

THE MILFORD Times

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Whiteout conditions wreak havoc on I-80

by Greg Forbes
editor@sewardindependent.com

Blowing snow last Thursday led to a busy morning for the Seward County Sheriff's Office.

Chelsea Smith, Operations Manager for the sheriff's office, said deputies began responding to accidents on Interstate 80 at 4:30 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 4. With a mid-morning shift change included, Smith said 10 deputies worked the interstate as heavy winds and falling snow created white out conditions throughout the morning.

"Everyone was out there," Smith said.

Smith said deputies, assisted by Nebraska State Patrol, worked traffic control and accident response on the interstate throughout the day. The conditions also required



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE SEWARD COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

The Seward County Sheriff's Office Thursday, Feb 4 responded to multiple accidents along Interstate 80. A still from dash cam footage shows the problems caused by whiteout conditions that morning.

deputies to run "football traffic", where a patrol car straddles the lanes in an attempt to have motorists slow down.

Although the call volume

was high, Smith said all accidents on the interstate were relatively minor in nature.

"All of them were just non-injury accidents and

slide offs into the ditch," she said.

Smith said that last Thursday's storm generated more calls for emergency response

and law enforcement assistance than the snowstorm the previous week that dumped more than a foot of snow across Nebraska. She said more motorists were likely out because of a minor amount of snow forecasted and the fact that school and other activities were still scheduled.

"People probably didn't prepare for this as much as they did the last snow storm (Jan. 25)," she said. "Schools were still going and had a late start, so people may have thought it'd be okay."

However, she said conditions deteriorated quickly and caught many motorists off guard.

"The lines on the roads got covered up so fast, it was pretty hard to stay in the lane," she said.

Educators praise foster placement legislation

by Greg Forbes
editor@sewardindependent.com

A bill put forward by Nebraska District 24 Sen. Mark Kolterman (R-Seward) that would give schools advanced notice of a new enrollment due to foster placement is being heralded by local education officials.

LB 143 states "that if a determination is made by the Department of Health and Human Services for if it is in the best interest of child who is in the care of the department to not remain in the same school district after a placement change is made, the notice of placement change that is filed with the Court shall also be provided to the new school where the child will be enrolled."

The Department of Health and Human Services conducted a hearing on the proposal last Wednesday. Kolterman, along with Seward Public Schools Superintendent Josh Fields and John Skretta, administrator for Educational Service Unit 6 of Milford, provided testimony in support of the bill.

No action has been taken as of yet, but Kolterman said he's pleased with the support the bill has gotten from schools, the court system, the DHHS and virtually all entities involved in the foster care system.

"I feel that when we're talking about the success of children in the foster care system, it's ex-

continued on 2

CONFERENCE CHAMPS



STEPHANIE CROSTON/MT

The Milford wrestling team won its first team title in the Southern Nebraska Conference Jan. 30, besting defending champion David City by two points.



STEPHANIE CROSTON/MT

The Milford boys' basketball team won the Southern Nebraska Conference tournament Feb. 8, defeating Centennial 56-42 in the championship game. Read more about the tournament on page 5.

Vaccine efforts roll on

by Hope Moural
hope@sewardindependent.com

The Feb. 4 Four Corners COVID-19 briefing was filled with many questions and discussion about vaccine distribution throughout the health district's coverage area including Seward, Butler, Polk and York counties.

In relation to Seward County, health director Laura McDougall said over 800 doses of the Moderna vaccine have been given out and continue to climb each day.

Within the whole district, COVID-19 cases sit at 4,723 with 4,250 vaccines distributed, and McDougall was hopeful the vaccine number would surpass the reported case number by the end of the Feb. 5 week.

"We have pretty good numbers rolling in and for every shot we have, we want to put it into an arm," McDougall said.

Seward City Administrator Greg Butcher reported that frontline city workers and police staff are the next to get the vaccine within the county. He also reminded participants that Seward's mask mandate is in effect until March 3 but could be discussed again as early as the city council's Feb. 16 meeting.

He said for the most continued on 2

Edward Jones

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Foster bill

(continued from 1) tremely important we bring all the people together who work with those children," he said. "This bill brings all those players together and allows them to talk back and forth and give each other a heads up that this child will be in your school system, in your community and lets them (schools) prepare to make sure the child's new life is successful."

The bill would provide schools with 24 hours or more notice that a new child will likely be enrolled at the school. Skretta said this is important because it allows schools the chance to make sure they have educational supports and programs in place to satisfy the needs of a new student.

"If you have a student that has become a ward of the state, that student typically is need in some form of service in support in order to have them have a higher likelihood of success," Skretta said. "Those kids have been through a lot, they've suffered trauma and setbacks and

on top of that, they face a change of school placement, which can create an additional level of trauma. It's important schools know in advance what students need."

Fields added that schools are currently at a disadvantage, as foster students typically arrive at school with little warning for the districts. He said Seward Public Schools has seen first hand the need for the bill, which is why he provided a written testimony in support of it at Wednesday's hearing.

"We're a district that's impacted a lot by this," he said. "This will really help in making sure we're doing what's best for our students."

Kolterman said this is the second year the bill has been presented. While the first iteration did not gain momentum, Kolterman said this year's was designed in conjunction with the DHHS, Nebraska Applesseed and other foster care officials. The result was a bill that showed an ambition to provide foster students of all backgrounds the

best education possible. "We came up with legislation everyone could sign off on," he said. "We had no opposition at the hearing from anyone. We're very optimistic we are going to get good results from that piece."

The bill will now be debated by the DHHS committee, which will choose whether or not to advance it.

Although the bill's future is up in the air for now, Fields said he's pleased at the efforts of those involved to write a bill that focuses on the educational needs of foster students. He specifically thanked Kolterman for his steadfastness with the bill and ambition to create a version that's agreeable with all parties involved.

"It's a great example of cooperation and commitment," he said. "I know that from an education side, we appreciate knowing that we've got someone who is willing and ready to partner up with schools to support our children."

Obituary

Verna J. Deinert

Oct. 17, 1933 – Feb. 8, 2021

Verna Jean Deinert was born on the family farm near Emerald on Oct. 17, 1933, to August and Hilda (Janssen) Meyer and passed away Feb. 8, 2021, in Lincoln, at The Journey House at the age of 87 years, 3 months and 22 days.

Verna was baptized Dec. 3, 1933, at St. Paul's Evangelical and Reformed Church in Lincoln and was confirmed May 4, 1947, at St. John's Lutheran Church near Emerald.

She attended grade school at Lancaster County District #38 and high school at Teacher's College High in Lincoln, graduating in 1950. Verna attended summer school at the University of Nebraska to receive a teaching certificate. She began teaching school at the age of 16. She taught two years and then worked at First National Bank in Lincoln for two years.

On Nov. 22, 1953 Verna was united in marriage to Harold Deinert at St. Paul's Evangelical and Reformed Church in Lincoln. They lived on the farm until moving to Seward in 2016. Verna loved her life as a farm wife, raising her four children, growing a garden, helping Harold with chores, driving the truck during harvest, chasing cows or whatever was needed. She also loved to sew and quilt. She sewed many wedding dresses over the years and made quilts for the kids, grandkids and others. After the kids were gone from home, she worked part-time for Carroll Costume Shop sewing Santa suits, clown outfits and many costumes for high school theatrical performances.

Verna was a member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Pleasant Dale for 67 years and was an active member of the Ladies Aid Society. She was a member of the Emerald Extension Club.

She preceded in death by her parents, August and Hilda Meyer; husband, Harold; sister, Iva Miller.

Survivors cherishing her memory include her children and spouses, Jean and husband, Ron Petsch, Milford, Donna and husband, Brad Havenner, Milford, Melvin and wife, Linda Deinert, Emerald, JoAnn and husband, Bob Boshart, Emerald; grandchildren, Justine Petsch, Cody and wife, Jamie Havener, Calvin Havener, Scott and wife, Megan Deinert, Melinda Deinert; great-grandchildren, Hudson Deinert, Jaden Schulz.

Visitation is from 1 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 11, at Zabka-Perdue Funeral Home in Seward with family receiving friends from 6 to 8 p.m. A funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Friday, Feb. 12, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Pleasant Dale with a graveside service and interment at St. John's Cemetery in Lincoln at 1:30 p.m. Memorial contributions are suggested to the donor's choice. Condolences may be left for the family at www.zabkafuneral-home.com.



Vaccine

(continued from 1) part, compliance among Seward residents has fared well and remains positive.

Next, Memorial Healthcare Systems CEO Roger Reamer came on to talk hospital vaccination plans and answer questions that popped up.

The institution has been giving vaccines

via appointment at the Ag Pavilion, with 250 scheduled for this week.

Of the 800 vaccines the Four Corners district received, anywhere from 150-250 are given to MCHS on a weekly basis. Reamer answered questions about vaccine notifications, what people can expect when notified

and beyond.

MHCS is currently working with those eldest of age in the county and moving down, as of this week sitting in the late 80s age range for distribution.

He told participants that two doses of the vaccine are needed for each person, so distribution will take a good amount of time.

"Over 1,900 people that are in our county are 65 and older, so distribution will take a while," Reamer said.

Representatives from Seward County Chamber and Development Partnership, Concordia University and the ministerial association also gave updates as well.

Real Estate

Information taken from records filed with the Seward County clerk.

Jan. 27 – Feb. 2

Louis M. Kopiasz to Jeremy Martin, S1/2 of Lot 3 and the north 40 feet of Lot 4, Block 8, Goehner. DS \$146.25

Campbell Rentals, LLC, to Rachel Holte and Matthew Holte, a tract of land in the NW1/4 SE1/4 23-11-3. DS \$324

Beau Kinnett to Samantha J. Kinnett, Lots 9-10, Block 12, Milford. DS exempt

Logan M. Milton and Kristen A. Milton and Bailey M. Zimmer and Joshua D. Zimmer to Wayne H. Milton, SW1/4 30-9-1. DS \$819

Milton Ag Consulting, LLC, to Eric W. Milton, SW1/4 30-9-1. DS exempt

Robert D. Milton and Jill M. Milton to Eric W. Milton, SW1/4 30-9-1. \$76.50

Robert D. Milton and Jill M. Milton to Wayne H. Milton, SW1/4 30-9-1. DS exempt

Wayne H. Milton and Lorraine C. Milton to Wayne H. Milton and Lorraine C. Milton, SW1/4 30-9-1. DS exempt

Larry R. Heyen and Donna M. Heyen to Matthew Sample and Lindsey Sample, Lot 8, Block D, Davison and Culver's Addition to Milford. DS \$112.50

Roger W. Beckmann and Connie F. Beckmann to Toby J. Beckmann, a tract of land in the N1/2 SE1/4 and the SE1/4 SE1/4, 8-11-4. DS \$360

Joel S. Dietz and Tammi F. Dietz to Ryan

L. Hinds and Amanda Hinds, a tract of land in the E1/2 Lots 2, 3 and 6, Block 27, Seward. DS \$393.75

David L. Rocker and Connie Rocker to Rocker Triangle, LLC, an interest in a tract of

land in the N1/2 SE1/4 27-11-2. DS exempt
Gail M. Lee and Patrick Lee to Rocker Triangle, LLC, an interest in a tract of land in the N1/2 SE1/4 27-11-2. DS exempt

Marriage licenses

Information taken from records filed with the Seward County clerk.

January

Jessica Price, Beaver Crossing, and Jacob Ash, Beaver Crossing
Carin Nantkes, Utica, and Tanner Griggs, Utica
Skylar Gambrel, Seward, and Jacob Ainsworth, Seward

Macy Perdue, Lincoln, and Jason Bosak, Lincoln
Kirsten Herling, Garland, and Mitchell Novak, Garland
Carmen Wolfenden, David City, and Kevin Behrens, David City

Elizabeth Dowling, Seward, and Jared Donner, Seward

156+/- ACRES, SALINE COUNTY LAND AUCTION
Thursday, March 11, 2021 • 7:00 p.m.
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FARM LOCATION:
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K-Kids collect hand and foot warmers

by Cory Hartman
MPS elementary principal

The K-Kids Club collected hand and foot warmers for the Matt Talbot Kitchen and Outreach.

This year a goal of 100 warmers was set and the students and families of Milford Elementary more than doubled that goal collecting 250 warmers.

Warmers will be distributed to homeless persons by MTKO staff throughout the winter months.

The K-Kids Club would like to thank the students and parents at Milford Elementary for participating in this activity and helping us to warm the hands and feet of those who are less fortunate in our community.

Getting crafty with food



COURTESY PHOTOS

Day one of Mallory Gregory's and Shelly Mowinkel's after-school program focusing on Career and Technical Education was a huge success. The students learned all about the culinary arts field and experienced dicing different vegetables for a stir fry meal. This program will give nearly 30 Milford sixth graders seven days of experiences throughout the month of February.

Learning scientific sounds



COURTESY PHOTO

First graders have been learning all about sound in science. Their studies included identifying and describing sounds, exploring sound vibrations, learning about volume and pitch and understanding how sounds are used to communicate. Highlights of the unit include: going on a sound walk, exploring sound with instruments, making telephone cups, using the voice memos app to make a sound graph, observing oobleck "dance" on a speaker and even creating their own instrument. Now onto light energy!

Stay warm, Eagles!

Sorry for snow, folks; it's all my fault

by Greg Forbes
 editor@sewardindependent.com

I'm sorry. It's all my fault.

What exactly is my fault? Well, look outside at the 20 inches of snow we've gotten over the last two weeks.



Greg Forbes
 Editor

I didn't ask for it, nor do I love it, but historic storms seem to follow me to new cities. I hadn't even been in Seward a month before

the second biggest snowstorm in recorded history hit the area.

When I moved to Hampton, Iowa, at the end of 2017, we battled windchills that dipped into the negative 30s. I specifically remember water and other beverages we packed in the back of a pickup to move 30 minutes froze solid during the drive. I came to find out it was the coldest New Year's Eve that area had ever experienced.

Prior to Hampton, I lived in a small town in east-central Iowa called Parkersburg. Parkers-

burg gained national recognition in 2008 for a tornado that destroyed half of the town. I missed that storm by a few years.

So what storm followed me there? One of the largest March snowfalls in several decades fell just two days after I moved to Parkersburg. This was during a winter season where the high on Christmas Day reached 50 degrees. I recall my new neighbors at the time joking that they thought they had accidentally moved to Florida until that storm hit.

In 2014, I moved to Sioux City to work for the Sioux City Journal. My interview there was delayed because of a blizzard, which wasn't too unusual since it was February, but it still should've been a harbinger of things to come.

I eventually took the job and started the first week of May. The year prior, we had a good four-inch snowfall in the middle of May. History didn't repeat itself for the move, but within two weeks of working for the Journal, I found myself hunkered down in the basement of the Sioux

City City Hall with the Sioux City Council, public officials and other media as a tornado touched down in the rural parts of the city.

I won't even dive deep into my college move-ins and move outs. I went to college in South Dakota, so you can probably guess that my drives to and from winter break had some doozies.

Funnily enough, the worst weather I encountered during my time at South Dakota State was the floods of 2011. A good portion of my route from Brookings to Carroll, Iowa, traveled along the

Missouri River. I got pretty familiar with the detours, one-way roads and just the sheer devastation of the waters that summer.

As I'm sitting here writing this column, I'm looking out on another steady snowfall that has covered up the deck I shoveled the day before.

Again, I didn't ask for this but I do apologize. The newness of my move is starting to wear off, so hopefully the winter that has already eclipsed the average snowfall total by a foot isn't far behind.

Bush cherries – A game-changer

by Sarah Browning
 Lancaster County Extension educator

Cherries have been a favored fruit for centuries, eaten by people since before recorded history.

Sweet cherries, *Prunus avium*, are native throughout most of Europe, western Asia and parts of northern Africa. Naturally, they have been used extensively in holiday cooking through the years.

But tart cherries, *Prunus cerasus*, are the most common and well-adapted cherry grown in Nebraska. Of the tart cherries, Montmorency is the long-time Midwest standard. Montmorency cherry grows into a medium sized tree, 15 to 18 feet in height and width. It has been in cultivation for more than 400 years.

Other varieties of tart cherry that grow well in Nebraska include Meteor and Balaton. There is also a naturally dwarf variety North Star available, which is extremely hardy and thrives in the harsh Midwest environment. But a new group of cherries, called bush cherries, offer great fruit, even better winter hardiness and much easier picking due to their short stature.

History
 Development of bush cherries began in Canada in the 1940s and resulted in a variety marketed as the Mongolian cherry. During the 1980s, breeders at the University of Saskatchewan made crosses between the Mongolian cherry and the naturally dwarf tree form North Star.

The result of these crosses were a group of shrub-form tart cherries that are very hardy, with the high fruit quality characteristics of North Star and increased sugar content. The Romance cherry series includes the following cultivars – Carmine Jewel, Crimson Passion, Cupid, Juliet, Romeo and Valentine.

Their breeding history makes bush cherries a lesser-known form of tart cherries. They are extremely hardy (Zone 2), suffer from relatively few insect and disease problems and actually have a higher sugar content than tree-types of tart cherries.

Characteristics
 Carmine Jewel reaches a height of six feet, with a similar width. Fruit yields increase as plants mature, starting at 15+ pounds per plant in the fourth year and 20-30+ pounds in the

fifth year.

Crimson Passion blooms a few days before Carmine Jewel and has low fruit production compared to Carmine Jewel. Height 10 feet, width seven feet.

Juliet is slightly sweeter flavor, moderate fruit production compared to Carmine Jewel. Height five to eight feet.

Romeo is slightly sweeter flavor, moderate fruit production compared to Carmine Jewel. Height six to eight feet.

All four cultivars are self-pollinating, meaning the flowers from one bush will pollinate each other, so technically a second pollinating plant is not needed. However, a second pollinating type of bush cherry can increase fruit set. Each plant should be spaced six feet apart in a row.

Unfortunately, Cupid and Valentine are not available to home gardeners.

Production
 Bush forms of cherries begin producing fruit sooner than the tree forms. Fruit production begins at the third year, although there will only be a few fruits that year. Full production is achieved during the fifth year, if the plants have experienced good

growing conditions. Carmine Jewel is the best producer with 20 to 30 pounds of fruit per plant once plants are well-established. Depending on the variety, harvest can be as early as late July or as late as September.

But don't get too rosy a picture of bush cherries. Yes, they offer a high level of winter hardiness and easy harvesting, but they are still susceptible to all the common cherry insect and disease problems. Good site selection, regular care (water, mulch, pruning) and pest control will be required to produce high quality fruits.

Still, even considering maintenance needs, bush cherries can be a highly productive addition to a home orchard or landscape. Their versatility allows them to be planted in a variety of settings – both a formal orchard or a mixed ornamental planting. They can be an integral part of your formal or edible landscape because of their beautiful flowers and fruit. You can plant them in a windbreak enhancing the structure while supplying delicious cherries to you and wildlife. Considering all these benefits, they are well worth the effort.

We asked you:

What's a favorite Super Bowl snack of yours?

Wings: 12

Nachos: 9

Pigs in a blanket: 4

All the cheese dip: 7

Now we want to know:

What's a classic Valentine's gift for your sweetie?

Flowers.

Candy.

A card.

Nothing.

Vote on our Facebook page or at the link at milfordtimes.net. Results will be published in next week's issue.

Letters to the editor: Keep it at 500 words and provide a phone number so we can verify it's you.

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Eagles win conference tournament

by Stephanie Croston
scroston@sewardindependent.com

With the score tied 25-25 at halftime, the Milford Eagles changed their defense.

Against the 1-3-1 zone, the Centennial jump shooters were finding gaps. The Eagles switched to man-to-man in the second half and smothered the Centennial offense. MHS pulled away in the second half to win the Southern Nebraska Conference championship game 56-42.

The Eagles outscored the Broncos 11-6 in the third quarter and 20-11 in the fourth.

Micah Hartwig led MHS with 20 points. Jaxon Weyand added 16, and Seth Stutzman scored 10.

The Eagles added two more wins to their tally during the first two rounds of the Southern Nebraska Conference tournament, setting up a championship clash with county rival Cen-



Seth Stutzman of Milford fights for position in the lane as Centennial's Cooper Gierhan (left) and Lane Zimmer defend during the Southern Nebraska Conference championship Feb. 8.

ennial Feb. 8.

The week started with a 67-38 win over Sandy Creek Feb. 2 in the quarterfinals.

"We got off to a good start with 22 in the first quarter," Coach Tony Muller said. "It was up

and down the floor."

Stutzman made two three-pointers to start the game. Weyand scored nine in the first period, and Hartwig added five.

The second and third quarters were more

even, then the Eagles pulled away in the fourth.

Muller said one of the keys was free throws where Milford was 15-23 and Sandy Creek was 7-9. Offensive rebounds were also important; MHS led that category 12-2.

Stutzman paced the team with 17 points. Weyand added 16 points and seven rebounds, and Hartwig chipped in 12 points, five assists and four steals.

The win put Milford in the semifinals Feb. 4 against Heartland, and MHS got the 66-39 victory. Heartland was 12-2 coming into the game and ranked No. 10, Muller said.

The game started out with everyone on fire. Both teams hit three-pointers. Both teams scored on fast breaks.

Muller said it was good to see the offense rolling, and that got the defense going, as well.

"In the second quarter, we were able to clamp down on defense and hit some transition baskets," he said.

By the third quarter, Milford started to get the ball inside to Stutzman, who finished with 17 points.

"It was a complete team effort," Muller said.

Weyand added 18 points for MHS. Stutzman and Cabe Schluckebier recorded six rebounds each.

Muller said the bench play was key to keeping Heartland at bay. Bryce Jakub, Camden Springer, Cason Tucker, Kaleb Miller and Maddox Baack give the Eagles god minutes off the bench every game.

"They give what they have for as long as they're on the court," Muller said.

The Eagles (21-0) hosts Sandy Creek Friday, Feb. 12, and travels to Boys Town Saturday, Feb. 13.

Milford 67, Sandy Creek 38					
SCHS	10	12	11	5	38
MHS	22	13	13	19	67
SCHS—Totals 13-37 7-9 38.					
MHS—Isaac Yeackley 2-4 2-2 7, Micah Hartwig 4-8 3-3 12, Bryce Jakub 0-1 0-0 0, Camden Springer 1-5 2-4 5, Cason Tucker 3-3 0-2 6, Maddox Baack 1-3 0-0 2, Jaxon Weyand 5-9 5-6 16, Carter Roth 0-1 0-1 0, Kaleb Miller 1-4 0-0 2, Seth Stutzman 6-13 3-5 17. Totals 23-51 15-23 67.					
Three-point goals—SCHS 5-13, MHS 6-18 (Yeackley 1-3, Hartwig 1-4, Springer 1-3, Baack 0-2, Weyand 1-3, Roth 0-1, Stutzman 2-2). Rebounds—SCHS 22, MHS 34 (Weyand 7). Assists—MHS 17 (Hartwig 5). Steals—MHS 9 (Hartwig 4). Turnovers—SCHS 17, MHS 6. Fouls—SCHS 19, MHS 13.					

Milford 66, Heartland 39					
HHS	15	10	8	6	39
MHS	17	22	15	12	66
MHS—Yeackley 3-4 0-0 7, Hartwig 4-8 0-0 9, Tucker 0-1 0-0 0, Baack 0-1 1-2 1, Weyand 7-15 3-4 18, Miller 2-2 0-0 4, Stutzman 7-12 3-4 17, Schluckebier 4-4 2-2 10. Totals 27-47 9-12 66.					
Three-point goals—SCHS 3-18, MHS 3-10 (Yeackley 1-2, Hartwig 1-4, Weyand 1-3, Stutzman 0-1). Rebounds—HHS 26, MHS 28 (Stutzman, Schluckebier 6). Assists—MHS 21 (Yeackley, Hartwig 5). Steals—MHS 10 (Baack 3). Blocked shots—MHS 3 (Schluckebier 2). Turnovers—HHS 15, MHS 7.					

Milford 56, Centennial 42					
CHS	11	14	6	11	42
MHS	14	11	11	20	56
CHS—Totals 14-35 11-13 42.					
MHS—Yeackley 2-4 2-2 6, Hartwig 5-9 9-10 20, Baack 0-2 2-2 2, Weyand 5-8 4-6 16, Miller 1-2 0-0 2, Stutzman 3-9 4-4 10, Schluckebier 0-2 0-0 0. Totals 16-36 21-24 56.					
Three-point goals—CHS 3-16, MHS 3-12 (Yeackley 0-1, Hartwig 1-4, Baack 0-1, Weyand 2-6, Miller 0-1). Rebounds—CHS 15, MHS 25 (Hartwig, Stutzman 5). Assists—MHS 8 (three with 2). Steals—MHS 6 (Hartwig, Weyand 2). Turnovers—CHS 8, MHS 6. Fouls—CHS 18, MHS 11.					

MHS wrestles way to districts

by Stephanie Croston
scroston@sewardindependent.com

With an additional layer of postseason wrestling added this season, the Milford wrestlers have two weeks of do or die wrestling, Coach Joe Schluckebier said.

The Eagles competed in the C3A subdistrict Feb. 5 at Aquinas.

"Our subdistrict featured some top level wrestling when you consider that us and Aquinas have two of the deepest teams in Class C," Schluckebier said. The finals featured seven head-to-head matchups between the two programs, with most of the wrestlers ranked.

The top four in each weight class advance to the district tournament. Milford had 12 of its 13 wrestlers finish in the top four. They will wrestle Saturday, Feb. 13, at Centennial with matches starting at 10:30 a.m.

Conner Kohout (106 pounds), Konner Schluckebier (126), Eli Vondra (132), Christopher Scdoris (170) and Hunter Oborny (195) finished atop their weights. Jack Chapman (138), Trent Stauffer (145), Carter Springer (152) and Lorenzo Temple (220) were second. Joey Ken-

ning (120) and Thomas Vance (182) were third, and Isaac Voboril (160) was fourth.

Among the marquee matchups, Coach Schluckebier beating No. 2 ranked Zach Zitek of Aquinas 15-3 in the final and Oborny beating No. 6 Reilly Miller of Aquinas 2-1 in the final.

Vondra was 2-2 against two ranked opponents.

"We will face the same guys again next week, plus the top four from the other subdistrict to see who goes to state," the coach said.

He was pleased with how well the team wrestled Friday.

"There was a lot of excitement for the large Milford crowd in attendance," he said.

He said there were two or three matches he thought Milford should have won, but "we will get another shot on Saturday with state qualification on the line."

Junior Carter Springer picked up his 100th career win in the opening round with a 22-second pin of Elliott Robotham from Malcolm. He's the second MHS junior to reach 100 career wins this season.



Milford's Lorenzo Temple turns Zack Pasco of Malcolm during their subdistrict match Feb. 5.

Subdistrict C3A	
Team scores—Aquinas Catholic 243.5, Milford 201, Norfolk Catholic 105, Malcolm 97, Centennial 78, South Central NE Unified Dist #5 49, Lincoln Christian 45, Louisville 31	(SCNU) 1:13; def. by Caleb Courter (MAL) 10-6; pin Lane Ballard (LC) 2:00; pin Samuel Payne (CNT) 3:26, third
106—Conner Kohout (MIL) pin Trayton Stewart (CNT) 0:34; def. Dominic Liess (NC) 4-2, first	195—Hunter Oborny (MIL) pin Anthony Roth (LC) 1:44; def. Reilly Miller (AQU) 2-1, first
120—Joey Kenning (MIL) def. by Zane Zoucha (MAL) 7-2; pin Garrison Schemikau (CNT) 2:23; def. Zoucha (MAL) 9-7, third	220—Lorenzo Temple (MIL) pin Nickolas Keith (CNT) 1:05; pin Zack Pasco (MAL) 4:41; def. by Coy Meysenburg (AQU) 7-0, second
126—Konner Schluckebier (MIL) pin Bryce Teut (MAL) 0:52; pin Niklas Sorensen (LVL) 0:49; def. Zach Zitek (AQU) 15-3, first	285—Trey Lyon (MIL) pinned by Isaac Wilcox (NC) 1:37; pinned by Paul Buresh (AQU) 4:39
132—Eli Vondra (MIL) def. Kanyon Talton (NC) 4-2; def. Noah Scott (AQU) 4-2, first	
138—Jack Chapman (MIL) pin Brock Hudson (LVL) 1:05; pinned by Hunter Vandenberg (AQU) 1:45, second	
145—Trent Stauffer (MIL) def. Allan Olander (NC) 5-3; medical forfeit to Christopher Nickolite (AQU), second	
152—Carter Springer (MIL) pin Elliott Robotham (MAL) 0:22; pin Jackson Cooley (LC) 0:50; def. by Ethan Schmid (AQU) 5V-1 9-7, second	
160—Isaac Voboril (MIL) pinned by Nolan Eller (AQU) 3:07; pin Cody Gray (LVL) 3:24; def. by Francisco Mendez (NC) 14-4, fourth	
170—Christopher Scdoris (MIL) pin Marcus Eickmeier (AQU) 0:24; pin Brayton Jarosik (SCNU) 4:41, first	
182—Thomas Vance (MIL) pin Ethan Devlin	

Milford falls in tourney opener

by Stephanie Croston
scroston@sewardindependent.com

The Milford girls' basketball team had to deal with some adversity in addition to Fairbury Feb. 2 in the Southern Nebraska Conference quarterfinals.

MHS senior Hannah Kepler broke her thumb during the team shoot-around earlier in the day and was unable to play.

"We found out just before taking the floor for warmups that she would not be able to play and it was tough for us to get anything positive going early in the game," Coach Phil Stauffer said.

Shooting was the difference in the game, however. Fairbury started out red-hot,

and Stauffer said, and Milford was cold. The Jeffs finished shooting 46%, while MHS shot 21%. Fairbury was 4-7 from three in the first quarter en route to a 15-4 lead.

Abby Houk scored 10 and Kaitlin Kontor added nine for MHS.

Milford (12-8) was to host Sandy Creek Feb. 9 to close the regular season. Subdistricts start Feb. 15.

Fairbury 52, Milford 30					
MHS	4	7	6	13	30
FHS	15	12	15	10	52
FHS—Totals 18-40 9-18 52.					
MHS—Makena Stutzman 0-0 0-0 0, Kaitlin Kontor 3-10 1-1 9, Alayna Piening 1-4 0-0 2, Kaitlyn Klug 0-1 0-0 2, Taylor Roth 0-3 3-4 3, Sydney Stelling 2-11 0-0 4, Abby Houk 3-5 3-5 10, Mariah Richards 0-0 2-2 2. Totals 9-42 9-14 30.					
Three-point goals—FHS 7-17, MHS 3-18 (Stutzman 0-5, Kontor 2-7, Piening 0-1, Klug 0-1, Stelling 0-1, Houk 1-3). Rebounds—FHS 31, MHS 23 (Stutzman, Houk 5). Assists—MHS 6 (Kontor 2). Steals—MHS 5 (Stelling 2). Turnovers—FHS 10, MHS 10. Fouls—FHS 12, MHS 16.					

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Mark Your Calendar!

Extension workshops coming up this month

by Jenny Rees
Seward/York counties Extension educator

It seems like January flew by. This week sharing on some upcoming programs in February.



Jenny Rees
Extension educator

Nebraska Cover Crop and Soil Health Conference will provide information to growers who are just getting started with cover crops and to those who are already making cover crops part of their operation. The program will take place Thursday, Feb. 11, from 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Attendees have the opportunity to attend either virtually or in-person at a number of sites throughout Nebraska.

In-person sites (limited attendance) include York with 25 people. There's no fee to attend and pre-registration is required at: <https://go.unl.edu/tmj5>. CCA credits are pending.

Topics and presenters

include: Soil Sensing and Soil Health – Kristen Veum, Research Soil Scientist at USDA-ARS Cropping Systems and Water Quality Research Unit, University of Missouri-Columbia; Optimizing Your Cover Crop ROI – Rebecca Clay, Strategic Initiatives Agronomy Coordinator at Practical Farmers of Iowa; Using Aerial Imagery to Determine Cover Crop Impacts on Cash Crop Growth and Development – Dr. Andrea Basche, Assistant Professor, Agronomy & Horticulture University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Experiences and Economics Using Cereal Rye as a Cover Crop – Chad Bell, Farmer; Pathway toward a Healthy and Resilient Soil to Achieve Optimum Productivity and Environmental Quality: Cover Crops are Key! – Jerry Hatfield, Retired Director, National Laboratory for Agriculture and the Environment; On-farm Research of Incorporating Cover Crop into a Three-Crop Dryland Rotation, Ken

Jenny's REESources

Herz, Owner/Operator of Herz Land and Cattle, and Cover Crop Panel – discussion with growers, landowners and consultants.

Soils School: This is a great opportunity for those needing CEUs for soil and water credits and for anyone wanting to learn more about soils. Co-sponsored by the Department of Agronomy and Horticulture of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the Nebraska Agri-Business Association, this virtual course has been specifically designed for new employees and a refresher course for all employees to give them the basics in soils.

Watch it live Feb. 17-18, or earn credits by accessing the recordings and self-reporting your CEUs. A total of nine soil and water and seven nutrient management CEUs are being made available through this course. More info here:

<https://na-ba.com/member-resources/calendar/>. Nebraska On-Farm Research Updates will be held both virtually and in-person on Feb. 25 and 26. Nebraska farmers conducted more than 100 on-farm research

studies in 2020. There were 20 studies locally where farmers worked with me.

These updates are an incredible opportunity to learn from these farmers and network with other innovative produc-

ers. There is no cost to attend, but pre-registration is required. Seating is limited, so register early. Visit <https://go.unl.edu/2021onfarm-research> for registration, details and program updates.

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Jesse Murphy DDS

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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 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*

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Minutes

PROCEEDINGS OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE PLEASANT DALE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The following is a condensed version of the minutes from the January 14, 2021, meeting of the Pleasant Dale Board of Trustees. A complete copy of the minutes is on file with the Village Clerk's Office and posted at the following three places: The Community Hall, U.S. Post Office, and the American Legion bulletin boards.

CITY OF MILFORD FEBRUARY 2, 2021

The following is a condensed form of minutes: A complete copy is on file at the Milford City Hall, 402 1st St., Milford, NE, or on the city's website: milfordne.gov

Se, 5110.38; Norris Public Power, Se, 274.01; Paper Tiger Shredding, Se, 75.00; Pizza Kitchen, Ex, 172.80; Rembolt Ludtke, Se, 2000.00; Sam's Club, Su, 229.66; Servi-Tech, Su, 148.60; Sew. Co. Indep., Ex, 84.00; Toofast Supply, Su, 413.80; Union Bank, Ex, 10.00; Universal Premium, Se, 396.24; Uribe, Se, 468.00; Verizon, Se, 113.71; Verizon, Se, 96.12; Windstream Enterprise, Ex, 234.94; Windstream NE, Se, 120.28; Ameritas, Ex, 401.84; Amy Sallistean, Re, 19.43; Aramark, Se, 684.34; BCBS, Ex, 8165.26; Black Hills Energy, Se, 206.93; Blue 360 Media, Ex, 162.75; Canon, Se, 165.00; Card Service Center, Ex, 1333.81; Card Services, Ex, 27.55; Petty Cash, Ex, 60.34; Cornhusker State Industries, Ex, 4782.00; Dearborn Group, Ex, 127.28; Eakes, Su, 45.99; Emergency Medical Products, Ex, 607.04; Firespk, Ex, 127.50; Ingram Library Services, Ex, 341.50; JEO Consulting Group, Ex, 10,695.00; Kendall Hoggins, Ex, 650.00; Marvin E Jewell, Fe, 185.00; Michelle Folkers, Ex, 50.00; Milford Fire & Rescue, Ex, 50.00; NE Public Health, Ex, 30.00; NMC, Ex, 139.24; Pizza Kitchen, Ex, 561.26; Seward Co Indep, Ex, 50.42; Super Spray Car Wash, Ex, 150.00; Gary Teselle, Ex, 476.70; Verizon, Se, 85.15; Walmart, Ex, 280.50; Windstream, Se, 344.66. MT — February 10, 2021

& Partnership Development, updated the Commissioners on activities of the organization. Approved the minutes of January 19, 2021. Approved Seward County Claims through January 22, 2021. Commissioners gave an update of their activities. Approved Fee Schedules for County Clerk, Human Resources, Clerk of the District Court, Road Department and County Attorney's Office. Accepted Treasurer's 2nd Quarter Investment Report for Fiscal Year 2020-2021. Terry Wicht, Highway Supt., reported on the Road Dept. Gravel Budget. Approved Final Acceptance of Project Construction on Project BRO-7080 (27) Seward South. Approved Service Agreement with Vigilnet for monitoring equipment, as presented by Maria Hatfield, Detention Center Director, and Sara Stenger, Detention Center Programs Director. Approved Surplus Property Disposal request for District Court. Approved contract with Electronic Contracting Company for courtroom audio systems. Approved 2020/2021 Nebraska Department of Agriculture Noxious Weed Activity Report, Control Plan, Budget Report, Board Roster & Infestation Report. Held Executive Session for personnel. Agenda items dealing with 911 Center Reorganization/Staff were not discussed. Adopted the agenda for February 9, 2021, and adjourned at 10:47 a.m. Brandy Johnson Deputy County Clerk SEWARD COUNTY CLAIMS THROUGH JANUARY 22, 2021

LANCASTER CO SHERIFF, SE, \$76.15; ERIC LANDKAMER, SE, \$195.13; LAUBER FUNERAL, SE, \$520.00; BECKY MCCracken, SE, \$67.00; SUE MEDINGER, SE, \$153.38; MEMORIAL CLINIC, SE, \$65.60; MERLES GARDEN CENTER, SU, \$17.00; MID-AMERICAN INS, FE, \$36,090.89; MIDWEST DOOR, SE, \$184.00; MIPS INC, SE, \$64.42; NE ASSN CO OFFICIALS, FE, \$100.00; NE HHS SYSTEMS, SE, \$93.00; NE LAW ENF TRAINING, SE, \$75.00; DALE NIEMANN, SE, \$62.10; PEGGY OBORNY, SE, \$10.36; OFFICE DEPOT, SU, \$72.02; O'KEEFE ELEVATOR, SE, \$260.00; MICHAEL PAYNE, SE, \$75.00; PETTY CASH FUND, FE, \$108.00; POLLACK AND BALL LLC, SE, \$218.50; QUADIENT FINANCE, FE, \$244.06; QUADIENT LEASING, SE, \$81.98; QUADIENT, INC, SE, \$23.30; QUILL CORPORATION, SU, \$290.90; REGION V SERVICES, SE, \$2,484.58; ZOE RICHERT, SE, \$276.60; RR DONNELLEY, SE, \$159.73; SEWARD CO COURT, SE, \$1,279.00; SEW CO HLTH CLM FND, FE, \$140,342.45; SEW CO INDEPENDENT, SE, \$17.61; SEW CO SHERIFF'S DEPT, SE, \$33.34; SEW CO SHERIFF UNC FEES, FE, \$106.00; SOARIN GROUP, LLC, SE, \$135.00; SPARETIME, SU, \$179.77; ST NEB DAS ST ACTING, SE, \$675.28; STEINMEYER, ZACH, SE, \$2.88; SUMMIT FOOD SERV, SE, \$4,328.33; THE HOME DEPOT, SU, \$130.20; THOMSON REUTERS-WEST, FE, \$731.65; TRITECH SOFTWARE, SU, \$214.40; UNL PRINT AND COPY SERV, SE, \$140.00; UPS, SE, \$0.60; VERIZON WIRELESS SERV, UT, \$1,266.26; VIRTUAL IMPRESSIONS, SE, \$20.00; VISA, FE, \$5,722.23; VOSS ELECTRIC, SE, \$87.80; VRBK, AMY, SE, \$20.70; WRECKONCILED COLL, SE, \$548.20; WYTHERS LAW, SE, \$589.00; YORK COUNTY EMA, SE, \$12.80; 3RD MILLENNIUM CLASS, SE, \$60.00; ACKERMAN DESIGN, SE, \$84.25; DALE JOHNSON ENT, SE, \$14,723.83; HEARTLAND TIRES & TREADS, SU, \$367.90; JOHNSON IRON WORKS, SE, \$175.00; KERFORD LIMESTONE CO, SU, \$1,919.93; LOGAN CONTR SUPPLY, SU, \$49.00; MIDWEST SERVICE & SALES, SE, \$1,650.00; NE EQUIPMENT INC, SE, \$10.34; SAPP BROS PETROLEUM, SU, \$14,478.60; SIOUX CITY TARP INC, SU, \$1,725.90; SNAP-ON INDUSTRIAL, SU, \$62.71; WARRIOR STRUC INTEGRITY, SE, \$900.00; DELTA DENTAL OF NE, FE, \$29.97; AXON ENTERPRISES, SU, \$5,928.00; BIZCO INC, SE, \$251.71; RONALD STACHURA, SE, \$425.00; GREAT PLAINS UNIFORMS, SE, \$2,619.13; LINCOLN GLASS INC, SU, \$900.00; MEYER AUTOMOTIVE, SE, \$217.52; NMC, INC, SU, \$8,236.00; OSWALD ELECTRIC, SE, \$3,177.66; SHINETECH SOFTWARE, SU, \$6,278.00;

SID DILLON, EQ, \$34,083.00; WESTERN OIL II LLC, SU, \$575.39; SEWARD CO GEN FND, FE, \$1,000,000.00; FIRST WIRELESS, INC, UT, \$430.00; MOTOROLA, SE, \$3,213.92; NPPD, UT, \$266.32; ST OF NE DAS COMM, SE, \$704.00; WINDSTREAM, UT, \$3,585.07; ENCARTELE INC, SE, \$4,443.49 SALARIES: \$257,361.29 GROSS SALARIES INCLUDE DEDUCTIONS TO: COLONIAL SUPPLEMENTAL INSURANCE; MID AMERICAN COWISCONSIN; DELTADENTAL; VSP VISION; WADDELL & REED SCI/MT — February 10, 2021 ZNEZ

Hearings

CITY OF MILFORD Milford, Nebraska 68405 NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held at the meeting of the Planning & Zoning Commission of the City of Milford, Nebraska, at 7:00 P.M. on Wednesday, February 24, 2021, at the City Hall Office, 402 1st Street and at the Regular City Council meeting of the City of Milford, Nebraska, at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, March 2, 2021, at the City Hall Office, 402 1st St., Milford, which meetings will be open to the public. The public hearing is being held for the following reason: to hear testimony in favor of, or opposition to, and to answer questions in relation to a proposed Conditional Use Permit located at 1016 5th Street, Milford. 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 — February 10, 2021 ZNEZ

Meetings

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING The DVLG consortium will meet at ESU 4 and ESU 6 via Zoom on Tuesday, February 16, 2021, at 1:30 PM. The agenda is available for public inspection at the office of the administrator at ESU 6 in Milford, NE. SCI/MT/FS/WR/CR — February 10, 2021 ZNEZ

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE: Seward County Ag. Society Monday, February 15, 2021 7 p.m. Ag. Pavilion Seward County Fairgrounds Michael J. Flyr Secretary Seward Co. Ag. Society SCI/MT — February 03, 10, 2021 ZNEZ

Four factors to consider for safe winter travel

Many changes are to be expected as fall gives way to winter. Temperatures drop for much of the country, and depending on where one lives, snow, wind and ice are to be expected.

As beautiful as snow-covered landscapes can be, winter presents unique hazards, notably slippery roads and surfaces. Chilly temperatures also can put people at risk if they spend prolonged periods outdoors unprotected. According to the insurance company Carsurance, more than 156,000 crashes occur annually due to icy roads.

Roughly 17% of all vehicle crashes happen in winter conditions. Winter hazards are not exclusive to driving, however. That means winter safety involves a consideration of a host of factors.

1. Changing visibility While slippery surfaces may contribute to some accidents, visibility can quickly change with winter weather.

Blowing snow can contribute to whiteout conditions. In addition, fog can be hazardous to drivers, aviators and mariners and contributes to thousands of travel accidents every year, advises the National Weather Service.

It's important to slow down, leave plenty of distance, use your low-beam headlights, and recognize when it may be safest to pull over, such as when visibility is significantly compromised.

2. Snow removal Shoveling snow or using a snowblower are common wintertime activities. Yet strenuous levels of activity in cold temperatures could put

people at risk of heart attack, particularly if they are not acclimated to physical activity.

Always warm up prior to shoveling snow to prepare the body for exercise. Go slowly and take frequent breaks. Avoid twisting and tossing snow over your shoulder, which can contribute to back injuries.

3. Carbon monoxide poisoning Winter weather means turning up the heat or doing more indoor cooking. Carbon monoxide is produced through the burning of fuel in various forms, including stoves, engines, gas ranges, portable generators, and grills. The National Safety Council says carbon monoxide is an odorless, colorless

gas that can go undetected as it builds up in enclosed spaces. Never warm up the car inside of a contained garage. Do not use portable flameless chemical heaters indoors, and have furnaces, water heaters and other fuel-burning appliances checked and serviced by a qualified technician annually.

Be sure that carbon monoxide alarms are on every floor of the home, and take it seriously if the alarm goes off.

4. Black ice Black ice is a common winter foe. Black ice forms when temperatures rise above freezing during the day, melting any snow on the ground and causing surfaces to become wet. If the temperature drops once more while the

ground is wet, a thin, transparent sheet of ice can form. Black ice also may occur if moisture in the air condenses and forms dew or fog, and then the temperature drops below freezing, says the National Weather Service.

Black ice gets its name because it looks black on asphalt roads. However, it also can form on sidewalks and overpasses, or spots shaded by trees or other objects. Slowing down and exercising extreme caution are essential. Winter is a beautiful season. But it can be just as hazardous as it is awe-inspiring.

Taking steps to stay safe in unpredictable conditions is a necessity each winter.



COURTESY PHOTO

Careful, it's slick out there! Read the tips on the left to stay safe traveling this winter season.

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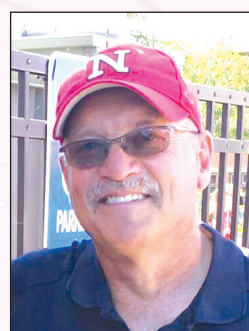
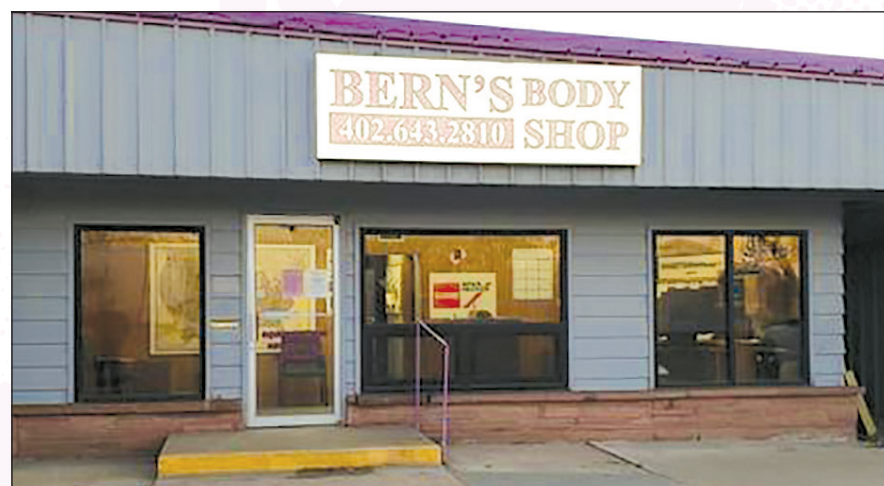


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WHY CHOOSE US?

Bern's Body Shop in Seward is a locally-owned and operated automotive collision repair facility. It was founded by Bernard Kralik in 1969. The current facility was constructed in 1974 with an addition following in 1978. Steve Rodenbaugh began working for Bern in 1980, and Andrew Svoboda started in 2000. In 2013 Bern decided it was time to pass the shop on to Steve.



Steve

Steve and Andrew have 50 years of combined experience in the automotive collision repair field.



Andrew

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