ESU #1's annual report for the board to review.

X-Action Items

X.A-Consider, discuss and take action to approve the Social Studies curriculum to meet compliance with State Statute 79-724. Motion was made by Dr. Kristina Nelsen and seconded by Byron Hall To approve the Social Studies Curriculum. On roll call vote the Board voted as follows: The motion carried

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

Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

XI-Next Meeting The next meeting will be Tuesday, November 12, at 7 p.m.

XII-Adjournment Motion was made by Dr. Kristina Nelsen and seconded by Byron Hall to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 p.m. On roll call vote the Board voted as follows: The motion carried

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

Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

Dated this Wednesday, October 16, 2024.

ATTEST:

Dakota County School District #31R a/k/a Homer Community School BY: Paul Tighe, President Dr. Kristina Nelsen

Secretary GENERAL- Fund Number 01

Appears 308.91; ASCD 732.24; ASTC, Inc dba K & S Service 850.00; Blick Art Materials 1,086.84; Bonanza Bar 555.00; Capital One 284.42; Cassie Kubik 785.91; Core Medical Equipment 2,529.00; Dakota County Star 956.22; Eakes Office Solutions 378.54; ESU #1 2,547.75;

Fastwyre Broadband 7.95; Gill Hauling 906.65; Glover Painting, LLC 2,073.00; Grafix, Inc. dba Wall of Fame 229.16; Homer American Legion 3,000.00; Hometown Leasing 1,610.70; Houghton Mifflin Company 1,723.55; J & J Pronto 961.52; Joseph Lefdal 300.00; Justice Fire and Safety 22.00; JW Pepper & Son Inc 634.15; Kris Noreen 258.62;

Language Link 15.40; Midwest Alarm Company 527.40; NASB 461.00; Northside Glass 82.39; One Source 154.00; Perma-Bound 16.44; Perry Guthery Haase & Gessford 698.75; Read Naturally 512.00; Renaissance 2,336.00; Sam's Club 52.56; Siouxland Lock & Key 188.00; State Steel 1,582.30; Stateline Electric 1,009.90; Studio B Graphics 375.00; Time Management Systems 85.00; Unity Point Clinic 9,563.99; Upholstery Designs by Michelle 1,242.00; Wilmes Hardware Hank 10.78;

Fund Number 01— 41,655.04. Checking Account ID 1 — 41,655.04.

AT&T Fund Number 109.58; Century Link 295.28; First National Bank Omaha 12,198.22; Life Track Services 420.00; Nebraska Public Power District 7,149.46; Village Of Homer 712.65.

Fund Number 01 — 20,885.19. Checking Account ID 1 — 20,885.19.

Publish in the Dakota County Star Thursday, October 24, 2024 - ZNEZ

DAKOTA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS/EQUALIZATION

Dakota County Board of Commissioners Monday, October 14, 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 "-" Giese to approve the consent agenda items: a) approval of the previous meeting minutes – September 30, 2024; (b) approval of payroll claims for September 29 to October 12, 2024; (c) approval of payroll accounts payable claims; (d) approval of monthly accounts payable claims(if any); (e) Approval of Clerk of District Court Cost Allocation Plan with Maximus for child support computation of indirect cost allocation rates. RCVUMC.

Payroll: General Fund: Gross Salaries - \$181,315.55; Net Pay -\$129,619.24; Total Retirement-\$13,041.46; Total FICA-\$13,338.65; Health Plan-\$46,480.00; Dental Plan-\$1,660.00; Life Insurance-\$217.15; Road Fund Employer: Gross Salaries-\$20,008.52; Net Pay-\$14,143.23; Retirement-\$1,350.55; Total FICA-\$1,426.22; Health Plan-\$6,160.00; Dental Plan-\$220.00; Life Insurance-\$27.16; Health Planning Grant Employer 2502: Gross Salaries-\$1,612.26; Net Pay-\$1,247.11; Retirement-\$108.83; Total FICA-\$123.34; Health Plan-\$560.00; Life Insurance-\$2.55;

Health Program Grant Employer 2504: Gross Salaries-\$2,097.46; Net Pay-\$1,670.80; Retirement-\$118.58; Total FICA-\$157.65; Health Plan-\$560.00; Dental Plan-\$20.00; Life Insurance-\$2.55; Juvenile Services Aid Employer 2507: Gross Salaries-\$1,620.00; Net Pay-\$1,312.65; Retirement-\$109.35; Total FICA-\$120.39; Dental Plan-\$20.00; Life Insurance-\$2.55;

Payroll Accounts Payable: General Fund: Collection Service Center, garnishment-\$564.45; Colonial Life & Accident, life insurance premium-\$282.18; Dental Account, premium-\$2,248.00; FSA Dep Care - \$416.66; FSA Medical - \$950.87; Health Plan, premium-\$50,580.00; Fraternal Order of Police #49, union dues-\$510.00; Federal Withholding, federal taxes-\$12,711.04; Globe Life Liberty, premium-\$154.04; Legalshield, premium-\$128.64; Life Insurance, premium-\$217.15; Nationwide Retirement Solutions, contributions-\$1,090.00; Nebraska Child Support, garnishments-\$766.61; Neb Dept of Revenue, state taxes-\$6,500.45; Ameritas Retirement, contributions-\$22,077.70; Social Security, FICA & MEDI-\$26,677.30; VSP, premium-\$558.48.

Road Fund: Colonial Life & Accident, life insurance premium-\$73.33; Dental Account, premium-\$325.00; FSA Medical - \$108.69; Health Plan, premium-\$7,210.00; Federal Withholding, federal taxes-\$1,196.60; Globe Life Liberty, premium-\$6.50; Legalshield, premium-\$58.36; Life Insurance, premium-\$27.16; Neb Dept of Revenue, state taxes-\$639.35; Nebraska Public Empl Local 251, union dues-\$220.00; Ameritas Retirement, contributions-\$2,250.95; Social Security, FICA & MEDI-\$2,852.44; VSP, premium-\$80.84; Insurance Fund 1275: Mid-American Benefits-medical claims \$52,722.27;

Health Fund 2502: Medical Account, premium-\$560.00; Federal Withholding, federal taxes-\$108.46; Life Insurance, premium-\$2.55;

Neb Dept of Revenue, state taxes-\$60.80; Ameritas Retirement, contributions-\$181.38; Social Security, FICA & MEDI-\$246.68; Health Fund 2504: Dental Account, premium-\$41.00; Health Plan, premium-\$560.00; Federal Withholding, federal taxes-\$100.78; Life Insurance, premium-\$2.55; Neb Dept of Revenue, state taxes-\$52.51; Ameritas Retirement, contributions-\$197.64; Social Security, FICA & MEDI-\$315.30; VSP, premium-\$15.66; Juvenile Services Fund 2507: Dental Account, premium-\$41.00; Federal Withholding, federal taxes-\$37.78; Life Insurance, premium-\$2.55; Neb Dept of Revenue, state taxes-\$30.03; Ameritas Retirement, contributions-\$182.25; Social Security, FICA & MEDI-\$240.78; VSP, premium-\$25.25.

Love "-" Launsby to approve appointing Stephanie Gatzemeyer as the County Treasurer to fill the vacancy and term ending December 31, 2026 at the same wage as currently being paid. RCVUMC.

Love "-" Van Berkum to approve removing previous County Treasurer Dawn Bousquet, from all bank accounts and add the newly appointed County Treasurer, Stephanie Gatzemeyer to all bank accounts. RCVUMC.

Love "-" Van Berkum to approve Resolution 24C-027 releasing pledged securities with Union Bank & Trust, Cusip # 78442GKW5. RCVUMC.

Love "-" Van Berkum to approve the request of Theresa Grove, Director - Health Department, to reappoint/ appoint the following members to the Dakota County Board of Health for 3 year terms:

Dr. Wente, Dr. Matt Aitken, Vice President 11/15/24–11/15/2027, Doug Janssen 11/15/24–11/15/2027, Benita Yacevich 11/15/24–11/15/2027, Randy Groetken 7/12/2024–7/12/2027, Jean Hedquist, Secretary 7/12/2024–7/12/2027, Kristin Robinette, President 7/12/2024–7/12/2027, and Mary Wiltgen 7/12/2024–7/12/2027. RCVUMC.

Theresa Grove, Health Department Director, gave the following Quarterly Health Department Report.

Hohenstein "-" Giese to give CEC and Steve Harris Construction the authority to put the concrete caps over the sewer lines to protect them and keep progress moving forward. RCVUMC.

Hohenstein "-" Van Berkum to approve extending the storm water line to keep below the grade of the homeowner's yard. RCVUMC.

Van Berkum "-" Giese to approve the Road Department installing an Engine Braking sign on the north-bound lane of North Bluff Rd South of Hwy 20. RCVUMC.

Jolene Gubbels, Highway Superintendent, gave the Road Report for September 29 to October 12, 2024.

Hohenstein "-" Giese to appoint Cherie Conley, County Clerk as voting delegate and Martin Hohenstein, Board Chair as alternate at the NACO Convention in December for NACO Officers for 2024. RCVUMC.

Giese "-" Love to approve the Sheriff Department's request to purchase the L-Tron Corporation OSC360 High Resolution Camera for \$13,208.00 using ARPA funds. RCVUMC.

Love "-" Van Berkum to approve the request for new flooring in the Register of Deeds office and the quote from Curry Floor for \$3,228.00 to be paid from using the ARPA funds. RCVUMC.

Van Berkum moved to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Chair Hohenstein adjourned the Board of Commissioners meeting of October 14, 2024 at 4:09 p.m.

Dakota County Board of Commissioners Martin Hohenstein, Chair

Cherie Conley, County Clerk/Board Secretary Publish in the Dakota County Star Thursday, October 24, 2024 - ZNEZ

Dakota County Board of Equalization Monday, October 14, 2024 2:45 p.m. Regular Meeting County Board Meeting Room, First Floor Dakota County Courthouse, Dakota City, Nebraska

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

Chair Love called the Board of Equalization meeting to order at 2:45 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present: Love, Van Berkum, Giese, Launsby, Hohenstein. Absent: None. Also present was Kim Watson, County Attorney, Christy Abts, Assessor, and Cherie Conley, County Clerk as Board Secretary. The Open Meetings Act location was noted for all citizens in attendance.

Van Berkum "-" Launsby, to approve the minutes of the September 3, 2024, meeting. RCVUMC.

Van Berkum "-" Giese, to approve and certify all levies for the current year 2024-2025 as presented. RCVUMC.

DAKOTA COUNTY LEVIES 2024-2025 DAKOTA COUNTY VALUATION - \$2,712,161,771 POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS TAX RATE PER ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS VALUATION						
COUNTY	General					TOTAL
County General Fund	0.303889					0.303889
CITY/VILLAGE	General	Bond	Police Pen.	Fire	Library	TOTAL
Dakota City	0.267718	0.144827			0.042334	0.454880
Homer	0.218980					0.218980
Hubbard	0.278760					0.278760
Jackson	0.377448					0.377448
South Sioux City	0.276076		0.020597	0.030000	0.067899	*0.394573
SCHOOL DISTRICT	General	Bond	Qual. CPU	Sinking	Sp. Building	TOTAL
4 Ponca - H.S. Bond 2009	0.853223	0.088990			0.069551	1.011764
11 So. Sioux City	0.910388					0.910388
11 S0 Sioux City -No Bond (Jackson Affiliation)	0.910388					0.910388
31R Homer	0.577807		0.021211		0.061098	0.660116
561 Emerson Hubbard	0.585249				0.016916	0.602165
SUBDIVISION	General	Bond	Capitol Imp.	ADA/Haz M		TOTAL
Agricultural Society	0.004425		0.002028			0.006453
Historical Society	0.001807					0.001807
RURAL FIRE PROTECTION	General	Bond	Sinking	Ambulance		TOTAL
Dakota Covington	0.011395		0.010567			0.021962
Emerson	0.030000					0.030000
Homer	0.027178		0.001808			*0.028987

\*the 6th place is rounded based on 7th placeholder Giese "-" Van Berkum to approve the Clerical Error correction on Parcel: 220210810, Original Value: \$187,250.00 and New Taxable Value: \$11,750.00, Clerical Error (77-128): There are 2 properties for this owner. The house was put on both properties. County Assessor fixed this after someone brought it to their attention, but the working file new value did not roll without the improvement on it. RCVUMC.

There was no mail, emergency business or public comment. Van Berkum moved to adjourn the meeting. Chair Love adjourned the October 14, 2024, Board of Equalization meeting at 2:49. p.m.

County Board of Equalization Scott Love, Chair

Cherie Conley, Secretary/County Clerk Publish in the Dakota County Star Thursday, October 24, 2024 - ZNEZ

Legal Notice

REVISED ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS City of South Sioux City South Sioux City, Nebraska Wastewater Treatment Facility Expansion Equipment Procurement – Biogas H2S Chemical Removal System

General Notice

City of South Sioux City (Owner) is requesting Bids for the construction of the following

Project: Wastewater Treatment Facility Expansion – Equipment Procurement Biogas H2S Chemical Removal System

Bids for the construction of the Project will be received at the South Sioux City Hall located at 1615 1st Avenue, South Sioux City, NE 68776, until Wednesday, October 30, 2024 at 2:00 PM local time. At that time the Bids received will be "publicly" opened and read.

The Project includes the following Work:

Equipment Procurement and special services for the Biogas H2S Chemical Removal System.

Bids are requested for the following Contract: Equipment Procurement – Biogas H2S Chemical Removal System Obtaining the Bidding Documents Information and Bidding Documents for the Project can be obtained at the following designated website:

https://www.questcdn.com/eBidDoc/Project # 9311666

Bidding Documents may be downloaded from the designated website. Prospective Bidders are urged to register with the designated website as a Bidding Documents holder, even if Bidding Documents are obtained from a third-party plan room or source other than the designated website in either electronic or paper format. The designated website will be updated periodically with Addenda, lists of registered Bidding Documents holders, reports on the Site, and other information relevant to submitting a Bid for the Project. All official notifications, Addenda, and other Bidding Documents will be offered only through the designated website.

Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for Bidding Documents, including Addenda, if any, obtained from sources other than the designated website.

The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is:

HDR 1916 S 67th Street, Omaha, NE 68106

Prospective Bidders may obtain or examine the Bidding Documents at the Issuing Office on Monday through Friday between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. local time, and may obtain copies of the Bidding Documents from the Issuing Office as described below. Partial sets of Bidding Documents will not be available from the Issuing Office. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for full or partial sets of Bidding Documents, including Addenda, if any, obtained from sources other than the Issuing Office.

Bidder is required to provide proof of a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and active registration on SAM.gov prior to award of contract. It is strongly suggested that Bidders provide Organization's UEI and proof of active registration, if available, at the time of Bid Opening to expedite verification. All entities who submit must not appear on the debarred list under www.sam.gov in order to be eligible and considered. Debarment automatically results in ineligibility to participate in the selection process

Pre-bid Conference

A pre-bid conference will not be held for the Project. All questions shall be directed to the Engineer in writing.

Engineer - Amit Shrivastava, Email: amit.shrivastava@hdrinc.com; Phone: 402-926-7122

Instructions to Bidders

For all further requirements regarding bid submittal, qualifications, procedures, and contract award, refer to the Instructions to Bidders that are included in the Bidding Documents.

This Advertisement is issued by: Owner: South Sioux City By: Nanci Walsh Title: City Clerk Date: October 1, 2024

Publish in the Dakota County Star Thursday, October 24, 2024 - ZNEZ



# CITY OF SOUTH SIOUX CITY

CITY OF SOUTH SIOUX CITY STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & EXPENDITURES OCTOBER 1, 2023- SEPTEMBER 30, 2024				
	BEGINNING BALANCE	RECEIPTS	EXPENDITURES	ENDING BALANCE
GENERAL FUND	6,203,156.78	13,427,702.56	12,745,518.43	6,885,340.91
COMBINE UTILITIES	14,413,681.98	48,227,276.96	42,970,920.16	19,670,038.78
LIBRARY FUND	475,292.36	786,527.15	706,234.03	555,585.48
FIRE DEPARTMENT	241,864.31	2,587,457.17	2,209,576.01	619,745.47
DEBT SERVICE FUND	276,279.05	572,768.79	299,711.34	549,336.50
CU PROJECT	1,006,562.69	138,874.95	7,500.00	1,137,937.64
ARPA	1,870,327.26	1,132,077.62	2,088,358.41	914,046.47
STREET PROJECTS	4,639,853.39	4,005,048.96	2,918,843.26	5,726,059.09
CITY SALES TAX	2,276,536.57	2,362,984.32	2,401,762.79	2,237,758.10
VICTIM ASSISTANCE FUN	(40,598.35)	78,141.04	134,859.15	-97,316.46
COMMUNITY DEVELOP AGE	1,199,934.41	1,619,853.80	2,023,775.70	796,012.51
CDBG FUND	300.00	198,931.76	192,070.89	7,160.87
PAYPAL FUND	314.77	0.00	0.00	314.77
USDA		58,600.00	58,600.00	
OPIOD SETTLEMENT FUND	12,750.26	12,624.85	0.00	25,375.11
POLICE FEDERAL FORFEITURE	59,348.85	900.00	23,215.00	37,033.85
POLICE PENSION FUND	261,119.89	209,113.65	208,892.98	261,340.56
DENTAL & VISION INSUR	71,601.06	57,674.99	54,406.90	74,869.15
HEALTH INSURANCE	999,200.97	1,902,900.64	1,636,385.80	1,265,715.81
911 FUND	15,608.19	54,555.06	57,230.03	12,933.22
COUNTY/LEC SALES TAX	458,692.89	36,475.38	81,766.30	413,401.97
CAPITAL PROJECTS	96,382.55	519,090.00	518,590.00	96,882.55
PARK PROJECTS	-	525,367.09	525,367.09	0.00
ECON DEV SALES TAX	345,940.66	225,365.28	550,000.00	21,305.94
PUBLIC SAFETY SALES TAX	60,897.77	339,860.90	310,000.00	90,758.67
ALL AMERICA CITY TIF	969,985.64	618,551.51	501,989.96	1,086,547.19
W 25th - W 39th TIF	940,969.26	235,257.71	7,500.00	1,168,726.97
REDEV AREA#2 (ROTH)	652,240.93	892,091.59	0.00	1,544,332.52
REDEV AREA#1 W29&HWY	-	544,081.47	561,832.15	-17,750.68
RIVERVIEW DR REDEVEL	81,022.14	138,099.89	204,497.63	14,624.40
NORTHEAST TIF-HOVEY	6,850.50	58,763.74	6,850.50	58,763.74
NORTHEAST TIF - ROY DON	133,166.62	262,790.66	272,312.01	123,645.27
TOTAL	37,729,283.40	81,829,809.49	74,278,566.52	45,280,526.37
		<i>Nanci Walsh</i>		

## CITY OF SOUTH SIOUX CITY COUNCIL MEETING OCTOBER 14, 2024

A meeting of the City Council of the City of South Sioux City, Nebraska, was held at the South Sioux City Council Chambers, 1615 1st Avenue in said City on the 14th day of October 2024, at 5 p.m.

Present: Mayor Rod Koch and Council Members Jasper Kriens, James Gunsolley, Dan Bousquet, Carol Schultdt, Rick Bousquet and Monty Peters.

Absent: Ben Schultz and Jason Bowman

Media in attendance: Dakota County Star. Notice of the proceeding was given in advance thereof by advertising in the Dakota County Star and Mundo Latino attached to these minutes. Notice of the proceedings was given to the Mayor and all members of the Council and a copy of their acknowledgement of receipt of notice and the agenda is attached to these minutes. Availability of the agenda was communicated in advance notice to the Media, Mayor and Council of this proceeding and was open to the attendance of the public.

Mayor Koch, stated that a current copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted on the north wall in the rear of the Council Chambers and is available for review by citizens in attendance. A sign-in sheet is available at the entrance to Council Chambers. We ask for your assistance by signing in as this is a Federal Grant requirement. It is strictly voluntary to complete the sign-in sheet.

Peters motioned to excuse Bowman and Schultz from the October 14th, 2024 meeting. Motion 2nd by D. Bousquet. Voting Yes: 6, No: 0

Kriens 1st, 2nd by Schultdt, to approve the following items on Consent Agenda:

MINUTES: Council – 09.23.2024, Public Works – 10.07.2024, Finance – 10.09.2024

PRESENTATION OF CLAIMS – 10.14.2024

Treasurer’s Report ending September 30th, 2024 – Unaudited.

Olsson as engineering services for replacement of Timberline Lift Station Replacement based on RFQ (Request for Qualifications)

Salvage Yard licenses.

HOA Solutions (Hydro Optimization and Automation Solutions) this will provide backups, license maintenance, and monitoring of our SCADA computers at the WWTP (Wastewater Treatment Plant). Annual cost of the program – \$18,861.75.

NetSys+ (Microsoft 365 Business Premium) – Paid monthly at \$3,800.00.

Agreement - Advanced Gaming Technologies and City of South Sioux City. Amendment No. 2

Jessica Sanders on the Library Board.

INVOICES:

—JEO,  
•\$952.00, Water Rate Study.  
•\$2,376.00, Well No. 10 Relining.  
•\$35,015.00, Foundry Road Improvements.

•\$18,300.00, Drainage. This is a TIF

—Interstates, Inc; \$3,925.00 – Wastewater EPM.

—Mark Albenesius, \$7,883.91 – Dakota Ave & Empirical Dr. Inter-

section Improvements. Certificate of Payment: 2.

—I and A Construction

•\$12,123.50 – 4” Sidewalk for Covington Park

•\$6,688.00 – 4” Sidewalk for Curry Park

•\$158,480.68 – 2024 Concrete Panel replacement project.

—HDR Engineering, \$41,651.88. WWTF Operations Advisory.

—HDR -\$256,669.13. WWTF Expansion.

—SIMPICO - \$1,404.00. Data Update: 2017 Comprehensive Plan

—Penro Construction-\$229,226.06. Payment # 2. (Hovey Phase III)

—Olsson

•\$22,900.00 - SSC Scenic Park NEMA Storm Safe Room

•\$3,297.01 - So Sioux City Lead Service Inventory Assistance

•\$1,392.50 - South Sioux City Empirical Traffic Study

Voting Yes: 6, No: 0

Engineers from JEO Consulting Group and Olsson were present to give updates and to answer any question on various projects in the city. No Action taken.

Bob Sheehan for the Sioux City, Iowa Warming Shelter gave information on what is happening while trying to keep the shelter open. Mr. Sheehan stated that the committee will be sending the City Council a proposal asking for funds to help with keeping the open.

Congratulations to the South Sioux City Library. 2025-2029 Accredited Public Library. Nebraska Library Commission.

Congratulations to Tami Husk for 20 years of service with the South Sioux City Library. Thanks for all you do for the Library and the City.

D. Bousquet motioned to approve JEO for engineering services for the 2024 Flood repair and mitigation strategies, based on recommendation on RFQ’s (request for qualifications) from Selection Committee. Motion 2nd by Gunsolley. Voting Yes: 6, No: 0

Kriens motioned to accept the quote and sign the agreement with Musco Sports Lighting, LLC for \$114,000.00 to retrofit 4-existing light structures at softball/baseball field #1. RFP Sourcewell. With Nebraska DEE to pay \$100,000. Motion 2nd by Gunsolley. Voting Yes: 6, No: 0

Kriens motioned to approve installation of ADA Parking signage/stall at Curry and Covington Park, supported by NE Games and Park, Land and Water Conservation Fund. Motion 2nd by Peters. Voting Yes: 6, No: 0

Peters motioned to approve I&A Construction, LLP to complete ADA sidewalk at Covington Park \$12,123.50, supported by NE Games and Park, Land and Water Conservation Fund. Motion 2nd by D. Bousquet. Voting Yes: 6, No: 0

Peters motioned approval to amend the Nebraska Affordable Housing Trust Fund Grant # 21TFHP35018 to extend the project from October 15, 2024 to November 30, 2024 due to delays in cabinets and construction. Motion 2nd by D. Bousquet. Voting Yes: 6, No: 0

R. Bousquet motioned to approve SSC BRIC agreement with JEO – provide design and construction engineering services (development of

FEMA BRIC Grant application and pending approval from FEMA complete the evaluation and feasibility review. Motion 2nd by Schultdt. Voting Yes: 6, No: 0

Peters 1st, 2nd by R. Bousquet, to approve the following Resolution:

**RESOLUTION 2024-31  
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING  
INSTALLATION OF A YIELD  
SIGNS LOCATED ON THE  
WEST AND EAST SIDES  
OF WEST 23RD STREET  
AND 3RD AVENUE**

Voting Yes: 6, No: 0

Kriens 1st, 2nd by Peters, to approve the following Resolution/Agreement: Hans Redevelopment Contract

**RESOLUTION 2024-32  
A RESOLUTION OF THE  
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY  
OF SOUTH SIOUX CITY, NE-  
BRASKA, APPROVING A  
REDEVELOPMENT  
CONTRACT FOR A  
REDEVELOPMENT  
PROJECT UNDERTAKEN BY  
CIDER MILL DEVELOPMENT,  
LLC, AS SET FORTH IN THE  
“REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR  
THE HANS RESIDENTIAL  
REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT.”**

Voting Yes: 6, No: 0

Gunsolley motioned for approval to go out for bids on the revised Foundry Road plans and specifications. Motion 2nd by R. Bousquet. Voting Yes: 6, No: 0

Peters motioned to approve an economic feasibility study for Inland Port Authority application. Motion 2nd by Kriens. Voting Yes: 6, No: 0

Schultdt motioned approval to accept and enter into lease agreement for truck. Department of Agricultural Forest Service via the University of Nebraska Inflation Reduction Act Urban & Community Forestry of \$145,000 to lease Dodge Ram Laramie or similar truck through 9/30/2027, annual insurance for three years, one-time purchase of 500-700 water tank and approximately 400+ trees. Motion 2nd by D. Bousquet. Voting Yes: 6, No: 0

The Library will be hosting Nancy Gillis giving a Brief History of Tribes of Nebraska on November 13, 2024 at 6 p.m.

Kriens 1st, 2nd by R. Bousquet, to approve Stephanie Ryan as a new Police Officer. Voting Yes: 6, No: 0

Peters motioned to approve amending contracts for the Fire and Police Department as discussed, subject to legal review, (information: for the rest of this fiscal year Police; seven percent (7%) raise for 2 1/2 years of service and more. Fire: five percent (5%) raise with a new category for Captains.) Motion 2nd by D. Bousquet. Voting Yes: 6, No: 0

AFSCME Contract – postponed meeting on it still.

Being no further business at 5:44 p.m., Gunsolley motioned to adjourn the meeting. Peters 2nd the motion. Voting Yes: 6, No: 0

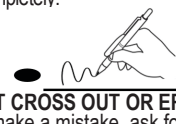
These minutes are subject to city council approval.

A copy of the minutes in their entirety is available at City Hall, 1615 1st Avenue., Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. and on the City’s website at [www.southsiouxcity.org](http://www.southsiouxcity.org)

**Nanci Walsh, CITY Clerk**  
Publish in the Dakota County Star  
Thursday, October 24, 2024 - ZNEZ

DISCLAIMER TO ALL VOTERS: Not all contests appear on all ballots.

DESCARGO DE RESPONSABILIDAD PARA TODOS LOS VOTANTES: No todos los concursos aparecen en todas las boletas.

Sample Ballot, General Election, November 5, 2024 <i>Boleta Muestra, Elección General, 5 de noviembre de 2024</i>		
Dakota County, Nebraska	State of Nebraska	November 5, 2024
<b>INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTER</b>  1. TO VOTE, YOU MUST DARKEN THE OVAL COMPLETELY (●). 2. Use a black ink pen to mark the ballot. 3. To vote for a WRITE-IN candidate, write in the name on the line provided AND darken the oval completely.    4. DO NOT CROSS OUT OR ERASE. If you make a mistake, ask for a new ballot.  -----	<b>UNITED STATES SENATORIAL TICKET</b> <b>PAPELETA SENATORIAL DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS</b>  <b>For United States Senator</b> <b>Two Year Term</b> <b>Para Senador de los Estados Unidos</b> <b>Mandato de Dos Años</b> <b>Vote for ONE / Votar por UNO</b>  <input type="radio"/> Pete Ricketts <i>Republican/Republicano</i> <input type="radio"/> Preston Love Jr. <i>Democratic/Democrático</i> <input type="radio"/> _____	<b>NONPARTISAN TICKET</b> <b>PAPELETA NO PARTIDISTA</b>  <b>Judge of the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court - Six Year Term</b> <b>Juez del Tribunal de Compensación para los Trabajadores de Nebraska Término de Seis Años</b>  Shall Judge Julie A. Martin be retained in office? ¿Deberá el Juez Julie A. Martin mantenerse en su cargo?  <input type="radio"/> Yes / Si <input type="radio"/> No / No
	<b>INSTRUCCIONES PARA EL VOTANTE</b>  1. PARA VOTAR, DEBE OSCURECER EL OVALO COMPLETAMENTE (●). 2. Utilice un bolígrafo de tinta negra para marcar la boleta. 3. Para votar por un candidato WRITE-IN, escriba el nombre en la línea proporcionada Y oscurecer el ovalada por completo. 4. NO TACHE NI BORRE Si te equivocas, pide una nueva boleta.	<b>CONGRESSIONAL TICKET</b> <b>PAPELETA DEL CONGRESO</b>  <b>For Representative in Congress</b> <b>District 3 - Two Year Term</b> <b>Para Representante en el Congreso</b> <b>Districto 3 - Mandato de Dos Años</b> <b>Vote for ONE / Votar por UNO</b>  <input type="radio"/> Adrian Smith <i>Republican/Republicano</i> <input type="radio"/> Daniel Ebers <i>Democratic/Democrático</i> <input type="radio"/> _____
<b>For President and Vice President of the United States</b> <b>Para Presidente y Vicepresidente de los Estados Unidos</b> <b>Vote for ONE / Votar por UNO</b>  <input type="radio"/> Donald J. Trump <i>President/Presidente</i> JD Vance <i>Vice President/Vice Presidente</i>  <input type="radio"/> Kamala D. Harris <i>President/Presidente</i> Tim Walz <i>Vice President/Vice Presidente</i>  <input type="radio"/> Chase Oliver <i>President/Presidente</i> Mike ter Maat <i>Vice President/Vice Presidente</i>  <input type="radio"/> Cornel West <i>President/Presidente</i> Melina Abdullah <i>Vice President/Vice Presidente</i>  <input type="radio"/> Jill Stein <i>President/Presidente</i> Samson Kpadenou <i>Vice President/Vice Presidente</i>  <input type="radio"/> _____  <i>President/Presidente</i>  <i>Vice President/Vice Presidente</i>	<b>COUNTY TICKET</b> <b>PAPELETA DEL CONDADO</b>  <b>For County Commissioner</b> <b>At Large</b> <b>Para Comisionado del Condado</b> <b>En General</b> <b>Vote for up to THREE / Máx. TRES Votos</b>  <input type="radio"/> Rick Bousquet <i>Republican/Republicano</i> <input type="radio"/> Walter A Beermann <i>Republican/Republicano</i> <input type="radio"/> Jeff Reed <i>Republican/Republicano</i> <input type="radio"/> Ron Hartnett <i>Democratic/Democrático</i> <input type="radio"/> Rogelio Rodriguez Villalobos <i>Democratic/Democrático</i> <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____	<b>Northeast Community College</b> <b>For Board of Governors - District 3</b> <b>Northeast Community College</b> <b>Para La Junta de Gobernadores - Distrito 3</b> <b>Vote for ONE / Votar por UNO</b>  <input type="radio"/> Pat Wojick <input type="radio"/> _____
<b>UNITED STATES SENATORIAL TICKET</b> <b>PAPELETA SENATORIAL DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS</b>  <b>For United States Senator</b> <b>Six Year Term</b> <b>Para Senador de los Estados Unidos</b> <b>Mandato de Seis Años</b> <b>Vote for ONE / Votar por UNO</b>  <input type="radio"/> Deb Fischer <i>Republican/Republicano</i> <input type="radio"/> Dan Osborn <i>By Petition/ Por Peticion</i> <input type="radio"/> _____	<b>For University of Nebraska</b> <b>Board of Regents</b> <b>District 3 - Six Year Term</b> <b>Para Miembro de la Junta Regentes de la</b> <b>Universidad de Nebraska</b> <b>Districto 3 - Mandato de Seis Años</b> <b>Vote for ONE / Votar por UNO</b>  <input type="radio"/> Jim Scheer <input type="radio"/> _____	<b>Northeast Community College</b> <b>For Board of Governors - At Large</b> <b>Northeast Community College</b> <b>Para la Junta de Gobernadores - En General</b> <b>Vote for ONE / Votar por UNO</b>  <input type="radio"/> Jeff Scherer <input type="radio"/> _____
	<input type="radio"/> Glen Meyer <input type="radio"/> Mike Albrecht <input type="radio"/> _____	<b>Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District</b> <b>For Board of Directors - Subdistrict 7</b> <b>Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District</b> <b>Para Junta de Directores - Subdistrito 7</b> <b>Vote for ONE / Votar por UNO</b>  <input type="radio"/> Gary Loftis <input type="radio"/> _____

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NONPARTISAN TICKET PAPELETA NO PARTIDISTA	SCHOOL TICKET PAPELETA ESCOLAR	CITY TICKET PAPELETA DE LA CIUDAD
<b>Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District</b> <b>For Board of Directors - Subdistrict 1</b> <b>Para Papio-Missouri River Distrito de Recursos Naturales</b> <b>Para Junta de Directores - Subdistrito 1</b> <b>Vote for ONE / Votar por UNO</b>  <input type="radio"/> Rodney Storm <input type="radio"/> Shawn Mohr Melotz <input type="radio"/> _____	<b>For Emerson-Hubbard School Board</b> <b>District 561</b> <b>Para Concejo Escolar de Emerson- Hubbard</b> <b>Districto 561</b> <b>Vote for up to THREE / Máx. TRES Votos</b>  <input type="radio"/> Dillion Martin <input type="radio"/> Ashley Fuchser <input type="radio"/> Joani Franzluebbers <input type="radio"/> Luke R. Morgan <input type="radio"/> Ryan P Beacom <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____	<b>For South Sioux City Council Member</b> <b>Para Miembro del Concejo Municipal de South Sioux City</b> <b>Vote for up to FOUR / Máx. CUATRO Votos</b>  <input type="radio"/> Ben Schultz <input type="radio"/> Jason V. Bowman <input type="radio"/> Mahamud Osman <input type="radio"/> Randy Meyer <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____
<b>Educational Service Unit No. 1</b> <b>District 02</b> <b>Para Servicio Educacional Unidad No. 1</b> <b>Districto 02</b> <b>Vote for ONE / Votar por UNO</b>  <input type="radio"/> Amy Brand <input type="radio"/> _____	<b>For Ponca School Board</b> <b>District 1</b> <b>Para Concejo Escolar de Ponca</b> <b>Districto 1</b> <b>Vote for up to THREE / Máx. TRES Votos</b>  <input type="radio"/> Philip Kramper <input type="radio"/> Wil Kastning <input type="radio"/> Julie A Schamp <input type="radio"/> Jerod Davis <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____	<b>VILLAGE TICKET</b> <b>PAPELETA DEL PUEBLO</b>  <b>For Emerson Village Board of Trustees</b> <b>Para Pueblo de Emerson Junta de Síndicos</b> <b>Vote for up to THREE / Máx. TRES Votos</b>  <input type="radio"/> Tarry L Daum <input type="radio"/> Ryan P Beacom <input type="radio"/> Mark Graf <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____
<b>Educational Service Unit No. 1</b> <b>District 04</b> <b>Para Servicio Educacional Unidad No. 1</b> <b>Districto 04</b> <b>Vote for ONE / Votar por UNO</b>  <input type="radio"/> _____	<b>For Allen Consolidated School Board</b> <b>District 70</b> <b>Para Allen Distrito Consolidado 70</b> <b>Miembro de la Junta Escolar</b> <b>Vote for up to THREE / Máx. TRES Votos</b>  <input type="radio"/> Gil Ridenour <input type="radio"/> Lane Anderson <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____	<b>For Homer Village Board of Trustees</b> <b>Para Pueblo de Homer Junta de Síndicos</b> <b>Vote for up to THREE / Máx. TRES Votos</b>  <input type="radio"/> Brandon Eriksen <input type="radio"/> Amber Barclay <input type="radio"/> Robert Utemark <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____
<b>SCHOOL TICKET</b> <b>PAPELETA ESCOLAR</b>  <b>For South Sioux City School Board</b> <b>District 11</b> <b>Para Concejo Escolar de la Ciudad de South Sioux- Distrito 11</b> <b>Vote for up to THREE / Máx. TRES Votos</b>  <input type="radio"/> Marla Grier <input type="radio"/> Matt Aitken <input type="radio"/> Christopher Krueger <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____	<b>CITY TICKET</b> <b>PAPELETA DE LA CIUDAD</b>  <b>For Mayor of Dakota City</b> <b>Para Alcalde de Dakota City</b> <b>Vote for ONE / Votar por UNO</b>  <input type="radio"/> Jerry Yacevich <input type="radio"/> _____	<b>For Hubbard Village Board of Trustees</b> <b>Para Pueblo de Hubbard Junta de Síndicos</b> <b>Vote for up to THREE / Máx. TRES Votos</b>  <input type="radio"/> Dale Gaither <input type="radio"/> Sean Harral <input type="radio"/> Alvin Satterwhite <input type="radio"/> Jason Martineck <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____
<b>For Homer School Board</b> <b>District 31R</b> <b>Para Concejo Escolar de Homer</b> <b>Districto 31R</b> <b>Vote for THREE / Máx. TRES Votos</b>  <input type="radio"/> Byron Hall <input type="radio"/> Tyler N. Kirkholm <input type="radio"/> Samantha Johnson <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____	<b>For Dakota City Council Member</b> <b>Para Miembro del Concejo Municipal de Dakota City</b> <b>Vote for TWO / Máx. DOS Votos</b>  <input type="radio"/> Clint Rasmussen <input type="radio"/> Randall Groetken <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____	



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VILLAGE TICKET PAPELETA DEL PUEBLO	REFERENDUM ORDERED BY PETITION OF THE PEOPLE REFERENDUM ORDENADO A PETICIÓN DEL PUEBLO	PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION PROPUESTA POR INICIATIVA DE PETICIÓN
<div>For Jackson Village Board of Trustees Para Pueblo de Jackson Junta de Síndicos Vote for up to THREE / Máx. TRES Votos</div> <div><div><div><div><div></div><div>Joseph Hayes</div></div><div><div><div></div><div>Stephanie Hirsch</div></div><div><div></div><div></div></div><div><div></div><div></div></div><div><div></div><div></div></div></div></div></div></div>	<div>Referendum Measure 435</div> <div>A vote to "RETAIN" will keep in effect Section 1 of Legislative Bill 1402 enacted in 2024 by the Nebraska Legislature. Section 1 of Legislative Bill 1402 provides for \$10 million annually to fund education scholarships to pay all or part of the cost to educate eligible students attending nongovernmental, privately operated elementary and secondary schools in Nebraska.</div> <div>A vote to "REPEAL" will eliminate the funding and scholarship provisions in Section 1 of Legislative Bill 1402.</div> <div>Section 1 of Legislative Bill 1402, enacted by the Nebraska Legislature in 2024, provides for \$10 million annually to fund education scholarships to pay all or part of the cost to educate eligible students attending nongovernmental, privately operated elementary and secondary schools in Nebraska.</div> <div>Shall Section 1 of Legislative Bill 1402 be repealed?</div> <div>Medida de Referéndum 435</div> <div>Un voto a favor de "RETENER" mantendrá en vigor la Sección 1 del Proyecto de Ley 1402 promulgado en 2024 por la Legislatura de Nebraska. La Sección 1 del Proyecto de Ley 1402 prevé 10 millones de dólares anuales para financiar becas educativas destinadas a pagar la totalidad o parte del costo de la educación de los estudiantes elegibles que asistan a escuelas primarias y secundarias no gubernamentales de gestión privada en Nebraska.</div> <div>Un voto a favor de "REVOCAR" eliminará las disposiciones de financiación y becas de la Sección 1 del Proyecto de Ley 1402.</div> <div>La Sección 1 del Proyecto de Ley 1402, promulgado por la Legislatura de Nebraska en 2024, prevé 10 millones de dólares anuales para financiar becas educativas destinadas a pagar la totalidad o parte del costo de la educación de los estudiantes elegibles que asistan a escuelas primarias y secundarias no gubernamentales de gestión privada en Nebraska.</div> <div>¿Debe revocarse la Sección 1 del Proyecto de Ley 1402?</div> <div><div><div><div></div><div>Retain / Retener</div></div><div><div></div><div>Repeal / Revocar</div></div></div></div>	<div>Initiative Measure 436</div> <div>A vote "FOR" will enact a statute which: (1) provides eligible employees the right to earn paid sick time for personal or family health needs; (2) entitles employees of employers with fewer than 20 employees to accrue and use up to 40 hours of such time annually and those employed by employers with 20 or more employees to accrue and use up to 56 hours of such time annually; (3) specifies conditions regarding paid sick time; (4) prohibits retaliation against employees for exercising such rights; (5) adopts documentation requirements; and (6) establishes enforcement powers and a civil cause of action for violations.</div> <div>A vote "AGAINST" means such a statute will not be enacted.</div> <div>Shall a statute be enacted which: (1) provides eligible employees the right to earn paid sick time for personal or family health needs; (2) entitles employees of employers with fewer than 20 employees to accrue and use up to 40 hours of such time annually and those employed by employers with 20 or more employees to accrue and use up to 56 hours of such time annually; (3) specifies conditions regarding paid sick time; (4) prohibits retaliation against employees for exercising such rights; (5) adopts documentation requirements; and (6) establishes enforcement powers and a civil cause of action for violations?</div> <div>Medida de Iniciativa 436</div> <div>Un voto "A FAVOR" promulgará un estatuto que: (1) proporciona a los empleados elegibles el derecho a ganar tiempo de enfermedad pagado por necesidades de salud personales o familiares; (2) da derecho a los empleados de empleadores con menos de 20 empleados a acumular y utilizar hasta 40 horas de dicho tiempo anualmente y a los empleados de empleadores con 20 o más empleados a acumular y utilizar hasta 56 horas de dicho tiempo anualmente; (3) especifica las condiciones relativas al tiempo de enfermedad pagado; (4) prohíbe las represalias contra los empleados por ejercer tales derechos; (5) adopta requisitos de documentación; y (6) establece poderes de ejecución y una causa de acción civil por violaciones.</div> <div>Un voto "EN CONTRA" significa que dicho estatuto no se promulgará.</div> <div>¿Debe promulgarse un estatuto que: (1) proporcione a los empleados que reúnan los requisitos el derecho a ganar tiempo por enfermedad remunerado para necesidades de salud personales o familiares; (2) dé derecho a los empleados de empresas con menos de 20 empleados a acumular y utilizar hasta 40 horas de dicho tiempo al año y a los empleados de empresas con 20 o más empleados a acumular y utilizar hasta 56 horas de dicho tiempo al año; (3) especifique las condiciones relativas al tiempo por enfermedad remunerado; (4) prohíba las represalias contra los empleados por ejercer tales derechos; (5) adopte requisitos de documentación; y (6) establezca poderes de ejecución y una causa de acción civil por violaciones?</div> <div><div><div><div></div><div>For / A Favor</div></div><div><div></div><div>Against / En Contra</div></div></div></div>


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PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION PROPUESTA POR INICIATIVA DE PETICIÓN	PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION PROPUESTA POR INICIATIVA DE PETICIÓN	PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION PROPUESTA POR INICIATIVA DE PETICIÓN
<div>Initiative Measure 437</div> <div>A vote "FOR" will enact a statute that makes penalties inapplicable under state and local law for the use, possession, and acquisition of an allowable amount (up to five ounces) of cannabis for medical purposes by a qualified patient with a written recommendation from a health care practitioner, and for a caregiver to assist a qualified patient with these activities.</div> <div>A vote "AGAINST" means such a statute will not be enacted.</div> <div>Shall a statute be enacted that makes penalties inapplicable under state and local law for the use, possession, and acquisition of an allowable amount (up to five ounces) of cannabis for medical purposes by a qualified patient with a written recommendation from a health care practitioner, and for a caregiver to assist a qualified patient with these activities?</div> <div>Medida de Iniciativa 437</div> <div>Un voto "A FAVOR" promulgará un estatuto que hace inaplicables las sanciones bajo la ley estatal y local para el uso, posesión y adquisición de una cantidad permitida (hasta cinco onzas) de cannabis con fines médicos para un paciente calificado con una recomendación escrita de un profesional de la salud, y para un cuidador para ayudar a un paciente calificado con estas actividades.</div> <div>Un voto "EN CONTRA" significa que dicho estatuto no se promulgará.</div> <div>¿Debe promulgarse un estatuto que haga inaplicables las sanciones previstas en la legislación estatal y local por el uso, posesión y adquisición de una cantidad permitida (hasta cinco onzas) de cannabis con fines médicos para un paciente calificado con una recomendación escrita de un profesional de la salud, y para un cuidador para ayudar a un paciente calificado con estas actividades?</div> <div><div><div><div></div><div>For / A Favor</div></div><div><div></div><div>Against / En Contra</div></div></div></div>	<div>Initiative Measure 438</div> <div>A vote "FOR" will enact a statute that makes penalties inapplicable under state law for the possession, manufacture, distribution, delivery, and dispensing of cannabis for medical purposes by registered private entities, and that establishes a Nebraska Medical Cannabis Commission to regulate such activities.</div> <div>A vote "AGAINST" means such a statute will not be enacted.</div> <div>Shall a statute be enacted that makes penalties inapplicable under state law for the possession, manufacture, distribution, delivery, and dispensing of cannabis for medical purposes by registered private entities, and that establishes a Nebraska Medical Cannabis Commission to regulate such activities?</div> <div>Medida de Iniciativa 438</div> <div>Un voto "A FAVOR" promulgará un estatuto que hace que las sanciones no sean aplicables en virtud de la ley estatal para la posesión, fabricación, distribución, entrega y dispensación de cannabis con fines médicos por entidades privadas registradas, y que establece una Comisión de Cannabis Medicinal de Nebraska para regular dichas actividades.</div> <div>Un voto "EN CONTRA" significa que dicho estatuto no se promulgará.</div> <div>¿Debe promulgarse un estatuto que haga inaplicables las sanciones en virtud de la legislación estatal para la posesión, fabricación, distribución, entrega y dispensación de cannabis con fines médicos por entidades privadas registradas, y que establezca una Comisión de Cannabis Medicinal de Nebraska para regular dichas actividades?</div> <div><div><div><div></div><div>For / A Favor</div></div><div><div></div><div>Against / En Contra</div></div></div></div>	<div>Initiative Measure 439</div> <div>A vote "FOR" will amend the Nebraska Constitution to provide that 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 is defined as 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.</div> <div>A vote "AGAINST" will not amend the Nebraska Constitution in such manner.</div> <div>Shall the Nebraska Constitution be amended to include a new section which provides: "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."</div> <div>Medida de Iniciativa 439</div> <div>Un voto "A FAVOR" enmendará la Constitución de Nebraska para establecer que todas las personas tendrán el derecho fundamental al aborto hasta la viabilidad fetal, o cuando sea necesario para proteger la vida o la salud de la paciente embarazada, sin interferencia del estado o sus subdivisiones políticas. La viabilidad fetal se define como el momento del embarazo en el que, según el criterio profesional del médico que trata a la paciente, existe una probabilidad significativa de que el feto sobreviviera fuera del útero sin la aplicación de medidas médicas extraordinarias.</div> <div>Un voto "EN CONTRA" no modificará la Constitución de Nebraska en ese sentido.</div> <div>Debe enmendarse la Constitución de Nebraska para incluir una nueva sección que establezca: "Todas las personas tendrán el derecho fundamental al aborto hasta la viabilidad fetal, o cuando sea necesario para proteger la vida o la salud de la paciente embarazada, sin interferencia del Estado o de sus subdivisiones políticas. Por viabilidad fetal se define como el momento del embarazo en el que, según el criterio profesional del médico que trata a la paciente, existe una probabilidad significativa de que el feto sobreviviera fuera del útero sin la aplicación de medidas médicas extraordinarias."</div> <div><div><div><div></div><div>For / A Favor</div></div><div><div></div><div>Against / En Contra</div></div></div></div>

DISCLAIMER TO ALL VOTERS: Not all contests appear on all ballots.

DESCARGO DE RESPONSABILIDAD PARA TODOS LOS VOTANTES: No todos los concursos aparecen en todas las boletas.

New or Former Resident, Sample Ballot, General Election, November 5, 2024 New of Former Resident Boleta Muestra, Elección General, 5 de noviembre de 2024		
Dakota County, Nebraska	State of Nebraska	November 5, 2024
INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTER		
<div>1. TO VOTE, YOU MUST DARKEN THE OVAL COMPLETELY (●).</div> <div>2. Use a black ink pen to mark the ballot.</div> <div>3. To vote for a WRITE-IN candidate, write in the name on the line provided AND darken the oval completely.</div> <div></div> <div>4. DO NOT CROSS OUT OR ERASE.</div> <div>If you make a mistake, ask for a new ballot.</div> <div>-----</div>		
INSTRUCCIONES PARA EL VOTANTE		
<div>1. PARA VOTAR, DEBE OSCURECER EL OVALO COMPLETAMENTE (●).</div> <div>2. Utilice un bolígrafo de tinta negra para marcar la boleta.</div> <div>3. Para votar por un candidato WRITE-IN, escriba el nombre en la línea proporcionada Y oscurecer el ovalada por completo.</div> <div>4. NO TACHE NI BORRE</div> <div>Si te equivocas, pide una nueva boleta.</div>		
PRESIDENTIAL TICKET PAPELETA PRESIDENCIAL		
<div>For President and Vice President of the United States</div> <div>Para Presidente y Vicepresidente de los Estados Unidos</div> <div>Vote for ONE / Votar por UNO</div> <div><div><div><div><div></div><div>Donald J. Trump</div></div><div><div>President/Presidente</div><div>JD Vance</div></div></div><div><div></div><div>Vice President/Vice Presidente</div></div></div><div>}</div><div>Republican/ Republicano</div></div> <div><div><div><div><div></div><div>Kamala D. Harris</div></div><div><div>President/Presidente</div><div>Tim Walz</div></div></div><div><div></div><div>Vice President/Vice Presidente</div></div></div><div>}</div><div>Democratic/ Democrático</div></div> <div><div><div><div><div></div><div>Chase Oliver</div></div><div><div>President/Presidente</div><div>Mike ter Maat</div></div></div><div><div></div><div>Vice President/Vice Presidente</div></div></div><div>}</div><div>Libertarian/ Libertario</div></div> <div><div><div><div><div></div><div>Cornel West</div></div><div><div>President/Presidente</div><div>Melina Abdullah</div></div></div><div><div></div><div>Vice President/Vice Presidente</div></div></div><div>}</div><div>Legal Marijuana NOW/ Marihuana Legal AHORA</div></div> <div><div><div><div><div></div><div>Jill Stein</div></div><div><div>President/Presidente</div><div>Samson Kpadenou</div></div></div><div><div></div><div>Vice President/Vice Presidente</div></div></div><div>}</div><div>By Petition/ Por Peticion</div></div> <div><div></div><div></div></div> <div>President/Presidente</div> <div>Vice President/Vice Presidente</div>		

## Jackson News

By Laura Sullivan

### St. Patrick’s homestyle breakfast

St. Patrick’s annual homestyle breakfast is Sunday, Oct. 27 from 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Breakfast will include eggs, hashbrowns, sausages and homemade treats. There will be a raffle and craft table. Come for good food and fellowship.

### Jackson trick-or-treating

Watch for the little trick or treaters going house to house on Thursday, Oct. 31 from 6-8 p.m. Also, Jackson Fire Department will have hot dogs and hot chocolate behind St. Patrick’s Church.

### Indoor pickleball is back

Pickleball is back in Jackson Elementary School starting on Monday, Oct. 28 from 6-8 p.m. Pickleball is open to the public. Beginners, experts and everyone in between are welcome to come play. Games are all pick-up. Extra equipment is available. Pickleball will run every Monday until further notice.

### O’Connor House Christmas tours coming soon

The O’Connor House Christmas tours are Nov. 2-3, and Nov. 9-10. The Dakota County Historical Society is still looking for volunteers. Sign up to volunteer via their Facebook page or call (402) 698-2288.

### St. Patrick’s CCD

Every Wednesday from 7-8 p.m. at Providence Hall in Jackson. Oct. 25 is parish job fair for students 7-12 on how they can volunteer in their parish.

### Book Club

The group met and discussed: “The Current” by Tim Johnston was a good mystery but the ending was a little forced and “The Sentence” by Louise Erdrich a mess of a book. The November meeting is Nov. 19 at Janet Gill’s. 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.

### Jackson Elementary School

Mondays – 1 hour late start  
October 24 – Early dismissal, Jackson 1:10 p.m.  
October 24 – Parent/teacher conferences in Ponca  
October 25 – No School – Fall Break  
Lunch Menu Oct. 28-31:  
Monday – Corn dog, carrots and ranch dip, pickle, fruit  
Tuesday – Eggs and ham, hash-brown, muffins, fruit  
Wednesday – Chili, cinnamon roll, cheese stick, fruit  
Thursday – Pizza, corn, lettuce, cookie, fruit  
Friday – 1:15 – Trunk or treat, Grandparents day and book fair

### 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.

## Hubbard News

By Lori Overfelt



(PHOTO BY LORI OVERFELT)  
**Taste the Goodness** has been well represented at all of the Hubbard farmer's market. Their quality and variety has been impressive, and their packaging is beautiful as well for gifting!

### Big event upcoming

The Hoot N Hallerween weekend is upon us. This Saturday, Oct. 26 will be the third annual event held at the Kramper Lake, starting at 3 p.m. I believe we have a good weather forecast. Do not forget about the Nebraska State park pass needed for entry into the event.

Saturday morning, Emerson will be hosting a freewill donation breakfast fundraiser at the fire hall. You might want to take advantage of before the afternoon events.

Please continue to be respectful and patient with the fall harvest coming in. We are grateful for the bountiful, harvest and want to keep everyone safe.



STATEWIDE BALLOT MEASURES FOR GENERAL ELECTION, NOVEMBER 5, 2024 - PAGE 1

INITIATIVE MEASURE 434

Ballot Title and Text for Initiative Measure 434

Proposed by Initiative Petition

*A vote “EOR” will amend the Nebraska Constitution to provide that, 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.*

*A vote “AGAINST” will not amend the Nebraska Constitution in such manner.*

Shall the Nebraska Constitution be amended to include a new section which provides: “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.”

☐ For

☐ Against

Full Text of Proposed Measure 434

**OBJECT STATEMENT:** The object of this petition is to amend the Nebraska Constitution to provide that 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.

Proposed Constitutional Amendment Language

(underscored language indicates added language, strike-through indicates language being removed)

**TEXT:** Article I of the Nebraska Constitution shall be amended by adding a new section 31 that states as follows:

I-31 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.

REFERENDUM MEASURE 435

Ballot Title and Text for Referendum Measure 435

Referendum Ordered by Petition of the People

*A vote to “RETAIN” will keep in effect Section 1 of Legislative Bill 1402 enacted in 2024 by the Nebraska Legislature. Section 1 of Legislative Bill 1402 provides for \$10 million annually to fund education scholarships to pay all or part of the cost to educate eligible students attending nongovernmental, privately operated elementary and secondary schools in Nebraska.*

*A vote to “REPEAL” will eliminate the funding and scholarship provisions in Section 1 of Legislative Bill 1402.*

Section 1 of Legislative Bill 1402, enacted by the Nebraska Legislature in 2024, provides for \$10 million annually to fund education scholarships to pay all or part of the cost to educate eligible students attending nongovernmental, privately operated elementary and secondary schools in Nebraska.

Shall Section 1 of Legislative Bill 1402 be repealed?

☐ Retain

☐ Repeal

Full Text of Proposed Measure 435

**OBJECT STATEMENT:** The object of this petition is to repeal Section 1 of LB 1402, passed by the 108th Nebraska Legislature in 2024, which directs \$10 million dollars annually for financial grants-in-aid for eligible students to attend a qualifying privately operated elementary or secondary school in Nebraska.

Proposed Referendum to Repeal LB 1402 Section 1 (2024)

(underscored language indicates language added by LB 1402, strike-through indicates language being removed by LB 1402)

**TEXT:** A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to education scholarships; to amend sections 77-2715.07, 77-2717, and 77-2734.03, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023; to provide for education scholarships; to repeal the Opportunity Scholarships Act; to harmonize provisions; to provide operative dates; to repeal the original sections; and to outright repeal sections 77-7101, 77-7102, 77-7103, 77-7104, 77-7105, 77-7106, 77-7107, 77-7108, 77-7109, 77-7110, 77-7111, 77-7112, and 77-7113, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2023.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

**Section 1.** (1) The Legislature finds that: (a) Funds appropriated for the education of students in kindergarten through twelfth grade are for a

fundamental public purpose of state government and constitute an ordinary expense of state government; (b) Enabling the greatest number of parents and legal guardians to choose among quality educational opportunities for children will improve the quality of education available to all children; (c) Privately operated elementary and secondary schools in Nebraska satisfy the state's requirements for legal operation and provide quality educational opportunities for children; (d) Parents and legal guardians of limited means are less able to choose among quality educational opportunities for their children; and (e) Making it possible for more parents and legal guardians to be able to choose privately operated schools benefits Nebraska parents and taxpayers. (2) For purposes of this section: (a) Education scholarship means a financial grant-in-aid to be used to pay all or part of the cost to educate an eligible student attending a qualified school; (b) Eligible student means a resident of Nebraska who: (i) Is receiving an education scholarship for the first time and is (A) entering kindergarten or ninth grade in a qualified school or the first grade level offered by the qualified school, (B) transferring from a public school at which the student was enrolled for at least one semester immediately preceding the first semester for which the student receives an education scholarship to a qualified school and is entering any of grades kindergarten through twelve, or (C) a member of an active duty or reserve military family transferring into Nebraska from another state or another country and is entering any of grades kindergarten through twelve in a qualified school; (ii) Has previously received an education scholarship under this section and is continuing education at a qualified school until such student graduates from high school or reaches twenty-one years of age, whichever comes first; (iii) Has previously received an education scholarship under the Opportunity Scholarships Act, as such act existed prior to its repeal by this legislative bill, and is continuing education at a qualified school until such student graduates from high school or reaches twenty-one years of age, whichever comes first; (iv) Is the sibling of a student who is receiving an education scholarship and resides in the same household as such student; or (v) Is currently enrolled in a qualified school and is a member of a family whose household income is no more than two hundred thirteen percent of the federal poverty level; and (c) Qualified school means any nongovernmental, privately operated elementary or secondary school located in this state that (i) is operated not for profit, (ii) complies with the antidiscrimination provisions of 42 U.S.C. 1981, as such section existed on January 1, 2024, (iii) complies with all health and life safety laws or codes that apply to privately operated schools, and (iv) fulfills the applicable accreditation or approval requirements established by the State Board of Education pursuant to section 79-318. (3) The State Treasurer shall establish a program to provide education scholarships to eligible students to pay the costs associated with attending a qualified school. Under such program, the State Treasurer shall: (a) Establish a priority system for awarding education scholarships under the program. Such priority system shall: (i) Give first priority to: (A) Eligible students who received an education scholarship under this section or under the Opportunity Scholarships Act, as such act existed prior to its repeal by this legislative bill, during the previous school year; and (B) The sibling of a student who is receiving an education scholarship, so long as the sibling resides in the same household as such student; (ii) Give second priority to: (A) Eligible students whose household income levels do not exceed one hundred eighty-five percent of the federal poverty level; (B) Eligible students whose application for the enrollment option program established in section 79-234 has been denied; (C) Eligible students who have an individualized education program; (D) Eligible students who are experiencing bullying, harassment, hazing, assault, battery, kidnapping, robbery, sexual offenses, threat or intimidation, or fighting at school; (E) Eligible students who are in foster care; and (F) Eligible students who are in a family with a parent or guardian in an active duty role in a branch of the armed forces of the United States or in the National Guard, or whose parent or guardian was killed serving in the line of duty; (iii) Give third priority to eligible students whose household income levels exceed one hundred eighty-five percent of the federal poverty level but do not exceed two hundred thirteen percent of the federal poverty level; and (iv) Give fourth priority to eligible students whose household income levels exceed two hundred thirteen percent of the federal poverty level but do not exceed three hundred percent of the income indicated in the income eligibility guidelines for reduced price meals under the National School Lunch Program in 7 C.F.R. part 210; (b) Limit the maximum scholarship amount awarded to any eligible student to the cost necessary to educate the eligible student at the qualified school such student attends; and (c) Limit scholarship amounts awarded to eligible students in a manner that assures that the average of the scholarship amounts awarded per student does not exceed seventy-five percent of the statewide average general fund operating expenditures per formula student for the most recently available complete data year as such terms are defined in section 79-1003. (4) The annual limit on the total amount of education scholarships awarded under this section for fiscal year 2024-25 and each fiscal year thereafter shall

be ten million dollars. (5) On or before December 1, 2025, and on or before December 1 of each year thereafter, the State Treasurer shall electronically submit a report to the Governor and the Legislature that includes the following: (a) A summary description of the State Treasurer's policies and procedures for awarding education scholarships; (b) The number of eligible students receiving education scholarships in the most recent fiscal year; (c) The total amount of education scholarships awarded in the most recent fiscal year; (d) The number of eligible students currently wait-listed or denied from receiving an education scholarship and the reason for the wait-listing or denial; and (e) The demographic information of eligible students receiving education scholarships, including, but not limited to: (i) Income level; (ii) Grade level; and (iii) Geographic location. (6) The State Treasurer may enter into contracts with up to three program managers for the purposes of carrying out the education scholarship program described in this section. (7) It is the intent of the Legislature to appropriate ten million dollars from the General Fund for fiscal year 2024-25 and each fiscal year thereafter to the State Treasurer for the purpose of providing education scholarships as provided in this section. (8) Up to seven and one-half percent of the funds appropriated for purposes of this section may be used by the State Treasurer, or by the program managers with which the State Treasurer contracts, for administrative expenses. (9) This section shall not be construed as granting any expanded or additional authority to the State of Nebraska to control or influence the governance or policies of any qualified school due to the fact that the qualified school admits and enrolls students who receive education scholarships or as requiring any such qualified school to admit or, once admitted, to continue the enrollment of any student receiving an education scholarship.

INITIATIVE MEASURE 436

Ballot Title and Text for Initiative Measure 436

Proposed by Initiative Petition

*A vote “EOR” will enact a statute which: (1) provides eligible employees the right to earn paid sick time for personal or family health needs; (2) entitles employees of employers with fewer than 20 employees to accrue and use up to 40 hours of such time annually and those employed by employers with 20 or more employees to accrue and use up to 56 hours of such time annually; (3) specifies conditions regarding paid sick time; (4) prohibits retaliation against employees for exercising such rights; (5) adopts documentation requirements; and (6) establishes enforcement powers and a civil cause of action for violations.*

*A vote “AGAINST” means such a statute will not be enacted.*

**Shall a statute be enacted which: (1) provides eligible employees the right to earn paid sick time for personal or family health needs; (2) entitles employees of employers with fewer than 20 employees to accrue and use up to 40 hours of such time annually and those employed by employers with 20 or more employees to accrue and use up to 56 hours of such time annually; (3) specifies conditions regarding paid sick time; (4) prohibits retaliation against employees for exercising such rights; (5) adopts documentation requirements; and (6) establishes enforcement powers and a civil cause of action for violations?**

☐ For

☐ Against

Full Text of Proposed Measure 436

**OBJECT STATEMENT:** The object of this petition is enact a statute to provide eligible employees the right to earn paid sick time for personal or family health needs, to entitle those employed by employers with fewer than 20 employees to accrue and use up to 40 hours of earned paid sick time per year, to entitle those employed by employers with 20 or more employees to accrue and use up to 56 hours of earned paid sick time per year, to specify conditions for accruing and using earned paid sick time, to prohibit retaliation against an employee for exercising rights granted under the statute, to adopt certain notice and documentation requirements, and to establish enforcement powers and a civil cause of action for violations of the statute.

Proposed Statutory Language

(underscored language indicates added language, strike-through indicates language being removed)

**TEXT:** FOR AN ACT relating to employment; to adopt the Nebraska Healthy Families and Workplaces Act; and to provide severability.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska:

**Section 1. Act, how cited; declaration of purpose.** (1) Sections 1 to 11 of this act shall be known and may be cited as the Nebraska Healthy Families and Workplaces Act. (2) The purpose of the act is to provide eligible employees in Nebraska the right to earn paid sick time for personal or family health needs and provide certain provisions naturally and necessarily related to that purpose.

**Sec. 2. Terms, defined.** For purposes of the Nebraska Healthy Families and Workplaces Act: (1) Department means the Department of Labor; (2) Employ means to permit to work; (3)(a) Employee means any individual employed by an employer, but does not include an individual who works in Nebraska for fewer than eighty hours in a calendar year. (b) Employee does not include an “employee” as defined by 45 U.S.C. 351(d) who is subject to the federal Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act, 45 U.S.C. 351 et seq.; (4)(a) Employer means any individual, partnership, limited liability company, association, corporation, business trust, legal representative, or organized group of persons who employs one or more employees. (b) Employer does not include the United States or the State of Nebraska or its agencies, departments, or political subdivisions; (5) Family member means: (a) Any of the following, regardless of age: A biological, adopted, or foster child, a stepchild, a legal ward, or a child to whom the employee stands in loco parentis; (b) A biological, foster, step, or adoptive parent or a legal guardian of an employee or an employee's spouse; (c) A person who stood in loco parentis to the employee or the employee's spouse when the employee or employee's spouse was a minor child; (d) A person to whom the employee is legally married under the laws of any state; (e) A grandparent, grandchild, or sibling, whether of a biological, foster, adoptive, or step relationship, of the employee or the employee's spouse; or (f) Any other individual related by blood to the employee or whose close association with the employee is the equivalent of a family relationship; (6) Health care professional means any person licensed under any federal or state law to provide medical or emergency services; (7) Paid sick time means time that is compensated at the same hourly rate and with the same benefits, including health care benefits, as the employee typically earns during hours worked and that is provided by an employer to an employee for the purposes described in section 4 of this act, and in no case shall the amount of this hourly rate be less than that provided under section 48-1203; (8) Public health emergency means a declaration or proclamation related to a public health threat, risk, disaster, or emergency that is made or issued by a federal, state, or local official with the authority to make or issue such a declaration or proclamation; (9) Retaliatory personnel action means a denial of any right guaranteed under the Nebraska Healthy Families and Workplaces Act and any threat, discharge, suspension, demotion, reduction of hours or pay, or other adverse action against an employee for exercising or attempting to exercise any right guaranteed in the Nebraska Healthy Families and Workplaces Act; (10)(a) Small business means an employer with fewer than twenty employees during a given week, including full-time, part-time, or temporary employees. (b) Small business does not include an employer that maintained twenty or more employees on its payroll in each of twenty or more calendar weeks in the current or preceding calendar year; and (11) Year means a regular and consecutive twelve-month period as determined by the employer.

**Sec. 3. Accrual and carryover of paid sick time; paid sick time following transfer or return after separation from employment.** (1) All employees shall accrue a minimum of one hour of paid sick time for every thirty hours worked. Unless the employer selects a higher limit, this section does not entitle an employee to earn or use more than: (a) Forty hours of paid sick time in a year for an employee of a small business; or (b) Fifty-six hours of paid sick time in a year for an employee of an employer that is not a small business. (2) Employees who are exempt from overtime requirements under 29 U.S.C. 213(a)(1) of the federal Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. 201 et seq., shall be assumed to work forty hours in each workweek for purposes of paid sick time accrual unless their typical workweek is less than forty hours, in which case paid sick time accrues based upon that typical workweek. (3) Paid sick time as provided in this section shall begin to accrue at the commencement of employment or October 1, 2025, whichever is later. An employee shall be entitled to use paid sick time as it is accrued. An employer may provide all paid sick time that an employee is expected to accrue in a year at the beginning of the year. (4) Accrued paid sick time shall be carried over to the following year. A small business is not required to permit an employee to use more than forty hours of paid sick time per year, and other employers are not required to permit an employee to use more than fifty-six hours of paid sick time per year. Alternatively, in lieu of carryover of unused paid sick time provided pursuant to this section from one year to the next, an employer may pay an employee for unused paid sick time provided pursuant to this section at the end of a year and provide the employee with an amount of paid sick time that meets or exceeds the requirements of subsections (1) and (3) of this section that is available for the employee's immediate use at the beginning of the subsequent year. (5) Any employer with a paid leave policy, such as a paid time off policy, who makes available an amount of paid leave sufficient to meet the requirements of the Nebraska Healthy Families and Workplaces Act that may be used for the same purposes and under the same conditions as paid sick time under the act is not required to provide additional paid sick time under the act. (6) At its discretion, an employer may loan paid sick time to an employee in

advance of accrual by such employee. (7) If an employee is transferred to a separate division, entity, or location, but remains employed by the same employer, the employee is entitled to all paid sick time accrued at the prior division, entity, or location and is entitled to use all paid sick time as provided in the Nebraska Healthy Families and Workplaces Act. When there is a separation from employment and the employee is rehired within twelve months of separation by the same employer, previously accrued paid sick time that had not been used shall be reinstated. The employee shall be entitled to use accrued paid sick time and accrue additional paid sick time at the recommencement of employment.

**Sec. 4. Use of paid sick time; employee notice and documentation; multiemployer paid sick time fund, plan, or program.** (1) Paid sick time shall be provided to an employee by an employer for: (a) An employee's mental or physical illness, injury, or health condition; an employee's need for medical diagnosis, care, or treatment of a mental or physical illness, injury, or health condition; or an employee's need for preventive medical care; (b) Care of a family member with a mental or physical illness, injury, or health condition; care of a family member who needs medical diagnosis, care, or treatment of a mental or physical illness, injury, or health condition; care of a family member who needs preventive medical care; or in the case of a child, to attend a meeting necessitated by the child's mental or physical illness, injury, or health condition, at a school or place where the child is receiving care; or (c) Closure of the employee's place of business by order of a public official due to a public health emergency; an employee's need to care for a child whose school or place of care has been closed by order of a public official due to a public health emergency; or an employee's need to self-isolate or care for the employee or a family member when it has been determined by the health authorities having jurisdiction or by a health care professional that the employee's or family member's presence in the community may jeopardize the health of others because of exposure to a communicable disease, whether or not the employee or family member has actually contracted the communicable disease. (2) Paid sick time under this section shall be provided upon the oral request of an employee. When possible, the request shall include the expected duration of the absence. (3) An employer that requires notice of the need to use paid sick time in accordance with this section shall provide a written policy that contains reasonable procedures for employees to provide notice. An employer that has not provided to the employee a copy of such written policy shall not deny paid sick time to the employee based on noncompliance with such a policy. (4) An employer shall not require, as a condition of an employee's taking paid sick time under this section, that the employee search for or find a replacement worker to cover the hours during which the employee is using paid sick time. (5) Paid sick time under this section may be used in the smaller of hourly increments or the smallest increment that the employer's payroll system uses to account for absences or use of other time. (6) For use of paid sick time for more than three consecutive work days, an employer may require reasonable documentation that the paid sick time has been used for a purpose covered by subsection (1) of this section. Reasonable documentation shall include (a) documentation signed by a health care professional indicating that paid sick time is or was necessary or (b) if the employee or a family member did not receive services from a health care professional, or if documentation cannot be obtained from a health care professional in reasonable time or without added expense, a written statement from the employee indicating that the employee is taking or took paid sick time for a qualifying purpose covered by subsection (1) of this section. (7) An employer signatory to a multiemployer collective-bargaining agreement may fulfill its obligations under the Nebraska Healthy Families and Workplaces Act by making contributions to a multiemployer paid sick time fund, plan, or program based on the hours each employee accrues pursuant to the act while working under the multiemployer collective-bargaining agreement, if the fund, plan, or program enables employees to collect paid sick time from the fund, plan, or program based on hours they have worked under the multiemployer collective-bargaining agreement and for the purposes specified under the act. Employees who work under a multiemployer collective-bargaining agreement into which their employers make contributions as provided in this subsection may collect from the paid sick time fund, plan, or program based on hours they have worked under the multiemployer collective-bargaining agreement and for the purposes specified under the act.

**Sec. 5. Exercise of rights protected; retaliatory personnel action prohibited.** (1) It shall be unlawful for an employer or any other person to interfere with, restrain, or deny the exercise of, or the attempt to exercise, any right protected under the Nebraska Healthy Families and Workplaces Act. (2) An employer shall not take retaliatory personnel action against an employee or former employee because the person has exercised or attempted to exercise rights protected under the act. Such rights include, but are not limited to, the right to request or use paid sick time pursuant to the act, the right to file a suit or complaint or inform any person about any employer's alleged

violation of the act; the right to participate in an investigation, hearing, or proceeding or cooperate with or assist the department in its investigations of alleged violations of the act; and the right to inform any person of the person's potential rights under the act. (3) It shall be unlawful for an employer's absence control policy to count paid sick time taken under the act as an absence that may lead to or result in a retaliatory personnel action or any other adverse action.

**Sec. 6. Notice and posting.** (1) Employers shall give employees written notice of the following at the commencement of employment or by September 15, 2025, whichever is later: That beginning October 1, 2025, employees are entitled to paid sick time; the amount of paid sick time; the terms of its use guaranteed under the Nebraska Healthy Families and Workplaces Act; that retaliatory personnel action against employees who request or use paid sick time is prohibited; that each employee has the right to file a suit or complaint if paid sick time as required by the act is denied by the employer or the employee is subjected to retaliatory personnel action for requesting or taking paid sick time; and the contact information for the department where questions about rights and responsibilities under the act can be answered. (2) The notices required in subsection (1) of this section shall be provided in: (a) English; and (b) Any language that is the first language spoken by at least five percent of the employer's workforce if the department has provided a model notice in such language. (3) The amount of paid sick time available to the employee, the amount of paid sick time taken by the employee to date in the year, and the amount of pay the employee has received as paid sick time shall be recorded in, or on an attachment to, the employee's regular paycheck. (4) Employers shall display a poster that contains the information required in subsection (1) of this section in a conspicuous and accessible place in each establishment where such employees are employed. If an employer does not maintain a physical workplace or an employee teleworks or performs work through a web-based or app-based platform, the employer shall provide notice of such information via electronic communication or a conspicuous posting in the webbased or app-based platform. The poster displayed shall be in: (a) English; and (b) Any language that is the first language spoken by at least five percent of the employer's workforce if the department has provided posters in such language. (5) The department shall create and make available to employers, in all languages spoken by at least five percent of Nebraska's workforce and any language deemed appropriate by the department, model notices and posters that contain the information required under subsection (1) of this section and for employers' use in complying with subsections (1) and (4) of this section. Sec. 7. Department of Labor, enforcement and implementation powers; rules and regulations. (1) The department shall be responsible for implementation and enforcement of the Nebraska Healthy Families and Workplaces Act. The department may adopt and promulgate rules and regulations as necessary to carry out the act. (2) The Commissioner of Labor may subpoena records and witnesses related to the enforcement of the act. The commissioner or his or her agent may inspect all related records and gather testimony on any matter relative to the enforcement of the act when the information sought is relevant to a lawful investigative purpose and is reasonable in scope.

**Sec. 8. Enforcement.** (1) The Commissioner of Labor shall issue a citation to an employer when an investigation reveals that the employer may have violated the Nebraska Healthy Families and Workplaces Act. (2) When a citation is issued, the commissioner shall notify the employer of the proposed administrative penalty, if any, by certified mail, by any other manner of delivery by which the United States Postal Service can verify delivery, or by any method of service recognized under Chapter 25, article 5. The administrative penalty shall not be more than five hundred dollars in the case of a first violation and not more than five thousand dollars in the case of a second or subsequent violation. (3) The employer has fifteen working days after the date of the citation or penalty to contest such citation or penalty. Notice of contest shall be sent to the commissioner who shall provide a hearing in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act. (4) Any employer who has an unpaid citation for a violation of the Nebraska Healthy Families and Workplaces Act shall be barred from contracting with the state or any political subdivision until such citation is paid. If a citation has been contested as described in subsection (3) of this section, it shall not be considered an unpaid citation under this subsection until after such contest has been resolved. (5) Citations issued under this section and the names of employers who have been issued a citation shall be made available to the public upon request, except that this subsection shall not apply to any citations that are being contested as described in subsection (3) of this section. (6) An employee having a claim for a violation of the Nebraska Healthy Families and Workplaces Act may institute suit for legal and equitable relief in the proper court. In any action brought to enforce the Nebraska Healthy Families and Workplaces Act, the court shall have jurisdiction to grant such legal or equitable relief as the court deems appropriate to effectuate the purposes of the act. If an employee establishes



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a claim and secures judgment on the claim, such employee shall also be entitled to recover the full amount of the judgment and all costs of such suit, including reasonable attorney's fees. (7) If an employee institutes suit against an employer under subsection (6) of this section, any citation that is issued against an employer under subsection (1) of this section and that relates directly to the facts in dispute shall be admitted into evidence unless specifically excluded by the court. If a citation has been contested as described in subsection (3) of this section, it shall not be admitted into evidence under this subsection until such contest has been resolved. (8) A civil action brought under this section shall be commenced no later than four calendar years after the cause of action accrues.

**Sec. 9. Confidentiality and nondisclosure.** (1) Unless otherwise required by law, an employer shall not require disclosure of the details of an employee's or an employee's family member's health information as a condition of providing paid sick time under the Nebraska Healthy Families and Workplaces Act. (2) Unless otherwise required by law, any health information possessed by an employer regarding an employee or employee's family member shall: (a) Be maintained on a separate form and in a separate file from other personnel information; (b) Be treated as confidential medical records; and (c) Not be disclosed except to the affected employee or with the express permission of the affected employee.

**Sec. 10. No effect on more generous paid sick time policies or laws; nonwaiver of rights and remedies.** (1) The Nebraska Healthy Families and Workplaces Act provides minimum requirements pertaining to paid sick time, and nothing in the act shall be construed to: (a) Prohibit an employer from the adoption or retention of a paid sick time policy more generous than the one required by the act; (b) Diminish the obligation of an employer to comply with any contract, collective-bargaining agreement, employment benefit plan, or other agreement providing more generous paid sick time to an employee than required by the act; (c) Diminish the rights of public employees regarding paid sick time or use of paid sick time as provided in state or local law; or (d) Preempt, limit, or otherwise affect the applicability of any other law, regulation, requirement, policy, or standard that provides for a greater amount, accrual, or use by employees of paid sick time or that extends other protections to employees. (2) The rights and remedies under the Nebraska Healthy Families and Workplaces Act shall not be waived by any agreement, policy, form, or condition of employment. Any such waiver shall be void and unenforceable.

**Sec. 11. Severability.** If any section in this act or any part of any section is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the declaration shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of the remaining portions.

INITIATIVE MEASURE 437

**Ballot Title and Text for Initiative Measure 437**  
Proposed by Initiative Petition

*A vote "FOR" will enact a statute that makes penalties inapplicable under state and local law for the use, possession, and acquisition of an allowable amount (up to five ounces) of cannabis for medical purposes by a qualified patient with a written recommendation from a health care practitioner, and for a caregiver to assist a qualified patient with these activities.*

*A vote "AGAINST" means such a statute will not be enacted.*

*Shall a statute be enacted that makes penalties inapplicable under state and local law for the use, possession, and acquisition of an allowable amount (up to five ounces) of cannabis for medical purposes by a qualified patient with a written recommendation from a health care practitioner, and for a caregiver to assist a qualified patient with these activities?*

☐ For  
☐ Against

Full Text of Proposed Measure 437

**OBJECT STATEMENT:** The object of this petition is to enact a statute that makes penalties inapplicable under state and local law for the use, possession, and acquisition of limited quantities of cannabis for medical purposes by a qualified patient with a written recommendation from a health care practitioner, and for a caregiver to assist a qualified patient in these activities.

Proposed Statutory Language

(underscored language indicates added language, strike through indicates language being removed)

**TEXT:** AN ACT relating to cannabis; to adopt the Nebraska Medical Cannabis Patient Protection Act.

**Be it enacted by the People of the State of Nebraska:**

**Section 1.** Sections 1 to 3 of this act shall be known and may be cited as the Nebraska Medical Cannabis Patient Protection Act.

**Sec. 2.** For purposes of the Nebraska Medical Cannabis Patient Protection Act: (1)(a) Allowable amount of cannabis means up to five ounces of cannabis.

Commission to regulate such entities.

Proposed Statutory Language

(underscored language indicates added language, strike through indicates language being removed)

**TEXT:** AN ACT relating to cannabis; to adopt the Nebraska Medical Cannabis Regulation Act.

**Be it enacted by the People of the State of Nebraska:**

**Section 1.** Sections 1 to 6 of this act shall be known and may be cited as the Nebraska Medical Cannabis Regulation Act.

**Sec. 2.** For purposes of the Nebraska Medical Cannabis Regulation Act: (1)(a) Cannabis means all parts of the plant of the genus cannabis whether growing or not, the seeds thereof, the resin extracted from any part of the plant, and every compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of the plant, its seeds, or its resin. (b) Cannabis includes marijuana, hashish, and concentrated cannabis. (c) Cannabis does not include hemp, as defined in Section 2-503(13) of the Nebraska Hemp Farming Act, nor does it include the mature stalks of the plant, fiber produced from such stalks, oil or cake made from the seeds of the plant, the sterilized seed of the plant which is incapable of germination, or cannabidiol contained in a drug product approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration; (2) Cannabis accessories means any equipment, products, or materials of any kind that are used, intended for use, or designed for use in storing, vaporizing, or containing cannabis, or for ingesting, inhaling, or otherwise introducing cannabis into the human body; (3) Caregiver means: (a) In the case of a qualified patient who is eighteen years of age or older and is not under the protection of a legal guardian, a person who: (i) Is at least twenty-one years of age; and (ii) Has been designated by a qualified patient in a signed affidavit; (b) In the case of a qualified patient who is younger than eighteen years of age or a qualified patient under the protection of a legal guardian: (i) The legal guardian or parent with authority to make health care decisions of the qualified patient; or (ii) A person designated in a sworn affidavit by the legal guardian or parent with authority to make health care decisions; or (c) A health care facility as defined in section 71-413 or a home health agency as defined in section 71-417, if the facility or agency has been designated by a qualified patient or the legal guardian or parent with authority to make health care decisions of a qualified patient in a sworn affidavit and if the facility or agency has agreed in writing to serve as a caregiver for the qualified patient; (5) Health care practitioner means a physician, an osteopathic physician, a physician assistant, or a nurse practitioner licensed under the Uniform Credentialing Act or who is licensed in any state and practicing in compliance with the Uniform Credentialing Act; (6) Qualified patient means: (a) An individual eighteen years of age or older with a written recommendation from a health care practitioner; or (b) An individual younger than eighteen years of age with a written recommendation from a health care practitioner and with the written permission of a legal guardian or parent with authority to make health care decisions for the individual; and (7) Written recommendation means a valid signed and dated declaration from a health care practitioner stating that, in the health care practitioner's professional judgment, the potential benefits of cannabis outweigh the potential harms for the alleviation of a patient's medical condition, its symptoms, or side effects of the condition's treatment. A written recommendation is valid for two years after the date of issuance or for a period of time specified by the health care practitioner on the written recommendation.

**Sec. 3.** (1) Subject to the requirements of the Nebraska Medical Cannabis Regulation Act, it shall not be an offense under state law for a registered cannabis establishment, its employees, and its agents to possess, manufacture, distribute, deliver, and dispense cannabis for medical purposes, provided such conduct complies with applicable rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the Commission pursuant to the Nebraska Medical Cannabis Regulation Act. (2) Conduct protected by this section shall not be subject to the Uniform Controlled Substances Act.

**Sec. 4.** (1) For purposes of providing the necessary registration and regulation of persons that possess, manufacture, distribute, deliver, and dispense cannabis for medical purposes pursuant to the Nebraska Medical Cannabis Regulation Act, the Nebraska Medical Cannabis Commission is created. (2) The commission shall consist of no fewer than three and no more than five members. (3) The three members of the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission shall be ex officio members of the commission, serving terms and receiving appointment in the same manner as provided in section 53-105. (4) The Governor may appoint two additional members, subject to confirmation by a majority of the members elected to the Legislature, to serve with the members of the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission as members of the Nebraska Medical Cannabis Commission. The members appointed pursuant to this subsection shall serve six-year terms. (5) The Governor may reappoint members of the commission, subject to approval by a majority of the members elected to the Legislature.

**Sec. 5.** The power to regulate all phases of the control of the possession, manufacture, distribution, delivery, and dispensing of cannabis for medical purposes by registered cannabis establishments in the state pursuant to the Nebraska Medical Cannabis Regulation Act is vested exclusively in the commission.

**Sec. 6.** The commission shall: (1) No later than July 1, 2025, establish criteria to accept or deny applications for registrations, including adopting, promulgating, and enforcing reasonable rules, regulations, and eligibility standards for such registrations; (2) No later than October 1, 2025, begin granting registrations to applicants that meet eligibility standards and other require-

ments established by the commission; (3) Grant, deny, revoke, and suspend registrations based upon reasonable criteria and procedures established by the commission; (4) Have the authority to adopt, promulgate, and enforce distinct sets of rules and regulations for different categories of registered cannabis establishments; (5) Administer oaths or affirmations as necessary to carry out the Nebraska Medical Cannabis Regulation Act; (6) Issue subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses or the production of any records, books, memoranda, documents, or other papers or things at or prior to any hearing as is necessary to enable the commission to effectively discharge its duties; (7) Inspect the operation of any registered cannabis establishment for the purpose of verifying compliance with rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the commission; (8) Have the authority to impose, subject to judicial review under the Administrative Procedure Act, administrative fines for each violation of any rules and regulations adopted and promulgated pursuant to the Nebraska Medical Cannabis Regulation Act; (9) Collect administrative fines imposed under this section and remit the fines to the State Treasurer for distribution in accordance with Article VII, section 5, of the Constitution of Nebraska; (10) Establish procedures for the governance of the commission; (11) Acquire necessary offices, facilities, counsel, and staff; and (12) Do all things necessary and proper to carry out its powers and duties under the Nebraska Medical Cannabis Regulation Act, including the adoption and promulgation of rules and regulations and such other actions as permitted by the Administrative Procedure Act.

INITIATIVE MEASURE 439

**Ballot Title and Text for Initiative Measure 439**

Proposed by Initiative Petition

*A vote "FOR" will amend the Nebraska Constitution to provide that 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 is defined as 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.*

*A vote "AGAINST" will not amend the Nebraska Constitution in such manner.*

*Shall the Nebraska Constitution be amended to include a new section which provides: "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."*

☐ For  
☐ Against

Full Text of Proposed Measure 439

**OBJECT STATEMENT:** The object of this petition is to amend the Nebraska Constitution to provide all persons the fundamental right to abortion without interference from the state or its political subdivisions until fetal viability, which is the point in pregnancy when, in the professional judgment of the patient's health care practitioner, there is a significant likelihood of the fetus' sustained survival outside the uterus without the application of extraordinary medical measures; or when needed to protect the life or health of the pregnant patient.

**Proposed Constitutional Amendment Language**

(underscored language indicates added language, strike through indicates language being removed)

**TEXT:** Article I of the Nebraska Constitution shall be amended by adding a new section 31 as shown:

I-31 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.

MEDIDA DE INICIATIVA 434

**Título y texto de la iniciativa medida 434**

Propuesta por iniciativa de petición

*Un voto "A FAVOR" modificará la Constitución de Nebraska para establecer que, excepto cuando una mujer busca un aborto necesario por una emergencia médica o cuando el embarazo es resultado de una agresión sexual o incesto, los niños no nacidos estarán protegidos del aborto en el segundo y tercer trimestre.*

*Un voto "EN CONTRA" no modificará la*

*Constitución de Nebraska en ese sentido.*

**Debe enmendarse la Constitución de Nebraska para incluir una nueva sección que establezca: "Excepto cuando una mujer busque un aborto necesario por una emergencia médica o cuando el embarazo sea resultado de una agresión sexual o incesto, los niños no nacidos estarán protegidos del aborto en el segundo y tercer trimestre."**

☐ A Favor  
☐ En Contra

**Texto completo de la iniciativa medida 434**

**DECLARACIÓN DE INTENCIONES:** El objeto de esta petición es enmendar la Constitución de Nebraska para establecer que, excepto cuando una mujer busca un aborto necesario por una emergencia médica o cuando el embarazo resulta de una agresión sexual o incesto, los niños no nacidos estarán protegidos del aborto en el segundo y tercer trimestre.

**Lenguaje de la enmienda constitucional propuesta**

(el texto subrayado indica que se ha añadido, el tachado indica que se ha eliminado)

**TEXTO:** El Artículo I de la Constitución de Nebraska será enmendado añadiendo una nueva sección 31 que establece lo siguiente:

I-31 Excepto cuando una mujer busca un aborto necesario por una emergencia médica o cuando el embarazo resulta de una agresión sexual o incesto, los niños no nacidos estarán protegidos del aborto en el segundo y tercer trimestre.

MEDIDA DE REFERÉNDUM 435

**Título y texto de la boleta para la medida de referéndum 435**

Referéndum ordenado a petición del pueblo

*Un voto a favor de "RETENER" mantendrá en vigor la Sección 1 del Proyecto de Ley 1402 promulgado en 2024 por la Legislatura de Nebraska. La Sección 1 del Proyecto de Ley 1402 prevé 10 millones de dólares anuales para financiar becas educativas destinados a pagar la totalidad o parte del costo de la educación de los estudiantes elegibles que asistan a escuelas primarias y secundarias no gubernamentales de gestión privada en Nebraska.*

*Un voto a favor de "REVOCAR" eliminará las disposiciones de financiación y becas de la Sección 1 del Proyecto de Ley 1402.*

**La Sección 1 del Proyecto de Ley 1402, promulgado por la Legislatura de Nebraska en 2024, prevé 10 millones de dólares anuales para financiar becas educativas destinadas a pagar la totalidad o parte del costo de la educación de los estudiantes elegibles que asistan a escuelas primarias y secundarias no gubernamentales de gestión privada en Nebraska.**

**¿Debe revocarse la Sección 1 del Proyecto de Ley 1402?**

☐ Retener  
☐ Revocar

**Texto completo de la medida propuesta 435**

**DECLARACIÓN DE INTENCIONES:** El objeto de esta petición es derogar la Sección 1 de LB 1402, aprobada por la 108va Legislatura de Nebraska en 2024, que destina 10 millones de dólares anuales para subvenciones financieras para estudiantes elegibles que asistan a una escuela primaria o secundaria operada privadamente calificada en Nebraska.

**Referéndum Propuesto para Derogar la Sección 1 de LB 1402 (2024)**

(el texto subrayado indica el texto añadido por LB 1402, el texto tachado indica el texto eliminado por LB 1402)

**TEXTO:** UN PROYECTO DE LEY relativo a las becas de educación; para enmendar las secciones 77-2715.07, 77-2717 y 77-2734.03, Suplemento de los Estatutos Revisados, 2023; para establecer becas educativas; para derogar la Ley de Becas de Oportunidad; para armonizar disposiciones; para establecer fechas de entrada en vigencia; para derogar las secciones originales; y para derogar totalmente las secciones 77-7101, 77-7102, 77-7103, 77-7104, 77-7105, 77-7106, 77-7107, 77-7108, 77-7109, 77-7110, 77-7111, 77-7112 y 77-7113, Suplemento de los Estatutos Revisados, 2023.

**Que sea promulgado por el pueblo del Estado de Nebraska,**

**Sección 1.** (1) La Legislatura considera que: (a) Los fondos asignados para la educación de los estudiantes desde el jardín de infantes hasta el duodécimo grado son para un propósito público fundamental del gobierno estatal y constituyen un gasto ordinario del gobierno estatal; (b) Permitir al mayor número de padres y tutores legales elegir entre oportunidades educativas de calidad para los niños mejorará la calidad de la educación disponible para todos los niños; (c) Las escuelas prima-

rias y secundarias de gestión privada en Nebraska satisfacen los requisitos del estado para su funcionamiento legal y proporcionan oportunidades educativas de calidad para los niños; (d) Los padres y tutores legales con medios limitados tienen menos posibilidades de elegir entre oportunidades educativas de calidad para sus hijos; y (e) Hacer posible que más padres y tutores legales puedan elegir escuelas de gestión privada beneficia a los padres y contribuyentes de Nebraska. (2) Para los propósitos de esta sección: (a) Beca educativa significa una subvención financiera para pagar total o parcialmente el costo de educar a un estudiante elegible que asiste a una escuela calificada; (b) Estudiante elegible significa un residente de Nebraska que: (i) Está recibiendo una beca educativa por primera vez y es (A) ingresando al jardín de infantes o al noveno grado en una escuela calificada o al primer grado ofrecido por la escuela calificada, (B) transfiriéndose de una escuela pública en la que estuvo inscrito durante al menos un semestre inmediatamente anterior al primer semestre para el cual recibe una beca educativa a una escuela calificada y está ingresando a cualquiera de los grados del jardín de infantes al duodécimo, o (C) miembro de una familia militar activa o de reserva que se transfiere a Nebraska desde otro estado u otro país y está ingresando a cualquiera de los grados del jardín de infantes al duodécimo en una escuela calificada; (ii) Ha recibido previamente una beca educativa bajo esta sección y continúa la educación en una escuela calificada hasta que el estudiante se gradúe de la escuela secundaria o cumpla veintitún años de edad, lo que ocurra primero; (iii) Ha recibido previamente una beca educativa bajo la Ley de Becas de Oportunidades, tal como existía antes de su derogación por esta ley legislativa, y continúa la educación en una escuela calificada hasta que el estudiante se gradúe de la escuela secundaria o cumpla veintitún años de edad, lo que ocurra primero; (iv) Es el hermano de un estudiante que recibe una beca educativa y reside en el mismo hogar que dicho estudiante; o (v) Está actualmente inscrito en una escuela calificada y es miembro de una familia cuyo ingreso familiar no supera el doscientos trece por ciento del nivel federal de pobreza; y (c) Escuela calificada significa cualquier escuela primaria o secundaria no gubernamental y de operación privada ubicada en este estado que (i) se opera sin fines de lucro, (ii) cumple con las disposiciones contra la discriminación de 42 U.S.C. 1981, tal y como dicha sección existía el 1 de enero de 2024, (iii) cumple con todas las leyes o códigos de salud y seguridad de vida que se aplican a las escuelas de operación privada, y (iv) cumple con los requisitos de acreditación o aprobación aplicables establecidos por la Junta de Educación del Estado de conformidad con la sección 79-318. (3) El Tesorero del Estado establecerá un programa para proporcionar becas de educación a los estudiantes elegibles para pagar los costos asociados con asistir a una escuela calificada. Bajo dicho programa, el Tesorero del Estado deberá: (a) Establecer un sistema de prioridades para otorgar becas de educación bajo el programa. Dicho sistema de prioridad deberá: (i) Dar prioridad a: (A) Los estudiantes elegibles que recibieron una beca de educación bajo esta sección o bajo la Ley de Becas de Oportunidad, como tal ley existía antes de su derogación por este proyecto de ley legislativa, durante el año escolar anterior; y (B) El hermano de un estudiante que está recibiendo una beca de educación, siempre y cuando el hermano reside en el mismo hogar que dicho estudiante; (ii) Dar segunda prioridad a: (A) Estudiantes elegibles cuyos niveles de ingreso familiar no excedan el ciento ochenta y cinco por ciento del nivel federal de pobreza; (B) Estudiantes elegibles cuya solicitud para el programa de opción de inscripción establecido en la sección 79-234 haya sido denegada; (C) Estudiantes elegibles que tengan un programa de educación individualizado; (D) Alumnos elegibles que sufren acoso escolar, hostigamiento, novatadas, asalto, agresión, secuestro, robo, delitos sexuales, amenaza o intimidación, o peleas en la escuela; (E) Alumnos elegibles que están en hogares de acogida; y (F) Alumnos elegibles que pertenecen a una familia con un padre o tutor en servicio activo en una rama de las fuerzas armadas de Estados Unidos o en la Guardia Nacional, o cuyo padre o tutor murió en cumplimiento del deber; (iii) Dar tercera prioridad a los estudiantes elegibles cuyos niveles de ingresos familiares excedan el ciento ochenta y cinco por ciento del nivel federal de pobreza pero no excedan el doscientos trece por ciento del nivel federal de pobreza; y (iv) Dar cuarta prioridad a los estudiantes elegibles cuyos niveles de ingresos familiares excedan el doscientos trece por ciento del nivel federal de pobreza pero no excedan el trescientos por ciento de los ingresos indicados en las pautas de elegibilidad de ingresos para comidas a precio reducido bajo el Programa Nacional de Alumnos Escolares en 7 C.F.R. parte 210; (b) Limitar el monto máximo de la beca otorgada a cualquier estudiante elegible al costo necesario para educar al estudiante elegible en la escuela calificada a la que asiste dicho estudiante; y (c) Limitar los montos de las becas otorgadas a los estudiantes elegibles de una manera que asegure que el promedio de los montos de las becas otorgadas por estudiante no exceda el setenta y cinco por ciento del promedio estatal de los gastos operativos del fondo general por estudiante de la fórmula para el año de datos completos más recientemente disponible, tal como se definen dichos términos en la sección 79-1003. (4) El límite anual del monto total de las becas educativas



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otorgadas en virtud de esta sección para el año fiscal 2024-25 y cada año fiscal posterior será de diez millones de dólares. (5) En o antes del 1 de diciembre de 2025, y en o antes del 1 de diciembre de cada año posterior, el Tesorero del Estado presentará electrónicamente un informe al Gobernador y a la Legislatura que incluya lo siguiente: (a) Una descripción resumida de las políticas y procedimientos del Tesorero del Estado para otorgar becas educativas; (b) El número de estudiantes elegibles que recibieron becas educativas en el año fiscal más reciente; (c) El monto total de las becas educativas otorgadas en el año fiscal más reciente; (d) El número de estudiantes elegibles actualmente en lista de espera o a los que se les negó recibir una beca educativa y la razón de la lista de espera o negación; y (e) La información demográfica de los estudiantes elegibles que reciben becas educativas, incluyendo, pero no limitado a: (i) Nivel de ingresos; (ii) Nivel de grado; y (iii) Ubicación geográfica. (6) El Tesorero del Estado podrá celebrar contratos con hasta tres administradores de programas con el fin de llevar a cabo el programa de becas educativas descrito en esta sección. (7) Es la intención de la Legislatura apropiar diez millones de dólares del Fondo General para el año fiscal 2024-25 y cada año fiscal a partir de entonces al Tesorero del Estado con el fin de proporcionar becas de educación según lo dispuesto en esta sección. (8) Hasta el siete y medio por ciento de los fondos apropiados para los propósitos de esta sección pueden ser utilizados por el Tesorero del Estado, o por los administradores del programa con los que contrate el Tesorero del Estado, para gastos administrativos. (9) Esta sección no se interpretará como la concesión de cualquier autoridad ampliada o adicional al Estado de Nebraska para controlar o influir en la gobernanza o las políticas de cualquier escuela calificada debido al hecho de que la escuela calificada admite e inscribe a los estudiantes que reciben becas de educación o como la obligación de cualquier escuela calificada para admitir o, una vez admitido, para continuar la inscripción de cualquier estudiante que recibe una beca de educación.

MEDIDA DE INICIATIVA 436

Título y texto de la iniciativa medida 436

Propuesto por petición de iniciativa

Un voto “A FAVOR” promulgará un estatuto que: (1) proporciona a los empleados elegibles el derecho a ganar tiempo de enfermedad pagado por necesidades de salud personales o familiares; (2) da derecho a los empleados de empleadores con menos de 20 empleados a acumular y utilizar hasta 40 horas de dicho tiempo anualmente y a los empleados de empleadores con 20 o más empleados a acumular y utilizar hasta 56 horas de dicho tiempo anualmente; (3) especifica las condiciones relativas al tiempo de enfermedad pagado; (4) prohíbe las represalias contra los empleados por ejercer tales derechos; (5) adopta requisitos de documentación; y (6) establece poderes de ejecución y una causa de acción civil por violaciones.

Un voto “EN CONTRA” significa que dicho estatuto no se promulgará.

¿Debe promulgarse un estatuto que: (1) proporcione a los empleados que reúnan los requisitos el derecho a ganar tiempo por enfermedad remunerado para necesidades de salud personales o familiares; (2) dé derecho a los empleados de empresas con menos de 20 empleados a acumular y utilizar hasta 40 horas de dicho tiempo al año y a los empleados de empresas con 20 o más empleados a acumular y utilizar hasta 56 horas de dicho tiempo al año; (3) especifique las condiciones relativas al tiempo por enfermedad remunerado; (4) prohíba las represalias contra los empleados por ejercer tales derechos; (5) adopte requisitos de documentación; y (6) establezca poderes de ejecución y una causa de acción civil por violaciones?

- ☐ A Favor
- ☐ En Contra

Texto completo de la iniciativa medida 436

**DECLARACIÓN DE INTENCIONES:** El objeto de esta petición es promulgar una ley que otorgue a los empleados elegibles el derecho a ganar tiempo libre remunerado por enfermedad para necesidades de salud personales o familiares, que permita a aquellos empleados de empleadores con menos de 20 empleados acumular y utilizar hasta 40 horas de tiempo libre remunerado por enfermedad al año, que permita a los empleados de empleadores con 20 o más empleados acumular y utilizar hasta 56 horas de tiempo libre remunerado por enfermedad al año, que especifique las condiciones para acumular y utilizar el tiempo libre remunerado por enfermedad ganado, que prohíba represalias contra un empleado por ejercer los derechos otorgados bajo la ley, que adopte ciertos requisitos de notificación y documentación, y que establezca poderes de aplicación y una causa civil de acción por violaciones de la ley.

Texto propuesto de la petición de iniciativa estatutaria

(el texto subrayado indica que se ha añadido, el tachado indica que se ha eliminado)

**TEXTO: PARA UN ACTO relativo al empleo; para adoptar la Ley de Familias y Lugares de Trabajo Saludables de Nebraska; y para proporcionar la divisibilidad.**

Que sea promulgado por el pueblo del Estado de Nebraska:

**Sección 1. Ley, cómo citada: declaración de propósito.** (1) Las secciones 1 a 11 de esta ley se conocerán y podrán citarse como la Ley de Familias y Lugares de Trabajo Saludables de Nebraska. (2) El propósito de la ley es otorgar a los empleados elegibles, en Nebraska el derecho a ganar tiempo libre pagado por necesidades de salud personal o familiar y proporcionar ciertas disposiciones natural y necesariamente relacionadas con ese propósito.

**Sec. 2. Términos, definidos.** Para los propósitos de la Ley de Familias y Lugares de Trabajo Saludables de Nebraska: (1) Departamento significa el Departamento de Trabajo; (2) Emplear medios para permitir trabajar; (3)(a) Empleado significa cualquier individuo o empleado por un empleador, pero no incluye a un individuo que trabaja en Nebraska durante menos de ochenta horas en un año calendario. (b) El empleado no incluye a un “empleado” según lo definido en 45 U.S.C. 351(d) que está sujeto a la Ley Federal del Seguro de Desempleo Ferroviario, 45 U.S.C. 351 et seq.; (4)(a) Empleador significa cualquier individuo, sociedad, sociedad de responsabilidad limitada, asociación, corporación, fideicomiso comercial, representante legal u grupo organizado de personas que emplea a uno o más empleados. (b) El empleador no incluye a los Estados Unidos o al Estado de Nebraska o sus agencias, departamentos o subdivisiones políticas; (5) Miembro de la familia significa: (a) Cualquiera de los siguientes, independientemente de la edad: un hijo biológico, adoptado o de crianza, un hijastro, un pupilo legal o un niño al que el empleado se encuentra in loco parentis; (b) Un padre biológico, de acogida, padrastro o adoptivo, o un tutor legal de un empleado o del cónyuge de un empleado; (c) Una persona que ocupó el lugar in loco parentis del empleado o el cónyuge del empleado cuando el empleado o el cónyuge del empleado era un menor de edad; (d) Una persona con la que el empleado está legalmente casado según las leyes de cualquier estado; (e) Un abuelo, nieto o hermano, ya sea de una relación biológica, de acogida, adoptiva o por afinidad, del empleado o del cónyuge del empleado; o (f) Cualquier otra persona relacionada por parentesco con el empleado o cuya estrecha asociación con el empleado equivale a una relación familiar; (6) El profesional de la salud significa cualquier persona con licencia bajo cualquier ley federal o estatal para proporcionar servicios médicos o de emergencia; (7) El tiempo de enfermedad remunerado significa el tiempo que se compensa a la misma tasa por hora y con los mismos beneficios, incluidos los beneficios de atención médica, que el empleado generalmente gana durante las horas trabajadas y que proporciona un empleado a un empleado para los fines descritos en la sección 4 de esta ley, y en ningún caso el monto de esta tasa por hora será menor que el proporcionado bajo la sección 48-1203; (8) Emergencia de salud pública significa una declaración o proclamación relacionada con una amenaza, riesgo, desastre o emergencia de salud pública que es realizada o emitida por un funcionario federal, estatal o local con la autoridad para hacer o emitir dicha declaración o proclamación; (9) Acción de personal de represalia significa la denegación de cualquier derecho garantizado por la Ley de Familias y Lugares de Trabajo Saludables de Nebraska y cualquier amenaza, despido, suspensión, degradación, reducción de horas o pago, u otra acción adversa contra un empleado por ejercer o intentar ejercer cualquier derecho garantizado en la Ley de Familias y Lugares de Trabajo Saludables de Nebraska; (10)(a) Pequeña empresa significa un empleador con menos de veinte empleados durante una semana determinada, incluidos los empleados a tiempo completo, a tiempo parcial o temporales. (b) La pequeña empresa no incluye a un empleador que mantuvo a veinte o más empleados en su nómina en cada una de las veinte o más semanas calendario del año calendario actual o anterior; y (11) Año significa un período de doce meses regular y consecutivo, según lo determine el empleador.

**Sec. 3. Acumulación y traspaso del tiempo pagado por enfermedad; tiempo pagado por enfermedad después de la transferencia o el regreso después de la separación del empleo.** (1) Todos los empleados acumularán un mínimo de una hora de tiempo de enfermedad pagada por cada treinta horas trabajadas. \_\_\_\_ A menos que el empleador seleccione un límite más alto, esta sección no otorga a un empleado el derecho a ganar o usar más de: (a) Cuarenta horas de tiempo de enfermedad pagado en un año para un empleado de una pequeña empresa; o (b) Cincuenta y seis horas de tiempo de enfermedad remunerado en un año para un empleado de un empleador que no es una pequeña empresa. (2) Se asumirá que los empleados que están exentos de los requisitos de horas extras bajo 29 U.S.C. 213(a)(1) de la Ley Federal de Normas Laborales Justas, 29 U.S.C. 201 et seq., trabajan cuarenta horas en cada semana de trabajo a efectos de la acumulación de tiempo de enfermedad remunerado, a menos que su semana de trabajo típica sea inferior a cuarenta horas, en cuyo caso el tiempo de enfermedad remunerado se acumula en función de esa semana de trabajo típica. (3)

El tiempo libre pagado por enfermedad proporcionado en esta sección comenzará a acumularse a partir del inicio del empleo o el 1 de octubre de 2025, lo que ocurra más tarde. Un empleado tendrá derecho a utilizar el tiempo libre pagado por enfermedad a medida que se vaya acumulando. Un empleador puede proporcionar todo el tiempo libre pagado por enfermedad que se espera que un empleado acumule en un año al comienzo del año. (4) El tiempo de enfermedad pagado acumulado se llevará al año siguiente. A una pequeña empresa no se le exige permitir que un empleado use más de cuarenta horas de tiempo de enfermedad pagado por año, y a otros empleadores no se les exige permitir que un empleado use más de cincuenta y seis horas de tiempo de enfermedad pagado por año. Alternativamente, en lugar de transferir el tiempo de licencia por enfermedad paga no utilizado proporcionado de conformidad con esta sección de un año al siguiente, un empleador puede pagar a un empleado por el tiempo de licencia por enfermedad paga no utilizado proporcionado de conformidad con esta sección al final de un año y proporcionar al empleado una cantidad de tiempo de licencia por enfermedad paga que cumpla o exceda los requisitos de los incisos (1) y (3) de esta sección que esté disponible para el uso inmediato del empleado al comienzo del año siguiente. (5) Cualquier empleador con una política de licencia remunerada, como una política de tiempo libre remunerado, que ponga a disposición una cantidad de licencia remunerada suficiente para cumplir con los requisitos de la Ley de Familias y Lugares de Trabajo Saludables de Nebraska que pueda utilizarse para los mismos fines y bajo las mismas condiciones que el tiempo libre remunerado bajo la ley, no está obligado a proporcionar tiempo libre remunerado adicional bajo la ley. (6) A discreción del empleador, este podrá prestar tiempo de enfermedad remunerado a un empleado antes de que este lo haya devengado. (7) Si un empleado es transferido a una división, entidad o ubicación separada, pero sigue empleado por el mismo empleador, el empleado tiene derecho a todo el tiempo de enfermedad remunerado acumulado en la división, entidad o ubicación anterior y tiene derecho a usar todo el tiempo de enfermedad remunerado según lo dispuesto en la Ley de Familias y Lugares de Trabajo Saludables de Nebraska. Cuando haya una separación del empleo y el empleado es recontratado dentro de los doce meses posteriores a la separación por el mismo empleador, el tiempo de enfermedad remunerado previamente acumulado que no se haya utilizado se reinstalará. El empleado tendrá derecho a utilizar el tiempo de enfermedad remunerado acumulado y a acumular tiempo de enfermedad remunerado adicional al reanudarse el empleo.

**Sec. 4. Uso de tiempo de enfermedad remunerado; aviso o documentación del empleado; fondo, plan o programa multiempresarial de tiempo de enfermedad remunerado.** (1) El tiempo libre pagado por enfermedad deberá ser proporcionado a un empleado por un empleador para: (a) La enfermedad mental o física, la lesión o el estado de salud de un empleado; la necesidad de un empleado de diagnóstico, atención o tratamiento médico de una enfermedad, lesión o condición de salud mental o física; o la necesidad de un empleado de atención médica preventiva; (b) Cuidado de un miembro de la familia con una enfermedad mental o física, lesión o condición de salud; cuidado de un miembro de la familia que necesita un diagnóstico médico, atención o tratamiento de una enfermedad mental o física, lesión o condición de salud; cuidado de un miembro de la familia que necesita atención médica preventiva; o en el caso de un niño, para asistir a una reunión necesaria por la enfermedad mental o física, lesión o condición de salud del niño, en una escuela o lugar donde el niño recibe atención; o (c) Cierre del lugar de trabajo del empleado por orden de un funcionario público debido a una emergencia de salud pública; o la necesidad de un empleado de cuidar a un niño cuya escuela o lugar de cuidado ha sido cerrado por orden de un funcionario público debido a una emergencia de salud pública; o la necesidad de un empleado de autoaislarse o cuidar al empleado o a un familiar cuando las autoridades de salud competentes o un profesional de la salud han determinado que la presencia del empleado o del familiar en la comunidad puede poner en peligro la salud de otros debido a la exposición a una enfermedad transmisible, independientemente de si el empleado o el familiar ha contraído realmente la enfermedad transmisible. (2) El tiempo de enfermedad pagado bajo esta sección se proporcionará a solicitud oral de un empleado. Cuando sea posible, la solicitud debe incluir la duración esperada de la ausencia. (3) Un empleador que requiera aviso de la necesidad de usar tiempo libre por enfermedad pagado de acuerdo con esta sección deberá proporcionar una política escrita que contenga procedimientos razonables para que los empleados den aviso. Un empleador que no haya proporcionado al empleado una copia de dicha política escrita no podrá denegar el tiempo libre por enfermedad pagado al empleado por incumplimiento de dicha política. (4) Un empleador no debe exigir, como condición para que un empleado tome tiempo de enfermedad pagado bajo esta sección se puede usar en el más

pequeño de los incrementos por hora o el más pequeño incremento que el sistema de nómina del empleador utilice para contabilizar las ausencias o el uso de otro tiempo. (6) Para el uso del tiempo de enfermedad pagado por más de tres días laborales consecutivos, un empleador puede exigir documentación razonable de que el tiempo de enfermedad pagado se ha utilizado para un fin cubierto por el apartado (1) de esta sección. La documentación razonable incluirá (a) la documentación firmada por un profesional de la salud que indique que el tiempo de enfermedad pagado es o era necesario o (b) si el empleado o un miembro de la familia no recibió servicios de un profesional de la salud, o si no se puede obtener documentación de un profesional de la salud en un tiempo razonable o sin gastos adicionales, una declaración escrita del empleado que indique que el empleado está tomando o tomó tiempo de enfermedad pagado por un propósito calificado cubierto por el apartado (1) de esta sección. (7) Un empleador signatario de un acuerdo de negociación colectiva multiempleador puede cumplir con sus obligaciones conforme a la Ley de Familias y Lugares de Trabajo Saludables de Nebraska haciendo contribuciones a un fondo, plan o programa multiempleador de tiempo por enfermedad pagado en base a las horas que cada empleado acumula conforme a la ley mientras trabaja bajo el acuerdo de negociación colectiva multiempleador, si el fondo, el plan o el programa permite a los trabajadores cobrar del fondo, del plan o del programa el tiempo de enfermedad retribuido en función de las horas que hayan trabajado en virtud del convenio colectivo multiempresarial y para los fines especificados en la ley. Los empleados que trabajan bajo un acuerdo de negociación colectiva multiempleador en el que sus empleadores hacen contribuciones según lo dispuesto en este subsección pueden cobrar del fondo, plan o programa de tiempo de enfermedad pagado, basado en las horas que han trabajado bajo el acuerdo de negociación colectiva multiempleador y para los fines especificados en la ley.

**Sec. 5. Ejercicio de derechos protegidos; se prohíbe la acción de personal de represalia.** (1) Será ilegal que un empleador u otra persona interfiera, restrinja o niegue el ejercicio o el intento de ejercer cualquier derecho protegido por la Ley de Familias y Lugares de Trabajo Saludables de Nebraska. (2) Un empleador no tomará medidas de represalia de personal contra un empleado o ex empleado porque la persona haya ejercido o intentado ejercer los derechos protegidos por la ley. Dichos derechos incluyen, entre otros, el derecho a solicitar o usar tiempo de enfermedad remunerado en virtud de la ley; el derecho a presentar una demanda o queja o informar a cualquier persona sobre la supuesta violación de la ley por parte de un empleador; el derecho a participar en una investigación, audiencia o procedimiento o a cooperar y ayudar al departamento en sus investigaciones sobre presuntas violaciones de la ley; y el derecho a informar a cualquier persona sobre los posibles derechos de la persona en virtud de la ley. (3) Será ilegal que la política de control de ausencias de un empleador cuente el tiempo de enfermedad remunerado tomado en virtud de la ley como una ausencia que pueda dar lugar o resultar en una medida de represalia o cualquier otra acción adversa.

**Sec. 6. Notificación y publicación** (1) Los empleadores deberán dar a los empleados un aviso por escrito de lo siguiente al inicio del empleo o antes del 15 de septiembre de 2025, lo que ocurra más tarde: Que a partir del 1 de octubre de 2025, los empleados tienen derecho a tiempo libre con goce de sueldo; la cantidad de tiempo libre con goce de sueldo; los términos de su uso garantizados por la Ley de Familias y Lugares de Trabajo Saludables de Nebraska; que está prohibida la acción de personal de represalia contra los empleados que soliciten o utilicen el tiempo libre con goce de sueldo; que cada empleado tiene el derecho de presentar una demanda o queja si el empleador le niega el tiempo libre con goce de sueldo según lo requiere la ley o si el empleado está sujeto a una acción de personal de represalia por solicitar o tomar tiempo libre con goce de sueldo; y la información de contacto del departamento donde se pueden responder preguntas sobre los derechos y responsabilidades en virtud de la ley. (2) Los avisos requeridos en la subsección (1) de esta sección se proporcionarán en: (a) Inglés; y (b) Cualquier idioma que sea la primera lengua hablada por al menos el cinco por ciento de la fuerza laboral del empleador si el departamento ha proporcionado un aviso modelo en dicho idioma. (3) La cantidad de tiempo de enfermedad pagado disponible para el empleado, la cantidad de tiempo de enfermedad pagado tomado por el empleado hasta la fecha en el año, y la cantidad de pago que el empleado ha recibido como tiempo de enfermedad pagado se registrarán en, o en un anexo a, el cheque de pago regular del empleado. (4) Los empleadores deberán exhibir un cartel que contenga la información requerida en el inciso (1) de esta sección en un lugar visible y accesible en cada establecimiento donde se empleen a dichos trabajadores. Si un empleador no mantiene un lugar de trabajo físico o un empleado trabaja a distancia o realiza su trabajo a través de una plataforma basada en la web o en una aplicación, el empleador deberá proporcionar aviso de dicha información a través de comunicación electrónica o un anuncio visible en la plataforma basada en la web o en la aplicación.

El cartel exhibido deberá estar en: (a) Inglés; y (b) Cualquier idioma que sea la primera lengua hablada por al menos el cinco por ciento de la fuerza laboral del empleador si el departamento ha proporcionado carteles en dicho idioma. (5) El departamento creará y pondrá a disposición de los empleadores, en todos los idiomas hablados por al menos el cinco por ciento de la fuerza laboral de Nebraska y en cualquier idioma que el departamento considere apropiado, avisos y carteles modelo que contengan la información requerida bajo el inciso (1) de esta sección y para el uso de los empleadores en el cumplimiento de los incisos (1) y (4) de esta sección.

**Sec. 7. Departamento de Trabajo; poderes de aplicación e implementación; reglas y regulaciones.** (1) El departamento será responsable de la implementación y aplicación de la Ley de Familias y Lugares de Trabajo Saludables de Nebraska. El departamento podrá adoptar y promulgar reglas y regulaciones según sea necesario para llevar a cabo la ley. (2) El Comisionado de Trabajo puede citar registros y testigos relacionados con la aplicación de la ley. El comisionado o su agente puede inspeccionar todos los registros relacionados y recopilar testimonios sobre cualquier asunto relativo a la aplicación de la ley cuando la información solicitada sea relevante para un propósito de investigación legal y sea razonable en alcance.

**Sec. 8. Aplicación.** (1) El Comisionado de Trabajo emitirá una citación a un empleador cuando una investigación revele que el empleador puede haber violado la Ley de Familias Saludables y Lugares de Trabajo de Nebraska. (2) Cuando se emita una citación, el comisionado notificará al empleador de la sanción administrativa propuesta, si la hay, por correo certificado, por cualquier otro medio de entrega que el Servicio Postal de los Estados Unidos pueda verificar, o por cualquier método de notificación reconocido bajo el Capítulo 25, artículo 5. La sanción administrativa no será superior a quinientos dólares en el caso de una primera violación y no será superior a cinco mil dólares en el caso de una segunda o subsiguiente violación. (3) El empleador tiene quince días hábiles después de la fecha de la citación o penalización para impugnar dicha citación o penalización. La notificación de impugnación se enviará al comisionado, quien proporcionará una audiencia de acuerdo con la Ley de Procedimiento Administrativo. (4) Cualquier empleador que tenga una citación impaga por una violación de la Ley de Familias Saludables y Lugares de Trabajo de Nebraska estará impedido de contratar con el estado o cualquier subdivisión política hasta que dicha citación sea pagada. \_\_\_\_ Si una citación ha sido impugnada como se describe en el inciso (3) de esta sección, no se considerará una citación impaga bajo este inciso hasta que dicha impugnación haya sido resuelta. (5) Las citaciones emitidas bajo esta sección y los nombres de los empleadores a quienes se les ha emitido una citación estarán disponibles para el público a solicitud, excepto que este inciso no se aplicará a ninguna citación que esté siendo impugnada como se describe en el inciso (3) de esta sección. (6) Un empleado que tenga una reclamación por una violación de la Ley de Familias Saludables y Lugares de Trabajo de Nebraska puede presentar una demanda para obtener reparación legal y equitativa en el tribunal correspondiente. En cualquier acción presentada para hacer cumplir la Ley de Familias Saludables y Lugares de Trabajo de Nebraska, el tribunal tendrá jurisdicción para otorgar la reparación legal o equitativa que el tribunal considere apropiada para llevar a cabo los propósitos de la ley. Si un empleado establece una reclamación y obtiene un fallo a su favor, dicho empleado también tendrá derecho a recuperar el monto total del fallo y todos los costos de dicha demanda, incluidos los honorarios razonables de abogados. (7) Si un empleado presenta una demanda contra un empleador bajo la subsección (6) de esta sección, cualquier citación que se emita contra un empleador bajo la subsección (1) de esta sección y que se relacione directamente con los hechos en disputa será admitida como prueba a menos que sea específicamente excluida por el tribunal. Si una citación ha sido impugnada como se describe en el inciso (3) de esta sección, no se admitirá como prueba bajo este inciso hasta que dicha impugnación haya sido resuelta. (8) Una acción civil presentada bajo esta sección deberá iniciarse a más tardar cuatro años calendario después de que surja la causa de la acción.

**Sec. 9. Confidencialidad y no divulgación.** (1) A menos que la ley disponga lo contrario, un empleador no podrá exigir la divulgación de los detalles de la información de salud de un empleado o de un miembro de la familia de un empleado como condición para proporcionar tiempo de enfermedad pagado bajo la Ley de Familias y Lugares de Trabajo Saludables de Nebraska. (2) A menos que la ley exija lo contrario, cualquier información de salud que posea un empleador sobre un empleado o un miembro de la familia del empleado deberá: (a) Debe mantenerse en un formulario separado y en un archivo separado de otra información del personal; (b) Ser tratados como registros médicos confidenciales; y (c) No se divulgará excepto al empleado afectado o con el permiso expreso del empleado afectado.

**Sec. 10. Ningún efecto sobre políticas o leyes de tiempo de enfermedad pagado más generosas; no renuncia a derechos y recursos.** (1) La Ley de Familias y Lugares de Trabajo Saludables de Nebraska establece requisitos

mínimos relacionados con el tiempo de enfermedad pagado, y nada en la ley se interpretará como: (a) Prohibir a un empleador la adopción o retención de una política de tiempo de enfermedad pagado más generosa que la requerida por la ley; (b) Disminuir la obligación de un empleador de cumplir con cualquier contrato, acuerdo de negociación colectiva, plan de beneficios laborales, o cualquier otro acuerdo que proporcione un tiempo de enfermedad pagado más generoso a un empleado de lo que exige la ley; (c) Disminuir los derechos de los empleados públicos en relación con el tiempo de enfermedad pagado o el uso del tiempo de enfermedad pagado según lo dispuesto en la ley estatal o local; o (d) Prevenir, limitar o afectar de cualquier otra manera la aplicabilidad de cualquier otra ley, regulación, requisito, política o norma que disponga un mayor monto, acumulación o uso por parte de los empleados de tiempo de enfermedad pagado o que extienda otras protecciones a los empleados. (2) Los derechos y recursos bajo la Ley de Familias Saludables y Lugares de Trabajo de Nebraska no podrán ser renunciados por ningún acuerdo, política, formulario o condición de empleo. Cualquier renuncia de este tipo será nula y sin efecto.

**Sec. 11. Divisibilidad** Si alguna sección de este acto o cualquier parte de alguna sección se declara inválida o inconstitucional, la declaración no afectará la validez o constitucionalidad de las porciones restantes. \_\_\_\_

MEDIDA DE INICIATIVA 437

Título y texto de la iniciativa medida 437

Propuesto por petición de iniciativa

Un voto “A FAVOR” promulgará un estatuto que hace inaplicables las sanciones bajo la ley estatal y local para el uso, posesión y adquisición de una cantidad permitida (hasta cinco onzas) de cannabis con fines médicos para un paciente calificado con una recomendación escrita de un profesional de la salud, y para un cuidador para ayudar a un paciente calificado con estas actividades.

Un voto “EN CONTRA” significa que dicho estatuto no se promulgará.

¿Debe promulgarse un estatuto que haga inaplicables las sanciones previstas en la legislación estatal y local por el uso, posesión y adquisición de una cantidad permitida (hasta cinco onzas) de cannabis con fines médicos para un paciente calificado con una recomendación escrita de un profesional de la salud, y para un cuidador para ayudar a un paciente calificado con estas actividades?

- ☐ A Favor
- ☐ En Contra

Texto completo de la iniciativa medida 437

**DECLARACIÓN DE INTENCIONES:** El objeto de esta petición es promulgar un estatuto que haga inaplicables las sanciones bajo la ley estatal y local por el uso, posesión y adquisición de cantidades limitadas de cannabis para fines médicos por un paciente calificado con una recomendación escrita de un profesional de la salud, y para un cuidador que asista a un paciente calificado en estas actividades.

Texto propuesto de la petición de iniciativa estatutaria

(el texto subrayado indica que se ha añadido, el tachado indica que se ha eliminado)

**TEXTO: UNA LEY relativa al cannabis; para adoptar la Ley de Protección del Paciente de Cannabis Medicinal de Nebraska.**

Que sea promulgado por el pueblo del Estado de Nebraska:

**Sección 1.** Las secciones 1 a 3 de esta ley serán conocidas y podrán ser citadas como la Ley de Protección del Paciente de Cannabis Medicinal de Nebraska.

**Sec. 2.** A los efectos de la Ley de Protección del Paciente de Cannabis Medicinal de Nebraska: (1)(a) Por cantidad permitida de cannabis se entiende hasta cinco onzas de cannabis. (b) La cantidad permitida de cannabis no incluye el peso de cualquier otro ingrediente combinado con cannabis como parte de administraciones tóxicas u orales, alimentos, bebidas u otras preparaciones; (2)(a) Cannabis significa todas las partes de la planta del género cannabis, ya sea en crecimiento o no, sus semillas, la resina extraída de cualquier parte de la planta y cualquier compuesto, fabricación, sal, derivado, mezcla o preparación de la planta, sus semillas o su resina. (b) El cannabis incluye la marihuana, el hachís y el cannabis concentrado. (c) El cannabis no incluye el cáñamo, tal y como se define en la Sección 2-503(13) de la Ley de Cultivo de Cáñamo de Nebraska, ni los tallos maduros de la planta, la fibra producida a partir de dichos tallos, el aceite o el pastel elaborados a partir de las semillas de la planta, la semilla esterilizada de la planta incapaz de germinar o el cannabidiol contenido en un producto farmacológico aprobado por la Administración Federal de Alimentos y Medicamentos; (3) Por accesorios de cannabis se entiende cualquier equipo, producto o material de cualquier tipo que se utilice, esté destinado a utilizarse o esté diseñado para utilizarse en el almacenamiento, vaporización o



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contención de cannabis, o para ingerir, inhalar o introducir de cualquier otro modo cannabis en el cuerpo humano; (4) Cuidador significa: (a) En el caso de un paciente calificado que tenga dieciocho años o más y no esté bajo la protección de un tutor legal, una persona que: (i) Tiene al menos veintiún años de edad; y (ii) Ha sido designado por un paciente calificado en un affidavit firmado; (b) En el caso de un paciente calificado que tenga menos de dieciocho años de edad o un paciente calificado bajo la protección de un tutor legal: (i) El tutor legal o el padre con autoridad para tomar decisiones sobre la atención médica del paciente calificado; o (ii) Una persona designada en una declaración jurada por el tutor legal o padre con autoridad para tomar decisiones sobre atención médica; o (c) Una instalación de atención médica según se define en la sección 71-413 o una agencia de salud en el hogar según se define en la sección 71-417, si la instalación o agencia ha sido designada por un paciente calificado o el tutor legal o padre con autoridad para tomar decisiones de atención médica de un paciente calificado en una declaración jurada y si la instalación o agencia ha acordado por escrito servir como cuidador para el paciente calificado; (5) Profesional de la salud significa un médico, un médico osteópata, un asistente médico o un enfermero practicante licenciado bajo la Ley de Credenciales Uniformes o que esté licenciado en cualquier estado y ejerciendo de acuerdo con la Ley de Credenciales Uniformes; (6) Paciente calificado significa: (a) Una persona de dieciocho años de edad o más con una recomendación por escrito de un profesional de la salud; o (b) Un individuo menor de dieciocho años de edad con una recomendación por escrito de un profesional de la salud y con el permiso por escrito de un tutor legal o padre con autoridad para tomar decisiones de atención médica para el individuo; y (7) La recomendación escrita significa una declaración válida, firmada y fechada, de un profesional de la salud que indica que, en el juicio profesional del profesional de la salud, los beneficios potenciales del cannabis superan los daños potenciales para el alivio de la condición médica de un paciente, sus síntomas o efectos secundarios una recomendación escrita es válida por dos años después de la fecha de emisión o por un período de tiempo especificado por el profesional de la salud en la recomendación escrita.

**Sec. 3.** (1) Sujeto a los requisitos de la Ley de Protección del Paciente de Cannabis Medicinal de Nebraska, no será un delito bajo la ley estatal o local para: (a) Un paciente calificado para usar, poseer y adquirir una cantidad permitida de cannabis y accesorios de cannabis para el alivio de una condición médica, sus síntomas o efectos secundarios del tratamiento de la condición; o (b) Un cuidador para ayudar a un paciente calificado con las actividades establecidas en la subdivisión (1)(a) de esta sección mediante la posesión y adquisición de una cantidad permitida de cannabis y accesorios de cannabis en nombre del paciente calificado y la entrega de una cantidad permitida de cannabis y accesorios de cannabis al paciente calificado. (2) La conducta protegida por esta sección no estará sujeta a la Ley Uniforme de Sustancias Controladas.

**MEDIDA DE INICIATIVA 438**

Título y texto de la iniciativa medida 438

Propuesto por petición de iniciativa

*Un voto "A FAVOR" promulgará un estatuto que hace que las sanciones no sean aplicables en virtud de la ley estatal para la posesión, fabricación, distribución, entrega y dispensación de cannabis con fines médicos por entidades privadas registradas, y que establece una Comisión de Cannabis Medicinal de Nebraska para regular dichas actividades.*

*Un voto "EN CONTRA" significa que dicho estatuto no se promulgará.*

**¿Debe promulgarse un estatuto que haga inaplicables las sanciones en virtud de la legislación estatal para la posesión, fabricación, distribución, entrega y dispensación de cannabis con fines médicos por entidades privadas registradas, y que establezca una Comisión de Cannabis Medicinal de Nebraska para regular dichas actividades?**

☐ A Favor

☐ En Contra

**Texto completo de la iniciativa medida 438**

**DECLARACIÓN DE INTENCIONES:** El objeto de esta petición es promulgar una ley que haga inaplicables las sanciones previstas en la legislación estatal a la posesión, fabricación, distribución, entrega y dispensación de cannabis con fines médicos por parte de entidades privadas registradas, y establecer una Comisión de Cannabis Medicinal de Nebraska que regule dichas entidades.

**Texto propuesto de la petición de iniciativa estatutaria**

(el texto subrayado indica que se ha añadido, el tachado indica que se ha eliminado)

**TEXTO: UNA LEY relativa al cannabis; para adoptar la Ley de Regulación del Cannabis Médico de Nebraska.**

**Que sea promulgado por el pueblo del Estado de Nebraska:**

**Sección 1.** Regulación del cannabis medicinal Las secciones 1 a 6 de esta ley serán conocidas y podrán ser citadas como la Ley de Regulación del Cannabis Medicinal de Nebraska.

**Sec. 2.** A efectos de la Ley de Regulación del Cannabis Medicinal de Nebraska: (1) (a) Cannabis significa todas las partes de la planta del género cannabis, ya sea en crecimiento o no, sus semillas, la resina extraída de cualquier parte de la planta y cualquier compuesto, fabricación, sal, derivado, mezcla o preparación de la planta, sus semillas o su resina. (b) El cannabis incluye la marihuana, el hachís y el cannabis concentrado. (c) El cannabis no incluye el cáñamo, tal y como se define en la Sección 2-503(13) de la Ley de Cultivo de Cáñamo de Nebraska, ni los tallos maduros de la planta, la fibra producida a partir de dichos tallos, el aceite o el pastel elaborados a partir de las semillas de la planta, la semilla esterilizada de la planta incapaz de germinar o el cannabidiol contenido en un producto farmacológico aprobado por la Administración Federal de Alimentos y Medicamentos; (2) Por accesorios de cannabis se entiende cualquier equipo, producto o material de cualquier tipo que se utilice, esté destinado a utilizarse o esté diseñado para utilizarse en la plantación, propagación, cultivo, crecimiento, cosecha, compostaje, fabricación, composición, conversión, producción, procesamiento, preparación, prueba, análisis, envasado, reenvasado, almacenamiento, vaporización o contención de cannabis, o para ingerir, inhalar o introducir de cualquier otro modo cannabis en el cuerpo humano; (3) El cannabis para fines médicos significa cannabis, productos de cannabis y accesorios de cannabis destinados a pacientes calificados de acuerdo con cualquier ley promulgada contemporáneamente con la adopción de la Ley de Regulación del Cannabis Médico de Nebraska o en cualquier momento posterior y que hace que las penas no sean aplicables al uso de cannabis por pacientes calificados para el alivio de una condición médica, sus síntomas o los efectos secundarios del tratamiento de la condición; (4) Productos de cannabis se refiere a productos que están compuestos de cannabis, concentrado de cannabis o extracto de cannabis, y otros ingredientes, y que están destinados para uso o consumo, tales como, pero no limitados a, productos comestibles, ungüentos y tinturas; (5) Comisión significa la Comisión de Cannabis Medicinal de Nebraska; (6) Establecimiento de cannabis registrado significa una entidad privada registrada de acuerdo con la Ley de Regulación del Cannabis Medicinal de Nebraska que posee, fabrica, distribuye, entrega o dispensa cannabis con fines médicos; y (7) El registro significa un registro otorgado por la comisión a una entidad privada que procesa, fabrica, distribuye, entrega o dispensa cannabis para fines médicos.

**Sec. 3.** (1) Sujeto a los requisitos de la Ley de Regulación del Cannabis Medicinal de Nebraska, no será un delito bajo la ley estatal que un establecimiento de cannabis registrado, sus empleados y sus agentes posean, fabriquen, distribuyan, entreguen y dispensen cannabis para fines médicos, siempre que dicha conducta cumpla con las reglas y regulaciones aplicables adoptadas y promulgadas por la Comisión de acuerdo con la Ley de Regulación del Cannabis Medicinal de Nebraska. (2) La conducta protegida por esta sección no estará sujeta a la Ley Uniforme de Sustancias Controladas.

**Sec. 4.** (1) Con el propósito de proporcionar el registro y la regulación necesarios de las personas que poseen, fabrican, distribuyen, entregan y dispensan cannabis para fines médicos de acuerdo con la Ley de Regulación del Cannabis Médico de Nebraska, se crea la Comisión de Cannabis Médico de Nebraska. (2) La comisión estará compuesta por no menos de tres y no más de cinco miembros. Los tres miembros de la Comisión de Control de Bebidas Alcohólicas de Nebraska serán miembros ex officio de la comisión, sirviendo términos y recibiendo nombramientos de la misma manera que se establece en la sección 53-105. (4) El Gobernador puede nombrar a dos miembros adicionales, sujetos a la confirmación por una mayoría de los miembros elegidos para la Legislatura, para servir junto con los miembros de la Comisión de Control de Bebidas Alcohólicas de Nebraska como miembros de la Comisión de Cannabis Medicinal de Nebraska. Los miembros nombrados de acuerdo con este inciso servirán términos de seis años. (5) El Gobernador puede volver a nombrar a los miembros de la comisión, sujeto a la aprobación de la mayoría de los miembros elegidos para la Legislatura.

**Sec. 5.** El poder de regular todas las fases del control de la posesión, fabricación, distribución, entrega y dispensación de cannabis para fines médicos por establecimientos de cannabis registrados en el estado, de acuerdo con la Ley de Regulación del Cannabis Médico de Nebraska, está otorgado exclusivamente a la comisión.

**Sec. 6.** La comisión deberá: (1) No más tarde del 1 de julio de 2025, establecer criterios para aceptar o denegar solicitudes de registros, incluyendo la adopción, promulgación y aplicación de reglas, regulaciones y estándares de elegibilidad razonables para dichos registros; (2) No más tarde del 1 de octubre de 2025, comenzar a otorgar registros a los solicitantes que cumplan con los estándares de elegibilidad y otros requisitos establecidos por la comisión; (3) Conceder, denegar, revocar y suspender inscripciones basadas en criterios y procedimientos razonables establecidos por la comisión; (4) Tener la autoridad para adoptar, promulgar

y hacer cumplir conjuntos distintos de reglas y regulaciones para diferentes categorías de establecimientos de cannabis registrados; (5) Administrar juramentos o afirmaciones según sea necesario para llevar a cabo la Ley de Regulación del Cannabis Medicinal de Nebraska; (6) Emitir citaciones para la asistencia de testigos o la producción de cualquier registro, libro, memorando, documento u otros papeles o cosas en o antes de cualquier audiencia según sea necesario para permitir que la comisión cumpla efectivamente con sus deberes; (7) Inspeccionar el funcionamiento de cualquier establecimiento de cannabis registrado con el propósito de verificar el cumplimiento de las normas y regulaciones adoptadas y promulgadas por la comisión; (8) Tener la autoridad para imponer, sujeto a revisión judicial bajo la Ley de Procedimiento Administrativo, multas administrativas por cada violación de cualquier norma y regulación adoptada y promulgada de conformidad con la Ley de Regulación del Cannabis Medicinal de Nebraska; (9) Cobrar las multas administrativas impuestas bajo esta sección y remitir las multas al Tesorero del Estado para su distribución de acuerdo con el Artículo VII, sección 5, de la Constitución de Nebraska; (10) Establecer procedimientos para la gobernanza de la comisión; (11) Adquirir las oficinas, instalaciones, asesoría y personal necesarios; y (12) Realizar todas las acciones necesarias y adecuadas para llevar a cabo sus poderes y deberes bajo la Ley de Regulación del Cannabis Medicinal de Nebraska, incluyendo la adopción y promulgación de reglas y regulaciones y otras acciones permitidas por la Ley de Procedimiento Administrativo.

**MEDIDA DE INICIATIVA 439**

Título y texto de la iniciativa medida 439

Propuesto por petición de iniciativa

*Un voto "A FAVOR" enmendará la Constitución de Nebraska para establecer que todas las personas tendrán el derecho fundamental al aborto hasta la viabilidad fetal, o cuando sea necesario para proteger la vida o la salud de la paciente embarazada, sin interferencia del estado o sus subdivisiones políticas. La viabilidad fetal se define como el momento del embarazo en el que, según el criterio profesional del médico que trata a la paciente, existe una probabilidad significativa de que el feto sobreviva fuera del útero sin la aplicación de medidas médicas extraordinarias.*

*Un voto "EN CONTRA" no modificará la Constitución de Nebraska en ese sentido.*

**Debe enmendarse la Constitución de Nebraska para incluir una nueva sección que establezca: "Todas las personas tendrán el derecho fundamental al aborto hasta la viabilidad fetal, o cuando sea necesario para**

**proteger la vida o la salud de la paciente embarazada, sin interferencia del Estado o de sus subdivisiones políticas. Por viabilidad fetal se define como el momento del embarazo en el que, según el criterio profesional del médico que trata a la paciente, existe una probabilidad significativa de que el feto sobreviva fuera del útero sin la aplicación de medidas médicas extraordinarias."**

☐ A Favor

☐ En Contra

**Texto completo de la iniciativa medida 439**

**DECLARACIÓN DE INTENCIONES:** El objeto de esta petición es enmendar la Constitución de Nebraska para proporcionar a todas las personas el derecho fundamental al aborto sin interferencia del estado o sus subdivisiones políticas hasta la viabilidad fetal, que es el momento en el embarazo en que, según el juicio profesional del médico de la paciente, hay una probabilidad significativa de que el feto sobreviva de manera sostenida fuera del útero sin la aplicación de medidas médicas extraordinarias; o cuando sea necesario para proteger la vida o la salud de la paciente embarazada.

**Lenguaje de la enmienda constitucional propuesta**

(el texto subrayado indica que se ha añadido, el tachado indica que se ha eliminado)

**TEXTO: El Artículo I de la Constitución de Nebraska será enmendado añadiendo una nueva sección 31 como se muestra:**

I-31 Todas las personas tendrán un derecho fundamental al aborto hasta la viabilidad fetal, o cuando sea necesario para proteger la vida o la salud de la paciente embarazada, sin interferencia del estado o sus subdivisiones políticas. La viabilidad fetal significa el momento en el embarazo en que, en el juicio profesional del médico tratante de la paciente, hay una probabilidad significativa de que el feto sobreviva de manera sostenida fuera del útero sin la aplicación de medidas médicas extraordinarias.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert B. Evnen

Secretary of State

(Publish three times, weeks of Oct. 14, Oct. 21, and Oct. 28)

ZNEZ

## Homer News

By Stacie Johnson

### Homer Volunteer has plenty on the agenda

The men and women of Homer Volunteer Fire & Rescue have been busy preparing community events for the next few months.

First up is the annual Homer Fire Department Fall Craft and Vendor Show this Saturday, Oct. 19 at the fire hall from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Free entry with plenty of vendors and food to enjoy.

Next, you'll be pleased to learn that Homer Volunteer is picking up where the American Legion left off.

"We all enjoyed going to the Legion Hall for a fish fry; now that they have decided to hang it up, we're going to try holding them ourselves!" organizers said.

"We purchased their set-up and are in the process of getting ready to host our own," they continued. "Join us for the trial run!"

This trial run is set for Saturday, Nov. 9 from 5-7 p.m. at the fire hall.

Prices run \$15 for adults, \$8 for children, with ages 5 and under free.

Fish fryers will be serving pollock, catfish, and river fish along with chicken strips, fries, coleslaw and beans.

With the Homer Community Club, Jr. Knights Athletics, the Homer Betterment Committee, Homer Volunteer, the village board, and active business owners, our community continues to benefit from the hard work and good will of so many.

### Haunted school happenings

Homer School will again host the popular Halloween Carnival in the gym on Saturday, Oct. 26 from 5-7 p.m. Join the rest of the ghosts and goblins, coming dressed in your best costume with games and treats for everyone.

Following the carnival, be ready to get your fright on by testing your skills at the Haunted Corn Maze from 8-10 p.m. Cost for the maze is \$10.

### Hoot 'n Hollarween at Danish Alps

Saturday, Oct. 26 will be filled with archery, pumpkin painting and carving, costume contest for all ages, and a treasure hunt, a hayrack ride, hot dogs, and trick-or-treat from 3:30p.m. on at the Hoot 'n Hollarween at Danish Alps in Hubbard.



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Halloween lovers are invited to decorate a trunk or camper and hand out candy to the young ones for the 5:30 p.m. trick or treat event. Park fees apply.

### Trunk or Treat volunteers

Homer Elementary School will again host a fun Trunk or Treat event at the school on Thursday, Oct. 31.

Parents and patrons of the district are invited to decorate a table for Halloween and pass out candy to the preschool through fifth graders as they parade the halls.

Contact elementary principal Mrs. Uhl with any questions or to get yourself signed up for some spooky fun: abbieuhl@homerknights.org or 402-698-2377 ext. 108.

### Save the dates!

The Dakota County Historical Society's 2024 Annual Christmas Open House celebration will take place from 1-4 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays, Nov. 2-3 and Nov. 9-10.

This historic complex, hosting the O'Connor House, the Combs School and a museum, is located two miles east of Homer, Nebraska.

A special aspect of this year's festivities will be Prairie Poet Storyteller, Marci Broyhill, sharing a variety of stories regarding rural life. Her presentations, enhanced with PowerPoint slides, will take place in the Combs School House on Sundays, Nov. 3 and Nov. 10 from 2-3 p.m.

Marci has authored three books of narrative poetry — Nebraska's Outlaw Trails: Facts, Legends, and Lore; The White Horse Dream: A True Story; and Tangled Trails: Family, Friends and Folly.

In the words of a former local girl, "Kudos to Jean Hummel and the Dakota County Historical Society for their tireless efforts in preserving this gem! Come and experience the magic during the first two weekends of November."

### Broyhill is poetry finalist

Many may remember long-time Homer kindergarten teacher and Dakota City resident Marci Broyhill. Besides molding little minds, Marci has been active in the state and the Midwest with her western poetry and presentations with her sister.

Now Marci is being honored as a Top 5 Finalist in the 2024 IWMA Poetry Book of the Year Award for

her Tangled Trails: Family, Friends & Folly.

The International Western Music Association will announce the winner during the IWMA Awards on Nov. 16. Congratulations, Mrs. Broyhill!



### My jersey, your impact

"My Jersey, Your Impact" has become a football tradition at Homer High School. On the morning of the last football game, the seniors choose a staff member who has made an impact on them during their time at Homer. The staff member gets to wear their senior's jersey for the day as a show of gratitude and appreciation.

"This is such an honor because these boys take such pride in wearing their jerseys on game day," said Abbie Uhl, elementary principal and jersey recipient. "I was honored to be asked by Ben Roost. I've been blessed with knowing Ben much longer than his time here at school," she explained.

Mrs. Uhl, who previously served the district as an elementary teacher, had the privilege of looping with this group of seniors for four years.

"This group holds such a special place in my heart," she said.

Football coach Shawn Spurrell added, "As you know, teachers give and give and give, and students don't always have the opportunity or know how to show their appreciation. This is just a small way for us to do that."

### School activities

Thursday, Oct. 24 — Cross Country State Send-Off pep rally, 9:40 a.m.; Picture Day — make-up day, 8 a.m.; VB triangular vs. Wakefield, Winnebago, 5 p.m. rolling schedule

Friday, Oct. 25 — No school — Fall break; XC State at Kearney Country Club

Saturday, Oct. 26 — Halloween Carnival Monday, Oct. 28 — VB subdistricts, TBD

## Emerson News

By Lulene Sebade

### Village Board meeting

The Emerson Village board met on Oct. 9, with board members Tarry Daum, Ryan Beacom, Lisa Harral, and Mark Graf in attendance. Member Rob Bose was absent.

Utility Superintendent Dick McCabe gave an update on the water project. It was moved and seconded to approve Pay Application No. 10 with RP Constructors, LLC. Pay application No. 1 and Pay application No 2 with Viking Painting were tabled until the next month.

McCabe gave an update on the Solar Farm project. It was moved and approved the contract with Priority Power and include BABA Regulations, Domestic Content Regulations and Davis Bacon Regulations.

It was moved and approved to award the interim financing construction loan for the solar project to First Nebraska Bank of Emerson.

A Motion was made to approve Ordinance 1039 relating to Alley Paving District No. 2024-03 and to accept the presented final pay out amount of \$12,865.36 for the Street Paving assessment SIP 98-19, ID220001243.

The board approved Resolution 2024-17 relating to the temporary use of the state highway system for the Emerson Christmas Kickoff parade on 12-7-2024

The board discussed maintenance of Rose Hill Cemetery. The Village will post a bid request for Rose Hill Cemetery mowing and trimming for the 2025 season.

The board approved a building permit, with variance at 510 State Street.

The board discussed the property at 401 Nebraska Street. No action was taken.

Resolution 2024-18 relating to withdraw of checking deposits for pool restoration.

### Mitchell Benefit Oct. 26

The Auction and Benefit for Aubrey Mitchell will be held this Saturday, Oct. 26 at the Sacred Heart Gym. Doors will open at 4 p.m., the serving of the meal will begin at 5:00 p.m. for a freewill donation. The silent auction is open from 4-6 p.m., with the live auction beginning at 7 p.m.

Aubrey is the daughter of Mel Twohig and Mike Mitchell, and was injured in a horse accident several months ago. She spent several months in an Omaha hospital and is

home now and attending school part time.

### Lallmans welcome son

A son was born to Joshua and Justine Lallman on Oct. 14. He weighed 7 pounds, and has been named Miles Allan. He joins a brother, Landry. Maternal grandparents are Brent and Brenda Sebade of Emerson. Maternal Great Grandparents are Lulene Sebade of Emerson and Ron and Evie Laub of Grand Island. Paternal grandparents are Wayne and Angela Lallman of Omaha.

### Trunk or Treat event

The Emerson Betterment Committee and Heritage of Emerson will host Trunk or Treat on Thursday, Oct. 31 (Halloween) at Aaron's Park from 5-7 p.m. Food and candy will be offered to all. If you are interested in donating to the EBC to help with expenses you may leave your donation at the Emerson Village Office.

Night on Main Nov. 7

Emerson will once again have Night on Main on Thursday, Nov. 7. There will be food, crafts and Christmas items. This is a great opportunity for you to get an early start on your Christmas shopping.

### Fall Food Challenge

The Emerson-Hubbard Food Pantry is participating in the Thrivent Fall Food Shelf Challenge. If the Emerson-Hubbard Food Pantry can collect 500 individual food items between Oct. 15 and Nov. 15, they will receive \$500. If you wish to purchase items for the Food Bank at the Post 60 Grocery Store in Emerson, the store will deliver your purchase to the food bank.

### Halloween Parade set

Emerson-Hubbard Elementary School will have the Halloween parade on Emerson's Main Street this year. Students will parade from the elementary school going south on the west sidewalk of Main Street. They will walk to the end of the business district and the school buses will be at the Casino parking lot to transport the students to the Heritage Nursing Home, where they will parade and display their costumes.

### Red Ribbon Week

Red Ribbon Week at Emerson-Hubbard is Oct. 23-31. The elementary students will be celebrating healthy choices and living drug-free. The elementary students will have theme days to show their support for the fight against drugs.



(PHOTO BY LULENE SEBADE)

**Emerson's Water tower has a new paint job. The water tower was erected in 2000 and this is the first time it has had a paint job. The cost of the water tower in 2000 was \$326,500 and was built by McGuire Iron Co. Cost of the painting was \$264,400 and was done by Viking Painting LCC. The Emerson water tower holds 150,000 gallons of water. It is a single-pedestal elevated single-storage tank and this is the first time it has been painted. Water towers usually need painting every 20 years. The new paint job includes Emerson on two sides and also has a flag painted on it. Make sure you notice it as it is beautiful.**



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OBITUARIES

Ray L. Schleusener, 71



Ray L. Schleusener passed away on Wednesday, Sept. 25, 2024. Funeral services will be 11 a.m., Monday, Sept. 30, 2024 at First Lutheran Church in South Sioux City. Visitation will be 2-4 p.m. Sunday, ...

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