

# THE MILFORD Times

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2021

MILFORD, NEBRASKA 68405

VOLUME 62, ISSUE 36

MILFORDTIMES.NET

\$1.00

## Four Corners, Seward Co. see drop in COVID cases

by Greg Forbes  
editor@sewardindependent.com

The Four Corners Health Department last week reported a significant decrease in COVID-19 cases in its coverage area.

During the Four Corners biweekly teleconference on Jan. 21, director Laura McDougall reported that the case rate for the week in the area fell below triple digits for the first time in many months, with 94 cases reported. For comparison, McDougall said the case total in November averaged 400 a week. Of those 94, McDougall said the majority of the cases stemmed from an isolated outbreak at an unidentified care facility in York County.

The positive news continued into the weekend, when Four Corners announced that the risk dial fell to the Moderate level or yellow for the first time since September. The Risk Level for the week was measured at 1.88, compared to the previous week's level of 2.54.

For the period of Jan. 21-22, 44 new cases were reported, with 31 registered in York County. Seward County had just seven new cases in that period. No new deaths

in the region were reported.

Vaccination-wise, McDougall said that the second round of vaccinations for the 1A group has been mostly administered. Nursing home residents and staffers in the area have also been vaccinated. She said the next step will be to begin vaccinations for the 1B group.

The 1A group consists largely of health-care professionals, as well as emergency medical service workers and those working or living in assisted care facilities. The 1B group includes first responders, educators, correctional staff, grocery store employees, postal workers and food processors among others.

She said the waiting list for the vaccine in the Four Corners area has hit 5,000 people but urged those who wish to receive the vaccine to have patience, as no stockpile for the vaccine currently exists in the region.

"We are not getting large amounts of vaccine in the area, they are pretty limited," she said. "As soon as they arrive, they are getting put into arms. We are so thankful people are

wanting to get vaccinated, but we do ask that people be patient."

As vaccination efforts in the area increase, McDougall said that the State of Nebraska has granted the Four Corners region the services of three National Guard soldiers to assist with administering the vaccine. She said those individuals will be available to all healthcare partners in the area.

"They'll help us with all things to help us move the vaccine around. They'll help call people and get them scheduled for appointments," she said. "They're going to be a great assistance to us and helping us with our capacity issues here... and help us have more sets of hands to assist with the work."

The biweekly teleconference serves an opportunity for department heads and sector officials to provide an update on the current situation in their respective fields as well. Roger Reamer, CEO at Memorial Health Care Systems, said not only are COVID-19 cases decreasing, the hospital has also seen virtually no influenza cases

continued on 2

## Milford digs out



CRAIG JONES/MT

Milford city crews work to remove the snow that fell all day Monday into Tuesday. More than a foot of snow was recorded locally. Schools, businesses and government buildings shut down Monday due to the weather, and some even remained closed Tuesday as travel continued to be hazardous.

## MHCS readies vaccinations for 1B group

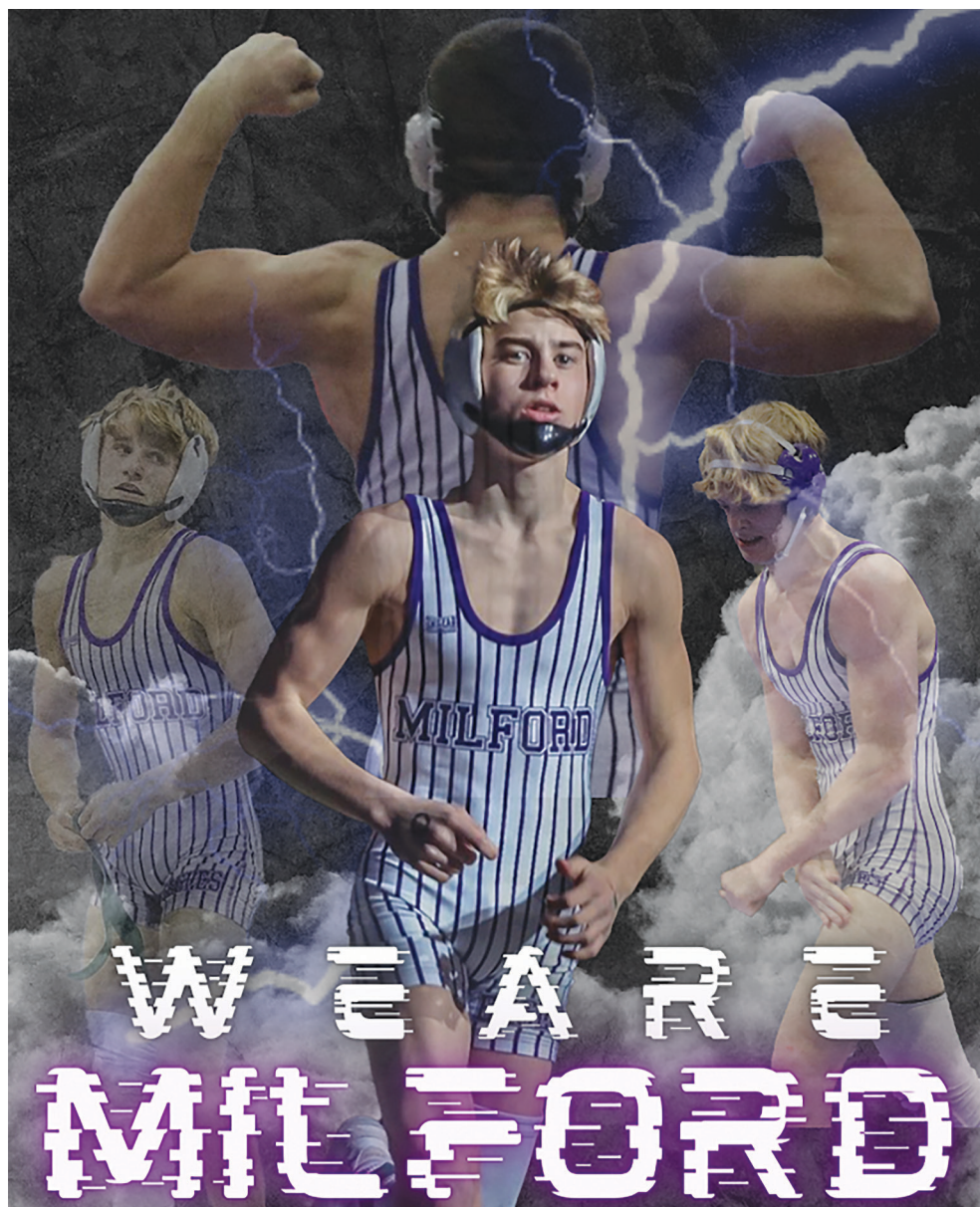
Memorial Healthcare Systems to begin Phase 1B of vaccinations

Memorial Healthcare Systems announced Monday that it will be starting Phase 1B of the State of Nebraska vaccination plan this week. Calls will begin Tuesday, January 26, 2021. Vaccines will begin on Thursday, January 28, 2021, by appointment only at the Seward County Ag Pavilion. The calls will begin by age from oldest to youngest. The State of Nebraska will work through the list from top to bottom as the amount of vaccine that we receive allows. With the present allotment quantities, it is going to take many weeks to get through the first section of 1B.

At present, we are focusing on signups for the notification system

for those age 65 years and older. For those in that age group that haven't already signed up for our district waitlist, please use this link: [www.mhcs.us](http://www.mhcs.us) and click on the picture of the COVID-19 virus. If you are unable to fill out the form online on your own, there are the area senior centers, aging services, and many churches, neighbors, and friends that have been assisting!

Memorial Healthcare Systems is looking ahead to increased vaccine supply from the federal government in the coming weeks as supply is the leading factor that dictates our movement through our plan. The more supply received, the quicker vaccines can be made available to everyone who wishes to receive one.



COURTESY PHOTO

This wrestling team graphic was created by Avery Saltzman in Digital Media/Journalism.

## Eagles add tech options

by Stephanie Croston  
scroston@sewardindependent.com

For over a year, Milford teachers Shelly Mowinkel, Nick Restau and Liz Crabtree have been waiting.

The three teach business and math at Milford High School, and they had a vision. They wanted to upgrade the computer hardware and software to desktop systems, giving the students a more stable platform from which to work.

The trio started brainstorming 12 to 18 months ago, Mowinkel said. With the renovations to the high school building, they knew this would be a good time to upgrade.

"We're so excited to see the direction and vision," Mowinkel said.

Restau agreed. "You can see it with the kids' work. They know it's good," he said. Money from an anonymous donor, who gave \$2.5 million to the school district in 2014, helped fund the new equipment. "We were able to get

our vision going," Mowinkel said. "It wouldn't have happened without the donation."

The goal is to encourage student creativity and help make them workplace ready, she said.

Mowinkel said she has seen the benefit already in the kindergarten classroom, where the students are using iPads and parents are able to see their work through an app.

Mowinkel said using the Windows desktop has allowed students' creativity to flourish. They use the Adobe Creative Suite for photos and graphics that are used on the district's social media pages.

"They're becoming comfortable and building on what they're doing," Mowinkel said.

Students have stepped up to the challenge and set their standards higher, she said.

Students are encouraged to use sites like Instagram, Google images and blog posts as starting points. They do a lot of brainstorming to

come up with new ideas, and that helps them learn skills like problem solving, creativity and creative thinking.

Peers help their fellow students take their ideas up a notch, Mowinkel said.

"They change the way the class looks at a project," she said.

Liz Crabtree, who teaches both business and math, said the new platform is giving students more opportunities to take certification tests in programs like Microsoft Word and Excel. They are able to practice on the PCs in the lab to hone those workplace ready skills.

"When companies look, they look for Microsoft skills. Certification puts them at the top of the list," Crabtree said. "Certification proves they're serious and successful."

She's beginning to add databases to the list of skills. Databases are harder to teach on Macs, she said.

continued on 2



stop'nshop

410 S. Hwy 6 - Milford, NE 68405

Phone (402) 761-2872 • Hours: 5 a.m. - 11 p.m.



Get your KickBack Card now and earn free stuff!

Follow us



Bud Light	..... Ice Cold 24pk with KickBack	\$17.99
Busch Light	..... Ice Cold 30pk with KickBack	\$19.99
Kincaider	..... Ice Cold 6pk	\$7.49
Empyrean	..... Ice Cold 6pk	\$6.99
Tito's Vodka	..... 750ml	\$16.99
Captain Morgan	..... 750ml	\$15.99
Coke	..... 2 ltrs	\$4.00
Doritos/Tostitos	..... 10oz with KickBack	\$3.29

Buy 1 Pizza  
Get Double Order Wings  
FREE

fast'nfresh'nfun







Computer 7 students at Milford apply their knowledge in PowerPoint by creating an animated maze. COURTESY PHOTO

# MPS tech

continued from 1

"It's important to understand how to work with data," Crabtree said. "It'll be a nice skill to have."

Students are already comfortable on Macs because they're used throughout the rest of the district, Mowinkel said. The desktop PCs have bigger screens and provide more opportunities for students to collaborate.

"They're less frustrating for the students," Crabtree said. "They've adjusted well."

Nick Restau uses the new equipment in the shop where students run the Computer Numerical Control machines. He said the new equipment helps the shop run more efficiently.

"We can do more and not waste time," he said. "The projects are more detailed and complex."

When the district first bought the CNC machines, students were leery about taking the classes. Now, however, interest has grown, mainly because of the increased options, he said.

Students also use laptops in the class, which allows them to be more mobile and work throughout the day, Restau said.

They're also using the new space and technology for Striv. Students have created graphics for the Striv broadcasts.

"It's been awesome," Restau said.

Students have deconstructed some of the available templates and created new layers, he said. Students are always changing the layout to keep broadcasts fresh for viewers.

Mowinkel said Milford has set a high bar for its offerings.

"When you hear from the community, you know we are moving in the right direction," she said.

"We wouldn't be able to do this without the anonymous donor," Restau said.

The Striv team has broadcast every home event this school year, from sporting events to concerts, Restau said.

"We wouldn't have been able to do that without this," he said. "Without this, we would have been scrambling."

That area is also being used for Zoom speech competitions this year, Mowinkel said.

Students have also been able to use the upgraded technology for the robotics program. The new building space



Macy Stutzman of Milford passes the Microsoft Word exam. COURTESY PHOTO

has room for the robots to run without disturbing other classes, Restau said.

Screenprinting has also benefited by the technology for graphic design. Students are able to use one laptop for all areas of the business and technology wing, which allows for more streamlined work, Restau said.

There were glitches, of course, Mowinkel said, but using the PC desktops has eliminated them.

"Before it was patchwork," Restau said.

The technology is expanding into the junior high, as well. Seventh graders take a technology class to introduce them to what's available, and they get excited

about it, Mowinkel said.

"I think it will continue to grow," Restau said.

Mowinkel said having the three teachers in the same wing gives more chances to bounce ideas off each other and collaborate. Now, that is benefiting the students.

"It's time better spent," Restau said.

"We can see benefits across K-12," Mowinkel said. "It's helped work on our vision to better serve the students."

The teachers agreed that the new technology and new space have helped push STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math) education forward.

The challenge now is to keep moving forward.

"How can we be more innovative so the students are not stagnant," Mowinkel said.

"It proves the need to have these experiences in the building," Restau said. "It's really cool, too."

# Four Corners

continued from page 1 so far this season. He credited an emphasis on mask wearing and social distancing, among other factors, for the lack of influenza cases.

Seward City Admin-

istrator Greg Butcher said that city officials are currently in discussions on how to potentially reopen city facilities to the public and would provide a more in-depth plan at a later date.

# Traffic

Information taken from Seward County court records.

**Jan. 11 - 15**  
Angel R. Wilson, 31, York, speeding 11-15 mph county/state, \$75 fine.

Audrey J. Janousek, 17, Seward, violate stop or yield sign, \$75 fine.

Yessine S. Bessaies, 24, Seward, speeding 6-10 mph municipal, and no operator's license/waiverable, \$75 fine.

Gaven L. Schernikau, 19, Beaver Crossing, no valid registration-car/pickup/stepvan, \$25 fine.

Douglas P. Rolfsmeier, 64, Seward, illegal U-turn, \$25 fine.

Addison B. Vance, 19, Lexington, speeding 11-15 mph municipal, \$75 fine.

Dairy M. Paz, 25, Dorchester, speeding 6-10 mph municipal, \$25 fine.

Tammy A. Brewer,

29, Twin Falls, Idaho, speeding 6-10 mph interstate, \$25 fine.

Matthew C. Stryson, 61, Seward, fail to yield ROW-entering roadway, \$25 fine.

Madelyn A. Lopez, 24, Omaha, speeding 6-10 mph county/state, \$25 fine.

Alexander O. Delgado, 23, Milford, speeding 11-15 mph interstate, \$75 fine.

Jeffrey Whitsler, 34, Beaumont, Texas, no operator's license/waiverable, \$75 fine.

Dylan A. Lotz, 22, Peoria, Illinois, speeding, 11-15 mph county/state, \$75 fine.

Kitisak Phachit, 34, Lincoln, violate no passing zone, \$25 fine.

Jesus Chavez Porras, 35, Lincoln, speeding 11-15 mph interstate, \$150 fine.

Ali T. Aljuboori, 31, Lincoln, improper/defective vehicle lighting, \$25 fine.

**Southeast Nebraska Annual February HAY AUCTION**  
11:00 a.m. Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:00 a.m.  
LOCATION: Novak Consignment Lot, 2 miles east of Dorchester, Neb., on Hwy. 33

For Hay Consignments, Contact:  
Col. Troy Novak (402) 641-1526  
Office (402) 826-5302

TRACTORS AVAILABLE FOR UNLOADING  
3 DAYS PRIOR TO AUCTION  
JAN. 30, 31 & FEB. 1 • 9:30 A.M. TO 4 P.M.

**Selling Big and Small Bales**  
Alfalfa • Brome  
Prairie • Straw • Etc.

**Novak Auction Service**  
NAA Auctioneer

**CONSTRUCTION WORKER?**  
Build your career with us.

**SUMMIT CONTRACTING**

APPLY TODAY

[www.BuildSummit.net](http://www.BuildSummit.net)

**Online RN to BSN**  
University of Nebraska Medical Center

If you already have an Associate Degree in Nursing or an RN nursing license, your bachelor's degree in nursing may be closer than you think:

- 100% Online
- Only 6 Courses
- Flexible Course Work: 8 and 16 Week Sessions (Starting Summer 2021)
- Accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education

[online.nebraska.edu/bsn](http://online.nebraska.edu/bsn)

**University of Nebraska Online**  
KEARNEY | LINCOLN | OMAHA | MEDICAL CENTER

Natalia McCain  
Bachelor of Science in Nursing  
University of Nebraska Medical Center

**PRICE FREEZE**

For a limited time, get a one-year Milford Times subscription at the 2020 rate, plus an extra month free!

The award-winning Milford Times keeps you up to date on local news, sports, opinion and more! Fill out the form and return it to our office to start or renew your Milford Times subscription\* for only \$31 (in county) before the rates go up \$1 in February 2021.

**PLUS, get an extra month FREE!**

**PRICE FREEZE COUPON**

(Check one)  NEW or  RENEWAL 12-Month Subscription for Only \$31 In County (\$33 Adjacent County • \$37 Statewide Nebraska • \$41 Out of State)

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please select payment option:  
 Check  Visa  MasterCard  Discover

# \_\_\_\_\_  
Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ CW Code \_\_\_\_\_

**Return coupon and payment to:**  
129 S. 6th St., Seward, NE 68434  
402-761-2911

**THE MILFORD Times**

\*Subscription must be pre-paid. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER.  
Offer expires January 31, 2021. MUST PRESENT COUPON TO RECEIVE EXTRA MONTH FREE.

Announce your Special Events, Anniversaries, Graduations, Birthdays, etc. in the Milford Times.  
Call 402-761-2911



## Students

### Central Community College

Central Community College has announced the names of full-time students who earned spots on the President's list for the 2020 fall semester. The students were enrolled at one or more CCC locations, which include the Columbus, Grand Island and Hastings campuses. Students on the President's Honor List, including Lilly Cast of Beaver Crossing, earned a perfect 4.0 grade point average while students on the Dean's Honor List earned a GPA between 3.5 and 3.99.

### University of Nebraska - Omaha

More than 5,000 students are being recognized for their academic achievements during the fall 2020 semester at the University of Nebraska at Omaha with inclusion on the Chancellor's and/or Dean's List.

From this area, Max Tomes of Utica and McKenzie Nutter of Malcolm qualified for the Chancellor's List. Students who qualified for the Chancellor's List earned a grade point average of 4.0 for courses taken at UNO during the Fall 2020 semester, provided 12 or more quality hours were completed.

Qualifiers for the Dean's List included Elise Bohning and Jaxson Simmerman of Seward and Rachel Hartgerink and K'lana Schnack of Milford. Students who qualified for the Dean's List earned a GPA of 3.5 or better for courses taken at UNO during the Fall 2020 semester, provided 12 or more quality hours were completed.

### Southeast Community College

Southeast Community College in Nebraska has released its Dean's List for the semester recently completed on the

Beatrice, Lincoln and Milford campuses.

To be recognized on SCC's Dean's List, a student must complete at least six semester credit hours of the term with a minimum grade-point average of 3.5. Classes with a grade of "P" (Pass) do not count toward the six-hour minimum.

Students named to the list and their field of study from this area include:

Pleasant Dale—Cassidy Burkhardt, Physical Therapist Assistant

Milford—Thomas Foster, Computer Information Technology; Cameron Barker, Electrical Technology; Michaela Pickerill, Radiologic Technology

Seward—David Ideus, MOPAR-Chrysler/Dodge/RAM/Jeep College Automotive Program; Marcus Jones, Professional Truck Driver Training; Audrey Schanou, Undeclared

Utica—Clay Lankford, Computer Information Technology

### Wayne State College

Wayne State College included more than 1,300 students on the dean's list for exemplary academic achievement during the past semester. Students listed on the dean's list are full-time undergraduate students who have achieved a GPA of 3.5 or above on a 4.0 scale for the semester. An asterisk denotes a 4.0 grade average.

Students on the list from this area include:

Beaver Crossing—Caleb Fowler and Michael Fowler

Denton—Paris TeBrink and Paytra TeBrink\*

Milford—Callie Carraher, Elliott Carraher, Katelyn Deschane, Justin Kenney\*, Naudia Larsen, Jackson Lautzenhiser and Kassie Nitzsche\*

## On-farm research updates coming soon

by Jenny Rees  
Seward/York counties Extension educator

It was great to have in-person meetings last week. Even though the set up and planning was more taxing, I'm grateful we were able to have them.

Also, wanted to thank those who responded to the Extension survey for me; your feedback is greatly appreciated.

In-person Extension meetings are 'a go' for this coming week for this part of the state. For Crop Production Clinics, groups are allowed to watch together at coops or businesses if you prefer. You will still need to register individually. Your 'ticket' for recertification is to individually complete the program evaluation and provide the codes provided during sessions throughout the day.

Please also know any of the area Extension offices will work with you regarding picking up weed guides regardless of where you said you'd pick them up. Thank you for your patience as we navigate all this together!

Farm Bill: I received a number of calls this week regarding 2021 election sign-up. Honestly, I haven't had the opportunity to run numbers in the tools yet. Will provide more info in a future column.

On-farm research: This past week, we also peer reviewed all the on-farm research studies conducted in 2020. There were 20 studies where farmers worked with me in this part

## Jenny's REESources

of the state and I'm grateful to all of them for their efforts. My hope is to share research results in the coming weeks as reports are finalized.

Our on-farm research updates will occur Feb. 25-26 and I'm really pumped about the format. The meetings will be morning only, hosted by the local Extension educator, providing more discussion of studies shared by the farmers and allow planning for the upcoming year. Those attending virtually will discuss as their own group. Pre-register early to ensure a spot. Register at: <https://cropwatch.unl.edu/nebraska-farm-research-network-results-update-meetings-2021>.

De-icing agents are sometimes needed for safety but can be harmful to plants. You may wish to check what you're using at home. Common deicing compounds are listed below. These may be used alone or blended together to improve performance or reduce damage to concrete or landscapes.

Also, keep products on hand that improve footing on slick surfaces, like sand, sawdust, or cat litter. They can be used instead of traditional deicing products, or blended with them to improve traction and limit deicer use.

Sodium chloride, urea, and potassium chloride have high

potential of damaging landscape plants.

- Calcium chloride is the most effective deicing product at low temperatures, working down to -25°F. It will not damage vegetation if used as directed.

- Magnesium chloride is sprayed on roadways before a snowstorm to prevent ice bonds from forming, making ice and snow removal easier. It causes very little damage to concrete or metal. It's also gentle on landscape plants and pet safe if used as directed.

- Acetates can be found in three forms – calcium magnesium acetate (CMA), sodium acetate and potassium acetate. CMA is a salt-free product and is the safest product for use around pets and landscape plants. CMA is made from dolomitic limestone and acetic acid (the principal component of vinegar). Studies have shown the material has little impact on plants. It also has a very low level of damage to concrete or metal.

- Beet juice deicers, a newer organic option, are products derived from beet juice. They contain only 12% sodium chloride (salt), much less than traditional sodium chloride. Beet juice products are fully biodegradable, but shouldn't be applied where melt runoff will move to aquatic areas.

## State park reservations open for booking starting Feb. 1

Beginning Feb. 1, guests can make camping reservations up to 180 days in advance of arrival for stays at Nebraska state park and recreation areas.

Guests will be able to book stays for a maximum of 14 days and will have the ability to make multiple reservations for eligible sites and dates. There is no change to the cabin and lodge room reservation booking window. It remains at a year to date.

In addition to reservable campsites, first-come, first-served campsites are available year-round at all park locations.

The 180-day booking window was determined based on current public health conditions and takes into account statewide and nationwide reservation trends and public input. This new reservation window will be evaluated throughout 2021 and may be adjusted in the future.

Adjustments because of COVID-19 previously had limited the reservation booking window in an effort to increase camping opportunities and satisfy the increased demand for outdoor recreation that resulted from the novel disease.

"We appreciate the public's understanding of that action, and we feel rewarded in knowing that

the parks are recognized as important and favored destinations," said Parks Division Administrator Jim Swenson.

Reservations are accepted online at [nebraskastateparks.reserveamerica.com](http://nebraskastateparks.reserveamerica.com) and by phone at (402) 471-1414, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Park entry permits are required and can be purchased online.

Guests looking to make reservations are reminded that Nebraska state park areas will be celebrating their 100th year in 2021, and should look for events and activities that may be scheduled in conjunction with their scheduled visit.

### District Planning: Future Kindergarten Students

Anticipating the future educational and facility needs of the Milford Public Schools is an ongoing task. The task is an important part of the Milford Board of Education and the administrative team's responsibilities.

To help with this task we need the assistance of our parents and patrons. Each year we look at our census numbers and try to predict future kindergarten enrollment. Unfortunately, the numbers we use are often not particularly accurate, and this is where we need your assistance.

We are requesting that you contact us if you have a child that is eligible for kindergarten in the 2021-22, 2022-23, 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26 school years. Please call Tracy Yeackley at 402-761-2408 or email her at [tracy.yeackley@milfordpublicschools.org](mailto:tracy.yeackley@milfordpublicschools.org) with your information.

If you are not certain when your child will enter kindergarten, that's okay. Please just let us know what your current plans are. If you have previously contacted us, please do so again so that we can confirm numbers. You can certainly change your mind as your child approaches kindergarten enrollment. If you have questions about determining a kindergarten enrollment date, please feel free to contact the school.

We appreciate everyone's efforts in assisting MPS with our planning for the future.

## Real estate

Information taken from records filed with the Seward County clerk.

Jan. 14 - 21

Amy Frye and William Frye to Lincoln/Lancaster County Habitat for Humanity, Lot 1, Corrective Subdivision of Block 21, Wright's First Addition to Utica. DS \$324

James Patrick Higgins II and Shirley A. Higgins to James Patrick Higgins II and Shirley A. Higgins as trustees of the Higgins Family Revocable Trust, Lot 15, Block 4, Hughes Addition to Seward. DS exempt

Robert W. Norman and Cami L. Norman to Robert W. Norman and

Cami L. Norman, Lots 9-12, Block 14, original town of Staplehurst. DS exempt.

## NGPC enacts special season

The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission adopted wildlife regulations that enacted a Special Landowner Deer Season and allowed the purchase of a bonus or a preference point with regard to big game hunting at its Jan. 13 meeting.

The Special Landowner Deer Season and purchase of a bonus or a preference point were created by the passage of LB 126 and LB 287, respectively, in 2020.

The Special Landowner Deer Season will allow a qualifying landowner as many as four permits to designate themselves or immediate family to hunt on his or her property on the Saturday, Sunday and Monday before the opening of the November firearm deer season. No more than two permits will be issued to persons older than age 19 and two permits to persons younger than 19.

**Seward Smiles**  
FAMILY DENTISTRY

Get the Smile You DESERVE!

Schedule online via Facebook, LocalMed.com or SewardSmiles.com.  
See what our patients are saying about us on Facebook and Google!

Jesse Murphy, DDS James Landholm, DDS

137 N. 7th St. • Seward, NE • 402-643-3909 • [info@sewardsmiles.com](mailto:info@sewardsmiles.com)

**Tax Advantage... Financial advisor and CPA rolled into one**

*Providing you the edge in all areas of financial management*

Tax Preparation • Tax & Business Planning • Bookkeeping  
QuickBooks Setup & Training • Auditing & Financial Statement Preparation

**GBE**  
Gabriel, Burger & Else, CPA

418 Seward St. | Seward, Nebraska 68434  
402-643-4557  
*New Clients Welcome!*

**Wealth Management Services**

- Personal Financial Planning
- Retirement Planning
- Social Security Planning
- Traditional and Roth IRA
- 401(k)
- Trusts

Ryan L. Burger, CPA  
[ryan@gbecpa.com](mailto:ryan@gbecpa.com)

Regan L. Else, CPA  
[regan@gbecpa.com](mailto:regan@gbecpa.com)

**Have something to celebrate?**

Announce your Anniversaries, Graduations, Birthdays, etc. in the **Milford Times**  
Call 402-761-2911

THE MILFORD  
**Times**  
607 1st St., Milford, NE 68405



## Legislature adapts to pandemic limitations

by Sen. Mark Kolterman  
Dist. 24

The 107th Nebraska Legislature convened Jan. 6 in the middle of a worldwide pandemic.



Sen. Mark Kolterman

As elected representatives, we believe that it is important that the state's elected legislators are on the field during this time to represent our constituents. I support the speaker in wanting to find ways to engage the public while still keeping us safe from the continued threat of the pandemic.

Families, businesses and other governmental entities have had to change and adapt to the challenges posed by the coronavirus. The Legislature is no different. On Jan. 25, the Legislature will convene public committee hearings.

Public committee hearings are one of the most important parts of our legislative process – a critical time in which the “second house” can be heard. To ensure that the committee hearings are safe and we are appropriately responding to the challenges caused by COVID-19, the Legislature has modified its traditional hearing process.

Here are four ways

that the process is changing this year:

- Morning and afternoon hearings. In order to minimize the chances of having to suspend our session, the Legislature will have both morning and afternoon committee hearings rather than floor debate during January and February.

- Expanded options to voice your opinion without testifying in person. The Legislature has developed a process for “written submitted testimony.” During the 2021 Session, an individual may hand deliver the morning of the hearing their testimony which will be provided to the committee members during the public hearing.

This will allow someone who has health concerns to limit their exposure to others by not having to sit in the hearing room for an extended period of time. The option of submitting a position letter for the hearing record via email is still available.

- In addition, the Legislature has implemented a new feature allowing the online submission of comments on a bill at any stage of debate. The comments will be accessible by all senators and staff to read. You can learn more about how to take advantage of these public input options at [www.nebraskalegislature.gov/committees/public-input.php](http://www.nebraskalegislature.gov/committees/public-input.php).
- Limited physical

space. To accommodate social distancing, seating in the hearing room is limited. And because of the restricted physical space caused by the ongoing HVAC renovation of the Capitol building, there will be no overflow rooms available.

- Modified hearing protocols. Hearings will look and feel different. These include a number of procedures, including extra sanitization efforts, masks and social distancing.

This is a unique year with unique challenges. We look forward to doing your work in the Legislature and appreciate your understanding of these modified procedures.

As always, if we can be of assistance to you in any way, do not hesitate to contact my office. My door is open and I have made it a goal to be accessible to the constituents of our district. Stop by any time. My e-mail address is [mkolterman@leg.ne.gov](mailto:mkolterman@leg.ne.gov), and the office phone number is (402) 471-2756.

Tyler and Katie are always available to assist you with your needs. If I am not immediately available, do not hesitate to work with them to address any issues that you may need assistance with. Continue to follow me on Facebook at Kolterman for Legislature and on Twitter at @KoltermanforLegislature.

## Nebraska moves forward

by Gov. Pete Ricketts

On Jan. 14, I delivered my annual “State of the State” address to the Nebraska Legislature. Even after back-to-back years of major challenges—historic floods in 2019 and a pandemic in 2020—I am pleased to report that the state of the state is strong. The work of Nebraskans everywhere has helped to meet these challenges with grit, tenacity, and determination.



Gov. Pete Ricketts

As Senators begin this session, there are plenty of opportunities to make our state even stronger. This will require working together the Nebraska Way.

This year, the Unicameral will work on the state budget for the next two years. The budget I've proposed controls spending by limiting the average growth rate to 1.5 percent. Within this framework, we can achieve several important priorities.

First, property tax relief. The budget I've presented to the Legislature delivers \$1.36 billion in relief over the next two years. This includes \$550 million in direct property tax relief through the State's Property Tax Credit Relief Fund, and nearly \$597 million from the new refundable property tax credit. I am also proposing \$214 million to provide for property tax payments under the current homestead exemption program.

To deliver real property tax relief, we have to slow the growth of property tax bills. This will ensure that the relief the State provides goes into people's pockets. Senator Lou Ann Linehan of Elkhorn and I are proposing to limit the growth of

local government property taxes to 3 percent per year. Property taxes are growing at a rate that Nebraskans cannot manage within their family budgets. They've grown by 4.46 percent annually, on average, for the last 10 years for an overall increase of 54.65 percent.

If the Legislature fails to enact spending constraints, I believe Nebraskans will take matters into their own hands and strip local governments of their property tax authority. This happened before in the 1960s when voters stripped the State of its authority to tax property, and it can happen again. The spending limits we're proposing are reasonable. By putting them in place, the Legislature can ensure that Nebraska's communities preserve local control of the institutions they cherish.

As we take action to reduce the property tax burden, it's important to give strong support to schools as well. Under my budget proposal, the State would give a record-high amount of aid (\$1.1 billion per year) to schools over the next two years.

As I have done every year as Governor, I again propose to fully fund the K-12 education formula. I'm also proposing opportunity scholarships, more career scholarships, and money for our textbook program. We must continue to invest in the next generation of Nebraskans so they can access educational opportunities that can help them achieve their dreams.

I'm also proposing three initiatives to advance toward our goal of becoming the best state in the nation for military families and veterans. First, Nebraska is still working to bring Space Command to the Heartland. Senator John Stinner of Gering and I are recommending for the State to invest \$50 million into a public-private partnership to headquarter this important mission at Offutt Air Force Base. Second, Senator Tom Brewer of Gordon and I are proposing that Nebraska exempt 100

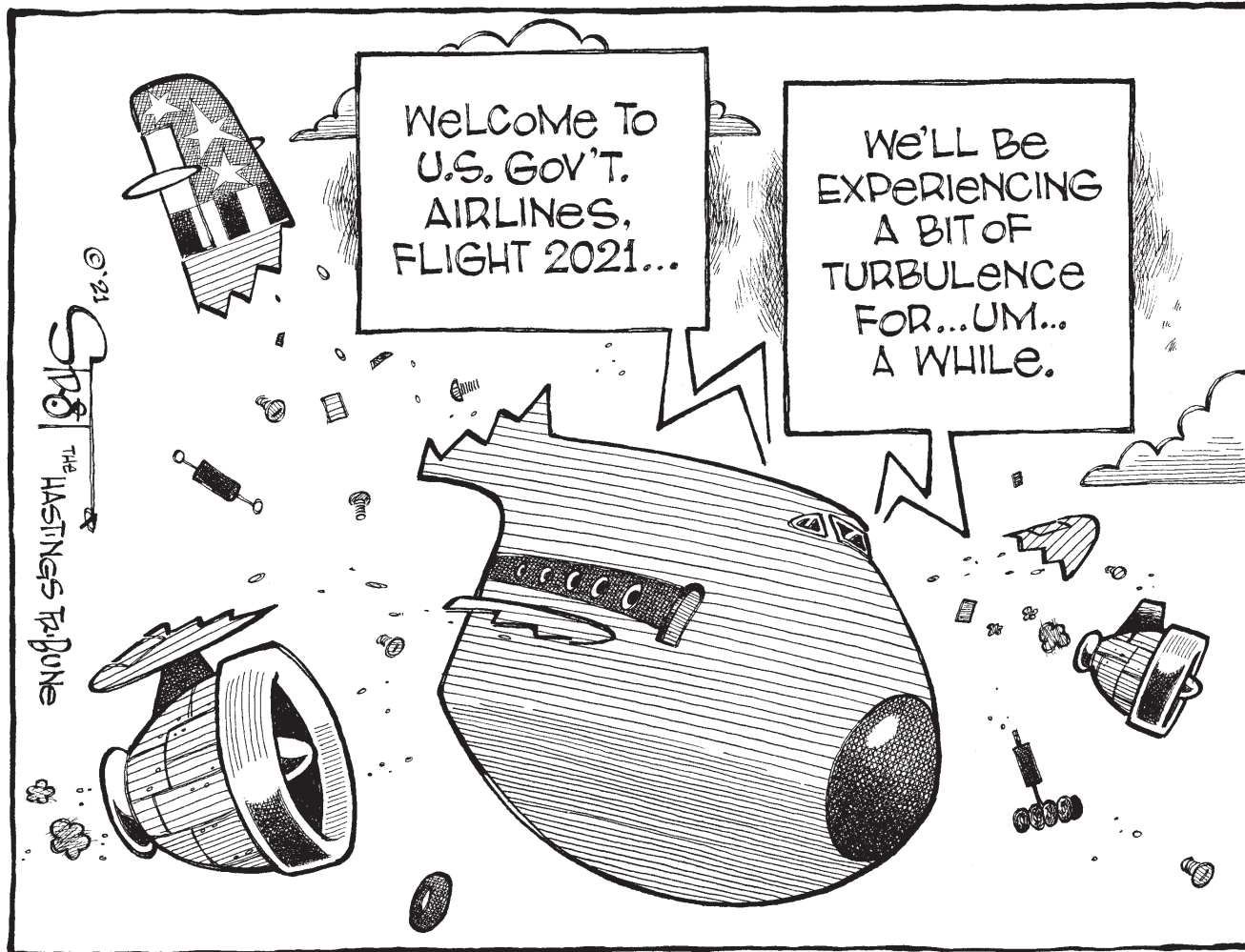
percent of military retirement income for military retirees. This would complete the work on veterans tax relief we began last year. Third, I'm working with Senators Rita Sanders and Carol Blood of Bellevue to remove regulatory barriers that impede military spouses from taking jobs in Nebraska as licensed professionals.

We must continue to invest in better broadband coverage so that more Nebraskans have access to fast, reliable internet service. Over 80,000 Nebraska households lack broadband speeds of at least 25/3. The pandemic revealed how impossible work from home or remote education can be for those on the wrong side of the digital divide. Finally, my budget recommendation takes steps to protect public safety. Nebraska's corrections system has been underbuilt for 40 years, and our infrastructure is aging. We've made progress by investing in sentencing reform, rehabilitation, and the physical plant of our system over the past six years. But more must be done to modernize our prisons and prepare for the future. By 2025, Nebraska's corrections system is forecasted to house over 6,400 inmates. Our current operational capacity is about 5,300 inmates, and the Nebraska State Penitentiary is decaying. To protect public safety and replace the State Penitentiary, my budget plans for the construction of a new, modern correctional facility. It will require an initial investment of \$115 million in the upcoming two-year budget. This amount represents half of the estimated \$230 million of costs to have the facility completed and operational in 2025.

These are all critical priorities to get done this year. If you have questions about them, please email [pete.ricketts@nebraska.gov](mailto:pete.ricketts@nebraska.gov) or call 402-471-2244. As the session gets underway, I'm confident that we can achieve each of these initiatives by working together the Nebraska Way.

### Nebraska Constitution Article 1, Section 5

Every person may freely speak, write, and publish on all subjects being responsible for the abuse of that liberty and in all trials for libel, both civil and criminal, the truth when published with good motives, and for justifiable ends, shall be sufficient defense.



## We asked you:

Have you taken down your Christmas decorations yet?

Yes: 4      No: 2      Never: 0

## Now we want to know:

What do you think: Will Punxsutawney Phil see his shadow this Groundhog's Day (Feb. 2)?

Yes      No

Vote this week on Facebook or at [milfordtimes.net](http://milfordtimes.net). Results will be published in next week's issue.

### — STAFF DIRECTORY —

Kevin L. Zadina, publisher • [kevinzadina@sewardindependent.com](mailto:kevinzadina@sewardindependent.com)  
Greg Forbes, editor • [editor@sewardindependent.com](mailto:editor@sewardindependent.com)  
Stephanie Croston, assistant editor/sports editor • [scroston@sewardindependent.com](mailto:scroston@sewardindependent.com)  
Hope Moural, reporter • [hope@sewardindependent.com](mailto:hope@sewardindependent.com)  
Tammy Leff, business mgr/bookkeeping • [tammyleff@sewardindependent.com](mailto:tammyleff@sewardindependent.com)  
circulation • [subscriptions@sewardindependent.com](mailto:subscriptions@sewardindependent.com)  
Monique Peetz, office assistant • [monique@sewardindependent.com](mailto:monique@sewardindependent.com)  
legal notices • [office@sewardindependent.com](mailto:office@sewardindependent.com)  
Nichole Javorsky, advertising • [nichole@sewardindependent.com](mailto:nichole@sewardindependent.com)  
Jenny Brinkmeyer, advertising/customer service • [jenny@sewardindependent.com](mailto:jenny@sewardindependent.com)  
Kelly Sweet, office assistant • [news@milfordtimes.net](mailto:news@milfordtimes.net)  
Dave Fiala, graphic artist • [dave@sewardindependent.com](mailto:dave@sewardindependent.com)  
Hailey Behlen, graphic artist • [hailey@sewardindependent.com](mailto:hailey@sewardindependent.com)

# THE MILFORD Times

USPS 593-200 • Postage paid at Milford, NE 68405  
Published once a week • Owned by Rhoades Publishing, Inc.

PO Box 723 • Milford, NE 68405  
402-761-2911 or 402-643-3676 • Fax 402-643-6774  
[www.milfordtimes.net](http://www.milfordtimes.net)

### SUBSCRIPTIONS

\$31.00 ..... Seward County  
\$33.00 ..... Adjoining Counties (York, Lancaster, Saline, Butler, and Saunders)  
\$37.00 ..... Statewide  
\$41.00 ..... Out of State

A weekly newspaper published each Wednesday at 129 S. 6th St., Seward, NE 68434 by Rhoades Publishing Inc. Periodical postage paid at Milford, NE. Postmaster send changes of address to P.O. Box 723, Milford, NE 68405.

E-mail the news dept. at [editor@sewardindependent.com](mailto:editor@sewardindependent.com), the ad dept. at [nichole@sewardindependent.com](mailto:nichole@sewardindependent.com) or [kevin@sewardindependent.com](mailto:kevin@sewardindependent.com), the circulation dept. at [subscriptions@sewardindependent.com](mailto:subscriptions@sewardindependent.com).

Office hours 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Mon., Thurs., and Fri., 12 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Wed. Normal deadline is noon Monday.



## Milford basketball sweeps two games

**Girls down Vikes, Knights**  
by Stephanie Croston  
scroston@sewardindependent.com

A great start helped the Milford girls' basketball team to a 46-41 win at Columbus Lakeview Jan. 19.

MHS led 21-14 after the first quarter, thanks to Hannah Kepler's 13 points. The senior finished the game with 20.

Coach Phil Stauffer said Milford struggled on offense in the second and third quarters but did a good job on defense.

The offense got going again in the fourth quarter, led by Kaitlyn Klug and Taylor Roth in the post.

Kepler's 20 points led the team. Kontor added 11 points and five rebounds. Sydney Stelling grabbed five boards and delivered four assists, as well.

The Eagles were on the road again Jan. 22 at Elmwood-Murdock and brought home a 58-35



Makena Stutzman

victory. Stauffer said the Eagles shot well from three-point range, making 10 of 21 attempts. Kepler connected on four, and Makena Stutzman made three, which Stauffer was happy to see.

"We did an excellent job moving the ball on offense and working for good shots," he said.

Nine Eagles scored in the game, which he was also pleased with.

Kepler led the way with 18 points and four steals. She and Roth

grabbed six rebounds each.

Milford (10-7) was scheduled to host Sutton Jan. 26 and travel to Wilber-Clatonia Friday, Jan. 29.

The Southern Nebraska Conference tournament is set for the next week. The first two rounds will be played at the higher seeds, with the semifinals and finals to be played at Centennial Feb. 4 and 6.

Milford 46, Lakeview 41					
MHS	21	7	4	14	46
LHS	14	9	9	9	41

**MHS**—Makena Stutzman 0-4 0-0 0, Kaitlyn Kontor 3-14 2-4 11, Hannah Kepler 6-12 3-5 20, Alayna Piening 0-1 0-0 0, Kaitlyn Klug 2-2 0-0 4, Taylor Roth 2-6 0-0 4, Sydney Stelling 1-5 2-2 4, Abby Houk 0-1 3-4 3, Totals 14-44 10-15 46.

**Three-point goals**—MHS 8-22 (Stutzman 0-3, Kontor 3-9, Kepler 5-7, Roth 0-1, Stelling 0-1, Houk 0-1). **Rebounds**—MHS 27 (Kontor, Stelling 6). **Assists**—MHS 10 (Stelling 4). **Steals**—MHS 8 (Kontor 3). **Turnovers**—MHS 9. **Fouls**—MHS 13.

Milford 58, Elmwood-Murdock 35					
MHS	15	15	16	12	58
EMHS	9	15	8	3	35

**MHS**—Stutzman 3-8 0-2 9, Kontor 2-6 0-0 5, Kepler 5-14 4-8 18, Addi Mowinkel 1-1 0-0 2, Piening 0-1 0-0 0, Klug 1-2 2-2 4, Roth 2-4 2-3 7, Stelling 2-6 0-0 4, Houk 1-1 0-0 3, Mariah Richards 2-4 2-6, Totals 19-47 10-17 58.

**EMHS**—Totals 14-40 3-6 35. **Three-point goals**—MHS 10-21 (Stutzman 3-8, Kontor 1-4, Kepler 4-7, Roth 1-1, Houk 1-1). **EMHS** 4-14. **Rebounds**—MHS 28 (Kepler, Roth 6). **EMHS** 29. **Assists**—MHS 14 (Kontor, Kepler 3). **Steals**—MHS 13 (Kepler 4). **Blocked shots**—MHS 2 (Kepler, Roth 1). **Turnovers**—MHS 15, EMHS 23. **Fouls**—MHS 5, EMHS 14.

**Boys top CLHS, EMHS**  
by Stephanie Croston  
scroston@sewardindependent.com

The Milford boys' basketball team picked up two more wins last week, beating Columbus Lakeview 66-44 and Elmwood-Murdock 60-29.

The Eagles built a big lead in the first half at Lakeview Jan. 19, outscoring the host Vikings 23-11 in the first quarter and 15-7 in the second.

Seth Stutzman scored nine points in the first quarter, and Micah Hartwig hit a pair of three-pointers to add to the MHS lead, Coach Tony Muller said.

In the second quarter, the Eagles started mixing up their defenses and extended the lead to 20 by halftime.

Milford scored the first points of the third quarter, but then Lakeview went on a run, Muller said. Once the Eagles stopped that run, solid defense kept the Vikings at bay.

Stutzman was the scoring leader with 26 points. Jonah Weyand scored 17, and Hartwig added 11 points and nine assists.

"It was a good win for us," Muller said. "We were pleased to limit their threes."

Lakeview was 4-12 from beyond the arc.

Milford headed to Elmwood-Murdock Jan. 22. The Eagles stuck with their man-to-man defense all game against a deliberate Knight offense, Muller said.

Weyand paced the offense with 20 points. Stutzman and Isaac Yeackley added 12 points each, with Hartwig scoring 11.

The Eagles (16-0) were scheduled to host Sutton Jan. 26 and travel to Wilber-Clatonia Friday, Jan. 29. The Southern Nebraska Conference tournament is set for the next week.

Milford 66, Lakeview 44					
MHS	23	15	17	11	66
LHS	11	7	17	9	44

**MHS**—Isaac Yeackley 2-5 0-0 4, Micah Hartwig 4-12 0-1 11, Bryce Jakub 0-2 0-0 0, Cason Tucker 0-1 0-0 0, Maddox Baack 1-2 1-1 3, Jaxon



Micah Hartwig

Weyand 5-13 5-5 17, Carter Roth 0-1 1-2 1, Seth Stutzman 11-14 3-6 26, Cobe Schluckebier 2-4 0-2 4, Nelson Girmus 0-1 0-0 0, Totals 25-55 10-17 66.

**LHS**—Totals 15-34 10-13 44. **Three-point goals**—MHS 6-20 (Yeackley 0-2, Hartwig 3-8, Baack 0-1, Weyand 2-7, Roth 0-1, Stutzman 1-1), LHS 4-12. **Rebounds**—MHS 33 (Hartwig 6), LHS 22. **Assists**—MHS 21 (Hartwig 9). **Steals**—MHS 15 (Yeackley 4). **Turnovers**—MHS 11, LHS 20. **Fouls**—MHS 11, LHS 16.

Milford 60, Elmwood-Murdock 29					
MHS	6	19	26	9	60
EMHS	11	5	7	6	29

**MHS**—Yeackley 5-9 0-0 12, Hartwig 4-8 2-2 11, Jakub 0-1 0-0 0, Camden Springer 1-3 0-0 2, Baack 0-3 0-0 0, Weyand 9-15 1-1 20, Kaleb Miller 0-0 3-4 3, Stutzman 6-10 0-2 12, Dylan Kruse 0-0 0-1 0. Totals 25-49 6-10 60.

**EMHS**—Totals 11-36 4-6 29. **Three-point goals**—MHS 4-16 (Yeackley 2-4, Hartwig 1-3, Springer 0-2, Baack 0-2, Weyand 1-5), EMHS 3-15. **Rebounds**—MHS 25 (Stutzman 6), EMHS 24. **Assists**—MHS 12 (Hartwig 4). **Steals**—MHS 19 (Yeackley 6). **Turnovers**—MHS 13, EMHS 27. **Fouls**—MHS 10, EMHS 9.

## Chapman hits 100 as Eagles earn runner-up

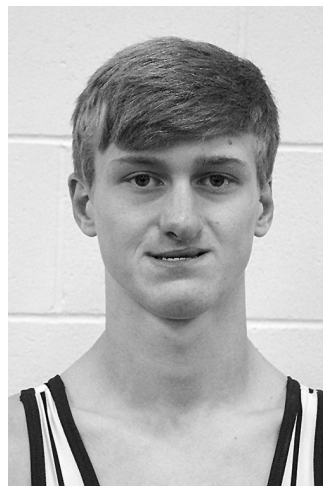
by Stephanie Croston  
scroston@sewardindependent.com

Another strong showing for the Milford wrestlers means another plaque for the trophy case.

The Eagles competed at the David City Invitational Jan. 22 in the smaller-schools division. David City divided its tournament into two to meet the 8-team maximum Covid requirements.

"We knew we could give David City a run for the tournament title, but we were without the services of No. 3 ranked Carter Springer at 152 pounds due to a recent injury, so we had to be flawless," Coach Joe Schluckebier said.

The two teams were back and forth all day,



Jack Chapman

he said, but in the end David City was just a little stronger, winning by 22.5 points.

"We had a couple matches where we under-performed as individuals, and you just can't have those if you want to beat the returning state champs,"

Schluckebier said.

The Eagles did bring home three gold medals, thanks to Konner Schluckebier at 126 pounds, Eli Vondra at 132 and Hunter Oborny at 195.

Schluckebier was 5-0 with five pins and had just one match go longer than the first period.

Vondra was 4-0 but needed overtime to beat Ryan Payne of Centennial in the final.

"Eli had an impressive day beating the No. 4 and No. 8 ranked kids and avenging one of his two season losses by beating (Josh) Spatz from David City," Coach Schluckebier said.

Oborny was 5-0 on the day with five pins and just one match longer than one period.

"That says a lot about how good Hunter Oborny is when the freshman 195-pounder can walk into the David City Invite and not be challenged all day," Coach Schluckebier said.

Another highlight for the Eagles was Jack Chapman winning his 100th career match.

"Always impressive when a junior does it," the coach said.

The Eagles are next in action Saturday, Jan. 30 at the Southern Nebraska Conference tournament in Wilber.

The coach was looking forward to battling David City again, this time with Springer in the lineup.

**David City Invite**

Team scores—David City 240.5, Milford 218, Schuyler 90, Shelby-Rising City 56, Tekamah-Herman 40.5, Sutton 27

106—Conner Kohout (MIL) pin Joel Jacinto (SCH) 1:13; pin Trayton Stewart (CHS) 0:30; pin Kendall Schindler (DC) 0:50; medical forfeit to Keaton Kloke (DC); medical forfeit to Reece Kocian (EB), third

120—Joey Kenning (MIL) pin Garrison Schernikau (CHS) 0:42; pinned by Brayson Romero (SCH) 5:15; def. by Zane Zoucha (MAL) 7-4; pinned by Simon Schindler (DC) 1:26; pin Luke Polivka (EB) 0:35, third

126—Konner Schluckebier (MIL) pin Bryce Teut (MAL) 0:53; pin Ethan Zegers (DC) 2:16; pin Jesus Hernandez (SCH) 1:56; pin Keenan Kosek (CHS) 0:39; pin Zegers (DC) 1:14, first

132—Eli Vondra (MIL) pin Ethan Fjell (SRC) 1:14; pin Scott Marshall (SUT) 0:45; def. Josh Spatz (DC) 9-1; def. Ryan Payne (CHS) 5V-1 4-2, first

138—Jack Chapman (MIL) pin Reid Glasshoff (EB) 1:42; pin Colt Reiling (MIL) 0:38; pin Jarrett Dodson (CHS) 2:12; pin Carter Fjell (SRC) 2:45; pinned by Logan Burt (TH) 1:07, second

145—Trent Stauffer (MIL) pin Cyrus Songster

(CHS) 1:46; pin Kyle Heise (EB) 0:55; def. Harley Eickmeier (DC) 6-3; pin Isaac Ruwe (TH) 1:29; def. by Grady Belt (SRC) 2-1, second

160—Isaac Voboril (MIL) pinned by Joseph Hinrichs (SUT) 1:06; def. by Trevin Brecka (EB) 9-1; pinned by Gavin Zoucha (MAL) 1:52; pin Landon Silva (SRC) 2:22, fourth

170—Christopher Sedoris (MIL) pin Trevor Lohman (MAL) 0:24; pin Dawson Schram (TH) 2:38; pin Josh Stewart (MAL) 2:36; pin Chris Escobar (SCH) 1:13; def. by Tre Daro (DC) 16-5, second

182—Thomas Vance (MIL) pinned by Caleb Courter (MAL) 3:50; pin Austin Patchin (CHS) 1:35; pin Edgar Diego (SCH) 1:05; pinned by Dylan Vodicka (DC) 1:53, third

195—Hunter Oborny (MIL) pin Cason Peterson (SUT) 1:02; pin Angel Quezada (SCH) 0:32; pin Joshua Christian (EB) 1:17; pin Riley Donahoo (MAL) 1:20; pin Samuel Payne (CHS) 2:31, first

220—Lorenzo Temple (MIL) pin Nickolas Keith (CHS) 1:57; pin Cole Bohac (SCH) 0:41; pin Brandon Ohnemus (DC) 0:42; pinned by James Escamilla (DC) 1:10, second

285—Trey Lyon (MIL) pinned by Jake Ingwersen (DC) 2:11; pin Vance Smith (SUT) 2:09; pin Bryan Romero (SCH) 1:59; pinned by Carson Fehlfhafer (CHS) 3:01;6; pinned by Kale Nordmeyer (MAL) 1:35, fourth

285—Kalen Petsch (MIL) pinned by Kale Nordmeyer (MAL) 1:42; pinned by Carson Fehlfhafer (CHS) 0:37; pinned by Daniel Garcia (SCH) 6-6 pin Kasen Petsch (MIL) 0:43; won by medical forfeit over Vance Smith (SUT); pinned by Garcia (SCH) 0:44

Find us on Facebook!  
**THE MILFORD Times**

**Upcoming Annual Machinery, Livestock Equipment & Hay CONSIGNMENT AUCTION • SATURDAY, MAR. 6, 2021**  
LOCATION: Novak Consignment Lot, 2 miles east of Dorchester, Nebr., on Hwy. 33  
**ACCEPTING CONSIGNMENTS NOW!**  
From one item to a complete farm auction  
**For Consignments, Contact:**  
Office (402) 826-5302 • Col. Darryl Novak (402) 641-7213 • Col. Troy Novak (402) 641-1526  
For FREE ADVERTISING, have your consignments in before Feb. 1, 2021.  
www.novakauctionservice.com

**Eleanor Stark**  
of Seward starts her 9th decade February 3.  
Cards can be sent to Eleanor at P.O. Box 441 Seward, NE 68434

**Annual Production Sale**  
Saturday, February 6, 2021  
12:30 CST at Upstream Ranch

Hereford cattle bred and developed in the Nebraska Sandhills since 1955 for the commercial cattleman.

**Selling 300 bulls & 40 bred heifers**

- Volume discounts
- First breeding season guarantee
- Free delivery

Go to [upstreamcattle.com](http://upstreamcattle.com) for videos and sale catalog  
[upstreamranch@gmail.com](mailto:upstreamranch@gmail.com)

**Upstream Ranch**  
45060 Upstream Rd  
Taylor, NE 68879

Broadcast on DV Auctions and Superior Click-To-Bid.

**CHADRON STATE COLLEGE**  
**Focus on the Future**

Chadron State College offers:  
Bachelor's degrees  
Master's degrees

"My experience at CSC was phenomenal. The professors I worked with were excellent and they engaged, empowered, and supported me through my learning."  
— Valerie Bruce  
2019 Wyoming Teacher of the Year

[csc.edu/online](http://csc.edu/online)

**Do You Have a DISABILITY?**

Are you or someone you love facing life in a nursing home? Are you in a nursing home but able to live in the community again with the proper care?

The League of Human Dignity has been helping people with disabilities live independently for nearly 50 years. Contact us to see if we can help.

**LEAGUE OF HUMAN DIGNITY**

Phone 833-800-5643



# Milford releases its first quarter honor roll

Milford Junior/Senior High School recently released its honor roll for first semester 2020-21. Students on the honor roll earned grade averages of 93 and above. Those with honorable mention earned averages of 90 to 92.99.

## Honor Roll

**Seniors**—Nicholas Beel, Joselyn Bell, Nathan Bennett, Benjamin Copley, Bowen Dick-Burkey, Machaela Freeman, Dominic Girmus, Krislyn Guthrie, Makennen Havlat, Hunter Hines, Isaaci Hollist, Abby Houk, Abigail Hovendick, Bryce Jakub, Averey Kahler, Hannah Kepler, Kaitlyn Klug, Phoebe Kolb, Calli Kremer, Alexa Mach, Abbie McGuire, Caleb Miller, Madelyn Mullet, Olivia O'Dell, Alayna Piening, Collin Piening, Katherine Pollock, Cheyenne Prentice, Mariah Richards, Rollin Roth, Jenna Schweitzer, Rachel Stahnke, Trenton Stauffer, Makena Stutzman, Jeremiah Taylor, Cason Tucker, Isaac Voboril and Audrianna Wolf;

**Juniors**—Caitlyn Adams, Griffin Anderson, Maddox Baack, Sophia Birch, Celia Bontrager, Jack Chapman, Madison Cosaert, Bethany Crane, Madaux DeLong, Hannah Fougeron, Micah Hartwig, Logan Her-

shberger, Ella Hostetler, Cassidy June, Anna Klopfenstein, Dylan Kroese, Elliott Reitz, Carter Roth, Matthew Roth, Avery Saltzman, Ashlyn Schil-dt, Cabe Schluckebier, Ayden Shook, Savannah Spahr, Sydney Stelling, Seth Stutzman, Cole Toovey, Gage Troyer, Thomas Vance, Eli Vondra, Marissa Walker, Jaxon Weyand, Ethan Wittstruck, Logan Wolf and Ashlynn Zegers;

**Sophomores**—Elizabeth Bell, Tennace Crumrine, Carly Donoghue, Nolan Eickhoff, Nelson Girmus, Kolby Johns, Bo Kepler, Kaitlin Kontor, Eliza McGuire, Hudson Mullet, Chase Nitzsche, McConaughy Pollock, Elana Prentice, Rylie Price, Taylor Roth and Autumn Wissenburg;

**Freshmen**—Jaidyn Bell, Abigail Brinkmeyer, Sally Burke, Jaxson Clark, Gavin Dunlap, Morgan Havlat, Emma Hersberger, Sydney Hill, Alexandria Keib, Conner Kohout, Victoria Mink, Addisyn Mowinkel, Riley Ross, Madison Roth, Sarah Spahr, Macy Stutzman, Reice Stutzman, Allyson Taylor, Mackenzie Watenpaugh and Joslyn Wolf;

**Eighth graders**—Scholar Crum-rine, Layla Elstun, Aydenn Freeman,

Sydney Havlat, Aiden Henson, Brenna Jackson, Veronika Johns, Hailey Jones, Korbyn Kemerling, Lilly Kenning, Maizie Kolb, Raeleigh Kremer, Adyson Kroese, Kellan Kubicek, Karlee Kuklis, Brooklyn McDonald, Ellison Piening, Gavin Piening, Adan Rakow, Lillian Rezac, Avery Roth, Aylandra Roth, Cheyenne Sage, Addison Sample, Kalyn Schutz, Braden Soester, Easton Springer, Jack Stahl, Cole Stutzman, Hannah Wittstruck, Izabelle Yeackley and Brecken Yoder; and

**Seventh graders**—Connor Adams, Heath Bacon, Brett Bousquet, Haley Brhel, Joshua Brinkmeyer, Sydney Burke, Aubrey Burton, Delaney Carraher, Avery Carter, Westin DeLong, Gage Dunlap, Abigail Gurnsey, Rylan Hollist, Kylie Jakub, Katelyn Jones, Arieanna Koehler, Maeli Kubicek, Natalie Nutzman, Caden Rainforth, Liliana Rakow, Colby Ra-utenberg, Ava Rediger, Zebedee Reil, Sarah Reynolds, Landon Roth, Made-lyn Saltzman, Garrett Schoen, Nevaeh Spurling, Mylie Svoboda, Alayna Turdy, Kayla Wilken, James Wissen-burg and Quinn Zegers.

## Honorable mention

**Seniors**—Claire Reed, Sara Taylor, Jasmyn Terrell, Jakob Wolf, Cooper Yeackley and Isaac Yeackley;

**Juniors**—Kelly Bousquet, Sa-vannah Clark, Colton Hauder, Erin Landkamer, Morgan McCullough, Sophia Pierce, Trace Rowland, Ra-chel Shively, Camden Springer, Calli Thornton, Desarey Walker and Garret Watenpaugh;

**Sophomores**—Amy Bousquet, Re-becca Freeman, Kaden Guerra, Anna Gurnsey, Hannah Schilz, Mara Shep-ard, Madison Stutzman and Tryston Tyner;

**Freshmen**—Austin Cox, Brooke Henriksen, Karis Kratochvil, Brody Mach, Hunter Oborny, Chloe Pierce, Paige Riley, Keylie Roth, Jackson Toovey and Keenan Troyer;

**Eighth graders**—Owen Anderson, Cash Brom, Nicholas Fougeron, Gar-rett Freeman, James Keilig, Tyce Lo-peze, Gabe Mach, Logan Price, Hannah Reynolds and Krisianna Riley; and

**Seventh graders**—Vivian Auxier, Savannah Boettner, Kelsey Borgman, Alissah Cunningham, Royale Dean, Jordan Fischer, Abigail Gropp, Justin Novak, Electa Restau and Isaac Roth.

# Browning asks: pine or evergreen trees?

by Sarah Browning  
Lancaster County Extension educator

All pine trees have needles, but all needled evergreens aren't pine trees any more than all dogs are dachshunds.

Telling pines, firs and spruces apart isn't any harder than distinguishing beagles, Bassett hounds or bloodhounds - you just need to know how each one is distinctively different from the others.

Step one: Look at the needles. Are they arranged singly on the branch or in groups?

## Pine trees

If the needles are clustered in groups, you're looking at a pine tree. Pine needles are usually in groups of two, three or five and may be long, short or somewhere in between, but if you find needles in bundles, you have a pine tree. Here are a few more details about common pines found in Nebraska.

- Eastern white pine - needle bundles of 5, 2-4 inches long, soft and pliable
- Scotch pine - needle bundles of 2, 1-3 inches long and twisted along their length
- Austrian pine - needle bundles of 2, 3-5 inches long, sharp point
- Ponderosa pine - needle bundles of 3, 5-10 inches long, sharp point

Step two: If the needles are not in bundles, but are produced singly, then you have either a fir, spruce or yew. Take a closer look at the shape of the needles. Cut one across, is it square in cross section or flat?

## Spruce

If the needles are square or four-sided, you are looking at a spruce needle. The color may range

from dark green to quite blue, but if the needle rolls between your fingers as smoothly as a square wheel, it's a spruce. If you pull a needle away from the branch, you'll find a tiny woody peg left behind. This is another unique characteristic of spruce, not found in pine, fir or yew. The two most common spruces grown in Nebraska are below.

- Colorado spruce - dense pyramidal tree, stiff upright branches, ¾-1 inch-long sharp needles
- Norway spruce - pyramidal tree, secondary branches are pendulous (hanging down) as the tree ages, ½-1 inch-long sharp needles

Step three: If you try rolling the needle between your fingers and it won't roll at all because it's flat, then the tree is a fir or yew.

## Fir

Firs are large landscape trees, typically 40-50 feet in height at maturity, which distinguishes them from our next plant. Two firs commonly grown in Nebraska are concolor and balsam fir.

- Concolor or white fir - looks very similar to Colorado spruce, with a dense pyramidal shape. Needles are bluish or gray green, 1.5-2.5 inches long and rounded at the tip, giving them a soft texture when touched, compared to the sharp bristly needles of spruce.
- Balsam fir - less common than concolor fir, although often grown on tree farms for Christmas trees. Very dark green 5/8-1 inch needles.

## Yew

Is the plant you're identifying a dark green shrub or small evergreen tree with shiny, flat needles that remind you of fir needles but aren't stiff or prickly? Then it's a yew, *Taxus* spp. Yews are another versatile group of landscape evergreens. Their soft

foliage is a popular trait.

Step Four: Are the leaves on your evergreen not needles, but instead many small leaf sections attached end-to-end? Then it's likely either a juniper or arborvitae.

## Juniper

These plants many be tall trees, smaller shrubs or flat creeping groundcover specimens. But no matter the shape of the plant, if the needles are lapped over one another like the shingles on a roof, it's a juniper. Foliage may be anywhere in texture from soft to prickly, but all junipers share the trait of overlapping leaf scales. One of the most common juniper species found in windbreaks is eastern red cedar, *Juniperus virginiana*, commonly called "cedar." Although it's not a member of the true cedar genus, this unfortunately makes it easy to confuse with our next plant.

## Arborvitae

If your plant has soft branches of flat vertical foliage, consisting of bright green overlapping scales then it's an arborvitae. The most common species found in Nebraska is eastern arborvitae or white cedar.

Evergreen identification is more than just an intellectual exercise or a chance to show off to your friends and neighbors - it helps you track down information on plants you might want to know more about. Maybe you have a problem and want advice from a nursery or garden center.

Or perhaps you found a plant in a friend's landscape you like and want to add a similar plant to your home grounds. Being able to narrow down the plant type to pine, spruce, fir, yew, juniper or arborvitae is a big help when you go to the garden center.

# MARKETPLACE

## Wanted

**ISO SHELTYE puppy.**  
I purchased a sheltie from a farm near Seward almost 6 years ago. I would like another puppy but don't have contact information. Please email Keven at jcozzoc@yahoo.com.

## For Sale

**FRESH EGGS \$3 a dozen, \$10 for 4 dozen. Duck eggs \$7 a dozen, 1/2 dozen for \$5. Can meet in Seward 402-429-3152**

## For Rent

**Nice 2 BR apartment in brick 4-plex. All electric. Laundry area available. No smoking. No pets. \$625/mo. Available February 1. 402-641-1374.**

**NEWLY CARPETED 2 BR APARTMENT with its own washer/dryer. Old Church Apts. 11th & Ivy. No smoking/no pets. \$640 mo. Call 402-826-5149.**

**1, 2 and 3 BEDROOM APARTMENTS. 30-day lease. No pets. No smoking. Also garages for rent. Located at 22nd and Ivy-Crete. 402-310-8030**

**3 BEDROOM APARTMENT:344 S 5th St-Seward with washer/dryer hookups. No Pets. \$700/mo. Call 402-366-9430.**

## Services

**GUITAR, UKULELE, DRUM & BASS LESSONS: Resolve Today To Put More Music In Your Life! Call and reserve your spot today. 402-450-0282 Jim Krutz, Seward.**

**MARTIN EXCAVATING INC.**  
(FORMERLY LEICHTY EXCAVATING, INC.)  
**TROY MARTIN, OWNER**  
802 3RD ST. MILFORD, NE 68405  
(402) 761-3059 HOME (402) 641-6821 CELL  
BASEMENTS, DEMOLITION, FILL SAND, BLACK DIRT, CLAY, TREE REMOVAL, LAGOONS

**STELLING CARPENTRY LLC**  
Custom cabinets & trim work, finish work, remodeling, subcontracting, soffit, siding & fascia, replacement door & windows, any residential needs  
**Ryan Stelling 402-761-2869**

**MILFORD AIR CONDITIONING**  
309 1st Milford  
**402-761-2433**  
• Air Conditioning  
• Heating  
• Sales & Service  
**Bill Saltzman** **DAIKIN**  
Air Conditioning & Heating

**WESLEY FINANCIAL Group, LLC, Timeshare Cancellation Experts. Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt and fees cancelled in 2019. Get free informational package and learn how to get rid of your timeshare! Free consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. Call 855-899-7756.**

**THE COVID crisis has cost us all something. Many have lost jobs and financial security. Have \$10K in debt? Credit Cards, Medical Bills, Car Loans. Call National Debt Relief! We can help! Get a Free debt relief quote. Call 1-866-834-5927.**

**UP TO \$15,000.00 of Guaranteed Life Insurance! No medical exam or health questions. Cash to help pay funeral and other final expenses. Call Physicians Life Insurance Company, 866-982-2256 or visit www.Life55plus.info/ne**

**DIRECTV - EVERY live football game, every Sunday - anywhere - on your favorite device. Restrictions apply. Call IVS, 1-855-977-3794.**

**AFFORDABLE PRESS Release service. Send your message to 155 newspapers across Nebraska for one low price! Call 1-800-369-2850 or www.nebpress.com for more details.**

**GUNS, GUNS, Guns, Guns, Guns, Guns. Gun Show Feb. 6 & 7, Fonner Park, Grand Island. Masks Required.**

**HIGH-SPEED Internet. We instantly compare speed, pricing, availability to find the best service for your needs. Starting at \$39.99/month! Quickly compare offers from top providers. Call 1-888-326-3360.**

**DISH NETWORK \$59.99 for 190 Channels. Blazing Fast Internet, \$19.99/month (where available). Switch & Get a Free \$100 Visa Gift Card. Free Voice Remote. Free HD DVR. Free Streaming on All Devices. Call today! 1-877-688-4784.**

**PORTABLE OXYGEN Concentrator? May be covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 855-385-3580.**

**DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 350 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - Not just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your Free Dental information kit with all the details! 1-855-490-4149, www.dental50plus.com/81 #6258.**

**BANKRUPTCY RELIEF! Help stop creditor harassment, collection calls, repossession and legal actions! Speak to a professional attorney and get the help you Need! Call Now, 855-751-1474.**

**SOCIAL SECURITY Disability Benefits. Unable to work? Denied benefits? We Can Help! Strong, recent work history needed. Call to start your application or appeal today! 866-563-0161 [Stappacher Law Offices LLC Principal Office: 224 Adams Ave Scranton PA 18503]**

**4G LTE Home Internet now available! Get GotW3 with lightning fast speeds plus take your service with you when you travel! As low as \$109.99/month! 844-210-0464.**

**THINKING ABOUT installing a new shower? American Standard makes it easy. Free design consultation. Enjoy your shower again! Call 1-866-604-0853 today to see how you can save \$1,000 on installation, or visit www.newshowerdeal.com/nepress.**

**TWO GREAT new offers from AT&T Wireless! Ask how to get the new iPhone 11 or Next Generation Samsung Galaxy 510e on us with AT&T's Buy One, Give One offer. While supplies last! Call 1-855-574-9119.**

**BECOME A Published Author. We want to read your book! Dorrance Publishing - trusted by authors since 1920. Book manuscript submissions currently being reviewed. Comprehensive Services: Consultation, Production, Promotion and Distribution. Call for your free Author's Guide, 1-877-858-2822 or visit http://dorranceinfo.com/Nebraska.**

**BANKRUPTCY: FREE Consultation. Lowest rates. No office visit required. As Nebraska's #1 bankruptcy firm, we have helped thousands of clients file bankruptcy in all 93 Nebraska counties. We can Stop garnishments and foreclosures fast. www.SamTurcoLaw.net. Call 402-965-0424 or send e-mail to info@SamTurcoLawOffices.com.**

**ADVERTISE STATEWIDE for \$225/25 word classified ad. Over 150 newspapers with circulation of more than 237,000. Contact your local newspaper or call 1-800-369-2850.**

**DONATE YOUR car or truck to Heritage for the Blind. Free 3 Day Vacation, tax deductible, free towing. All paperwork taken care of. Call 1-877-730-8167.**

**EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY**  
All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, family status, or national origin, or an intention, to make such preference, limitation or discrimination. Family status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians; pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18."  
The Milford Times will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-642-6112. http://www.hud.gov/home/NEOC.





## Help Wanted

**HELP WANTED:** The Village of Exeter is taking applications for the position of Lifeguard for the 2021 season. Requirements include CPR, First Aid, and Lifeguard Certification prior to the pool opening. You must be 15 to take the certification class. Approximate opening is May 31, 2021. Applications are available in the Clerk's office or by phoning (402) 266-3051. Deadline to apply is February 9, 2021.

**HELP WANTED:** The Village of Exeter is taking applications for the position of Pool Manager and Assistant Manager for the 2021 season. Requirements include CPR, First Aid, and Pool Operator Certification prior to the pool opening. Approximate opening is May 31, 2021. Applications are available in the Clerk's Office or by phoning (402) 266-3051. Deadline to apply is February 9, 2021.

**FULL-TIME** office help in busy electronics store. General office duties. Electronic knowledge helpful. Call Eric 402-643-2560 or stop by Ehlers Electronics.

Class A CDL drivers needed -1 yr exp. LOCAL - home every night \$200 per day min. REGIONAL - home every weekend + .50 per mile + pd wkly, vacation + call for more details 402-534-2013

**POLISHER F/T: M-F** Deburr or polish parts on grinders and buffers. Paid holiday & vacations. Starting \$15/hr + Hire Bonus. More info, call to apply at 402-798-7800. CAPPS MANUFACTURING in Cortland.

Immediate opening for **Full-Time Farm Help** on a family farm near Utica. Looking for a hard worker. 40 hrs/week with potential for more. Hourly pay dependent on skill set. Call Justin Borchers at 402-641-6125.

### PEN RIDER WANTED

**Midwest Feeding in Milford**

Experience helpful. Full-time position available. Benefits.

Apply in person or mail resume to:

Midwest Feeding Co. • 851-238th, Milford, NE 68405

Feedlot is immediately south of the I-80 Milford exit

### Wanted: Bus Drivers

**for Mid States School Bus at Crete Public Schools**

Morning and afternoon routes available along with activities. \$1,000 sign on bonus. Full or part time positions available.

To apply, please call 402-826-7887 or email us at [crete@midstataeschoolbus.com](mailto:crete@midstataeschoolbus.com) or [matth@midstataeschoolbus.com](mailto:matth@midstataeschoolbus.com)



### WEBER FEEDYARDS, LLC

**Position Available**

• **Full-Time FEEDER:** Will train the right person. Must have valid driver's license and be insurable under the company insurance policy. Competitive pay & benefits.

Contact Joel @ 402-641-3530

### Help Wanted

**Equipment Operator/Maintenance**

Duties include feed truck operation. Mechanical, welding and other maintenance skills preferred.

Inquiries can be emailed to

[djdmfc@yahoo.com](mailto:djdmfc@yahoo.com) or on location at

**Midwest Feeding Co.**  
851 238th  
Milford, NE

- **Nurse:** (LPN/RN) FT Evening Shifts & Weekend Only RN
- **CNAs:** FT & PT Day, Evening & Night Shifts
- **MedAide:** FT Evenings | • **Dietary Aide:** FT
- **Cook:** FT Lunch & Dinner Shift



FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:  
[SUNRISECOUNTRYMANOR.COM](http://SUNRISECOUNTRYMANOR.COM)  
610 224th Road, Milford  
Ph: (402) 761-3230 ext. 224

Applications at [www.sunrisecountrymanor.com/careers.html](http://www.sunrisecountrymanor.com/careers.html)

### Kinship Pointe Seward is hiring!

• **Med Aide/Resident Aide**

Full-time position available, hours 2 p.m. - 10 p.m. Insurance benefits and PTO included. Every other weekend and holiday is required. Must be 18. Call Jeanne at 402-643-6500 or stop by and fill out an application.



500 Heartland Park Drive • Seward, NE • 402-643-6500



### Kinship Pointe Seward is hiring!

• **Dietary Aide/Cook** - Full-time available. Day & evening hours available.

Do you love to work with seniors? This just may be your opportunity! We are looking for a dedicated individual who loves to serve. Must be 18. Responsible for meeting the seniors' needs as they dine, prepping for the next meal, dishes, and teamwork. Wage is negotiable. Full-time applicants — benefits are included (insurance, PTO, etc.). Call Brittney at 402-643-6500 or stop by and fill out an application.



500 Heartland Park Drive • Seward, NE • 402-643-6500

### Memorial Health Care Systems

**WE ARE RECRUITING FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS:**

**Accounting Manager:** Full-time days, reporting to CFO. Candidate is responsible for the entire general ledger, account reconciliations, preparation of financial statements, management reports, and budget. Supervises the account payable function and the Accounting staff. Expertise in computer use, MS Excel and accounting products required. Accounting degree preferred; equivalent experience or training will be considered. -*Memorial Hospital*

**Hospital Nursing Supervisor - Night Shift:** Full-time Hospital Nursing Supervisor - Night Shift. This position is a working supervisor that is responsible for providing managerial support in the operation of patient care in the hospital, and manages a combination of licensed and/or certified professional staff. RN, BSN preferred with related experience and/or training. RN licensure and ACLS required. -*Memorial Hospital*

**RN - Days:** Full-time day position, 5 am - 5 pm. Acute Care, ER and OB experience preferred. Flexible scheduling includes every third weekend with holiday rotation. RN licensure required and ACLS required. -*Memorial Hospital*

**RN/LPN - Nights:** Full-time night position, 5 pm - 5 am. Acute Care, ER and OB experience preferred. Flexible scheduling includes every third weekend with holiday rotation. RN/LPN licensure required and ACLS required for RNs only. Position includes night shift retention bonus. -*Memorial Hospital*

**Director of Quality Programs:** Full-time day position. Candidate is responsible for Quality Programs and Risk Management efforts; in evaluating, trending and communicating information gathered through various tools. A candidate with a minimum of Bachelor Science Degree from an accredited Nursing program preferred, with a minimum of three years related experience. -*Memorial Hospital*

**RN-LPN:** Full-time Clinic RN/LPN Day Nurse position available, Monday-Friday with Saturday rotation. This position requires good communications skills between you and the provider. Critical thinking and problem-solving skills are essential to providing excellent customer service and communicating with our patients. Computer skills are required. Previous Clinic Nursing experience and Chronic Care Management experience preferred. Current licensure required. -*Seward Family Medical Clinic*

**RN-LPN:** PRN (as needed) RN/LPN. Candidate must have excellent customer service skills, able to multitask. May require working at Seward, Milford or Utica Clinics. Previous clinic nursing experience preferred. RN/LPN licensure required. -*Seward Family Medical Clinic*

Please visit our website <http://www.mhcs.us/about-us/employment> for a listing of the Temporary - As Needed (PRN) positions available at Memorial Health Care Systems

For immediate consideration, complete an application at or send your resume to:



**Memorial**  
Health Care Systems

HR Dept., 300 N. Columbia Ave.  
Seward, NE 68434  
or visit [www.MHCS.US](http://www.MHCS.US) to complete an online application. For more information call 402-646-4618.

Join a growing company and be part of a regional leader in trenchless utility construction!

**Horizontal Boring & Tunneling Co.** has immediate openings. All positions offer stability, advancement opportunity, competitive pay, and benefits.

- **Pipeyard Materials Coordinator**
- **Diesel Technician**
- **Construction Laborers**

To view the full job descriptions and apply, please visit [www.hbttrenchless.com](http://www.hbttrenchless.com) and select 'Careers'.

505 S. River Ave., Exeter, NE 68351  
(402) 266-5347 • [humanresources@hbttrenchless.com](mailto:humanresources@hbttrenchless.com)

VEVRAA Contractor. E-Verify.  
EOE, AA, M/F/Vet/Disability



## PUBLIC NOTICES

### Hearings

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
Notice is given that the Seward County Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, January 18th, 2021, 7:30 p.m., on a zoom telephone or video conference online. Please use: <http://zoom.us/j/9421681714> online Password 768261 Regarding the following: Discussion/Action Public Hearing - Conditional Use Permit to operate a Livestock Feeding Operation, Parcel ID: 800103971, on a parcel of ground located in the west 1/2 of the South East 1/4 & the East 1/2 of the South West 1/4 of, Section 12, Township 9 North, Range 2 East, Seward County, Nebraska. Notice of said meeting will be posted in the Courthouse North Door. The agenda for said meeting will be kept continually current and available for public inspection in the Zoning Office during normal business hours. The agenda will be held open until 4:00 p.m. of the day, four days before the day of the meeting. The Planning Commission has the right to modify the agenda to include items of an emergency nature only at such meetings. Seward County Zoning Administrator SCI/MT — January 27, 2021 ZNEZ

### Minutes

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS**  
Boards of Commissioner Meetings are held each Tuesday morning in the Seward County Courthouse at 9:00 a.m., except for the first Tuesday of each month when meetings will be held at 8:30 a.m. Notice of each meeting is posted on the Courthouse bulletin board and on the Commissioner's room door. The agenda for all meetings is kept continually current and is available for public inspection at the County Clerk's Office during normal business hours. The agenda is held open until one business day prior to the meeting for appearance before the Board. The Board has the right to modify the agenda to include items of an emergency nature only at such public meetings.  
**CLAIMS ALLOWED FEBRUARY 16, 2021**  
The Seward County Board of Commissioners convened on January 19, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. Present: Vice Chairperson: Bob Vrbka Members: Misty Ahmic, Bob Vrbka, Ken Schmieding, Darrell Zabrocki County Clerk: Sherry Schweitzer Absent: Chairman: John Culver Approved the minutes of January 12, 2021. Approved Seward County Claims through January 8, 2021. Officials gave updates of their offices. Commissioners gave an update of their activities. Accepted the Sheriff's Fee and Mileage Report for November

2020. Jennifer Igo and Stacy Phillips from the Nebraska Strong Organization were present to give information about their organization. Accepted the Delinquent Tax Listing and set the Tax Sale Steps for 2021. Marci Fehlhafer of Southeast Nebraska CASA was present to explain her organization's purpose and give the annual report for 2020. Adopted the agenda for January 26, 2021, and adjourned at 9:45 a.m. Sherry Schweitzer, County Clerk **SEWARD COUNTY CLAIMS THROUGH JANUARY 8, 2021** ADV CORR TL HLTHCR, SE, \$4,439.57; ADV OFFICE AUTOM, SU, \$68.69; AKRS EQUIPMENT, EQ, \$2,250.00; AMERITAS LIFE INS, FE, \$17,410.96; BLACK HILLS ENERGY, UT, \$682.25; BLUE VALLEY BEHAV HLTH, SE, \$390.00; CITY OF SEWARD, UT, \$9,468.14; CLERK OF DIST CRT ASSOC, FE, \$50.00; CLERK OF DIST CRT, SE, \$738.00; CNA SURETY, SE, \$40.00; CULLIGAN, SE, \$371.85; DAVISSON FURN CNTR, SU, \$529.00; DES MOINES STAMP, SU, \$82.25; DODGE CO SHERIFF, SE, \$19.21; EAKES OFFICE PLUS, SU, \$721.24; EGAN SUPPLY CO, SU, \$657.84; ESRI, SE, \$3,400.00; FARMERS COOP, SU, \$1,236.83; HELMINK PRINTING, SU, \$438.93; HERPOLSHAIMERS, SE, \$123.11; HOMETOWN LEASING, SE, \$149.85; IDEMIA IDENTITY, SE, \$480.17; JOHN DEERE FINAN, SE, \$130.20; JONES BANK (FICA), FE, \$16,324.59; KONICA MINOLTA, SE, \$181.90; MCKESSON

MED SURG, SU, \$226.42; MID AMERICAN BENEFITS, SE, \$123.25; MIDWEST AUTO PARTS, SU, \$1,232.10; MIDWEST CARD AND ID, SE, \$500.00; MIDWEST OFFICE AUTOM, SU, \$61.99; MIDWEST TOWING, SE, \$69.56; MIPS INC, SE, \$4,925.40; NEBRASKA INTERACTIVE, SE, \$4.00; OFFICENET, SE, \$3,958.47; OREILLY AUTOM, SU, \$398.54; PAC N SAVE, SU, \$30.49; PAPER TIGER SHRED, SE, \$170.00; PEREZ INTERPRETING, SE, \$100.00; PETTY CASH FUND, FE, \$735.00; REDIGER AUTOMOTIVE, SE, \$335.77; REDWOOD TOX LAB, SE, \$110.00; REGION V SYSTEMS, SE, \$10,466.50; SEW CO INDEPENDENT, SE, \$872.17; SEWARD CO PUB TRANS, SE, \$60.00; SEW LUMBER, SU, \$2.25; SOARIN GROUP, SE, \$5,981.89; SUMMIT FOOD SERVICE, SE, \$4,386.69; THE HOME DEPOT PRO, SU, \$235.70; THOMSON REUTERS, SE, \$1,241.00; TIME WARNER CABLE, UT, \$346.74; TOP QUALITY GLOVES, SU, \$442.50; TWIN RIVERS, SE, \$500.00; VALLEY CO SHERIFF, SE, \$18.00; VERIZON CONNECT, UT, \$909.49; VISA, FE, \$217.48; WELLS FARGO FIN LEAS, SE, \$198.15; WINDSTREAM, UT, \$7,970.19; WRECKONCILED, SE, \$7,970.19; WRECKONCILED INT SOL, UT, \$74.99; KENNETH PANKOKE, SE, \$281.13; CENTRAL SAND & GRAVEL, SU, \$13,853.84; CENTRAL STATES HYDR SERV, SE, \$870.13; DALE JOHNSON ENT, SE, \$11,067.30; FASTENAL COMPANY, SU, \$151.01; G & P DEVEL LANDFILL, FE, \$5.00; JOHNSON SAND & GRAVEL, SU, \$43,649.03; KERFORD

LIMESTONE CO, SU, \$12,436.02; MEDICAL ENTERPRISES, SU, \$70.00; MEMORIAL CLINIC, SE, \$105.00; MIDWEST SERVICE, SE, \$847.85; NE ASSN OF CO ENGINEERS, FE, \$325.00; NE PUB POW DIST, UT, \$160.46; NMC, INC, SE, \$7,575.08; NORRIS PUB POW DIST, UT, \$1,308.32; POMP'S TIRE SERVICE, SE, \$793.40; PRECISION TOOL, SE, \$40.04; RDO TRUCK CENTERS, SE, \$557.39; ROSE EQUIPMENT, EQ, \$1,596.70; SACK LUMBER, SU, \$28.99; TRUCK EQUIP SERVICE, SE, \$136.50; VILLAGE OF GARLAND, FE, \$49.13; SEWARD CO CHAMBER, FE, \$1,250.00; DELTA DENTAL OF NE, SE, \$87.56; SEW CO HLTH CLM FND, FE, \$75,716.95; AGING PARTNERS, SE, \$105.22; MOMS MEALS, SE, \$138.23; US POST OFFICE, SU, \$55.00; BIZCO INC, SE, \$12,425.26; ENTERPRISE UAS, SE, \$10,355.99; FIRST WIRELESS, UT, \$861.04; MARVCO ENT, SE, \$2,056.10; JONES AUTOM, SE, \$1,245.55; LINCOLN POLICE, SE, \$72.10; POTTER REPAIR, SE, \$75.68; SHINETECH SFTWR, SU, \$7,470.00; TRANSUNION, SE, \$323.00; CENT NNL TEAMMATES, FE, \$126.00; E911 WIRELESS FUND, FE, \$4,413.80; GEOCOMM INC, UT, \$1,011.00 SALARIES: \$253,659.08 GROSS SALARIES INCLUDE DEDUCTIONS TO: COLONIAL SUPPLEMENTAL INSURANCE; MID AMERICAN CO WISCONSIN; DELTA DENTAL; VSP VISION; WADDELL & REED SCI/MT — January 27, 2021 ZNEZ

### Bids

**NOTICE**  
The Seward County Board of Commissioners will obtain proposals in the form of sealed bids for preparation and painting of the exterior of the Seward County courthouse dome, corner domes and clocktower. To obtain a copy of the request for proposal contact the Seward County Clerk at 402-643-2883. Proposals must be submitted by 9:30 a.m. February 12, 2021, at the Seward County Clerk's office, Room 205, 529 Seward Street, Seward NE. SCI/MT — January 27, February 03, 2021 ZNEZ

### Meetings

CITY OF MILFORD Milford, Nebraska 68405 **NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Milford, Nebraska, to be held at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, February 2, 2021, at City Hall, 402 1st Street, Milford, which meeting 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. Jeanne Hoggins, City Clerk MT — January 27, 2021 ZNEZ



# Say it isn't snow: winter storm blows through Milford



City crews and beyond get out and about the morning of Jan. 26 to move piles and piles of snow in Milford.

A very unofficial check shows about 11 inches of snow fell in Milford and the surrounding area Jan. 25-26. By Wednesday morning, many sidewalks had been cleared and city crews worked to remove snow from the downtown area.

## COVID safety measures keep influenza at bay

by Greg Forbes  
editor@sewardindependent.com

Amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, area medical professionals have noticed that influenza cases have been held at bay so far this year. Dr. Jason Summa, Seward Family Medical Center, said statewide through Jan. 9, just 140 positive tests for influenza had been recorded. In the last week of December 2020 alone, Summa said the state registered 2,000 positive tests. Summa credited the lack of influenza cases to safety protocols put in place due to the pandemic. "These low numbers don't come from a lack of testing. We've run more than 25,000 tests for influenza in the state this flu season," he said. "There is no doubt that these low numbers are influenced by the measures we are taking to control the virus. Like COVID-19, influenza is a respiratory virus, and social distancing, hand washing and masking are effectively limiting the amount of influenza we are seeing." According to the Nebraska Influenza Surveillance Report issued Jan. 15, the positivity rate for influenza tests

sits at just .55 percent. Laura McDougall, executive director for Four Corners Health Department, said the region has seen almost no influenza presence this year. She, too, said lack of testing is not the case. Along with adherence to social distancing, mask wearing and sanitation, McDougall said the lack of cases correlate with an increase of influenza vaccinations distributed. "We had record reports of people being vaccinated for influenza this season, compared to other years," she said. "I believe these are all factors contributing to the dearth of flu cases." Summa said that the lack of influenza cases this year is vital to hospitals and care facilities as the battle against COVID-19 continues. By limiting the amount of hospitalizations and clinic visits due to the flu, Summa said resources can be better conserved for those diagnosed with COVID-19. "These lower numbers mean fewer hospitalizations and complications from influenza," he said. "This is very important as we deal with the current COVID-19 pandemic."

## What to know on Save Our Stages Act opportunities

by Zane Francescato  
SCCDP Development and Government Affairs Director

A grant opportunity will soon be available to arts organization operators and businesses who operate live-event venues and have been disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. As part of the omnibus package passed in December, the Save Our Stages Act secured \$15 billion for a Shuttered Venues Operators Grant Program. The program will be administered by the Small Business Administration's Office of Disaster Assistance and will provide economic relief to eligible business and organizations. The SBA will release more detailed eligibility requirements soon but has stated eligible entities will include live venue operators or promoters; theatrical producers; live performing arts organization operators; relevant museum operators; zoos and aquariums who meet specific criteria; motion picture theater operators, talent representatives and each business entity owned by an eligible entity that also meets the eligibility requirements. Additionally, entities must have been in operation as of Feb. 29, 2020, and are currently in operation or intending to reopen. Entities are ineligible to apply for this grant if they received a Paycheck Protection Program loan on or after Dec. 27, 2020; are classified as "big arts corporations and large endowments" with 500 or more employees; are explicit in a sexual nature; or are majority-owned or publicly traded. Additionally, any entity that received more than 10% of gross revenue from federal funding in 2019 or entities that have multiple businesses in more than one country

or more than 10 states are also ineligible. For any entity that is eligible and interested in applying for a grant, the program will be rolled out in a restricted and unrestricted phase to maximize the program's impact. Both phases have specific timelines that interested entities will need to pay attention to. In the restricted phase, grants will be issued on a priority basis and opened only to those small arts businesses and organizations with 50 or fewer employees. First priority applications will be opened for the first 14 days of the program to entities that suffered a 90% or greater loss in revenue between April 2020 and December 2020 (compared to 2019). Second priority applications will be opened for the next 14 days of the program to entities that suffered a 70% or greater revenue loss between April 2020 and December 2020 (compared to 2019). Third priority applications will be opened to entities that suffered a 25% or greater revenue loss between April 2020 and December 2020 (compared to 2019), 28 days after first and second priority awards are made. Finally, a supplemental round of funding will be made available to award recipients who suffered a 70% or greater loss in revenue for the most recent calendar quarter (beginning in April 2021 or later). In the unrestricted phase, all eligible entities of any size that suffered a 25% or greater loss in revenue will be invited to apply 61 days after initial grants have been awarded to those who applied in the restricted phase. If a business is awarded a grant, funds can be used for specific expenses including: • Payroll costs

- Rent payments
  - Utility payments
  - Scheduled mortgage payments (not including prepayment of principal)
  - Scheduled debt payments (not including prepayment of principal) on any indebtedness incurred in the ordinary course of business prior to Feb. 15, 2020)
  - Worker protection expenditures
  - Payments to independent contractors (not to exceed \$100,000 in annual compensation per contractor)
  - Other ordinary and necessary business expenses, including maintenance costs
  - Administrative costs (incl. fees and licensing)
  - State and local taxes and fees
  - Operating leases in effect as of Feb. 15, 2020
  - Insurance payments
  - Advertising, production transportation and capital expenditures related to producing a theatrical or live performing arts production. (May not be primary use of funds)
- As stated, the SBA has yet to release an application window or process but is expected to release more information soon. In the meantime, the Seward County Chamber and Development Partnership encourages interested entities to gather financial statements for 2019-2020 and the information to prove/verify the entity charges admission to live events, pays artists, has 70% of earned revenue coming from live events, and advertises events to the public. For more information about the SBA Shuttered Venue Operators Grant, visit [www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/coronavirus-relief-options/shuttered-venue-operators-grant](http://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/coronavirus-relief-options/shuttered-venue-operators-grant) or send an email to [SVOGrant@sba.gov](mailto:SVOGrant@sba.gov).

## Nixle keeps Seward County safe

by Stephanie Croston  
scroston@sewardindependent.com



Wondering what the siren was about? Why the police cars are headed out of town? What's up with weather warnings? Try Nixle. The notification system provides area residents with information about emergencies. "It saves a lot of calls to 911," Seward County Sheriff Mike Vance said. The system helps law enforcement personnel communicate with each other, as well, Vance said. Each entity uses a different radio frequency, but Nixle allows them to communicate with each other. It was used when the sheriff's office and Nebraska State Patrol were searching for a person running from law enforcement, Vance said. Weather alerts are added by the county emergency manager, he said. Chelsea Smith, office manager for the sheriff's department, said anyone can register and sign up for voice messages, text messages or email alerts. Text 888777 from a cellphone to sign up. To sign up for more specific alerts, go to

nixle.com. Those who may not be tech savvy or who are uncertain about signing up can call Smith at (402) 643-2359 and she will walk them through sign up. "It is very easy," Sharon Dickinson, community liaison to the sheriff, said. "I would like to see every phone in the county sign up," Vance said. He said even kids' phones should have Nixle so they know what's going on if they're not at home or if they're home alone. A family plan for potential lock-down is also a good idea, he said. Initially, the system was used for weather alerts, Smith said. It was used to communicate between staff at the sheriff's department and jail when it came to office closings. Now, it's used for all

the county employees to notify about closings and other information. In 2018, Smith received awards for using Nixle. One came from a search for a missing person on Interstate 80. The sheriff's office, Nebraska State Patrol and sheriff's posse were able to use the program to tell each group where the other groups were searching. "That was the only way to communicate with all of them," Vance said. "People don't want to know until something is happening," Smith said. "It's a great tool." She said law enforcement can attach photos and sketches of missing people, for example. Tips can be sent back to the Nixle system. The county uses drug fund money to pay for the system, so there is no charge to the county.

Find us on: **facebook**®

THE MILFORD Times  
607 1st St. • Milford, NE 68405  
402-761-2911

**SHOP LOCAL**

THE MILFORD Times  
607 1st St. • Milford, NE  
402-761-2911