

STAR CALENDAR

Chamber Coffee Friday

This week's Chamber Coffee will be held at South Sioux City Community Schools' high school library. Coffee begins at 9:30 a.m., with the program starting at 10 a.m.

Teammates Trivia Night

Registrations are being taken for the South Sioux City Teammates Winter Trivia Night, set for Feb. 7, 2025 at the Knights of Columbus, located at 1805 West 29th Street. Social hour starts at 5 p.m., with dinner at 6 p.m. and the competition at 7 p.m. Cost for dinner is \$25 and dinner and trivia is \$50. Teams of up to eight players are encouraged, and there are a variety of best-dressed and trivia-related prizes on the docket. The Hearts for Teammates silent auction will also be held. There is a maximum of 25 teams. For more information, visit www.bit.ly/sse-teammates or e-mail teammates@ssccards.org.

Live Nativity this Saturday

The Dakota County United Methodists will have a Live Nativity scene this weekend at Atokad Park. The scene will be open Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 14-15, from 2:30-4 p.m. at the south end of the Dakota County Fairgrounds.

Public Works to meet

The South Sioux City Public Works committee will meet on Monday, Dec. 16, at 5 p.m. in the Council chambers at City Hall. A current agenda is available at www.southsiouxcity.org.

Holiday print schedules

Due to Christmas and New Year's falling on a Wednesday, the Dakota County Star will be printed and mailed a day late for the Dec. 26 and Jan. 2 editions of the paper. Deadlines for all news and sports stories for those two editions will be at 5 p.m. Monday. Legal and advertising deadlines will remain the same. For more information, contact Mike at mike@dakcostar.com or call (402) 494-4264.

Subscribe to the Star

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

LOCAL WEATHER

Data Courtesy National Weather Service FOR WEEK OF DEC.. 12-18, 2024

THURSDAY

21

11

Mainly cloudy skies.

FRIDAY

27

19

Considerably cloudiness

SATURDAY

34

18

A few clouds.

SUNDAY

42

26

Cloudy skies.

MONDAY

45

22

Partly cloudy.

TUESDAY

34

20

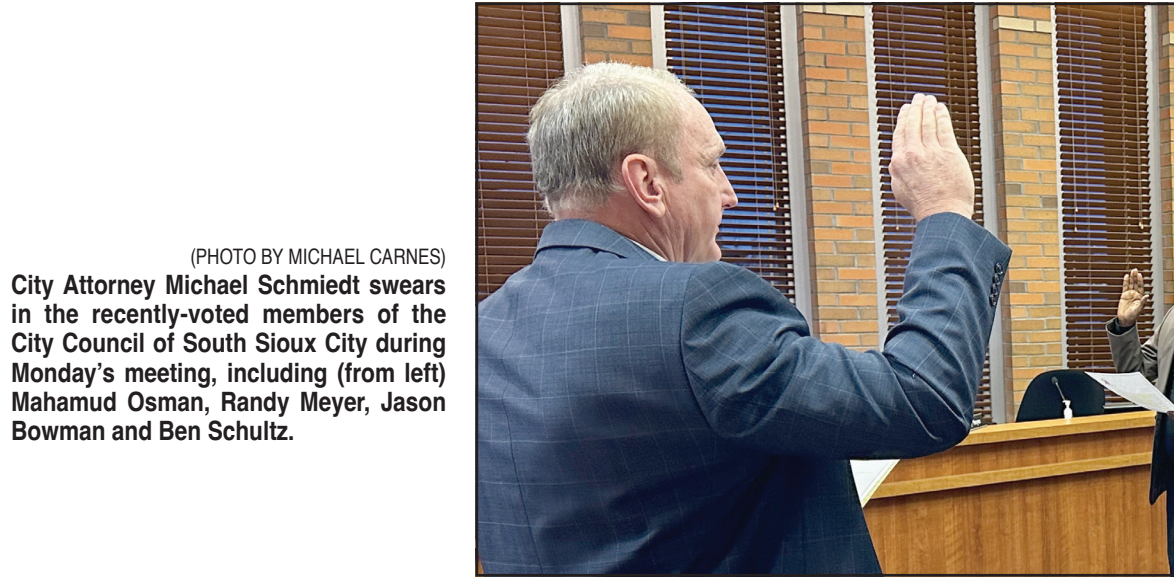
Mostly cloudy.

WEDNESDAY

33

12

Mix of clouds and sun.



(PHOTO BY MICHAEL CARNES)
City Attorney Michael Schmiedt swears in the recently-voted members of the City Council of South Sioux City during Monday's meeting, including (from left) Mahamud Osman, Randy Meyer, Jason Bowman and Ben Schultz.

Golf carts on city streets need lights, flags

By MICHAEL CARNES
Star Publisher

A couple of last-minute changes to the proposed ordinance regarding the use of golf carts on city streets in South Sioux City were made before the City Council gave its final approval.

After the four recently-elected members of the eight-member board were sworn in Monday evening (returning members Jason Bowman and Ben Schultz and newcomers Mahamud Osman and Randy Meyer), the Council mulled over the third and final reading of an ordinance that will allow residents to drive golf carts on certain streets in the city.

Concerns about the difference in speed led to the first change, which will limit golf carts to only be allowed on streets where the speed limit is 25 miles per hour or slower.

Councilman Meyer expressed concerns that golf carts, which generally don't travel faster than 15-20 miles per hour, would become a hazard on certain arterial streets such as Dakota Avenue, where the speed limit ranges from 25-35 miles per hour.

"I find that a little dangerous that we have some arterial streets in town like G Street and Dakota Avenue that they would hold up traffic," he said.

Police Chief Ed Mahon also liked Meyer's suggestion that flags should be attached to golf carts, and that they should be at least five feet above the top of the vehicle to help approaching motorists better identify the carts as they approach.

"A flag probably wouldn't hurt," he told the board. "I think a flag and a tail light might be a good idea, and I share Randy's concerns about how the maximum speed on golf carts is going to be slow."

Councilman Monty Peters also expressed concerns about the safety of golf carts, adding that they should also have working headlights, brake lights and blinkers along with the flag. City Attorney Mike Schmiedt noted that the ordinance as it had been written had everything but the flag listed as required items.

A motion to make the changes, including the flag and limiting the carts to streets where the speed limit is 25 miles per hour or less, was approved.

SEE GOLF CARTS, 2A

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SEE GOLF CARTS, 2A



(PHOTO BY MICHAEL CARNES)
Connie Bartels has written a book about her granddaughter, Averi, who was born with Down's Syndrome. The book is a fun story written from Averi's perspective as she goes through life, told by her grandma. The book will be on sale during this weekend's Craft Fair at the Northeast Nebraska Senior Center.

Potential price tag floated at Cardinal Vision meeting

By MICHAEL CARNES
Star Publisher

The fourth of five Cardinal Vision workshops regarding the future of the eight buildings in the South Sioux City Community Schools district ended with some potential numbers for a long-overdue plan regarding those buildings.

About 100 people attended Tuesday evening's meeting at South Sioux City Middle School, with four "base plans" and a variety of infrastructure additions were presented for those in attendance to consider.

The base plans, which were presented by Matthew Erion, an educational planner for Omaha-based BCDM Architects, addressed a variety of issues, from the district's aging facilities to providing additional space to address future overcrowding at the district's six elementary schools.

Each base plan had a price tag ranging from \$88 million to \$123 million, with additional costs that would take care of everything from infrastructure to safety and security additions.

The four base plans included the following:

- Base Plan A (\$88 million) — build a new intermediate school for fifth- and sixth-grade students and replace Lewis & Clark and E.N. Swett buildings.
- Base Plan B (\$89 million) — replace Covington and E.N. Swett buildings and add on to the Middle School, removing trailer classrooms located behind the current middle school.
- Base Plan C (\$109 million) — build a new intermediate school, replace or combine Covington and Lewis & Clark buildings, replace E.N. Swett buildings.
- Base Plan D (\$123 million) — build new middle school for grades 5-8, replace Lewis & Clark and E.N. Swett.

The location for new buildings would vary, with some targeted for the northeast part of town near the new Flatwater area.

SEE VISION, 2A

Grandma tells Averi's story in book

By MICHAEL CARNES
Star Publisher

Sadness and disappointment turned into a special kind of joy that compelled Connie Bartels to write a book.

When Bartels became a grandmother 13 years ago, it came with a special gift, one that she didn't recognize at first.

"We became grandparents of a Down's Syndrome baby," she explained. "At first, I was saddened and disappointed because this wasn't what we wanted. We wanted a perfect baby and what we got was entirely different."

It didn't take long before she realized that what she thought was disappointment, instead, turned into nothing but joy and laughter.

When Averi was born with Down's Syndrome, it opened up a new world for Bartels and inspired her to write a unique book, "Up With Averi," that tells the story of a little girl with special needs who shares a special bond with her grandmother.

"It really didn't take long before I just fell in love with this child, and she with me," she said. "We just bonded."

The book was written by Bartels from Averi's perspective as she talks about everything from her family to some of the challenges she deals with as a child with special needs.

One of the many things Bartels talked about in sharing Averi's story was how much she makes her grandma laugh.

"She is just a funny, funny kid

SEE BOOK, 2A



(PHOTO BY LANCE SWANSON)
About 100 people gathered for the fourth installment of the Cardinal Vision workshop Tuesday in the SSC Middle School gymnasium, where they talked about a number of potential construction package to address long-overdue capital improvement options.

CARDINAL CHRISTMAS BASKETS DONATIONS

\$10,000

\$20,000

\$30,000

\$6,825

Send donations to South Sioux City Community Foundation, PO Box 987, South Sioux City, NE 68776

Former SSC teacher to return next year in administrative role

At Monday’s South Sioux City Board of Education meeting, an SSC alumni and former teacher was announced to be taking over a new administrative position in the district beginning in the 2025-26 school year.

Drew Wagner will be the school’s new Assistant Superintendent for School Improvement and Leadership Development, according to Superintendent of Schools Dr. Rony Ortega. The position was approved by the school board at Monday’s meeting.

“We are thrilled to announce Drew Wagner to this position,” Dr. Ortega said. “This is a reimagined position designed to align with our district’s current strategic goals. This thoughtful selection builds upon the strengths of our leadership team and supports our vision to foster community, collaboration, and measurable progress.”

Wagner is a former teacher in the SSC Community Schools district and has experience as an elementary principal, most recently at Fort Calhoun Community Schools. He also has a distinguished military background, where he implemented leadership academies for senior leaders, following a realistic and strategic plan to equip leaders with the tools they need to succeed. His servant and transformational leadership approach emphasizes hands-on coaching and mentoring, empowering others to maximize their potential.

In his new role, Drew will lead a rigorous school improvement process, spend half his day in schools, work closely with directors and principals to support day-to-day district operations, and continue to ensure alignment between the district’s strategic plan and school goals. He will also be responsible for developing and growing leaders across the district, ensuring a robust pipeline of effective and empowered leadership at every level. Drew’s ability to foster collaboration and a positive culture will undoubtedly strengthen the schools and community.



(PHOTO BY LANCE SWANSON)
SSC alum Drew Wagner was named as the school's new Assistant Superintendent for School Improvement and Leadership Development during Monday's Board of Education meeting.

GOLF CARTS: Council approves ordinance limiting cart use on city streets

from Page 1A

was approved unanimously by the board. Residents who wish to operate golf carts on city streets will need to have their vehicles properly registered at the South Sioux City Police Department.

Also at Monday’s meeting, the Council gave its blessing to renaming several streets that would put them on the list of streets with dedicated right-of-ways, which city administrator Lance Hedquist said would qualify the city for more state highway financial allocations.

Five of the eight streets listed were approved, with three more to be ap-

proved at the Dec. 23 meeting, including:

- East 17th Street (no change)
- East 45th Street (no change)
- road that goes into fishing access area (Anglers Road)
- road by solar farm (Solar Road)
- roads at the Scenic Park Campground (main entry is Aspen Boulevard, with various street names including Birch Loop, Cottonwood Lane, Dogwood Lane, Evergreen Lane, Fir Loop, Genko Pass, Hackberry Circle, Ironwood Loop, Juniper Lane and Kentucky Coffee Pass).

Three other roads’ name changes (Veterans Drive, 45th Street and the road going by Klashy Park), will be brought to the Council later this

month.

The Council also recognized the swearing in of new members of the South Sioux City Fire Department, including Jason Ortiz, Jake Johnson, Gabe Talvanen and Xavier Robles. Richard Magana was unable to be at Monday’s meeting and will be sworn in at a later time.

The Council also heard from city economic development director Oscar Gomez, who received late information regarding a proposal that could potentially bring a chicken processing facility to Dakota City.

The company is looking at five Nebraska communities, including Dakota City, Schuyler, Norfolk, York and Nebraska City, for a proposed

\$200 million facility that would process up to 400,000 chickens per day. Gomez said initial indications are that the proposed facility would bring 1,100 new jobs to Dakota County.

The proposal is in its early stages, and company officials were set to tour two sites between South Sioux City and Dakota City along Highway 75 later this week. More information about this proposal will be featured in next week’s edition of the Dakota County Star.

The City Council’s final meeting of 2024 will be Monday, Dec. 23 at 5 p.m. in Council chambers at City Hall.

VISION: Addressing long-overdue building issues will come at a cost: Ortega

from Page 1A

Other options that would address overcrowding using all of the remaining buildings, including Cardinal, Harney and Dakota City Elementary, provide for a safer learning environment, renovations for accessible restrooms and other items would add up to \$11.9 million to any of the base projects. Future infrastructure needs would also add to the cost at about \$1 million per year over a 25-year period.

More than a dozen groups mulled over the information for about half of the two-hour workshop, with a majority favoring Base Plan C and a variety of additions that brought numbers ranging from \$108.4 million to just over \$124 million.

A variety of concerns were also aired during the workshop, ranging from language of a bond issue to making sure as many of the major needs that have been discussed are taken care of now and whether or not the community would support whatever issue is taken to the Board of Education early next year.

After Tuesday’s workshop, SSC Community Schools Superintendent Dr. Rony Ortega told the Dakota County Star that, at this point, the school needs to play catch up after 25 years of doing nothing in the way of addressing capital improvements.

“We’re playing catchup right now

with no capital improvements since 1999,” he said. “At this point, any progress is better than no progress. I recognize that we can’t have everything, so we’re going to have to compromise and make some tough decisions.”

Dr. Ortega felt that the consensus from Tuesday’s gathering was that something needs to be done within reason.

“People want to do something but they want to do it within a budget, which is good to hear,” he said. “We want to move forward and we need to do it in a way where we can bring most of the community along with us.”

One of the most telling issues was the future of the 100-year old Covington Elementary. Ortega said the most likely option is that the building be shut down and students moved to other buildings that would be built to help address the district’s growing enrollment.

“Covington is the only building that can’t be replaced on the existing site, so the question for the community is does it get merged with other schools, and it would appear there is a preference to merge it with Lewis & Clark,” he said.

The last of the five Cardinal Vision workshops is set for Tuesday, Jan. 14 at 6 p.m. at the Middle School gymnasium, at which time a final decision will be presented to the Board

of Education for their consideration. In addition, a community survey is being planned using those final numbers to give the district an early opportunity to gauge community interest in that proposal.

“The survey will come out right af-

ter the last workshop, and we’ll take that information to the board and they will decide what to do with that information, and that will be the key to see what the community thinks of those options,” he said.

BOOK: Grandma pens “Up With Averi”

from Page 1A

and we enjoy her so much,” she said. “I wanted to express the love that I have for my granddaughter, and she with me.”

The book includes photos of Averi and her family, which includes two step-brothers and an older sister who just made her an aunt when she gave birth to a daughter.

“She just loves being an aunt,” Bartels said, showing a photo of Aunt Averi and her little niece together.

Bartels said she thought it was important to share Averi’s thoughts and how she has many of the same feelings and emotions that all children have.

“I wrote it like it’s in her words if she could verbalize what her life is like,” she said. “Most of the time she’s very happy and joyful, but also has other emotions like frustration, disappointment . . . especially now that she’s a teenager.”

Bartels said the opportunity to experience a grandchild with Down’s Syndrome really opened her eyes to the challenges that people with special needs have to deal with.

“I had never known a person with Down’s Syndrome outside of when I

was growing up in a small town in Iowa,” she said. “There was a little boy named Billy and he was shunned and made fun of — his teacher shamed him for wetting his pants, something he had no control over.”

She said Averi’s life has also opened the eyes of other family members.

“It’s been good for my other grandchildren,” she said. “They have become better people because of her and they just love her.”

Bartels’ book includes a Christian message that God created us all differently, quoting Psalms 139 at the end of the book.

Bartels said she is going to be at the craft show this weekend at the Northeast Nebraska Senior Center in South Sioux City and will have copies of the book available for purchase.

“I dedicated the book to all children and adults with Down’s Syndrome and all special needs children,” she said. “I hope the book helps people better understand what Down’s Syndrome is and that they are just like us, even if they are different.”

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, Dec. 12 — Roast beef, potatoes, carrots, peaches, broccoli

Friday, Dec. 13 — Turkey, dressing and gravy, green beans, oranges, sweet potatoes, cranberry salad

Monday, Dec. 16 — Meatloaf, mashed potatoes and gravy, stewed tomatoes, peaches, oranges

Tuesday, Dec. 17 — Hot beef sandwich, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, pears

Wednesday, Dec. 18 — Ham and cheese chowder, pickled beets, tropical fruit, lettuce salad, green pepper



Dakota County United Methodists

Live Nativity

Dec. 14th & 15th

2:30pm to 4:00pm

At Atokad Park
(on the South end of Fair grounds)

Bring the family and enjoy the meaning of Christmas

Deep ditch concerns raised

By MICHAEL CARNES
Star Publisher

A resident in the Likuwanta Drive area expressed disappointment at Monday’s Board of Commissioners meeting with the lack of work done on ditches that, he said, are so deep that they are exposing water lines to potential freezing as winter approaches.

During the public forum of Monday’s meeting, Bill Hafke told the board that more than a dozen water service lines are in jeopardy due to ditches being dug too deep by CEC Engineering.

“CEC Engineering has done a horrible and irresponsible job of dealing the water and electric utilities along Likuwanta Drive,” he said. “If they had met with resident out there, we wouldn’t have this discourse today. The ditches need to be filled before the ground freezes.”

Hafke said that most footings are constructed at 40 inches to protect the underground pipes, but the steep ditches have left some lines open to potential freezing and he asked the county to move dirt to take care of the issue.

Board member Troy Launsby said that the county should be able to put another 2-3 feet worth of dirt in the area, and there is still time to do it before it gets too cold.

Resident Walt Beermann also expressed concern about the ditches being too steep for zero-turn mowers to work, citing state Department of Transportation regulations at a 15-degree angle.

Board member Scott Love said he has worked on similar ditches along Bluff Road and felt that it wouldn’t be a problem for residents out there who need to mow these areas.

“I’ve been out on that road, and I don’t think there would be any issues on mowing it with zero-turn mowers,” he said. “It’s a change, but everything is going to be fine, I think.”

The County also addressed a request from Heartland Counseling Services regarding the addition of a 12-bed facility near its Riverview location in South Sioux City.

Executive Director Jennifer Jackson asked if the county would donate to the non-profit’s fundraising efforts for the facility addition, and the board ultimately decided to donate \$25,000 on a 4-0 vote, with Commissioner Bob Giese absent.

“We don’t normally support things like that, but we supported the truck track at Northeast Community College and Growing Community Connections, so I feel it’s a worthy cause for the county and to help our local law enforcement,” Board chair Martin Hohenstein.

Jackson said the new addition will add four programs and provide 15 new jobs once it is completed.

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Student Subscription*	\$ 39

(*September 1 - April 30) all areas

STAR DEADLINES

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



Mikey C Productions, LLC
Published weekly every Thursday at
1000 W. 29th Street, Suite 215A,
P.O. Box 159, South Sioux City,
Nebraska 68776-0159
Periodical Postage paid at
South Sioux City, NE 68776
USPS #611840

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8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
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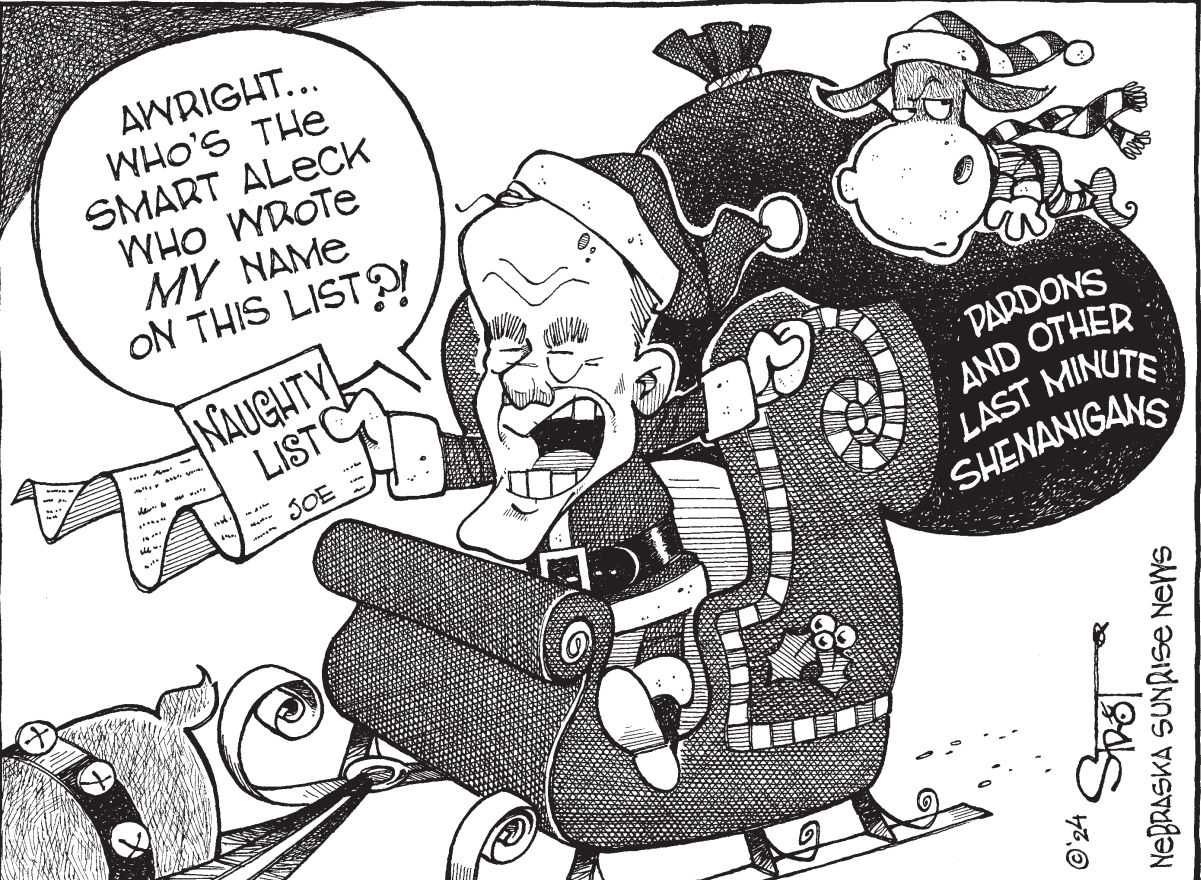
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Noodles
Director of Security



The 3rd Rail



Christmas time is upon us

It is hard to believe, but we have made it to December and the Christmas season. In our household, the main reason for this season is the birth of Jesus. I have been spending time preparing for Christmas by decorating my house, putting up my tree, and preparing to bake goodies with the grandkids. I love this time of year.

From the Governor's Office

On Dec. 1, Governor Pillen sent out a press release previewing some of his priorities for the 2025 legislative session. These initiatives, and others, align with his administration's ongoing commitment to kids, taxes, agriculture, and values.

"This by no means an all-encompassing list, but these items are certainly top of mind as we reflect on our past achievements and acknowledge there is still much to be accomplished," said Gov. Pillen. "We must continue to build on those foundations, addressing issues that are of greatest concern to Nebraskans."

Kids: Governor Pillen is advocating for guidelines around athletic activities, aimed at protecting both kids and women. Legislation brought by Senator Kathleen Kauth in 2023 proposed guidelines for opposite-sex participation in sports activities and the use of restroom and locker room facilities. It was carried over into 2024 but failed to advance by only two votes.

Taxes: Legislation passed during the summer special session produced \$185 million in new tax relief and established caps on local tax collections. Recently, Gov. Pillen issued the 2024 School Property Tax Collection Report, which makes the case for reworking the Tax Equity and Equalization Opportunities Support Act (TEEOA) formula, so that it provides schools a more stable and consistent method of budgeting; thereby, reducing the amount of increase that schools feel they need to offset reductions in state aid.

"We cannot continue down the path of Nebraskan's paying among the highest property taxes in the nation," said Gov. Pillen. "It makes us less competitive with other states and less attractive to people who may be looking to move here. This is a situation that we will keep fighting to address."

Agriculture: New legislation will be introduced aimed at banning the sale of lab-grown meat. This follows Gov. Pillen's executive order prohibiting the state from purchasing products defined as lab-grown meat and prohibiting other parties from contracting with the state, which might also procure lab-grown meat.

At a news conference in August, Gov. Pillen pointed to the uncertainty of health impacts arising from consumption of lab-grown meat and that other states and countries have implemented strict labeling requirements and outright bans to best protect consumers. The Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA) has drafted rules and regulations to ensure proper labeling and make certain that lab meat is not sold on store shelves next to natural meat products.

Legislative Update

Sen. Joni Albrecht
District 17



At the media event, Gov. Pillen reinforced his commitment to Nebraska farmers and ranchers, who produce products that drive Nebraska's economy and are highly sought overseas. "We feed the world and we save the planet more effectively and more efficiently than anybody else and I will defend those practices with my last breath."

Values: Returning the state's allocation of electoral votes to winner-take-all is another top priority when the 109th Legislature convenes. Since 1993, Nebraska has apportioned its electoral college votes in a way that promotes gerrymandering and prioritizes a small minority of voters over a majority of the public. For example, in the 2024 presidential election, 8 percent of Nebraskans allocated 20 percent of the electoral college votes. Governor Pillen seeks to change this unjust system and have Nebraska rejoin the 48 other states that allocate electoral college votes through winner-take-all.

Some items that may return to the 2025 Legislation Session and need to be watched are more bills introduced to address high property taxes; a sunset or elimination of Inheritance Tax; and school choice.

The biennial budget must be passed in the 2025 session. On Nov. 20, state officials heard of the numbers at the Nebraska Legislature's Tax Rate Review Committee. The committee meets twice a year to learn about changes in projections and new data that could affect the state budget, with the next one covering fiscal years 2025-26 and 2026-27. State officials learned that the state is facing a \$432 million shortfall heading into its next budget cycle.

Legislative Fiscal Analyst Keisha Patent said the shortfall is due to several factors. Deficits for fiscal year 2024-25 exceeded the allocations to cover those deficits by about \$73.7 million and agency requests exceeded previous estimates by about \$126.8 million.

Patent said the shortfall reflected the latest projections from the Nebraska's Economic Forecasting Advisory Board in late October, which predicted minimal revenue growth and projected state revenues for the current fiscal year to be about \$141 million below prior forecasts.

State Sen. Robert Clements of Elmwood, the current Appropriations Committee Chair, said lawmakers need to address the shortfall next session. Left unaddressed, the report released Wednesday, Nov. 20, projects the shortfall would balloon up to more than \$1.1 billion by the end of fiscal year 2028-29.

Clements said the shortfall can be partially covered by transfers from the cash reserve and various other

cash funds, but that won't cover it entirely. He said the Appropriations Committee will have to search for other reductions in order to accommodate it.

Governor Pillen has made clear he expects further progress on tax relief in future sessions, having previously stated his goal was to cut Nebraska property taxes by 50 percent. But Senator Clements said there doesn't appear to be any room for further relief in the near future based on the latest numbers, though he also said the Legislature will be able to retain the relief measures that passed during the special session.

My first two years as a State Senator we faced a budget shortfall. Many bills that came to the floor with a fiscal note were denied for lack of funding or were held in committee because of the fiscal note. State statute 84-612 talks about having a Cash Reserve. Before any funding is allocated we must make sure to keep our rainy day funds fully funded.

I have the utmost confidence in the executive branch. Under the leadership of Gov. Pillen, Lieutenant Gov. Joe Kelly, the Governor's staff in the Policy Research Office and the Budget Office as they work to find ways to make Nebraska strong and resilient with ever changing economic conditions. With the watchful eye of the Nebraska Auditor Mike Foley, Attorney General Mike Hilgers, and State Treasurer Tom Briese, it has been a pleasure to work with them over the last eight years. I applaud the Appropriations and Revenue Committees watching the bottom line as they navigate the many requests that come before their committees.

I am fiscally conservative. All eyes are on taxing agencies and taxing authorities. Watching the bottom line is important for all of us. It affects us from our family budgets, to where we spend our money, and where our tax dollars are spent. Just as we have to watch our individual budgets, so must all taxing authorities, state agencies, and local governments.

Make sure you stay involved in your local governments, school districts, and any other taxing authorities by attending public meetings and making your voice heard when budgets are being discussed. The purpose of the pink postcards is to make the local governments more transparent with their budgets and holding them accountable for their bottom line. You need to know where your tax dollars are going and how they are benefitting you as a local taxpayer.

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.

Maybe the Democratic Party just sucks?

There are certain people in this world who, when they say something in the press, I have to make sure I'm not in the middle of a gulp of some kind of drink, lest I spit up as I finish their insane comment like the punch line of a good joke.

PPPPPPHHHHHTTTT!!!
With three computers on my desk, the chance of one or more of them shorting out after one of these experiences is a very real possibility, so one must be careful, especially when the comments comes from the leader of what used to be the Nebraska Democratic Party, Jane Kleeb.

A recent story in the Omaha World-Herald focused on registered voters in the state and how Republicans and independent numbers are both on the rise.

No so much the Democrats, though, as their numbers — much like their current leader in the White House — seem to be disappearing.

Registered Republicans outnumber Democrats by more than 285,000. Fifty years ago, that difference was a little more than 30,000. And those of us who are registered as "nonpartisan" (yes, I've been a registered independent for most of my adult life) now numbers more than 275,000 — still only about 22 percent of the population of registered voters in the state, but a number that continues to grow as more people come to the realization that I figured out fairly early in my life: that the two political parties don't represent the will of We The People.

While some claim that being an independent means that you waste a vote every time you enter a ballot box, the fact of the matter is that the independent-minded citizen is becoming more of an impact in the Nebraska political arena. Evidence of that was last month's U.S. Senate race between two-time incumbent Deb Fischer and independent Dan Osborn. Osborn actually made it a close race, losing by just seven percentage points to Fischer in the Nov. 5 election.

And how did the Democrat candidate do in that particular race? Ummmm — yeah. Kleeb's gang couldn't find somebody to run against Fischer, and if recent history is any indication, that candidate would have done far worse in a head-to-head battle than Osborn did.

Getting back to the leader of the NDP clown show — in that recent World-Herald article, she attributed her party's ongoing ineptness in statewide races with the good ol' conspiracy theory card.

Kleeb accused the Secretary of

Don't Get Me Started

By Michael J. Carnes
Star Publisher

State, Bob Evnen, of purging Democrats from the voting rolls at a faster rate than Republicans or independents.

"Some think it's a conspiracy theory we have, but when you look at the numbers, it doesn't make any sense," she was quoted in the World-Herald from a statement made at a NDP-hosted virtual event recently.

Evnen's spokesman said that they remove voters in accordance with federal law for reasons such as death, moving out of state, or a felony conviction (which should make Hunter Biden feel good if he decides to move to Lincoln after his dad pardoned him, but I digress. . .).

Maybe THAT'S the problem, Jane — your party sucks so bad that they figure their vote has a better chance of mattering somewhere else like California, New York — maybe even Zimbabwe.

There once was a time when the Nebraska Democratic Party offered an alternative to the boring, tired Republican Party that has controlled this state longer than most of us have been alive.

Even though Nebraska is traditionally Republican-led at the state and federal level, there have been several Democrats in the past who have actually proven to be great leaders and great representatives of the state.

I grew up with J.J. Exon as the governor in the early-to-mid 70's. He went on to a career representing Nebraska in the U.S. Senate and had a lot of respect among Nebraskans, regardless of their political stripe.

Although Bob Kerrey flaked out later in his career and tried using his sister's basement as his "home" for a run for the U.S. Seante, Kerrey's name recognition was generally positive here and in Washington.

Same goes for Ben Nelson, who was the last two-term Democrat in the governor's mansion and also represented the state in the U.S. Senate. Nelson's status as the last Democrat to matter in this state may have lost a little shine when he cast the deciding vote for Obamacare, but he was widely regarded as a Democrat who could reach across the aisle and work for the betterment of all — a concept that both parties stopped doing a

long, long time ago.

The fact of the matter is this — both political parties are being controlled by forces that aren't putting the needs of everyday citizens — whether it's Nebraska, Iowa or any of the other 48 states — at the top of their agenda. Politicians from both parties are concerned about two things and two things only:

- getting elected, amnnnd
- getting re-elected.

For "representatives" like those we have in Washington, their only real interest in our needs is to make sure they meet just enough of them that we remember that when the next election comes around. They'll make the occasional appearance back home somewhere when it benefits them politically, but you're only fooling yourself if you believe Fischer, Rick-etts, Smith, Flood and Bacon are REALLY all that interested in the best interests of Nebraska.

Here in Nebraska, the Republican Party has still not fully recovered from the chaos that came when the far right of the party staged a coup a few years ago, but its basic beliefs system better mirrors that of the average Nebraskan than the Lunatic Left, which is still trying to figure out why they were beaten so badly (and often) in last month's election.

Kleeb and other Democratic leaders are trying to point the finger at anything and anybody who somehow wronged them. Their party blew through more than \$1 billion trying to get the cackling hen known as Kamaha Harris elected after throwing the current guy in charge under the bus after he proved he was incapable of being the leader this nation needs for the next four years.

Here's an idea, Jane — instead of playing conspiracy theory games that never stick, and trying to place the blame on others, why don't you and your leadership take off the rose-colored glasses and come to the same realization that a lot of Nebraskans have realized for some time now — your party sucks, the direction sucks and the ideas you ran on in the last election REALLY sucked?

And my apologies if that made you spit your coffee on your laptop.



10 YEARS AGO

DEC. 11, 2014

Ringin' it red

Nothing rings the spirit of giving during the holiday season like a Salvation Army Red Kettle bell ringer. The Salvation Army has been ringin' in the holiday season throughout Siouxland since the early 1930s, but the idea of the kettle dates back to 1891. While trying to find a way to provide a free Christmas dinner for the destitute and poverty-stricken individuals of San Francisco, Salvation Army Captain Joseph McFee drifted back to his sailor days in Liverpool, England. Captain McFee remembered how at Stage Landing, where the boats came in, there was a large, iron kettle called the "Simpson Pot" which passers-by tossed in a coin or two to help the poor. He soon had the money to fulfill his commitment of feeding 1,000 of the city's poorest individuals on Christmas Day.

20 YEARS AGO

DEC. 9, 2004

Redmond investigation

The sixth Judicial District Judge now faces possible sanctions from the Nebraska Commission on Judicial qualifications who filed a formal complaint against Redmond, 63, last week with the Clerk of Nebraska's Supreme Court. Redmond was appointed to Nebraska's Sixth Judicial District by former Gov. Ben Nelson in 1993 to fill a vacancy following the death of Judge Robert Otte. Every six years, as required by Nebraska law, a district judge faces a vote of retention in the November general election. In 2002, Redmond was retained by a margin of 82 votes.

30 YEARS AGO

DEC. 15, 1994

Ammonia cloud forces Homer evacuations

An Allen man and two South Sioux City men were injured in an explosion that leveled the Terra International Inc. Port Neal Manufacturing Plant. Loren Kroll Sr. 55 of Allen was killed. Randy Moser and Ronald Peters remain hospitalized in Sioux City. Kroll had been a maintenance worker for the company for 10 years. The explosion occurred around 6 a.m. and could be felt as far east as Sac City, Iowa and as far west as Martinsburg. The fallout, a cloud of anhydrous ammonia about 5 miles by 15 miles in area, drifted across the Missouri River and settled over southern Dakota County and northern Thurston County, causing evacuations of several communities. The incident reportedly killed four workers and injured about 18 more. An estimated 30 workers were believed trapped inside the collapsed structure. It is believed an ammonia tank ruptured causing the blast to be felt by residents in a 60-mile radius.

40 YEARS AGO

DEC. 13, 1984

Six enter gambling pleas

Six Northeast Nebraskans have pleaded guilty to illegal gambling charges in Dakota County Court while another area resident has pleaded innocent and will face trial in January. Authorities seized five illegal lottery machines in an organized gambling raid that night at three county taverns, in an effort to

shut down the operation of the illegal machines. Nebraska law permits cities and counties to operate lotteries utilizing machines similar to arcade video games, at least until midnight Dec. 31 when a new law goes into effect banning them.

Actress joins Kerrey in SSC

Nebraska Governor Bob Kerrey was in South Sioux City to make a pitch for his \$883.6 million state budget for 1984-85. That's a 7.3 percent increase over currant spending. The governor was accompanied by actress Debra Wenger, an Academy Award-winning nominee. The Governor, a bachelor, and Miss Wenger have dated since the two met while Miss Wenger was filming "Terms of Endearment" in Lincoln.

50 YEARS AGO

DEC. 12, 1974

Jackson man killed in accident

A 20-year-old Jackson man died early Saturday morning of injuries suffered in a two-car accident on Nebraska 12 about one mile west of Newcastle. Dead is Ronald Boyle, a Burlington Northern Railroad employee, who died of a skull fracture. Nebraska State Trooper Jon Gatzemeyer said Boyle's car collided with a pickup truck driven by David Armstrong, 20, of Ponca. Armstrong was taken to St. Luke's Medical Center in Sioux City where he was given emergency treatment and then dismissed. Mr. Boyle was born June 1,1954 in Sioux City. He was graduated from Newcastle High School in 1972 and had been employed by the railroad the last three years. He lived on the family farm near Newcastle and moved to Jackson in 1972.

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FROM THE BLEACHERS



By Michael Carnes

Best teams, not brands, make CFP

Thoughts and observations from the announcement of the new and “improved” 12-team College Football Playoff:

-- Let’s get this out of the way right now . . . Alabama did NOT deserve a spot in the field over SMU or any of the other at-large teams that made the playoff.

Alabama’s athletic director and the head of the Southeastern Conference have both been critical of the committee that selected the field for this first installment of the College Football Playoff, claiming that the Crimson Tide, even at 9-3, are a better pick than Southern Methodist, which lost in overtime to Clemson in the ACC title game.

They think they have a case because, well, it’s Alabama. Its recent history of success, they seem to think, trumps what has been an outstanding season for a school that, they believe, isn’t worthy of being compared to one of the game’s most famous brands.

Yeah? Are we talking about the same brand that got 40-plus points hung on them by perennial flowerhouse Vanderbilt?

The same team that lost 24-3 to an Oklahoma team that struggled to finish .500 this season?

THAT team?

In this world of “what have you done for me lately?” that is college football, brands don’t mean a thing when it comes to an unbiased discussion of the top teams in the game.

Alabama, much like Nebraska when it fell out of its elite status two decades ago, is a wannabe powerhouse. Don’t get me wrong -- they’re still an elite program, but when you lose to TWO teams that finished .500 this year -- and was beaten handily by both teams -- sorry, Charlie. You’re not getting invited.

-- And you thought Nebraska fans were hard on their coaches?

Ohio State’s Ryan Day is a dead man walking in that state right now after losing to Michigan for the fourth straight year.

Never mind that the Buckeyes are 10-2 and the No. 8 seed in the playoff with a home game against Tennessee -- right now, the biggest question is how fast Ohio State University shows Day the door if he doesn’t, at the very least, get OSU to the championship game?

Remember the days when Nebraska fired Frank Solich and Bo Pelini after nine-win seasons? This is the equivalent of “hold my beer and watch this” for firing winning coaches.

-- Want a new definition for the word “irony”? Ladies and gentlemen, may I present the Southern Methodist University Mustangs.

The Ponies are my Cinderella pick to win it all, and not because they open on the road at State Penn (Sandusky Campus).

Back in the 1980’s, SMU was one of the most entertaining teams in college football. Their running back combination of Eric Dickerson and Craig James made them must-see TV as they were in the hunt for the national title back in the day.

There was just one problem -- they were not very good at hiding the fact that they were paying their top players nice sums of cash. Everybody was doing it at that level, but they made no bones about it, but they eventually got caught by the NCAA and were forced to cancel their program for two seasons. Known as the “death penalty,” it knocked SMU off and the program took decades to recover.

So now, almost 50 years later, college athletes are *legally* being paid by schools, and being paid even more than they were back in the day.

Wouldn’t it be hilariously ironic, then, if SMU were to run the table and win the national title? If there is such a thing as karma in college football, SMU will go all the way.

As far as my picks go . . .

FIRST ROUND WINNERS -- Texas, Tennessee, SMU, Notre Dame.

QUARTERFINALS -- Texas over Arizona State, Oregon over Tennessee, SMU over Boise State, Georgia over Notre Dame.

SEMIS -- Oregon over Texas, Georgia over SMU.

CHAMPIONS -- Oregon.



(PHOTO BY MICHAEL CARNES)

Ponca’s Ava Brown looks to go up for a shot while Ella Eickhoff (14) and Kloe Fischer defend during Friday’s season opener. Trailing the play is Ponca’s Emma Uthof (42).

Lady Indians pull away for opening-night home win

A strong fourth quarter helped the Ponca Lady Indians give new coach Chad Clay his first win as the Ponca girls coach in a 40-27 home win over Hartington-Newcastle on Friday night.

The two teams struggled in the early going and the visiting Wildcats were still within a single point at 21-20 late in the third quarter before the hosts started to pull away.

Ponca shot 32 percent from the floor and were able to use their inside game down the stretch to claim the victory, led by a game-high 15 points by Elsie Keller. Ava Voss added 12 points and Ava Brown put in seven.

A 10-3 advantage in offensive rebounds helped Ponca get some second and third chances that they were able to convert, as they had an 8-0 advantage in second-chance points over the Wildcats.

Emerson Ehlers had seven rebounds and Voss added six for the winners. Keller dished out three assists and Emma Uthof had two.

The Lady Indians couldn’t keep pace with Wayne on Saturday, dropping a 40-32 road decision to fall to 1-1 on the season.

Ponca shot 41 percent from the floor, but a 3-for-9 effort at the free throw line and 26 turnovers hurt the Lady Indians’ chances for success.

Keller was the lone Ponca girl in double figures with 11 points, while Jaelen Templeman scored eight and Laken Pfister had seven. Ehlers had eight rebounds and Borwn had five.

Ponca is back in action Thursday at Ralston and hosts Pierce on Saturday and LCC on Tuesday.

Wolfpack stumble twice to start season

The Tri County Northeast boys basketball team stumbled out of the gate last week with a pair of losses to open the season.

On Thursday, the Wolfpack had some good balance on offense, but came up short in a 63-51 loss to Crofton.

Coach Jake Kneifl said he knew his team would have had to play well to beat the Warriors, and thought they did so at times.

“I’m happy with how we played on both sides of the ball,” he said. “We knew this would be a great challenge for us to start off the season. Defensively, we weren’t able to force as many turnovers as I would have liked, but on the offensive side of the

ball Jorgensen, Lamp, and Belt were able to reach double digits.”

Thatcher Lamp led three Wolfpack scorers in double figures with 14 points, followed by Ben Jorgensen and Jackson Belt with 10 apiece.

Belt had 11 rebounds in the contest. Bernard Juarez dished out five assists and Jorgensen had four.

The Wolfpack lost a heartbreaker at home Friday, falling to Bloomfield in a 46-42 outcome.

The visiting Bees raced to a 10-point lead after one, but the Wolfpack stayed in the game and were able to get within two at 37-35 going to the final period.

“This was a tough loss for us,” Kneifl said. Offensively we took a

step back tonight. I thought we had some good looks but just couldn’t get the ball to drop for us. We left 10 points on the board from missed free throws. Our defensive effort was great. We forced 18 turnovers. Jorgensen had a tough matchup all night and played great on both sides of the ball.”

Jorgensen and Belt both had 10 points for the 0-2 Wolfpack, while Juarez added seven and Lamp put in six.

Jorgensen led in rebounds with eight and also had three steals. Belt grabbed seven boards and Lamp and Devin Reinert both had two assists.

in the Stanton dual, both coming on first-period pins by Lilyanna Dziurawiec (110) and Lilsa Bolles (135). Alivya Prenger lost in her match at 130 pounds.

Homer’s only win in the Wakefield matchup came at 115, as Dziurawiec posted a 15-4 major decision.

Dziurawiec made it a 3-for-3 night in the finale against Tekamah-Herman, picking up the team’s only win in four matches with a first-period fall.

SSC teams both drop two in Norfolk Classic

South Sioux City’s boys basketball team came up short in their first two games of the season, dropping a pair at the Norfolk Classic.

On Friday, SSC and North Platte played an exciting opener that needed overtime before the Bulldogs edged the Cardinals, 59-57.

SSC led by four after one period, only to find themselves down by three at the half. They regained the lead by one going to the fourth, but North Platte outscored SSC 19-18 to force the extra session.

Paul Turner scored a game-high 23 points on 8-of-13 shooting from the floor. Jamison Housman hit a trio of 3-pointers to finish with 12 points while Prestin Blackhawk also had 12 points. Ahmed Mohamed finished with eight.

Jagger Sims and Jaden Painter both had five rebounds and Mohamed grabbed four. Blackhawk had six assists and Turner made five steals.

The Cardinals couldn’t keep pace with Scottsbluff on Saturday as the Bearcats ran away with a 78-37 win.

Blackhawk led SSC with 16 points and Turner added 11.

Turner and Mohamed both had five rebounds and Turner made five assists.

In girls action, South Sioux City

played a pair of tough games and came up on the short end of both games.

On Friday, the Lady Cardinals played North Platte tough, but dropped a 60-55 decision.

The Lady Cardinals shot 30 percent from the floor in the loss and were led by Bryleigh Robinette’s game-high 22 points. Bailee Durant added 15 points and Keyana Weaver put in eight.

Durant led the team in rebounds with eight and also had four steals. Weaver recorded five thefts and Autumn Porter and Naomi Aldrich both had three steals. Aldrich also had five rebounds.

On Saturday, a slow start put SSC in a 28-9 halftime hole and they ended up dropping a 49-34 decision to the Lady Bearcats.

Durant led the way with 12 points, Weaver added 11 and Robinette scored five.

Durant recorded six boards, Paizley Aldrich grabbed four and Robinette had three. Durant had eight steals and Weaver had five.

Both teams will try for their first win Thursday at Sioux City West before hosting Winnebago on Saturday at the SSC Mini-Dome.

Homer boys bounce back with road victory

After going down to defeat on opening night, the Homer boys basketball team rebounded to pick up their first win of the season.

On Thursday, the Knights got off to a slow start and couldn’t stop visiting Winnebago, as the Indians came away with a 72-40 victory.

The visitors shot out to a 24-6 lead after one period and led by 20 at the break on their way to the lopsided win.

Junius Snowball and Jessup Snowball both tossed in 12 points to lead the Knights in the losing effort. Aayden Harris and Axton Caskey both had five points.

Harris finished with 12 rebounds, Steve Harris had eight and Junius Snowball grabbed seven. Reed Modlin had three assists.

The Knights went on the road Saturday and came home with a 50-38 win over Lyons-Decatur Northeast.

Homer built some late first-half momentum that carried them to their first win of the year. They led by five at the break and outscored the Cougars 20-13 in the second half to improve to 1-1 on the season.

Junius Snowball led a balanced attack with 10 points while Steve Harris had nine, Jessup Snowball scored seven and Caskey and Benjamin Roost each had six.

Aayden Harris led Homer in re-



(PHOTO BY MIKE RASMUSSEN)

Axton Caskey handles the ball for Homer during season-opening action last week.

bounds with nine, while Steve Harris had five steals.

Homer hosted LCC on Tuesday and will host Winside on Thursday before traveling to Wynot next Tuesday.

SSC tankers compete in first dual

South Sioux City’s swim teams opened the season with a dual at Norfolk High School on Thursday. The hosts won the boys dual 140-23 and took the girls competition 147-5.

SSC’s results from the dual included:

Boys Results

50 free: 4. Avan Salas, 26:50; 5. Eric Garrison, 27:06; 6. Brade Barnett, 29:88. 100 free: 3. Salas, 1:00.33; 5. Garrison, 1:05.96; 6. Barnett, 1:09.13. 100 back: 4. Giovani Alvarado, 1:19.62. 100 breast: 3. Keaton Ross, 2:24.43. 200 free: 4. Leandro Magana, 2:56:56; 5. Josue Rodriguez-Villalobos, 3:05:67.

500 free: 4. Magana, 8:10.78. 200 free relay: 3. SSC (Garrison, Alvarado, Barnett, Salas), 1:53.26; 5. SSC (Ross, Ty McIntyre-Nguyen, Rodriguez-Villalobos, Magana), 2:10.50. 200 medley relay: 2. SSC (Alvarado, Rodriguez-Villalobos, Salas, Barnett), 2:25.06. 400 free relay: 4. SSC (Garrison, McIntyre-Nguyen, Ross, Magana), 5:07.57. **Girls Results** 50 free: 4. Morgan Warner, 34.56; 5. Renatra Meraz, 43.64; 6. MacKenzie Jensen, 50.64. 100 free: 4. Warner, 1:25.14.

Lady Card grapplers start season with dual victory

South Sioux City’s girls wrestling team debuted Thursday with a 54-24 win over Plattsmouth in dual action at the SSC Mini-Dome.

Plattsmouth was open in nine of the 14 weight classes, but won four of the five contested matches in the season opener for both teams.

Fatima Alvarez picked up the only win of the night for the SSC girls with a second-period fall over Olivia Byrom at 135 pounds.

SSC hit the mats for their first tournament of the season Friday at Nebraska City, finishing fifth and coming away with two individual titles.

Defending state champions Madelynn Bohnet and Caitlyn Sohm both claimed first-place finishes. Bohnet got a late first-period fall to win at 110 pounds, while Sohm needed 65 seconds to claim the title at 235 pounds.

In other varsity action, Marlene Alamillo was second at 140 pounds and Zulema Godinez claimed consolation honors at 190.

In JV action, Ngan Le won at 155 pounds, Valery Navarro-Ardiano (120) and Valeria Hernandez (190) both finished second and Nyagwa Biluony was fourth at 115.

South Sioux City 54, Plattsmouth 24

100: Jaylee Ingham, Plattsmouth, pinned Brianna Torres, 1:03. 105: Double Forfeit. 110: Plattsmouth open. 115: Plattsmouth open. 120: Symantha

Cherek, Plattsmouth, pinned Yailin Reynoso, 1:15. 125: Plattsmouth open. 130: Plattsmouth open. 135: Fatima Alvarez, SSC, pinned Olivia Byrom, 2:54. 140: Plattsmouth open. 145: Riley Pletka, Plattsmouth, pinned Sophia Lara, 1:01. 155: Olivia Garrean, Plattsmouth, pinned Stephanie Salgado, 3:37. 170: Plattsmouth open. 190: Plattsmouth open. 235: Plattsmouth open.

Nebraska City Invitational Team Standings

Lewis Central 224, Millard South 172.5, Omaha North 169.5, Nebraska City 114, South Sioux City 109.5, Lincoln High 104.5, Adams Central 79, West Point-Beemer 76, Palmyra 57, Thayer Central 52, Stanton 50.5, Falls City 27, Omaha Burke 24.5, Cedar Bluffs 20, Dorchester 18, NEN 6.5.

SSC Varsity Medalists

110: 1. Madelynn Bohnet, SSC, pinned Dymond Green, Omaha North, 1:48.140: 1. Kayden Sipp, Adams Central, pinned Marlene Alamillo, SSC, :41. 190: 3. Zulema Godinez, SSC, pinned Kamiya Hobson, Millard South, 3:39. 235: 1. Caitlyn Sohm, SSC, pinned Evelyn Bryan-Aldrich, Palmyra, 1:05.

SSC JV Medalists

110JV: 1. Briana Tellez, Dorchester, pinned Aailyah Barron, SSC, 2:53. 115JV: 4. Nyagwa Biluony (1-3 round robin). 120JV: 2. Valery Navarro-Ardiano, SSC, (3-1 round robin). 155JV: 1. Ngan Le, SSC, pinned Caymbrie Wagner, Millard South, 1:24. 190JV: 2. Valeria Hernandez (2-1 round robin).



(PHOTO BY MICHAEL CARNES)

Fatima Alvarez works for the pin in South Sioux City’s 54-24 win over Plattsmouth on Thursday. Alvarez pinned the Blue Devils’ Olivia Byrom in 2:54 at 135 pounds.



(PHOTO BY MIKE RASMUSSEN)
Homer's Lilly Harris collides with a Winnebago defender during action Thursday at Homer High School.

Homer girls scorch nets in first two wins

Homer's Lady Knights were on fire to start the season, putting three players in double digits in season-opening wins over Winnebago (68-30) and Lyons-Decatur (69-39).

On Thursday, the Lady Knights jumped on visiting Winnebago early, scoring 26 points in each quarter to take a 52-16 lead into the locker room.

Seniors Ali Albrecht and Tori Walker each scored a game-high 17 points to lead the charge for the Lady Knights, while junior Lilly Harris had 10 and Janessa Overgaard put in nine.

Albrecht had nine rebounds and four assists for the Homer girls, while Lilly Harris dished out six assists.

Overgaard and Ainsley Spurrell both had five rebounds.

Homer hit the road Saturday and had no problems with Lyons-Decatur, pulling away with a 69-39 win to move to 2-0 on the season.

Again, Homer had three girls reach double digits in the scoring column, led by Albrecht's game-high 22 points. Harris added 17 points and Rylie Harris scored 10.

Albrecht had a double-double with 10 steals and also had six rebounds and four assists. Overgaard recorded eight rebounds, and Walker had seven assists, four rebounds and four steals. Lilly Harris record six steals.

Homer hosts LCC on Tuesday and Winside on Thursday.

Busy weekend for Cardinal grapplers

The South Sioux City boys wrestlers had a busy opening weekend, competing in the Blair Duals on Friday and the Vern Ekfelt Invitational on Saturday.

In Friday night action, the Cardinals went 0-5 in the team race, falling to the host Bears (68-12), Millard North (60-23) Schuyler (44-29), Nebraska City (44-32) and Lincoln North Star (37-29).

Highlighting the season-opening event was defending Class B 215-pound champion Tony Palmer, who was a perfect 5-0 on the night with three pins and a pair of technical falls for the SSC crew.

In Saturday's action at Omaha North, SSC finished fifth in the 11-team Vern Ekfelt Invitational, bringing home three individual champions.

Palmer and Darrius Helms (285)

both ran the table in their brackets. Palmer ended his day as the 215-pound champion with a first-period pin, while Helms needed just 55 seconds to claim the 285-pound title.

Also finishing first was Adrian Curiel, who went 4-0 in round-robin competition with three pins and a technical fall on the day.

Fifth-place medals went to Bryan Bartolo-Lopez (113), Rigin Ferris (132) and Erick Moreno (144). Finishing sixth were Tristan Lounsbury (150) and Bodey Bligh (157), while seventh-place finishes went to Cristan Navarro (120), Angel Meraz (126), William Messerlie (138) and Cooper Ferris (175).

The Cardinals had a dual at Boyden-Hull on Tuesday and will be in the two-day Council Bluffs Classic this Friday and Saturday.



(PHOTO BY MICHAEL CARNES)
Ponca senior Zain Stark goes up for two of his eight points in the Indians' 47-26 season-opening win over Hartington-Newcastle.

Ranked Indians start new season 1-1

The Ponca boys basketball team entered the season as the preseason No. 5-ranked team in Class C-2 and went 1-1 in their first weekend's worth of play.

On Friday, the Indians used a solid defense to hold down visiting Hartington-Newcastle on their way to a 47-26 win.

Ponca started slow, but went on a 21-4 run in the second period to take a 21-point halftime lead and cruised to the easy victory.

Tucker McGill led a balanced Ponca attack with 13 points, while Zain Stark and Jace Wahls both tossed in eight for the winners.

Cole Rosener led the Wildcats with eight points.

On Saturday evening, Ponca's first road test of the season didn't go as well, as Wayne put the clamps on the Ponca offense and came away with a 53-36 win at Wayne High School.

Ponca couldn't keep pace with the Blue Devils in the first half and trailed 26-15, falling to 1-1 on the young season.

Wahls paced Ponca with 11 points while Stark added 10.

Ponca plays at Randolph on Thursday and hosts Pierce on Saturday before LCC comes to town for a Tuesday tilt.

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Wolfpack wrestlers win one at Plainview Duals

Tri County Northeast's wrestlers saw some tough competition and came away with one win in five matches at Saturday's Plainview Duals.

The Wolfpack faced host Plainview (72-10), Central Valley (68-6) and Winside (36-12) before moving to the consolation bracket. There, they lost to Axtell () before ending the day with a 12-11 win over Lutheran High Northeast.

Most of the team points TCNE gave up were due to forfeits, but they saw some good individual efforts by going 4-7 in action on the mats.

In the Plainview dual, Bryan Isom won by fall at 165 and Aidan Isom got a major decision at 144. Nate Franzluebbbers picked up wins against Central Valley and Winside.

Both of their wins in the win over Lutheran High were by forfeit. They avoided a tie when Bryan Isom lost on a technical fall in his 165-pound matchup.

Plainview 72, TCNE 10
157: TCNE open. 165: Bryan Isom, TCNE, pinned Jaegar Frahm, 1:27. 175: TCNE open. 190: TCNE open. 215: TCNE open. 285: Xander Albin, Plainview, pinned Nate Franzluebbbers, 1:33. 106: TCNE open. 113: TCNE open. 120: TCNE open. 126: TCNE open. 132: TCNE open. 138: TCNE open. 144: Aidan Isom, TCNE, maj. dec. Dalton Mozak, 19-11. 150: TCNE open.

Central Valley 68, TCNE 6
165: William Pokorny, CV, dec. Bryan Isom, 9-6 (SV). 175: TCNE open. 190: TCNE open. 215: TCNE open. 285: Nate Franzluebbbers, TCNE, pinned Ty Klein, 2:15. 106: TCNE open. 113: Both open. 120: TCNE open. 126: TCNE open. 132: TCNE open. 138: TCNE open. 144: Landon Shoemaker, CV, tech. fall Aidan Isom, 16-0. 150: TCNE open. 157: TCNE open.

Winside 36, TCNE 12
175: TCNE open. 190: Both open. 215: Both open. 285: Nate Franzluebbbers, TCNE, def. Braxton Rastede medical forfeit. 106: Both open. 113: Both open. 120: Both open. 126: Both open. 132: TCNE open. 138: TCNE open. 144: Stratton Sellin, Winside, pinned Aidan Isom, :41. 150: TCNE open. 157: TCNE open. 165: Winside open.

Axtell 42, TCNE 18
190: TCNE open. 215: TCNE open. 285: Axtell open. 106: Both open. 113: Both open. 120: Both open. 126: Both open. 132: TCNE open. 138: TCNE open. 144: Kolton Lavicky, Axtell, pinned Aidan Isom, :55. 150: TCNE open. 157: Axtell open. 165: Axtell open. 175: TCNE open.

TCNE 12, Lutheran High NE 11
215: Both open. 285: LHNE open. 106: Both open. 113: Both open. 120: Both open. 126: Both open. 132: Both open. 138: Both open. 144: Both open. 150: Levi Uecker, LHNE, pinned Aidan Isom, :24. 157: LHNE open. 165: Valen Searight, LHNE, tech. fall Bryan Isom, 19-4. 175: Both open. 190: Both open.

Lady Wolfpack medal two at Fremont

Tri County Northeast's girls wrestlers started the season Friday at the Fremont Invitational and came home with a pair of medals.

Both Jenni Olson and Kiya Tornez earned fourth place medals at 100 and 155 pounds, respectively. Both girls lost by pin in their consolation finals matches.

TCNE at Fremont Invitational Team Standings
Norfolk 238.5, Millard West 184, Papillion-LaVista 136.5, Fremont 122, Elkhorn 111.5, Schuyler 102.5, Omaha Bryan 101, Omaha Central 74.5, Winnebago 68, Lincoln Northeast 39, Omaha Buena Vista 37, Omaha Conordia 32, Tri County NE 29, Omaha Gross O, Scribner-Snyder 0.

TCNE Medalists
100: 3. Nurto Salat, Bryan, pinned Jenni Olson, TCNE, :49.
155: 3. Rylee Bauer, Norfolk, pinned Kiya Tornez, TCNE, :57.

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Snuggle up with a good read

It’s the season to snuggle up with a good book. Here are some recommendations.

“The Body Keeps the Score: Brain, mind, and body in the healing of trauma,” by Bessel V. van der Kolk (616.85 VAN), has been a bestseller since it came out in 2014. An expert on traumatic stress outlines an approach to healing, explaining how traumatic stress affects brain processes and how to use innovative treatments to reactivate the mind’s abilities to trust, engage others, and experience pleasure. — Publisher’s description.

“On Tyranny: twenty lessons from the twentieth century,” by Timothy Snyder (321.9 SNY). This is both a popular and timely read. The Founding Fathers tried to protect us from the threat they knew, the tyranny that overcame ancient democracy. Today, our political order faces new threats, not unlike the totalitarianism of the 20th century. We are no wiser than the Europeans who saw democracy yield to fascism, Nazism, or communism. Our one advantage is that we might learn from their experience. On Tyranny is a guide to resistance, with invaluable ideas for how we can preserve our freedoms in the uncertain years to come.

“The Housemaid,” by Freida McFadden (FIC MCF). This hot writer has many bestsellers out. This one has a total of 84 weeks on the best-sellers lists. “Welcome to the family,” Nina Winchester says as I shake her elegant, manicured hand. I smile politely, gazing around the marble hallway. Working here is my last chance to start fresh. I can pretend to be whoever I like. But I’ll soon learn that the Winchesters’ secrets are far more dangerous than my own . . . Every day I clean the Winchesters’ beautiful house top to bottom. I collect their daughter from school. And I cook a delicious meal for the whole family before heading up to eat alone in my tiny room on the top floor. I try to ignore how Nina makes a mess just to watch me clean it up. How she tells strange lies about her own daughter. And how her husband Andrew seems more broken every day. But as I look into Andrew’s handsome brown eyes, so full of pain, it’s



Dan Nieman

hard not to imagine what it would be like to live Nina’s life. The walk-in closet, the fancy car, the perfect husband. I only try on one of Nina’s pristine white dresses once. Just to see what it’s like. But she soon finds out . . . and by the time I realize my attic bedroom door only locks from the outside, it’s far too late. But I reassure myself: The Winchesters don’t know who I really am. They don’t know what I’m capable of . . .” — from the publishers.

“The Women,” by Kristin Hannah (FIC HAN). This book has been on the bestsellers lists for 43 weeks. “When 20-year-old nursing student Frances “Frankie” McGrath hears these unexpected words; it is a revelation. Raised on idyllic Coronado Island and sheltered by her conservative parents, she has always prided herself on doing the right thing, being a good girl. But in 1965 the world is changing, and she suddenly imagines a different choice for her life. When her brother ships out to serve in Vietnam, she impulsively joins the Army Nurse Corps and follows his path. As green and inexperienced as the men sent to Vietnam to fight, Frankie is overwhelmed by the chaos and destruction of war, as well as the unexpected trauma of coming home to a changed and politically divided America.” — from the publisher.

“James,” by Perceval Everett (FIC EVE). This award winning novel has been on the bestsellers lists for 22 weeks. “From Percival Everett—a recipient of the NBCC Lifetime Achievement Award and finalist for the Pulitzer Prize, Booker Prize, and numerous PEN awards—comes James, a retelling of The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, both harrowing and ferociously funny, told from the enslaved Jim’s point of view. When the enslaved Jim overhears that he is about to be sold to a man in New Orleans, separated from his wife and daughter forever, he decides to hide on nearby Jackson Island until he can formulate a plan. Meanwhile, Huck Finn has faked his own death to escape his violent father, recently returned to town. As all readers of American literature know, thus begins the dangerous and transcendent journey by raft down the Mississippi River toward the elusive and too-often-unreliable promise of the Free States and beyond. While many narrative set pieces of The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn remain in place

(floods and storms, stumbling across both unexpected death and unexpected treasure in the myriad stopping points along the river’s banks, encountering the scam artists posing as the Duke and Dauphin . . .), Jim’s agency, intelligence and compassion are shown in a radically new light. Brimming with the electrifying humor and lacerating observations that have made Everett a “cult literary icon” (Oprah Daily), and one of the most decorated writers of our lifetime, James is destined to be a major publishing event and a cornerstone of twenty-first century American literature” — from the publisher.

“Counting Miracles,” by Nicholas Sparks (FIC SPA). This novel from one of America’s most loved authors has been on the bestsellers list for 10 weeks. Tanner Hughes was raised by his grandparents, following in his grandfather’s military footsteps to become an Army Ranger. His whole life has been spent abroad, and he is the proverbial rolling stone: happiest when off on his next adventure, zero desire to settle down. But when his grandmother passes away, her last words to him are find where you belong. She also drops a bombshell, telling him the name of the father he never knew — and where to find him. Tanner is due at his next posting soon, but his curiosity is piqued, and he sets out for Asheboro, North Carolina, to ask around. He’s been in town less than 24 hours when he meets Kaitlyn Cooper, a doctor and single mom. They both feel an immediate connection; Tanner knows Kaitlyn has a story to tell, and he wants to hear it. To Kaitlyn, Tanner is mysterious, exciting — and possibly leaving in just a few weeks. Meanwhile, nearby, 83-year-old Jasper lives alone in a cabin bordering a national forest. With only his old dog, Arlo, for company, he lives quietly, haunted by a tragic accident that took place decades before. When he hears rumors that a white deer has been spotted in the forest — a creature of legend that inspired his father and grandfather — he becomes obsessed with protecting the deer from poachers. As these characters’ fates orbit closer together, none of them is expecting a miracle . . . but that may be exactly what is about to alter their futures forever. — from the publisher.

Have a great week and read good books.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

Oak Tree Properties LLC, to Nisland Asset Investment LLC, Lot 6 and Pt Lot 5 in block 66, Covington Addition of South Sioux City

Liska Peggy, Liska Duane, to Bartels Laurie, Lot 22 Bel Air Addition of South Sioux City

Escoto Rigoberto Tapia, Perez Claudia A Sanchez, to Sanchez Cesar Adan Tapia, Lot 3 in block 8, Moan & Hunts Addition of South Sioux City

Cider Mill Development LLC, to Garza Miguel A, Garzia Gloria A, Lot 17 Harvest Meadows First Addition of South Sioux City, S-T-R 7-88-47 W Replat of Lot 1 Hans Addition of South Sioux City

Cider Mill Development LLC, to Cheng Sheng Yu, Lot 7 Harvest Meadows First Addition of South Sioux City, S-T-R 7-88-47 E Replat of Lot 1 Hans Addition of South Sioux City

Cider Mill Development LLC, to North Ridge Holdings LLC, Lot 1,3,4 Harvest Meadows First Addition of South Sioux City, S-T-R 7-88-47 W Replat of Lot 1 Hans Addition of South Sioux City

Bracht Properties LLC, to Sheley Matthew, Lot 4 Bracht Commercial Park Phase 1 of South Sioux City,

S-T-R 32-29-9 E PT NE 1/4 SE 1/4

Armour Kathleen Kay, Newcomb Stacy Lynn nka Stacy Lynn Armour, to Orozco Javier Munoz, Lot 16 and Pt Lot 10,11,12,13,14,15 in block 88, Dakota City

Gary Ogden Construction Inc, to Phan Thanh Chi, Nguyen Thi Yen, Lot 2 Ogden 3rd Addition Phase 2 of South Sioux City

EZ Properties LLC, to Janssen Marc, Escott Liana J, Lot 10 and Pt Lot 9 in block 18, First Railway of South Sioux City

Janssen Marc, Escott Liana J, to Armour Kathleen K, Armour stacy L, Lot 10 and Pt lot 9 in block 18, First Railway of South Sioux City

Bracht Properties LLC, to Johnson Mark, S-T-R 32-29-9 PT NE 1/4 SE 1/4 Lot 3 Bracht Commercial Park Phase 1 of South Sioux City

Langhorst Rita M, to Langhorst Rita M Trustee, Revocable Trust of Rita M Langhorst, S-T-R 30-29-7 E PT NE 1/4, S-T-R 30-29-7 E PT SE 1/4 NW 1/4

Nisland Asset Investment LLC, to Gray Zachary R D Gary, Lot 6 and Pt Lot 5 in block 66, Covington Addition of South Sioux City

Clanton Lang, 34, Dakota City; DUI.15+, fine \$1000, jail 120 days, revoked license 3 years
Charles W Kneifl, 47, Pender; DUI.15+, fine \$500, revoked license, 1 year
Brandy Decora, 23, waiver of extradition (Iowa) fugitive from justice
Crystal A Estep, 44, Sioux City, Iowa; possess marijuana 1oz or less 1st offense, fine \$300, fail to appear jail 7 days

Tyler M Fader, 20, South Sioux City; waiver of extradition (Iowa) fugitive from justice
Gregory D Major, 33, Sioux City, Iowa; possess marijuana 1oz or less 2nd offense, fine \$300, fail to appear jail 7 days
Truman Morris Jr, 47, Walthill; obstruct a peace officer jail 45 days, refuse to sign traffic citation jail 2 days
Abdul Manan Talabgar, waiver of extradition (Iowa) fugitive from justice

DAKOTA COUNTY COURT NEWS

OBITUARIES

Joanne E. (Fischer) Jennings, 79

Graveside services for Joanne E. (Fischer) Jennings, 79, of Kermit, Texas, will be at 1 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 14, 2024 at the Riverview Cemetery at Chamberlain, S.D.

Joanne Fisher Jennings of Kermit, Texas, formerly of Homer, NE went to be with the Lord and her beloved husband on Dec. 3, 2024.

She was born on Dec. 15, 1944 in Chamberlain, S.D. to Oral and Leone Fisher and was confirmed and baptized in the Zion Lutheran Church. In 1962, she graduated from Chamberlain High School. In 1962, she married the love of her life, Pickens Inloe Jennings Sr, becoming an instant mother to three beautiful boys. In 1982, they moved to Homer, making their home there for over 33 years.

Joanne made a career of being a bookkeeper/secretary, teaching living skills to mentally challenged seniors and became a 911 operator for South Sioux

City. In 1996, she found her second family when she began work at The Broyhill Co, Dakota City. In 2007, she semi-retired, working part time until 2015.

Those left to cherish her memory are her son: Ray and spouse Janette, grandsons: Aaron and spouse Jehnifer, Daniel and spouse Noah, Pickens III (Trey), six great grandchildren; brother: Gary Fisher and spouse Karen; and many cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends.

She is preceded in death by her husband, father, mother, three infant children, two sons, one granddaughter, and one great-granddaughter.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to your favorite charity.

Arrangements are entrusted to Family Services Funeral Parlor and condolences may be sent to the family at www.fs-fp.com.



Jennings

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Selvin Armando Gomez Gonzalez, 26, Sioux City, Iowa and Ericka Marisela Lopez Lopez, 24, Sioux City, Iowa

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Tyler James Miller Sr. 38, Winnebago, and Pilar Eagle Plume Aldrich, 33, Winnebago.

Tyler John Schlotman, 27, Sioux City, Iowa and Alexandria Rae Shoultz, 25, Sioux City, Iowa

Jose Erasmo Camacho Alvarez, 28, South Sioux City, and Tania Sugay Aguilar Navarro, 27, South Sioux City

Lady Wolfack hoopsters start season 0-2

When you start your season against the preseason-ranked No. 1 team in the state, you’re going to find out early where you stand.

The Tri County Northeast girls couldn’t keep pace with the pressing Lady Warriors in the season opener for both teams Thursday, and Crofton walked away with an 86-9 win over the Lady Wolfpack.

Crofton’s pressure defense forced 29 TCNE turnovers in the contest and completely stifled the Lady Wolfpack offense, which got off only 16 shots in the contest.

Briley Anderson scored five points and Mica Tornez added four for the TCNE girls. Tornez led the team in rebounds with five while Sam Rastede added four. Joslyn Mackling made two steals.

The Lady Wolfpack dug themselves into an early hole on Friday and couldn’t completely recover as they dropped a 49-35 decision at Bloomfield.

Bloomfield got out to an 11-0 lead after one period, but TCNE rebounded with a 16-10 run to get within five at the half, 21-16.

Joslyn Mackling had a career-high 19 points to pace the Wolfpack girls. Briley Anderson added eight points.

Tornez and Rastede shared rebounding honors with five each, and Mackling had six steals.

The 0-2 Lady Wolfpack hosted Tekamah-Herman on Monday and will travel to Siouxland Christian on Thursday and LCC on Friday.

Homer grapplers sixth at Howells-Dodge

Homer and Ponca both saw action at Saturday’s 20-team Howells-Dodge Invitational.

Homer had six medalists at the first tournament of the season, led by champion Austin Pelster, who won the 157-pound title with an 11-6 decision.

Josue Munoz (138) and Trent Dunn (190) both earned runner-up honors. Bodie Nelsen finished eighth at 157. Isaac Barclay was seventh at 144 pounds and Ethan Roberts was fifth at 175 pounds.

Ponca finished 13th in the tournament and had four medalists, three of them in the 190-pound bracket. Charlie Watkins claimed consolation honors, while Bronson Schweers pinned Arthur Lamprecht in the fifth-place match.

Also earning a medal for the Indians was Mikey Ney, who took eighth at 285 pounds.

Team Standings

Hartington CC 148.5, Tekamah-Herman 148.5, West Point-Beemer 121, Archbishop Bergan 76.5, Howells-Dodge 74, Homer 64.5, Elm Creek 61.5, Wisner-Pilger 61, Summerland 52, Stanton 51, Wakefield 33.5, Clarkson/Leigh 28, Ponca 24.5, Oakland-Craig 20.5, Cedar Bluffs 20, Bancroft-Rosalie 13, Elgin/Pope John 11, Lyons-Decatur NE 8, Archangels Catholic 2, Scribner-Snyder 0.

Area Results

138: 1. Maverick Heine, HCC, dec. Josue Munoz, Homer, 8-2.
144: 7. Isaac Barclay, Homer, maj. dec. Landon Ryion, Wakefield, 15-6.
157: 1. Austin Pelster, Homer, dec. Hunter Kuchta, HCC, 11-6; 7. Joseph Findlay, O-C, maj. dec. Bodie Nelsen, Homer, 10-1.
175: 5. Ethan Roberts, Homer, 3-2 round robin.
190: 1. Gabe Stock, T-H, pinned Trent

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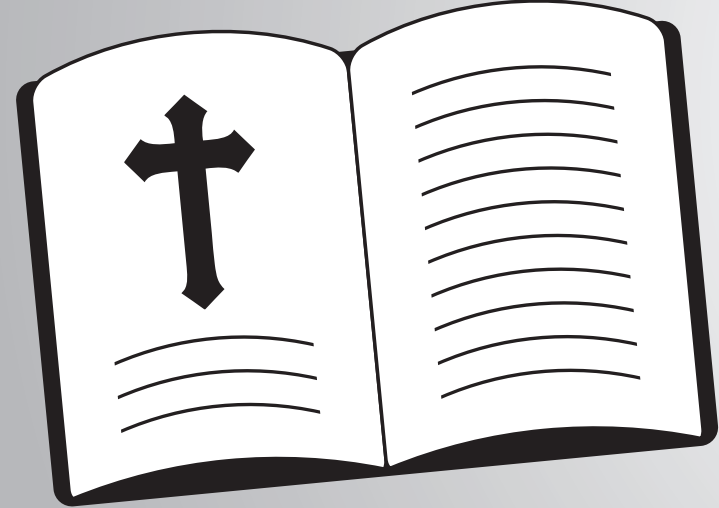
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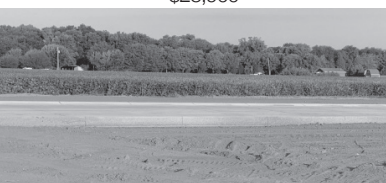


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NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION OF CHILANGOS MEXICAN RESTAURANT & PIZZAS LLC

Notice is hereby given that CHILANGOS MEXICAN RESTAURANT & PIZZAS LLC has been organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska. The address of the designated office of the Company is 112 E 19TH STREET, SO 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 December 8, 2020 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, P.O. BOX 548, DAKOTA CITY, NE 68731

Lydia Pintor Organizer

Publish in the Dakota County Star Thursday, November 28, 2024 and December 5 and 12, 2024 - ZNEZ

Legal Notice

MAUL & BODLAK, L.L.P.
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION OF KUBIK TAX & ACCOUNTING, LLC

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that KUBIK TAX & ACCOUNTING, LLC, a Nebraska limited liability company authorized to perform professional public accounting services, is organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska, with its designated office at 303 St. Patrick Court, Jackson, NE 68743 and registered agent, Lee Kubik, at 303 St. Patrick Court, Jackson, NE 68743. The general nature of its business is to engage in and to do any lawful act concerning any and all lawful business, other than banking, for which a limited liability company may be organized under the laws of Nebraska and for all other purposes authorized by law, to the same extent as natural persons might or could do. The limited liability company was formed on September 26, 2024, and its existence shall be perpetual. The Certificate of Organization was then amended on November 4, 2024. Its affairs shall be conducted by the member pursuant to an Operating Agreement duly adopted by the Company.

KUBIK TAX & ACCOUNTING, LLC
by its sole member:
Lee Kubik

Maul & Bodlak, L.L.P.
P.O. Box 490
Pender, NE 68047
402 -385-3016

Publish in the Dakota County Star Thursday, November 28, 2024 and December 5 and 12, 2024.- ZNEZ

Legal Notice

Bonial & Associates, P.C.
12400 Olive Blvd
Suite 555
St. Louis, MO 63141

Notice of Trustee's Sale

The following described property will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder on 01/09/2025, at 1:00 p.m. at the South door of the Dakota County Courthouse, 1601 Broadway, Dakota City, NE 68731:

LOTS 1 AND 2 AND THE EAST 15 FEET OF LOT 3, BLOCK 236, CITY OF DAKOTA CITY, DAKOTA COUNTY, NEBRASKA.

All subject to any and all: (1) real estate taxes, (2) special assessments, (3) easements, covenants, restrictions, ordinances, and resolutions of record which affect the property, and (4) unpaid water bills, (5) prior mortgages and trust deed of record and (6) ground leases of record. The purchaser is responsible for all fees or taxes. This sale is made without any warranties as to title or condition of the property.

By: Sara Pelikan,
Trustee, NSBA# 23602
Bonial & Associates, P.C.
12400 Olive Blvd
Suite 555
St. Louis, MO 63141
Phone: 314-991-0255
Fax: 972-764-5752

First Publication 11/28/2024 , final 12/26/2024

Published in the Dakota Star BPC Filename: STECABOA THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR AND ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN FROM YOU WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Publish in the Dakota County Star Thursday, November 28, 2024 and December 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2024.

Legal Notice

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE CITY COUNCIL

REZONING REQUEST
500 block Old Sawmill Road
Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of South Sioux City will hold a public hearing on Monday, December 23, 2024 at 5 p.m. in the South Sioux City Council Chambers, located at 1615 1st Avenue, South Sioux City, Nebraska. This meeting will be open to the public in the matter of rezoning that part of the following described tract of land currently zoned AGT to C4, located in the 500 block of Old Sawmill Road, legally described as follows;

ALL THAT PART OF GOVERNMENT LOT 4 AND THAT PART OF GOVERNMENT LOT 13, ALL IN SECTION 12, TOWNSHIP 88 NORTH, RANGE 48 WEST OF THE FIFTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, DAKOTA COUNTY, NEBRASKA, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS;

BEGINNING AT THE SOUTH-EAST CORNER OF SAID GOVERNMENT LOT 13 OF SAID SECTION 12; THENCE SOUTH 89°49'03" WEST ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID GOVERNMENT LOT 13 AND THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID GOVERNMENT LOT 4 FOR 1809.57' FEET TO THE SOUTHERLY PROJECTION OF THE EAST LINE OF LOT 5, HUGHES COMMERCIAL PARK, AN ADDITION TO DAKOTA COUNTY, NEBRASKA; THENCE NORTH 1°30'27" WEST ALONG SAID SOUTHERLY PROJECTION AND SAID EASE LINE FOR 1037.58 FEET TO THE SOUTH RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF STATE HIGHWAY NO. 20; THENCE NORTH 89°47'45" EAST ALONG SAID SOUTH RIGHT OF WAY LINE FOR 1810.87 FEET TO THE EAST LINE OF SAID GOVERNMENT LOT 13 OF SAID SECTION 12; THENCE SOUTH 1°26'06" EAST ALONG SAID EAST LINE FOR 1038.26 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

SAID DESCRIBED PARCEL CONTAINS 43.125 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, WHICH INCLUDES 1.371 ACRES IN ROADWAY EASEMENT. Publish in the Dakota County Star Thursday, December 12, 2024. - ZNEZ

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION OF SUAREZ AUTO SALES LLC

Notice is hereby given that SUAREZ AUTO SALES LLC has been organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska. The address of the designated office of the Company is 105 1/2 W 19TH STREET, S. 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 NOVEMBER 25, 2024 and its duration shall be perpetual. Th e 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, PO BOX 548, DAKOTA CITY, NE 68731

Lydia Pintor Organizer

Publish in the Dakota County Star Thursday, Decemnber 5, 12 and 19, 2024 - ZNEZ

Legal Notice

NOTICE

In the County of Dakota County, Nebraska.

Estate of Bill J. Gotch, Deceased.
Estate No.: N/A

Notice is hereby given that Bart Gotch was nominated/appointed as PR of the estate.

Creditors of this estate must file their claims and submit to P.O. Box 981, South Sioux City, NE 68776 on or before December 31, 2024 or be forever barred.

Bart Gotch, PR

P.O. Box 981

South Sioux city, NE 68776

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

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION

Notice is hereby given that Cruz.L.E Construction LLC has been organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska. The address of the designated office of the Company is 3300 Santa Rita Ct, South Sioux City, NE 68776. The initial agent for service of process is Gerardo Cruz Tolentino, 3300 Santa Rita Ct, South Sioux City, NE 68776. The general nature of the business will be to engage in the transaction of any or all lawful business, for which a limited liability company may be organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska. The Company commenced its existence on November 27, 2024, and its duration shall be Perpetual.

Organizer Name:

Gerardo Cruz Tolentino

Publish Thursday, December 5, 12 and 19, 2024. - ZNEZ

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF DIVORCE PROCEEDINGS (WITH CHILDREN)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF DAKOTA COUNTY, NEBRASKA
Erika Julisa Munguia Alvarado Plaintiff,

vs.

Luis Joel Artiaga
Defendant.

Case No. CI24-191

TO: Luis Joel Artiaga, whose whereabouts are unknown upon-whom personal service of summons cannot be had, and is the defendant in said proceedings: You are notified that on November 7, 2024, the plaintiff, Erika Julisa Munguia Alvarado filed a Complaint against you in the District Court of Dakota County, Nebraska, at case no. CI 24-191 the object of which is to obtain a dissolution of marriage on the ground that the marriage is irretrievably broken and to obtain an equitable division of the property, and to determine custody and child support, among other things.

You are required to answer said Complaint on or before December 7, 2024, or said Complaint against you will be taken as true.

Date: November 20, 2024

Printed Name:

Gina Tabisola, #26209

Street Address/P.O. Box:

308 S 19th Street

City/State/ZIP Code:

Omaha, NE 68102

Telephone Number: 402-884-0700

Email address: gina@kasaby.com

Publish in the Dakota County Star

Thursday, November 28, 2024 and

December 5 and 12, 2024. – ZNEZ

Legal Notice

NOTICE

A total of 121 cases will be heard by the Board in December 2024. The following case(s) sentenced in Dakota County will be seen by the Board of Parole.

December 11, 2024 – 9:30 a.m.

Nebraska Correctional Center for Women, York, Nebraska
Free, Twila, 393507
Driving Under Revoked License (2 counts)
Theft by Receiving Stolen Prop

December 19, 2024 – 8:30 a.m.

Reception & Treatment Center, Lincoln, Nebraska
Wilde, James, 218261
Criminal Impersonation
Theft by Receiving Stolen Prop

December 27, 2024 – 8:30 a.m.

Community Correctional Center - Lincoln, Lincoln, Nebraska
Resendiz, Sonya, 392745
Driving Under Revoked License
Manu/Dist/Del/Disp or Poss W/I Pos Cntrl Sub Except Marijuana
Theft by Receiving Stolen Prop

ROSALYN COTTON, CHAIR

NEBRASKA BOARD OF PAROLE

Publish in the Dakota County Star Thursday, December 12, 2024. - ZNEZ

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION

OF

BONANZA TRUCKING, LLC

1-The name of the company dissolved is BONANZA TRUCKING, LLC, hereinafter referred to as "Company."

2-The date dissolution of the Company was authorized was December 6, 2024.

3-Any claims against the Company shall include the name of the claimant, the date and description of the actions and situations surrounding the claim, and the amount of such claim.

4-Claims must be mailed to 1419 Dakota Ave., P.O. Box 215, South Sioux City, NE 68776.

5-A claim against BONANZA TRUCKING, LLC, will be barred unless an action to enforce the claim is commenced within five (5) years after the publication date of the third required notice.

BY: John C. Ehrich

(Bar #24140)

Ehrich Law Office, P.C., L.L.O.

1419 Dakota Avenue, Box 215

South Sioux City, NE 68776

Phone:402-412-2080

jehrich@ehrichlawoffice.com

Publish in the Dakota County Star

Thursday, December 12, 19 and 26,

2024. - ZNEZ

Part-Time Help Wanted
Advertising Sales

The Dakota County Star is looking for a local, passionate, driven, positive personality to sell advertising for our news products, including the Star, its website and the Rocket, a regional free circular that reaches a 10-newspaper area in Northeast Nebraska.

Combined hourly/bonus pay.
Work from home optional.

E-mail resume to mike@dakcostar.com



NOW HIRING!

WITH SIGN ON BONUS FOR FT & PT

- Outpatient Clinic/ Surgery Registered Nurse (full-time)
- Registered Nurse (full/part-time & PRN)
- Nursing Assistant (full-time & PRN)
- Radiology Tech (full-time)
- Unit Secretary (full-time)
- Patient Service Representative (part-time)
- HR Assistant (full-time)
- Ambulatory Clinical Pharmacist (full-time)
- Child Development Program Manager (full-time, exempt)
- Assisted Living Manager (full-time)



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

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

CITY OF DAKOTA CITY

Dakota City Council Meeting Minutes

December 5, 2024

The Dakota City City Council met in a regular session on December 5, 2024. Notice of the meeting had been posted at three separate locations and sent out to various media outlets, as well as, was shared with the Mayor and the City Council. Notices included information that an agenda was available from the Office of the City Clerk.

Mayor Jerry Yacevich called the meeting to order at 5 p.m.

The following members were present: Rasmussen, Carson, Korthuis, Lane.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Mayor Yacevich announced the availability of the Open Meetings Act.

Public Comment Period: None.

Moved by Rasmussen, seconded by Korthuis, to approve the consent agenda for December 5, 2024. Said motion includes approval of minutes from November 5, 2024, acknowledgement of reception of financial statements, animal control report and approval of bills and payroll to date as written. Roll call vote: Voting Aye: Korthuis, Rasmussen, Lane, Carson. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Yacevich presented Chuck Carson with a plaque for his work on the council. Mayor Yacevich read a proclamation proclaiming December 5, 2024 as "Chuck Carson Appreciation Day."

ADVANCE AUTO PARTS APP FINANCIAL - 80.29, AFLAC / REMITTANCE/ PROC SERVICES - 146.52, 68.04, ANALYTICAL & CONSULTING SERVICES - 856.75, AT&T - 68.41, 68.47, Ameritas Life Ins-RP -691.43, 246.22, 684.96, 208.06, Ameritas-Dent/Vis - 257.10, 51.80,

BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD OF NE- 1,496.13, 498.71, BOK FINANCIAL/CHAD SHIRK - 183,172.50, 73452.08 BOMGAARS - 300.01, BRUNO GALVAN - 50.00, Black Strap Inc - 1,977.20, CANON FINANCIAL SERVICES - 62.32, CAPITOL ONE-WALMART - 94.80, CENTURY LINK - 99.64, 94.74, CITY OF SOUTH SIOUX CITY - 338.00,

CRARY HUFF LAW FIRM - 1,448.75, CRYSTAL OIL CO. -228.34, CENTER POINT LARGE PRINT - 47.94, Chase Bank - 3,145.00, COMBINED UTILITIES FUND - 200.00, DAKOTA COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS - 16.00, DAKOTA COUNTY STAR - 442.40, DAKOTA COUNTY TREASURER - 6,193.93, DONALDSON FILTRATION SOLUTIONS - 2,784.94, DSG DAKOTA SUPPLY GROUP - 255.23, DAKOTA CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT - 746.52,

Dakota City Sales Tax Fund - 12,656.43, Dakota County Public Safety Services Ag. - 12,656.42, ELECTRIC PUMP - 1,881.00, EMC INSURANCE COMPANY - 3,211.30, 1873.25, 267.60, Eakes - 81.96, F & M Bank, N.A. - 725.83, FIBERCOMM - 134.91, 36.75, Farmer's Pride-Battle Creek - 1,023.75, GALE/CENGAGE LEARNING - 61.48, GILL HAULING, INC - 358.11, 11,622.75, GREG WARREN - 50.00, H-1 SERVICES - 300.00, HAWKINS INC - 20.00, HOME TOWN LEASING - 188.52, JASON KLEIDER - 50.00, JEO CONSULTING GROUP - 5,531.00, 4,520.00, 11,250.00

KOUNNY SAYTHONGPHET - 93.99, L.F. NOLL, INC - 303.38, 222.81, Cornhusker Marriott Hotel - 224.00, MATHESON-LINDWELD - 4,444.96, MAX I WALKER - 24.87, 24.87, MIDAMERICAN ENERGY - 81.00, 228.00, MidWest Construction Rentals - 925.00, Midlands Credit Management Inc - 93.05, 86.12, NDEE-Fiscal Services - 157146.10, 990.84, NE PUBLIC HEALTH ENVIRONMENTAL LAB - 30.00,

NICK LAKES - 50.00, Nebraska Public Power Dist. - 56.41, 10,100.47, 3,606.53, Novelty Machine & Supply, Inc. - 32.34, PEOPLE SERVICE, INC - 4,090.00, Principal Life Insurance Company - 14.63, 58.52, ROBERT KRATKY - 100.00, Refunding Account 65,000.00 Sargent Drilling - 234,186.88, Sparklight/Cable One- 153.60, 181.31, Swanson Septic & Excavation - 1600.00, THOMPSON SOLUTIONS GROUP - 1,853.29, 168.00, 268.00, 84.00, 2,297.01,

VISA-CITY CARD - 1,910.53, 1,412.54, Verizon Wireless - 40.01, Wilmes Hardware Hank - 44.54, 193.12, ZACKERY RASMUSSEN - 50.00,

Total - 844,082.69

This meeting was adjourned at 5:03 p.m.

Mayor Jerry Yacevich called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

Mayor Yacevich announced the availability of the Open Meetings Act. Public Comment Period: None. Communications: None

The following members were present: Rasmussen, Groetken, Korthuis, Lane.

City Attorney Mike Schmiedt administered the oath of office for City Council Members Clint Rasmussen, Randall Groetken and Mayor Jerry Yacevich.

Moved by Korthuis, seconded by Rasmussen, to elect Tyler Lane as City Council President. Roll call vote: Voting Aye: Korthuis, Rasmussen, Lane, Groetken. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Rasmussen, seconded by Lane, to approve Resolution 2024-22 Appointing Steven A. Parr with JEO Consulting Group, Inc as the 2025 Street Superintendent. Roll call vote: Voting Aye: Groetken, Korthuis, Rasmussen, Lane. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Lane, seconded by Groetken, to approve Resolution 2024-23 Appointments/Designations for 2025 with amendment of removing Chuck Carson from the Board of Health and placing in Tyler Lane, President of the City Council, as a member of the Board of Health. Roll call vote: Voting Aye: Korthuis, Rasmussen, Lane, Groetken. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Lane, seconded by Korthuis, to approve Resolution 2024-24 Appointing Officers for 2025, City Engineer: JEO Consulting Group, Inc and City Attorney Michael P. Schmiedt of Crary, Huff, Ringgenberg, Harnett & Storm, P.C. Roll call vote: Voting Aye: Rasmussen, Lane, Groetken, Korthuis. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Korthuis, seconded by Rasmussen, to approve Resolution 2024-25 the 2025 Fire Department Roster. Roll call vote: Voting Aye: Rasmussen, Lane, Groetken, Korthuis. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Korthuis, seconded by Rasmussen, to approve Resolution 2024-26 Fire Department Auxiliary Roster. Roll call vote: Voting Aye: Lane, Groetken, Korthuis, Rasmussen. Voting No: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Korthuis, seconded by Lane, to approve Resolution 2024-27 Establish New Meeting Time. Rescheduling the January 2, 2025 meeting to Thursday, January 9, 2025 at 5 p.m. Roll call vote: Voting Aye: Rasmussen, Lane, Groetken, Korthuis. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Rasmussen, seconded by Groetken, to approve purchasing four Mueller fire hydrants from DSG using sales tax funds. Roll call

vote: Voting Aye: Rasmussen, Lane, Groetken, Korthuis. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Mayor and Council discussed ARPA (SLFRF) funds.

Moved by Rasmussen, seconded by Korthuis, to accept the bid of \$54,118.00 from Mongan Painting, LLC for the water plant SCU painting using ARPA (SLFRF) funds. Roll call vote: Voting Aye: Lane, Groetken, Korthuis, Rasmussen. Voting No: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Lane, seconded by Groetken, to approve signing an agreement with Bader's Highway to complete \$29,500 of crack sealing on Broadway and N.14th streets using ARPA (SLFRF) funds. Roll call vote: Voting Aye: Rasmussen, Lane, Groetken, Korthuis. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Lane, seconded by Rasmussen, to approve signing an agreement with Johnson's Service Company to complete \$29,700 of sanitary sewer cleaning and inspection using ARPA (SLFRF) funds. Roll call vote: Voting Aye: Lane, Groetken, Korthuis, Rasmussen. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Rasmussen, seconded by Korthuis, to approve signing an agreement with Johnson's Service Company to complete \$29,500 of storm sewer cleaning and inspections using ARPA (SLFRF) funds. Roll call vote: Voting Aye: Korthuis, Rasmussen, Lane, Groetken. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Korthuis, seconded by Rasmussen, to approve the purchase of a new jet mixer pump for wastewater treatment plant for \$17,057.00 using ARPA (SLFRF) funds. Roll call vote: Voting Aye: Rasmussen, Lane, Groetken, Korthuis. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Korthuis, seconded by Lane, to approve the purchase of two grinder pumps for \$7,336.00 for the lift stations using ARPA (SLFRF) funds. Roll call vote: Voting Aye: Lane, Groetken, Korthuis, Rasmussen. Voting No: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Rasmussen, seconded by Korthuis, to approve using ARPA (SLFRF) funds to pay the remaining Engineering costs of the 2023 water supply well in the amount of \$6,861.00. Roll call vote: Voting Aye: Groetken, Korthuis, Rasmussen, Lane. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Korthuis, seconded by Lane, to approve using ARPA (SLFRF) funds to sign an agreement with JEO to survey the storm sewer on N. 14th from Cedar Street north to city limits and add that to the GIS maps for \$3,500.00 Roll call vote: Voting Aye: Rasmussen, Lane, Groetken, Korthuis. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Groetken, seconded by Lane, to approve the following Council Member being a point of contact for select areas. Groetken-Water Treatment Plant. Korthuis -Wastewater. Lane -Streets. Rasmussen-Parks and Code Enforcement. Roll call vote: Voting Aye: Rasmussen, Lane, Groetken, Korthuis. Nay: None. Motion carried.

The Mayor and City Administrator gave an update on the potential of new businesses.

City Staff provided comments concerning City Departments, Current Projects, Ordinances and Statutes.

Council Members provided comments concerning City Departments, Current Projects, Ordinances and Statutes.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Mayor Yacevich at 5:59 p.m.

/s/ Robert Kratky
City Administrator
Clerk/Treasurer

Publish in the Dakota County Star Thursday, December 12, 2024. - ZNEZ

Legal Notice

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
SOUTH SIOUX CITY,
CITY COUNCIL
REZONING REQUEST
615 Old Highway 20 West
C3 to C4**

Notice is hereby given that the **Mayor and City Council of the City of South Sioux City will hold a public hearing on Monday, December 23, 2024, at 5 p.m.** in the South Sioux City Council Chambers, located at 1615 1st Avenue, South Sioux City, Nebraska. This meeting will be open to the public in the matter of rezoning 615 Old Highway 20 West (former Martins Airfield) from C3 to C4, legally described as follows.

Parcel 1: (220198160) All that part of Government Lot 1, Section 36, Township 29 North, Range 8 East of the Sixth Principal Meridian, Dakota County, Nebraska, described as follows:

Commencing at the Northwest corner of said Government Lot 1 of said Section 36; thence South 0°32'00" East along the West line of said Government Lot 1 for 788.20 feet to the North Right of Way line of U.S. Highway No. 20; thence North 84°52'31" East along said North Right of Way line for 510.40 feet to the point of beginning; thence North 5°07'29" West for 356.04 feet; thence North 85°25'00" East for 295.28 feet; thence North 57°54'15" East for 60.00 feet; thence North 85°25'00" East for 191.21 feet; thence South 5°07'29" East for 383.81 feet to the North Right of Way line of said U.S. Highway No. 20; thence Westerly along said North Right of Way line on a 11659.15 foot radius curve, concave Southerly for 346.91 feet, having a long chord of 346.89 feet, bearing South 85°43'37" West; thence South 84°52'31" West along said North Right of Way line for 193.09 feet to the point of beginning.

Parcel 2: (Tax ID's 220070229 & 220069530)

A tract of land located in the SW1/4 of Section 25, T29N, R8E of the 6th P.M., Dakota County, Nebraska, more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at the NE corner of the S1/2 of the SW1/4 of Section 25, T29N, R8E of the 6th P.M., Dakota County, Nebraska; thence westerly on the north line of said S1/2, 190.00 feet; thence southeasterly to a point on the east line of said S1/2, said point being 300.00 feet south of the NE corner of said S1/2; thence north and on said east line of said S1/2, 300.00 feet, to the point of beginning.

AND

The Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter and Lots 4 and 5 all in Section 25, and that part of Government lots 1 and 8 lying North of Highway 20 **EXCEPT** East 400' of Lot 8 **AND EXCEPT** Highway 20 Right of Way in Section 36, all in Township 29 North, Range 8 East of the 5th P.M., EXCEPTING therefrom 4 acres surrounding the area occupied by a Quonset building previously deeded to Eugene T. Martin, on April 15, 1981, in Book 105, Page 754, Dakota County, Nebraska. **AND EXCEPTING** The West 50.00 feet of the South 885 feet of Government Lot 5, Section 25, T29N, R8E, of the 6th P.M., Dakota County, Nebraska. Publish in the Dakota County Star Thursday, December 12, 2024. - ZNEZ

Legal Notice

**SouthLaw, P.C.
13160 Foster, Suite 100
Overland Park, KS 66213-2660
913-663-7600
FILE NO. 248490**

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

For default in the payment of debt secured by a deed of trust executed by **Kurt S Bahney and Janna Lynn Mertz**, dated September 13, 2004, and recorded on September 20, 2004, Document No. 04-002710 in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds, Dakota County, Nebraska, the undersigned Successor Trustee will on January 31, 2025, at 10:00 AM, at Main Lobby of the Dakota County, Courthouse, Dakota City, Nebraska, sell at public vendue to the highest bidder for cash:

Lot Seventeen (17) and the East Half (E1/2) of Lot Eighteen (18), North Shore Park, a Subdivision of Government Lot Six (6), Section Thirty-two (32), Township Twenty-nine (29) North, Range Nine (9) East of the Sixth Principal Meridian, Dakota County, Nebraska and Lot Seventeen A (17-A) and Lot Eighteen B (18-B), North Shore Park, a Subdivision of Government Lot Six, Section Thirty-two (32), Township Twenty-nine (29) North, Range Nine East of the Sixth Principal Meridian, Dakota County, Nebraska, which is more particularly described as follows: Commencing at the Northeast corner of Lot 17 of North Shore Park, a Subdivision of Government Lot 6, Section 32, Township 29 North, Range 9 East of the Sixth Principal Meridian, Dakota County, Nebraska, thence 21 degrees 37 minutes 05 seconds West for a distance of 147.25 feet to the point of beginning; thence South 21 degrees 37 minutes 05 seconds West for a distance of 144.77 feet; thence North 66 degrees 39 minutes 45 seconds West for a distance of 75.03 feet; thence North 21 degrees 37 minutes 05 seconds East for a distance of 142.52 feet; thence South 68 degrees 22 minutes 54 seconds East for a distance of 75.00 feet to the point of beginning., commonly known as 480 N Shore Dr, South Sioux City, NE, 68776

subject to all prior easements, restrictions, reservations, covenants and encumbrances now of record, if any, to satisfy the debt and costs.

**Liliana E. Shannon
Successor Trustee**

First Publication: December 12, 2024

NOTICE

Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. §1692c(b), no information concerning the collection of this debt may be given without the prior consent of the consumer given directly to the debt collector or the express permission of a court of competent jurisdiction. The debt collector is attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose (No. 248490). For more information, visit www.Southlaw.com

Publish in the Dakota County Star Thursday, December 12, 19 and 26, 2024 and January 2 and 9, 2025. - ZNEZ

Legal Notice

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF SOUTH SIOUX CITY
SUBDIVISION REQUEST
Ogden 3rd Addition Phase 3**

Notice is hereby given that the **City Council of the City of South Sioux City, will hold a public hearing on Monday, December 23, 2024, at 5 p.m.** in the South Sioux City Council Chambers located at 1615 1st Avenue, South Sioux City, Nebraska. This meeting will be open to the public in the matter of Ogden 3rd Addition Phase 3, a new subdivision located at the corner of East 17th and Ogden Court, legally described as follows.

ALL THAT PART OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF THE SOUTH-WEST 1/4 OF SECTION 22, TOWNSHIP 29 NORTH, RANGE 9 EAST OF THE SIXTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, SOUTH SIOUX CITY, DAKOTA COUNTY, NEBRASKA, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

COMMENCING AT THE NORTH-WEST CORNER OF SAID NORTH-WEST 1/4 OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF SAID SECTION 22; THENCE SOUTH 89°28'14" EAST ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID NORTH-WEST 1/4 OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 FOR 33.00 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 0°29'11" WEST ALONG A LINE 33.00 FEET EAST OF AND PARALLEL WITH THE WEST LINE OF SAID NORTHWEST 1/4 OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 FOR 33.00 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 89°28'14" EAST ALONG A LINE 33.00 FEET SOUTH OF AND PARALLEL WITH THE NORTH LINE OF SAID NORTH-WEST 1/4 OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 FOR 330.19 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUING SOUTH 89°28'14" EAST ALONG SAID PARALLEL LINE FOR 99.98 FEET TO THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF LOT 1 OF OGDEN 3RD ADDITION, PHASE 2; THENCE SOUTH 0°30'39" WEST ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID LOT 1 AND THE EAST LINE OF LOT 2 FOR 230.04 FEET TO THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SAID LOT 2; THENCE SOUTH 89°13'39" WEST ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF LOT 2 AND SAID SOUTH LINE EXTENDED WEST FOR 100.00 FEET; THENCE NORTH 0°30'39" EAST FOR 232.31 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

SAID DESCRIBED PARCEL CONTAINS 0.531 ACRES, MORE OR LESS.

Publish in the Dakota County Star Thursday, December 12, 2024. - ZNEZ



QUARTET GETS US IN THE HOLIDAY SPIRIT



(PHOTO BY MICHAEL CARNES)

There's nothing like the sound of a barbershop quartet singing Christmas carols to get you in the holiday spirit. The Assorted Parts barbershop quartet, part of the Siouxland Discovery chorus, performed during Friday's Chamber Coffee at Siouxland Bank. Quartet members from left to right are Randy Haafke (baritone), Jerry Forbes (bass), Paul Roberts (lead), and Jeff Neary (tenor).



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Emerson News

By Lulene Sebade



(PHOTO BY LULENE SEBADE)
Left Mallory Victor (left) and Natalie Victor visiting with Santa. They are daughters of Brandon and Katie Victor of Emerson.

EBCvKickoff a success

The Emerson Betterment Committee (EBC) did an outstanding job with the Kickoff to Christmas Saturday night. The parade was great with many entries and their decorated vehicles with Christmas lights followed by a meal at the Fire Hall. There were a lot of kids participating in the Kids crafts and of course Santa made his appearance to listen to the kids wish list.

The craft room was super impressive with kids doing crafts assisted by high school students. The fire truck room was for the adults to enjoy their food and visiting. It was a great night to get everyone in the mood for Christmas.

Emerson is so lucky to have the EBC as its members are a group of enthusiastic young people who are willing to work and help in various ways and responsible for many events and activities in Emerson. If you know of an EBC member be sure to compliment them and tell them how much they have made Emerson a great town.

Don't forget the fourth-annual EBC Banquet Jan. 25, 2025.

Decorations look great

Emerson area residents seemed to

have gone all out this year with their Christmas decorations. The blow-ups are a big attraction and a lot of residences have them in their yards. Take a drive around town and several miles out in the country to view them.

Decorating contest winners

The EBC decorating contest winners were: 1st — Kelly Lamp and Erin Morgan; 2nd — Penny Epting and 3rd — Jordan and Kate Mueller. Also recognized on Facebook were the residences of Mark and Denise Mueller, Lulene Sebade, The Deemers, Nathan and Kelli Mueller, Steve Cimino and Tim and Rylee Langmack. While driving around town, I noted the places of Mark and Linda Graf, Troy and Tonya Emmons, Mick Duncan and I'm sure there are many others. Be sure to drive around the Emerson Park as it is beautiful with all the lights. I feel we have the most beautiful park in the area. Thanks to all who made sure it was beautiful this year.

Shareholder meeting

Post 60 Grocery Store share holders will have a meeting on Sunday,

Dec. 15 at 2 p.m. at St. Paul's Lutheran Church Social hall.

Spelling Bee is Friday

The Emerson-Hubbard Elementary Spelling Bee is Friday morning, Dec. 13. The schedule is: Grade 5, 8:30 a.m.; Grade 2, 9:10 a.m.; Grade 4, 9:50 a.m.; Grade 1, 10:30 a.m.; and Grade 3, 11:10 a.m.

Ugly Sweater Day

Thursday, Dec. 19 is Ugly Sweater Day at Emerson-Hubbard Schools. Early dismissal at 1 p.m.; No school for Elementary school only on Friday, Dec. 20.

Community Coffee Dec. 18

The Emerson Community Coffee for December will be Wednesday, Dec. 18 at the Buzz at 10 a.m.

Emerson-Hubbard Schools

Friday: Spelling Bee; 9th grade Career day at Norfolk.
Saturday: ACT tests.
Dec. 19: Semester tests.

Homer News

By Stacie Johnson



(COURTESY PHOTO)

The tech crew for Homer one-act received a perfect score at districts for their exemplary work.

Play production competes at district

Homer's play production squad faced tough competition at the B-4 District competition last week, but was able to end their season with a respectable fourth-place finish in the nine-school field.

A shining spotlight, though, goes to the technical crew who received a unanimous first place finish among tech crews with a perfect score. The tech crew is responsible for setting up and tearing down the set, typically in a very short amount of time as the schedule of plays runs quickly on competition days. Tech crew is also responsible for costumes and costume changes, lighting, audio and more.

When asked what made this year's tech crew so successful, Coach Alisha McPartland said that each member knew exactly what their job was and did it with precision. The judges were astounded that, on a stopwatch for proof, the crew was able to dismantle and removed the set from the stage in three minutes flat.

When you go see a play or musical onstage, the actors may be in front of you, but there is so much more than meets the eye for each production. Congrats, Homer cast and crew!

6-12 Christmas concert Monday

Enjoy festive songs and fun at the 6-12 grade Holiday Concert on Monday, Dec. 16 in the school gym at 7 p.m. Both band and chorus students will show off their talents under the direction of band instructor Paige Moos and chorus leader

Jackson News

By Laura Sullivan

Rev-Tac Firearm Instruction

Upcoming events:
Friday, Dec. 13 – Home Defense at 5:30 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 14 – Multi-State Concealed Carry Course at 9 a.m.
Contact Rev-Tac to enroll in the classes at 712-253-8810.

Homer School Program

Because Jackson kids go to 4 different schools, I want to include all the schools events. Please pass your school events on to me. Thank you,
Dec. 2-13 Cardinal baskets food drive
Dec. 5-12 – 12 days of Christmas
Dec. 19 – Knight Pride Celebration
Dec. 23-Jan. 3 – Winter break

St. Patrick's

Dec. 18 is the last day of CCD before the Christmas Break.

Cards of Recovery

Donnie Hogh is recovering in Regency Square and has agreed to share his contact information. Cards can be sent to Donnie c/o Regency Square, Room 404, 3501 Dakota Avenue, South Sioux City, Neb., 68776.

Indoor pickleball is back

Pickleball is open to the public at Jackson Elementary School from 6-8 p.m. Mondays. 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.

Book Club

December book is "The Ghost at the Table" by Suzanne Berne. December meeting is Tuesday, Dec. 17 at Diane Sullivan's. The big book for this year is "Don Quixote" by Miguel de Cervantes.

Bridget Anderson.

Lighted parade on the 14th

The weather looks favorable for Homer's third-annual Lighted Parade and Community Christmas, just days away, on Saturday, Dec. 14. The parade begins at 6 p.m. with line up starting at 5:45 p.m. in the school parking lot.

Afterwards, head to the fire hall where the fire department will be serving taco in a bag, and friends can enjoy crafts, treats, and a visit with Santa.

And thank your Homer Community Club and Volunteer Fire and Rescue when you see them.

Good Roots gets cozy

Book clubbers at Good Roots Coffee Company are "taking in all the cozy, winter books this season!"

They'll be meeting again on Monday, Jan. 6 at 6 p.m. for their next literary installment with the book "Winter Street" by Elin Hilderbrand.

The book has come highly recommended, and many have said it's worth re-reading each holiday season. It's a heartwarming novel that takes place during the holiday season on Nantucket and follows the Quinn family as they come together to celebrate Christmas. Their festivities are disrupted by unexpected events and revelations. With a blend of humor, drama and romance, this book explores the complexities of family relationships and the power of love and forgiveness.

Fish fry reminder

Jan. 4, 2025, from 5-7 p.m. at the



(PHOTO BY LAURA SULLIVAN)

Thank you to everyone who came and supported the Legion at the annual soup supper. Pictured are Auxiliary members Julie Kneiff and Ruth Greenough along with Legion Commander Wes Hohenstein. There will be no meetings until March 2025. At that time our Auxiliary will be busy judging Americanism Essays from 3rd thru 6th graders at Ponca School and getting ready for the Poppy Poster contest.

Jackson Elementary School

Mondays – 1 hour late start
Christmas Program – Dec. 13 6:30 p.m.
Early Dismissal – Dec. 19-20 - Jackson 1:10 p.m.
Dec. 23-Jan. 3 – Christmas Break
Return to School – Return to school
Jackson Elementary School lunch menu Dec. 16-20:
Monday – Turkey/ham/cheese hoagie, crackers, pickle, carrots and ranch dip, fruit
Tuesday – Pizza, corn, lettuce, cookie, fruit
Wednesday – Cook's choice
Thursday – Cook's choice
Friday – Peanut butter and jelly, chips, carrots and ranch dip, fruit

Hours of Operation

Bank of Dixon County – Monday

Sebade celebrating 61st year with Star

To my readers,
December 2024 starts my 61st year as correspondent for the Dakota County Star. It is a job I have enjoyed immensely and allowed me to work from home.

I answered ad in the Dakota County Star in 1963 asking if anyone from Emerson would be interested in writing a weekly column about the happenings in Emerson. I mailed my resume and within a week I received a phone call from then-editor Henry Trysla asking me several questions about my knowledge of Emerson. I answered them and he told me I was hired. Henry was a great editor and taught me a lot about journalism. I have worked for several editors throughout the years and am enjoying working for current editor Michael Carnes.

One of my strong points was that I owned a typewriter. That was the first question Henry asked me. He stated he didn't want to decipher "chicken scratch." Times have changed as at that time I had a manual typewriter, but several years later I acquired an electric typewriter. Next came the word processor and now I work with the computer. Change is good — sometimes!

Some weeks the Star would call if I had sent in my news. When I stated I did and they hadn't received it, I had no answer. The Emerson postmasters tried to help but nothing seemed to work. Then on Wednesday morning, the Star would call and my news had gone to Jackson. This happened several times, and I solved that problem by driving to South Sioux City to hand-deliver my news. Thank goodness for computers today!

Emerson has had some very interesting residents and I had the privilege to interview many of them.

During the Farm Crisis in the 1980's, a local farmer, Allen Olsen, drove his team of horses to Washington, D.C., to speak to politicians about the farm economy. My husband, Ervin, and I accompanied the group and I reported the daily happenings to the Star.

Last week, I received a text from a former Emerson resident who now resides in California, asking if I had any information on the time the Emerson Village was going to remove 21 trees in the south end of the City Park and put tennis courts in the location. This lady's grandmother was among the group of Emerson residents protesting the destruction. Protestors gathered at the park and several sat on the bulldozer that was to start removing the trees. Several residents kept watch overnight while businessmen spoke on behalf of the Village asking not to remove the trees and to find another area for the tennis courts. In the end, the protestors won and our beautiful park is still intact. I forwarded the story to the lady in California as she remembers her grandmother being very adamant the trees would remain.

I was the editor of the Emerson Centennial History book in 1988 and against for the history book in 2013. Many of the articles I had written are in these books.

I have only missed a few publications over the years. One was when a new baby arrived in the family, but I sent in the news the next week. I have had several hospitalizations that were responsible for no Emerson news in the paper. Weather was never an issue — if our county roads were blocked, my husband took the news envelope

to the post office via tractor.

Family, friends and almost everyone knows not to ask me for a favor on Monday, as that is "News Day."

It's been an easy job for a busy farm wife with four children at home. It has kept me aware of what is going on in Emerson and I thoroughly enjoy the job. And at age 86, I still enjoy the job and have no desire to retire at this time.

I could not have been a news correspondent for over 60 years if it hadn't been for the people of the Emerson area. I am happy to say everyone has been wonderful to work with.

The job has changed throughout the years. When I first started, we printed information about every card party that was held. Also, people made sure I knew they either visited someone's home or vice versa. I had a list of people I would call on Monday morning to ask if they had any news they wanted in the paper. Soon, people were calling me with their news. However, times have changed and I don't do that anymore. Some of the changes consist of cell phones and Facebook, but we are still interested in new babies, special birthdays, etc.

I am also a correspondent for the Pender Times, as many of those residents have related to me they enjoy reading about Emerson. Norvin (Fuzz) Hansen, then-editor, called me a number of years ago and asked if I would write for the Pender Times. I said yes and am still writing for the Times and editor Jason Sturek.

As a lifelong Emerson area resident, I'm proud of my town and its people. Emerson has so many entities to be proud of. We have great businesses AND we have the most beautiful city park in the state. Thank goodness for those special people who saved our park. We have so much to be proud of.

Thanks to all who have helped me along the way and contributed your news items so our readers know what's happening. Remember, if you want to put something in the local paper, just call me and I will take care of it for you.

Lulene Sebade

EDITOR'S NOTE — as someone who has worked in a number of small-town newspapers over the last 40 years, I know how vitally important people like Lulene Sebade are to our publication. At one of my first jobs, a local woman would call every Monday morning at precisely 8 a.m. to share her news of the previous week. She was one of several in that community who would share what we in the industry like to call "chicken dinner news" about who they visited, what they did and what they talked about. From card parties to trips to the big city for special events, the small-town news was a key element in newspapers like the Dakota County Star for generations.

We are proud to have Lulene continue her work into her seventh decade here and enjoy reading and editing her information when her e-mails hit our inbox every Monday morning, and as far as we are concerned, the job is hers as long as she wants.

Dakota City News

Dakota City Public Library

Book Club is currently reading "Inland" by Tea Obreht. In this story, Tea Obreht has the ability to make a far-flung world feel lived in and intoxicating. This story takes place in the Arizona Territory in 1893 and is a story of drought, ghosts, strong women, camels, and the inevitability of change as it explores the interrelationship between the living and the dead and between memory and loss. The group will discuss this book at their monthly meeting in January. Extra copies are available to read along with the group. New members are welcome to join at any time.

Story Hour for December will be "Cookies for Santa" on Thursday, Dec. 19 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. All area school-age children are invited to participate. Story Hours include a story, craft, snack, and fun activities.

The Little Free Library has been closed for the winter. You may share your books at the Library in its Exchange box. We will fill the Little Free Library with books in the Spring.

The Library has a large collection of Christmas themed books and movies; both for adults and children. We also have several Christmas themed games set out for patrons to enjoy.

Holiday Hours: The Library will be closed Tuesday, Dec. 24 and Wednesday, Dec. 25 for Christmas and Tuesday, Dec. 31 and Wednesday, Jan. 1 for New Year's Eve/Day.

New items: "The City and it's Uncertain Walls" by Haruki Murakami, "To Die For" by David Baldacci, "Trial By Fire" by Danielle Steel, "The House of Cross" and "Raised by Wolves" by James Patterson and "Never Never" by Colleen Hoover.