



Honoring Our Vets

Photos from Vets' Day events. Page 4A

Since 1909 DAKOTA COUNTY STAR

1000 West 29th St., South Sioux City, NE 68776 Volume 113, Issue 46 8 pages \$1.00 Thursday, November 14, 2024

STAR CALENDAR

Election update

It was incorrectly reported in last week's Dakota County Star that the results from the election in Dakota County were the final totals. County Clerk Cherie Conley noted that there were 130 provisional votes that had not been counted at press time and were to be counted Wednesday (yesterday). Not all of those votes will be counted if the voter was not a registered voter, but the final totals could change.

Coffee Hour Friday

This Friday's Chamber Coffee Hour will be hosted by Tri-State Physicians and Physical Therapy, located at 3900 Dakota Ave.

Coffee begins at 9:30 a.m., with the program starting at 10 a.m.

Public Works to meet

The next Public Works Committee meeting will be held Monday, Nov. 18 at 5 p.m. in the City Council chambers. A current agenda is available at www.southsiouxcity.org.

Thanksgiving hours

The Dakota County Star offices will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday, Nov. 28 and 29. Papers for that week's edition will be delivered on its normal schedule. Subscribers may get their paper a day or two later due to the holiday.

Optimists soup supper

The South Sioux City Optimists will hold their annual Soup and Dessert Luncheon on Tuesday, Nov. 19 from 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at the American Legion Hall, located at 109 East 19th Street. Soups include cheesburger, chili and chicken noodle, and a bake sale and raffle will also be included. Cost is \$10 per person, with takeout available. Proceeds go to support the club's youth projects in the community.

Got an event?

If your school, church or nonprofit has an upcoming event that you'd like to promote, send the information to the Dakota County Star at least two weeks ahead of time. Information can be sent to news@dakcostar.com or call (402) 494-4264.

LOCAL WEATHER

Data Courtesy National Weather Service FOR WEEK OF NOV. 14-20, 2024

THURSDAY	50	34
	50	34
FRIDAY	51	36
	51	36
SATURDAY	55	35
	55	35
SUNDAY	53	32
	53	32
MONDAY	49	31
	49	31
TUESDAY	49	30
	49	30
WEDNESDAY	48	31
	48	31

Never mind the pundits: Tranmer nails election

SSC senior picks winner in all 50 states

By MICHAEL CARNES
Star Publisher

Forget CNN. Never mind Fox News. Gallup? Fuhgeddaboutit. Who cares what all those pollsters and pundits think? What do they know?

South Sioux City High School senior Izzie Tranmer had the 2024 Presidential election all figured out, even down to the two states with split electoral votes, in predicting Donald Trump's 312-226 win over Kamala Harris in last week's race for the White House.

While the news networks and pollsters were all trying in vain to predict who would win which state, Tranmer did her research, made some tough decisions on close races, and wound up correctly picking the winner in all 50 states, including Maine and Nebraska, where the electoral votes are split based on who wins each state's district.

Tranmer's presidential picks were part of a project on the electoral college in Mark Casey's government class at South Sioux City High School. Casey has had kids in his class pick during every election since 1988, but this was the first time a student correctly picked the winner in all 50 states.

"She even got the districts split in Nebraska and Maine right. Nobody on TV got it right and she did," Casey said.

Each year there is an election for President since 1988, Casey has given students the opportunity to research the election and then try to guess which candidate will win in each state.

And Tranmer went 50 for 50, including the correct

pick in each of the key swing states, all of which went to Trump.

"I knew California would go to (Harris) and Texas would be (Trump), so I just focused on the races in the swing states of Wisconsin, Michigan, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Nevada and Arizona," Tranmer said.

Tranmer did her research, looking at the electoral maps of the last 20 elections that Casey has posted in his classroom and looking up a variety of websites and using Google to try and figure out which side to pick in each state.

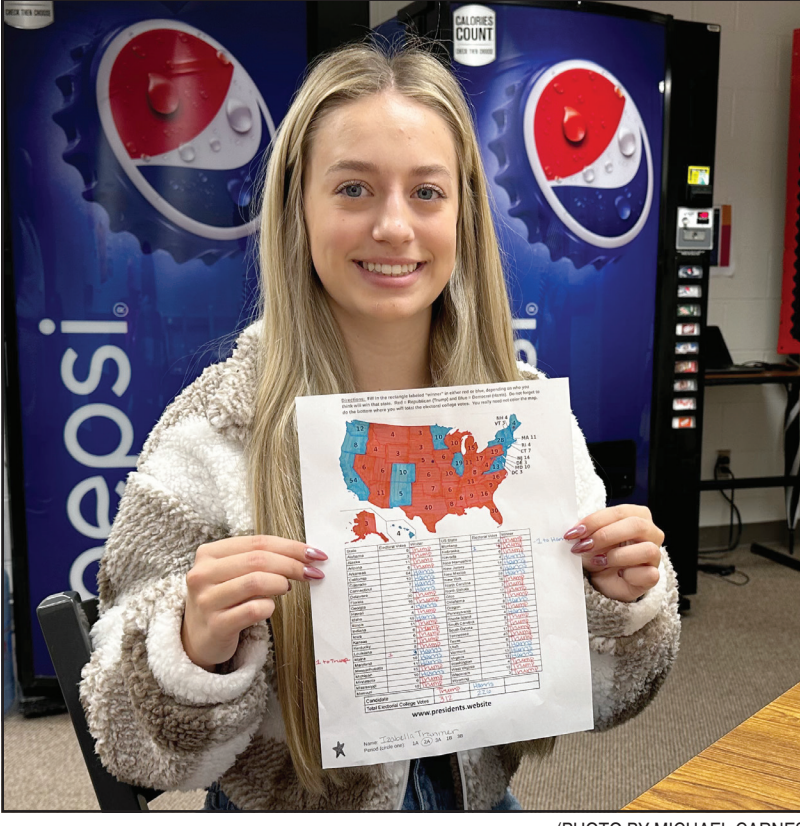
"Some of them I just had to guess because the research was saying one side or the other," she said. "I guessed on Pennsylvania and I went against what a lot of sources were saying on Michigan because I just had a feeling it would be red."

It wasn't until early last Wednesday morning that her final two picks — Arizona and Nevada — came through.

"I stayed up until 2:30 in the morning watching the results, and as the states turned I was thinking I got another one right and another one," she said. "We were waiting on Nevada and Arizona and I was so surprised when they called them."

Nebraska and Maine, which splits electoral votes based on which candidate wins in each district, both split their votes. Nebraska's First District, which includes the city of Omaha, went with Harris, and Tranmer strongly considered the Second District before deciding on Trump, who went on to win that district

SEE ELECTION, 2A



South Sioux City High School senior Izzie Tranmer correctly predicted the winner of the election for President of the United States in all 50 states last week. The project was part of a unit on the electoral college in Mark Casey's U.S. Government class. (PHOTO BY MICHAEL CARNES)

CLEAR SKIES GRACE FREEDOM PARK FOR VETERANS' DAY



Students from South Sioux City High School presented a Veterans' Day program Monday morning at Freedom Park in South Sioux City. It was a perfect morning to honor our nation's veterans, with sunny skies greeting those in attendance. (PHOTO BY LANCE SWANSON)

Hubbard resident encourages cost share on M Avenue

By MICHAEL CARNES
Star Publisher

Tuesday's Dakota County Board of Commissioners meeting was highlighted by a suggestion to include M Avenue in a road construction project that was announced for next year.

Hubbard resident Trudy Jepsen asked if the county could look into some type of plan to include M Avenue from Highway 35 to the entrance to the Danish Alps State Recreation Area that would pave the gravel road leading into the rec area and include a lower speed limit that would be a safer path to the facility.

"There are campers and RV's that come through the road and are not used to the heavy traffic and driving in the middle of the road, and it's not safe," she told the board during public comment.

Jepsen said that dirt work could be done on the road that would make for a better plateau in the hilly area, and any reduction of the speed limit from the current 50 miles per hour would be a good option as well.

Jepsen said that if the county could communicate with the Nebraska Department of Roads, which announced plans last week for a road project that runs from just west of Hubbard to Highway 75/77 and would include the entrance to M Avenue, they might be able to work on some kind of a cost-share agreement.

"It would have more weight if the commissioners would call and express interest," she suggested.

Commissioner Scott Love said there have been some discussions in the past between the county, state and Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District about M

Avenue construction, but those meetings never brought a final proposal to consider.

"We had some sit-downs with several entities, and it seemed like it wasn't held together and it was forgotten about," Love said. "All these entities that were involved have had projects suggested for a number of years, so somebody needs to get on it and stay on it and it could be done. It's going to be expensive, but that's what needs to happen."

Board chair Martin Hohenstein said a cost-sharing agreement would probably be the only way the project could be done.

"The first thing we can do is call the state and see if they would be interested in cost-sharing," he said. "Without a cost-sharing agreement, it would be pretty tough (to fund the project) with the new rules coming out on raising taxes."

Golf carts on city streets gets first nod

By MICHAEL CARNES
Star Publisher

Allowing golf carts to be driven in residential areas of South Sioux City was under discussion during Monday's City Council meeting.

A request by a local resident to be able to drive a golf cart on a residential street in town prompted city officials to look into what would be required to allow these vehicles on city streets and what concerns there might be involved.

City attorney Mike Schmiedt said that the city has an ordinance regarding all-terrain vehicles, but allowing golf carts would require a number of items, including a city-issued permit, proper insurance and headlights and taillights.

Schmiedt said that if the Council wished to go ahead with the ordinance, it should take its time.

"I would not recommend the waiving of the three readings and take time to drill down on it," he said.

Police Chief Ed Mahon told the board that he had conversations with law enforcement in three other Nebraska communities and had not been told of any issues.

"I spoke with Wahoo, and they had never had a complaints, tickets or anything golf cart-related," he said. "Plattsmouth started with golf carts and went to ATVs and UTVs and had no problems. Papillion has a number of different roads where they're not allowed to run on, due to speed or traffic."

Mayor Rod Koch said he would like to see carts not allowed on Dakota Avenue, and Mahon agreed.

"The ones where the highest speeds are, like Dakota Avenue, I would agree, but other streets might be OK," he commented.

Councilman Monty Peters said he felt that golf carts should have lighting systems similar to motorcycles, including headlights, tail lights and blinkers.

Mahon said older models of golf carts, including his, would not be able to be used because they lack those lighting systems, which he said he had no problem with. Schmiedt added that the city's ordinance does require brake lights.

After about 20 minutes of discussion, the Council voted 6-0 (Councilmen Rick Bousquet and Jim Gunsolley were absent, although Gunsolley arrived later in the meeting) to approve first reading of the ordinance to give the Council and public an opportunity to address the variety of issues.

The Council also approved a final bid on the Foundry Road improvement project, which will allow for the road to be built with recycled plastic bags and include a number of additions that were still within the project's budget.

Barclay Asphalt was awarded the project, which includes four additions that bring the total project cost to \$988,451.28, which was about 24 percent below the engineer's estimate, according to City Clerk Nanci Walsh.

In addition to the road project, which runs south of Freedom Park down to the dog park, the road will be paved all the way to the D.A. Davis driveway (which is barricaded to traffic from the west), SEE GOLF CARTS, 2A



Northeast Nebraska Insurance President Cap Peterson cuts the ribbon on the new home of the insurance company in South Sioux City, located in the former Siouxland Bank building at 1427 Dakota Avenue.

NE Nebraska Insurance finds new home

By MICHAEL CARNES
Star Publisher

After years in the basement and hidden away from the main drag, a local insurance agent finally has a visible presence along Dakota Avenue.

Northeast Nebraska Insurance Agency recently moved into its new home at the old Siouxland Bank building at 1427 Dakota Avenue in downtown South Sioux City.

Northeast Nebraska Insurance bought out Iowa/Nebraska State Bank Insurance Agency in 1999, and after spending years in the basement of the bank building at the corner of 21st Street and Dakota Avenue, it eventually moved upstairs after finding its new location earlier this fall.

Dave Heck, manager of the company's local location (the company also has its main office in Wayne along with offices in Emerson, Ponca and four other locations in the Siouxland region), said the company originally was located in the basement before moving into a remodeled area.

"I came on board in 2000, and Mark Buckley came to me and asked what is one thing they could do to help the company, and I said 'Get us out of the basement because nobody knows we're here,'" Heck said.

An addition to the building around 2005 allowed the

company to move upstairs, where it remained until earlier this year.

New ownership was not holding up its end of the lease agreement, particularly when it involved snow removal and general upkeep requests, which forced the company to look for a new place to operate.

"We were not happy with the arrangement we had there," Heck said. "There were some issues that weren't being dealt with as far as snow removal and upkeep, and we looked for a couple of years because there weren't a lot of options available in downtown South Sioux City."

Conversations with Siouxland Bank owner Bart Gotch led to the bank's old location, which is built on land owned by St. Michael's Church and was owned by the Knights of Columbus.

"Bart did about everything short of calling the Vatican to help us," Heck joked. "We talked with the Knights of Columbus and they were kind enough to renovate the building and put in new floor covering and paint the walls."

Northeast Nebraska Insurance moved into the building on Sept. 20 and Heck said customers are being better served at the new location.

"We wanted to stay on the avenue, because that was important to our customers, and it's been easier for them to stop in," he said.

Rural voter nuance is deeply entrenched in election results

By MIKE MOEN
Nebraska News Connection

Donald Trump's victory in the race for the White House was again aided by wins in rural states such as Nebraska.

While other contributing factors are discussed, a rural expert says it's clear longstanding political sentiments in smaller towns haven't changed. As the results from Tuesday night are examined, political analysts cite Trump's gain with Latino voters.

Nick Jacobs, assistant professor of government at Colby College is also an author who has written about rural issues, and says the campaign also regained some ground in rural America that it had lost in 2020. Jacobs said if the media or political strategists try again to understand why these areas still largely back Trump, they have to resist preconceived notions.

"We're going to see it again with these diner interviews — is that prior to even being interviewed [post-2016], rural people were put into this prefabricated box," he explained.

"And the truth is, voters in rural places — [like] urban places — they're complicated."

It's been decades in the making, but Jacobs feels the public still doesn't grasp that rural voters feel underappreciated by the political establishment. The trouble is, he added, this generally doesn't lend itself to policies that can directly appeal to them. He thinks Democrats should keep trying to produce local candidates who can relate to these voters, adding that having both parties find success in rural America is good for democracy.

Jacobs said his research, along with separate polling, has shown that rural and urban voters often agree on certain issues.

"Concerns about corporate monopolies, freedom within, sort of, the marketplace, whether that's for health care or reproductive rights — there are very few policy issues that divide the two," he explained.

In Nebraska, voters this week rejected an abortion rights amendment

and instead endorsed restrictions, even as reproductive rights saw victories in other conservative states. However, Nebraskans did approve paid sick-leave requirements, a policy often aligned with the Left.

The Biden administration's big policy achievements, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act, have paved the way for a lot of rural investment. But Jacobs says many projects aren't shovel-ready yet, and aren't likely to move the needle with rural voters hesitant to embrace them.

"It can't be such a simple story as, 'Spend money and the votes will follow,' because what we're talking about [is] decades of feeling like 'the government has left me behind,'" he concluded.

Emerson receives EECBG award

The Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy has announced additional awards through its Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) program.

Nebraska received EECBG funds from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to support local communities in implementing high-impact, self-sustaining clean energy projects.

Emerson was the recipient of one of the grants, receiving \$100,000 to fund a 500Kw (AC)/650kW (DC) photovoltaic solar tracking facility at the village's wastewater treatment facility.

Eligible projects included upgrades to energy efficient lighting; installation of renewable energy systems on government buildings; development of alternative transportation infrastructure such as pedestrian walkways and bicycle paths; and public education to promote energy efficiency and conservation.

In August, NDEE announced EECBG grant awards to 12 Nebraska communities. With the additional grant awards announced in this release, the EECBG program has distributed more than \$1.1 million in funding.

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Area NRD elects three new reps

The Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District Board of Directors will see three new faces following last week's general election.

Rodney Storm, former city manager of Blair, will represent Subdistrict 1, replacing Ted Japp, who chose not to run for reelection.

Omaha physician Anne Hubbard defeated incumbent Patrick Bon-

net, securing the Subdistrict 9 seat. Brian Adams, a senior leader at OPPD, will represent Subdistrict 7, replacing Josh Henningsen, who chose not to seek another term.

Incumbent Larry Bradley retains his seat in Subdistrict 3 after defeating challenger Grant Melotz.

Incumbents Phil Davidson (Sub-

district 5) ran unopposed. Additional members of the Papio NRD Board of Directors include Fred Conley (Subdistrict 2), Tim McCormick (Subdistrict 4), Jim Thompson (Subdistrict 6), Tim Fowler (Subdistrict 8), and Zachary Irvine (Subdistrict 10).

GOLF CARTS: Council approves first reading of ordinance allowing golf carts

from Page 1A

the dog park parking lot, a driveway to the city's Well 11, and will also pave trails within Freedom Park.

In other action, the Council: — recognized the SSC Fire Department for receiving the Gold Helmet award, which recognizes fire departments that have more than 50 percent of their volunteer and retired firefighters on the National Firefighter Registry for Cancer.

— approved a professional services agreement for the Westside Connecting Trail with Jacobs Engineering Group.

— approved a special designated license for Covington Links for a special event.

— approved the list of fire and police candidates.

— approved an application for a \$750,000 grant through Municipality Infrastructure Aid Program to improve a property in the Roth Industrial Park area for a possible project on 164th Street. According to Economic Development Director Oscar Gomez, the potential project is a \$200 million project that could bring 120 jobs to the area. Although the property is in the city limits of Dakota City, South Sioux City would provide water, sewer and fiber technology to the area.

— approved a recommendation by Parks Director Gene Maffit to raise campground rates by \$3 to help pay for a variety of campground im-

provements, including better wi-fi connectivity and add a full-time staff member at the campground's office.

— approved a land option/purchase agreement for a crypto data

mining facility that would be located in the Roth Industrial Park.

The City Council's next meeting is Monday, Nov. 25 at 5 p.m. in council chambers.

ELECTION: Student picks all 50 wins

from Page 1A

and the Third District to secure four of the state's five electoral votes.

"I figured the Omaha district would be blue because it had gone that way in the past, and I just went with my gut and said Lincoln would go red," she said. "Getting those two states right was most surprising for me, because it's really tough to pick those and get them right."

Seniors at South Sioux City High School take government and eco-

nomics classes their senior year, and Tranmer said that while she's not one to talk about politics much, she enjoys learning about it in Mr. Casey's class.

"He's the best teacher for this because he's passionate and makes it enjoyable to listen to," she said. "You don't know which side he favors because he shares information on both sides and you can base your opinion from there, and that's how it should be."

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

Thursday, Nov. 14 — Taco salad, tomatoes, onions, sour cream, lettuce, applesauce

Friday, Nov. 15 — Open-faced turkey on Texas toast, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn, mandarin oranges

Monday, Nov. 18 — Turkey and noodles, mashed potatoes, broccoli and cheese, ruby applesauce

Tuesday, Nov. 19 — Ham and bean soup, cottage cheese, pickled beets, apricots, crackers, orange juice

Wednesday, Nov. 20 — Hot beef sandwich, mashed potatoes and gravy, peas, mixed fruit

SSC Optimists Soup and Dessert Luncheon

Tuesday, Nov. 19 – 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
American Legion, 109 E. 19th St.

Soups Available
 Cheeseburger
 Chili
 Chicken Noodle

\$10 per person
 (takeout available)

Proceeds used to support Optimists community youth programs

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Student Subscription*	\$ 39

(*September 1 - April 30) all areas

STAR DEADLINES

News	12 p.m. Mondays	Monday-Thursday
Advertising	4:30 p.m. Fridays	Friday
Classifieds/Legals	11:30 a.m. Mondays	Saturday-Sunday



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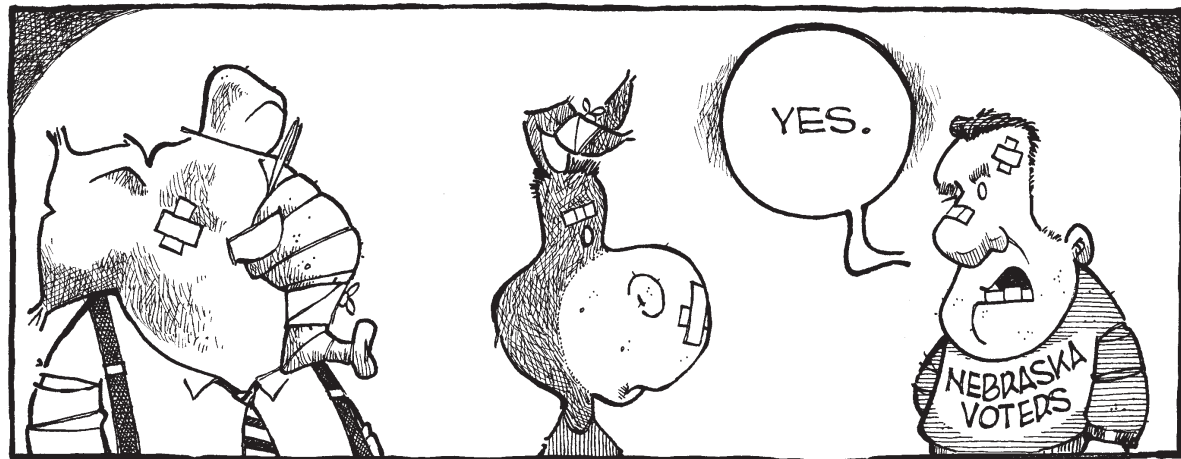
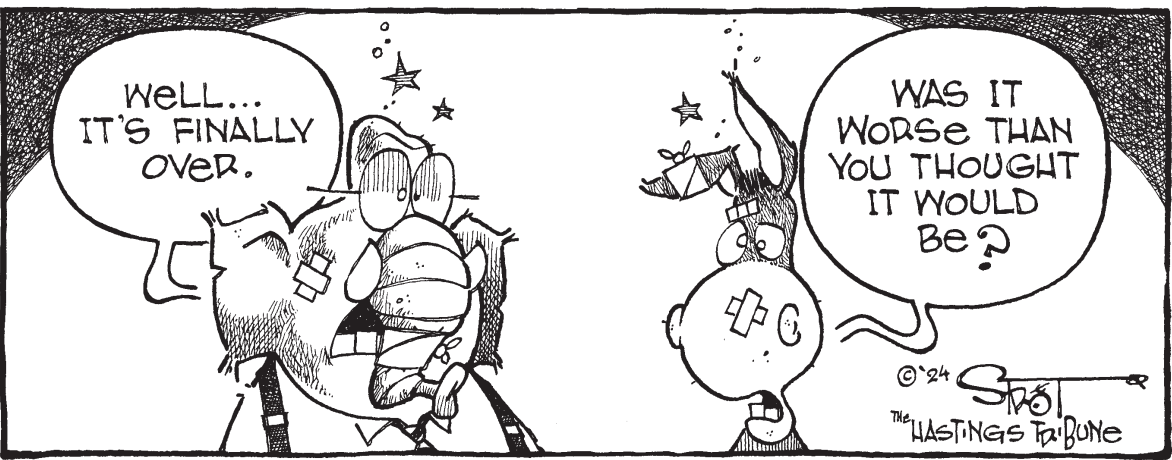
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The people have spoken

On Nov. 5, votes were cast and we found out the results of those votes. The people spoke and the next representative for District 17 will be Glen Meyer. Best wishes to him and his family in 2025.

Governor Pillen issued the following statement on the results of the 2024 general election. "Today is a great day for America and for Nebraska. Although there are still a few votes to count and some races remain too close to call, it is clear Nebraskans stood strong for their values and prosperity in this election.

I want to thank every Nebraska candidate who put themselves forward for public service. Elections are tough on candidates and their families, as it must be. They made a great sacrifice just to stand for office, and I commend each one of them for their willingness to serve.

I am deeply thankful that President Donald J. Trump will return to the White House. He carries with him the promise of a strong, prosperous, and secure America committed to the rule of law. I look forward to standing shoulder to shoulder with him in rebuilding a strong economy, fighting for fair trade for American workers, opposing Chinese meddling and securing the border.

Here in Nebraska, the people have chosen to maintain a strong conservative majority in our Legislature. I am excited to partner with senators to continue the work of creating a strong future for our kids, cutting taxes, standing up for the agriculture producers who are the backbone of our state and defending our values. We have much work to do, and I look forward to the 2025 legislative sessions and the promise it holds for the people of our state.

Nebraskans wisely chose to send steady, experienced conservatives to represent them in Congress. Preliminary results show that all five members of our federal delegation will continue their service, putting their seniority to work on behalf of the people of our state in a House and Senate that may both be led by conservative Republicans. Those majorities present tremendous opportunity for Nebraska, and I look forward to continued partnership with our delegation to advance our interests in Washington.

I am disappointed that selfish union bosses peddled lies and dark money ads to mislead Nebraskans into rip-

Legislative Update

Sen. Joni Albrecht
District 17



ping away Opportunity Scholarships from needy kids who had been given the chance to attend schools that worked for them, even as we invested unprecedented resources into our public schools. I will never give up on our kids, and I will keep up the fight to create better educational opportunities for them at every level.

I am deeply moved by the faith and conviction shown by Nebraskans in the two abortion-related ballot initiatives. Initiative 434 passed, enshrining pro-life protections in our Constitution that cannot be watered down by pro-abortion politicians. Simultaneously, Nebraskans rejected Initiative 439 and its radical creation of a fundamental right to abortion. It is a great day for unborn babies in Nebraska.

God Bless America and God Bless the State of Nebraska."

Voting results on abortion

I am very grateful that Nebraska stepped up and declared themselves a pro-life state. Pro-life Initiative 434 passed and pro-abortion initiative 439 was defeated. For the first time in history, pre-born babies in Nebraska have a floor of constitutional protection. By defeating Initiative 439 and passing Initiative 434, Nebraska voters rejected late-term abortion and built a wall of protection from the abortion industry. Nebraska's 12-week protection, parental notification ultrasound requirements, decades of pro-life laws, and our ability to continue fighting for greater protections have been preserved. Our bold, first-in-the-nation strategy to counter the abortion industry's game plan with our own pro-life initiative worked. (Nebraska Family Alliance. Press Release. "LIFE WINS! 434 Passes, 439 Defeated!" 06 November 2024.)

Protect Women and Children put out the following statement: "Nebraskans sent a message to the nation last night by rejecting the extreme initiative proposed by out-of-state activists allowing for taxpayer-

funded abortion up to the moment of birth. Instead, Nebraska resoundingly voted to become the first state to put protections for women and children into our state constitution. A heartfelt thank you to the 1,000 Nebraska medical professionals, coalition of faith leaders, dozens of elected officials, over 2,500 volunteers, and the brave female athletes that took a courageous stand for life."

NDOT Update

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) and District 3 Engineer Kevin Domogalla for their hard work on the roads in the district. Highway 9 has had quite a bit of work done on it and it is much nicer to drive on. I have spent many hours driving that road on my way to Lincoln and back. What a wonderful improvement.

On Nov. 4, the NDOT along with Governor Jim Pillen, hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the completion of the final segment of US-275 Scribner-West Point corridor. Expansion of this corridor began construction in the summer of 2021 near West Point. Expanding and improving the US-275 corridor has far-reaching, positive impacts on the mostly rural region of northeast Nebraska, supporting the region's economic competitiveness and providing a more efficient and reliable connection to national freight networks.

Completing the US-275 corridor would enhance the economic, employment, service, healthcare and educational connections for the surrounding region. This corridor provides local steelmakers, manufacturers, livestock producers, farmers and small businesses access to major markets statewide.

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.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Stranger than fiction

After a hearty congrats from Putin, ever mindful of promises and pronouncements swirling about the 2024 election, we take note.

With a glance, does not a stark future await? Everything from deporting an estimated 11million of the undocumented and drill-baby drill to canceling out the Department of Education and the Inflation Reduction Act. Madness reigns.

Meanwhile, the economy, where most Americans found disfavor, President Joe Biden's handling of such, commands center stage. Yet, with Trump, looking at the report below, his proposal could well sink us deeper. According to MSNBC's Morning Joe, Trump's economic plan "would add trillions to the national debt."

Specifically, from former treasury official Steve Rattner, we get a past, present and future.

With our nation's debt at \$35 trillion, Rattner's looks at how Trump and Harris would face this problem. A quick glance shows that they are on opposite ends of the financial spectrum.

Specifically, as part of a 10-year plan (in billions), Trump would extend all his tax cuts (\$4,252), including the wealthy, exempt Social Security (1,197), no tax on tips (118), lower corporate tax rate to 15 percent (563), eliminate IRA Green Energy Tax Credits (+921), his idea for tariffs nobody thinks this will actually happen (-2,592). This would add \$5.2 trillion more to the debt.

Harris, meanwhile, according to Rattner, "has a plan that will actually pay for itself." Trump's plan, meanwhile, favors the wealthy.

He adds, "The Harris plan favors average Americans. She only wants to extend tax cuts for those making less than \$400k." For the wealthy, she wants to raise their taxes to 39.6 percent (\$171), "make them pay their fair share." Rattner adds, "When you get to the bottom line down here, she would add only a trivial amount to the deficit. While this doesn't solve the deficit, he added, "it won't make it worse."

Hence, without tariffs, Trump will add \$5.2 trillion to the debt. Meanwhile, Harris will add very little (\$0.3). "It's a much superior plan," Rattner concludes, "that we've seen for a while."

Plenty of food for thought...with a critical view of Trump's spendy choices that he will make.

Finally, a boost. With Biden, not only has the nation's debt been lowered, our economy is booming. According to host Joe Scarborough, Harris is part of an administration "that has outperformed China, has outperformed the rest of Europe, all of our Allies, the strongest economy in the world. A \$27 trillion GDP, strongest stock market ever, a 50-year high for the U.S. dollar, more oil production than any country in history. Harris, is most conservative in her plans, but still yahoos are going around making millions of dollars claiming she and Biden are socialists."

"You're right," Rattner said. "The record has really been exceptional. He has done a great job of growing this economy as well as imposing a lot of new plans and policies like the IRA that has solved things like our climate problem. It's a really strong record."

Trump's \$5 trillion tax plan? Stranger than fiction.

Ron Hartnett
Dakota City

2024 election: Thank God it's over

I realize this is a silly question to ask — but aren't you glad it's over for another four years?

It couldn't get any worse than what we had to deal with in this past election.

Or should I say — I HOPE it doesn't get any worse.

The fact that we had two horrible candidates was bad enough without having two horribly-run political parties leaving us with no other viable options to consider.

Deciding who to vote for in the race for President of the United States was like giving someone on Death Row the choice between the electric chair and a firing squad. Either way — it wasn't going to end well.

I've been eligible to vote for President since Ronald Reagan's second term in 1984, and this was far and away the worst election season in that time, if not all of the 248 years of the history of this great nation.

And if the aftermath of this most recent election is any indication, it's not going to get any better by the time 2028 rolls around.

For the Democrats, there were many reasons why they fell well short of keeping control of the White House, and a lot of it can be summed up in the idea that they spent too much time telling us how horrible of a human being Trump allegedly is and not near enough time offering ideas as to how they would fix what the present regime has broken, from the economy to the border and — well — just about anything Biden did during the last four years.

The Democrats thought that comparing Trump to Hitler or having Hollywood tell us why we should vote for Kamala Harris was a bil-

Don't Get Me Started

By Michael J. Carnes
Star Publisher



lion-dollar idea. As it turns out, they blew through \$1 billion in campaign funding faster than a horny drunk at a house of ill repute . . . and still owe \$20 million on top of it. Hard to imagine a balanced budget with this group in charge, eh?

Let's face facts — the Democrats' coup that forced the current President out of the race was bad enough, but the empty vessel that they replaced him with, in all honesty, isn't bright enough to run a Girl Scout meeting, let alone the most important country in the world. Kamala Harris was never properly selected through a primary process, and her inability to offer any ideas outside of her laughable claims of coming from a working-class family makes me wonder just how mentally unstable this nation is for her to get as many votes as she did. Running on hate was a no-win idea from the start, and the DNC had better come to grips with the lack of intelligent leadership it has in its party if it wants to entertain the idea of winning a Presidential election anytime in the near future.

As for Trump and the GOP, this is a warning shot — you now have a majority in the Senate and will probably have one in the House as well (the final 10 seats had not been called as this column was written Tuesday).

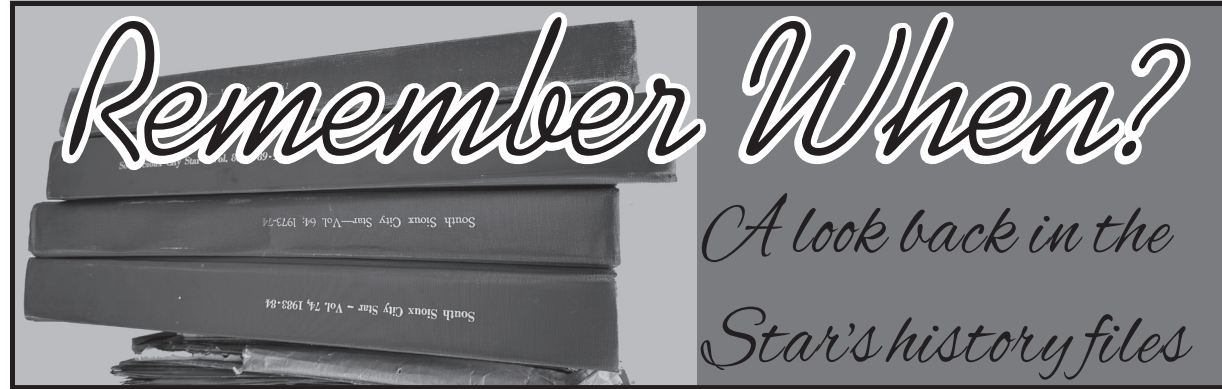
There won't be any nitwits like Adam Schiff trying to ramrod impeachment proceedings through every other day, so the chance to actually get something done is there for the taking. After running limp-noodle candidates like John McCain and Mitt Romney, you actually have a man that has the backbone to deal with the challenges this nation faces.

As for the rest of us — we get about a 12-month breather before the midterm elections. Get your popcorn ready . . .

Speaking of the election, check out the story on the front page about SSC High School senior Izzie Tranmer, who pulled off quite the feat in Mark Casey's government class by correctly predicting the winner in all 50 states, including the split-district states of Nebraska and Maine.

Even more impressive is the fact that Tranmer picked all of the swing-state results. She did her research and made some toss-up guesses, and they all came through for her.

I think I might have her become our political correspondent -- or, at the very least, call on her to fill out my NCAA basketball tournament bracket this spring.



10 YEARS AGO

NOV. 13, 2014

40 years in the making

The Emerson-Hubbard Lady Pirates advanced to the Class D1 state volleyball tournament with a 3-0 win over Randolph on Nov. 6 in the District final. This will be only the second trip to state for Emerson-Hubbard, who last appeared in the tournament in 1974.

20 YEARS AGO

NOV. 11, 2004

It's a gas

Dakota County moved another step closer in its construction of an ethanol plant after members of the Siouxland Ethanol LLC consortium announced this week that a site has been chosen for the proposed facility. The site for the \$72 million ethanol plant is directly west of State Highway 110 and sits between 162nd Street and railroad tracks.

30 YEARS AGO

NOV. 10, 1994

Remembering Veterans Day

Remembering those who helped

secure our freedom is not gone nor forgotten, but lately, it seems, as if it has been taken for granted. It's been almost 50 years since World War II concluded, the last war which featured military intervention from several countries, but three years since "war," the Persian Gulf War, which lasted no more than three months. But Friday, Veterans' Day, is the day we officially honor all United States veterans, no matter what branch of the Armed Forces they fought. It's a Day in which they are honored for their service to our country. "I think it's something we all take pride in, says Doug Knight, a South Sioux City resident and Vietnam War veteran.

Prepare for Atokad opening

South Sioux City trainer Larry Smith takes "JJ's Fire," owned by Gene DeRoin out for exercise in the cold morning air Tuesday to make ready for Atokad opening Nov. 17. Smith said he believes DeRoin will have 10 horses at Atokad this winter season.

Plans to succeed Kneifl

Plans are in the making to conduct a judicial nominating commission meeting at 1:30 p.m., Nov. 28 to seek

a replacement for ousted Eighth Judicial District Judge Francis J. "Frank" Kneifl. Kneifl, 57, of South Sioux City became the first District Court judge to be removed from office by voters since the Missouri plan, also called the merit selection plan, was implemented in 1962.

50 YEARS AGO

NOV. 14, 1974

Anderson named Dakota City Postmaster

Richard A. Anderson, a native South Sioux Citian, has been appointed postmaster at Dakota City, succeeding Kenneth Lundberg. Lundberg, who served as postmaster for the last two years, has been delivering mail on the Dakota City rural route since Sept. 1. Anderson has been distribution and window clerk in the South Sioux City Post Office since June 1964. He is a graduate of South Sioux City High School and is married to the former Lois Reed. They have four sons. He is Navy veteran. The appointment is in accord with the merit selection procedures of the Postal Reorganization Act in the U.S. Postal Service. The Dakota City Post Office is part of the Norfolk Sectional Center which is in charge of Howard Toay. Anderson is a postal careerist.

The 3rd Rail





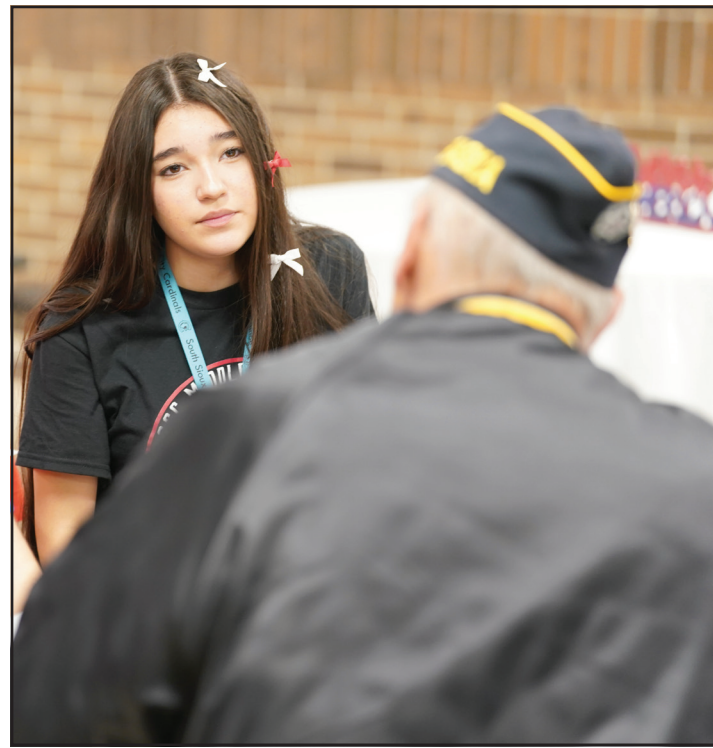
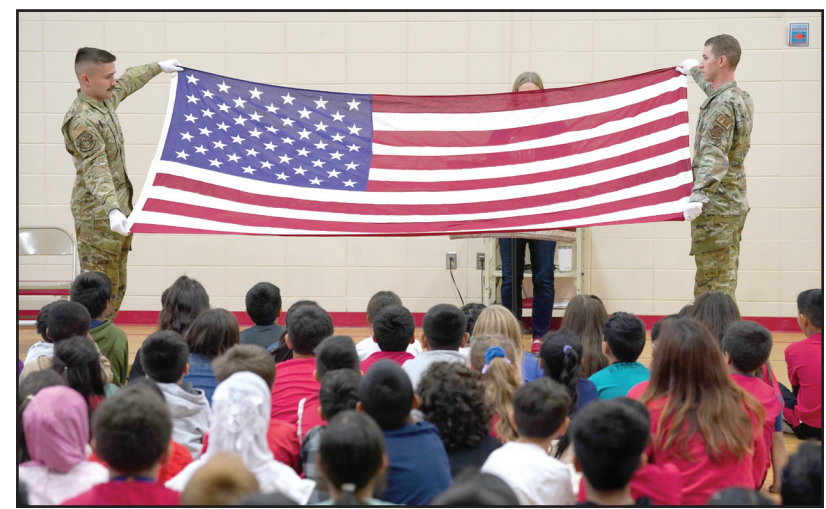
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THANK YOU!

HONORING THOSE WHO SERVED

Veterans' Day ceremonies at Freedom Park, Harney Elementary and SSC Middle School

Photos by Lance Swanson



Emerson News

By Lulene Sebade

Skills USA at E-H

Emerson-Hubbard High School has a new program, Skills USA. This is the number one workforce development organization for students. Their mission is to empower students to become skilled professionals, career ready leaders and responsible community members. The organization met recently to discuss their plans for the future. The instructor is Mr. Blake Eriksen.



(PHOTO BY LULENE SEBADE)

Emerson's Night on Main was a success for the fourth straight year. Parking spaces were at a minimum. Cars were everywhere and the Vendors were pleased with all of their success. The event is chaired by six local women who have done an excellent job of organizing the event and making sure everything runs smoothly. If you see these six women please tell them thanks for all the work. They are (back) Linda Graf, Dena Bartels, Kim Hall, (front) Tiffany Stallbaum, Vicki Green and Erin Morgan.

FBLA at UNO event

The Emerson-Hubbard FBLA class will attend the Business Competition at UNO in Omaha on Friday.

Food Pantry Nov. 19

The Emerson-Hubbard Food Pantry Monthly distribution will be Tuesday, Nov. 19 from 2-5 p.m. at St. Paul's Lutheran Church Social Hall.

Thanksgiving Eve service

St. Paul's Lutheran Church will

host the Thanksgiving Eve Worship and Pie Social on Wednesday, Nov. 27 at 6 p.m.

Emerson-Hubbard Schools

Friday: FBLA at UNO; JH Wrestling at Winside.

Monday: JH Wrestling at Randolph; Girls basketball practice starts.

Tuesday: One Act at Winnebago.

Wednesday: Late start: FFA at Summerland.

Nov. 21: JH wrestling at Plainview.

Runners at State XC

Alejandra Hermosillo and Jude Ridenour recently competed in the State Cross Country competition. Alejandra placed 58th in a field of 121 female runners and Jude placed 70th in a field of 124 male runners.

Monthly Coffee Nov. 20

The Village of Emerson monthly coffee will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 20 at First Nebraska Bank at 10 a.m. Bring a friend.

Wolfpack Boosters store

The Emerson-Hubbard Wolfpack Boosters merchandise store is open online 24/7, 365 days a year. Your order is mailed directly to you usually within 2-3 weeks.

School survey

Have you replied to the Emerson-Hubbard School about the Before and After-school program survey? If you do not have access to a survey, please contact the school office and request a survey. The phone number is (402) 695-2621.

Late start nov. 20

Wednesday, Nov. 20, Emerson-Hubbard Schools will have a two-hour late start.

Dakota City News

Dakota City Public Library

Book Club is currently reading "The Winter People" by Jennifer McMahon. This story is described as a beautifully written page turner. It is a spooky ghost story that blends the story between the turn of the 20th century and the present day. The characters are vividly written as they each deal with untimely deaths. The Book Club meets on the first Monday of each month to discuss the selected book of the month. The library keeps a copy of each book club selection in their collection for anyone who wishes to follow along. New members are always welcome.

Story Hour for November will be Thursday, Nov. 21 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. with a Thanksgiving theme. A fall decoration will be the craft.

November is International Board Game month. Bring your friends and

family to the Library to play a favorite board game.

New movies added this week; "A Quiet Place: Day One," "Despicable Me 4," "Inside Out 2," "It," and

"Harold and the Purple Crayon."

The Dakota City Public Library will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 28 and Friday, Nov. 29 for Thanksgiving.

Caregiver tax credit has military focus

By MIKE MOEN

Nebraska News Connection

As Nebraskans anticipate the upcoming holiday season, some might also be looking ahead to the 2025 tax season, which will include a new tax credit for family caregivers, including those looking after military veterans.

Starting in 2025, a new state law provides eligible family caregivers up to \$2,000 in tax credits for out-of-pocket expenses. The cap increases to \$3,000 if the family member receiving care has dementia or is a veteran.

Jina Ragland, associate state director of advocacy and outreach for AARP Nebraska, said those who served have access to care benefits through the Department of Veterans Affairs but added it sometimes is not enough.

Last year, more than \$4 BILLION in Pell Grants went unclaimed.



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dothefafsa.org



Homer News

By Stacie Johnson

HCC taking pie orders

The fourth-grade girls are selling Perkins pies again this year as a fundraiser for the Homer Community Club.

Make Thanksgiving easy and support youth basketball all in one fell swoop.

Orders are due by Nov. 18. Reach out to any fourth-grade girl or Cori Kleinschmit or Samantha Johnson.

898-7777 with questions.

Softball honors

Congratulations to these student-athletes on their Mid States Softball All-Conference Selections: Jaeden Hughes, first team; Gracie Coughlin and Lyndsee Waldee, honorable mention.

Lyndsee is a junior at Homer Community School. Homer and Ponca participated in softball in a co-op situation this fall.

XC Banquet honors runners

The Homer Cross Country coaches would tell anyone who listens the power of the team throughout their recent successful season. Energy and enthusiasm runs high, even a few weeks post-State.

On Sunday, those athletes and their families were honored at the Cross Country Banquet at the school.

Senior Dawson Kollars, though he wasn't one of the top six runners at state, left an indelible mark on the program as the consummate teammate and winner of the Grant Lander Foundation Award.

Grant, you may recall, was the stu-



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Third graders in Mrs. Curry's class shared their heartfelt sentiments to our local veterans at Monday's Veterans' Day program.

dent-athlete instrumental in bringing the sport to Homer, a highly competitive runner at all levels.

Dawson represents the eight values held in high team regard - good sportsmanship, hard work, teamwork, commitment to a goal, discipline, self-confidence, self-sacrifice, and creating and maintaining tradition, as noted by his teammates and coaches.

Earning Most Valuable Runner award were juniors Aayden Harris and Lilly Harris. Best Teammate awards went to Caden Barclay and Lilyanna Dziurawiec while Most Improved Runners were Jaedyn Bousquet and Caylix Huffman.

Rookie of the Year honors went to Tawny Bolles and Triston Owens.

Congrats to all on a mighty fine 2024 season.

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