

GOT ‘EM

SSC baseball makes up game. **Page 1B**

STAR CALENDAR

Dog show this weekend

The Vizsla Club of America Dog Show will be held Thursday, Friday and Saturday at the South Sioux City Marriott Riverfront, located at 385 East Fourth Street.

For more information, visit their website at vcaweb.org/event/2025-national-specialty-events.

YMCA ribbon cutting

The Norm Waitt Sr. YMCA will officially open its new Early Learning Center with a ribbon cutting on Friday at 11 a.m. at the facility in South Sioux City.

The expansion includes modern early learning classrooms, a vibrant ocean-themed indoor playground, and flexible spaces that will support everything from preschool and afterschool care to middle school S.T.E.A.M. programming and youth and teen leadership development.

Chamber Coffee Friday

Friday's Chamber Coffee will be hosted by South Sioux City Parks and Rec and will be held at Dakota City Elementary School, located at 1801 Locust St. in Dakota City.

Coffee will be served at 9:30 a.m., with the program beginning at 10 a.m.

New Stage Players dates

The New Stage Players Penguin Project will present Disney Aladdin Kids Friday through Sunday, April 25-27 at Briar Cliff University in Sioux City.

For details, go to the web at cur8.com/14523/project/130937.

Track meet at SSC

The South Sioux City Track and Field Invitational will be held Monday, April 28 at 5 p.m. in the Council chambers at City Hall.

Field events are set to begin at 2 p.m., with track events to follow.

City Council meeting

The South Sioux City City Council will hold its next meeting on Monday, April 28 at 5 p.m. in the Council chambers at City Hall.

An agenda is available at southsiouxcity.org.

LOCAL WEATHER

Data Courtesy The Weather Channel
FOR WEEK OF APRIL 24-MAY 1, 2025

THURSDAY



58

46

70% chance of showers

FRIDAY



65

43

Mostly cloudy.

SATURDAY



65

51

Considerable cloudiness.

SUNDAY



69

62

Scattered morning storms.

MONDAY

82

52

Mostly cloudy.

TUESDAY

70

41

Mix of clouds and sun.

WEDNESDAY

71

47

Mix of clouds and sun.

City to save money with new bike trail

By MICHAEL CARNES

Star Publisher

A bike trail that will connect Cardinal Drive to 39th Street can be created without having to spend more than a quarter-million dollars, it was announced at Monday's Public Works Committee meeting.

City Parks and Rec director Gene Maffit told the committee that a proposed bike trail along C Street that would run from Cardinal Drive to 39th Street can be created without having to spend money on removing trees and moving utilities on the west side of the street.

"There's no way to get through without alleys or easements, so we proposed eliminating parking on the east side of C Street," he

told the committee.

The street's main use is seen at the start and end of school days, and Maffit said that eliminating parking on the east side of the street would be a safer alternative for the 505-foot trail.

"It would also cost us about \$254,000 to remove trees and utilities on that west side," he added.

The committee voted unanimously to move the idea to Monday's City Council meeting for final approval.

The committee also heard from City Administrator Lance Hedquist on an update on the city's operations at the new wastewater treatment plant facility, with the possibility of adding staff to the city's payroll as an option

for the future.

The facility has been run on a contract basis by EDS for the last three years, and Hedquist said that if they can work out an agreement with the city's union, they could be hired on as full-time city staff in the near future, which would save the city money.

"There are lots of things to look at, and we'll meet with (the city's union) this week and see what steps we'd need to do for them to become regular city employees," he said. "It would save us money because the engineering company raises the rates they would charge us, so in the end it would eliminate those overhead costs."

Councilman Randy Meyer asked Hedquist if the city is looking into hiring a Public

Works Director who would manage the city's wastewater. Hedquist said the city is looking into it and may do so in the near future.

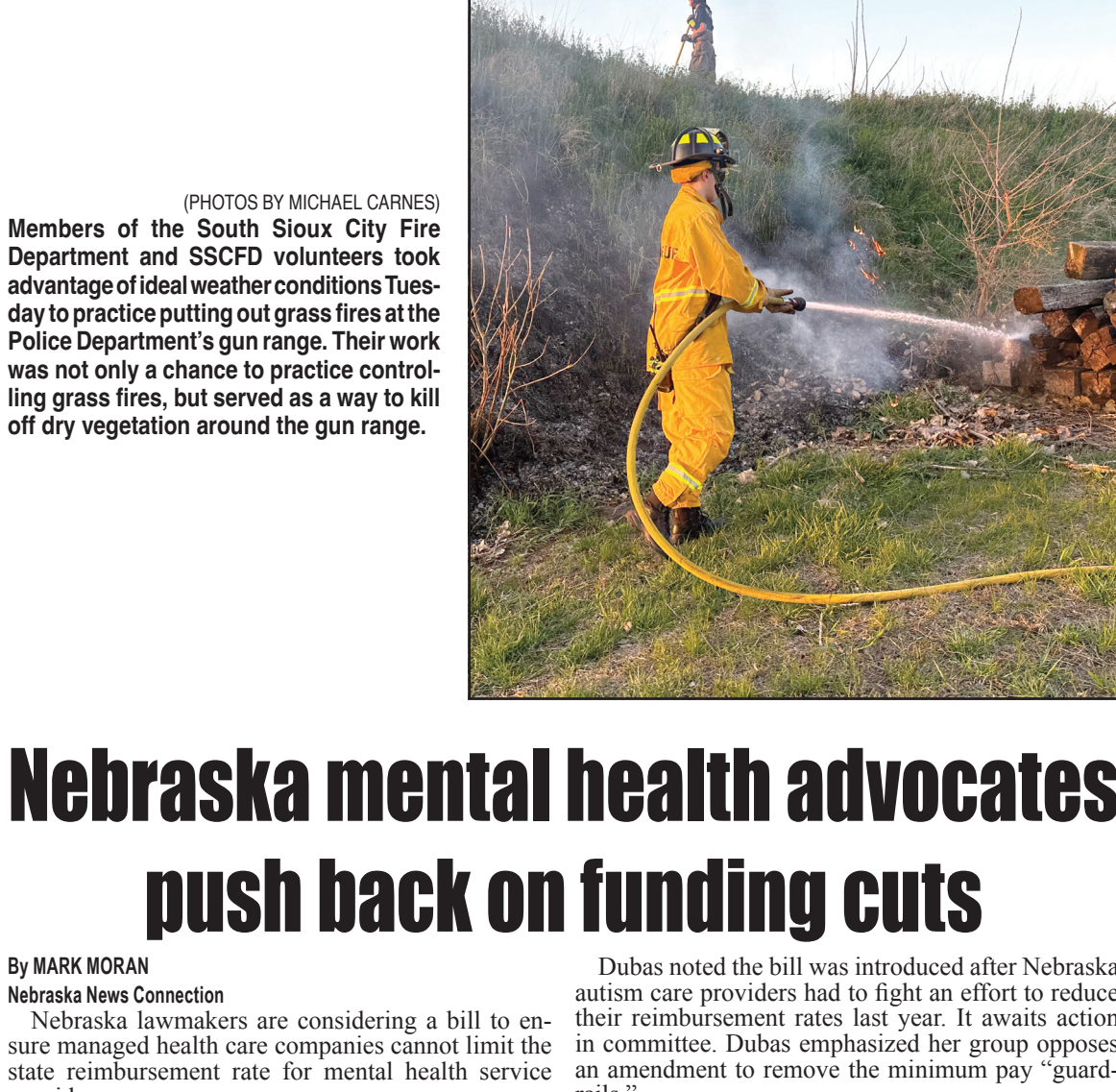
In other action, the committee:

— approved a bid from Pilot Rock of Cherokee, Iowa for new picnic tables and fire rings that would be installed at the Scenic Park campgrounds, replacing those that were lost in recent flooding. The city will be able to use federal and state funding for most of the cost, with the city paying 12.5 percent of the \$17,850.40 cost.

— approved the purchase of a valve insert for a 14-inch water line that goes into the Marina Inn at a cost of \$35,800 to Hydra-Stop.

SEE PUBLIC WORKS, 2A

LOCAL FIREMEN PUT OUT PRACTICE FIRES



(PHOTOS BY MICHAEL CARNES)

Members of the South Sioux City Fire Department and SSCFD volunteers took advantage of ideal weather conditions Tuesday to practice putting out grass fires at the Police Department's gun range. Their work was not only a chance to practice controlling grass fires, but served as a way to kill off dry vegetation around the gun range.

Nebraska mental health advocates push back on funding cuts

By MARK MORAN

Nebraska News Connection

Nebraska lawmakers are considering a bill to ensure managed health care companies cannot limit the state reimbursement rate for mental health service providers.

Advocates for the bill want to make sure in the future, the companies could not negotiate a lower rate. Right now, there's no requirement they use the posted rates, it has just been the practice. Legislative Bill 380 would keep "guardrails" in place.

Annette Dubas, executive director of the Nebraska Association of Behavioral Health Organizations, said providers have worked for 20 years just to get the reimbursement rates to meet the minimum state standards.

"Nebraska's rates were, two decades ago, towards the bottom," Dubas pointed out. "We've worked hard over those last two decades to get rates built up. It comes down to the ability to build capacity, so that people who are in need of mental health care can access that mental health care."

Dubas noted the bill was introduced after Nebraska autism care providers had to fight an effort to reduce their reimbursement rates last year. It awaits action in committee. Dubas emphasized her group opposes an amendment to remove the minimum pay "guardrails."

Dubas explained low wages and often challenging working conditions already make it difficult to find mental health care professionals, and lower reimbursement rates mean even lower wages and less stable employment. She added protecting the rates already in place is critical to ensuring the ability to recruit and retain workers.

"If rates do not stay up where they need to be, it just puts that much more pressure on these providers to be able not only bring in new workforce, but to retain the workforce that they have," Dubas explained. "Burn-out is a huge issue."

Dubas added any rate adjustment legislation could also complicate a reimbursement process she described as already confusing and complex in Nebraska.

Innovative plastic road work to begin next week

An innovative construction project is set to begin in South Sioux City that will utilize recycled plastic materials, a first of its kind in the state of Nebraska and one of a handful in the entire United States.

Construction on Foundry Road is scheduled to begin the week of April 28, with paving set to commence the week of May 12. This forward-thinking project will feature an asphalt road built using recycled plastic materials sourced from used plastic bags. It will be the first in the State of Nebraska, one of a few in the United States, and replicates what is done internationally. In addition, this material will be used to add to the city's bike path facilities in this area.

The project is being funded in part by a grant from the Nebraska Environmental Trust and represents a

collaborative effort among the City of South Sioux City, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, DOW Chemical, Jebro, Barkley Asphalt, First Star Recycling, and Goodwill of the Great Plains.

By incorporating recycled plastics into the asphalt mix, the initiative aims to reduce environmental impact while advancing sustainable infrastructure practices. An estimated 2 million plastic bags will be used in this process.

Foundry Road and the Al Bengston Bike trail will be closed during construction for public safety.

The city said this project marks a significant step forward in combining innovation, environmental stewardship, and community partnership to improve local roadways.

Nebraska housing market hobbled by insurance prices

By MARK MORAN

Nebraska News Connection

Nebraska is among the states with the sharpest increases in housing prices between 2021 and 2024, according to a new report.

The hike has been accompanied by dramatically higher homeowners' insurance premiums.

Only four states saw home prices spike more dramatically than in Nebraska in the three-year period — three of them in the West. More expensive homes bring higher insurance costs.

The Consumer Federation of America's Director of Housing Sharon Cornelissen said it's often not the cost of the house, but the cost of insuring it that keeps some potential home buyers out of the market.

"Our insurance crisis is increasingly also a housing crisis, right?" said Cornelissen. "These are not separate. We know for example that first-time homebuyers already struggle to afford a mortgage today, and with spiking insurance costs, many may feel that they can never own a home."

The housing price hike and increase in insurance costs come despite Nebraska having among the lowest costs of living in the nation.

The CFA report shows Nebraskans have seen a 35 percent increase in homeowners' insurance prices in the three-year period.

While many people are trying to qualify for a mortgage, the Federation's Director of Insurance Doug Heller said insurance companies are making it increasingly difficult for buyers by hiking premiums - and denying coverage based on "perceived risk."

"The crisis is also a reflection of some brazen bullying we have seen from insurance companies around the country," said Heller, "as they put customers that have paid premiums for decades on the chopping block, and turn their back on communities that have relied on them for generations."

The report says insurance companies claim they're still trying to recover from \$11 billion in losses caused by damaging derecho winds that leveled parts of Nebraska and other Midwest states in 2020.

AMBULANCE DONATION



(PHOTO BY MICHAEL CARNES)

Pam Adams (right), director of business development for Long Lines Broadband, presents a \$500 check to Dakota City city administrator Bob Kratky during Friday's Chamber Coffee at the Dakota City Fire Department. The money is going toward a new ambulance for the city's fire and rescue department.

SSC OPTIMISTS STUDENTS OF THE MONTH ANNOUNCED



The South Sioux City Optimist Students of the Month for April are Moises Herrera and Ryan Lee. Moises Herrera was nominated by Ms. Sanchez, Spanish Department. Moises is a Junior at South Sioux City High School and the son of Erika Gonzalez. Ms. Sanchez commented, “Moises works hard, pays attention and is very kind.” Outside of school, Moises enjoys working out, fashion and healthy living. Plans after graduation include design school. Ryan Lee is a senior at South Sioux City High School and the son of Von Lee and Christy Yang. He was nominated by Mr. Arens and Mr. Sheley from the Skilled and Technical Sciences department. They commented, “Ryan is a talented and driven young man. He is always there to help other students and is able to make them feel important. He is very skilled at multiple things that include welding, construction and art. He has spent numerous hours outside of class working on a project for SkillsUSA. He earned a bronze medal in his competition at the State SkillsUSA conference. Ryan always has a smile and positive outlook no matter the situation.” Ryan has been involved with football and track. He is involved in classes toward blue-collar activities and is looking to join the trap team. He is also involved in SkillsUSA. Outside of his school activities he enjoys being outside. He enjoys hunting, fishing, drawing, working out, welding, making art and archery. When Ryan graduates, he plans to go into the iron works and finish the apprenticeship there.

(COURTESY PHOTOS)

Killings spotlight limitations as domestic violence spikes in Nebraska

By EMILY WOLF
Flatwater Free Press

This story contains descriptions of domestic abuse. If you or a loved one is experiencing abuse, call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-SAFE (7233).

Before he shot and killed his girlfriend on a Lincoln street in broad daylight, Ibrahim Alhamadani had amassed a troubling rap sheet.

He'd been in and out of prison and probation since 2018, when he was first convicted for a domestic violence offense, according to court documents. Another incident in 2020 led to a standoff with police and a former girlfriend fearing she wouldn't survive.

In each documented instance of Alhamadani's abuse, the women he terrorized did things the "right way." They filed protection orders, spoke with police and tried to cut off contact with him. That proved fatal for Michelle Gonzalez.

Alhamadani killed Gonzalez on Feb. 26 hours after she'd filed for a protection order.

She is one of at least four women killed by a romantic partner in Nebraska this year. All but one had taken legal steps to distance themselves from their abuser before their deaths.

The killings have placed fresh scrutiny on how Nebraska prevents domestic violence at a time when advocates say demand for their services has never been higher.

In Lincoln, where two of the slayings occurred, protection order requests have skyrocketed since 2019, according to police data released in March. And the number of reported violations has jumped by 62% compared to the five-year average.

At the same time, resources are failing to keep pace with the growing need, advocates say. Attempts by lawmakers to ease the resource squeeze have so far fallen short.

"After 27 years in this field, I have never been as deeply concerned about the future of victim services and their funding as I am today," Carmen Hinman, executive director of Hope Crisis Center, told state lawmakers in March.

State leaders have in recent years introduced several measures to combat domestic violence. Nebraska prisons for the first time in years are offering intervention programming. And a new team dedicated to reviewing domestic violence deaths has released its first report, teeing up future legislative recommendations.

Even with that movement, Nebraska is playing catch-up.

"Many states have been doing this for decades, so we are way behind the eight ball," said Tara Richards, a criminal justice professor at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

When Casey Kindt kicked in Jamie Hagen's door and shot her to death on Feb. 8 before turning the gun on himself, he left a trail of destruction in her Seward home.

"When we were going in and out of the house unloading things, every time that we would ... push the door open, you could hear the 'snap' sound from the door trim," said Allison Hemphfling, Hagen's stepsister. "It was kind of like reliving what that would have sounded like that night."

Kindt survived his suicide attempt and faces murder charges. The family is navigating who gets custody of Hagen's two daughters. And a swell of community outrage has prompted fierce criticism of the local judge who set Kindt's bail.

Kindt survived his suicide attempt and faces murder charges. The family is navigating who gets custody of Hagen's two daughters. And a swell of community outrage has prompted fierce criticism of the local judge who set Kindt's bail.

After Kindt violated the terms of his bail for domestic violence charges the first time, Judge C. Jo Petersen upped Kindt's bail from \$50,000 to \$75,000. He bonded out a second time, ignored both the conditions of his bail and an active protection order, and shot Hagen the next day.

Hemphfling has a hard time understanding why Kindt was allowed out in the first place. His apartment was within walking distance of Hagen's, she said.

"If he got that thought in his head, he didn't really have to think about it much," she said. "He just walked a block down the street and he's right there."

Petersen, citing Nebraska's code of judicial conduct, declined comment.

Protection orders are a great tool in some situations, said Natalie Roberts-Day, executive director of Voices of Hope in Lincoln. But they're only as effective as an abuser lets them be.

PUBLIC WORKS: Bike trail approved

from Page 1A

— approved interlocal agreements with Dakota County and the City of Ponca for the use of the Animal Service facility.

— approved a request for a congressionally-directed spending request for the Riverview Water Treatment Plant expansion.

— approved the submission of an application for the All-America City Hall of Fame Award for Siouxland Freedom Park.

All items from Monday's meeting will move on to Monday's 5 p.m. City Council meeting for final approval.

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Collector Cars

1970 Chevrolet Impala, 2 door convertible, 60,448 miles, 4 speed transmission, ac, electric windows & locks, 454 engine, VIN:1N46701172393; 1970 Chevrolet Impala Custom, 2 door, hard top, 39,719 miles, automatic transmission, 350 engine, VIN:1N4470C182947; 1977 Oldsmobile Cutlass Supreme, 2 door, hard top, automatic, 350 engine, 37,325 miles, VIN:3L57R7R180315; 1974 Chevrolet Caprice Classic, 2 door, hard top, automatic transmission, 51,187 miles, 350 engine, VIN:1N47R4J246865; 1974 Chevrolet Caprice Classic, 2 door, hard top, automatic, 350 engine, 64,188 miles, VIN:1N39R4J267873; 1974 Chevrolet Caprice, automatic transmission, 5841 miles, 350 engine, VIN:1N47R4J259637; 1979 Ford Lincoln Continental Mark II, 2 door, hard top, automatic transmission, power windows, 400 engine, 41,372 miles, VIN:5Y86S693814; 1979 Ford Lincoln Continental Mark V, 2 door, hard top, 400 engine, automatic, VIN:8Y89A486556; 1979 Ford Lincoln Town Car, 4 door, leather interior, automatic, 28,558 miles, 400 engine, VIN:9Y82S766182; Rotary Lift Model A101PN507, 10,000 lb. hyd car lift

Specialty Vehicles/Tools

Uni-Hydro, Inc. metal muncher Model 42-14SL, SN:1P5748X, 20 ton hydraulic press; Sanborn air compressor; Duo-Draft drill press; Dayton metal lathe; Torch sets; 3-Craftsman tool chests; 2-Snap-On tool chests; Miller Mat-ic 250 wire welder; Numerous large and small hand tools

Recreational Vehicles

John Deere 825i, 4x4, glass front windshield, rally wheels, 1045 miles VIN:1M0825GEC-0M040293; Myers Home plow w/ galor motors; John Deere 47 snowblower; John Deere 80 heavy duty broom; John Deere heavy duty blade; 2012 Yamaha Grizzly 700 4-wheel-er 4x4, 2819 miles

Gasoline Powered Tools

Deluxe STP gas pump; G&B Texaco self-measuring gas pump; Wayne self-measuring gas pump; 6-Cast Iron Cauldrons; Riverside Oak 316 Stove; Wisdom Oak No. 19 Stove

2-Axles; Farbanks Morris Model Z, 6 HP hit and miss motor; 3-John Deere hit and miss engines 1-3HP, 1-1HP, 1-1 1/4 HP; John Deere hand sheller; Dolly carts; Washing Machine; Buffalo Sailer; 7-Up bottle pop machine; Pinball machines (Cathie Dragon, Silver Ball, Maria, Bally Super Sonic, Bally Mini Zag, Bally Safari, Bally Skateball, Bally Star Trek); Video games (Air Wolf, Legendary Warriors, Terra Cresta, Sheet Football, Metro Cross, Work Series, US Classic, Donkey Kong); Football table; 2-Pool tables; Miller Lite pool table light; Jukebox; John Deere planter boxes; Cast Iron Swift Mill Lane Brothers Coffee Grinder; Cash register; John Deere pedal tractor; 2-Sunshine Foods Grocery Store, Yarkton US lighted signs; Cream carts; Stop light

Implement & Attachment

B&H 1000 gal fuel tank with pump; B&H 1000 gal fuel tank no pump; 100 gal pickup fuel tank; 500 gal fuel barrel; Fill-Rite 700 pump w/ 800A meter

John Deere

John Deere MX6 shredder; John Deere mount post hole digger; John Deere MX5 rotary shredder; John Deere 380 shredder; Rhino 300 6 ft. blade; John Deere 400 Series pallet forks; John Deere 668 3 pt snowblower; MCS 400 Series pallet forks; 50 gal 3 pt sprayer with PTO pump; 3 pt bale spear; Bush Hog 3 pt 72 in. rake; John Deere 865 3 pt tiller; King Kutter 3 pt disk; Bomgaars 3 pt box scraper; 2 bottom & 3 bottom plows; 3 pt cement mixer; 5-John Deere 80 wagons; Finco 60 gal, 3 pt sprayer w/ PTO pump

John Deere

John Deere 1445 Series 11 with cab, 4 wd, 72 in-7 iron deck, material collection system; John Deere 1445, 4wd, diesel, partial cab, 60 in deck; 2-John Deere 12 in-7 iron decks; John Deere 112 w/ blade; John Deere 112 electric lift w/ tiller; John Deere 112 electric lift mower; John Deere 112 electric lift mower w/ 48 in deck w/ material collection system; JD 1032 snowblower; John Deere 832 snowblower; John Deere 47 in snowblower for 900 & 1100 series mower; Material collection system for 445; Walk behind tractors; Gison walk behind tiller; Dyna Mark snowblower; Sweep Master gas powered broom

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Northeast Nebraska Senior Center Menu

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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, April 24 — Brat burger, stewed tomatoes, macaroni and cheese, baked beans, fruit cocktail, manadrin oranges

Friday, April 25 — Beef pot roast, potatoes, carrots, onion, fruit salad, chocolate pudding, cole slaw

Monday, April 28 (Evening meal) — BBQ ribs, baked beans, scalloped potatoes, lettuce salad, broccoli, applesauce

Tuesday, April 29 — Hot beef sandwich, mashed potatoes and gravy, green bans, cole slaw, fruit salad

Wednesday, April 30 — Tuna salad, potato salad, spring salad, fruit salad, mandarin oranges, chocolate pudding

Elaine (Brinkman) Larson is turning 85!

A celebration luncheon will be held on
Saturday, May 3rd from 11 am until 2 pm
at St. Paul's Lutheran Church Social Hall
103 W. 3rd St. Emerson, NE

NO GIFTS PLEASE

If you are unable to attend and would like to send a card or letter, please send to
Elaine Larson c/o Steve Larson, 3310 29th St., Columbus, NE 68601

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STAR DEADLINES

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

Mikey C Productions

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

Phone: 402-494-4264
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Generating state revenue takes priority


Overall, the issue that the majority of Nebraskans care about most is tax reform, especially property tax relief. According to WalletHub's new rankings, released April 1, 2025, Nebraska's property taxes are the 12th worst in the nation, and when it comes to our state's overall tax burden, Nebraska ranks 25th in the nation. More importantly though is that Nebraska is flanked by Wyoming, which comes in second place for being the most tax friendly state in the Union, and South Dakota which comes in fifth place. Unless the Unicameral Legislature can find a way to reform its tax code, Nebraska will continue to lose jobs, people, and economic opportunities to our neighboring states.

Unfortunately, the Unicameral Legislature doesn't seem to have any meaningful solutions for tax relief this year. Many veteran state senators are still reeling from the pain of last year's failed special session for property tax relief, which inadvertently sacrificed the 2023 property tax credit in order to front load it for future tax years. Even the bills for the EPIC Option have been withdrawn in the Legislature this year by Sen. Brian Hardin of Gering (LD 48).

Because of the State's \$289 million budget deficit this year, many state senators are more interested in generating revenue for the State than reducing Nebraskans' overall tax burden. For example, Sen. Tom Brandt of Plymouth (LD 32), introduced LB 171, which would pause the State's scheduled income tax reductions by setting the rate at 4.99 percent for 2026, instead of the planned 4.55 percent rate for 2026 and the 3.99 percent rate for 2027.

Gov. Pillen has abandoned the pursuit of tax reform this year and is working on TEEOSA reform instead. TEEOSA stands for the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Sup-

Legislative Report



State Sen. Glen Meyer
District 17

port Act, which provides the formula for state aid to public schools in Nebraska. By reforming the TEEOSA formula to better serve more of Nebraska's public schools, the hope is to remove some of the burden on local property taxes. However, because the cost of public education increases every year, TEEOSA reform seems like a long shot at providing any kind of meaningful and long-lasting property tax relief.

Nebraskans need tax reform, especially property tax relief. In the days ahead, tax reform and tax relief will be one of my top priorities as a state senator. This summer I plan to hold several town hall meetings across Legislative District 17 to hear your stories and to listen to your ideas for tax reform.

I believe meaningful and significant tax reform requires a three-tiered solution. The first tier of tax reform is to cut wasteful spending. After spending my first year in the Unicameral Legislature, there is no doubt in my mind that Nebraska needs to cut wasteful spending. Only by cutting wasteful spending will the state ever be able to meet its planned reduced rates for the state income tax.

Tax reform represents the second tier. Sales and excise taxes are the least regressive forms of taxation. Nebraska needs to shift its overall tax burden away from property taxes and income taxes and towards sales and excise taxes. Sales and excise taxes

put Nebraskans in charge of their own taxes. Because sales and excise taxes work on a pay-as-you-go basis, they can never really over-tax the people.

Finally, the third tier of tax reform lies in controlling taxes at the local level. Property taxes are imposed and collected entirely at the local level. Property taxes more than any other tax are out of control in Nebraska. Therefore, Sen. Kathleen Kauth of Omaha (LD 31), has introduced and Sen. Bob Andersen of Omaha (LD49) has prioritized LR12CA, a constitutional resolution which would put an initiative on the ballot for 2026 for voters to decide.

A pending committee amendment to that resolution would limit property taxes levied on non-agricultural properties to the allowable growth percentage of the properties fair market value, defined as the lesser of three percent or the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI). For agricultural lands, the full taxable value of the property would be adjusted to 50 percent of the property's fair market value for taxes levied by school districts to pay the principal interest on bonds. While Sen. Kauth's resolution would not be realized until Jan. 1, 2027 and would require a vote of the people, it shows that there are some in the Legislature who are working on solutions for property tax relief which I can support.

Fighting Big Government failures at IRS

Tax Day is a time when many Americans feel frustration. The average Nebraskan paid \$14,974 in federal taxes last year. They expect efficient services in return. Too often, families and seniors get caught in a web of confusing tax rules. Even worse, bureaucratic failures can cost taxpayers thousands of dollars. That is why I am fighting to fix it and give taxpayers some relief.

First, I'm helping Nebraskans successfully navigate the federal bureaucracy. A couple from Dodge County contacted my office asking for help. They always file their taxes on paper. In 2022, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) made a big mistake. The IRS said they owed over \$34,000. That was wrong. Not only did these Nebraskans not owe money, but they were due a refund of over \$25,000. The IRS then refused to pay their 2023 refund because of the mix-up. Two years of refunds were being held up because the IRS made a mistake.

This couple tried to fix it themselves. They sent letters asking for help and got no response. They even met with the IRS in Omaha. Nothing worked. Then, they came to my office for help. Our casework team got to work immediately. We pushed the IRS to re-open their case. We worked with the Taxpayer Advocate Service to go through the paperwork line by line. We found the IRS's mistakes and showed them they were wrong.

Soon after that, the Nebraskans finally got a refund check for over \$22,000. That included almost \$1,500 in interest. But there was still a problem. The IRS refused to admit they had made a mistake. That led

Washington Report



US. Sen. Pete Ricketts
(R) Nebraska

the IRS to miscalculate how much money they owed the Nebraska couple. After more hard work, we helped them get another check.

In the end, the Dodge County couple received the money they were owed. It took more than a year, but we never gave up. This should never have happened in the first place. I'll always fight to fix these bureaucratic failures.

Second, I'm working to extend the successful Trump tax cuts and avoid a tax increase. The Trump tax cuts delivered prosperity for Nebraska families. The bill doubled the child tax credit and reduced the federal tax rate for middle-income earners. Allowing those tax cuts to expire would effectively raise taxes on millions. That would be terrible. I'll keep working until the tax cuts are made permanent.

Third, I'm fighting to reduce taxes on retirement benefits like we did when I was Governor. I recently introduced two bills to help Americans keep more of their money. The Social Security Check Tax Cut Act will phase out federal taxes on Social Security benefits. Right now, seniors who paid into Social Security their whole lives are taxed again

when they receive their benefits. That needs to change. My bill starts the process to make Social Security benefits tax-free at the federal level by 2035. I also introduced the Tax Cuts for Veterans Act. This bipartisan bill would make sure military retirement pay is tax-free at the federal level. Our veterans gave years of service to protect our freedoms. My bipartisan bill ensures they are not taxed on the benefits they earned.

The federal government should serve taxpayers well. My team and I are here to help Nebraskans navigate the federal bureaucracy. We have offices in Omaha, Lincoln, Kearney, and Scottsbluff. Contact us anytime by phone at 402-476-1400. You can find more information and needed privacy release forms on the "Services" tab at www.ricketts.senate.gov. Our team is specially trained in assisting constituents with concerns, complaints, or questions about services, eligibility, or benefits from the IRS and other federal agencies. This could include issues with passports, VA benefits, visas, and more. While we cannot promise a successful resolution of every case, our team is committed to using every tool available to fight for Nebraskans in need.

Getting on Hegseth's chat list is easy

Easter is over, graduation is around the corner and then it will be time for summer — which means it's time for a good spring cleaning excavation of the "Bits and Pieces" file:

— If you get a text message from someone you don't already have on your contact list, don't delete it right away . . . you might be privy to some inside information on what's going on with our nation's military.

Our nation's defense secretary doesn't seem to grasp the idea of what the phrase "top secret" is all about and is now sharing sensitive military information with family members.

Recently, Hegseth sent a chat detailing a military airstrike against Houthi militants in Yemen that included a reporter for The Atlantic. While Trump regime officials claim the information was not classified, it did include a timeline for the attack and a list of weapons systems that would be used.

Most recently, Hegseth shared military details in another messaging chat with his wife and brother. When this information was made public, Trump dismissed it as fake news and said that disgruntled employees were leaking information.

— From the "My ego tells me all you need to know about what's REALLY important" department: If you're a college football fan in these parts, you know the standard for success is very high when it comes to who is considered a legend.

Here in Nebraska, we've got plenty from our national championship history in football and volleyball. Numerous Huskers have not only led their teams to the top, but have become award-winning legends in their own right with Heisman Trophy successes like Johnny Rodgers, Mike Rozier and Eric Crouch to the recent AAU Sullivan Award honoree in Lexi Rodriguez.

If you want to be considered a legend in these parts, you really have to DO something.

At the University of Colorado, all you need is to BE somebody — like the coach's son — to be considered a legend.

Colorado recently retired the number of Shedeur Sanders, who is the

Don't Get Me Started

By Michael J. Carnes
Star Publisher



son of football legend Deion Sanders, who happens to be the current coach of the perennial-wannabe Buffaloes.

Travis Hunter, who is a two-way All-American for Colorado and recently won the Heisman Trophy, also had his number retired recently, which makes a lot more sense considering he was the school's second winner of the coveted award and will likely be one of the first players selected in this week's NFL Draft in Green Bay, Wisc.

The list of former Colorado legends who DON'T have a retired jersey number are notable, including quarterback Kordell Stewart, who had a much more successful win-loss record at CU and went on to a long career in the NFL. Unlike the spawn of Neon Deion, Stewart won conference titles, bowl games and directed a team that played at an elite level during the 1990's.

In two years as Colorado's signal-caller, the younger Sanders didn't have a .500 record (12-13), lost the team's only bowl game and were never anywhere near being considered among the nation's elite. And yet, his #2 jersey gets put up on Colorado's Hall of Fame while the #10 of Stewart remains in use?

While his dad is certainly deserving of the awards and accolades he garnered during his college and pro career, the evidence is clear — to everyone except Daddy Deion, obviously — that the son has not come anywhere close to matching his dad's level of championship-caliber and award-worthy level. Retiring his son's jersey number is the equivalent of handing him a participation trophy.

The younger Sanders claims that he has helped change the culture of the school's football program. If he would just take a moment to look

at Colorado's history, he'd discover that belief is nowhere near the truth. Colorado has been, is, and will always be a second-tier program when compared to the blue bloods of the sport.

— Speaking of wannabes, I know that I had mentioned a bit about the all-female crew that took a ride on a rocket last week and wanted to expand further on the topic.

The six women — whose names aren't worth mentioning, despite their Hollywood status — are all claiming to be "astronauts" after a flight that barely took them out of the earth's atmosphere and lasted for all of 11 minutes.

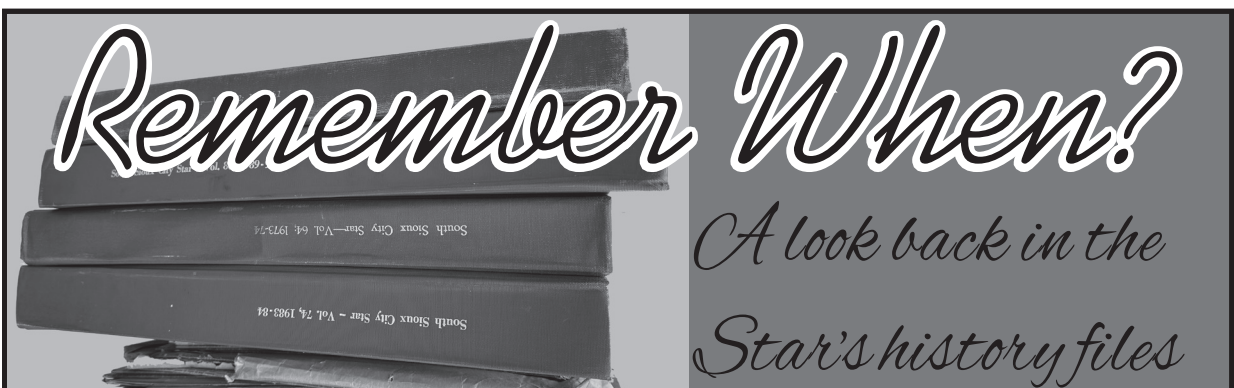
When they returned home, they fawned over the fact that they had a new appreciation for life here on earth, kissing the ground and opining about who knows what as if they had achieved some sense of reality.

All of this was a slap in the face to REAL women who achieved great things as REAL astronauts. People like Sally Ride actually did research in space, trained for their missions and made a real impact on our world. Suni Williams recently returned home from the International Space Station after being stuck for eight months a lot deeper in space than these six dimwits who were more interested in how they looked than whether or not they actually accomplished something of relevance.

These six attention seekers thought they were doing something for women in the 21st century, but all they really accomplished was using their money and whatever influence they feel they have to take an 11-minute joyride in a trackless roller coaster.

One of the six joyriders, in trying to answer the criticism, responded by asking, "Have you been?"

No, nitwit — and neither have you.



10 YEARS AGO

APRIL 23, 2015

Hubbard man accused of killing wife in Sioux City

A Hubbard man has been accused of killing of his wife in Sioux City in the early morning hours of April 19. Rogelio Pablo-Morales, 27, is charged with second-degree murder in connection with the death of his wife Margarita Morales, 21, South Sioux City. A court appearance is scheduled for April 29.

Longtime Dakota City firefighter passes away

A longtime Dakota City Fire Fighter passed away after leaving a house fire April 16. Andrew "Andy" Zalme, 42, collapsed the evening of April 16 after responding to a fire on Highway 35. Emergency responders at the scene of the fire were unable to revive him. A cause of death has not been determined. Zalme is survived by his wife Bobbi and three children.

Star wins awards at NPA Better Newspaper Contest

The Dakota County Star newspaper received eight awards at the Nebraska Press Association's Better Newspaper Contest April 18 in Lincoln.

20 YEARS AGO

APRIL 21, 2005

Is the courtroom safe?

When a 33- year-old Georgia man, Brian Nichols, overpowered a sher-

iff's deputy for a handgun and began using the weapon to kill three people in an Atlanta, Ga. courtroom, questions surmised on how safe courtrooms are throughout the county. Nichols, during his own trial, was able to subjugate a sheriff's deputy for his weapon and used the gun to kill the deputy, a court reporter, and Judge Rowland Barnes before fleeing the courtroom and taking another person hostage. Nichols eventually surrendered 48 hours later and is in custody. "Darn right it's a concern," County Judge Kurt Rager responded when he was asked if he was concerned for his safety, as well as the safety of those around him, in court.

30 YEARS AGO

APRIL 20, 1995

Smith's first law office was in former barber shop

From his first interview with a client from the perch of a barber's chair to the solemnity of a black robe and gavel, retiring Dakota County Court Judge Rodney Smith says his career as an attorney in rural Nebraska has been interesting and satisfying. And in between the challenge of that first client to his swearing in as judge on July 5, 1988, to the April 28 date he's set for his retirement, Smith says his career has been a rewarding one. The 71 -year-old Homer native graduated from South Sioux City High School. He attended UN-L for one year, then enlisted in the Navy around the time of Pearl Harbor. Following his discharge, he attended the University of South Dakota at Vermillion. He earned a law degree in 1950 and returned to South Sioux City to open his own law practice in a Dakota Av-

enue storefront that had been a barbershop.

40 YEARS AGO

APRIL 25, 1985

Newspaper commended

Julie Goodson, government reporter for the South Sioux City Star, holds the community service award presented the newspaper at the Nebraska Press Association convention in Omaha Saturday night, the contest was selected for its investigative, in-depth reporting of the district judge's retention or dismissal issue in the Eighth Judicial District last year. The huge walnut plaque is the eighth such award won by the Star since 1954. The Star also received \$300, which is to be awarded to a local organization or project.

50 YEARS AGO

APRIL 24, 1975

Three arrested in break-in at Homer grocery store

Charges were to be filed Wednesday afternoon in connection with a Monday morning breakin at the K and P Market, a grocery and drug store in Homer. Three Sioux Citians were apprehended shortly after the break-in occurred. The trio was attempting to load the K and P safe into the back of an automobile when they were interrupted. Dakota County Deputy Sheriff Ted Johanson said the three had entered the store through the front door and were attempting to load the safe into the trunk of their car when they fled at the sight of a passing milkman.

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Photos by Lance Swanson



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METHOD OF SALE: The property will be sold with the high bidder having their choice of Tract 2 or 3 or both tracts. In the event both tracts are taken the sale is over. In the event only 1 of the tracts are taken, the remaining tract will be offered.

LAND LOCATION: From South Sioux City, NE: Go Southwest 1 mile on Highway 77, West 1/2 mile on College Way, then continue West 1/2 mile on Golf Road. From Dakota City, NE: Go North 4 miles on Highway 75/77, West 1/2 mile on College Way, then continue West 1/2 mile on Golf Road. From Sioux City, IA: Go South on Wesley Parkway into Nebraska on the Siouxland Veterans Memorial Bridge onto Business Highway 20, Southwest 1 mile on Highway 77, West 1/2 mile on College Way, then continue West 1/2 mile on Golf Road.

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The Woodbury County FSA office shows the following combined information for the Dakota County, Nebraska Farm to be as follows: 90.35 cropland acres with a 57.7-acre corn base with a 154 bu. PLC Yield Index and a 32.78-acre soybean base with a 47 bu. PLC Yield Index.

The Dakota County NRCS office shows the main soil types to be Haynie and Blake with a small amount of Albaton and has a very nice NCCPI soybean index average for Tract 2 - of 73.6. Tract 3 - 73.8. NICE!!

With new growth and development going on all around South Sioux and Sioux City there is no end to the potential this farm may hold in the future. History has shown us that over time when you own a property like this, located so close to that growth and it's all around your property, that you should not be surprised when real opportunities come knocking. It may very well be beyond your wildest dreams. The "secret" always is do you have the vision to look into the future and see the "Big Picture"? It is looking you right in the eye. Now you are in control! Possible potential new business plans for South Sioux even make it more likely there will be demand for land in the future. Take a hard look at this farm and picture you and your family enjoying the fruits of your foresight and determination. All the best from all of us at Brock Auction Company & Bruce R. Brock Real Estate.

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Tract 3
Tract 2

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FROM THE BLEACHERS



By Michael Carnes

Musketeers' wild ride comes to stop

When a young team faces a rough stretch, it's easy to see that team fall apart.

The Sioux City Musketeers have dealt with a good deal of adversity during this season, as their roller-coaster results of wins and losses will no doubt show.

And yet, even in the face of a season-ending 2-0 loss to the Anderson Cup champion Lincoln Stars in the USHL Western Conference semifinals Monday at the Tyson Events Center, there is one thing coach Jason Kersner said he will remember about this year's team — the ability to overcome adversity and get back on the winning track.

"It was an up-and-down season and was inconsistent with long stretches of good and bad, but you learn a lot about yourself and your team when you go through those things," he said after Monday's loss gave the Stars a three-game sweep. "We were able to get through that and get into the playoffs and get home ice for the first round and win a round, but we just ran into a better team."

The story of Monday's season finale was the Stars defense, which held Sioux City without a shot for a 10-minute stretch in the second and third periods. The Musketeers fired their 10th shot on goal with about six minutes left in the second, but wouldn't put their 11th on net until almost five minutes into the final period, one of six that were cast in the third.

Kersner credited the older, tougher Stars defense for silencing Sioux City's attack, which had scored the third most goals in the conference this season and sixth overall in the USHL.

"I thought we got off to a great start in the first and controlled possession time, but any time they get a lead and get later into the game, they just lock it down," Kersner said. "They're big and old and well-coached and it's hard to get inside and find those high-quality chances to beat one of the best goalies in the league."

Even after pulling goalie Sam Urban with about three minutes to go, Sioux City was unable to get more than a couple of shots on goal before Lincoln got an empty-netter in the game's final 20 seconds to put the series on ice.

Goaltender Sam Urban was masterful in the net, stopping 30 of 31 shots. The one shot Lincoln did get past him was a one-time rocket from point-blank range off a pass from Jack Pechar to Matt Maltais late in the first period, a period where Sioux City actually outshot the Stars 9-5. Lincoln outshot Sioux City 27-8 after that as the Muskies' offense was simply ineffective the last 40 minutes.

The end of the season was disappointing, but when he looks back on the 2024-25 campaign, the Musketeers coach said the one thing that he'll remember about this team was its ability to bounce back, something it did several times during what he called a "roller coaster ride" of a season.

"As a team, we had three of those difficult stretches during the season and it's easy to find excuses not to put the train back on the tracks and salvage the season, and this group did that three separate times," he said. "It's hard to do that once, but to fight through that adversity and get the train back on the tracks and have a strong finish is something I'll always remember."

On a personal note, I'd like to thank Muskies' CEO Travis Morgan and Coach Jason Kersner for the opportunity to cover the team this season. While other commitments limited my time watching the team during the winter months, this was an opportunity to cover a sport I have limited working knowledge of and they and their entire organization were more than welcoming and helpful.

I look forward to next season and hope to do more in covering area hockey involving Dakota County athletes and those in the community who help make the Musketeers one of the top-shelf operations in the USHL.

Homer boys take first at home invite

The Homer boys track and field team edged Westwood/Sloan to claim team honors at Thursday's Homer Invitational.

The Knights won four events in claiming a balanced 11-team competition, with three of the wins coming in relays.

The Knights won the 800 relay, the 1,600 relay and the distance medley, and also got a win from Issac Barclay in the 200-meter dash. He also finished third in the 100.

Josue Munoz finished second in the 200 to lead four Knights who placed in the top six in that event. Junius Snowball was third, Jessup Snowball placed fourth and Rylan Parker placed sixth.

Tri County Northeast was sixth in the team race and won two events. Bryan Isom claimed top honors in the triple jump while Jackson Belt took first in the high jump, with teammate Thatcher Lamp tying for fifth.

In girls action, Tri County Northeast finished six points ahead of Homer in third place overall and got wins in five events.

Kiya Tornez and Bri Millard both won two individual events. Tornez won the 100 and 200, while Millard swept the hurdle events. Also winning was the 400-meter relay, with Tornez and Millard being joined by Rachael Bousquet and Micaeli Tornez.

Homer had one win on the day as Tori Walker claimed honors in the high jump, with teammate Janessa Overgaard finishing fourth. Anna Harris placed second in the discus and third in the shot.

Homer Invitational Girls Team Standings

Dakota Valley 126, Wisner-Pilger 88, Tri County NE 86, Homer 80, Kingsley-Pierson 68, Westwood/Sloan 47, LCC 21, Winnebago 9, Omaha Nation 1.

Area Medalists

100: 1. Kiya Tornez, TCNE, 12.93; 2. Bre Millard, TCNE, 13.36; 3. Tori Walker, Homer, 13.60. 100 hurdles: 1. Millard, 17.30. 200: 1. K. Tornez, 27.33; 3. Walker, 28.20; 4. Jovee Valentin, Homer, 28.37; 6. Rachael Bousquet, TCNE, 28.84. 300 hurdles: 1. Millard, 48.49. 400: 2. Bousquet, 1:03.78; 4. Valentin, 1:05.32. 800: 2. Lilly Harris, Homer, 2:36.70. 1,600: 2. Homer, 5:46.73. 800 SMR: 3. TCNE (A. Belt, J. Olson, M. Tornez, R. Bousquet), 2:06.54. 400 relay: 1. TCNE (R. Bousquet, B. Millard, M. Tornez, K. Tornez), 52.49. 1,600 relay: 5. TCNE (A. Belt, A. Hermosillo, S. Rastede, J. Stallbaum), 4:53.57; 6. Homer, 4:57.96. Distance medley: 4. Homer (T. Bolles, L. Harris, N. Loofe, J. Bousquet), 14:52.40. Discus: 2. Annah Harris, 104-8; 6. Micaeli Tornez, TCNE, 94-7. High jump: 1. Walker,

SEE HOMER, 2B



Homer's Aayden Harris battles Bryan Isom of Tri County Northeast in the 110-meter hurdles at the Homer Invitational. Isom finished third and Harris was fifth.



Aidan Isom runs for Tri County Northeast in the distance medley during the Homer Invitational.



Cardinals fall in makeup game Monday

The South Sioux City baseball team made up a rained-out game from earlier in the season on Monday, falling 4-3 at Thurston County in Pender.

The Cardinals trailed 4-0 in the fourth when they cut the deficit in half, thanks to runs scored by Jackson Jensen and Brock Anderson. Anderson would score again in the sixth on an RBI single by Keaton Ross, but that was as close as they could get as they fell to 5-6 on the season.

Darrius Helms had three of SSC's five hits in the game, while Anderson and Ross both added hits.

Anderson pitched four innings of relief and took the loss for SSC, striking out five and walking four to go with three hits.

The Cardinals are on the road this weekend with games Friday at Fort Calhoun and Saturday at Omaha Skutt. They are back home Monday to host Omaha Buena Vista before River Cities Conference tournament play begins Thursday.



Jackson Jensen rounds third and heads for home to score the Cardinals' first run of the game in Monday's 4-3 loss to Thurston County in Pender.



Tri County Northeast's Jenni Olson takes the baton from Sam Rastede during relay action at the Homer Invitational.

Ponca girls second, boys fourth at Wayne

Ponca's track and field teams scored well during action last week at the Wayne Invitational.

In girls action, the Lady Indians finished second and won five events on the day.

Ponca dominated in the middle and distance runs. Alexa McGee won the 400, Ava Brennan took the 1,600 and Laken Pfister broke the tape in the 3,200. Three Ponca runners medaled in the 800, with Ellesyn Hrouda placing third, Jaelen Templeman was fifth and Ashtyn Pick placed sixth.

Ponca also claimed first-place honors in the 1,600 and 3,200 relays. Elsie Keller took third in both hurdles and was third in the discus.

On the boys side, Ponca finished fourth overall and had a pair of first-place finishes with Zyan Conrad in the 400 and Gannon Pfister in the 3,200.

Conrad had a hand in four medals with a runner-up in the 200, a sixth in the 800 and as part of the 1,600-meter relay that finished third. Pfister also medaled in the 1,600, finishing second.

Zach Luze posted runner-up efforts in both the shot put and the discus.

Wayne Invitational Girls Team Standings

Wisner-Pilger 140.33, Ponca 95, Wayne 89.33, Archbishop Bergan 88, LCC 60, Winside 28.33, Lutheran High NE 12, Boyd

County 11.

Ponca Medalists

200: 6. Anna Stroud, 29.74. 400: 1. Alexa McGee, 1:02.91; 4. Oliva Taylor 1:05.12. 800: 3. Ellesyn Hrouda, 2:32.16; 5. Jaelen Templeman, 2:41.21; 6. Ashtyn Pick, 2:44.99. 1,600: 1. Ava Brennan, 5:34.81; 3. Laken Pfister, 5:59.68. 3,200: 1. Pfister, 13:04.71. 100 hurdles: 3. Elsie Keller, 18.88; 5. Carlee Beckner, 19.21. 300 hurdles: 3. Keller, 53.85; 5. Beckner, 55.27. 400 relay: 5. Ponca (P. Cunningham, A. Nelson, K. Bruening, A. Stroud), 56.81. 1,600 relay: 1. Ponca (O. Taylor, A. McAfee, E. Hrouda, A. McGee), 4:18.82. 3,200 relay: 1. Ponca (A. McGee, E. Hrouda, A. McAfee, A. Brennan), 10:21.67. Triple jump: 6. Piper Cunningham, 25-4 1/2. Discus: 3. Keller, 95-1.

Boys Team Standings

Archbishop Bergan 138, Boyd County 107, Wayne 83.5, Ponca 74, LCC 43, Wisner-Pilger 36.5, Lutheran High NE 27, Winside 16.

Ponca Medalists

200: 2. Zyan Conrad, 24.28. 400: 1. Conrad, 50.79; 3. Caden Cleveland, 54.95. 800: 6. Conrad, 2:22.37. 1,600: 2. Gannon Pfister, 4:45.00; 6. Broderick Hogan, 5:13.10. 3,200: 1. Pfister, 10:49.12; 5. Hogan, 11:47.40. 400 relay: 6. Ponca (L. Rohan, O. Opperfelt, A. Eifert, R. Swick), 51.55. 1,600 relay: 3. Ponca (K. Byrne, C. Cleveland, Z. Conrad, L. Rohan), 3:56.64. 3,200 relay: 4. Ponca (L. Rohan, B. Coughlin, B. Hogan, R. Swick), 10:13.20. Discus: 2. Zach Luze, 132-3. Shot put: 2. Luze, 50-7.

2025 STEAM Imagination Guides

Let your child’s imagination grow this summer through books, hands-on fun, and colorful activities!

Reading with children is one of the most powerful ways to spark curiosity, learning, and connection. Through shared reading experiences, children build foundational skills like print awareness, vocabulary, comprehension, and storytelling. Nebraska Extension’s early childhood STEAM Imagination Guides make it easy to include meaningful reading moments into your day — while exploring science, technology, engineering, art, and math (STEAM) concepts.

This year’s STEAM Imagination Guides focus on art and creativity as powerful tools to spark curiosity and wonder. Aligned with the library’s summer reading theme, “Color Our World”, Nebraska Extension selected a collection of high-quality picture books and designed fun, engaging activities to go with each one.

Each guide includes:

- A featured children’s book
- A hands-on STEAM activity using low-cost, easy-to-find supplies
- A nature-based exploration activity
- A creative arts extension

Newly added this year are guides specifically designed for infants and toddlers! These new additions support early brain development through sensory-rich, age-appropriate reading and play.

All guides are aligned with the Nebraska’s Early Learning Guidelines and available in both English and Spanish, ensuring accessibility and flexibility for all families and early

Extension Update



JACKIE STEFFEN

Early Childhood Extension Educator
Dakota County

childhood professionals.

The purpose of the STEAM Imagination program is to provide all caregivers with books, guided questions, and expanded learning opportunities to support literacy development, enhance relationships, and to make a connection to local libraries.

This year’s featured titles include:

- “10 Cats” by Emily Gravett
- “Where is the Green Sheep” by Mem Fox
- “Beautiful Oops!” by Barney Saltzberg
- “It Looked Like Spilt Milk” by Charles G. Shaw
- “Color and Me!” by Michaela Dias-Hayes
- “Just Add Glitter” by Angela DiTerlizzi and Samantha Cotterill
- “Maybe Something Beautiful” by F. Isabel Campoy and Theresa Howell
- “My Forest is Green” by Darren Lebeuf
- “Nature is an Artist” by Jennifer Lavallee
- “Not a Box” by Antoinette Por-

tis

- “Oh, Olive!” by Lian Cho
- “Perfect Square” by Michael Hall

These downloadable guides are perfect for use by parents, grandparents, early childhood professionals, librarians, and anyone who loves reading with children. Each activity is adaptable to meet the needs and interests of the children in your care, creating a personalized and enriching reading experience.

STEAM Imagination Guides aren’t limited to art and creativity. There are also books and guides from previous years specifically related to adventures, unity and kindness, oceans, animals and their habitats, and books and guides for some of your favorite fairytales, too! Check out our archived guides on the website.

To access all the guides and explore additional resources, visit go.unl.edu/imagination or contact Jackie Steffen, Nebraska Extension Early Childhood Educator, at jstef-fen2@unl.edu.



Homer senior Tori Walker cleared the bar at 5 feet, 2 inches to claim top honors at the Homer Invitational.

HOMER: Knight boys take top honors at home meet

from Page 1A

5-2; 4. Janessa Overgaard, Homer, 5-0. Long jump: 3. Walker, 16-0; 4. K. Tornez, 15-7 1/4; 6. Valentin, 15-1 1/2. Shot put: 3. Harris, 33-9 1/4; 4. M. Tornez, 32-8; 5. Madelyn Franzluebbbers, TCNE, 32-2 1/2. Triple jump: 4.Valentin, 33-2 1/4.

Boys Team Standings

Homer 83, Westwood/Sloan 80.5, Kingsley-Pierson 69, LCC 62, Dakota Valley 60, Tri County NE 58.5, Winnebago 46, Wisner-Pilger 43, Walthill 14, Whiting 6,

Area Medalists

100: 3. Isaac Barclay, Homer, 11.41. 110 hurdles: 3. Bryan Isom, TCNE, 15.70; 5. Aayden Harris, Homer, 16.28. 200: 1. Barclay, 23.75. 300 hurdles: 1. Isom, 41.15; 3. Harris, 43.20; 5. Thatcher Lamp, TCNE, 44.93. 400: 2. Josue Munoz, Homer, 52.52; 3. Junius Snowball, Homer, 53.36; 4. Jessup Snowball, Homer, 55.27; 6. Rylan Parker, Homer, 55.64. 800: 4. Jes. Snowball, 2:14.75. 1,600: 4. Caden Barclay, Homer, 5:03.72; 6. Jude Ridenour, TCNE, 5:21.78. 800 SMR: 1. Homer (A. Harris, E. Torticill,

I. Barclay, J. Munoz), 1:40.67; 5. TCNE (D. Reinert, T. Lamp, L. Morgan, T. Anderson), 1:49.62. 400 relay: 2. TCNE (B. Isom, J. Belt, D. Reinert, T. Anderson), 47.12; 5. Homer (E. Torticill, W. Baker, C. Huffman, A. Pelster), 49.39. 1,600 relay: 1. Homer (J. Snowball, A. Harris, R. Parker, J. Munoz), 3:43.88. Distance medley: 1. Homer (J. Snowball, W. Rohde, G. Otterpohl, C. Barclay), 12:21.48; 2. TCNE (J. Ridenour, A. Isom, D. Lewellen, A. Snyder), 12:39.33. High jump: 1. Jackson Belt, TCNE, 5-10; 5. (Tie) Lamp, 5-6. Triple jump: 1. B. Isom, 42-9.

OBITUARIES

Margaret Ann (Peggie) Schroeder, 89

It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of Margaret Ann (Peggie) Schroeder, who left us on April 13, 2025, at the age of 89. Peggie was a devoted mother, a cherished friend, and a beacon of kindness and strength to all who knew her. A Mass of Christian Burial will be at 11:30 a.m. Monday, April 21, at St. Michael’s Catholic Church in South Sioux City, with Father Michael Keating as Celebrant. Interment will follow at St. Michael’s Cemetery of South Sioux City. Visitation, with the family present, will begin at 9 a.m. with a Rosary Service, followed by the visitation prior to the Mass, all at the church. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests that donations be made to St. Michael’s Catholic Church, 1315 1st Ave, South Sioux City, Nebraska 68776 in Peggie’s memory, to continue her legacy of compassion and generosity. Mohr & Becker-Hunt Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements.

Born on Feb. 2, 1936, in Ponca, Peggie was the third of nine children of Harold and Mary Smith. She graduated from Ponca Senior High School with the Class of 1953 and was proud to attend her 70th class reunion in 2023.

On August 31, 1956, she married Roger Schroeder, and together they raised five sons in South Sioux City. All five boys attended St. Michael’s Catholic School and South Sioux City High School, a testament to the family’s deep roots in both education and faith.

Peggie’s commitment to her church was unwavering. She served on the school board at St. Michael’s Parish and was always ready to lend a hand — whether it was making desserts and salads for events or simply offering her time and energy. Her warmth

and joyful spirit brought light to every gathering. Throughout her life, Peggie demonstrated incredible dedication and work ethic, excelling in her career as a secretary for several insurance companies, including A.M. Davis Insurance in Sioux City and Travelers Insurance in California. Often working two jobs, she was tireless in her efforts to support her family.

Above all, Peggie found her greatest joy in her family. Time spent with her children and grandchildren — and especially with her siblings — was what she treasured most. She loved Smith family reunions, never missing a chance to play pitch-

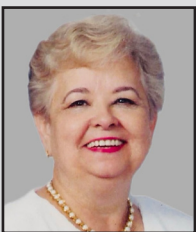
catch up with her siblings, nieces and nephews, and proudly show off her branch in Husker Red for the big family photos.

Peggie is survived by her sons Ronald (Tammy) of Lincoln; Richard (Miranda) of Hinton, Iowa; and Randall (Heather) of Neola, Iowa; Butch (Pat) Smith and Jack (Jeanne) Smith, sister Doris (Alan) Knutson; 20 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; 7 great-great-grandchildren; and nearly 50 nieces and nephews who will forever cherish the memories they shared with her.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Harold and Mary Smith; her husband, Roger; sons Robert and Russell; and siblings Harold Eugene Smith, Cecil Robert Smith, Harold Ronold Smith, Mary Judie Wisnieski and Susan (Bill) Church.

Family and friends are invited to join in celebrating Peggie’s extraordinary life, sharing stories and memories of the times spent together.

Peggie will be deeply missed but never forgotten. May she rest in eternal peace.



Schroeder

DAKOTA COUNTY COURT NEWS

Daniel R Alfaro, 33, South Sioux City; criminal mischief \$0-500, jail 14 days; disturbing the peace, jail 80 days

Brennan P. Drum, 44, Sioux City, Iowa; assault-threat-en/menacing manner, jail 14 days; criminal trespass 2nd degree, jail 14 days

Techla J Ferguson, 28, Sioux City, Iowa; procure/sell alcohol to minor, fine \$500; fail to appear or comply with citation, jail 7 days

Charles C Gordon, 43, waiver of extradition (Iowa) fugitive from justice

Anthony J Mcpherson, 39, waiver of extradition (Iowa) fugitive from justice

Angel E Torres, 19, Sioux City, Iowa; disturbing the peace, fine \$150

Frances Adrian C De Leon, 27, Sioux City, Iowa; speeding 11-15 mph, fine \$75; nonresident violate 30-day immunity, fine \$300

Nicolas Mateo De Mateo Marcos, 37, Sioux City, Iowa; nonresident violate 30-day immunity, fine \$150

Luis E Rosendo Moleiro, 26, Sioux City, Iowa; non-resident violate 30-day immunity, jail 14 days

Alexys M Strom, 24, Sergeant Bluff, Iowa; DUI.15+, fine \$500, community service 120 hours, revoked license 1 year, probation 9 months

Robert M Newlin-Smith, 31, South Sioux City; drive under suspension/before reinstated, fine \$100; no operator’s license, fine \$500

Osbeli N Mendez Mendez, 23, South Sioux City; DUI-alcohol-1st offense, fine \$500, probation 6 months, revoked license 60 days; no operator’s license, fine \$150

Yurub I Mohamed, 19, South Sioux City; DUI-alcohol-1st offense, fine \$500, probation 6 months, revoked license 60 days

Danya R Mejia Rivera, 33, Sioux City, Iowa; nonresident violate 30-day immunity, fine \$500; speeding 6-10 mph, fine \$25

Evangeline E Frenchman, 51, Winnebago; drive under suspension/before reinstated, jail 14 days; no operator’s license, jail 14 days

Kerri A Morris, 35, Sioux City, Iowa; disturbing the

peace, jail 14 days

Junior F Silo, 27, Sioux City, Iowa; false reporting misdemeanor, jail 14 days; nonresident violate 30-day immunity, jail 7 days

Amber D Snowball, 41, Sioux City, Iowa; waiver of extradition (Iowa) fugitive from justice

Harold D Thomas, 65, Sioux City, Iowa; waiver of extradition (Iowa) fugitive from justice

Jose G Andrade-Villalobos, 25, Sioux City, Iowa; theft-shoplifting \$0-500, fine \$750

Shaun M Thomas, 55, Sioux City, Iowa; drive under suspension/before reinstated, fine \$150

Tiffany Tran, South Sioux City; assault-threaten, fine \$300

Michael A Zytmiowsky, 35, Dakota City; no proof of insurance, fine \$150

Morghan Blackfish, 25, South Sioux City; leave accident-fail to furnish info 1st, jail 14 days, probation 24 months

Angelica Segura, 26, Sioux City, Iowa; no proof of insurance, fine \$300; no operator’s license, fine \$500; drive under suspension/before reinstated, fine \$100; no valid registration, fine \$50

Marson Immy, 25, Sioux City, Iowa; DUI.15+, fine \$500, jail 2 days, probation 9 months, revoked license 1 year; nonresident violate 30-day immunity, fine \$500, probation 9 months

Nohel Delao, waiver of extradition (Iowa) fugitive from justice

Steven Oftedal, 19, Macy; tobacco/electronic use under 21, fine \$100; possession marijuana 1oz or less 1st offense, fine \$300; speeding 6-10 mph, fine \$25

Jacqueline S Blancarte, 43, South Sioux City; defendant failed to appear

Ricky Perez, 24, false reporting, fine \$1,000, probation 24 months

Chase J Rainey, 37, DV assault 3rd cause bodily injury, fine \$500, jail 2 days

Katarina Roth, 30, fail to appear or comply with citation jail 7 days

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Michael James McCauley, 35, Canada, and Hannah Lea Kleinberg, 30, Mankato, Minnesota

David Jordano Castillo Hidalgo, 22, South Sioux City, and Stephanie Yojara Altamirano Nicholas, 18, South Sioux City

Juanfernando Tinajero Aguilar, 27, Sioux City, Iowa and Brandy Suarez, 25, Sioux City, NE

Ramon Gonzalez Jr, South Sioux City, and Andrea

Lira Lira, 26, Dakota City

Brock James Linafelter, 29, South Sioux City, and Al-lie Marie Vanek, 28, South Sioux City

Ronald Javier Nunez Olivar, 20, South Sioux City, and Clarissa Beth Gutierrez, 19, South Sioux City

Carter Thomas Copple, 23, Sioux Falls, S.D. and Briley Alison Pike, 22, Sioux Falls, S.D.



Information for ready reference – Phone numbers in a HURRY!

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Dr. Brooke Gilbert, DVM
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MOHR & BECKER-HUNT Funeral Home
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218 N East St., Ponca, NE 68770
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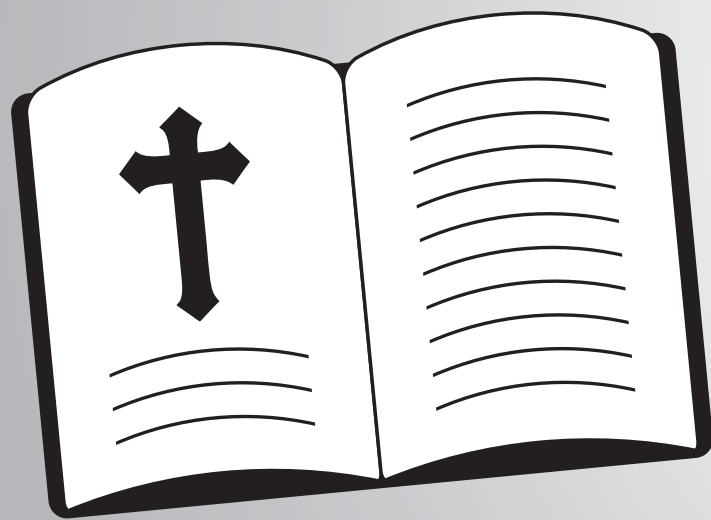


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Evening Worship..... 6:00 p.m.
Wednesdays

Wed. Night Family Night: 7:00 p.m.

Pastor Richard Peralez

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RUMMAGE SALE

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KEARNEY GUN & Coin Show, April 26th and 27th, Sat. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Expo Center, Fairgrounds, Kearney, NE.

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Legal Notice

SECTION 00 10 00 INVITATION TO BID

Sealed Proposals for the construction of "Hubbard Street Improvements for the village of Hubbard, Nebraska," JEO Project No. 232016.00, QuestCDN No. 9590687, will be received by JEO Consulting Group, Inc. at 1909 Dakota Avenue, South Sioux City, NE 68776 until 10:00 AM on the 1st day of May 2025, and thereafter will be read aloud.

The work is generally described as follows: concrete paving, storm sewer construction.

Opinion of Probable Cost \$1,150,000

Proposals will be taken for said construction work listed above by unit prices, as an aggregate bid for the entire project.

All Proposals for said construction work must be made on blanks furnished by the Engineer and must be accompanied by Bid Security of not less than 5% of the amount bid. Bid Security to be made payable to the Treasurer of the village of Hubbard as liquidated damages in case the bid is accepted and the bidder neglects or refuses, to enter into contract and furnish bond in accordance herewith.

Copies of the contract documents are on file with the village of Hubbard for examination by bidders.

Complete digital project bidding documents are available at JEO's website at jeo.com for \$30.00. An optional paper set of project documents is available for a non-refundable price of \$100.00 per set. Please contact Sandy Walker at 402.371.6416 to coordinate your request and send your check to: 404 S 25th Street, Ste. B, Norfolk, NE 68701.

In order to bid the project, the contract documents must be issued directly by JEO Consulting Group, Inc. or QuestCDN to the bidder.

VILLAGE OF HUBBARD, NEBRASKA
Jason Martineck, Chairperson
ATTEST: Lisa Bousquet, Clerk
PUBLISHED: Dakota County Star, April 10, 17 and 24, 2025

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION OF HOBO AG SERVICES, LLC

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

1. The name of the limited liability company is HOB0 AG SERVICES, LLC (the "company").

2. The street and mailing address of the initial designated office of the Company is 1741 N. Bluff Rd., Hubbard, NE 68741.

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

4. The company was organized and commenced on April 11, 2025, the Company shall be Manager managed, and its duration is perpetual.

HOB0 AG SERVICES, LLC
By Nathan Hogan, Organizer
JOHN C. EHRICH (BAR #24140)
BUCHHEIT & EHRICH LAW, PLC

1419 Dakota Ave.
P.O. Box 215
South Sioux City, NE 68776
(402) 412-2080
jack@buchheit-ehrich.com
Publish in the Dakota County Star
Thursdays, April 17, 24 and May 1, 2025. - ZNEZ

Legal Notice

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF DAKOTA COUNTY, NEBRASKA CASE NO. CI 25-45

IN RE: NAME CHANGE OF GLENDA JULIANA DIAZ

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: TAKE NOTICE that Glenda Juliana Diaz, Petitioner, has filed a Petition for Name Change, which Petition requests their name be changed to Glenda Juliana Perez. The hearing on said Petition has been scheduled before the Honorable Judge Meisner, Dakota County District Court Judge, District Courtroom of the Dakota County Courthouse, 1601 Broadway Street, Dakota City, Nebraska on May 13, 2025 at 1:00pm.

Ryan D. Caldwell
CALDWELL LAW, LLC
233 S. 13th Street, Suite 1100
Lincoln, NE 68508
(402) 957-2750
Attorney for Petitioner.

Legal Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

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

The name of the Limited Liability Company is Beemer Construction, LLC

The street address of the Company's initial registered office in Nebraska is 3314 A Street, South Sioux City, NE 68776 and the name of its registered agent at such address is Ramon Bernal Medina. The mailing address for the Company's initial registered agent office is PO Box #34, South Sioux City, NE 68776

The street address of the Company's initial designated office in Nebraska is 3314 A Street, South Sioux City, NE 68776. The mailing address of the Company's initial designated office in Nebraska is PO Box #34, South Sioux City, NE 68776.

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

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

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

Ramon Bernal Medina - Manager/Member
Camille S. Brown, Organizer
700 4th Street, #300
Sioux City, IA 51101

Legal Notice

Concrete Panel Replacement Jobs for City of South Sioux City, Nebraska for 2025

For complete scope and specifications please call 402.494.8167 or 402.494.7548

Project Timeline: Panel replacement can start on May 27th, 2025, and needs to be completed no later than August 15th, 2025

Bidding Timeline: Bids need submitted to City Clerk's office at 1615 1st Avenue, no later than 1:00 p.m. on May 1st, 2025. Bids need to be sealed with (Concrete Panel) on the outside of the envelope. Bids will be opened at 1:00 pm on May 1st, 2025. The City reserves the right to select the best bid, the best bid will be the determining factor. Once the bidder has been selected and the insurance requirement verification listed on specification sheet are completed, an agreement will be signed and the project can proceed. All contractors will be required to sign in as an E-verify company and have a Duns number provided previously, it is unnecessary to duplicate.

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF AMENDED AND RESTATED ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF NORTHEAST NEBRASKA TELEPHONE COMPANY

Pursuant to Section 21-2,229 of the Nebraska Model Business Corporation Act (the "Act"), notice is hereby given that the Articles of Incorporation (the "Articles") of Northeast Nebraska Telephone Company, a Nebraska non-profit corporation (the "Corporation"), have been amended and restated by the Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation which were duly approved and adopted by the board of directors of the Corporation on February 19, 2025, and were filed with the Nebraska Secretary of State on February 24, 2025 (the "Amended and Restated Articles").

A brief resume of the changes included in the Amended and Restated Articles is as follows:

- a. Restated the original Articles and all amendments thereto into a single document;
- b. Updated the Corporation's principal office address and registered agent name and address; and
- c. Removed names and addresses of original incorporators of the Corporation.

Legal Notice

Public Notice

The Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Council (SIMPCO) Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and the Siouxland Regional Transportation Planning Association (SRTPA) FY 26 Transportation Planning Work Program

Both the SIMPCO MPO and the SRTPA are in the process of developing the Draft FY 2026 Transportation Planning Work Programs (TPWP) with approval scheduled for the MPO on May 8, 2025, and May 22, 2025 for the SRTPA. The TPWP describes the transportation planning activities staff will undertake during the next fiscal year. Each major activity is described in detail to include the task, objective, previous work, project description, future products, and budgets on each activity. Draft FY 2026 TPWPs are now available for public comment. The documents may be viewed at SIMPCO: 6401 Gordon Drive, Sioux City IA 51106. The documents may also be viewed on the SIMPCO website: https://simpco.org/divisions/transportation-planning

The SIMPCO MPO planning area includes the Sioux City Metro: Sioux City, Sergeant Bluff, portions of Woodbury Co., and portions of Plymouth Co. in Iowa; South Sioux City, Dakota City, and portions of Dakota County in Nebraska; and North Sioux City, Dakota Dunes, and portions of Union Co. in South Dakota.

The SRTPA planning area includes the rural portions of Woodbury, Plymouth, Cherokee, Ida and Monona counties in Iowa.

Please submit all comments on the Draft FY 2026 TPWPs on or before May 2, 2025 to Michelle Bostinelos, Executive Director, SIMPCO 712-279-6286 or by email at mbostinelos@simpco.org

The SIMPCO MPO Policy Board meeting will be held on May 8, 2025 at 1:30 p.m. at SIMPCO (6401 Gordon Drive, Sioux City) AND via Zoom video/conference call. The SRTPA Policy Board meeting will be held on May 22, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. at SIMPCO (6401 Gordon Drive, Sioux City) AND via Zoom video/conference call. To participate electronically please contact SIMPCO by email at tonia@simpco.org or 712-279-6286 to obtain Zoom meeting ID and passcode.

The MPO and SRTPA Policy Board meetings are open to all individuals. Any person with a special need requiring a reasonable accommodation or transportation to participate in a Policy Board meeting should contact the SIMPCO office at 712-279-6286 at least two (2) business days prior to the meeting.

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE FIVE YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN: 2025-2029 AND THE YEAR ONE ACTION PLAN FOR THE SIOUX CITY CONSORTIUM

You are hereby notified that a public hearing on the Five Year Consolidated Plan: 2025-2029 and the Year One Action Plan for the Sioux City Consortium will take place on May 8, 2025. The Sioux City Consortium is made up of the City of South Sioux City, Nebraska, the City of Dakota City, Nebraska, and the City of Sioux City, Iowa.

The Five Year Consolidated Plan: 2025-2029 and the Year One Action Plan for the Sioux City Consortium is prepared in order for members of the Sioux City Consortium to be able to submit applications for housing and community development programs with the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. The purpose of this hearing is to provide the opportunity for citizens, public agencies, and other interested parties to comment on how to use Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) funds, and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds.

The public hearing will be held May 8, 2025, in the City of Sioux City Council Chambers, Fifth Floor of City Hall, 405 Sixth Street, Sioux City, Iowa, and is scheduled to begin at 4:00 p.m. local time.

Published in the Dakota County Star on April 17, 2025

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Dakota County Board of Commissioners will hold their regular scheduled meeting on Monday, April 28, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. at the Dakota County Courthouse, 1601 Broadway Street, Dakota City, and which said meeting is open to the public. The agenda for this meeting will be kept continually current and available to the public at the County Clerk's Office.

Cherie Conley, County Clerk

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION

Notice is hereby given that BEAUTIFUL FRICTION LLC has been organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska.

The address of the designated office of the Company is 905 W 21ST ST, SOUTH SIOUX CITY, NE 68776. The initial agent for service of process is JOSELYI RAMIREZ, 304 S RIDGE DR, 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 January 2019, and its duration shall be perpetual.

Organizer Name: Josely Ramirez.

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF MEETING

DAKOTA COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 011 IN THE STATE OF NEBRASKA NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Board of Education of Dakota County School District 011, more commonly known as South Sioux City Community Schools, will start at 4:00 P.M. on Monday April 28, 2025, in the South Sioux City High School Library, 3301 G Street, South Sioux City, Nebraska, the meeting will be open to the public. An agenda for such a meeting, kept continually current, is available for public inspection at the School Administration Office of said District, at 210 West 39th Street, South Sioux City, Nebraska, during normal business hours.

Dr. Rony Ortega, Superintendent

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WAHOO OFFICE BUILDING & LOT AUCTION
FRIDAY, MAY 9, 2025 • 11 A.M. | SELLER: LOWER PLATTE NORTH NRD
Property Address & Auction Location: 511 Commercial Park Road, Wahoo
OPEN HOUSE: April 27 & May 4, 2025 from 1-3 p.m.
Online bidding opens Friday, May 2 at 10 a.m. and closes Friday, May 9 at the completion of the auction. To register for online bidding, go to: Nebraska Realty Ag Division (hibid.com)
LEGAL: PT of TRACT 4 (NE 34-15-7) Commercial Park Addition to Wahoo (.91 Acres)
Here is an opportunity to acquire a valuable commercial well-maintained office building located on the outskirts of Wahoo, NE. This office building boasts excellent visibility and accessibility with easy access to major roadways and amenities. Said property sits on .91 acres and features approximately 6,262 sq. ft. of modern office space, conference room, ample parking and a main entry lobby. Included will be a 42'x40' heated shop with a 12'x12' overhead door and also a 60'x40' machine shed for all of your storage needs. This property is a must see!! The property will be sold "AS IS".
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DAKOTA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Dakota County Board of Commissioners
Monday, April 14, 2025
3:00 p.m. Regular Business Meeting
County Board Meeting Room, First Floor
Dakota County Courthouse, Dakota City, Nebraska
Dakota County Courthouse, Dakota City, Nebraska

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

Chair Hohenstein called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance was recited at the Board of Equalization meeting. Present at Roll Call: Hohenstein, Rodriguez, Van Berkum, Bousquet, Reed. Absent: None. Also present was Kim Watson, County Attorney and Cherie Conley, County Clerk, acting as Board Secretary. The location of the Open Meetings Act was noted.

Van Berkum "-" to approve the consent agenda items: (a) approval of the previous meeting minutes – March 31, 2025; (b) approval of payroll claims for March 30 to April 12, 2025; (c) approval of payroll accounts payable claims; (d) approval of accounts payable claims- none; and (e) approval of Noxious Weed Annual Report for 2024. RCVUMC

Payroll: General Fund Employer: Gross Salaries-\$189,678.36; Net Pay-\$136,235.00; Total Retirement-\$13,705.33; Total FICA-\$14,038.62; Health Plan-\$44,240.00; Dental Plan-\$1,600.00; Life Insurance-\$212.30; Road Fund Employer: Gross Salaries-\$22,592.61; Net Pay-\$16,908.17; Retirement-\$1,524.97; Total FICA-\$1,718.45; Health Plan-\$4,480.00; Dental Plan-\$160.00; Life Insurance-\$19.51; Health/Planning Grant Employer 2502: Gross Salaries-\$1,637.61; Net Pay-\$1,233.24; Retirement-\$110.54; Total FICA-\$121.45; Health Plan-\$560.00; Life Insurance-\$2.55; Health Program Grant Employer 2504: Gross Salaries-\$1,844.95; Net Pay-\$1,443.64; Retirement-\$118.58; Total FICA-\$138.34; Health Plan-\$560.00; Dental Plan-\$20.00; Life Insurance-\$2.55; Juvenile Services Aid Employer 2507: Gross Salaries-\$1,620.00; Net Pay-\$1,342.76; Retirement-\$109.35; Total FICA-\$121.13; Dental Plan-\$20.00; Life Insurance-\$2.55.

Payroll Accounts Payable: General Fund: Collection Service Center, garnishment-\$564.45; Colonial Life & Accident, life insurance premium-\$248.73; Dental Account, premium-\$2,104.00; FSA Dep Care - \$208.33; FSA Medical - \$1,073.08; Health Plan, premium-\$47,790.00; Fraternal Order of Police #49, union dues-\$850.00; Federal Withholding, federal taxes-\$13,167.94; Globe Life Liberty, premium-\$154.04; Legalshield, premium-\$128.64; Life Insurance, premium-\$212.30; Nationwide Retirement Solutions, contributions-\$1542.00; Nebraska Child Support, garnishments-\$766.61; Neb Dept of Revenue, state taxes-\$6,625.59; Ameritas Retirement, contributions-\$23,201.84; Social Security, FICA & MEDI-\$28,077.24; VSP, premium-\$524.82. Road Fund: Collection Service Center, garnishment-\$243.96; Colonial Life & Accident, life insurance premium-\$38.23; Dental Account, premium-\$160.00; Health Plan, premium-\$4,480.00; Federal Withholding, federal taxes-\$1,599.24; Globe Life Liberty, premium-\$6.50; Legalshield, premium-\$38.91; Life Insurance, premium-\$19.51; Neb Dept of Revenue, state taxes-\$772.92; Nebraska Public Empl Local 251, union dues-\$165.00; Ameritas Retirement, contributions-\$2,541.67; Social Security, FICA & MEDI-\$3,436.90; VSP, premium-\$84.53; Insurance Fund 1275: Mid-American Benefits -medical claims \$24,723.23; Health Fund 2502: DC FSA—medical claims-\$50.00; Medical Account, premium-\$560.00; Federal Withholding, federal taxes-\$103.27; Life Insurance, premium-\$2.55; Neb Dept of Revenue, state taxes-\$55.96; Ameritas Retirement, contributions-\$184.23; Social Security, FICA & MEDI-\$242.90; Health Fund 2504: Dental Account, premium-\$41.00; Health Plan, premium-\$560.00; Federal Withholding, federal taxes-\$98.68; Life Insurance, premium-\$2.55; Neb Dept of Revenue, state taxes-\$48.57; Ameritas Retirement, contributions-\$197.64; Social Security, FICA & MEDI-\$276.68; VSP, premium-\$15.66; Juvenile Services Fund 2507: Dental Account, premium-\$41.00; Life Insurance, premium-\$2.55; Neb Dept of Revenue, state taxes-\$46.55; Ameritas Retirement, contributions-\$182.25; Social Security, FICA & MEDI-\$242.26; VSP, premium-\$15.66.

Bousquet "-" Reed to approve the Interlocal Agreement for Use of Animal Services Facilities between the City of South Sioux City and Dakota County. RCVUMC. Bousquet "-" Van Berkum to approve Bounna Pomephanh, Wat Buddharam of Siouxland Inc. Special Designated Liquor License for a fundraising event on May 25, 2025 from 1:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. RCVUMC. Van Berkum "-" Bousquet to approve the purchase of the Sioux City Yamaha – Yamaha 2024 Kawasaki Ridge-\$25,584.50 for the Weed/Sign department and Road department. RCVUMC. Jolene Gubbels, Highway Superintendent, presented the Bi-weekly Road Report for March 30 to April 12, 2025. Van Berkum moved to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Chair Hohenstein adjourned the Board of Commissioners meeting of April 14, 2025, at 3:33 p.m.

Dakota County Board of Commissioners
Martin Hohenstein Chair
Cherie Conley, County Clerk/Secretary

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Village of Pender
Pender, Nebraska
Village of Pender (Owner) is requesting Bids for the construction of the following Project: Collection System Improvements Pender, NE - 2025

Bids for the construction of the Project will be received at the Pender Community Center located at 614 Main Street, Pender, NE, 68047, until May 6, 2025, at 1:30 p.m. local time. At that time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read.

The Project includes the following Work: This bid section consists of the construction of approximately 7,800 LF of 8 to 15-inch sanitary sewer main, the demolition and restoration of approximately 20,000 SY of pavement, the cleaning, pipe preparation, and cured-in-place-pipe rehabilitation of approximately 25,340 LF of 8 to 24-inch sanitary sewer main, sanitary sewer service reinstatements, video inspection, dewatering (if necessary), bypass pumping (if necessary), traffic control, and associated incidental items of work as specified herein and indicated on the drawings for an acceptable and complete installation.

This project involves STATE REVOLVING FUND PROGRAM/FEDERAL AND STATE REQUIREMENT SECTION

1-DAVIS-BACON ACT WAGE DETERMINATIONS

"Contractors and subcontractors on USEPA federally assisted construction projects are required to pay their laborers and mechanics wages not less than those established by the U.S. Department of Labor. A current wage decision containing the appropriate building and/or heavy type rates is included in the specifications for bidding purposes."

2-DEBARMENT AND SUSPENSION

"The prospective participants must certify by submittal of EPA Form 5700-49, Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters, that to the best of its knowledge and belief that it and its principals are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any federal department or agency."

3-NONDISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT

"Bidders on this work will be required to comply with the President's Executive Order No. 11246. Requirements for bidders and contractors under this order are explained in the specifications."

4-DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (DBE)

"Each bidder must fully comply with the requirements, terms and conditions of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) requirements, including the fair share objectives for disadvantaged business participation during the performance

of this contract. The bidder commits itself to the fair share objective for disadvantaged business participation contained herein and all other requirements, terms and conditions of these bid conditions by submitting a properly signed bid."

5-AMERICAN IRON AND STEEL PRODUCTS

"On January 17, 2014, H.R. 3547, "Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014," was enacted. Section 436 of the Act requires that none of the appropriated funds may be used for the construction, alteration, maintenance, or repair of a public water system or treatment works unless all of the iron and steel products used in the project are produced in the United States, unless a waiver is provided to the recipient by EPA. Conditions for the waiver are found under the Information for Bidders. The term "iron and steel products" means the following products made primarily of iron or steel: lined or unlined pipes and fittings, manhole covers and other municipal castings, hydrants, tanks, flanges, pipe clamps and restraints, valves, structural steel, reinforced precast concrete, and construction materials."

For more information on AIS, please visit: https://www.epa.gov/cwsrf/state-revolving-fund-american-iron-and-steel-ais requirement.

6-BUILD AMERICA, BUY AMERICA

"On November 15, 2021, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) (also known as the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)) was passed. Section 70901 of Public Law 117-58, et seq., as amended, and Section 70914(a) of the IIJA require that Federal funding for infrastructure, including Wastewater Treatment and Public Water System projects, complies with the Build America Buy America (BABA) Act. Absent a waiver, all iron, steel manufactured products, and construction materials permanently incorporated into an infrastructure project receiving BIL funding or are an SRF Equivalency project as match for Federal funding, are subject to the BABA requirements and must be produced in the United States.

This project is subject to the Build America, Buy America Act (BABAA) requirements under Title IX of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), Pub. L. 117-58, §§ 70901-70953.

The following waivers apply to this Contract: BABAA De Minimis, Small Grants, and Minor Components

Bidder shall be registered on Sam.gov in order to submit a bid.

A pre-bid conference for the Project will be held on Tuesday, April 15, 2025, at 11:00 a.m., at the Pender Community Center, Pender, Nebraska. Attendance at the pre-bid conference is encouraged but not required.

Engineer's Estimate:

\$6,100,000.00

www.questcdn.com for a fee of \$22 (nonrefundable). Once logged into the site, insert eBidDoc project number 9610214 Pender, NE, Collection System Improvements, Pender, NE - 2025; Or for viewable only at Olsson at 1707 Dakota Avenue, South Sioux City, NE.

The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is:

Olsson
1707 Dakota Avenue
South Sioux City, Nebraska 68776

Bid security shall be furnished in accordance with the Instruction to Bidders. The check(s) or bond(s) shall be made payable to Owner as security that the bidder(s) to whom the award(s) are made will enter into contract to build the improvements bid upon and furnish the required bonds and insurance.

The Owner reserves the right to accept any bid which it deems most advantageous to the Owner, and to reject any or all bids submitted and to hold as many bids as it desires for consideration for a period of sixty days after the bids are open.

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

This Advertisement is issued by:

Owner: Village of Pender, Nebraska
By: Glen Gralheer

Publish April 24 and May 1, 2025

— ZNEZ

Legal Notice

Certificate of Organization
LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY
Name of the Limited Liability Company: JCK Beacom Properties, LLC

Street and mailing address of the initial designated office: 606 W 13th st South Sioux City , Neb 68776
Name of the initial agent for service of process: Caroline Cunningham
Effective date if other than the date filed: 7/24/2024
Published in the Dakota County Star Thursday, April 24, 2025-ZNEZ

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the **Dakota County Board of Equalization** will hold a regular meeting on Monday, April 28, 2025, at 2:45 PM at the Dakota County Courthouse, 1601 Broadway Street, Dakota City, which said meeting is open to the public. The agendas for these meetings will be kept current and available to the public at the County Clerk's Office.

Cherie Conley, County Clerk

CITY OF SOUTH SIOUX CITY

A meeting of the City Council of the City of South Sioux City, Nebraska, was held at the South Sioux City Council Chambers, 1615 1st Avenue in said City on the 14th day of April 2025, at 5:00 P.M.

Present: Mayor Rod Koch and Council Members: James Gunsolley, Dan Bousquet, Ben Schultz, Monty Peters, Randy Meyer, Mahamud Osman and Yahaira Schultz. Absent: Jasper Kriens

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

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

Peters motioned, seconded by Bousquet to excuse Jasper Kriens from the Council meeting. Voting Aye: Gunsolley, Bousquet, B. Schultz, Peters, Meyer, Osman and Y. Schultz. Voting No: none

Meyers motioned to approve the following items on the agenda (certain items from the consent agenda were removed to be discussed and voted on separately). Motion was seconded by Peters.

MINUTES: Council –
March 24th, 2025; Public Works – March 17th, 2025 and April 7th, 2025; Finance – April 9th, 2025
CLAIMS – April 14th, 2025
Treasurer's Report ending – March 31st, 2025

Authorization to go out for bids for concrete panel replacement

Purchase of a 2025 Chevrolet Colorado - \$37,727.00 for the Fiber Department (Capital purchase – state bid)

Mainly Marathons – Monday, May 12th, 2025 (Crystal Cove - starting at 0600 and finish roughly at 1600. Arriving on May 11 to begin set up)
Church League baseball agreement

Approval of Manager's License for Joseph Langseth, Tobacco Hut @ 1903 Dakota Avenue.

Approval of managers Application – Jonathon Mileham, Kum and Go @ 3808 Dakota Avenue.

City of South Sioux City, Dakota City and Dakota County Stormwater Management Plan 2025.

Stormwater Plan - 2024 Annual Report

Dakota / Thurston County Fair Parade – July 31st, 2025 starting at 6:00 p.m.

Volunteer Fire Department would like to hold an Art Fair in Memorial Hall as a fundraiser – July date to be determined

2025 Sign Company Licenses

Information only: Empirical Traffic Light Intersection update: The traffic control box has been installed

Olsson
\$2,378.38 – Hovey Development

Phase III
\$6,841.50 – New Water Treatment Plant.

\$2,500.00 – Interconnect Water Main

JEO:
\$2,145.00 – 2024 Flood Repair and Mitigation Strategies

HDR
\$30,173.65 – WWTF Operations Advisory Services.

\$82,787.16 – Wastewater Treatment Facility Expansion.

Voting Yes: 7, No: 0

B. Schultz motioned to approve council affiliated claim for the 2025 Annual Chamber Banquet – \$100.00, Randy Meyer. Motion was seconded by Gunsolley. Voting Yes: 6, No: 0

Abstain: 1

Bousquet motioned to approve part time cleaning person 6 days a week for the South Sioux City Library. Motion was seconded by Meyer. Voting Yes: 7, No: 0

Meyer motioned to approve Sub-Surfco's bid at \$423,500.00 for the construction of the Timberline Lift Station. Motion was seconded by Peters. Voting Yes: 7, No: 0

Meyer motioned to approve the Cinco de Mayo Celebration on May 3rd, 2025 on 1st Avenue. Motion was seconded by Y. Schultz. Voting Yes: 7, No: 0

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

D. Bousquet motioned to approve the Arbor Day Proclamation, seconded by Gunsolley. Voting Yes: 7, No: 0
Proclamation Week of the Young Child / Child Abuse Prevention was

presented.

At 5:32 p.m. Mayor Koch opened the PUBLIC HEARING regarding new liquor license. La Perla Del Mar Bar and Grill at 618 Dakota Avenue, South Sioux City. License Type: Class C Beer, Wine, Spirits On and Off Sale. There was no one present requesting special services or to speak in favor of or in opposition to the new liquor license. At 5:33 p.m., Mayor Koch declared the hearing closed.

Bousquet motioned approval of new liquor license for La Perla Del Mar Bar and Grill at 618 Dakota Avenue, South Sioux City. License Type: Class C Beer, Wine, Spirits On and Off Sale. Seconded by Meyer. Voting Yes: 7, No: 0

The following items were postponed from the agenda due to no quorum at Planning and Zoning no motion of recommendation:

PUBLIC HEARING: Conditional Use permit, residential use in a commercial (C3) zoning district, 615 West 15th Street.

Public Hearing - Conditional use Permit – Residential Use in a Commercial Zoning District – 204 West 22nd Street. (residential use in a commercial (C3) zoning district. The subject property is located at 204 West 22nd Street legally described as Lots 4 and East ½ Lot 5 Block 20 Moans Addition.)

PUBLIC HEARING - Rezoning request, R2b Residential to Mixed Use, 1100 Arbor Drive. Rezoning 20 acres, located at 1100 Arbor Drive, from R2b residential to MU Mixed Use.

ORDINANCE 2025-01 Rezoning 1100 Arbor Drive

Peters motioned to approve body cams for police department – Axon Enterprise in the amount of \$72,181.72. Seconded by Meyer. Voting Yes: 7, No: 0

Meyer motioned approval to submit DR4778 HMGP (Hazard Mitigation Grant Program) with a 75/25 funding split based on a total cost of \$250,000, FEMA/NEMA share \$187,500 and City share \$62,500. Seconded by Y. Schultz. Voting Yes: 7, No: 0

Meyer motioned to approve the Dakota Avenue Crosswalk Study, 2024-2025 – SIMPCO – and authorization to submit grant application, seconded by Peters. Voting Aye: Gunsolley, Bousquet, B. Schultz, Peters, Meyer, Osman and Y. Schultz. Voting No: none

B. Schultz motioned to approve the following grant items, seconded by Peters:

"Approval to purchase LCPTracker, a Department of Labor DOL Davis-Bacon compliance auditing and tracking platform. The software will perform the required monitoring of contractor and subcontractor certified payrolls for the water interconnect project. The purchase includes a one-time setup fee of \$6,500 and an annual recurring fee of \$1,399, for a total initial cost of \$7,899."

Approval to submit application to the NE Department of Economic Development Housing Affordable Trust Fund for 15-Owner Occupied Housing Rehabilitation program homes for families meeting 80% or lower LMI. The city is proposing to subcontract with SIMPCO for Housing Management up to \$75,000, general administration costs up to \$5,000, contract for qualified Lead Base Testing (\$1,500 per unit) \$22,500, and contract for rehabilitation up to \$40,000 per unit or \$600,000. The grant request is \$702,500 with \$25,000 cash match for rehabilitation costs from the General Fund totaling \$727,500.

Approval to submit application to the NE Department of Economic Development Housing Affordable Trust Fund (NAHTF) for a \$300,000 grant (up to \$30,000/unit) for 10-Down Payment Assistance new construction options for families meeting 120% or lower Low-to-Moderate Income throughout the city. Additionally, the city is proposing general administration costs up to \$5,000 and Housing Management up to \$25,000. The grant request is \$330,000 with \$30,000 cash match for rehabilitation costs from the General Fund totaling \$360,000.

Approval to submit application to the Papio Missouri Natural Resource District (NRD) - Recreation Area Development Program for a \$50,000 grant to install a pour-in-place foundation for Freedom Park play structure, an effort by the Park's Department to transition all playgrounds with pour-in-place foundations. Total project cost is estimated at \$110,150. City will submit application to NE Department of Environment and Energy for 25% cost reimbursement totaling \$27,538 with the remaining balance of \$22,462 city cost share from the General Fund.

Approval to submit application to the Papio Missouri Natural Resource District (NRD) - Recreation Area Development Program for a \$50,000 grant for a Baumer Park play structure with a pour-in-place foundation and ADA walkway. Total project cost is estimated at \$281,546. City will submit additional applications to lower city cost share, reducing the city

cost share to \$77,398 or less.

Approval to submit application to the Missouri River Historical Development (MRHD) – Target Grant for \$25,000 toward the costs of a new play structure at Baumer Park with a pour-in-place foundation. Total project cost is estimated \$281,546. City will submit additional applications to lower city cost share to \$77,398 or less.

Approval to submit application on behalf of the SSC Fire Department to the Siouxland Community Foundation - United Airlines Trust Fund for \$2,100 for Medical CRP Adult and Child manikins with feedback and accessories to support city and community CPR trainings.

Approval to submit application to Land and Water Conservation Fund – Recreation for a \$140,773 funding request for a Baumer Park play structure with a pour-in-place foundation and ADA walkway. Total project cost is estimated at \$281,546. City will submit additional applications to lower city cost share, reducing the city cost share to \$77,398 or less.

Approval to submit application to the Land and Water Conservation Fund – Recreation Trails Program for a \$212,742 grant for trail repair for approximately 272 panel replacements throughout the 21-mile trail system. Total project cost is estimated at \$265,929 (80%). City cost share is \$53,186 (20%) from the General Fund.

Approval to submit application to the Papio Missouri Natural Resource District (NRD) – Urban Drainageway Program for a \$213,883 grant for drainage improvements at Crystal Cove. Total project cost is estimated at \$285,177 with the remaining balance of \$55,863 city cost share.

Approval to submit application to the Papio Missouri Natural Resource District (NRD) - Trails Assistance Program for a \$30,000 grant for a trail around the Norm Waitt Sr. YMCA on City-owned property. Total project cost is estimated at \$60,000 with the city cost share at \$30,000. The YMCA will submit additional applications to lower the City cost share.

Voting Yes: 7, No: 0

Bousquet motioned approval on \$10,000 from city for marketing materials in Inland Port Authority (GSLI proposal) Seconded by Gunsolley. Voting Yes: 7, No: 0

Mike O'Brien asked questions on the mail in ballots for the new school bond. Lori Warner from the South Sioux City Chamber stated that the Chamber is in support of the school bond.

Bousquet motioned to approve Memorandum of Understanding and Agreement between the South Sioux City School District and the City of South Sioux City. Seconded by Y. Schultz. Voting Yes: 6, No: 0 Abstain: 1

Meyer motioned approval for a special designated license for Lupe Gonzalez for the Cinco de Mayo Celebration. Seconded by Y. Schultz. Voting Yes: 7, No: 0

B. Schultz motioned to approve hiring a part-time marketing and community outreach person for Freedom Park. Seconded by Gunsolley. Voting Yes: 7, No: 0

Peters motioned to approve DED award with authorization to have Mayor sign contract subject to City Attorney review and Council approval. Seconded by Meyer. Voting Yes: 7, No: 0

B. Schultz motioned, seconded by Y. Schultz to approve no more than 10 Kangaroos owned and located at Angie Master's property. Voting Yes: 7, No: 0

No discussion on Wells Fargo.

Information only on Dakota County Urban Storm Management Association minutes and State of Nebraska Highway improvement project.

Being no further business at 6:10 p.m., Peters motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Gunsolley. Voting Yes: 7, No: 0

These minutes are subject to city council approval

A copy of the minutes in their entirety is available at City Hall, 1615 1st Avenue., Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and the City's website at www.southsiouxcity.org.

Nanci Walsh – City Clerk

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF MEETING

Notice is hereby given that a regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council of the City of South Sioux City will be held on Monday, May 12th, 2025 and Tuesday, May 27th, 2025 at 5:00 p.m., in the CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 1615 – 1ST AVENUE. All meetings will be open to the public. An agenda for such meeting, kept continuously current, is available for public inspection at the office of the City Clerk at the City Hall.

/s/ Nanci Walsh, City Clerk

HOMER SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
HOMER COMMUNITY SCHOOL
Monday, April 14, 2025
A meeting of the Board of Education of Homer Community School was convened in open and public session on Monday, April 14, 2025 at 7:00 PM in the Library at Homer Community School, Homer, Nebraska. The following board members were present or absent:

Byron Hall: Present, Ryan Harris: Present, Samantha Johnson: Present, Tyler Kirkholm: Absent, Dr. Kristina Nelsen: Present, Paul Tighe: Present.

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

Opening the Meeting
Call Meeting to Order and Notification of Open Meeting Law posted in the room
Publication of Meeting was provided according to 84-1411
District Mission Statement:
Board Member Roll Call
Motion was made by Byron Hall and seconded by Ryan Harris to excuse absent board member Kirkholm. On roll call vote the Board voted as follows: The motion carried
Byron Hall: Yea, Ryan Harris:

Yea, Samantha Johnson: Yea, Tyler Kirkholm: Absent, Dr. Kristina Nelsen: Yea, Paul Tighe: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1
Excuse Absent Board Members
Approval of the Agenda and changes to the Agenda
Motion was made by Samantha Johnson and seconded by Dr. Kristina Nelsen to approve the agenda as presented. On roll call vote the Board voted as follows: The motion carried
Byron Hall: Yea, Ryan Harris: Yea, Samantha Johnson: Yea, Tyler Kirkholm: Absent, Dr. Kristina Nelsen: Yea, Paul Tighe: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1
Consent Agenda
Motion was made by Dr. Kristina Nelsen and seconded by Byron Hall to approve all items presented on the Consent Agenda. On roll call vote the Board voted as follows: The motion carried
Byron Hall: Yea, Ryan Harris: Yea, Samantha Johnson: Yea, Tyler Kirkholm: Absent, Dr. Kristina Nelsen: Yea, Paul Tighe: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1
Approval of Mintues from the March regular meeting
Approve claims and accounts
The district recently incurred roofing costs due to a leak that required repair. As of the end of April, the General Fund balance stands at \$863,217.92. The Activity Account currently has a balance of \$72,271.86 but is overspent and will be recoded accordingly. The Building Fund totals \$117,000; however, a portion of this must be used to repay an interfund loan from the depreciation account made during the 2022-2023 fiscal year. Additionally, the QCPUF (Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund) has a balance of \$114,857.
Approve resignations
The board respectfully accepted the resignations of the staff members and extended their sincere gratitude for their service to the district.
Approve new hires
Public Comment
There was none.
Information Items: Reports
Administrator reports
Mrs. Uhl and Mr. Coviello shared several updates regarding upcoming

ing District wide events and recent activities. The 5th Grade Orientation Day for students transitioning to 6th grade will be held on April 30th, and the Preschool/Senior hallway walk is scheduled for May 6th. The Junior Class Mother's Day flower sale and the Grades 3-12 Art Show were discussed as well. Mrs. Uhl also announced that the Nebraska Soybean Board Presentation will take place on April 28th and commended students for their excellent performances at the Elementary Spring Concert. Special thanks to Mrs. Anderson and Mrs. Moos for all their work. The Elementary raised an impressive \$9,818.82 for the American Heart Association, and Kindergarten Round-Up was held on March 28th with 25 families in attendance. Testing will take place in the upcoming weeks, and the Elementary Track Meet is scheduled for May 16th from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. Additionally, Preschool Graduation will be held on May 19th at 10:00 a.m. Elementary Enrichment projects were discussed as well as the Title I Read in on April 11th.
Mr. Coviello reported that spring sports and activities are currently underway, and ACT testing has been completed for all Freshman, Sophomore, and Junior students. NSCAS testing will be conducted at the end of April, and the Senior Trip is scheduled for April 25-28. He also confirmed that Graduation will take place on May 10th at 2:00 p.m. Our Middle School was recognized on KTIV and received the Make a Difference Award and will receive a free trip to Arnold's Park.
Superintendent report
Jeff R provided an internet update, followed by discussion on planning for student summer help. Board volunteers are being sought to assist with handing out diplomas at graduation. Updates were shared on the school's partnership with the Legion, including ongoing collaboration. The band program has recently purchased guitars and keyboards, with plans to acquire a trailer next year. Staffing updates included hiring for janitorial and maintenance positions as well as a full-time substitute. Recognition was given to KTIV contest winners.

Coaching and teaching position updates were provided, along with information on building and grounds projects. A legislative update was shared, covering developments relevant to the district. Discussion also included 6th grade student placement and adjustments to scheduling, including study hall planning and the creation of a back area designated for middle school use.
Discussion Items
ELL Program
The district has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with ESU 7 for the 2025-2026 school year. Districts with EL expenditures under \$10,000 are required to join a consortium. The district is in the process of revamping its EL interventions in alignment with ongoing improvements to the MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Supports) framework.
Academic Content Standards for reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies
The board reviewed academic content standards in reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies for Rule 10 requirements. These standards outline what students should know and be able to do at each grade level. Districts must review these standards annually to ensure they remain current, aligned with state expectations, and effectively support student learning.
Action Items
Consider, discuss, and take action to approve the Homer Emergency Operations Plan
The board reviewed the Emergency Operations Plan last month approved the plan this month.
Motion was made by Byron Hall and seconded by Samantha Johnson to approve the Homer Emergency Operations Plan. On roll call vote the Board voted as follows: The motion carried
Byron Hall: Yea, Ryan Harris: Yea, Samantha Johnson: Yea, Tyler Kirkholm: Absent, Dr. Kristina Nelsen: Yea, Paul Tighe: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1
Consider, discuss, and take action to approve the Superintendent's contract for Dr. Joseph Lefdal.
Motion was made by Ryan

Harris and seconded by Dr. Kristina Nelsen to approve the Superintendent's contract for Dr. Joseph Lefdal. On roll call vote the Board voted as follows: The motion carried
Byron Hall: Yea, Ryan Harris: Yea, Samantha Johnson: Yea, Tyler Kirkholm: Absent, Dr. Kristina Nelsen: Yea, Paul Tighe: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1
Consider, discuss, and take action to approve the Class of 2025 Graduation List
Motion was made by Samantha Johnson and seconded by Dr. Kristina Nelsen to approve the Class of 2025 Graduation List. On roll call vote the Board voted as follows: The motion carried
Byron Hall: Yea, Ryan Harris: Yea, Samantha Johnson: Yea, Tyler Kirkholm: Absent, Dr. Kristina Nelsen: Yea, Paul Tighe: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1
Consider, discuss, and take action to accept contract renewals for certified staff
Motion was made by Dr. Kristina Nelsen and seconded by Ryan Harris to accept contract renewals for certified staff. On roll call vote the Board voted as follows: The motion carried
Byron Hall: Yea, Ryan Harris: Yea, Samantha Johnson: Yea, Tyler Kirkholm: Absent, Dr. Kristina Nelsen: Yea, Paul Tighe: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1
Next Meeting
The next meeting will be Wednesday, May 14th at 7:00p.m.
Adjournment
Motion was made by Dr. Kristina Nelsen and seconded by Samantha Johnson to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 p.m. On roll call vote the Board voted as follows: The motion carried
Byron Hall: Yea, Ryan Harris: Yea, Samantha Johnson: Yea, Tyler Kirkholm: Absent, Dr. Kristina Nelsen: Yea, Paul Tighe: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1
Dated this Monday, April 14, 2025.
ATTEST:
Dakota County School District #31R
Dr. Kristina Nelsen
a/k/a Homer Community School Secretary
BY: Paul Tighe, President

Appeara	184.45
Arianna Rave	76.35
AT&T	108.27
Bird, Darrian	311.22
Blick Art Materials	1,457.55
Bomgaars	60.97
Capital One Bank	15.65
Century Link	325.48
Comfort Inn Kearney	507.00
Committee for Children	2,778.00
Creighton Community Schools	161.00
Dakota County Star	120.32
Eakes Office Solutions	4,855.54
Electronic Engineering	80.00
Embassy Suites - Lincoln	8,256.90
Esu #1	100.00
EZ Flex Sport Mats	3,994.44
Fastwyre Broadband	10.45
First National Bank Omaha	8,740.93
First Student, Inc.	29,058.71
Foulk Brothers Plumbing &	269.21
Fran Sharpback	72.67
Gill Hauling	876.20
Hometown Leasing	1,610.70
Humphrey Public Schools	168.00
Instrumentalist Awards, LLC	64.50
J & J Pronto	1,021.02
JC Roofing and Insulating	300.00
Joseph Lefdal	300.00
Jostens, Inc.	1,243.50
Karsyn Monk	65.00
Laurel-Concord-Coleridge	192.00
Matheson Tri-Gas, Inc.	59.89
Menards	332.39
Mindy Blackfish	53.17
NASSP/NHS/NJHS	770.00
Ncsa	180.00
Nebraska Public Power District	3,460.56
Nohava Roofing	2,269.20
Perry Guthery Haase &	576.00
Roto-rooter	340.00
Schuyler Central High School	311.88
Setia Blackfish	100.00
Sioux City Winnelson Co.	96.34
Sioudland Lock & Key	239.45
South Sioux City Public	575.00
Staples Advantage	413.35
Time Management Systems	85.00
Trenna Launsby	680.00
Troy's Auto World	500.00
Village Of Homer	513.50
Washington Pavilion of Arts &	167.84
Wilmes Hardware Hank	13.49
Wisner-Pilger High School	333.00
WoodRiver Energy, LLC	2,597.37
Fund Number 1	82,053.44

VILLAGE OF HOMER

Village of Homer Regular Public Meeting April 10, 2025			
A public meeting consisting of the Chairman and members of the Village Board of Trustees of the Village of Homer, Nebraska was called to order by Village Board Chairman Jarod Barclay on Thursday, April 10, 2025 at 6:01 PM at the Homer Village Offices. Notice of the meeting was given in advance by being posted in three (3) public places as shown by the Certificate of Posting Notice on file at the Village Office. Notice of the meeting was given to the Chairman and Trustees, and a copy of their Acknowledgement of Receipt and the agenda are on file at the Village Office. Availability of the agenda was communicated in advance notice. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open and at the attendance of the public. The Chairman informed the public of the Open Meetings Act as posted on the west wall of the meeting room. Roll call was taken. Members present: Chairman Barclay and Trustees A. Barclay, Cain, Eriksen, and Utemark. Moved by Cain and seconded by Utemark to approve the February 13, 2025 regular board meeting minutes. All members present voted Aye. Motion carried. Moved by Eriksen and seconded by A. Barclay to approve financial statements. All members present voted Aye. Motion carried. Moved by A. Barclay and seconded by Cain to approve the following payables:			
3/21/2025	ELVIN VAVRA	1,741.25	
3/21/2025	BRUCE R UBBINGA	439.00	
3/21/2025	JENNIFER ALBRECHT	94.32	
3/21/2025	SAMANTHA J JOHNSON	1,475.57	
3/24/2025	BEST BUY	208.63	
4/4/2025	ELVIN VAVRA	1,865.24	
4/4/2025	BRUCE R UBBINGA	668.34	
4/4/2025	JENNIFER ALBRECHT	148.91	
4/4/2025	SAMANTHA J JOHNSON	1,863.52	
4/4/2025	LEVI VAVRA	14.32	
4/10/2025	BLACK HILLS	508.95	
4/10/2025	CANON FINANCIAL SERVICES	42.89	
4/10/2025	COMFORT INN	235.90	
4/10/2025	COUNTRY COMPUTERS	150.00	
4/10/2025	CRARY HUFF LAW FIRM	337.50	
4/10/2025	DAKOTA COUNTY TREASURER	656.54	
4/10/2025	DAKOTA COUNTY TREASURER	3,093.00	
4/10/2025	DP CONTRACTING	800.00	
4/10/2025	ELVIN VAVRA	663.60	
4/10/2025	EMC-NORTHEAST NEBRASKA INS AGENCY	3,408.63	
4/10/2025	FIRSTNET AT&T	51.50	
4/2/2025	Fun Services	420.00	
4/10/2025	GILL HAULING	3,485.47	
4/10/2025	HAWKINS	101.34	
4/10/2025	HAWKINS	160.93	
4/10/2025	HOMER AMERICAN LEGION	51.86	
3/21/2025	INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	586.74	
3/21/2025	INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	137.22	
3/21/2025	INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	363.62	
4/4/2025	INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	719.00	
4/4/2025	INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	168.14	
4/4/2025	INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	481.12	
4/10/2025	INTERSTATE ALL BATTERY CENTER	63.00	
4/10/2025	J AND J'S PRONTO	425.11	
4/10/2025	LUX BROS INC.	502.60	
4/10/2025	MIDWEST ALARM	400.00	
4/10/2025	MUNICIPAL SUPPLY INC OF OMAHA	1200.00	
3/21/2025	NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	185.25	
4/4/2025	NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	236.43	
4/10/2025	NEBRASKA PUBLIC HEALTH ENV LAB	314.00	
4/10/2025	NEBRASKA RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION	445.00	
4/10/2025	NPPD	1,203.32	
4/10/2025	NPPD	843.64	
4/10/2025	ONE CALL CONCEPTS, INC	7.34	

4/10/2025 ROBERTSON IMPLEMENT COMPANY INC 169.37
4/10/2025 SMITH FARM SERVICES INC 181.87
All members present voted Aye. Motion carried.
Moved by Eriksen and seconded by Utemark to approve a camera in the village office and the interior of the fire hall, with an upgraded exterior camera on the west side of the building, and an upgraded recording system with UPS, not to exceed \$10,000. All members present voted Aye. Motion carried.
The discussion and possible motion to approve the purchase of a backup generator for the village office and fire hall was tabled.
Moved by Cain and seconded by J. Barclay to approve \$1,500 to the fire department for fire school. All members present voted Aye. Motion carried.
Moved by Utemark and seconded by A. Barclay to approve ordinance No. 597 per NE DOT request. All members present voted Aye. Motion carried.
Discussion and possible motion to upgrade the trail camera's to surveillance cameras at the village maintenance shop/dump and move the trail camera's to the village park was tabled.
Moved by A. Barclay and seconded by Eriksen to adjust one customer's sewer rate to calculate the average for the months of October 2024, November 2024, and March 2025, instead of the normal December, January, and February 3month average, due to excessive usage caused by an unknown leak. All members present voted Aye. Motion carried.
Discussion and possible motion regarding the bill for customer sewer backup, resulting in jetting the sewer lines was tabled.
Moved by Eriksen and seconded by J. Barclay to approve limited board approval for 150th celebration expenses. All members present voted Aye. Motion carried.
Moved by Cain and seconded by Eriksen to accept Lacey Oldenburg to the Homer VFD. All members present voted Aye. Motion carried.
There were citizen concerns regarding access to the fire department office, and the access door between the fire hall and village office. These concerned citizens would like to change out the locks on the previously mentioned doors. These concerns will be added to the May agenda.
Board Report –There have been more complaints regarding parking on John St. in front of businesses. Elvin was tasked with contacting the business owner in regards to parking vehicles in the street at last month's meeting. A board member will now be contacting the owner of the business that is violating the parking ordinance.
There was not a maintenance report.
Clerk Report- Samantha Johnson gave an update on obtaining a notary surety bond. There was also a call regarding stockpiling milling
Moved by Utemark and seconded by A. Barclay at 7:20PM to move in to Executive Session for Elvin Vavra's annual employee review. All members present voted Aye. Motion carried.
Moved by Eriksen and seconded by Utemark to adjourn at 7:53PM. All members present voted Aye. Motion carried.
Jarod Barclay – Village Board Chair
I, the undersigned Interim Village Clerk/Treasurer for the Village of Homer, Nebraska hereby certify that the above and foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the official actions taken by the Chairman and Village Board of Trustees on April 10, 2025; that the subjects included in the foregoing proceedings were continually current and available for public inspection at the Homer Village Office; that subjects were contained in said agenda for at least 24 hours prior to said meeting; that the said minutes of actions of the Chairman and Board of Trustees of the Village of Homer, Nebraska from which the foregoing proceedings have been extracted were in written form within ten (10) working days and prior to the next convened meeting. IN WITNESS WHERETO, I have hereunto set my hand on April 11, 2025.
Samantha Johnson- Village Clerk

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF SCHOOL BOND ELECTION SOUTH SIOUX CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT 0011 IN THE STATE OF NEBRASKA TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2025

Notice is hereby given to the qualified electors of the South Sioux City School District 0011 in the State of Nebraska (the "District") that at a special election to be held in said District on Tuesday, May 13, 2025, there shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the District the following proposition:

"Shall Dakota County School District 0011 (South Sioux City Community Schools) in the State of Nebraska issue its general obligation bonds to provide funds to pay the costs of (a) facility upgrades related to improving safety and security, eliminating overcrowding, making buildings accessible to those with disabilities, enhancing educational programs; (b) replacing schools that cannot be cost-effectively renovated, including any necessary land acquisition, site improvements and public improvements on or related to property owned by the District, and any necessary demolition of existing buildings; (c) construction and acquisition of a new elementary school building, new fifth and sixth grade building, and new preschool building; (d) additions, renovations and improvements to existing elementary schools, middle school, and high school facilities; and (e) providing for the necessary equipment and apparatus for such school buildings, facilities, renovations and improvements; with such bonds to be issued in an aggregate stated principal amount not to exceed One Hundred Twenty-Seven Million Dollars (\$127,000,000), in one or more series, at such time or times, to bear interest at such rate or rates, to be sold at such prices and to become due at such time or times as may be fixed by, or determined at the direction of, the Board of Education; and

"Shall the School District cause to be levied and collected annually a special levy of taxes against all the taxable property in the School District sufficient in rate and amount to pay the principal of and interest on such bonds as the same become due?"

- FOR such Bonds and tax
- AGAINST such Bonds and tax

Electors voting in favor of the proposition shall blacken the oval opposite the words "FOR such Bonds and tax" following such proposition, and electors voting against such proposition shall blacken the oval opposite the words "AGAINST such Bonds and tax" following the proposition.

Voter Registration Deadlines
•April 25, 2025 is the deadline for registering to vote for this election online or through mail, agencies, or via delivered registrations.
•May 2, 2025 at 6 p.m. is the deadline for in-person voter registration at the Dakota County Clerk's Office.

By-Mail Election –
This election will be an election by mail. Ballots will be mailed to registered voters of the District between April 21, 2025 and May 2, 2025.
Registered voters wishing to vote in the special election who will be absent from their residence between April 13, 2025 and May 13, 2025, or who request the use of a ballot-marking device, may contact the Dakota County Clerk's office at 402-987-2130.

All ballots must be returned to the Clerk's Office by May 13, 2025, at 5 P.M. to be counted.
BY ORDER OF THE SOUTH SIOUX SCHOOL DISTRICT IN THE STATE OF NEBRASKA
Cherie Conley, Dakota County Clerk
Publish in the Dakota Star Thursday, April 17, 2025 - ZNEZ



Jackson News

By Laura Sullivan



D(PHOTO BY LAURA SULLIVAN)

Jackson had more than 100 kids help pick up the eggs at this year’s Easter Egg Hunt. What a great turnout. Perfect weather helped.

Harty-McNally Legion and Auxiliary Soup/Pie Supper

Saturday, April 26, the Jackson/Hubbard American Legion & Auxiliary will have a soup and pie supper with Vegetable Beef and Chicken Noodle soups being served. Come join us at the Harty-McNally Legion Hall in Jackson from 5-7:30 p.m. Don’t forget to check out the Bake Sale and Quilt Raffle.

Northeast Nebraska Widow’s Retreat

A retreat for widows is being organized for northeast Nebraska, on Friday, April 25 (evening) to Saturday, April 26. We are seeking monetary and spiritual support. To help support the retreat or to be a participant in the retreat, contact Trudy Jepsen

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF MEETING
Notice is hereby given of the following meetings located at the CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 1615 – 1ST AVENUE. All meetings will be open to the public. An agenda for such meeting, kept continuously current, is available for public inspection at the office of the City Clerk at the City Hall. /s/ Nanci Walsh, City Clerk
Community Development Agency -- 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 12th, 20th and 27th, 2025
Finance Committee -- 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 7th and 21st, 2025
Public Works Committee -- 5:00 p.m. on Monday, May 5th and 19th, 2025
Design Committee -- 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 1st and 15th, 2025
Planning and Zoning -- 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 14th and 28th, 2025
Parks Board -- 5:00 p.m. on Monday, May 5th, 2025

Legal Notice

NOTICE IN THE COUNTY COURT OF DAKOTA COUNTY, NEBRASKA
Estate of Alfredo Coss, Deceased Estate No. PR 24-40
Notice is hereby given that a Petition for Authority to Sell Personal Property has been filed on April 15, 2025 and is set for hearing in the County Court of Dakota County, Nebraska, located at 1601 Broadway Street, Dakota City, NE 68731, at 10:30 a.m. on May 16, 2025.
Kerri L. Weise
Clerk of Dakota County Court
Robert N. Stewart, #24759
Crary Huff, P.C.
329 Pierce Street, Suite 200
Sioux City, IA 51101
(712) 277-4561
ATTORNEYS FOR THE PETITIONER
Publish in the Dakota County Star April 24, May 1 and May 8. — ZNEZ

DAKOTA COUNTY BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

Dakota County Board of Equalization
Monday, April 14, 2025
2:45 p.m. Regular Meeting
County Board Meeting Room, First Floor
Dakota County Courthouse, Dakota City, Nebraska

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

Chair Van Berkum called the meeting to order at 2:45 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Present: Van Berkum, Reed, Hohenstein, Rodriguez. Absent: Bousquet. Also present was Kim Watson, County Attorney, and Cherie Conley, County Clerk as Board Secretary. The Open Meetings Act location was noted for all citizens present.

Reed “-“ Rodriguez to excuse Board Member Bousquet from the meeting. RCVUMC.

St. Patick’s

First communion will be celebrated for the CCD students on Sunday, April 27 mass. The last CCD class is April 23 and the students will have a roller skating party at Rollerrama.

Pickleball

Pickleball in Jackson is now on Tuesday nights from 6-8 p.m. at the outdoor courts. Little or no experience is needed. All games are pick up games – not a league. Paddles available if you don’t have your own equipment. Jackson Pickleball is now using Playtime Scheduler to schedule pickleball. Log in and see when everyone is meeting.

Book Club

April selections are “Salvage the Bones” by Jesmyn Ward and “The Chain” by Adrian McKinty. The April meeting is Tuesday, April 22 at the home of Phyllis Birkley. May books are “The Road” by Cormac McCarthy and “The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe” by C.S. Lewis. The big book selection is “Paradise Lost” by John Milton.

Jackson Elementary School

Mondays – One hour late start for teacher in service
April 22 – 2nd grade field trip – sheep sheering
May 9 – Elementary school track meet – 1 p.m. at the Ponca sports complex

May 23 – tentative last day of school

Jackson Elementary School lunch menu for the week April 28-May 2:

Monday – Turkey/ham/cheese hoagie, carrots and ranch dip, pickle, fruit

Tuesday – Corn dog, baked beans, French fries, fruit

Wednesday – French toast sticks, sausage, hashbrowns, fuir

Thursday – Sloppy joe on a bun, tater tots, pickle, fruit

Friday – Eggs, breakfast potatoes, muffin, fruit

Hours of Operation

Bank of Dixon County – Monday through Thursday, drive-through 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Friday 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m.; Lobby is open 10 a.m.-12 p.m. and 2-4 p.m.

Lunch Box – Tuesday through Saturday – 7:00 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Northeast Nebraska Telephone Company – Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

United States Postal Services – Monday through Friday 12-4p.m., Saturday 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

Pump and Pantry - Daily 4:30 a.m.-10 p.m.

Morrow’s House Moving – 402-632-4555 - for estimates and appointments.

Bridal Sweet - by appointment
AA Meetings – Providence Hall, Mondays 7-8 p.m.

Jackson Public Library open Mondays and Thursdays from 6-8 p.m.

St. Patrick’s – Sunday 9:15a.m. services
MC Salon – Men’s day every Thursday. No appointment necessary. Call 632-2011 for appointments.

Palermo Italian Cuisine and Bar – Monday closed, Tuesday through Thursday 4-9 p.m.; Friday and Saturday 4-10 p.m.

Dakota City News

Dakota City Public Library

Book Club will continue reading “Reconstructing Amelia” by Kimberly McGreight. New books will be passed out at the next meeting, Monday, May 5.

The Little Free Library is full of new books! Check out what your neighbors are willing to share. This is a wonderful opportunity to pass around books that you are done reading and think someone else may enjoy. Take advantage of the “Take One; Leave One” policy. The Library continues to fill the Little Free Library with new selections of magazines and reading materials for both children and adults. You will find the Little Free Library at Cottonwood Park, near the playground.

New items added this week: “Dice Games for Beginners” by Jon Tremaine, “Juniaa, the Book Mule of Troublesome Creek” by Kim Michelle Richardson, “Kenny and the Cookie Lady” by Pen Ken, “Three Silly Chickens” by Tanya Fenton, “Under His Wings” by Emily Compagno, “Assassin’s Betrayal” by Austin King, and “Don’t Know Jack” by Diane Capri.

City News

Dakota City Fire Department Home Style Breakfast- Sunday, April 27 from 7 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Spring Cleanup-April 30 and May 1.

Stay informed.
Read the Public Notices

Emerson News

By Lulene Sebade



(PHOTO BY LULENE SEBADE)

Easter Egg Hunt winners – Age 0-3: (from left) Blakely Hansen, 1st, Brecken Hansen, 2nd; Lillian Frey, 3rd.



(PHOTO BY LULENE SEBADE)

Easter Egg Hunt winners – Age 7-9: (from left) Cooper Victor, 1st; Wyatt Nielsen, 2nd; and Miles Beacom, 3rd.

Clean up grass clippings

Emerson residents are reminded to clean up grass clippings from the street when you are mowing. If the clippings get into the sewer system they can plug it up.

Licenses are past due

Pet, ATV/UTV and golf cart licenses are past due. Please contact the Emerson Police Department to get your current license.

Village Board meeting

The Emerson Village board met April 9. Board members present were Trustees Tarry Daum, Rob Bose, Mark Graf and Ryan Beacom. Lisa Harral was absent.

The public hearing was opened for the Downtown Revitalization Plan. Bose read the summary of the DTR Plan. There were no public comments. At 6:57 p.m. a motion was made to close the public hearing.

Utility Superintendent Dick McCabe gave an update on the solar farm project and Mark Graf gave an update on the water improvement project. A motion was made to deny the Pay Application to RP Constructors, LLC and JEO Consulting Group, Inc. Motion passed. It was moved to approve all the bids that were presented as part of the Pool Refurbishment and the City Park Restroom projects. Motion passed.

A motion was made to award the Blight Study Project to SIMPCO. Motion passed. McCabe gave an update on the flood plain property.

it was moved to approve Resolution 2025-04, relating to the temporary use of the State Highway System for the Tri County Parade on June 7, 2025 at 11 a.m.. Motion passed.

Motion to close Nebraska Street between East First and East Second



(PHOTO BY LULENE SEBADE)

Fifth Grade First Communion class received Holy communion at Maundy Thursday services at St. Luke/St. Paul’s Lutheran Church. Pictured from left to right (parents’ names in parenthesis) include: **Kyler Rachey** (Kristen Rohde and Chad Rachey), **Jack Steele** (Dustin and Jessica), **Isaac Albrecht** (Scott and Lisa), **Benton Anderson** (Marc and Betsy), **Weston Lacy** (Jon and Ashley), **Inga Speiser** (Pete and Anna), and **Haleigh Victor** (Brandon and Katie). Not pictured is Anya Stark (Justin and Kaylynn).

Street and East Second between Nebraska and Maple during events during Tri County Days. Motion passed.

A motion was made to approve a special designated liquor license on June 7, 2025 to the Emerson Betterment Committee for a cornhole tournament and a street dance. Motion passed.

Updates to the Rosehill Cemetery were presented.

Police Chief Chinn updated the Board on the status of amending the animal ordinances.

Prom coming Saturday

The Emerson-Hubbard Jr.-Sr. Prom is Saturday evening at the Hubbard Community Center.

The TCNE athletic banquet will be held at Allen Monday, April 28.

Athletic and activity awards at Emerson Tuesday at 2:30 p.m.

Emerson-Hubbard Schools

Friday: District Music Contest at South Sioux City.

Saturday: L&C Track at Creighton; Prom at Hubbard.

Monday: Athletic banquet.

Tuesday: Track at Ponca, 3 p.m.; Boys Golf at Homer 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday: Boys Golf at Niobrara; Academic awards 2:30 p.m.

St.Luke/St. Paul’s Church

Sunday: Worship at St. Luke, 9 a.m.; Sunday school, 10 a.m.

Wednesday: Friends, 3:45 p.m.; supper at 5 p.m.; Confirmation and Bible study at 6:30 p.m.

Look for us online!
www.dakcostar.com

BOARD OFFICERS

Kevyn Sopinski.....Chairperson
Tim McCormickVice Chairperson
Tim FowlerTreasurer
Patrick Bonnett.....Assistant Treasurer
John G. WinklerGeneral Manager
Amanda Grint.....Assistant General Manager

Visit the Dakota City Field Office
at 1505 Broadway, P.O. Box 480
Dakota City, NE 68731
Phone (402) 494-4949



PAPIO
MISSOURI RIVER
NRD

papionrd.org

APRIL 2025

PAPIO MISSOURI RIVER NRD

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE STAFF
Mahkenna Koinzan.....Program Specialist
Kaden KneflField Representative
Jason McCauley.....Resource Conservationist
Jordan SmithForester

DAKOTA COUNTY

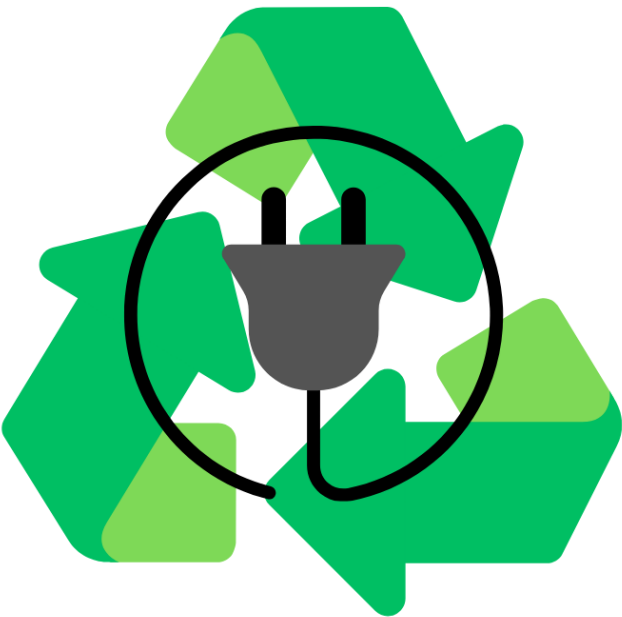
Rural Water System Employees

Lance OlerichWater System Superintendent
Kevin SchoepfWater Supply Operator

Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District Board of Directors

Larry Bradley • Zachary Irvine • Fred Conley • Ann Hubbard • Tim McCormick • Brian Adams • Phil Davidson • Rich Tesar • Tim Fowler • Jim Thompson • Rod Storm

Papio NRD
Electronics
Recycling
Collections



FREE
Disposal of
Computers,
Monitors, Printers,
Keyboards, Office
Equipment, TVs, DVD
& VHS Players, Audio
& Video Equipment,
Radios, Small
Electronic Devices

NO

Large Appliances or Microwaves.
Computer or Electronics Repair or
Retail Businesses.



E-waste Recycling at USDA/NRD Offices

Tuesday May 20th, 2025

Tekamah – 10:00 – 1:00
539 S. 13th ST.
AND
Blair – 3:00 – 6:00
1060 Wilbur St

Thursday May 22nd, 2025

Walthill – 10:00 – 12:00
106 S. Costello St
AND
Dakota City – 2:00–5:00
1505 Broadway



For Information

Contact: Mahkenna Koinzan at Papio NRD (402) 494-4949 #7152

Funding provided through Litter Reduction & Recycling Incentive Grant Program,
Nebraska Department of Environment & Energy

Remember
Arbor Day

The U.S. Forest Service wants you to remember the last time you lay on the grass and looked up and were inspired by tree branches swaying in the breeze — or when you sat under an old oak tree feeling the rough bark of its trunk against your back. If you can’t remember, or you’ve never done these things you should because according to the Arbor Day Foundation, America has the “grandest trees on earth — the largest, the oldest and some of the most magnificent.”

April 22, is National Arbor Day. Take a moment to celebrate trees and all they provide for us.

There are so many things most of us don’t know about trees and Arbor Day is a great time to learn a thing or two. For instance, did you know the mighty oak tree is America’s national tree?

In fact, each state celebrates their own Arbor Day and has designated a tree to represent them. Our nation’s capital honors the scarlet oak. Alaska’s Sitka spruce, Maine’s eastern white pine, Florida’s cabbage palmetto, Washington state’s western hemlock and California’s mighty sequoias all paint the landscapes of our lives.

Our urban forests, the trees that line our streets and shade our parks and yards, not only add beauty but their shade can help reduce our utility bills. Trees soften the harsh angles of a city’s brick and mortar skyline and add a touch of color; for a moment we can envision what it must have looked like before there was a city.

But, you may still be asking yourself: What else do trees do for me? They also absorb as much as 13 percent of carbon emissions thus cleaning the air that we breathe and reducing the effects of climate change. In short, they make our planet a safer place to live. Forests also help filter nearly half of all the drinking water we need to sustain our lives and they provide the lumber we need to build our homes, make furniture and, in some cases, provide sources of bio-energy to whole communities.

So, since trees and our forests do so much for us, why not use Arbor Day as the perfect opportunity to give back by planting trees — lots of them — so that future generations will look back with gratitude for all that we did to help protect and restore our forested lands.

A message from
Program Specialist
Mahkenna Koinzan

Good afternoon! This April felt like we were running a marathon with how busy we all were!

If you haven’t seen it already, we will be having an Electronics Recycling Collection on Thursday, May 22, from 2-5 p.m. in Dakota City. This is a great opportunity to dispose of any computers, monitors, printers, keyboards, office equipment, TVs, DVD and VHS players, and audio and video equipment free of charge. A big thank you to our partners at the Nebraska Loess Hills RC&D Board.

If you’re like me and can’t shake the spring planting bug but aren’t sure what to plant, the Papio Missouri River NRD will be handing out trees at our next coffee hour on April 25 from 9:30-10:30 a.m. at the Dakota City Elementary School. Come see us!

Until next time — get out and plant some trees for Arbor Day, don’t start any fires, and thank you to you and all our farmers!

Mahkenna Koinzan, Program Specialist
Dakota City Field Office
(402)494-4949

USDA providing funds to protect, restore
Playa Wetlands across Nebraska

USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is now accepting applications for the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program-Wetland Reserve Easement Partnership (ACEP-WREP). This voluntary program, authorized in the 2018 Farm Bill, provides funding for the purchase of conservation easements to help with restoration of critical wetlands and surrounding up-land buffers.

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

The main goal of ACEP-WREP is to restore as well as protect wetlands and wildlife habitat. Cropland, rangeland, grassland, pastureland

and nonindustrial private forestland are eligible.

Applications can be submitted at any time, but to be considered for fiscal year 2025 funding opportunities, applications in Nebraska must be received by May 30, 2025.

For ACEP-WREP, NRCS is prioritizing the four playa wetland complexes located in Nebraska (see map) known for their importance for millions of waterfowl during spring migration. ACEP-WREP allows for pivots to pass through protected wetland easements with modifications, maximizing crop production and water efficiency on the adjacent crop ground.

NRCS provides technical and financial assistance directly to private and tribal landowners to restore, protect, and enhance wetlands through the purchase of conservation easements. Applications are currently being accepted for ACEP-WREP easements. Eligible landowners may

choose to enroll in a permanent or 30-year ACEP-WREP easement. Tribal landowners have the option of enrolling in 30-year contracts.

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

All ACEP-WREP applications will be ranked according to the easement’s potential for protecting and enhancing habitat for migratory birds and fish along with other wildlife habitat. Eligible applicants will be compensated with a payment rate comparable to the local land use value. Applicants will need to provide accurate records of ownership and ensure they have established fiscal year 2025 ownership eligibility with USDA’s Farm Service Agency (FSA). Application information is available at your local USDA Ser-

vice Center and at www.nrcs.usda.gov/GetStarted.

For more information about the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and the programs and services it provides, visit your local USDA in Dakota City at 1505 Broadway Street or call (402) 494-4949.

And now ... a Joke
with Jorden Smith

Q: What is a pirate’s favorite holiday?

A: AHHRRRRR-bor Day

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

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