

ROTARY HONORS MATSKE
SEE PAGE 5A



CHECK OUT THE AG PAGE
SEE PAGE 10B



From left, Paityn Scheele, Abbie Walgren and Cat Mill listen as teacher Jessica Breitreutz explains how they'll read the announcement of the One School One Book title.

STEPHANIE CROSTON/SCI

Centennial fifth graders have a NOSE FOR NEWS

by Stephanie Croston
scroston@sewardindependent.com

What's the best way to share school news, birthdays, shout-outs and weird facts?

At Centennial Elementary, it's Bronco News. Now in its third year, this opportunity started out as a National Parks project, coordinator and Centennial media specialist Jessica Breitreutz said.

"I thought it would be fun to try with a class," she said.

The fourth grade that year worked on the project, which created either a public service announcement or tourism spot. Students had to research what they wanted to say.

"We jumped in feet first," Breitreutz said.

Bronco News grew out of the school's student voice group.

Participating students give up two recess days to work on the weekly broadcast. They write the script on Wednesday and record the 5 to 7-minute broadcast on Thursday, Breitreutz said.

"Sometimes it's more fun than recess," Chase Pankoke said.

Catriona Mill said it's nice to be able to stay inside for recess, especially when it's cold

outside.

This year's school theme is camping, so the students try to bring that into their broadcasts. Top Campers are the weekly recognition category. Students also read a campfire story.

One of the students' favorite segments is weird facts.

Cat said she's learned a lot about animals

(continued on 3)

Record temps freeze Seward

by Greg Forbes
editor@sewardindependent.com

An already unprecedented winter, another weather record fell Sunday into Monday.

The National Weather Service of Valley reported that Monday's low temperature of -18 degrees and high of -6 set records for the low temperature and coldest high temperature for the Seward area. The previous record low of -11 was recorded in 1978, and the coldest high temperature mark was previously -1, set in 1936, said meteorologist Hallie Bova.

Monday's frigid temps were the cap on a cold streak that settled into the area earlier in the month. Bova said that the low temperature for a day had not climbed above zero since Feb. 6.

"We're in an outbreak of arctic air, com-

ing down from Canada and farther north," she said. "It's low pressure that's stuck in place and pulling cold air down for the last week. It's just been sitting there."

Air that cold can create health and infrastructure hazards. Seward Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Josh Fields said the district bus drivers have had to battle the temperatures to keep buses operating during mornings where the thermometer reads well below zero.

"We've had a couple issues here and there. When it gets this cold, fuel filters can freeze up," Fields said, adding that one bus had a heating element go out. "If a bus is running late, and we've had to do it twice (last week), we are able



GREG FORBES/SCI

The digital sign at Seward High School shows -9 degrees on Monday morning.

to send out a text to parents and let them know the bus is running late so they don't have their kids stay out at the stop for too long."

Fields said the buildings have handled the cold snap well and no issues have been reported to this point. The district also operated with no delays due to the cold last week, however, school was cancelled Monday. Fields said he's proud of the efforts of staff and students to stay safe throughout this winter but said that

the longevity and severity of winter weather is starting to cause concern for certain programs.

"We're very anxious thinking that spring sports will be starting in March and we wonder when we can get the golf and baseball teams outside or how long things are going to be delayed," he said. "It's been a long time since we've had this much snow on the ground."

Fortunately, Bova said some of the snow may be on its way out later this week as warmer weather moves into the area. High temperatures in the mid-30s are expected towards the end of the week. Bova said that the warm up will require a cautious eye on flooding potential

"We're not concerned yet, but there is a potential as things start to warm up," she said.



GREG FORBES/SCI

Seward High School sophomore Madison Dominy stands next to the Caps for Chemo box at the high school. Dominy, a member of the Bluejay Leadership Team, recommended the group conduct a hat drive for chemotherapy patients at Bryan Medical Center in Lincoln.

Hats with heart

by Greg Forbes
editor@sewardindependent.com

A little box outside the main office at Seward High School will make a big difference for area residents receiving chemotherapy treatments.

The Bluejay Leadership Group at SHS last week unveiled its Caps for Chemo campaign. Students, staff and community members are encouraged to donate new, lightly used or handmade hats and caps throughout the month of February.

Those will then be donated to the oncology center at the Bryan Medical Center in Lincoln and distributed to patients undergoing chemotherapy.

"When people go in

for their treatment, a lot of them will lose their hair and this is our way of giving them a pick-me-up and have those available to them," said Jill Johnson, assistant principal and Bluejay Leadership Group faculty advisor.

Leadership group member and SHS sophomore Madison Dominy pitched the idea to Johnson, as the group was looking for additional service projects for the year. Normally, the group works closely with the Make-A-Wish foundation but because of the COVID-19 pandemic, many of the programs available through Make-A-Wish were put on hold. Dominy thought this

(continued on 3)

Bluejays strike success



COURTESY PHOTO

Parents of the Seward High School boys' bowling team dressed up as bowling pins ahead of the boys' second place finish at the NSAA State Bowling Tournament at Sun Valley Lanes in Lincoln Tuesday, Feb. 9. Look for a recap on 1B.

Stop at
ACE
The helpful place.

Gift
Cards!

PAC'N' SAVE
DISCOUNT GROCERY
We Are Local. We Are Family.
1519 WEST HWY 34
SEWARD, NE • 402-643-6609

Fresh
SUSHI!



ANNUAL ENVELOPE

Full color printing for black & white price*

*#10 regular, #9 regular or # 10 window envelopes only. Offer valid February 1 - March 31, 2021.

Email hailey@sewardindependent.com or call 402-643-3676 to place your order!

Sale

SEWARD • COUNTY
INDEPENDENT

Bruick gives presentation at Seward Rotary Club

Seward Rotarian and pastor to one of the largest Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod congregations in Nebraska, the Rev. Scott Bruick, shared his observations, thoughts and insight at the Feb. 3 Seward Rotary Club meeting.

He titled his presentation “Our Spiritual Journey-COVID-19, 2020,” and gave informative and personal reflection on the many issues in dealing with the pandemic and the ministry he serves. Bruick organized his presentation around the letters spelling COVID and related his observations in connecting the letters with the information.

The letter C could represent being confused, conflicted and consuming in dealing with Covid-19, however he selected the C words complex challenge. He said that every area of our lives has been affected. No one escaped the impact of COVID-19, with many feeling overwhelmed with what “I need to do!”

On March 13, 2020, in a meeting with its lay leaders, a decision was made to close in-person worship r at St. John. It was a very difficult decision to say the least, as they had no real guidelines, Bruick said. He said that he did not have own a COVID-19 operational binder at that time, but now his COVID-19 binder is four inches thick.

O was the next letter Bruick addressed, and he admitted he considered words like opinions, obstinate and omnipresent but feels the best O word for his COVID-19 experience to date is options. He said we all have options in dealing with COVID-19, as we can complain, be frustrated, argue and become a science or political expert. The important thing was to figure out what options, what steps to follow.

The first option and reality was to be reminded that the church is not a building, but it is the people of God. Therefore, the first option was to be the church in each member’s neighborhood for that is where God sends His people. We then had to work through the options of online worship, re-opening in-person worship, and serving the Sacrament.

We must continue to connect with the worshipers that we usually see face to face, Bruick said. New options that now need to be considered are how to move worshipers from online worship to being face to face in in-person worship again. It is important for the church to gather in community. Then there were pastoral care challenges:

counseling, life/health issues, and end of life issues.

The “V” in COVID could have been represented by words like vague, vengeful or vicious and yet the obvious choice has to be victory in Jesus Christ.

“For me as a Christ follower, I know how this all ends – victory in Jesus Christ,” Bruick said.

He read Romans 8:31-39 concluding with “For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor power, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will I be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” He said that this verse has been his key verse throughout this journey. Nothing, not even COVID-19 can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

With the letter “I” there were also considerations such as isolated, independent, and impolite but the word – Internet had to be the top choice for this issue. We developed technology advancement in all areas of our lives — and for us in the church — technology became very valuable in worship.

The St. John congregation had developed a ministry of recorded services that were distributed primarily to its homebound and shut-in members. We had migrated from cassette tapes to CDs and then to DVDs. Then in the past few years, the ministry had started to livestream its services on YouTube.

What a blessing it was for the congregation to already have services being live streamed; therefore, it was not a major challenge for St. John to quickly make the change from in-person to virtual worship in March of last year. He praised the late Clarence Mertins, retired Concordia University science professor, who guided them through these different uses of technology for recording worship. With his guidance, we were already doing live stream services on YouTube and only had to move a camera and get an additional cable to do what we do.

The congregation promoted at home worship and Bible study, as it is convenient, works around schedules and allows non-worshipers to join in with the family. Members have also realized they now have many “distance” worshipers, including individuals and families from Maryland, Minnesota, Florida, Texas, Alaska, Indiana, Asia and more. Some now join in person when in

the area. Parents found out they can be teachers and the staff developed at home Sunday School packets, Bible Classes and even a Vacation Bible School at-home program. The annual Alaska Mission for Christ program became “VBS in Box” and this year the church stayed connected with its village via Facebook, again using the blessing of the Internet.

The final letter could have been taken many ways with such D words considered being divisive, derogatory, or daunting but he selected the D word determined—determined to do whatever it takes. He saluted his ministry staff and said his appreciation and thanks for those who are determined to do whatever it takes.

He said the church’s administrative professionals will do whatever it takes, adjusting schedules and work in dealing with the issues arising from COVID -19. He pointed with pride the handling of the St. John education program, both the Child Development Center Staff early childhood education and the school staff of St. John Lutheran School, creating a virtual learning program, hybrid classrooms when students are in quarantine and working in partnership with the Seward Public School system, communicating and keeping the education process going in Seward.

There are also the volunteers that continue to call on the elderly, send notes and serve the nursing homes as best they can in this situation. He said that counseling has gone viral and those counseling numbers have increased because of the situations as a result of COVID. The church’s Human Care Board and Christ Cupboard has realized increased need for food stuff, realizing a spike in numbers served continues and supplemented by the Mobile Food Bank, volunteers and the Army National Guard assisting with the program.

Bruick concluded with a heartfelt thank you to all for their patience and understanding, as many decisions had to be made reminding that the focus, first and always, has to be that the mission of the church must continue, concluding that “Nothing, not even COVID-19, can keep us from sharing the love of God in Christ Jesus!”

To contact him, write Rev. Scott Bruick, Pastoral Leader, 919 North Columbia Avenue, Seward, NE 68434, by email at Scott.Bruick@stjohnseward.org or by phone at (402) 643-2983.

Let’s boogie!!



STEPHANIE CROSTON/SCI

The Seward High Starlettes invited boys to join in an annual performance Feb. 6 during a Bluejays halftime.

Are you looking for excellent customer service?

See us at the

BYRON WIEMER AGENCY

where we take pride in personal service!



We offer insurance to meet your needs:

- Home
- Auto
- Farm
- Livestock
- Crop

Give us a call today at **402-641-8074** or stop by our office located **2.5 miles south of Utica.**



This agency is an equal opportunity provider.

Caps

(continued from 1)

could be a way to help the Bluejay Leadership Group continue its service to the area while providing a resource to people battling cancer. “This is a way that everyone can reach out. Everyone can make a contribution to this, and it’s a way we can reach out as a school and a whole community,” Dominy said. Johnson added

that this is an effort that resonates with many, as virtually all students and staff at the school know of someone who has been affected by cancer. “All of us have been touched by someone who has had cancer,” she said. “This is a way we can help people whether they lose their hair, part of it or all of it, and let them know people are thinking of them.” No goal has been set for the number of

hats raised and anyone is welcome to donate, Dominy said. Once the drive ends, Dominy said members from the group will drop the hats off at Bryan Medical Center. While the pandemic has limited the amount of activities on which the group can work with Make-A-Wish, the students will host a trivia night on Friday, Feb. 26. Proceeds raised through the event will benefit Make-A-Wish.

Refreshed recess coming soon to Seward Elementary School

by Greg Forbes
editor@sewardindependent.com

Seward Elementary students and children throughout the community will soon have a new place to play. The Seward Board of Education on Feb. 8 approved a bid from Crouch Recreation of Omaha for \$248,659 for the purchase and installation of a new playground at the elementary school. The bid also included some drainage work to the area. The playground will feature a number of slides and climbing apparatuses on the main structure, as well as swings and other equipment spread throughout the area. Elementary principal Jessica Dominy said the new playground will replace the nearly 20-year-old structure at the school. The new features, she said, will not only provide a much needed update for the students, but will also increase accessibility for students with disabilities. The new playground will include areas accessible for wheelchairs, which will only further Seward Schools’ mission of inclusiveness for all students. “One of the things we really try to do with

all of our students is encourage social interaction, and it’s difficult to encourage that if all students don’t have access to the equipment,” she said. “All children, no matter their abilities, can access this, play with their peers and have social interaction with one another.” Superintendent Dr. Josh Fields said the Seward PTO brought forward the idea for the new playground nearly three years ago. The Seward Board of Education gave the PTO a goal of \$50,000 to fundraise with the district contributing the rest. Fields said the group immediately began fundraising and community support soon followed in the form of contributions from civic organizations, businesses and individuals. The City of Seward has also offered to assist with the removal of the old structure. Christy Schegg, elementary school nurse and head of the PTO, said the group began raising money in 2019 with a color run as its kickoff. Fundraising events were put on hold throughout most of 2020 with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, but Schegg said support continued and the group is nearing its goal.

“The community support has been outstanding,” she said. “Everyone has been more than generous with what we have asked. They’re positive and happy about it and made it feel like this is a good thing for the kids.” Schegg said the PTO identified the playground project as a necessity for not only elementary students, but for the community as a whole. As the most-used playground structure in the city, Schegg said the PTO and the district wanted to provide a safer, more inclusive environment for all those who look for a place to play. “It’s the most used playground in town,” she said. “Everyone understands how much it is used because you can drive by on any given day and see that.” Fields said the timeline for the new playground is to have the old structure removed in the early summer and have new equipment in place by the beginning of the 2021-2022 school year. He said the district hopes to hold a dedication ceremony in honor of those who sponsored and supported the project with time and monetary donations.

Bronco news



STEPHANIE CROSTON/SCI
Gabe Dwerlkotte is one of the Bronco News presenters at Centennial.

(continued from 1) during her weird facts research. Her favorite fact so far has been that black holes can form anywhere but most aren’t very strong. Gabriel Dwerlkotte said his favorite weird fact was about the man who invented the Pringles can. He was buried in a Pringles can. Cat said she wanted to do Bronco News because she’s always wanted to be an actor. Paityn Scheele said getting to hang out with friends is the most fun. She signed up to do Bronco News last year but wasn’t selected for it until this year. Gabe said his favorite part is spending time with friends. Abbie Walgren said she wanted to do either Bronco News or the morning announcements because “I like to talk.” She said she likes getting to be on TV but added that it’s hard to watch herself. “I like to watch the bloopers,” she said. Cat and Gabe said it’s challenging to watch themselves, too, but Cat had fun talking about herself on Top Campers. “I think it’s a really fun experience,” Chase said.



STEPHANIE CROSTON/SCI
Chase Pankoke reads his portion of the Bronco News during a recording session Feb. 11.

This wasn’t his first time on camera. He was part of a commercial filmed this summer. A teleprompter app on a laptop allows the students to read the news, weather, sports, shout-outs, birthdays and other segments. The broadcast for Feb. 15 included the reveal of the One School One Book title. “They are getting good at what they’re doing,” Breitreutz said. This year’s group is all fifth graders. They get to choose what segments they want to do, but everyone gets to try everything. “It’s rarely the same each week,” Breitreutz said. Chase said the hardest part is keeping up with everything. He likes reading the weather, especially when it’s a good forecast. Gabe said it’s not hard to read the teleprompter, but he sometimes has to practice the students’ names for the shout-outs and birthdays. For Paityn, the challenge is trying to look at the camera and read at the same time. Students read in front of a green screen, which is a wall painted green on one of the rooms in

the library. Originally she used fabric, but it wasn’t perfectly smooth which meant challenges when replacing it with a different background picture. She found a wall in the library that wasn’t being used and bought the green paint at Beaver Hardware. With the green screen, Paityn and Gabe said, you have to remember to not wear green. Kolton Prashek is also a member of the Bronco News team but was absent Feb. 11. Originally, Bronco News was filmed on a smartphone. Breitreutz worked with the video editing and sports marketing classes to buy a video camera. “It’s fun to see myself on a video everyone watches,” Chase said. Because of the time limits for the students, Breitreutz does the video editing and puts the Bronco News broadcasts together. “They show up and go,” she said. “There’s a lot of teamwork. It’s a very safe place to try new things. They’re very brave.” Breitreutz said Bronco News helps students be informed and build relationships.

Rivoli Theatre
MOVIE LISTINGS
Feb. 19-21

The Great Muppet Caper (1981)
A fun Kermit/Miss Piggy Love Story!
Fri, Sat & Sun: 6:45 p.m.

The Marksman PG-13 • 108 mins.
Fri, Sat & Sun: 7:00 p.m.

TICKETS: \$5.00 EACH!
Coming Feb. 26: **Tom & Jerry**

Movie Place Rental Hours
Fri & Sat: 4-8 p.m.
rivoliseward.com

RIVOLI
533 Main • Seward

FLATBED Express

***DRIVERS CLASS A*
LOCAL or REGIONAL
STARTING AT
\$23.50/HR OR 50 CPM.**

...
Guaranteed minimum
pay per week
Full Benefits
Direct Deposit
Bonuses
...

www.flatbedexpress.com
402-291-7607 x 114

We are getting excited for the upcoming school year and can’t wait to be in our new Ministry Center!



OUR REDEEMER
LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
Ministry Center

Are you currently undecided on school for next year? Our Redeemer in Staplehurst has openings in all grades, starting with 3- and 4-year-old preschool all the way to 8th grade.

Make plans to join us Thursday, March 4, at 6:30 p.m. for our prospective student information night.

We will have virtual tours of our new facility and you will be able to meet and visit with the entire staff. If you are unable to make it, just give Mr. Anson a call at 402-535-2251. He would love to visit with you about everything that Our Redeemer has to offer your family.


Check us out on social media and our website at **www.orlcne.org**

Our Redeemer
Lutheran School


Christ-Centered — Kingdom-Focused — Community-Engaged

Wondering about memory care? We can help.


Our home-like community is tailored exclusively to caring for those with Alzheimer's and dementia. Whether you're just starting to research options or ready to make a move now, we can help you every step of the journey.



Kelsi Hutchison,
Senior Living Consultant



Jen Gollehon,
Senior Living Consultant






Diane Manor,
Senior Living Consultant

COUNTRYHOUSE RESIDENCE *for memory care*
by Agemark Senior Living

CountryHouse.net/Lincoln or (402) 853-7809

Three locations in Lincoln:
5720 S. 25th St | 6616 S. 84th St | 240 South 70th St

Cat video gives good reminder

by Hope Moural
hope@sewardindependent.com

So a recorded Zoom meeting went viral last week when a lawyer was meeting with a judge via video with a cat filter over his face.

The poor lawyer could not get the filter off and had to go through the meeting looking like a baby cat while using his normal voice and attorney jargon.

If you haven't watched it, go on YouTube right now and get back to this column when you can, I'll wait.

Ok, good? Let's continue.

When I saw it, I watched it four times in a row and had to wipe away tears because I was laughing so hard, not so much at the lawyer's expanse but the filter itself.

I mean, it's a kitten with huge eyes but sounds like a man.

Here I go again...give me a minute.

Anyway, when he saw it, editor Greg suggested I write about it for this week and I instantly said yes.

Sometimes I wonder exactly why videos go viral because to be honest, a majority of them I don't understand.

Some of them are mean, dramatic or pointless, in my opinion.

But other times, like this cat one, I get it. This was a serious situation with an adorable mishap and what's not to love about that?



Hope Moural
Reporter

I actually watched an interview with the lawyer shortly after the video gained traction and he was smiling, shrugging and laughing the whole time.

When he was asked questions, he just put his hands up in surrender as if to say, "Your guess is as good as mine."

I think this video, whether you think it's funny or not, is a good reminder to not take life too seriously.

In the current world we live in, we need to keep in mind it's OK to laugh, even if it's at ourselves.

We are made to feel joy, enjoy ourselves and others and all in all, be happy.

Feeling joy is where the best memories are made, and I find myself anyway reminiscing about those moments in life more often than the terrible or dark ones.

Most of the time, they bring a smile to my face just by thinking about them and if you're in the moment, it's even better.

If you've been feeling low lately or the cold weather has been wearing on your mood, I encourage you to do something, find something, say something that makes you laugh.

Maybe it's telling a joke, watching a comedic movie or calling a funny friend.

Find something to make your cheeks hurt and laughter fill the room. I promise you'll feel better almost instantly and that feeling will stay with you for a while.

Now where was I? Oh yeah, cat video.

Pastor's column

Giving love on Valentine's Day

by Msgr. Robert Tucker
St. Vincent de Paul, Seward

The sending of valentines to one we love is an ancient tradition.

In the writing of Geoffrey Chaucer from the 13th century, it states Feb. 14 is when birds begin to choose their mate. Somehow, this fact turned into a tradition to send a valentine to one whom you love.

The name "valentine" for this message goes back to the third century for the naming of this day. On Feb. 14 in the year 270, under the reign of Emperor Claudius the Goth, Valentine, a Catholic priest, was put to death for his belief in Jesus Christ. For this reason, Feb. 14 is Valentine's Day.

A legend associated with the life of Valentine the priest also contributes to sending of love messages on this day. The pious legend says that while Valentine was in prison waiting for his execution, he sent messages to those whom he loved, encouraging them not to despair and to stay strong in their faith

because Jesus loves us immensely.

He sent these messages to people on parchment cut in the shape of a heart. His continual love for others inspired them and encouraged them to be strong during the persecution of the early Christians by the Roman Emperors.

These facts associated with Valentine's Day give us something to think about when sending valentines to our loved ones, or spending time with those we love on that day. The truth is that we came from and are created for love. Loving someone gives peace and strength to their hearts and inspires them to reciprocate that gift.

Jesus says that there is no greater sign of love than to lay down your life for another. Jesus lays His life down for us and commands us to do the same. His love is radical, because He says it is easy to love those who love us and He commands us to love those who hate us.

Again, Jesus loved those who hated Him by dying on the cross

for the forgiveness of sin. He commands us to love in the way that He loves.

Sometimes in our relationships, we fall into the trap that we need to earn the love of another. We say, "He or she will love me if..." God's love is freely given and He wants us to imitate that gift. We place no conditions on love. We give love wholeheartedly and freely.

God loves us always and He died for all. St. Paul says it may be easier to die for a righteous man, but Jesus died for us when we were sinners. He freely gives His love to us, that our hearts may be changed by His love, yet He gives His love regardless of our response.

When you think about your celebration of Valentine's Day, think about the gift of your love. Ask God to help you develop unconditional love for others. In doing this, you will imitate Jesus, you will have peace and joy in your heart, and you will find strength and hope to never quit loving.

God bless you!

We asked you:

What's a classic Valentine's Day gift you plan to give this year?

- A card: 0
- Chocolate: 1
- Flowers: 0
- Nothing: 2

Now we want to know:

How do you scoop snow in your driveway?

- Shovel
- Snowblower
- Someone else does it
- Haven't scooped yet

Vote online at Sewardindependent.com or on our Facebook page. Results will be published in next week's issue.

Becoming the #1 state for vets

By Governor Pete Ricketts

Nebraska is on the path to becoming the best state in the nation for military personnel and veterans.

We've been instituting new policies that benefit military families and veterans and that connect them with leadership opportunities in the workforce.

We want to encourage the veterans who live here now to stay in Nebraska and contribute their skills to grow our state. We also want to invite others to relocate or retire here.

One of our biggest areas of focus over the past couple of years has been giving our military families access to more job opportunities. For example, we expanded the hiring preference for the State of Nebraska to include spouses of service members.

We revised regulations to allow military spouses to receive a three-year teaching permit in Nebraska with a valid out-of-state license. We also entered into the Enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact, which allows nurses to have one multi-state license.

This makes it easier for military spouses to begin work in nursing after moving to our state. This year, I'm working with Senators Rita Sanders and Carol Blood of Bellevue on LB 389 to remove barriers that impede military spouses from being certified to teach in Nebraska.

We're investing in the health and wellbeing of our veterans. The State has received grant funding from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs to design and construct an expansion at the Eastern Nebraska Veterans' Home (EVNH) in Bellevue.

To be eligible for the USVA grant funding, the State was required to match 35% of the project's cost. I included those funds in my 2019 budget, which the

Legislature approved. The federal funds are allowing EVNH to add a net total of 24 private assisted-living beds along with space for a brand new Adult Day Health Care program.

These additions will help us better serve and directly care for our state's veterans and their families.

Last year, I worked with the Legislature to pass veterans tax relief. At my request, Senator Tom Brewer of Gordon introduced LB 153 to exempt 50% of military retirement income from state income taxation.

The bill passed without a single vote of opposition, which signifies the great support for veterans here in Nebraska. I signed LB 153 into law in August.

Our work is making a difference. When I testified to the Legislature in support of veterans tax relief early in 2019, all of the states around us were adding military retirees while Nebraska was losing them.

The latest report from the Department of Defense shows that Nebraska's military veteran retiree population has slightly increased. We've already taken several steps toward our goal of being the best state for veterans, and we're just getting started.

This year, we have an opportunity to finish the work we began on veterans tax relief in 2020. On January 29th, I testified in front of the Legislature's Revenue Committee in support of LB 387, which would exempt 100% of military retirement income from state income taxation.

Across the nation, 30 states don't tax military pensions—either because they don't have personal income tax or they have special exemptions for veterans and military personnel.

This includes five of our six neighbors: Kansas, Missouri, Iowa, South Dakota, and Wyoming.

I'm supporting this

same tax relief for the nearly 14,000 Nebraskans receiving military retirement benefits, including National Guard and Reserve retirees. We want to be the most appealing place for these civic-minded leaders to reside after retirement.

LB 387 is a priority bill to help build our workforce. Those who have served a full military career and retire in Nebraska add immense value to our businesses and nonprofits. Since many military personnel can retire after twenty years of service, they often finish their military service in their 40s or 50s.

At this age, they're actively looking to invest their wealth of skills in a second career or as a committed volunteer.

Military servicemen and women are accustomed to moving frequently, as often as every couple of years. The Department of Defense reports that military families move 10 times more often than civilian families.

By the time they complete their military career, the men and women in the military have typically lived in several different communities. They can choose from among these locations when deciding where to retire. Given their mobility, we need to pursue additional strategies to retain them once they're finished with their careers.

If you have questions about Nebraska's work to support veterans, please email me at pete.ricketts@nebraska.gov or call (402) 471-2244.

This year, the Unicameral has the opportunity to take the next step in delivering tax relief for our veterans who have sacrificed so much.

Please encourage your state senator to stand up for our veterans by supporting LB 387. You can find their contact information at www.nebraskalegislature.gov.

Stay warm, safe and healthy!

1st Amendment, U.S. Constitution

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

— STAFF DIRECTORY —

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

SEWARD • COUNTY

INDEPENDENT

USPS 491-500 • Postage paid at Seward, NE 68434
Published once a week • Owned by Rhoades Publishing, Inc.

129 S 6th St. • PO Box 449 • Seward, NE 68434
402-643-3676 • Fax 402-643-6774
www.sewardindependent.com

SUBSCRIPTIONS

\$43.00 *Seward County*

\$45.00 *Adjoining Counties (York, Lancaster, Saline, Butler, and Saunders)*

\$57.00 *Statewide*

\$60.00 *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 Seward, NE. Postmaster send changes of address to P.O. Box 449, Seward, NE 68434.

E-mail the news dept. at editor@sewardindependent.com, the ad dept. at kevin@sewardindependent.com or nichole@sewardindependent.com, the circulation dept. at subscriptions@sewardindependent.com.

Office hours 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday. Normal deadline is noon Friday.

Milford’s Charles and Jan Matzke honored at Seward Rotary

“He’s the first one in our Rotary Club!” said longtime Rotarian Clark Kolterman when introducing Charles “Chuck” Matzke, at the Rotary luncheon at the Seward Civic Center Feb. 10.

The club honored Matzke for 50 years of continuous membership in the Seward Rotary Club.

“The Seward Rotary Club was established in 1925 and this is the club’s 96th year of existence, but we believe, and according to our records, Chuck Matzke has the honor of being the first member in the Seward Rotary Club to achieve the honor of 50 years of continuous membership in our Seward Rotary Club,” Kolterman said

Matzke joined the Seward Rotary Club, nominated and sponsored by his employer, Tom Wake, Jr., when both were working at the Jones Bank in Seward. Matzke joined the Seward Rotary Club on Feb. 1, 1971, and has even more years with the Rotary organization, as he was a Rotarian at his previous employment in Pawnee City, as well.

Matzke and his wife, Jan, moved to Seward in 1970 to work as a loan officer at the Jones Bank in Seward. He served as the president of the Seward Rotary during the 1978-1979 Rotary Club year and has held almost every office in the organization and served on almost all of the committees.

He has lived the Rotary motto of “Service Above Self” and continues to volunteer and assist with club projects. He is proud to be awarded the Rotary International Paul Harris award.

His most recent Rotary Club passion is the Rotary Club Dictionary Literacy Project, where he and his wife travel county wide, handing out free Webster Dictionaries to area third graders on behalf of Rotary. They usually made special dictionary presentations, but because of the pandemic, the books could only be delivered to the school offices this year.

They have also hosted numerous Rotary International Group Study Exchange members from many countries across the globe and keep in contact with many of them. In 2019, they participated in the Rotary Club Sister City Exchange at St. Lo, France, bringing the two clubs into Sister Club status.

Matzke also served as



COURTESY PHOTO

From left, Jon and Bonnie Kruse, co-chairs of Rotary Foundation, and Rotary President Brady Johnson present Jan Matzke with the Paul Harris Award and recognize Charles “Chuck” Matzke for 50 Years in the Seward Rotary Club.

the Rotary Chair for the Zambia project of Rotary International, raising funds locally to support the efforts of Rotary in Zambia.

Matzke was born and raised in Seward, attended St. John Lutheran school through third grade and then moved with his family to Lincoln. His family then moved to Hastings and he graduated from Hastings High and began college at Hastings College. He eventually transferred to the University of Nebraska and graduated from UNL.

He is the youngest child of the late, former State Senator Stan Matzke and his wife Pauline, with two older brothers and one sister. He and Jan have three sons, Bill, Tom and Jeff, three daughters-in-law and seven grandchildren. In June, the Matzkes will have been married 57 years.

Matzke was first hired to be a loan officer at Jones Bank, eventually achieving the position of president of the Jones Bank, retiring after 25 years in the position. While at the bank he was a member of the Nebraska Banker’s Association and President of the Nebraska Chapter of the American Institute of Banking.

His wife Jan, was a longtime Seward Elementary and Middle School teacher for the School District of Seward and is also retired.

His volunteer efforts do not stop with Rotary, as he has been very involved with a host of community and civic causes over the years of residence in Seward. Matzke was the president of the Seward Chamber of Commerce in 1974, serving on the Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors for decades, as well as the Seward Community Development Corporation Board and being that board’s president for many years, helping

attract new industry to Seward.

He is proud to point out that he promoted and organized the first Rural Water District in Nebraska in the Greater Pawnee City area, which assisted in eliminating many health issues of the area. He has also served on the local Natural Resources District Board.

The Matzkes were major funding co-chairs of the Seward Memorial Library Building Campaign and responsible for directing several major donors to assist in the development of the funds to build the library facility enjoyed today.

They were also active leaders in the consolidation and development of the new Seward Memorial Health Care Facility and funding co-chairs for the new Memorial Health Care Clinic - instrumental in seeing the facility raise the needed funds. He served as a member of the Seward Planning Commission for many years and was a member of the Seward City Council for four years from 1986-1990. Matzke currently serves as a member of the Seward Tree Board.

He and his wife enjoy membership in and are past presidents of the Seward Magazine Club and were very active and involved parents with all three sons and their school activities, as well as supporting the summer sports programs and events during their boys’ years in the Seward School system.

The Matzkes are longtime members of the Seward United Methodist Church in Seward and have served, often in leadership positions, such as president of the Administrative Board and Foundation Board and on numerous other boards and committees to assist the church’s many missions and projects. He chaired the funding campaign for

the Southeast Nebraska Scholarship fund and currently serves as one of the volunteers for the local Seward “Meals-On-Wheels” program.

Matzke served in the Nebraska National Guard in the early 1960’s as a member of the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, second Battalion, 134th Infantry Regiment as an infantry officer. He was honorably discharged from the National Guard and he currently serves on the Nebraska National Guard Historical Society Board. The Matzkes have been instrumental in raising over \$550,000 to fund exhibits and projects at the Nebraska National Guard Museum in Seward.

They were recently honored with the Distinguished Service Award from the Nebraska National Guard by Major Gen. Daryl Bohac for the National Guard Association, acknowledging the commitment of the Matzkes to the Nebraska National Guard Museum since 2015.

While the number one hobby now of both Matzkes is to support the many activities of their seven grandchildren, they both also enjoy their hobby and passion to grow beautiful roses in their rose gardens located on the corner of Seward Street and Columbia Avenue and hold membership

in the Lincoln Rose Society. In support of conservation, over the years they have planted hundreds of trees at their farm near Milford. Matzke also enjoys the hobby of woodworking, with many projects a testimonial to his expertise.

Matzke was honored by the Seward Rotary Club with mementos to commemorate his 50th anniversary of membership with the Seward Rotary Club by the Seward Rotary Club President Brady Johnson. Matzke reminisced over his five decades in Seward Rotary and thanked the Rotary Club members and family present for the anniversary celebration -- stating that “he looked forward to many more years of service to others.”

Letters of congratulations were read from Rotary District Governor Roxy Orr and longtime friends of Chuck and Jan who were unable to attend the recognition. Special tributes and salutes were also presented to Chuck and the Rotary from fellow longtime Rotarians Ken Schmieding and Max Wake. The special day concluded with a commemorative cutting and sharing of his 50th Rotary Membership Anniversary in Seward Rotary Club Celebration cake to all present and a singing of “For He’s A Jolly Old Fellow!”

While she has never officially been a member of the Seward Rotary Club, Jan Matzke has worked side by side with her husband Chuck for 57 years and attended local and District Rotary Club meetings and dinners, assisting with many of the projects of the Rotary Club.

For her spirit of loyalty to the Seward Rotary Club and the ideals of Rotary International, Jan Matzke of Seward was surprised with a Paul Harris Award at the Feb. 10 Seward Rotary Club meeting, sponsored by her husband

Chuck.

“She has been such a gracious host to many of our international visitors, inviting many to stay at our home as guests and worked with me on a variety of Rotary Club projects,” Chuck Matzke said. “I have been a member of Rotary for over 50 years and she has been working with me on every project that I commit to for the Seward Rotary. She is my sounding board, and I value her opinion and insight. It is only right that she be awarded this high honor in Rotary to thank her and show how much I appreciate and love her.”

Seward Rotary Foundation Co-Chairs Jon and Bonnie Kruse made the award presentation Feb. 10 at the luncheon meeting of the Seward Rotary Club at the Civic Center.

“The Paul Harris recognition is one of the top honors of Rotary International, and is named in honor of the Founder of Rotary, Paul Harris,” Jon Kruse said. “The award is presented to both Rotarians and non-Rotarians who live the Rotary motto of ‘Service Above Self’ and have demonstrated the true spirit of Rotary. A \$1,000 gift to Rotary International is also made to the Rotary Annual Fund, Polio-Plus Fund or Approved Global Grant projects. The sponsor for Jan’s award is her husband Chuck. Jan has indeed served our Rotary Club and Rotary International, as well as the community of Seward and we thank and recognize her today with this honor.”

She was awarded a special encased certificate and a special Paul Harris pin presented by her husband Chuck and Jon and Bonnie Kruse. It should be noted that the Seward Rotary Club has over 75 Paul Harris Awards who have supported the Rotary Foundation with a \$1,000 investment.

Please join us for the 64th Annual

Goehner Spaghetti Feed

Sunday, March 7



Due to COVID-19, we are only selling bags of sauce to go.

\$20/bag

Serving 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Goehner Fire Hall

Sponsored by the Goehner Volunteer Fire Department

Mark Your Calendar!

Stay warm!

BULL SALE?
Run this size ad in over 155 Newspapers for just \$6.41*/newspaper!



Place your 1x4 display ad in over 155 Nebraska newspapers & get your message to over 490,000 readers. Statewide coverage for just \$975*. Regional ads also available in Central, Northeast, Southeast or Western Nebraska. Other sizes available upon request.

Call this newspaper or 1-800-369-2850 for more information.

Nebraska 2x2/2x4 Display Ad Network

SACK LUMBER

NEW Showroom Items!

- Doors • Windows • Siding
- Cabinets & Hardware • Flooring
- Hand Railing • Shiplap • Paneling
- Onyx Showers • Garage Doors
- Countertops • Cultured Stone
- Vinyl Fence • Composite Decking
- And much more!**

3269 PROGRESSIVE AVE. • SEWARD
402-643-4977 
HOURS: M–F 7:30–5; SAT. 7:30–12

Join us in helping the children in our community. We have coupled with Sixpence & ESU 6 to host this event. You can stop in with diapers or wipes during business hours.



James Landholm DDS Jesse Murphy DDS

Seward Smiles

FAMILY DENTISTRY
402.643.3909

DIAPER DRIVE

FEBRUARY 22ND-26TH



*22% OF ALL CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OLD IN THE U.S LIVE IN POVERTY AND 1 OUT OF EVERY 3 FAMILIES STRUGGLE TO AFFORD DIAPERS

*YOU CAN'T BUY DIAPERS WITH FOOD STAMPS OR GET THEM THROUGH WIC

*DIAPERS COST AN AVERAGE OF \$75-100 PER MONTH

Events to put on the calendar

FEBRUARY, MARCH

Art show solicits entries

Seward County students in grades K-12 are encouraged to enter their artwork in the Annual Art Show sponsored by the Seward Junior Women's Club and the Seward Women's Club.

Official rules and entry forms are available at the Seward Library. Kindergarten through eighth grade may enter one piece of artwork, while ninth through 12th grade may enter one piece per medium. Entries will be picked up at the local schools on Feb. 9. All home entries may be dropped off at the Seward Civic Center by noon on Feb. 9. Winners will be contacted by mail.

Artwork will be on display at the Seward Civic Center from Feb. 15 through March 25. For questions, contact Kitty Vacha at kittyvacha@gmail.com. Awards will be done through a virtual presentation.

THROUGH MARCH 3

Drive collects items for mission, Foster Friends

Concordia University students are heading up a collection drive for People City Mission and Foster Friends. Residents can drop items off at Seward Memorial Library. There is a box near the doorway. The collection will run through March 3.

Items sought include gently used clothing - all ages, sizes for men, women, children that are in season. Especially needed are boys/men sport or wind pants, mesh type shorts for men and sweats for boys or men.

Also being collected are bottled water, granola bars, wash cloths, men and women's deodorant, sanitizing wipes, cleaning supplies and latex gloves.

FEBRUARY 17

Mid-Week movie set at library

NASA's Mission to Mars Perseverance Rover Landing will be on Feb. 18, 2021. Seward Memorial Library will show a feature length movie celebrating Mars exploration on Wednesday, Feb. 17. The movie begins at 1 p.m. in the lower level conference room. Masks are required and space is limited. For the specific movie title and any questions call (402) 643-3318.

FEBRUARY 18

Celebration committee sets next meeting

The monthly meeting of the Seward Fourth of July Celebration Committee will be held on Thursday, Feb. 18, at 7 p.m. at the Seward Civic Center at 616 Bradford Street, in Seward in the West Fireplace room. The meeting is to plan and organize the 2021 Fourth of July Celebration and select honorees and committee chair. Volunteers are welcome and the meeting is open to the public.

Committee reports will be heard and details for the 2021 event are being planned. For more information, contact Clark Kolterman at clark.kolterman@sewardschools.org.

FEBRUARY 22

Rotary sponsors free movie

The Seward Rotary Club's annual "Winter Blahs" free children's movie (title yet to be announced) will be at the Seward Rivoli Theater on Monday, Feb. 22, at 1 p.m. with an effort to observe social distancing. The capacity for the movie is 150 due to Covid-19 restrictions. Masks are required to all in attendance. The Rotary asks that if you are able to contribute, each participant should bring a toiletry item or two cans of food to be donated to the Seward area outlets to assist in alleviating hunger. While the show is geared to children, the Rotary asks that a responsible adult also attends with the child or children. This presentation is a continuation of the Rivoli Theater's 100th anniversary with some special prizes that day.

FEBRUARY 26

Blood drive planned at bank

Cattle National Bank and Trust in Seward will host a blood drive Friday, Feb. 26, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. for the Nebraska Community Blood Bank. Appointments are required. Visit NCBB.org/searchdrives and use sponsor code CBS or call (402) 486-9414. All blood donations will be tested for COVID antibodies.

MARCH

Statehood celebration canceled

The Seward County Historical Society and Arts Council/Women's Club have decided not to host the annual Statehood Day celebration in March. Leaders felt it was too early to be together as a large group and those attending could not properly social distance at the museum or the Civic Center Auditorium. In addition, many of the Humanities Speakers are not presenting at this time. So we are canceling at this time and will be back (hopefully) next year for all fourth graders to enjoy.

MARCH 12

Our Redeemer plans gala

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church and School will host their 2021 gala Friday, March 12, from 5 to 11 p.m. at the Seward County Ag Pavilion. The event is a fundraiser for the new ministry center. More information is available on the church's Facebook page.

MARCH 26

Save the date and study up - RESCHEDULED

The 11th annual PTL Trivia Night has been moved to Friday, March 26, at the Seward County Ag Pavilion. Doors open at 5:45 p.m. and trivia starts at 7:15 p.m. The team with the most correct trivia answers wins \$400; second place wins \$200. All proceeds will benefit the children of St. John. Cost is \$200 per table of eight players, and must be paid in advance. You may register your team at <http://www.tinyurl.com/stjohntrivia>. The event will follow public gathering guidelines from Four Corners Health Department. Participants will be asked to wear masks. For more information, email stjohntrivia@gmail.com or call Michelle Meyer at (402) 219-3008. Also, contact Meyer to be a corporate or memorial sponsor for a team or trivia round.

THURSDAYS

Family history questions? Society can help

The Seward County Genealogical Society meets every Thursday from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. downstairs at the Civic Center.

TOPS meets weekly

Take Off Pounds Sensibly, a nonprofit weight management organization, meets every Thursday in the Audio-Visual Room at the Seward Civic Center. Weigh-in starts at 11:15 a.m., with meetings from noon to 12:30 p.m. The first meeting is free. Masks are worn and social distancing is practiced.

Conditional use permit discussed at commissioners board meeting

by Hope Moural
hope@sewardindependent.com

The Seward County Board of Commissioners held a public hearing for a conditional use permit for a livestock operation expansion for Wehrs Feed Yard and heard from District 5 Probation's Carrie Rodriguez during its Feb. 9 meeting.

No one was present to speak for or against the expansion. Wehrs wants to update its waste area and go from 1,000 head of cattle to 2,500.

This, along with a replat to turn 28 parcels into one, located in the Karovan Addition owned by Alyssa Hendrix, were both approved by the board. No one was present to oppose that subdivision. Rodriguez and

Morgan Campbell of District 5 Probation were present to discuss an interlocal agreement for an expansion of problem-solving court into Seward County. Problem-solving court, which operates within county court, deals with substance abuse, mental health cases and more.

According to Rodriguez, all personnel would be provided by York County Court, which has had the program for five years. A monthly fee would be charged to the county, however.

The commissioners approved the agreement, but Rodriguez was to be present at the Feb. 16 meeting to discuss what budget the program gets funded under and how much the monthly charge will

be.

In another matter, Highway Superintendent Terry Wicht was present to set a date for the county's one- and six-year road plan presentation. March 9 at 10 a.m. was approved and Wicht was allowed to advertise for the hearing at least two weeks in advance.

Wicht also discussed with board members the possible purchase of a trench compactor to help install culverts and keep them from eroding. The board approved the purchase and Wicht will look at rentals.

The next Seward County Board of Commissioners meeting will be Feb. 23 at 9 a.m. on the third floor of the courthouse. The meetings are open to the public.

Don't forget... shop local!



NEED SOMETHING PRINTED?

The *Seward County Independent* can handle all your printing needs. Choose from business cards, fliers, brochures, posters, invitations, letterhead, envelopes, raffle tickets, dinner tickets, notepads, thank yous and more. - We can help you!!!

SEWARD COUNTY INDEPENDENT

129 S 6th Street
Seward, NE
402-643-3676

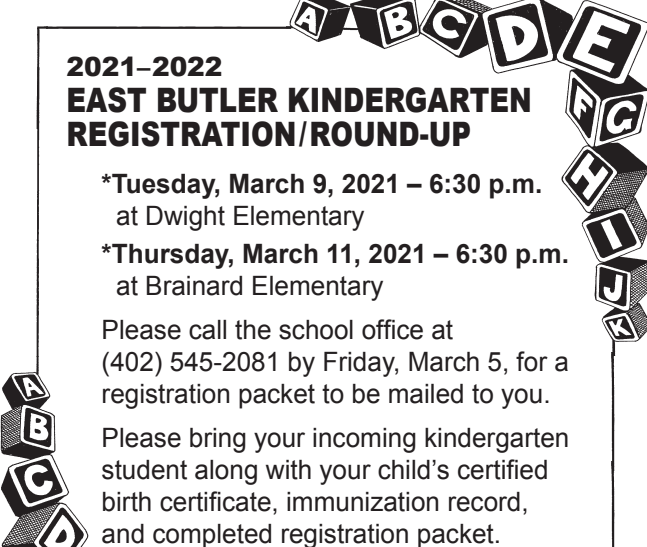
2021-2022 EAST BUTLER KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION/ROUND-UP

***Tuesday, March 9, 2021 – 6:30 p.m.**
at Dwight Elementary

***Thursday, March 11, 2021 – 6:30 p.m.**
at Brainard Elementary

Please call the school office at (402) 545-2081 by Friday, March 5, for a registration packet to be mailed to you.

Please bring your incoming kindergarten student along with your child's certified birth certificate, immunization record, and completed registration packet.



Mark your calendar and mark ours, too.

You can be part of the

Seward County Community Calendar

Go to www.sewardindependent.com, click on "Calendar" and "Post your event."



Seward School Board approves greenhouse expansion bid

by Greg Forbes
editor@sewardindependent.com

The Seward High School greenhouse will soon receive a much-needed expansion.

On Feb. 8, the Seward Board of Education approved a two bids from Stuppy Greenhouse, Inc. totaling \$70,600 for a 30-foot by 48-foot addition onto the existing greenhouse.

Superintendent Dr. Josh Fields said the addition is important to the district because

the agronomy programs at Seward High School have outgrown the space offered by the current size.

"We'll have times when it's full and there's not enough room for what we want to do," he said.

The greenhouse has been on school grounds for more than 20 years, Fields said, but is still in good shape. Therefore, an expansion would allow the district to continue to use the structure for many more years.

"This will almost

double it from one end to the other," he said.

Fields noted that the expansion project was aided by an unspecified contribution from former board member and Rumery Nursery owner Jerry Rumery, who Fields said has a strong interest in the school's agronomy programs.

Fields said the expansion will likely be finished during the summer so the expanded greenhouse is ready for use in time for the 2021-2022 school year.

AREA CHURCHES

Calvary Baptist Church
208 E. Bek Ave. • Seward • 402-643-3575
www.cbcseward.com
Pastor Timothy A. Ruegg

Sunday School (all ages).....10:00 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship5:00 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer/Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.

Church of Christ
1422 Kolterman Ave. • Seward • 402-643-5802
www.sewardchurchofchrist.com
Pastor: Dr. Mike Case

Sunday Worship9:30 & 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study Small groups

Faith Lutheran Church (ELCA)
1245 N. 2nd St. • Seward • 402-643-6116
www.faithseward.org
Pastor Greg Gabriel

Currently worshipping online only. Watch our Facebook page for worship opportunities.
Sunday Worship (online)9:30 a.m.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
2668 Hwy 6 (1 mile west of Milford) • 402-761-3146
www.goodshepherd-milford.org
Pastor Steve Stork

Sunday Adult Bible Study9:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship10:00 a.m.
Monday Worship6:30 p.m.
Adult Bible Study.....Thurs. 8:30 a.m.
Kids' Bible Classes, Pre-K through 6th grade (during school year)Wed. 6:30 p.m.
Confirmation Class (during school year)Wed. 6:30 p.m.

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church (WELS)
746 Pinewood Ave. • Seward • 402-643-4131
www.graceseward.org
Pastor Mark A. Haefner

Sunday Bible Class8:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship8:45 a.m.
Sunday School and Fellowship.....9:45 a.m.

Great Plains Community Church
1155 May St. • Goehner • 402-730-2594
Pastor Galen Skinner

Sunday Worship10:00 a.m.
Wednesday Night, Adult Bible Studies, Children and Teen Activities.....7:00 p.m.

Hillcrest Evangelical Free Church
2433 Progressive Road • Seward • 402-643-2316
Senior Pastor Curt Coddington
Administrative Pastor Brant Taylor
Associate Pastor Brad Johnson
Worship Pastor Kyle Soffin
Youth Pastor Zach Mulvihill

Sunday School & Adult Bible Classes....9:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship8:15 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday Children and Teen Activities.....6:30 p.m.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church (LCMS)
1042 May St. • Goehner • 816-308-7859
Pastor James Dahlke

Sunday Worship9:30 a.m.
Sunday School & Adult Bible Class Following Worship

Lighthouse Pentecostal Church
201 S. 11th St. • Seward • 402-641-3494
Pastor Timothy Daywitt

Sunday Worship10:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday Worship.....7:00 p.m.

Living Word Lutheran Church (LCMC)
1300 W. Hillcrest Drive • Seward • 402-643-6445
www.livingwordseward.org
Pastor Scott Krohn

Saturday Worship (1st & 3rd Sat.).....5:30 p.m.
Relaxed Worship

Sunday Worship9:00 a.m.
Traditional: Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays
Words on Wednesday (WOW).....6:30 p.m.
Varied activities by age, from youth to adults

Mighty Fortress Lutheran Church (AALC)
Partner in ministry with the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
252 N. 6th St. • Seward • 402-953-FORT (3678)
www.mightyfortress.us • Like us on Facebook
Sunday Worship11:00 a.m.

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church (LCMS)
3.5 miles west of Staplehurst • 402-535-2625
Pastor Shawn Kitzing

Worship (church in the country).....9:00 a.m.
Sunday School (school in Staplehurst).....10:30 a.m.
Bible Class (school in Staplehurst)10:30 a.m.

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
401 Dimery • Beaver Crossing • 402-532-2545
Msgr. Mark Huber

Saturday Mass5:00 p.m.
Mon., Tue., Thurs., Fri. Mass.....8:00 a.m.
Confessions 30 minutes before every Mass

Seward United Methodist Church
1400 N. 5th St. • Seward • 402-643-4156
Rev. Dr. Mary Kay Totty, Lead Pastor
Rev. JoEllen Axthelm, Associate Pastor

Sunday Traditional Worship (in person and online)8:00 a.m.
Sunday Small Groups9:15 a.m.
Sunday Praise Worship (in person and online)10:30 a.m.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
6th & Hillcrest • Seward • 402-643-3829
Rev. Pam Williams

Currently worshipping online only. Watch our Facebook page for worship opportunities.
Sunday Worship (online)10:30 a.m.
Clergy office hrs.....Wed. by appt.

St. John Lutheran Church (LCMS)
919 N. Columbia Ave. • Seward • 402-643-2983
www.stjohnseward.org
Pastor Scott Bruick • Pastor Andy Schermbeck
Pastor David Rempfer

Saturday Worship5:30 p.m.
Sunday Worship.....8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Education Hour10:00 a.m.

St. John's Lutheran Church (LCMS)
200 Paris St. • Cordova • 402-576-3211
Pastor Brian Tuma

Sunday Worship.....9:00 a.m.
Sunday School/Adult Bible Study10:30 a.m.

St. Patrick's Catholic Church
110 3rd St. • Utica • 402-532-2545
Msgr. Mark Huber

Sunday Mass9:00 a.m.
Wednesday Mass7:00 a.m.
Confessions 30 minutes before every Mass

St. Paul Lutheran Church
1100 'D' St. • Utica • 402-534-2200
Pastor Jon Dunbar

Pastor of Visitation: Pastor Richard Gudgel
Sunday Worship9:00 a.m.
Sunday School & Adult Bible Study10:15 a.m.

St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church
152 Pinewood Ave. • Seward • 402-643-3421
www.stvincentseward.org / See our FB page
Msgr. Robert Tucker

Saturday Evening Mass.....5:30 p.m.
Sunday Mass.....8:00 & 10:00 a.m.
Confessions 30 minutes before each Mass

The Rock (LCMS)
237 S. 3rd St. • Seward • 402-643-6624
therockseward.org • info@therockseward.org
Pastor Michael Meyer

Sunday Worship10:00 a.m.

Zion Lutheran Church (LCMS)
370 Fourth St. • Garland • 402-588-2229
Zionlcms@revdobb.com
Pastor David Dobbertien

Sunday Worship9:00 a.m.

Students

Bryan College of Health Sciences

Bryan College of Health Sciences (Lincoln) has announced its President's and Dean's Lists for the fall 2020 term. Students earning a place on the list from this area include Cydney Kremer of Milford. The Dean's List is composed of students who were taking 12 credit hours or more and received a 3.5 GPA or higher.

Lewis University

Elijah Smith of Seward was named to the Lewis University (Romeoville, Illinois) Dean's List for the 2020 fall semester. Smith is studying aviation flight management. To be eligible for this honor, students must have completed a minimum of 12 credit hours during the semester with a grade point average of at least 3.5 and with no "D" or "F" grades.

Hirschfeld named winner



GREG FORBES/SCI

Kate Hirschfeld was the TeamMates Chuck a Duck winner during the contest at the Centennial High School varsity basketball games Saturday. Hirschfeld won a \$100 Amazon gift card for landing her duck closest to the eye of the Bronco logo.

MPS releases first quarter honor list

Malcolm Public Schools announced its first-semester honor roll for the 2020-21 school year. Students recognized earned grade point averages of 3.5 or higher with no grades lower than C. Honored are:

Seniors—Dillon Beach, Maclain Beach, Piper Beatty, Trentyn Beekman, John Boesen, Matthew Burbach, Madeline Day, Mikayla DeBaets, Drew Doak, Kaitlyn Dostal, Gavan Dunse, Addison Earnest, Cora Ferguson, Zachary Green, Zackary Hanich-Pasco, Addison Hejl, Dominique Hempfling, Mackenna Henson, Morgan Heywood, Josephine Holliday, Sophie Irons, Skylar Kirkpatrick, Madelyne Knapp, Caroline Kouma, Archer Moody, Kimberly Nguyen, Ethan Robotham, Mason Rowe, Malcolm Saltzman, Grace Schleining, Ashlynn Sehi, Jasmine Small, Joslyn Small, Ariel Smith, Ava Stenger, Dakota Stolley, David Swotek, Hadley Teut, Brett Thieman, Katon Thomas, Jordyn Virus, Drew Walters, Gabrielle Wattier and Heidi Wessel;

Juniors—Brayden Boehle, Jayce Broughton, Abigail Cantrell, Jacob Clarke, Kennedy Cole, Braxton Dalton, Kiana Dostal, Katy Duong, Alora Ferguson, Danielle Fortik, Andrea Gonzalez-Mendoza, Carman Kinkaid, Katherine Lewis, Hana Maddox, Cyrena Miller, Morgan Miller, Kale Nordmeyer, Elisa Paid-

er, Olivia Raben, Vlad Rybak, Griffin Schroeder, Cora Schweitzer, Lauren Shafer, Skyler Stewart, Luke Walters, Jenna Westerbuhr, Cooper Witte, Reagan Wondercheck, Connor Zegar and Gavin Zoucha;

Sophomores—Alanea Babb, Berkley Barrett, Lillie Beach, Lucas Beckman, Caleb Boyce, Joseph Brockhaus, Karsyn Broders, Emma Brown, Lucas Christensen, Ellana Coker, Jonathan Cook, Oliver Day, Lauryn England, Alyssa Fortik, Hayden Frank, Paris Gustafson, Addyson Hanson, Aidan Hardin, Sidney Holliday, Bailey Hraban, Drew Johnson, Cooper Koeppen, Karter Kopecky, Anthony Kouma, Reggie Lawson, Braelynn Lottman, Riley McCall, Emma Meyers, Colton Reiling, Keegan Robinson, Diamond Sedlak, Paige Smith, Joshua Stewart, Brian Streeter, Jake Swerczek, Tyler Thiemman, Ethan Wollberg and Zane Zoucha;

Freshmen—Dalton Amen, Tekamah Bratrsovsky, Jordan Brown, Samuel Burbach, Lillian Dalton, Isabella Faubion, Landon Hans, Ava Helms, Karter Kinkaid, Jhordyn Kirkpatrick, Cali Kobza, Mattie Kucera, Thomas Lewis, Maddox Meyer, Ashley Miller, Alex Paider, Madison Pavlik, Kyle Petersen, Carson Ramsier, Yazmin Ratzlaff, Brett Rhone, Cody Rice, Luke Schmidt, Madison Schultz, Anna Schweitzer, Camry Sehi, Maya Semerad, Natalie

Shafer, Ethan Stenger, Nathan Swenson, Bryce Teut, Carmen Vrbka, Nathaniel Warenski, Ava Wharton, Bricen Wilkie, Cayden Witzel, Delaney Wollberg and Abigail Zegar;

Eighth graders—Paige Binczik, Reagan Bixenmann, Tristen Boehle, Ruby Bostock, Lucas Brown, Christopher Burbach, Ilianna Burgess, Anna Grace Christensen, Jacob Diedrichsen, Adela Donahoo, Garrett England, Aria Ferguson, Joshua Fox, Carson Frank, Addison Gropp, Marisah Gustafson, Apryl Knisley, Makayla Kuhn, Rachel Lannin, Natalie Plautz, Autumn Saltzman, Jessica Sandell, Owen Savicky, Callie Schroeder, Logan Schumacher, Jenna Schweitzer, Miracle Sheldon, Isabel Stenger, Julia Swerczek, Elizabeth Synek, William Tiedeman, Chase Wessel, Brenna Wilkie and Mason Wisnieski; and

Seventh graders—Halle Dolliver, Caden Drake, Emery Endicott, Shea Frink, Grace Green, Kara Hraban, Joseph Lefler, Samuel Lechner, Brecken Lottman, Abigail McGrath, Josephine McGreer, Brixon Meyer, Natalie Moore, McKenna Powell, Gavin Ramsier, Ariel Saltzgaber, Kaydence Schaefer, Shyann Sehi, Brennan Sokolik, Isabel Steiner, Sienna Swenson, Sophie Walker, Madysen Wall, Paige Westerbuhr, Alaina Wilcox, Justin Wisnieski, Mikiah Witzel and Elijah Wollberg.



FREE E-Edition Access
with print subscription

— SEWARD COUNTY —
INDEPENDENT

129 S 6th Street, Seward, NE 68434 • 402-643-3676



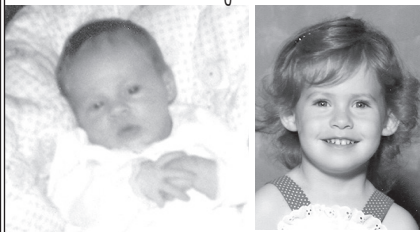
Campbell Cleaning
Veteran-owned **ECES INC.**

Janitorial Services
Commerical / Residential Carpet Cleaning

THE NAME TO TRUST FOR CARPET CLEANING

111 North 3rd Street, Suite 2 • Seward
402-643-6054 • Email: crystal@campbellcleaning.com

Back on February 19, 1981...



Happy Birthday, Kari Samuels!

ANNUAL SOUTHEAST NEBRASKA
FARM SHOW

SPONSORED BY THE WILBER-CLATONIA FFA ALUMNI

— POSTPONED UNTIL —
FEBRUARY 2022

We thank you for all your support and look forward to seeing you next year!

Glennie Duensing of Seward will celebrate her **90th birthday** this week.

She was born February 28, 1931, in Scottsbluff.

Send a card to help her celebrate.

Cards may be sent to
1320 N. 1st St.
Seward, NE 68434



With Our Thanks

The family of **Carol "Sherry" Noler** wishes to thank all for sharing your thoughts, words and prayers during her recent illness and passing. Words cannot express the gratitude in our hearts.

We also wish to thank the doctors and staff at Seward Memorial Hospital for giving her loving care.

Kinship Pointe was her home for the past three years and we are so grateful to their wonderful staff.

May all family and friends know that you helped give her a wonderful life here on earth. Now her home is heaven and as Mom always said, "There's joy in Jesus."

A memorial service will be held Saturday, May 29, 2021, at 10 a.m. at Beaver Crossing Cemetery.

Our thanks and prayers,

Becky and Deon Gocke
Kris and Terry Bartholomew
Kelly and Connie Noler
and their families



Teaching never stops.
Learning never ends.



Thank a teacher.
NSEA.org/stepup

CONSTRUCTION
WORKER?

Build your
career with us.



APPLY TODAY

www.BuildSummit.net



\$2,000 Scholarships
Nebraska Press Association Foundation

Selection based on:

- Scholastic Ability
- Good Citizenship in School
- Good Citizenship in Community
- Preference will be given to students who will be pursuing print journalism and/or advertising/marketing education at Nebraska colleges/universities.

Applications must be post-marked by March 26, 2021.

For more information and application form,
www.nebpress.com

On-farm studies examine cover crop economics

By Jenny Rees
Seward-York counties Extension educator

This week I found gratitude time and again for a warm home. Thinking of those who haven't been as fortunate.

Have also thought about our livestock producers taking care of animals.

In the unfortunate event of livestock losses, please document/take photos in the event of any disaster declarations for livestock indemnity payments.

Crop/Livestock Systems On-Farm Research Study: At last week's cover crop and soil health conference, Ken Herz shared on his family's on-farm research study. I'm so proud of and grateful to the entire Herz family for their partnership in this study and for the focus on the economics of an entire system.

This study was designed with a system's perspective incorporating crops, cattle, cover crops in a way that fit many operations in a non-irrigated setting. Their goals



Jenny Rees
Extension educator

Jenny's REESources

were to increase soil organic matter and ultimately determine yield and economics of the entire system. The crop rotation is wheat (with cover crop planted into stubble after harvest), corn and soybeans.

Cattle graze the cover crop in the winter and also graze the corn residue. No-till wheat prior to corn for increased moisture saving and yield is common in this part of the state as is planting a cover crop into wheat stubble for grazing. The questions I hear include:

1. What moisture and potential yield am I giving up to the successive corn crop if I plant a cover crop into my wheat stubble?

2. If there's a yield loss in the successive corn crop, do the economics of grazing the cover crop offset that loss?

We had three treatments and two locations (Location 1 had a cool-season cover crop and Location 2 had a warm-season one). The treatments are: ungrazed wheat stubble, ungrazed cover crop and grazed cover crop. We've collected soil property, moisture, nutrient

and health data; yield and moisture of each crop; cover crop biomass; grazing days and economics.

Location 1 in Nuckolls County began in 2016 with a cool season cover crop planted after wheat was harvested and manure applied. A three-year analysis showed no difference in soil physical properties (bulk density and compaction) amongst treatments. There was greater total microbial and fungal biomass in the grazed cover crop treatment (indicators of improved soil health). Interestingly, the ungrazed wheat stubble is the most economical treatment at this location.

The reasons includes the cost of hauling water for grazing, numerically higher yields in the ungrazed wheat stubble, variable biomass in cool season cover and a large yield hit to the 2018 soybeans in the grazed cover crop treatment during a dry year. In 2018, to the line there was a stress difference in the soybeans and that treatment read drier via soil moisture sensors. They've been conservative with grazing so at the time we couldn't explain it.

In taking soil health tests in year 3, we realized how greatly the microbial biomass had increased where cattle grazed. Our hypothesis is microbes broke down the remaining residue exposing soil to more evaporative losses resulting in less soil moisture and less yield for soybeans in the grazed treatment during a dry year.

It's now on our radar when grazing occurs to get cattle off even sooner to account for feeding the microbes, too.

Location 2 in Webster County began in 2018 with a warm season cover crop. More than four tons of biomass allowing for 91 grazing days, not hauling water, and no successive crop yield differences all led to the grazed cover crop being the most economical treatment at this location.

Take home points: It's important to add all the components when looking at economics. Grazed cover crop treatment at Location 1 would look better if we didn't include the large cost of hauling water and if there was more cool season biomass allowing for more grazing

days. The differing results at the two locations showed the influence of cover crop biomass and importance of including value of grazing; fencing/water/labor costs for livestock; cover crop costs; and successive crop yields in system economics.

It's easy to make assumptions that a certain practice is profitable. Location 1 will hopefully continue another six years switching the cool season cover crop to a warm season one to compare economics on the same field. We're curious if the warm season cover will increase biomass and grazing days enough to outweigh the water hauling costs and show a benefit to the grazed cover crop treatment, or if the ungrazed wheat stubble will remain the most economical for this field location.

Regarding cover crop economics, it could be helpful to determine a consistent way for assessing a dollar value for potential benefits such as aiding in weed and erosion control, nutrient uptake, etc. This may aid conversations with landlords and lenders for those desirous to try them. Without livestock value, currently on paper, there's really only costs.

Real estate

Information taken from records filed with the Seward County clerk.

Jan. 27 – Feb. 10

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

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

Kent E. Miller to James A. Anderson, Lot 1, Block 1, Twin Oaks Development First Addition, Seward. DS \$371.25

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

Lee D. Kavulak to Joel S. Dietz and Tammi F. Dietz, Downing Addition in the SW1/4 16-12-3. DS \$618.75

Cindy S. Rocker to Rocker Triangle, LLC, an interest in a tract of land in the N1/2 SE1/4 27-11-2. DS exempt

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

BAMS Capital, LLC, to Jace Spurling, Lot 37, Jantze Thornridge First Addition Phase III Milford. DS \$605.25

Jimmy L. Berner and Jane E. Berner and Troy L. Berner and Heather Bruno to Heather Bruno, Lots 3-4, Block 18, Lars Jorgensen's Addition, Staplehurst. DS \$135

Thomas Briggs, trustee of the Rex Briggs Trust, to O & R Land, LLC, N1/2 SE1/4 36-11-2. DS exempt

Village of Pleasant Dale to 297V, LLC, the south 66 feet of the Farmers Co-op Grain Company Subdivision in the W1/2 36-10-4. DS exempt

297V, LLC, to Village of Pleasant Dale, the north 60 feet of the Farmers Co-op Grain Company Subdivision in the W1/2 36-10-4. DS exempt

11T NE, LLC, to Brian Lauterbach, Lot 9, Block 5 of Wright's Third Addition to Utica. DS \$45

Charlene A. Stutzman and James G. Stutzman to Thomas V. Stauffer, NE1/4 26-9-3. DS exempt
Thomas V. Stauffer

and Carla Stauffer to Charlene A. Stutzman, a tract of land in Lots 11-12, Block 1, Johnson's

Second Addition to Milford. DS exempt

County court

Information taken from Seward County court records.

Jan. 18 – Feb. 5

Andrew A. Adams, 22, York, driving under suspension before reinstated, \$100 fine; attempt of a class 2 misdemeanor, \$100 fine.

Noah M. Colter, 20, Milford, attempt of a class 2 misdemeanor, nine months probation, 25 hours community service and 30 days jail.

Jose S. Tapia, 29, Crete, driving during revocation/impound first offense, \$250 fine.

Kayla L. Hogan, 29, Hoffman Estates, Illinois, possess or use drug paraphernalia, \$100 fine.

Allen D. Wilcox III, 24, York, driving under suspension before reinstated, \$100 fine.

Brady L. Frahm, 44, Milford, driving under suspension before reinstated, \$100 fine.

Austin Brook, 44, Lincoln, assault-third degree, 30 days jail.
Nathaniel J. Ruegg, 18, Seward, tobacco: possession and use by a minor, \$10 fine.

Austin J. Luebbe, 25, Milford, speeding 6-10 mph interstate, \$25 fine, possess or use drug paraphernalia, \$100 fine; possess open alcohol container, \$50 fine.

Derek H. Promes, 33, Seward, attempt of a class 2 misdemeanor,

\$300 fine.

Luis Regalado-Juarez, 34, Crete, driving under suspension before reinstated, \$100 fine.

Brendon Garcia, 24, Omaha, third degree domestic assault, 60 days jail.

Liep Yiel, 18, Lincoln, attempt of a class 1 misdemeanor, 10 days jail and driving under suspension before reinstated, \$100 fine.

Goamar D. Wuowrut, 24, Lincoln, DUI-alcohol second offense, \$500 fine, 60 days jail, revoked license 18 months and interlock device.

Arrests

Information taken from arrest affidavits filed with the Seward County Court.

Corey Westphal was arrested Dec. 4 in connection with the offense of possession of a controlled substance. Ten percent of a \$10,000 bond was filed and Westphal was arraigned Feb. 1. The case was then bound over to the district court.

Aariqa Allen, 38, Pleasant Dale, was arrested Jan. 2 in connection with the offense of possession of stolen property. A \$5,000 bond was set and Allen appeared for arraignment Feb. 16. The case was then bound over to the district court.

Taylor Vavra, 24, Dorchester, was arrest-

ed Dec. 6 in connection with the offense of driving under the influence (second offense). Ten percent of a \$10,000 bond was filed and Vavra has a pretrial hearing scheduled for March 17.

Michael Gibbens, 47, Lincoln, was arrested Dec. 9 in connection with the offenses of having a headlight out and violation of an interlock device. Ten percent of a \$10,000 bond was filed and Gibbens will appear for sentencing March 3.

Jared Schroeder, 28, Lincoln, was arrested Dec. 31 in connection with the offenses of flight to avoid arrest, willful reckless driving, plates not visible, theft by receiving stolen property, driving left of center, failure to signal, passing in a no pass

zone and driving on the shoulder. Ten percent of a \$100,000 bond was filed and Schroeder ap-

peared for arraignment Jan. 19. The case was then bound over to the district court.

PAVLISH RETIREMENT AUCTION

Saturday, February 27, 2021 • 11:00 a.m.

LOCATION: 1816 County Road J, Crete, NE

From Crete, NE, take Hwy. 33 west to 1800 Road, then go to south approx. 4 miles to County Road J.

— Watch for auction signs —

SELLING:

• Tractors • Combine & Head • Fertilizer Dry Spreader

• Grain Trucks • Tillage Equipment • Hay Equipment

• Planters & Sprayer • Misc.

For photos and additions, go to:
novakauctionservice.com


NAA
Auctioneer

Novak
Auction Service

Col. Troy Novak:
(402) 641-1526
Office: (402) 826-5302

DISPOSER, NE

SPECIALIZING IN QUALITY POST FRAME BUILDINGS



Commercial
Equestrian
Hobby Shops




Agricultural
Garages
And More!

NE and Western IA
402-426-5022

Wisconsin
608-988-6338

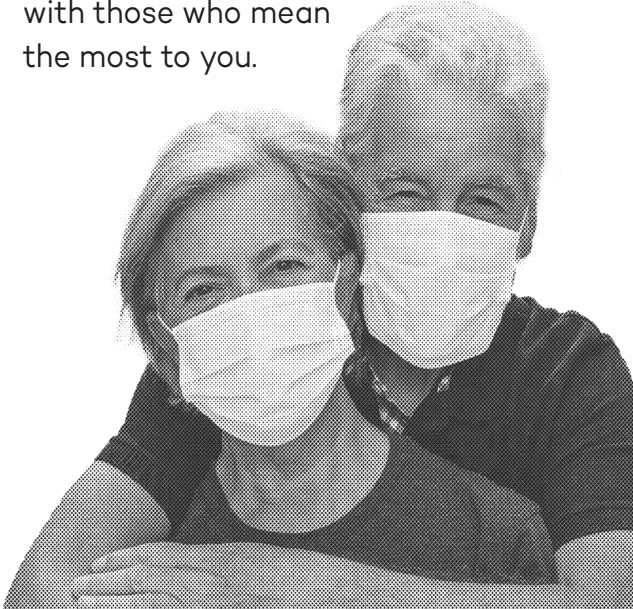
GINGERICH
STRUCTURES

www.GingerichStructures.com



PROTECT THE
ONES YOU LOVE

Get the COVID vaccine when it's your turn so you can share special moments with those who mean the most to you.



Learn more at
DoRightRightNow.org

Protect yourself,
protect others!





#BigRed
Responsible

SLOW THE SPREAD





dhhs.ne.gov/Coronavirus

NEBRASKA
Good Life. Great Mission.
DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Obituaries

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

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

A funeral service was Feb. 12 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Pleasant Dale with a graveside service and interment at St. John's Cemetery in Lincoln. Memorial contributions are suggested to the donor's choice. Condolences may be left for the family at www.zabkafuneralhome.com.



Theodore "Ted" P. Blomenberg

July 28, 1944 – Feb. 11, 2021

Theodore "Ted" P. Blomenberg, 76, of Decatur, Indiana, passed away Thursday, Feb. 11, 2021, at Lutheran Hospital in Ft. Wayne. He was recovering from a recent heart procedure but an accidental fall following his return home led to complications that ultimately caused his demise.

Ted was born July 28, 1944, in Columbus, Indiana, the first of eight children born to the late Gilbert P. Blomenberg and Bertha Marie (Koch) Blomenberg. He lived in Columbus until he was 16 years old, attending St. Peter's Lutheran School and Columbus High School. In 1960, Ted's family moved to Seward, when his father accepted a professorial position at Concordia Teachers College (now Concordia University). Ted completed his junior and senior years at Concordia High School in Seward, graduating in 1962. He graduated from Concordia University in 1966 with a B.S. degree in education.

Ted was united in marriage to Sandra "Sandy" Niedens (whom he met at Concordia) on June 12, 1966, in Great Bend, Kansas. They then settled in Higginsville, Missouri, where they taught at Immanuel Lutheran School for a couple years.

They relocated to Columbus, Indiana, when Ted decided to pursue further education at Indiana University. He finished his graduate studies in audiovisual education at IU in August 1975, earning the Doctorate in Education degree. Dr. Ted then accepted a position at the University of Iowa (Iowa City, Iowa), where he was director of the bio-medical Audio-Visual Center and responsible for developing, documenting and illustrating medical procedures for use as teaching material by faculty of the university's School of Medicine.

During the 1980s, the family moved to the Blomenberg family farm in Decatur, Indiana. Ted taught briefly at St. Peter's Lutheran School in Huntington. His wife, Sandy, was a teacher for many years at St. Peter – Immanuel Lutheran School, Decatur.

Ted will best be remembered for his keen interest and activity in varied restoration and historical preservation projects. In the late 1980s, he volunteered to help Mennonites in the Berne, Indiana, area restore their first church. He traded his labor in an effort to gain access to a vacant house in the Friedheim area that was once owned by Friedrich Conrad Dietrich Wyneken (1810-1876), an Indiana pioneer religious leader. The relocation and restoration of this house became Ted's labor of love for many years. Ted's continued and focused efforts eventually attracted additional support and led to the formation in 2004 of The Friends of Wyneken, a committee of members of the Indiana German Heritage Society. Ted served as president of this organization for several years. The Friends of Wyneken organization has successfully moved the Wyneken house to its current location on Winchester Road where restoration work continues. The home will be used as an Educational Center to promote the significance of the Adams County area's German-American heritage.

Ted had a phenomenal memory. As a result, he was the regular 'checkpoint' for facts during Blomenberg family discussions about past events and people (particularly those in Indiana). 'I'm going to check this out with Ted' was the typical comment by his siblings. And invariably, Ted would then share corrections as well as additional details for the event being discussed. He will be greatly missed by his family.

Ted was a member of the Zion Lutheran Church – Friedheim, where his great-grandfather, Rev. C.B. Preuss, was pastor for 43 years. His paternal grandparents, M.C. and Esther (Preuss) Blomenberg were also members there for many years.

Ted is survived by his wife of 55 years, Sandy Blomenberg, of Decatur, Indiana; son, David Blomenberg of Indianapolis, Indiana; son, Erik (Emily) Blomenberg of Dandridge, Tennessee; daughter, Beth (Scott) McCloskey of Missouri City, Texas; sister, Dr. Paula (Charles Rager) Blomenberg of Seward; brother, John (Susan Ann) Blomenberg of Seward; sister, Rhoda (Dr. Dominick) Toulouse of Seattle, Washington; brother, Dr. Daniel (Deanna) Blomenberg of Norfolk; sister, Andrea (Drew) Woodburn of York; sister-in-law, Janeen Blomenberg of Columbus, Indiana; and four grandchildren, Michael Blomenberg, Brandon McCloskey, Joshua Blomenberg and Madison McCloskey.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a sister, Sarah Blomenberg; and a brother, James Blomenberg.

A private family service will be held. Burial will follow at Zion Lutheran Church at Friedheim.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions are suggested to the Friends of Wyneken (<http://friends-ofwyneken.org/>) and sent to Zwick & Jahn Funeral Home in Decatur, Indiana.

Frederick G. Hotovy

Dec. 20, 1928 – Feb. 11, 2021

Frederick Gabriel Hotovy was born Dec. 20, 1928, in Seward, to Fred and Gabriella (Makes) Hotovy and passed away Feb. 11, 2021, in Seward, at the age of 92 years, 1 month and 22 days. Fred grew up on the family farm near Ulysses. He attended District 27 country school and then graduated from Dwight Assumption Catholic School with the Class of 1946.

Fred farmed with his dad and brother until he was drafted into the United States Army. He was united in marriage to Irene Kay Hraban on Sept. 10, 1951, at St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church in Bee before he was shipped off to Korea. Fred became ill while in Korea and spent 51 days in the hospital before being honorably discharged on Jan. 5, 1953. Upon his return to Nebraska, Fred and Irene farmed with his brother in Ulysses. He also worked for Dave Tuma doing construction during that time. In 1970, the family moved to Seward where Fred worked as a carpenter for Concordia College, retiring in 1993 after 23 years of service. Fred enjoyed working in his flower gardens and wood-working. He loved being with his family, especially his grandchildren and attending their activities. The couple loved driving around Seward in the evenings. Fred was a member of St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, Knights of Columbus and a custodian for several years. He was also a member of the Seward American Legion Post #33 and the former mayor of Ulysses.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Irene; his in-laws, Joseph and Mary Hraban; brother, Stanley Hotovy; four brothers-in-law, Joe Kobza, Raymond Hraban, Joseph and wife, Helen Hraban, Rayfeil and wife, Dorothy Hraban; four sisters-in-law, Genevieve and husband, Warren Woodruff, Mary and husband, Ray Hubert, Berniece and husband, Virgil Vondra, Marcella and husband, Raymond Hottovy.

Survivors include his three children, Gregory A. and wife, Linda Hotovy of Seward, Daniel and wife, Chris Hotovy of Gretna and Marla and husband, Ryon Baumbach of Seward; seven grandchildren and their families: Jeremy and wife, Lindsay Hotovy and their children, Brayton, Lander, Ryler and Brecklyn, Stacy and husband, D.R. Herrold and their children, Rex and Rayven, Stephanie and husband, Tom Morse and their children, William and Joseph, Nathan Hotovy and his son, Jaxon, Eric and wife, Jodee Hotovy, Ashley and husband, Alex Volnek and their children, Hailey and Mackenzie, Brittany and husband, Zach Dey and their children, Harper and Hadley; sister, Rita Kobza; brother, Father Dennis Hotovy; numerous nieces, nephews and a host of friends.

A Mass of Christian Burial was Feb. 15 at St Wenceslaus Catholic Church in Bee with a graveside service and interment at the Seward Cemetery. Memorial contributions are suggested to the Hotovy family for future designations. Condolences may be left for the family at www.zabkafuneralhome.com.



Becky E. Prochnow

Aug. 20, 1951 – Feb. 8, 2021

Becky Ellen Prochnow was born Aug. 20, 1951, in Lexington, to James and Gwen (Nelson) Deselms and passed away Feb. 8, 2021, in Seward, at the age of 69 years, 5 months and 19 days.

Becky grew up in Elwood, where she attended school and graduated from Elwood High School with the Class of 1968. She then attended Southeast Community College in Lincoln. She was a candy striper at Lincoln General Hospital where she met Dave Avery. She moved to Seward, where she worked at the Seward County Independent for 20 years in the advertising department. She later worked at Harris Labs in Lincoln for several years.

On Aug. 5, 1995, Becky was united in marriage to Michael Prochnow in Waco. Becky loved her children and husband very much and she cherished family time when possible. She enjoyed traveling to the Black Hills and eating out for dinner. She loved to read and was a huge Stephen King fan.

Becky was preceded in death by her father, James Deselms; sister and brother-in-law, Penny and Ron Hill; and her dog, Taz.

Survivors cherishing her memory include her husband, Michael Prochnow, Seward; children, Jessica and Thomas Yarmer, Lincoln, Vincent and Reagan Avery, Pasadena, California, and Cindy Prochnow, Lincoln; grandson, Jordan Avery; mother, Gwen Deselms; sister, Laura Sheldon, Lincoln; and her dog, Duke.

A private family service will be held at a later date. Condolences may be left for the family at www.zabkafuneralhome.com.



Traffic

Information taken from Seward County court records.

Jan. 25 – 29

Christopher M. Steele, 49, Gardena, California, speeding 11-15 mph county/state, \$75 fine; fail to appear or comply with citation, \$100 fine.

Thomas E. Odonnell, 31, Crete, careless driving, \$100 fine; no license on person, \$25 fine.

Real estate

Information taken from records filed with the Seward County clerk.

Jan. 27 – Feb. 2

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

Police

Information provided by the Seward Police Department.

Feb. 5

10:51 a.m.—Officers investigated the theft of items from a store in the 1500 block of West Highway 34.

Feb. 8

Officers responded to various calls and assists involving drivers stuck in the snow for several days.

Feb. 9

9:45 p.m.—A caller in the 500 block of North 10th Street reported that their son had been assaulted and was being held against his will in an apartment.

Feb. 10

1 p.m.—A caller in the 500 block of South Third Street reported that \$600 had been withdrawn from their bank account without authorization.

Summary of other calls:

- 911 misdial 3
- Coroner call 2
- City ordinance violation 1
- Disturbance 3
- Extra patrol 1
- Field contact 4
- Fraud 2
- Harassment 1
- Lost property 2
- Miscellaneous 15
- Motorist assist 5
- Non-injury accidents 5
- Parking violations 25
- Suspicious activity 3
- Theft 2
- Traffic stop 25
- Welfare check 4

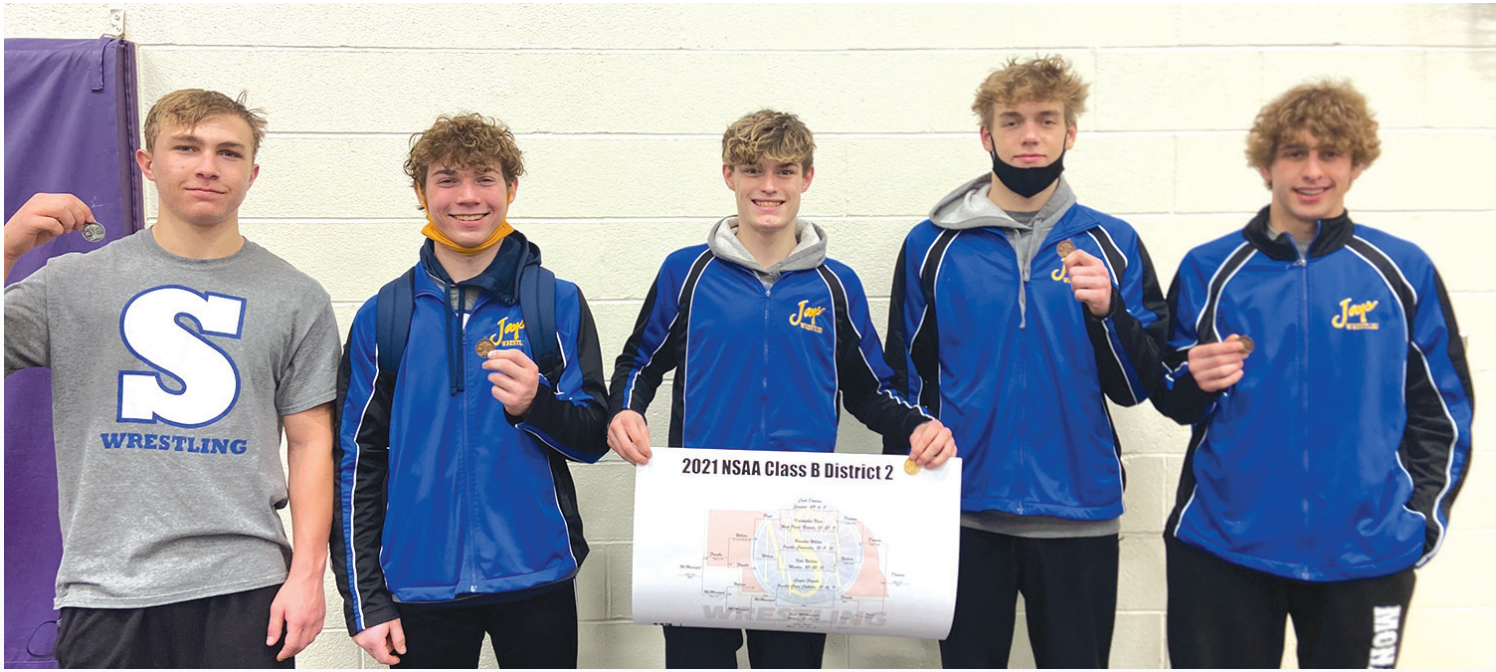
Remember to shop local!

Good luck, STATE QUALIFYING WRESTLERS!



Congrats!

Wrestlers below listed followed by weight and place finish in district tournament



Courtesy Photo

◀ **Seward Bluejays**
District B-2

Left to right:
Nolan Hill, 170, second
Breckin Schoepf, 152, fourth
Cash Duncan, 113,
district champion
Boone Duncan, 145, fourth
Cameron Schrad, 138, fourth



Stephanie Croston

▲ **Milford Eagles • District C-3 Team Runner-Up**

Front row, left to right: Conner Kohout, 106, *district champion*; Eli Vondra, 132, *district champion*; Konner Schluckebier, 126, *district champion*; Hunter Oborny, 195, third; Carter Springer, 152, third.
Back row: Thomas Vance, 182, second; Lorenzo Temple, 220, fourth; Christopher Sedoris, 170, second; Trent Stauffer, 145, third; Jack Chapman, 138, fourth

Centennial Broncos *District C-3* ▶

Left to right:
Carson Fehlhafer, 285, *district champion*
Ryan Payne, 132, second
Jarrett Dodson, 138, third



Stephanie Croston



Stephanie Croston

◀ **Malcolm Clippers**
District C-3

Left to right:
James Watts, 113, fourth
Gavin Zoucha, 160, *district champion*
Caleb Courter, 182, fourth
Kale Nordmeyer, 285, fourth

2021 NSAA State Wrestling Championships

February 19 & 20


CHI Health Center Arena • 455 N. 10th St. • Omaha, NE

First-round Class B matches begin Friday, Feb. 19, at 9:00 a.m.

First-round Class C matches begin Friday, Feb. 19, at 5:00 p.m.

(Class A & D matches are February 17 & 18)

Thank you to these sponsors for their support of our Seward County wrestlers!



EST. 1953
Sunrise
COUNTRY MANOR

610 224th Rd. • Milford
(402) 761-3230 • www.sunrisecountrymanor.com

Thornridge Golf Course

801 South D St. • Milford, NE
402-761-3606



Troyer Insurance, Inc.

Sandy Troyer ★ T.J. Reynolds
501 1st Street • Milford, NE 68405
See us for all your insurance needs.
402-761-3696



SUBWAY MOTORS inc.

PRE-OWNED & USED VEHICLES
FULL MECHANIC SERVICE & TIRE SALES
MILFORD, NE • 402-761-2341
www.subwaymotors.com

THE MILFORD
Times

402-761-2911
www.milfordtimes.net

MILFORD PLUMBING, INC.

513 First St.
402-761-3886
Mark Saltzman



MILFORD PHARMACY

"Locally owned... hometown service"

Charlie Pierce R.P.
610 1st St. • Milford, NE • **402-761-2222**



Milford Dental
CLINIC P.C.

112 B Street
Milford, NE 68405
402-761-2351
milforddentaldentist.com



FALLBROOK family DENTISTRY

575 Fallbrook Blvd., Ste. 107
Lincoln, NE 68521
402-467-0007
fallbrookfamilydentistry.com



The Bronco Spur

Utica, NE • 402-534-5055



HEYEN TAX & ACCOUNTING, INC.

516 First St., Milford
Visit our website at prep.1040.com/heyentax
Phone or Fax (402) 761-2726



INSURE NEBRASKA



Premier Real Estate
www.PREnebraska.com

517 1st St. • Milford, NE 68405
(402) 761-2291




Lauber FUNERAL HOME

William J. Lauber, CFSP
Funeral Director/Owner

Milford • Friend and Surrounding Communities

101 C Street • P.O. Box 41 • Milford, NE 68405
402-761-2424 • Friend: 402-947-2141
Email: lauberfuneralservice@windstream.net • laubermoore.com



SACK LUMBER

S. Hwy 15 • Seward • 402-643-4977



PAC N SAVE PHARMACY

1519 W. Hwy. 34 • Seward
402-643-2918 • pacnsaverx.com

Edward Jones

INVESTMENTS

John R Owens, AAMS®
Financial Advisor
402-643-6635

Adam R Greenquist, CRPC
Financial Advisor
402-643-6689

Brady A Johnson, AAMS®
Financial Advisor
402-643-6651

UBT
Union Bank & Trust

You belong here.™

Member FDIC ubt.com | 402.643.2954

MALCOLM GENERAL STORE

Malcolm, NE
402-796-2555

G&P DEVELOPMENT LANDFILL

Providing Solid Waste Services for Seward/Saline Counties
402-761-3451

Cattle

BANK & TRUST

www.cattlebank.com Member FDIC

Zabka-Perdue FUNERAL HOME

Seward • Dwight
402-643-2924
zabkafuneralhome.com




Memorial Health Care Systems

Seward | Utica | Milford
402-643-2971 | www.mhcs.us



SUHR & LICHTY
INSURANCE AGENCY

145 N. 5th • Seward
402-643-2911
suhrlighty.com



Enhanced Physical Therapy

The results you want, the care you deserve.

510 Bradford St., Suite B • Seward, NE
402-646-2007
enhancedphysicaltherapy.net



Call Us
402-643-6669
or
800-873-6669

RG Investments
MEMBER NFA

222 South 5th • Seward



Since 1968
Ehlers Electronics LLC

321 Jackson • Seward, NE
402-643-2560



Campbell Cleaning
Veteran-owned ECES INC.

Commercial & Residential Carpet Cleaning

111 North 3rd Street, Suite 2 • Seward
402-643-6054
www.campbellcleaning.com



GBE

Gabriel, Burger & Else, CPA

418 Seward St. • Seward, NE
402-643-4557 • gbecpa.com

PAC'N' SAVE DISCOUNT GROCERY

We Are Local. We Are Family.

1519 WEST HWY 34
SEWARD, NE • 402-643-6609



BLUE RIVER ELECTRIC

Cory Mueller

238 S. 2nd St.
Seward, NE 68434
402-430-1183




HUGHES BROTHERS

INFRASTRUCTURE MANUFACTURERS
STEEL • FIBERGLASS • WOOD



HACKBART CHIROPRACTIC

508 N 6th • Seward
402-646-2020



Jones Bank

Member FDIC

Davisson Furniture Center

www.davissonfurniture.com

2767 Progressive (South Hwy 15) • Seward, NE
402-643-3777

***** OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK *****



WOODS BROS REALTY

112 S. 4th St. • Seward, NE
402-643-2541 • woodsbro.com

SEWARD COUNTY
INDEPENDENT

402-643-3676
www.sewardindependent.com

Good luck at State!

CONGRATULATIONS, SEWARD HIGH BOYS 2021 STATE BOWLING TEAM RUNNER-UP!



The Seward boys' team finished in second place at the state bowling tournament Feb. 9. In the Singles Championship held Feb. 8, Dane Conner placed third and Ty Wehrs finished fourth. Pictured are, from left to right: Colin Standifer, Owen Sackschewsky, Ashton Koetter, Ashton Conner, Ty Wehrs, Noah Brumm, Dane Conner and Coach Steve Conner.

DOUG CARROLL

CONGRATULATIONS, SEWARD HIGH GIRLS 2021 DISTRICT A-3 CHAMPIONS!

The Seward girls' bowling team was the district champion Feb. 1 and earned a spot in the state tournament. Individual qualifiers were Sky Brumm, Olivia Benes, Eve Brumm and Maddie Viger. Pictured are, from left to right: Maddie Viger, Raelynn Sugden, Olivia Benes, Sky Brumm, Eve Brumm, Alexis Pallat and Audrie Davis.



COURTESY PHOTO



S. Hwy 15 • Seward • 402-643-4977



G&P DEVELOPMENT LANDFILL
Providing Solid Waste Services for Seward/Saline Counties
402-761-3451



508 N 6th • Seward
402-646-2020



Seward • Dwight
402-643-2924
zabkafuneralhome.com



Seward | Utica | Milford
402-643-2971 | www.mhcs.us



145 N. 5th • Seward
402-643-2911
suhrlightly.com



1519 W. Hwy. 34 • Seward
402-643-2918 • pacnsaverx.com



Call Us
402-643-6669
or
800-873-6669
222 South 5th • Seward



Since 1968
321 Jackson • Seward, NE
402-643-2560



Commercial & Residential Carpet Cleaning
111 North 3rd Street, Suite 2 • Seward
402-643-6054
www.campbellcleaning.com



www.cattlebank.com



1519 WEST HWY 34
SEWARD, NE • 402-643-6609



Cory Mueller
238 S. 2nd St.
Seward, NE 68434
402-430-1183



HUGHES BROTHERS
STEEL • FIBERGLASS • WOOD



510 Bradford St., Suite B • Seward, NE
402-646-2007
enhancedphysicaltherapy.net



Member FDIC



2767 Progressive (South Hwy 15) • Seward, NE
402-643-3777
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK



John R Owens, AAMS®
Financial Advisor
402-643-6635
Adam R Greenquist, CRPC
Financial Advisor
402-643-6689
Brady A Johnson, AAMS®
Financial Advisor
402-643-6651



Gabriel, Burger & Else, CPA
418 Seward St. • Seward, NE
402-643-4557 • gbecpa.com



Member FDIC
ubt.com | 402.643.2954



Congrats from Seward Bowl and



123 S. 4th St., Seward • 402-643-3898



Quality Roofing Since 1940



Steve Conner • Seward/York, NE
• Residential
• Commercial
Insurance Claims Welcome!



For Free Estimate Call
402-646-2100
402-362-6689
Fully Insured
References Available

Bluejay boys win bowling trophy

by Stephanie Croston
scroston@sewardindependent.com

Seward's boys' bowling team made the first year of Nebraska School Activities Association-sanctioned bowling a memorable one.

The team earned the runner-up trophy in the team competition Feb. 9 and two medals in the singles tournament Feb. 8.

Dane Conner and Ty Wehrs represented the Jays in the singles competition. After four qualifying rounds, the top eight were seeded into a single elimination bracket. The two Bluejays were tied for third with 757 pins and needed a bowl-off to determine seeding. Wehrs won the bowl-off for the third seed, and Conner was fourth.

Conner beat Camden McKenzie of Fremont 460-366 in the first round, and Wehrs topped Andrew Beck of Columbus 397-316.

In the semifinals, Conner lost to eventual champion Cole Macaluso of Fremont 473-415, while Wehrs lost to Adam Gollhofer of Millard



DOUG CARROLL/SCI

The Seward boys' bowling team earned the runner-up trophy at state Feb. 9. Team members are, from left, Colin Standifer, Owen Sackschewsky, Ashton Koetter, Ashton Conner, Ty Wehrs, Noah Brumm, Dane Conner and Coach Steve Conner.

North 396-385. That put Conner in third and Wehrs in fourth.

"We were the only school with two medalists," Coach Steve Conner said. "To have both in the top eight was nice."

For the coach, the individual tournament was more stressful than the team tour-

nament because he couldn't be on the lanes with the bowlers. Plus, for Conner, to have his son bowling was extra stress. Fortunately, the two were only five lanes apart, he said.

"It was definitely a lot of fun," Coach Conner said.

He likes the NSAA's set up

(continued on 2B)



DOUG CARROLL/SCI

Seward's Ty Wehrs releases his bowling ball during state singles action in Lincoln Feb. 8.



DOUG CARROLL/SCI

Seward's Dane Conner watches one of his shots during state bowling team action Feb. 9 in Lincoln.

Milford sends 10 to state wrestling

by Stephanie Croston
scroston@sewardindependent.com

Ten.

The number of perfection. Two full hands. Two basketball teams. One more than a baseball team.

The number of state wrestling qualifiers from Milford.

Ten.

The Eagles will send 10 wrestlers to the state tournament Friday and Saturday, Feb. 19 and 20. Matches for Class C start at 5 p.m. Friday.

"It was exciting for us," Coach Joe Schluckebier said. "It all worked out really good."

The day started with Konner Kohout winning the 106-pound championship.

"He's been doing a remarkable job getting us going," Schluckebier said. "He was the No. 1 seed. As a freshman, he's managed the pressure. He was able to get in and get the job done."

Schluckebier said Kohout (36-10) is serious about his craft and is the hardest working wrestler in the wrestling room.

Up next was Konner Schluckebier, another top seed, this time at 126 pounds. He had beaten Zach Zitek, his finals opponent, the week



STEPHANIE CROSTON/SCI

Konner Schluckebier of Milford looks to the coaches for advice against Zach Zitek of Aquinas during the 126-pound district championship match Feb. 13.

before at subdistricts, and Coach Schluckebier said they knew it would be a tighter match this week. Konner got the 5-3 win for his third district title.

The victory also marked his 175th career win, which is a school record.

"He controlled the match," the coach said. "Guys are trying to slow Konner down, and he's getting better at adapting to a slower pace."

The senior (44-2) has his sights set on a second state title, Coach Schluckebier said.

"It doesn't matter the

draw. His goal is to beat everyone," he said.

Eli Vondra took the mat next at 132 pounds. He also met a familiar foe in the final — Ryan Payne of Centennial. The two have wrestled five times, and Vondra has gotten the best of the match each time.

Vondra (42-2) got the win 14-6 for a district championship.

The weight class had five ranked wrestlers in it, so the competition was tough, Coach Schluckebier said.

"We had the best guy there," the coach said. "He manages matches well."

Christopher Sedoris (41-7) at 170 pounds has had an outstanding season, Coach Schluckebier said. The junior earned a spot in the 170-pound championship match but lost to Jaxson Jones of Twin River 9-4. This will be Sedoris's first trip to state.

"He's had a heck of a year," the coach said. "He's found a new love for the sport and is making his own path."

Thomas Vance at 182 pounds earned runner-up, as well, losing by pin to Michael Anadel of Aquinas.

"He got the job done," Coach Schluckebier said. "He can beat just about anybody. He's got a motor that keeps on running."

The junior (36-15) will make his first trip to state, as well. The coach said he's come a long way since he started wrestling in seventh grade.

Milford had three wrestlers earn third place in the district — Trent Stauffer at 145, Carter Springer at 152 and Hunter Oborny at 195.

Stauffer earned his 100th career win in the consolation semifinals, also known as the heartbreak round where if you lose, your season is over.

The senior (37-13) has been fighting injuries throughout his career and tends to hold back on the mat, Coach Schluckebier said.

"In practice, I could see that he was not to be deterred," the coach said. "His goal is a medal, and he's right on the edge of it."

Springer is also dealing with an injury but has powered through, Coach Schluckebier said. While he's not as mobile as he'd like to be, he still wrestled well. Springer (40-7) pinned his opponent in the heartbreak round and got the win in the consolation final for third.

Oborny's heartbreak round match "blew the roof off Centennial," Coach Schluckebier said.

The freshman wrestled Reilly Miller of Aquinas, who he had beaten in the last second

(continued on 2B)

Milford wrestling

(continued from 1B)
at subdistricts last week.
Oborny did it again Feb. 13, winning 5-3 on a last-second takedown.
Coach Schluckebier said Oborny (39-10) is set up to be a freshman medalist at 195 pounds.
“He’s been on national teams. This is nothing new to him,” he said.
His 39 wins are more than any freshman in Milford history.
Jack Chapman (138) and Lorenzo Temple (220) finished fourth.
Chapman lost in the heartbreak round last year, and Coach Schluckebier said he wasn’t going to let that happen again.
“He’s wrestled better

every week,” he said.
Chapman (38-12) lost to Jarrett Dodson of Centennial in the third-place match.
“We knew he’d be tough. He caught us early and we couldn’t regroup,” the coach said.
Temple is still relatively new to the sport, starting wrestling as a sophomore. Now a senior, he’ll be able to finish his career at state.
“For him, it’s great for his confidence,” Coach Schluckebier said. “It’s an experience he’ll never forget.”
Temple is 34-13 on the season.
Joey Kenning and Isaac Voboril also qualified for districts but finished out of the

medals.
Schluckebier was also named the district coach of the year.
District C3
Team scores—Aquinas Catholic 196.5, Milford 159.5, Logan View 110.5, Cross County/Osceola 80.5, Norfolk Catholic 56, Twin River 54, Centennial 53, Malcolm 41, Humboldt-Table Rock-Steinauer 26, South Central NE Unified Dist 5 23, Ponca 21, BRLD 13, Lincoln Lutheran 11, Palmyra 9, Lincoln Christian 5, Louisville 3
106—Conner Kohout (MIL) pin Tyler Shoup (CCO) 1:08; pin Grady Romshek (DCA) 1:18, first
120—Joey Kenning (MIL) pinned by Ashton Johnson (TR) 0:47; def. by Zander Kavan (DCA) 12-3
126—Konner Schluckebier (MIL) pin Avery Wieting (LL) 0:42; pin John Brodrick (SCNU) 0:58; def. Zach Zitek (DCA) 5-3, first
132—Eli Vondra (MIL) pin Michael Gehring (PLMY) 3:06; def. Grant Wells (LL) 4-3; def. Ryan Payne (CEN) 14-6, first
138—Jack Chapman (MIL) pin Korbe Urkoski (TR) 0:41; def. by Roberto Valdivia (LV) 3-1; def. Brock Hudson (LVL) 8-2; def. by Jarrett Dodson (CEN) 8-2, fourth
145—Trent Stauffer (MIL) pin Bakhovaddin Ahmedov (LL) 1:06; pinned by Hunter McNulty (LV) 4:51; pin Channer Marsden (CCO) 1:28; def. Allan Olander (NC) 5-2, third
152—Carter Springer (MIL) def. Jacob Hagemier (SCNU) 15-0; def. by Ethan Schmid (DCA) 3-1; pin Noah Wattier (NC) 2:11; def. Dedrick Dowding (PLMY) 10-2, third
160—Isaac Voboril (MIL) pinned by Nolan Eller (DCA) 3:54; def. by Mason Tenski (TR) 8-3
170—Christopher Scdoris (MIL) pin Jarin Pope (PLMY) 1:29; pin Brayton Jarosik (SCNU) 0:45; def. by Jaxson Jones (TR) 9-4, second
182—Thomas Vance (MIL) pin Dylan Silva (LV) 4:50; def. Caleb Courter (MAL) 11-9; pinned by Michael Andel (DCA) 0:42, second
195—Hunter Oborny (MIL) pin Rocco Gehring (TR) 11:28; pinned by Kyle Sterup (CCO) 5:23; def. Reilly Miller (DCA) 5-3; def. Aiden Worthey (HTRS) 3-2, third
220—Lorenzo Temple (MIL) pin Matt Logue (PON) 2:00; def. by Coy Meysenburg (DCA) 12-4; pin Jackson Masek (LL) 0:36; pinned by Isaac Bittner (HTRS) 1:41, fourth
First-round matchups
106—Conner Kohout (36-10) vs. Janson Pilkington, Yutan (21-14)
126—Konner Schluckebier (44-2) vs. Ethan Zegers, David City (27-24)
132—Eli Vondra (42-2) vs. Kaden Kocian, St. Paul (29-17)
138—Jack Chapman (38-12) vs. Darnain Bell, Bridgeport (38-6)
145—Trent Stauffer (37-14) vs. Korbyn Battershaw, Battle Creek (44-12)
152—Carter Springer (40-7) vs. Tryon Calleroz, Arcadia/Loup City (36-2)
170—Christopher Scdoris (41-7) vs. Samuel Vrana, Bishop Neumann (24-6)
182—Thomas Vance (36-15) vs. Grant Nixon, Fort Calhoun (26-16)
195—Hunter Oborny (39-10) vs. Salvador Rodriguez, O’Neill (29-13)
220—Lorenzo Temple (34-13) vs. Jazper Ames, Lutheran High Northeast (26-2)



Seward’s Maddie Vigor bowls at the state tournament Feb. 10 in Lincoln.

Bowling

(continued from 1B)
for the singles tournament, allowing bowlers whose teams might not be as good to show their skills at state, as well.
The team tournament Feb. 9 worked out well for the Bluejays, the coach said.
“We practiced all year. The kids put in the effort,” he said. “You hope its enough.”
Seward was seeded third and bowled Bellevue West in the first round, winning 3-1. Coach Conner said BW was a team he was worried about.
“We got it rolling right away,” he said. “We won 206-202 and that set the tone for the morning.”
The win put Seward into another match against second-seeded Lincoln Pius X.
“We were eager to get the chance to play them again,” Coach Conner said. “It was nice to get redemption.”
Seward won the match 3-0 to advance to play top-seeded Fremont in the championship bracket. The Bluejays were the only team to beat Fremont all season, and the Jays got it done again, winning 3-0 with games of 190, 203 and 207.
Unfortunately for Seward, in one of the final frames, Dane Conner threw his back out. Colin Standifer stepped into his place in the lineup.
“He made a couple big shots when we needed him to,” Coach Conner said.
Because the tournament was double elimination, the Jays had about three hours before they had to bowl again, plenty of time for Dane Conner to relax and let the trainer’s treatment work.
“He was a question up to game time,” Coach Conner said.
Fremont bowled its way back through to face Seward again. Fremont had to win twice to claim the title, and it did, 3-1 and 3-0.
Coach Conner said he could tell Dane wasn’t 100%, but he was able to bowl through the discomfort.
“He was a little ginger,” the coach said. “But he stepped up and

performed almost as well as usual.”
In the first match, Coach Conner said Seward bowled well but Fremont was just a little better. In the second, everything went Fremont’s way, he said.
“It was a big accomplishment,” Coach Conner said of the runner-up finish. “I’m thrilled. We wanted to do well and expected to do well. We exceeded what I thought we could do.”
The team was recognized at halftime of the girls’ basketball game that night, which Coach Conner was also happy to see.
“It’s the little things like that,” he said. “It felt good to go on the court and be recognized.”
Seward will graduate two seniors off the varsity team – Ashton Conner and Wehrs.
“Those are two very big spots to fill,” Coach Conner said.
He expects the bowlers to do some work in the offseason and said Dane and Ashton Conner and Ashton Koetter are already planning which tournaments to go to.
Girls struggle at state
The Seward girls’ bowling team had high hopes heading into the state tournament Feb. 10 but had a rough go, Coach Julie Benes said.
The Jays were the No. 2 seed going into the tournament and were upset in the first round by Columbus 3-0.
Seward came back to beat Lincoln Pius X 3-0 and Lexington 3-0 before losing to Millard West 3-2 to end the tournament in fourth place.
Benes said the girls struggled to adjust to the lane pattern, which was slick and a longer pattern than they were used to.
Seward had four girls compete in the singles tournament Feb. 8. Maddie Viger was the top finisher in 15th place. Olivia Benes was 16th, just two pins behind Viger. Eve Brumm and Sky Brumm were also in the individual field.
Coach Benes said the lane pattern was better, but the tournament moved at a fast pace.
“There wasn’t much time to think or adjust,” she said.



The Centennial girls’ basketball team was the Southern Nebraska Conference tournament champion Feb. 8.

Broncos earn tourney title

by Stephanie Croston
scroston@sewardindependent.com
It’s been a long time since the Centennial girls’ basketball team could call itself conference tournament champion.
The 25-plus year drought is over.
Centennial defeated Sutton 38-28 in the Southern Nebraska Conference championship game Feb. 7 to claim the title.
“I thought the girls were confident going in,” Coach Jake Polk said. “They were excited to make history. It doesn’t come around all that often.”
He said the Broncos have done a good job acknowledging the pressure they face as a privilege.
“Everyone gives us their best shot,” he said.
Sutton did, too. The first quarter saw the two teams play physical man-to-man basketball and scoring a combined 13 points. Each team scored nine in the second quarter.
“On offense we

were able to figure out what worked and what didn’t,” Polk said. “Credit Sutton’s game plan on defense.”
Kate Hirschfeld led the Broncos with 15 points and was 7-8 from the free throw line.
“To score points when no one is guarding you is big,” Polk said.
Jaycee Stuhr played well on defense, he said.
The Broncos didn’t have much time to enjoy the win with a game the next night at Yutan.
“We were not as juiced up, after an hour and a half ride to Yutan, and the gym wasn’t rocking and rolling like the night before,” Polk said. “We were a little sluggish.”
Hirschfeld led the team with 13 points. Asia Nisly added eight points and eight rebounds.
The Broncos (21-1) were to open subdistrict play Feb. 16 at home against Shelby-Rising City. The winner advances to the championship Thursday, Feb. 18, at 6:30 p.m.



Jaycee Stuhr of Centennial shoots over the Sutton defense in the Southern Nebraska Conference championship game Feb. 8.

Centennial 38, Sutton 28					CHS						
SHS	4	9	11	4	28	CHS	7	12	5	14	38
CHS	9	9	13	7	38	YHS	8	11	11	4	34
CHS —Kate Hirschfeld 4-7 7-8 15, Daylee Dey 0-2 4-4 4, Jaci Opfer 1-3 0-0 2, Asia Nisly 4-9 3-4 12, Jaycee Stuhr 2-6 0-0 5. Totals 11-27 14-16 38.						CHS —Hirschfeld 2-9 9-14 13, Dey 1-3 3-5 5, Opfer 2-3 3-4 7, Kiley Rathjen 1-1 1-4 3, Nisly 3-10 11-8, Stuhr 0-1 2-2 2, Kailey Ziegler 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 9-30 19-30 38.					
Three-point goals —CHS 2-10 (Dey 0-2, Nisly 1-5, Stuhr 1-3). Rebounds —CHS 22 (Nisly 7). Assists —CHS 8 (Dey 3). Steals —CHS 6 (Hirschfeld 3). Blocked shots —CHS 3 (three with 1). Turnovers —CHS 12. Fouls —CHS 8.						Three-point goals —CHS 6 (Hirschfeld 2-9, Dey 0-1, Nisly 1-3). Rebounds —CHS 29 (Nisly 9). Assists —CHS 6 (Stuhr 4). Steals —CHS 11 (Hirschfeld 1). Blocked shots —CHS 3 (three with 1). Turnovers —CHS 21. Fouls —CHS 29.					



Centennial girls’ basketball team members Daylee Dey (15), Jaycee Stuhr (back) and Kate Hirschfeld start the celebration after winning the conference tournament Feb. 8.

We’ve got you covered.

See our photos at
www.
sewardindependent.
com

4x6	\$4
5x7	\$7.25
8x10	\$10.25
Digital	\$5



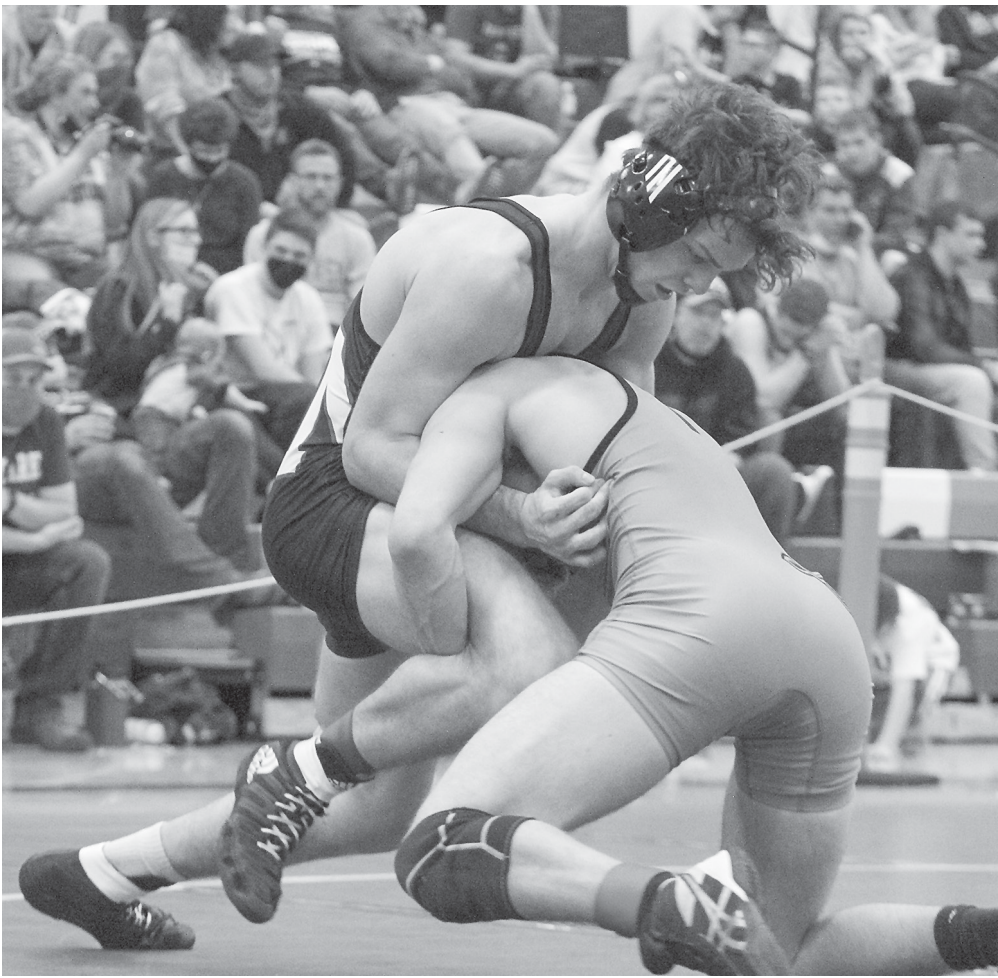
SEWARD COUNTY
INDEPENDENT

Zoucha leads quartet to state

by Heath Kramer
Seward County Independent

Gavin Zoucha wants to be at his best when it matters most. At the Feb. 13 District C3 meet at Centennial High School, the stakes were a little higher than they were the week before at subdistricts. The 160-pound junior rose to the occasion as he avenged a loss from the previous week and repeated as district champion. At subdistricts, Aquinas Catholic's Nolan Eller took the state's top ranking away from Zoucha when he won by decision. No. 2 Zoucha claimed it back a week later in the district final with a 9-7 win. "I knew I had to make some adjustments after last week," Zoucha said. "I worked on some new offense tactics to counter his defensive style." The district field had four of the state's top six ranked wrestlers in the weight class. After a quick pin of Logan View's Braydon Wobken, Zoucha turned his attention to fifth-ranked Bryce Reed of Cross County/Oscoela. It took a full three periods for Zoucha to get the 8-5 win to send him to the title match. Zoucha struck first in the final with a takedown, but a reversal and cradle put Eller up 5-2 at the end of the first period.

"That was really the only mistake Gavin had in the match," Malcolm head coach Matt Coufal said. "From that point on, he kept his feet moving and stayed focused." Zoucha got Eller on his back in the second period and took a 7-6 lead heading to final period. After Eller escaped to open the period and tie the score, Zoucha got a takedown with under a minute to go and held on for the two-point win. "Plain and simple, my goal this week is to win," Zoucha said. "I have to stay focused on one match at a time. I can't look ahead. "I keep telling myself



STEPHANIE CROSTON/SCI
Gavin Zoucha of Malcolm fights off a takedown attempt by Nolan Eller of Aquinas in the 160-pound district final Feb. 13.

this is what I've been working for and I'm not going to settle." Zoucha will be joined in Omaha by two classmates. Kale Nordmeyer will make his third appearance at state in the 285-pound class. After opening with a 10-3 decision over Paul Buresh of Aquinas Catholic, No. 7 Nordmeyer got up 4-0 before getting pinned in the third period by No. 4 Isaac Wilcox of Norfolk Catholic. In the heartbreak round, the junior outlasted No. 9 Terrance Heyes of Cross County/Oscoela with a 1-0 decision. Tenth-ranked Daven Whitley of BRLD pinned Nordmeyer in the final period of the consolation match. "Some of the best heavyweights in the state were in our district," Coufal said. "For Kale to get through and make it to state says something about the kind of competitor he is." Caleb Courter is making his first trip to state as the junior earned a

spot with a fourth place finish. No. 8 Courter opened his day with a pin of Centennial's Samuel Payne before falling 11-9 to No. 9 Thomas Vance of Milford. After fighting his way back in a 9-8 win over Andy Maloley of HTRS in the heartbreak round, Courter was bested by No. 10 Jed Jones of Twin River, 3-2. "The week of subdistricts, Caleb missed a lot of school and practice due to illness," Coufal said. "He battled hard to even earn a spot. "Now, it's about mentality. Do you go to state, just being glad you made it or do you go thinking you have something to prove? I hope it's the latter." James Watts will be the Clippers' fourth entry at state. The 113-pound sophomore went without a win at districts. Due to low numbers in the weight class and how the byes were drawn for the bracket, Watts was awarded a fourth place qualifying spot in a

five-person field. "It's an opportunity for James to experience what it's like at state," Coufal said. "We'll help him set some goals for this week and see what he can accomplish. "Hopefully, it will inspire him to work even harder to earn a spot and get back next year."

District C3
Team scores—Aquinas Catholic 196.5, Milford 159.5, Logan View 110.5, Cross County/Oscoela 80.5, Norfolk Catholic 56, Twin River 54, Centennial 53, Malcolm 41, Humboldt-Table Rock-Steinauer 26, South Central NE Unified Dist 5 23, Ponca 21, BRLD 13, Lincoln Lutheran 11, Palmyra 9, Lincoln Christian 5, Louisville 3
113—James Watts (MAL) pinned by Jacob McGee (LV) 1:10; pinned by Colton Kirby (CCO) 0:39, fourth
120—Zane Zoucha (MAL) def. by Zander Kavan (DCA) 6-0; def. by Isaac Wegrzyn (LC) 3-0
160—Gavin Zoucha (MAL) pin Braydon Wobken (LV) 0:44; def. Bryce Reed (CCO) 8-5; def. Nolan Eller (DCA) 9-7, first
182—Caleb Courter (MAL) pin Samuel Payne (CEN) 3:02; def. by Thomas Vance (MIL) 11-9; def. Andy Maloley (HTRS) 9-8; def. by Jed Jones (TR) 3-2, fourth
195—Riley Donahoe (MAL) pinned by Logan Booth (LV) 0:33; pinned by Reilly Miller (DCA) 2:32
220—Zack Pasco (MAL) pinned by Coy Meysenburg (DCA) 4:51; def. Matt Logue (PON) 7-3; pinned by Isaac Bittner (HTRS) 1:19
285—Kale Nordmeyer (MAL) def. Paul Buresh (DCA) 10-3; pinned by Isaac Wilcox (NC) 4:42; def. Terrance Heyes (CCO) 1-0; pinned by Daven Whitley (BRLD) 4:59, fourth
First-round matchups
113—James Watts (1-3) vs. Jose Escandon, Gibbon (26-2)
160—Gavin Zoucha (35-3) vs. Dawson Schram, Tekamah-Herman (15-14)
182—Caleb Courter (29-12) vs. Dylan Vodicka, David City (50-0)
285—Kale Nordmeyer (33-10) vs. Jake Ingwersen, David City (47-2)



PHOTO COURTESY BRANDON MOWINKEL
Mariah Richards of Milford fights through the Sandy Creek defense for a shot Feb. 12.

Eagles win final postseason prep

by Stephanie Croston
scroston@sewardindependent.com

The Milford girls' basketball team shook off the rust Feb. 12 against Sandy Creek and finished with a 57-19 win. Coach Phil Stauffer said the seniors played well in their final home game. Abby Houk finished with 10 points and seven rebounds. "She has been shooting much better late in the season," Stauffer said. Hannah Kepler returned to the lineup with 10 points and three steals. Alayna Piening notched four assists, and Kaitlyn Klug scored five. Fellow post Mariah Richards added four. "Those two really give us a lot of depth in the post," Stauffer said.

He said the team played well despite one game in the last two weeks. The Eagles (13-8) were to start subdistrict play Feb. 16 at Malcolm against Lincoln Lutheran. The other side of the bracket includes Lincoln Christian, Raymond Central and Malcolm. The final is set for Thursday, Feb. 18, at 7 p.m. at Malcolm.

Milford 57, Sandy Creek 19
SCHS 7 4 0 8 19
MHS 11 24 13 9 57
SCHS—Totals 8-35 2-5 19.
MHS—Makena Stutzman 0-3 2-3 2, Kaitlin Kontor 4-10 2-2 14, Hannah Kepler 3-12 3-7 10, Alayn Piening 1-4 0-0 2, Kaitlyn Klug 2-3 1-1 5, Taylor Roth 1-2 1-4 3, Sydney Stelling 3-5 1-1 7, Abby Houk 3-8 2-3 10, Mariah Richards 2-5 0-0 4, Camille Stauffer 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 19-53 12-21 57.
Three-point goals—SCHS 1-13, MHS 7-23 (Stutzman 0-3, Kontor 4-9, Kepler 1-7, Houk 2-4). **Rebounds**—SCHS 25, MHS 39 (Houk 7). **Assists**—MHS 16 (Piening 4). **Steals**—MHS 11 (Kepler 3). **Blocked shots**—MHS 3 (three with 1). **Turnovers**—SCHS 24, MHS 11. **Fouls**—SCHS 14, MHS 9.

SHS boys go 1-2 on hardwood

by Stephanie Croston
scroston@sewardindependent.com

The Seward boys' basketball team won its seventh game of the season Feb. 9, beating Fairbury 69-46 at home. Coach Trevor Menke said the Jeffs are a dangerous team, and he was pleased with how the Jays competed for four quarters. Leighton Limback came off the bench to score 14 points and grab six rebounds. Drew Covalt led the team with 19 points. Gavin Sukup added 14 points, as well, and Traetyn Schaefer delivered eight assists. "Over the duration, we got enough stops to separate in the third and finish out a win," Menke said. The Jays couldn't keep the momentum Feb. 11 when Wayne came to town and won 63-29. "They play the right way and aren't afraid of the grind," Menke said. "They hit us in the mouth early, and we didn't respond very well as a team. You can't let it define you, though, and we'll learn from our mistakes in the future." Seward had three players score six to lead the offense – Drew



STEPHANIE CROSTON/SCI
Seward's Carson Tvrdy brings the ball down the court and looks for an open teammate against Fairbury Feb. 9.

Covalt, Traetyn Schaefer and Sukup. Limback grabbed seven rebounds. The week ended with a 57-40 loss at York, a team that is playing

well, Menke said. "We got behind early and cut the deficit to four at half, which is something we didn't do Thursday night against

Wayne," he said. "I thought we were much more competitive tonight but just didn't sustain it at a high enough level for 32 minutes." Sam Schroeder finished with a double double, scoring 10 points and pulling down 16 rebounds. Covalt and Limback scored eight points each. Seward (7-15) is off until subdistricts start Monday, Feb. 22. Brackets and pairings had not been set at press time.

Seward 69, Fairbury 46
FHS 10 15 8 13 46
SHS 15 17 19 18 69
SHS—Drew Covalt 6-12 3-5 19, Traetyn Schaefer 1-2 0-0 2, Jackson Trost 2-5 0-0 6, Dalton Burt 0-1 0-0 0, Gavin Sukup 7-10 0-4 14, Trevor Ruth 1-3 0-0 2, Andrew Frazey 0-1 0-0 0, Finn Hochstein 1-2 0-0 2, Leighton Limback 6-9 0-0 14, Carson Tvrdy 0-3 1-2 1, Sam Schroeder 4-6 1-2 9.
Three-point goals—SHS 8-18 (Covalt 4-8, Trost 2-4, Sukup 0-1, Ruth 0-1, Frazey 0-1, Limback 2-2, Tvrdy 0-1). **Rebounds**—SHS 34 (three with 6). **Assists**—SHS 15 (Schaefer 8). **Steals**—SHS 5 (five with 1). **Turnovers**—SHS 12. **Fouls**—SHS 18.
Wayne 63, Seward 29
WHS 17 16 21 9 63
SHS 7 4 8 10 29
SHS—Covalt 2-12 0-0 6, Schaefer 2-4 1-1 6, Trost 0-4 0-0 0, Sukup 2-2 2-3 6, Hochstein 1-2 0-0 2, Limback 1-6 3-4 5, Tvrdy 0-3 1-2 1, Nathan Miller 0-1 1-2 1, Schroeder 0-3 2-2 2.
Three-point goals—SHS 3-19 (Covalt 2-10, Schaefer 1-2, Trost 0-3, Limback 0-2, Tvrdy 0-2). **Rebounds**—SHS 17 (Limback 7). **Assists**—SHS 4 (Limback 2). **Steals**—SHS 3 (three with 1). **Turnovers**—SHS 14. **Fouls**—SHS 13.

York 57, Seward 40
SHS 10 15 6 9 40
YHS 20 9 12 16 57
SHS—Covalt 3-11 0-0 8, Schaefer 1-4 2-2 4, Trost 1-4 2-2 4, Sukup 2-3 2-2 6, Hochstein 1-6 5-8 8, Tvrdy 0-2 0-0 0, Schroeder 4-8 2-11 10.
Three-point goals—SHS 3-16 (Covalt 2-8, Schaefer 0-1, Trost 0-3, Limback 1-3, Tvrdy 0-1). **Rebounds**—SHS 18 (Schroeder 16). **Assists**—SHS 9 (Schaefer 5). **Steals**—SHS 4 (four with 1). **Blocked shots**—SHS 1 (Schroeder 1). **Turnovers**—SHS 17. **Fouls**—SHS 11.

Celebrating?

Announce your special event in the *Seward County Independent*. You can have fun with that special someone's birthday, anniversary, baby announcement, note of thanks or special occasion with a personal ad. Call 402-643-3676 or email office@sewardindependent.com.

SEWARD • COUNTY INDEPENDENT

129 S. 6th St. • Seward, NE 68434 • 402-643-3676

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

Tanya Miller, a sophomore at Seward High, helped lead the Bluejays to a pair of wins last week. She scored 13 in the victory over Fairbury and 15 in the win over Wayne.

Honorable Mention
Kaitlin Kontor - Milford
Asia Nisly - Centennial
Joslyn Small - Malcolm

Konner Schluckebier, a senior at Milford, won his third district championship and 175th match during Feb. 13 in the district tournament, qualifying for state at 126 pounds.

Honorable Mention
• Boone Duncan - Seward
• Carson Fehlhafer - CHS
• Gavin Zoucha - Malcolm

TEAM ELITE

DETASSELING & ROGUING

PROUD SPONSOR OF AREA SPORTS



Drew Johnson of Malcolm tries to drive around Jake Barga of Centennial Feb. 13.

Clippers struggle to finish on hardwood

by Heath Kramer
Seward County Independent

Ask any coach who has played or scouted the Malcolm boys' basketball team this season and you will hear it's a scary team to face. Though the Clippers have managed just six wins this season, eight of their 13 losses have been by a single-digit margin.

The trouble for the Clippers has been finishing games. That trouble reared its ugly head again in a 58-51 loss to Centennial on Feb. 13 in Utica.

Malcolm used its defense to help create a first quarter lead over the No. 6 Broncos. The Clippers took a one-point lead into the second quarter and added to that lead early in the second frame.

"Too many missed opportunities," Malcolm head coach Chris Lewandowski said. "Four times in the first half, we forced turnovers after which we should have scored and we failed all four times.

"Instead of being tied at the half, we could have been up by eight to 10 points. Those are opportunities you can't afford to waste against good teams like this."

Centennial came out of the break on fire as Cooper Gierhan and Jake Barga found another gear and led the Broncos on an 18-5 third quarter run.

"Our shot selection wasn't good that quarter," Lewandowski said. "We settled for too many perimeter shots and didn't attack the basket. "That put us in a pretty deep hole. Kind of the story of our season."

Hayden Frank caught fire in the fourth quarter. The Malcolm sophomore hit five three-pointers in a fourth quarter comeback that came up just short.

"Our guys finally decided, 'it's now or never,'" Lewandowski said. "We moved the ball better, we crashed the boards harder. It's how we need to play for four quarters."

Frank led the Clippers with 22 points and eight rebounds. Malcolm Saltzman added 18 points.

Two days earlier, the Clippers traveled to Yutan where they came up short against the No. 2 Chieftains, 71-55.

"It was pretty similar to the Centennial game," Lewandowski said. "We played well at times but we need to find a way to play all 32 minutes."

The Clippers had three players in double figures including Saltzman who scored 17 while going 4-for-5 from beyond the arc. Drew Johnson knocked down a pair of three-pointers on his way to 11 points. Maclain Beach had 10 points and grabbed eight rebounds.

Malcolm (6-13) closes out the regular season with another tough road test on Friday night at Ashland-Greenwood (11-7).

"They lost one of the best players in the state (to injury) and yet they're having a winning season," Lewandowski said. "They're a tough squad and it will be a good test for us heading into subdistricts."

Centennial 58, Malcolm 51					
MAL	11	12	5	23	51
CEN	10	13	18	17	58

MALCOLM—Hayden Frank 22, Malcolm Saltzman 18, Maclain Beach 2, Drew Johnson 9.

Rebounds—Frank 8, Saltzman 2, Brayden Boehle, Beach 5, Jacob Schweitzer 4, Johnson 3, Connor Zegar 5, Ethan Robotham 3. **Assists**—Saltzman, Beach 3, Schweitzer, Johnson 2, Zegar 3. **Steals**—Frank, Saltzman, Schweitzer, Johnson 2. **Blocks**—Beach, Johnson.

Yutan 71, Malcolm 55					
MAL	11	16	17	11	71
YUT	20	17	18	16	34

MALCOLM—Maddox Meyer 1, Frank 4, Saltzman 17, Gavan Dunse 2, Beach 10, Schweitzer 5 Johnson 11, Zegar 3, Robotham 3.

Rebounds—Meyer 2, Frank 2, Saltzman 5, Boehle, Beach 8, Schweitzer 4, Johnson 4, Zegar 3, Robotham 3. **Assists**—Meyer, Frank 5, Saltzman, Beach 3, Schweitzer 3. **Steals**—Saltzman, Beach 2, Johnson, Robotham. **Blocks**—Beach 2, Johnson.

Jays get pair of wins

by Stephanie Croston
scroston@sewardindependent.com

The Seward girls' basketball team upped its win total by two last week with victories over Fairbury and Wayne.

The Jays closed the week with a 51-34 loss at York.

Coach Beth Bohuslavsky said the Jays played probably their best game of the season against Fairbury.

"We put it together and did it all perfect," she said. "We were able to execute and have success."

Haylie Sloup scored a career-high 16 points, and Tanya Miller finished with 13 points. Hannah Benedict added 10. Abbey Ringler notched 11 rebounds.

Against Wayne, Miller was the team leader with 15 points.

"We did a lot of transition," Bohuslavsky said. "We've been preaching that all year."

She said Miller had a good game and did some things she hadn't done all season.

In the second half, Wayne amped up its defense and limited Seward's offense to 14 points.

The Jays finished the regular season at York Feb. 12. Seward trailed by 10 at halftime and couldn't get any closer.

"We could tell it was our third game," Bohuslavsky said. "Our shots did not fall, but we had good looks."

York played good pressure defense, but Seward held its own, the coach said.

The Jays opened sub-district play Feb. 15 at York. The Dukes outlast-



Tanya Miller of Seward looks around the Fairbury defense for an open teammate Feb. 9.

ed the Jays 50-37 and advance in the postseason. Seward's season comes to an end with the loss.

Seward 49, Fairbury 44					
FHS	15	10	8	11	44
SHS	7	21	5	16	49

FHS—Totals 16-54 7-10 44.

SHS—Tanya Miller 4-10 2-2 13, Tarryn Hartman 0-3 0-0 0, Hannah Benedict 3-9 1-2 10, Abbey Ringler 0-3 2-3 2, Madison Dominy 1-2 0-0 3, Haylie Sloup 5-7 5-6 16, Keira Litteras 2-4 0-0 5, Ona Stutzman 0-2 0-0 0. Totals 15-40 10-13 49.

Three-point goals—FHS 5-19, SHS 9-25 (Miller 3-7, Hartman 0-3, Benedict 3-9, Dominy 1-2, Sloup 1-2, Litteras 1-1, Stutzman 0-1).

Rebounds—FHS 33, SHS 29 (Ringler 11). **Assists**—SHS 9 (Benedict, Sloup 3). **Steals**—SHS 6 (Benedict 3). **Blocked shots**—SHS 2 (Miller 2). **Turnovers**—FHS 10, SHS 13. **Fouls**—FHS 10, SHS 8.

Seward 44, Wayne 39					
WHS	13	7	10	9	39
SHS	17	13	4	10	44

WHS—Totals 14-41 9-17 39.

SHS—Miller 5-14 3-4 15, Hartman 2-6 0-0 4, Benedict 3-11 1-2 9, Ringler 3-5 1-4 7, Dominy 0-1 0-0 0, Sloup 2-7 2-8 7, Litteras 0-2 0-0 0, Stutzman 1-6 0-0 2. Totals 16-52 7-18 44.

Three-point goals—WHS 2-16, SHS 5-28 (Miller 2-9, Hartman 0-3, Benedict 2-7, Sloup 1-4, Litteras 0-2). **Rebounds**—WHS 41, SHS 30 (Ringler 8). **Assists**—SHS 10 (Sloup 4). **Steals**—SHS 19 (Litteras 5). **Blocked shots**—SHS 1 (Miller 1). **Turnovers**—WHS 31, SHS 20. **Fouls**—WHS 14, SHS 15.

York 51, Seward 34					
SHS	7	13	7	7	34
YHS	15	15	13	8	51

SHS—Miller 0-6 2-4 2, Hartman 0-2 0-0 0, Eden Schulz 0-2 0-0 0, Benedict 3-15 4-8 12, Anna Hughes 0-1 1-2 1, Ringler 2-7 1-3 5, Sloup 1-5 1-2 3, Litteras 0-1 0-0 0, Stutzman 3-4 0-0 7, Ava King 1-1 2-3 4. Totals 10-44 11-22 34.

YHS—Totals 21-66 6-16 51.

Three-point goals—SHS 3-22 (Miller 0-3, Hartman 0-1, Schulz 0-2, Benedict 2-10, Sloup 0-3, Litteras 0-1, Stutzman 1-2), YHS 3-23. **Rebounds**—SHS 33 (Ringler 7), YHS 50. **Assists**—SHS 4 (four with 1). **Steals**—SHS 6 (Hughes 2). **Blocked shots**—SHS 1 (Miller 1). **Turnovers**—SHS 16, YHS 10. **Fouls**—SHS 15, YHS 14.

Malcolm girls avoid road upset, end with big win

by Heath Kramer
Seward County Independent

Once in a while, the better team ends up on the losing side of the scoreboard. They call that an upset. That is what Malcolm girls' basketball head coach Andy Klepper hoped to avoid on a Feb. 9 trip to Wahoo. Not only did the top-ranked Clippers avoid the upset, they celebrated a 67-37 blowout over the No. 8 Warriors.

"I kept reminding them that, even though we've never beat them, this year we are the better team," Klepper said. "They went out and showed that not only are we better, but we might be the best team in the state."

Malcolm broke the Warriors' will early as its full-court press caused all sorts of trouble. The Clippers scored the first 10 points of the game – mostly off of turnovers – and led 23-10 by the end of the first quarter.

"Everything I had seen on film told me they were going to be the quickest team we'd play this year," Klepper said. "I wasn't sure they would have any trouble with our press at all. I was wrong."

The Malcolm defense forced 23 turnovers and made hay on the offensive side of the court with hot shooting from the entire team. The Clippers hit on 10-of-21 attempts from behind the arc while finishing an impressive 47% from the floor.

"It's nice to see our

shots falling as we get close to the postseason," Klepper said. "There have been times this year that wasn't the case."

Alyssa Fortik paced the Clippers with 17 points, including a pair of threes. Joslyn Small continued to have a hot hand as she added 15. The senior was 4-for-5 from three-point range.

In all, ten Malcolm players were in the scoring column.

Two nights later – on Feb. 11 – the Clippers returned to Saunders County, this time to face a dangerous Yutan team. Malcolm matched the point spread from earlier in the week with a 57-27 win over the Chieftains.

"I was surprised that it was as easy as it was," Klepper said. "They are a very quick and scrappy team, and they lost a close one to a one-loss Centennial team."

"We made sure our girls were aware of that in practice this week."

With freshman Haley Kube scoring the first seven points of the game for Yutan, the game was close in the opening minutes. The Clippers quickly settled in and once again leaned on defensive pressure to create separation. By halftime, Malcolm led 32-15, and the lead kept growing from there.

Fortik was the star as the sophomore scored a career-high 30 points by going 5-of-6 from long distance and 7-of-10 at the line.

"That wasn't all Alyssa, that was a team ef-

fort," Klepper said. "Our defense was getting a lot of tips and deflections and she benefitted by getting a lot of open looks."

The Malcolm defense forced 25 turnovers which it converted into 22 points. The offense hit 51% from the floor.

The undefeated Clippers (21-0) enter the C1-2 subdistrict as the top seed and were set to play the winner of Raymond Central (4-15) vs. Lincoln Christian (9-10) on Tuesday night. The other side of the bracket includes No. 7 Lincoln Lutheran (16-2) and Milford (12-8). The subdistrict final is Thursday night in Malcolm.

"We're fully expecting to be challenged in both of our games," Klepper said. "Lincoln Christian knows how to step up in the postseason and Lincoln Lutheran has been one of the best teams around all season."

Malcolm 57, Yutan 27					
MAL	16	16	8	17	57
YUT	9	6	6	6	27

MALCOLM—Madison Schultz 0-1 0-0 0, Joslyn Small 1-4 0-0 2, Reagan Wondercheck 0-2 0-0 0, Alanea Babb 0-1 0-0 0, Jasmine Small 3-3 1-2 9, Ashlynn Sehi 1-4 3-4 5, Jordan Denton 0-1 0-0 0, Alyssa Fortik 9-11 7-10 30, Diamond Sedlak 0-1 0-0 0, Emma Brown 2-5 3-4 7, Lauryn England 2-2 0-1 4, Cora Schweitzer 0-0 0-0 0.

YUT—Totals 9-29 8-13 27.

Three-point goals—MAL 7-10 (Jo. Small 0-2, Ja. Small 2-2, Fortik 5-6), YUT 1-11. **Rebounds**—MAL 24 (Sedlak 4), YUT 23. **Assists**—MAL 15 (Ja. Small 4), YUT 4. **Steals**—MAL 13 (J. Small 3), YUT 7. **Turnovers**—MAL 13, YUT 25. **Fouls**—MAL 16, YUT 13.

Malcolm 67, Wahoo 37					
MAL	23	15	9	20	67
WAH	10	9	12	6	37

MALCOLM—Jo. Small 5-10 2-14, Wondercheck 1-2 0-0 2, Babb 0-0 0-2 0, Ja. Small 1-2 0-0 2, Sehi 1-1 0-2 2, Sehi 1-1 0-2 3, Elkins 2-4 2-2 6, Denton 1-4 0-0 2, Fortik 7-16 1-2 17, Sedlak 4-8 0-0 10, Brown 4-10 0-0 8, England 1-1 0-0 3.

WAH—Totals 13-37 7-14 37.

Three-point goals—MAL 10-21 (Jo. Small 4-5, Ja. Small 0-1, Sehi 1-1, Denton 0-1, Fortik 2-9, Sedlak 2-3, England 10), WAH 4-15. **Rebounds**—MAL 37, (Brown 9, Sedlak 7), WAH 25. **Assists**—MAL 15, (Sehi 4, Fortik 4), WAH 11. **Steals**—MAL 15, (Fortik 6) WAH 6. **Turnovers**—MAL 11, WAH 23. **Fouls**—MAL 15, WAH 16.

Eagles win two more

by Stephanie Croston
scroston@sewardindependent.com

The Milford boys' basketball team bookended the week with wins, topping Centennial 56-42 in the Southern Nebraska Conference tournament Feb. 8 and beating Sandy Creek 62-36 Feb. 12.

Coach Tony Muller said the Eagle defense was key to the win over Centennial. Milford amped up its man-to-man defense in the second half of the win.

Against Sandy Creek, Milford built a big lead in the first half. Isaac Yeackley led the team with 19 points.

The Eagles (22-0) was to end the regular season Feb. 19 at home against Syracuse. Sub-districts start Feb. 22.

Milford 56, Centennial 42					
MHS	14	11	11	20	56
CHS	11	14	6	11	42

CHS—Totals 14-35 11-13 42.

MHS—Isaac Yeackley 2-4 2-2 6, Micah Hartwig 5-9 9-10 20, Maddox Baack 0-2 2-2 2, Jaxon Weyand 5-8 4-6 16, Kaleb Miller 1-2 0-0 2, Seth Stutzman 3-9 4-10, Cabe 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 2-5, 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.

Milford 62, Sandy Creek 36					
CHS	4	7	14	11	36



Isaac Yeackley of Milford looks for the rim against Sandy Creek Feb. 12.

MHS	15	13	16	18	62
-----	----	----	----	----	----

SCHS—Totals 13-50 7-13 36.

MHS—Yeackley 8-14 1-1 19, Hartwig 3-8 2-2 8, Bryce Jakub 1-1 0-0 2, Cason Tucker 0-1 0-0 0, Baack 0-4 0-0 0, Weyand 6-15 7-7 20, Miller 2-3 0-2 4, Stutzman 4-8 1-1 9. Totals 24-54 11-13 62.

Three-point goals—SCHS 3-20, MHS 3-17

(Yeackley 2-4, Hartwig 0-3, Baack 0-4, Weyand 1-5, Stutzman 0-1). **Rebounds**—SCHS 32, MHS 36 (Yeackley 11). **Assists**—MHS 16 (Weyand, Stutzman 4). **Steals**—MHS 11 (Yeackley, Stutzman 3). **Blocked shots**—MHS 1 (Schluckebier 1). **Turnovers**—SCHS 23, MHS 17. **Fouls**—SCHS 12, MHS 11.

Broncos send three to state wrestling

by Stephanie Croston
scroston@sewardindependent.com

The goal for Centennial’s wrestlers at a tournament is to wrestle at or above their seed. “We didn’t underperform,” Coach Phil Payne said of the Broncos’ district performance Feb. 13.

The tournament didn’t see a lot of pins but did have several overtime matches. Centennial has three wrestlers who will compete at the state tournament Friday and Saturday, Feb. 19 and 20. Matches Friday start at 5 p.m.

Carson Fehlhafer led the way with a district championship performance.

“The last three to four weeks he has solidified himself as a title contender,” Payne said.

His last loss came at the David City Invitational in January to a returning state finalist.

“He is dialed in,” Payne said.

Fehlhafer was 3-0 with two pins at the district tournament, winning the final 3-1 in overtime. The match was a rematch with

Isaac Wilcox from Norfolk Catholic.

Payne said Fehlhafer hit a double-leg take-down at the right time to win the match.

Ryan Payne earned the runner-up medal at 132 pounds. He was 2-1 with his loss to a familiar opponent – Eli Vondra of Milford.

Payne beat Noah Scott of Aquinas in the semi-finals, avenging a loss from subdistricts.

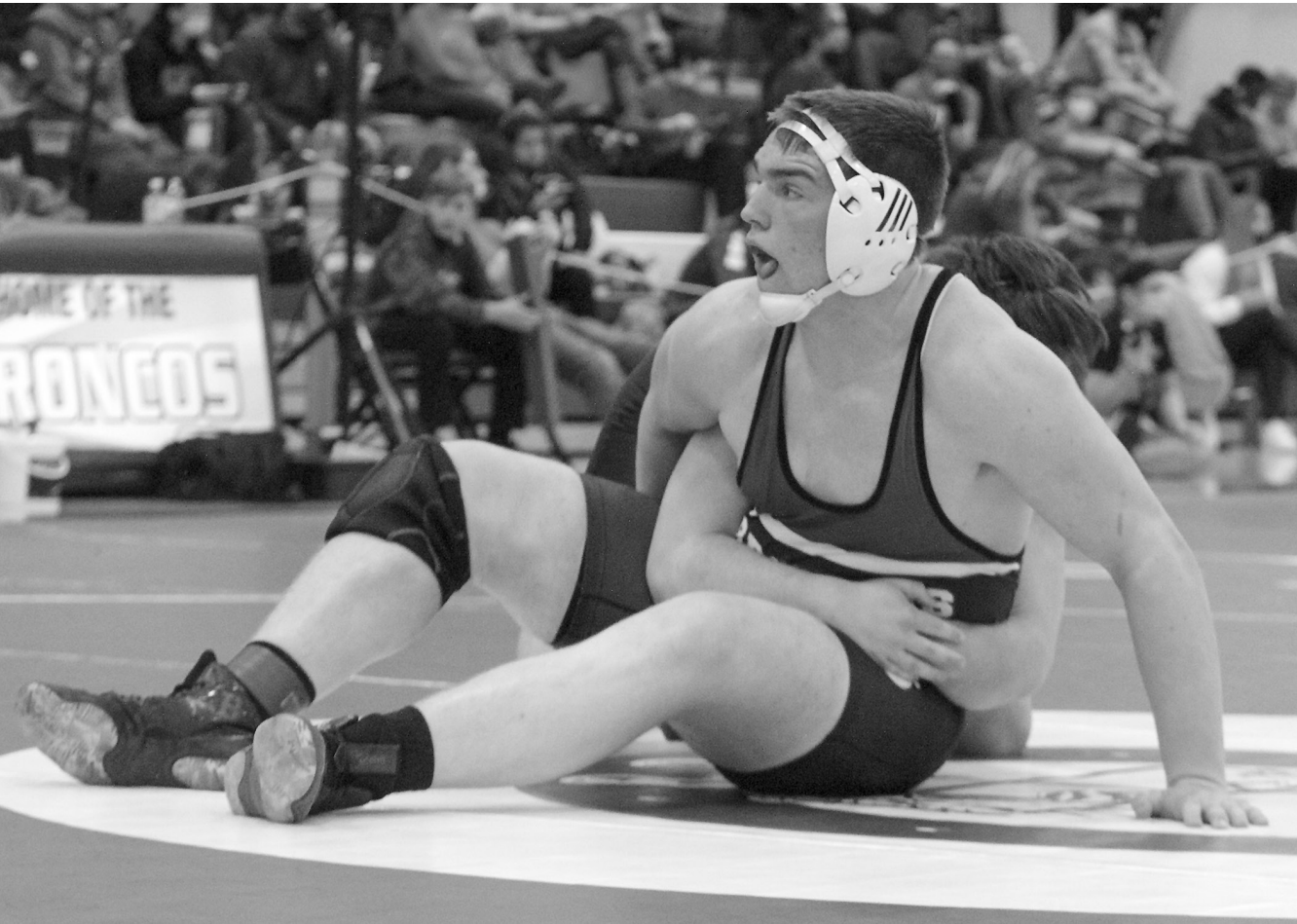
“That was the third-place match their freshman year at 113 pounds on the same end of the same gym,” Coach Payne said.

Jarrett Dodson earned third at 138 pounds for the Broncos. The freshman was 3-1 with two pins and avenged two losses in the consolation finals with an 8-2 win over Jack Chapman of Milford.

“He is stone cold,” Coach Payne said. “He does not care who he wrestles. He doesn’t get rattled.”

The coach said he improves every day and works hard in the wrestling room.

“He wants to be good,” he said.



STEPHANIE CROSTON/SCI

Carson Fehlhafer of Centennial works to escape his opponent’s hold during district wrestling Feb. 13.

Trayton Stewart, Cyrus Songster and Sam Payne also competed for the Broncos but did not earn spots at state.

Osceola 80.5, Norfolk Catholic 56, Twin River 54, Centennial 53, Malcolm 41, Humboldt-Table Rock-Steinauer 26, South Central NE Unified Dist 5 23, Ponca 21, BRLD 13, Lincoln Lutheran 11, Palmyra 9, Lincoln Christian 5, Louisville 3

106—Trayton Stewart (CEN) pinned by Grady Romshek (DCA) 1:09; pinned by Tyler Shoup (CCO) 1:16

132—Ryan Payne (CEN) pin Jackson Strain (TR) 1:25; def. Noah Scott (DCA) 7-4; def. by Eli Vondra (MIL) 14-6, second

138—Jarrett Dodson (CEN) pin Brock Hudson (LVL) 2:51; pinned by Hunter Vandenberg (DCA) 2:34; pin Korbe Urkoski (TR) 1:52; def. Jack Chapman (MIL) 8-2, third

145—Cyrus Songster (CEN) pinned by Hunter McNulty (LV) 1:33; def. by Bakhovaddin Ahmedov (LL) 10-5

182—Samuel Payne (CEN) pinned by Caleb Courter (MAL) 3:02; def. Dylan Silva (LV) 7-1; def. by Jed Jones (TR) SV-1 4-2

285—Carson Fehlhafer (CEN) pin Zach McGee (LV) 2:00; pin Daven Whitley (BRLD) 5:21; def. Isaac Wilcox (NC) SV-1 3-1, first

First-round matchups

132—Ryan Payne (42-11) vs. Jaxon Schafer, Boone Central (30-11)

138—Jarrett Dodson (36-11) vs. Ashton Lurz, Valentine (37-8)

285—Carson Fehlhafer (48-5) vs. Paxton Bartels, Crofton-Bloomfield (29-18)



STEPHANIE CROSTON/SCI

Centennial’s Jake Bergen looks for the defense as he brings the ball down the court Feb. 8 in the conference championship game. Teammate Lane Zimmer and Milford’s Kaleb Miller run the floor behind him.

Broncos fall in conference final, sink Clippers at home

by Stephanie Croston
scroston@sewardindependent.com

The Centennial boys’ basketball team started the week in the Southern Nebraska Conference championship game against Milford.

The Broncos hung with the Eagles for the first half and entered the break with the score tied 25-25.

Milford came out in the second half and held Centennial to six third-quarter points and went on to win 56-42.

“They are extremely talented,” CHS Cam Scholl said. “They have a good mix and are difficult to defend.”

He said the Bronco offense played well in the first half but went away from its attack in the second half.

Cooper Gierhan and Jake Bergen each scored 17 points for Centennial. Gierhan added four rebounds.

“I thought we played

hard. Milford was just a little better,” Scholl said.

He said the team would learn from the game and move on.

CHS hosted Malcolm Feb. 13 and defeated the Clippers 58-51. Scholl said the Clippers are another talented team with a couple good three-point shooters.

Centennial didn’t get off to a good start, he said.

“We didn’t have a lot energy. We were lethargic,” he said. “We weren’t in good rhythm.”

The Broncos out-scored Malcolm 18-5 in the third quarter and that was the difference in the game. The Clippers got hot from three in the fourth quarter, but the Broncos made free throws down the stretch to keep Malcolm at bay, Scholl said.

Jayden Hartshorn came up big on the boards with eight rebounds, Scholl said.

Gierhan led the offense with 23 points and was 5-7 from three. Bergen added 14 points.

The Broncos were scheduled to play Raymond Central in a make-up game Feb. 16 and host Wilber-Clatonia Friday, Feb. 19, in the regular season finale. Subdistricts start Monday, Feb. 22.

Milford 56, Centennial 42

MHS	14	11	11	20	56
CHS	11	14	6	11	42

CHS—Michael Nisly 0-1 0-0 0, Maj Nisly 2-7 0-0 5, Jake Bergen 7-11 2-2 17, Cooper Gierhan 4-14 8-9 17, Lane Zimmer 1-2 0-0 2, Jayden Hartshorn 0-1 1-2 1. Totals 14-36 11-13 42.

MHS—Totals 16-36 21-24 56.

Three-point goals—CHS 3-17 (Mi. Nisly 0-1, Ma. Nisly 1-3, Bergen 1-3, Gierhan 1-9, Hartshorn 0-1), MHS 3-12. **Rebounds**—CHS 15 (Gierhan 4), MHS 25. **Assists**—CHS 5 (Ma. Nisly 2). **Steals**—CHS 4 (Gierhan 2). **Blocked shots**—CHS 1 (Ma. Nisly 1). **Turnovers**—MHS 6, CHS 10. **Fouls**—MHS 11, CHS 18.

Centennial 58, Malcolm 51

MHS	11	12	5	23	51
CHS	10	13	18	17	58

CHS—Mi. Nisly 1-20 0-3, Ma. Nisly 4-7 0-10, Bergen 3-10 8-12 14, Gierhan 8-16 2-4 23, Zimmer 2-3 2-2 6, Hartshorn 0-0 2-5 2. Totals 18-38 14-23 58.

Three-point goals—CHS 8-14 (Mi. Nisly 1-1, Ma. Nisly 2-3, Bergen 0-3, Gierhan 5-7). **Rebounds**—CHS 27 (Hartshorn 8). **Assists**—CHS 12 (Ma. Nisly 4). **Steals**—CHS 5 (Gierhan 2). **Blocked shots**—CHS 2 (Mi. Nisly, Zimmer 1). **Turnovers**—CHS 15. **Fouls**—CHS 13.



PHOTO BY JOE BURNS/ENTERPRISE PUBLISHING

Cash Duncan of Seward scores nearfall points against Luke Frost of Blair in the 113-pound district final in Blair Feb. 13.

SHS sends five to state

by Stephanie Croston
scroston@sewardindependent.com

Six wrestlers represented Seward at the district tournament Feb. 13 in Blair. Five earned a spot at the state tournament Friday and Saturday, Feb. 19 and 20, in Omaha. Matches Friday start at 9 a.m.

Cash Duncan earned a district title at 113 pounds, going 3-0 with two pins.

Nolan Hill was the runner-up at 170 pounds, going 2-1 with two pins and losing by pin with three seconds to go in the finals.

Cameron Schrad (138), Boone Duncan (145) and Breckin Schoepf (152) finished fourth in their weight classes.

Coach Bob Core said Boone Duncan beat a tough wrestler in the consolation semifinals to earn a place at state.

“That was one of his better matches of the year at the right time,” Core said.

Conner Rosendale was about four

seconds away from qualifying, Core said. He lost 6-5 on a reversal late in the third period.

Core said the Bluejays drew some tough match-ups in the opening round at state.

“We are excited,” he said. “These are the kids who have scored for us all year. They have been consistent.”

District B2

Team scores—York 140, Blair 137, Ralston 105.5, Plattview 100, Wayne 95.5, Seward 70.5, West Point-Beemer 60.5, Omaha Concordia 58.5, Minden 50, Falls City 34, Omaha Gross Catholic 30, Auburn 25

113—Cash Duncan (SEW) pin Kristopher Pena (WPB) 0:44; pin Kole Nielsen (MIN) 1:34; def. Luke Frost (BLR) 6-2, first

132—Conner Rosendale (SEW) pinned by Reed Patera (PLV) 2:49; pin Ethan Le (OGC) 0:39; def. by Evan Smith (MIN) 6-5

138—Cameron Schrad (SEW) def. Nathan Boswell (BLR) 16-1; def. by Michael Mass (RAL) 7-6; def. Tye Ommert (AUB) 13-4; def. by Hunter Heath (MIN) 4-3, fourth

145—Boone Duncan (SEW) pinned by Ty Kaup (WPB) 4:55; def. Jasper Birkestrand (MIN) 6-3; pin Gage Gregurich (OC) 2:28; def. by Kaup (WPB) 9-6, fourth

152—Breckin Schoepf (SEW) def. Jon Brais (MIN) 9-0; pinned by Noah Talmadge (RAL) 1:34; pin Kadyn Strecker (FC) 2:02; pinned by Kayden Jensen (OC) 2:27, fourth

170—Nolan Hill (SEW) pin Cameron Schramm (FC) 2:17; pin Brandon Cavender (RAL) 2:40; pinned by Seth Erickson (YORK) 5:57, second

First-round matchups

113—Cash Duncan (39-4) vs. Justin Barbee, Adams Central (28-18)

138—Cameron Schrad (24-8) vs. Logan Jaixen, Columbus Lakeview (34-3)

145—Boone Duncan (27-16) vs. Trevor Kluck, Aurora (40-1)

152—Breckin Schoepf (23-15) vs. Jett Samuelson, Hastings (29-6)

170—Nolan Hill (32-8) vs. Brody Schmielau, Elkhorn (32-11)

State wrestling qualifiers

Seward - Cash Duncan (113), first
Cameron Schrad (138), fourth
Boone Duncan (145), fourth
Breckin Schoepf (152), fourth
Nolan Hill (170), second
Centennial - Ryan Payne (132), second
Jarrett Dodson (138), third
Carson Fehlhafer (285), first
Milford - Conner Kohout (106), first
Konner Schluckebier (126), first

Eli Vondra (132), first
Jack Chapman (138), fourth
Trent Stauffer (145), third
Carter Springer (152), third
Christopher Scdoris (170), second
Thomas Vance (182), second
Hunter Oborny (195), third
Lorenzo Temple (220), fourth
Malcolm - James Watts (106), fourth
Gavin Zoucha (160), first
Caleb Courter (182), fourth
Kale Nordmeyer (285), fourth

Stay warm and safe during this cold snap, everyone.

Concordia University

Honors

A school record-breaking performance on Feb. 5 led to sophomore Josie Puelz being named the GPAC/Hauff Mid-America Sports Women’s Field Athlete of the Week, as announced by the conference Feb. 10.

A product of Lincoln Lutheran High School, Puelz currently tops the NAIA national list in the pole vault thanks to last week’s personal best clearance of 13-4.5 at the Concordia Classic. That mark broke the previous school record of 13-4.25 by former teammate Allie Brooks. From a national perspective, Puelz continues to compete closely with Aquinas College (Mich.)’s Victoria Faber (13-1.5), the 2020 NAIA indoor national champion. Puelz placed third nationally for an All-America performance. She is also the defending GPAC champion.

Track and field

As a capper to pre-championship competition, the Concordia University track and field program hosted the Concordia Indoor Invite Feb. 13 and emerged with 11 event titles. This was the sixth indoor meet of the 2020-21 season and the fourth that has taken place inside the Walz Fieldhouse. GPAC rivals Doane, Hastings and Midland (all nationally-ranked for both men and women) joined the Bulldogs in Seward. Head Coach Matt Beisel’s squads began the

meet with NAIA national ratings of No. 2 on the women’s side and No. 4 on the men’s side. The women’s team is gearing up to defend its run of three-straight GPAC titles (2019 indoor/outdoor and 2020 indoor). At least for now, reigning GPAC and NAIA national 400 meter champion Rachel Battershell is back on top of the NAIA leaderboard. The junior from Wheatland, Wyo., blazed to a time of 57.19 (converted to 56.44 on the NAIA list) while outkicking a Concordia Invite field that included teammate Sarah Lewis (59.08). In the 60 meter hurdles, Lewis won the meet title in 8.90 with Battershell placing third in 8.99. Lincoln Lutheran High School alum Josie Puelz has gone a perfect 6-for-6 in terms of winning pole vault competitions in each meet this season. She cleared 13 feet for the third-straight meet (13-0.5 on Saturday). Teammate Erin Mapson (11-6.5) also came in right at her season best for the deepest group of women’s vaulters in the NAIA. Junior Zach Bennetts has starred on the men’s side of the event. He equaled a personal best on Saturday by clearing 15-8.25 for a winning performance. It was also a breakthrough meet for freshman Zach Zohner, who vaulted 15-5 in another PR achievement. Sophomore Kylahn Heritage has soared up the charts in the 1,000 meters after she clocked in at 2:59.96 (10-second PR) while taking first place at the Concordia Invite. A two-time GPAC



DOUG CARROLL/SCI

Concordia’s Wyatt Loga competes in the high jump at Feb. 13’s home invitational.

Athlete of the Week, Heritage has won six individual races this indoor season. Additional victories on the track on the women’s side were delivered by Rylee Haecker (mile), Amie Martin (3,000 meters) and Kennedy Mogul (600 meters). Elsewhere in the field events, freshman Amy Richert placed second in the high jump by leaping 5-4.5, just off a personal best. The deep group of Concordia women’s long jumpers placed 2-3-4 via the work of Katie Severt (17-11.5), Jamey Broman (17-9) and Emily Loy (16-11.25). Meanwhile, Cora Olson won the triple jump (35-1) and also ran a 7.99 in the 60 meters. They continue to progress while adapting to new assistant coach Benjamin Hinckfoot’s training methods. In men’s competition, Wyatt Loga placed as the runner up in the high jump (6-5). In his first career collegiate track meet, Jayson Frank cleared 6-3.25 in the high jump. A national runner up in the heptathlon at the 2019 NAIA indoor meet, Cody Williams believes he’s starting to put things together at the right time from a health perspective. He placed second in the 60 meter hurdles and fourth in the pole vault on Saturday. Entering the weekend, Concordia boasted the NAIA’s top-rated groups in the women’s weight throw and shot put. Bulldog leaders at the Concordia Invite included Elle Luehr (second in the shot put; 43-9.25), Morgan De Jong (fourth in the weight throw; 54-4.5), Andy Amos (fifth in the shot put; PR of 48-11.5) and

Chris Wren (seventh in the weight throw; 56-0.5). In other noteworthy efforts, Jacob Jennings ran 50.76 in the 400 meters, Keri Bauer ran 2:23.66 in the 800 meters, Calvin Rohde ran 2:33.67 in the 1,000 meters, Grace Reiman ran 3:08.36 in the 1,000 meters, Grace Reimer leapt 5-2.25 in the high jump and Jordyn Anderson threw 41-5.75 in the shot put. Each of those performances represented new personal bests. Solid times were also clocked in the 400 by Christian Van Cleave (51.56) and Henry Reimer (51.87). A former member of the Bulldog baseball team, Cade Kleckner won the 200 meters in a time of 22.65. In the women’s 600 meters, Mogul, Jordyn Hilyard and Kailey Weichel each ran under 1:43. The team’s top distance runner during cross country, Camden Sesna captured the win in the 800 meters (1:59.72) in his first opportunity to ever run the event in college. The GPAC Indoor Track & Field Championships will unfold next Friday and Saturday, Feb. 19-20, in Sioux Center, Iowa.



DOUG CARROLL/SCI

Concordia’s Josie Puelz clears the bar during the pole vault competition at Feb. 13’s home invitational.



GREG FORBES/SCI

Concordia sophomore Kayla Luebbe puts up a shot during the Bulldogs’ 79-64 win over Hastings College in Seward Feb. 10.

Women’s basketball

This one won’t rank amongst the classic battles between the perennially powerful Concordia University and Hastings women’s basketball programs. A massive run in the second quarter allowed the 22nd-ranked Bulldogs to cruise to a 79-64 victory over the visiting Broncos Feb. 10. Prior to tipoff, Concordia honored a senior class of Taylor Cockerill, Rebec-

ca Higgins, Emily Jones and Faith Troshynski. Head Coach Drew Olson’s squad has won five in a row and seven of its last eight outings. The Bulldogs (17-7, 16-5 GPAC) moved one step closer to locking up the No. 2 seed for the GPAC tournament coming up later this month. All 15 Concordia players saw action with 13 registering in the scoring column. Mackenzie Koepke posted a line of six points, seven rebounds, three assists and two blocked shots while Sadie Powell chipped in six points and two rebounds off the bench. Higgins collected four rebounds while Troshynski netted one of the team’s 12 3-point field goals. The Bulldogs will now wait until Saturday, Feb. 20, for their regular-season finale, which will put them up against Doane (5-19, 3-18 GPAC). Tipoff is set for 2 p.m. from Friedrich Arena.

MARKETPLACE

STATEWIDES

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.

DISH NETWORK \$64.99 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.

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.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING works! Place your 25 word ad into thousands of Nebraska homes for \$225. Contact your local newspaper or call 1-800-369-2850.

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

VIASAT SATELLITE Internet. Up to 12 mbps plans starting at \$30/month. Our fastest speeds (up to 50 mbps) & unlimited data plans start at \$100/month. Call Viasat today: 1-877-255-9312.

COMBAT VETERANS, Free “Lessons Learned (The Hard Way) About Combat.” Hated enough to kill? Hopeless? Wanted to die? Close calls - should be dead? Call/text 402-677-7082.

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

ELIMINATE GUTTER cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a Free LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-671-2859.

INVENTORS: FREE information package. Have your product idea developed affordably by the Research & Development pros and presented to manufacturers. Call 1-877-581-2504 for a Free Idea Starter Guide. Submit your idea for a free consultation.

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.

PROTECT YOUR yield from soybean white mold and SDS! Ask your seed dealer for Heads Up® Seed Treatment. Cost effective, Proven results. headsupST.com/plant 21 or 866-368-9306.

BATHROOM RENOVATIONS. Easy, One Day updates! We specialize in safe bathing. Grab bars, no slip flooring & seated showers. Call for a free in-home consultation: 844-596-6325.

LIFE ALERT, One press of a button sends help Fast, 24/7! At home and on the go. Mobile Pendant with GPS. Free First Aid Kit (with subscription). Call 855-663-0118. Free Brochure.

AT&T TV - The Best of Live & On-Demand on all your favorite screens. Choice Package, \$64.99/month plus taxes for 12 months. Premium Channels at No Charge for One Year! Anytime, anywhere. Some restrictions apply. W/24-mo. agmt TV price higher in 2nd year. Regional Sports Fee up to \$8.49/month is extra & applies. Call IVS 1-855-763-0124.

EARTHLINK HIGH Speed Internet. As low as \$14.95/month (for the first 3 months). Reliable High Speed Fiber Optic technology. Stream videos, music and more! Call Earthlink today, 1-844-254-0368.

BECOME A published author! Publications sold at all major secular & specialty Christian bookstores. Call Christian Faith Publishing for your Free author submission kit. 1-866-558-6428.

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.

A-1 DONATE your car, running or not! Fast Free Pickup. Maximum tax deduction. Support United Breast Cancer Foundation programs. Your car donation could save a life. 888-981-7797

DONATE YOUR car, truck or van. Help veterans find jobs or start a business. Call Patriotic Hearts Foundation. Fast, Free pick up. Max tax-deduction. Operators are standing by! Call 1-877-312-2360.

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) 641-6822 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

Justice
Refrigeration, Heating & Air
Residential & Commercial
24-hour service
402-803-8788

Lee's Refrigeration Heating & Air Conditioning
24/7 Service-Sales-Installation
— Commercial & Residential —
734 Seward St. • Seward, NE 68434
402-643-3644 • 800-274-3644

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

Schweitzer Auction Service
Brian D. Schweitzer
402-641-1266
Estates, Antiques & Collectibles, Firearms, Farm & Acreage Equip, Vehicles, Coins & More
Premier Real Estate Broker • 402-761-2291
Milford, NE • www.nebauction.com

DURRE'S PLUMBING
• New Construction
• Remodeling • Water Heaters
• Water Treatment Products
— Service and Installation —
Phone 402-643-9327

Oatman Paint & Repair
All your home interior & exterior needs
Jeff Oatman
402-540-5473
Milford, NE

SHOP LOCAL

WENDY'S Premier PAINTING
Interior Home or Business
—and—
Refurbished Furniture
402-641-6092
Find me on f too!

BOB'S HANDYMAN
✦ Home Repair
✦ Indoor/Outdoor Painting
✦ Fans & Lighting
✦ Carpentry
✦ More
BOB HRNICEK
402-641-8474 | hrniecek@nebrr.com
Seward, NE
www.facebook.com/bobshandymansevices

BUY IT • SELL IT • FIND IT • IN THE CLASSIFIEDS

REAL ESTATE

LOCAL REALTORS THAT FRIENDS RECOMMEND TO FRIENDS.

Just A.S.K. ANGELA • SHELLY • KELBY

Angela Mueller 402-646-8826 angela.mueller@woodsbro.com
Shelly Nitz 402-641-0698 shelly.nitz@woodsbro.com
Kelby Nitz 402-646-0429 kelby.nitz@woodsbro.com

SOLD 533 Church St Seward \$239,900
SOLD 330 Church St Seward \$180,000
SOLD 1749 Meadow Lane Dr Seward \$179,500
SOLD 236 N 2nd St Seward \$149,900
SOLD 304 Ash St • Seward 2 BD, 2 BA Townhome • \$199,900
SOLD 490 Church St • Seward 3 BD, 2 BA, Zero Entry • \$169,900
SOLD 105 Utica Cir • Utica 1 Acre • \$27,500
Are you thinking of selling? Do you have a friend that wants to sell? WE HAVE MANY BUYERS!

112 S 4TH | SEWARD, NE 68434
402.643.2541
WWW.WOODSBROS.COM

HOME REAL ESTATE
402-643-3300
655 SOUTH ST. SEWARD, NE
www.UnderwoodTeam4You.com
UNDERWOOD TEAM P.C.
Al Underwood
Ashley Crowdehl

NEW LISTING! 200 Montana Circle • Utica \$25,000
SOLD 1328 Sunrise Dr. • Seward \$168,000
SOLD 921 N. 3rd St. • Seward \$188,000
Agent/Owner **SOLD** 1171 Ironwood Dr. • Seward \$246,000
Agent/Owner **SOLD** 2124 Parkview Dr. • Seward \$419,000
UNDER CONTRACT 202 Knotty Pine Ln. • Seward \$425,000
PRICE REDUCED! 117 Goldenrod Ln. • Seward \$485,000
420-430 1st St. • Utica \$84,500
629 Jackson Ave. • Seward \$194,000

Find us on Facebook!
SEWARD • COUNTY
INDEPENDENT

FOR RENT

Rent Sokol Hall for various social and business functions. Hall is air-conditioned and handicap accessible. Contact Lumir Sukovaty at 402-821-2429 or Leon Slama at 402-239-2857. For kolaches, contact Joan Kotas at 402-821-2971.

FOR RENT 1 & 2 Bedroom Apartment In Friend. \$400-\$450 Monthly Plus Deposit. Call for details (402) 202-3397

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 Independent 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.nol.org/home/NEOC.

WANTED

1 HOUSEKEEPER for 1 1/2 hours work every other week call or text Karen 402-641-1764

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

YOUR AD HERE
402-643-3676

PUBLIC NOTICES

ESTATES

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF SEWARD COUNTY, NEBRASKA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF WILLIAM F. SHONKA, Deceased.
Case No. PR21-05
NOTICE OF INFORMAL PROBATE AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that on February 1, 2021, in the County Court of Seward County, Nebraska, the Registrar issued a written statement of Informal Probate of the Will of said decedent and that AGNES A. SHONKA, whose address is 2117 406th Rd., Gresham, NE 68367, was informally appointed by the Registrar as Personal Representative of this estate. Creditors of this estate must file their claims with this court on or before April 10, 2021, or be forever barred.

/s/Sheila R. Beins
CLERK OF THE COUNTY COURT
MICHAEL G. MULLALLY #17373
MICHAEL G. MULLALLY P.C., L.L.O.
10 Seward Street
P.O. Box 411
Seward, Nebraska 68434
(402) 643-4581
Attorney for Personal Representative
SCI — February 10, 17, 24, 2021

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF SEWARD COUNTY, NEBRASKA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF KAREN S. HENRY, Deceased.
Case No. PR21-06

NOTICE OF INFORMAL PROBATE AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that on February 5, 2021, in the County Court of Seward County, Nebraska, the Registrar issued a written statement of Informal Probate of the Will of said decedent and that CARRIE M. MCINTOSH, whose address is 6081 N. 146th Street, Omaha, NE 68116, was informally appointed by the Registrar as Personal Representative of this estate. Creditors of this estate must file their claims with this court on or before April 10, 2021, or be forever barred.

/s/Sheila R. Beins
CLERK OF THE COUNTY COURT

MICHAEL G. MULLALLY #17373
MICHAEL G. MULLALLY P.C., L.L.O.
510 Seward Street
P.O. Box 411
Seward, Nebraska 68434
(402) 643-4581
Attorney for Personal Representative
SCI — February 10, 17, 24, 2021
ZNEZ

ORGANIZATIONS

NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION
Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has formed a Limited Liability Company under the Nebraska Uniform Limited Liability Company Act.

The name of the company is LMKALIFF FARM, LLC
The address of the designated office is 3004 Fletcher Road, Seward, NE 68434. The registered agent and address for service upon the company is Melissa Briggs, 3004 Fletcher Road, Seward, NE 68434.
The company shall engage in any lawful business and act for which a Limited Liability Company may be organized under the Nebraska Uniform Limited Liability Company Act.
MICHAEL G. MULLALLY
MICHAEL G. MULLALLY, P.C., L.L.O.
Attorney at Law
510 Seward St.
Seward, NE 68434
(402) 643-4581
SCI — February 03, 10, 17, 2021

NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION
Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has formed a Limited Liability Company under the Nebraska Uniform Limited Liability Company Act.

The name of the company is BRUCE BURGER CONSULTING, LLC
The address of the designated office is 1613 N. Columbia Ave., Seward, NE 68434. The registered agent and address for service upon the company is Bruce Burger, 1613 N. Columbia Ave., Seward, NE 68434.
The company shall engage in any lawful business and act for which a Limited Liability Company may be organized under the Nebraska Uniform Limited Liability Company Act.
MICHAEL G. MULLALLY
MICHAEL G. MULLALLY, P.C., L.L.O.
Attorney at Law
510 Seward St.
Seward, NE 68434
(402) 643-4581
SCI — February 03, 10, 17, 2021

NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION

1. The name of the company is Seward Jazzercise, LLC.
2. The street address of the designated office of the company is 648 Seward Street, Seward, Nebraska 68434.
3. The registered agent and address for service upon the company is Roxanne Wohlford, Seward Jazzercise, LLC, 1548 336th, Seward, Nebraska 68434.
4. This Limited Liability Company is organized solely for the purpose of providing exercise fitness classes.
5. This Limited Liability Company commenced business on February 2, 2021, and shall have perpetual existence.
Roxanne Wohlford
SCI — February 17, 24, March 03, 2021

NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION

The Company name is:
Burd Construction and Consulting, LLC.
210 Walnut St, P.O. Box 173
Pleasant Dale, NE 68423
The general scope of business and work will include general light construction and renovation.
Andy Burd
402-450-4452
SCI — February 17, 24, March 03, 2021

NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION

of
Nebrascut, LLC
Notice is hereby given that Nebrascut, LLC, a Nebraska Limited Liability Company, has been organized under the laws of the state of Nebraska, with its initial designated office at 2628 Bluff Road, Seward, Nebraska 68434. The initial agent for service of process of the Company is Andrew R. Schlueter, 2628 Bluff Road, Seward, Nebraska 68434.
Nebrascut, LLC
SCI — February 03, 10, 17, 2021

BAIRD HOLM LLP
1700 Farnam Street
Suite 1500
Omaha, Nebraska
NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION OF JOE PENNY, LLC
Notice is hereby given that Joe Penny, LLC has been organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska on February 8, 2021. The street and mailing address of the initial designated office is 851 238th Rd., Milford, Nebraska 68405-8711. The street and mailing address of the initial agent for service of process is 851 238th

Rd., Milford, Nebraska 68405-8711. The name of the initial agent for service of process is Molly A. Dickinson. The general nature of its business is any and all business which is lawful under the Uniform Limited Liability Company Act of the State of Nebraska.
Sharon R. Kresha, Organizer
Joe Penny, LLC
SCI — February 17, 24, March 03, 2021
ZNEZ

HEARINGS

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held on the proposed One and Six Year Seward County Highway Department Program in the County Commissioner's Room in the Seward County Courthouse, Seward, Nebraska, on March 9, 2021, at 10:00 A.M. The purpose of this Public Hearing is to generate public opinion and comment in regard to the One and Six Year Program.
Terry Wicht
Seward County
Highway Superintendent
SCI/MT — February 17, 24, 2021

NOTICE

A total of 119 cases will be heard by the Board in February 2021. The following case(s) sentenced in Seward County will be seen by the Board of Parole.
February 25, 2021 – 8:30 a.m.
Community Correctional Center - Omaha, Omaha, Nebraska
Walker, Corey, 211431
Manu/Dist/Del/Disp or Poss W/I (2 counts)
Pos of Over 1 LB of Marijuana
Due to COVID-19, NDSCS has temporarily suspended visitation at its facilities.
https://corrections.nebraska.gov/facilities/visiting-hours
Consequently, the process for public participation in parole hearings has been modified.
https://parole.nebraska.gov/public-hearings
You are welcome to direct any statement to the Board concerning the merits of this offender by submitting your comments via the Board website at:
http://www.parole.nebraska.gov/contact.
ROSALYN COTTON, CHAIR
NEBRASKA
BOARD OF PAROLE
SCI — February 17, 2021
ZNEZ

PROPERTY SALES

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Re: #2 - Deed of Trust filed for record on September 25, 2018, at Instrument No. 201802216
Chad J. Wythers
Wythers Law Office
P.O. Box 98
Seward, Nebraska 68434
Phone 402-643-3639

You are hereby notified that the following-described property will be sold by Chad J. Wythers, Attorney at Law, Successor Trustee, at public auction to the highest bidder at the North side of the Seward County Courthouse, 529 Seward St., in the City of Seward, Seward County, Nebraska, on March 19, 2021, at nine o'clock a.m. (9:00am):
Lots 1 and 4, in Block 3, in Mary R. Spear's Addition to the City of Seward, Seward County, Nebraska, commonly known as 945 North 5th St., Seward, NE 68434.

The highest bidder will deposit with the Trustee, at the time of the sale, cash or a cashier's check in the amount of \$5,000.00, with the full purchase price, in certified funds, to be received by the Trustee by 5:00 p.m. on the day of the sale, except this requirement is waived when the highest bidder is the beneficiary. (If the sale is held after 1:00 P.M., the deposit requirement remains the same, and the full purchase price, in certified funds, shall be received by the Trustee by 5:00 p.m. the following business day.) This sale is subject to any and all (1) real estate taxes, (2) special assessments, (3) easements, covenants, restrictions, ordinances and resolutions of record which affect the property, (4) unpaid water bills, (5) prior mortgages and/or deeds of trust, (6) ground leases of record, all applicable fees, and all taxes, including the documentary stamp tax. This property is sold "as is" and this sale is made without any warranties as to title or condition of the property.
Chad J. Wythers
Attorney at Law,
Successor Trustee.

By: s/ Chad Wythers
Chad J. Wythers, #22383
Wythers Law Office
129 N. 5th St., Box 98
Seward, NE 68434
(402) 643-3639
SCI — February 03, 10, 17, 24, March 03, 2021

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Re: #1 - Deed of Trust filed for record on October 7, 2009, at Instrument No. 200903242 and refilled on December 10, 2010, at Instrument No. 201003222

Chad J. Wythers
Wythers Law Office
P.O. Box 98
Seward, NE 68434
Phone 402-643-3639

You are hereby notified that the following-described property will be sold by Chad J. Wythers, Attorney at Law, Successor Trustee, at public auction to the highest bidder at the North side of the Seward County Courthouse, 529 Seward St., in the City of Seward, Seward County, Nebraska, on March 19, 2021, at nine o'clock a.m. (9:00am):
Lots 1 and 4, in Block 3, in Mary R. Spear's Addition to the City of Seward, Seward County, Nebraska, commonly known as 945 North 5th St., Seward, NE 68434.

The highest bidder will deposit with the Trustee, at the time of the sale, cash or a cashier's check in the amount of \$5,000.00, with the full purchase price, in certified funds, to be received by the Trustee by 5:00 p.m. on the day of the sale, except this requirement is waived when the highest bidder is the beneficiary. (If the sale is held after 1:00 P.M., the deposit requirement remains the same, and the full purchase price, in certified funds, shall be received by the Trustee by 5:00 p.m. the following business day.) This sale is subject to any and all (1) real estate taxes, (2) special assessments, (3) easements, covenants, restrictions, ordinances and resolutions of record which affect the property, (4) unpaid water bills, (5) prior mortgages and/or deeds of trust, (6) ground leases of record, all applicable fees, and all taxes, including the documentary stamp tax. This property is sold "as is" and this sale is made without any warranties as to title or condition of the property.
Chad J. Wythers
Attorney at Law,
Successor Trustee.

By: s/ Chad Wythers
Chad J. Wythers, #22383
Wythers Law Office
129 N. 5th St., Box 98
Seward, NE 68434
(402) 643-3639
SCI — February 03, 10, 17, 24, March 03, 2021
ZNEZ

In print weekly and online.

Ads must be prepaid unless you have pre-approved credit.
Cash, personal check, Visa, Mastercard or Discover are welcome.CLASSIFIED
LINE AD
RATES25 words or less: \$19 per week for three weeks; fourth week is free.
Includes placement in online classifieds.
FREE "For Sale" ads for subscribers.
Private party ads • \$200 or less • One/customer/week
Contact our office for classified display ad pricing.

HOW TO PLACE YOUR AD

Call: 402-643-3676 • Email: office@sewardindependent.com
Online: sewardindependent.com • In person: 129 S. 6th St., Seward, NEAD DEADLINE:
NOON FRIDAY*
FOR ALL PUBLICATIONS* Subject to
change on
holidays

POLICIES: Advertisers should check their advertisements in the first issue and report any error to the Seward County Independent at 402-643-3676. We will be responsible for only a one-time error or omission.

Your ad appears in SIX newspapers and reaches readers in two counties!

SEWARD COUNTY
INDEPENDENT
sewardindependent.comTHE
CRETENews
cretenewsonline.comTHE MILFORD
Times
milfordtimes.netFriend
the**Sentinel**
friendsentinel.comTHE
WILBER
REPUBLICAN
wilber-republican.com**CONNECTION**

HELP WANTED

Saline County is accepting applications for a **MECHANIC** in the Crete Shop. Application forms may be obtained from the office of the Highway Supt., Courthouse, 204 South High, Wilber, Ne. 68465. Applications must be returned no later than 5:00 p.m., Monday March 1st, 2021. For more information call Bruce Filipi at 402-821-2737.HELP WANTED: The Village of Beaver Crossing is taking applications for **LIFEGUARDS, MANAGER and ASSISTANT MANAGER** for 2021. Applicants must be 15 years or older. Requirements include CPR, First Aid, Lifeguard Certification and Pool Operator. Applications are available in the Clerk's office or call 402-532-3925. Applications must be received by 12 pm on Friday, March 5, 2021.SALINE COUNTY is accepting applications for **BRIDGE CREW**. Welding experience preferred. Application forms may be obtained from the office of the Highway Supt., Courthouse, 204 South High, Wilber, NE 68465. Applications must be returned no later than 5:00 p.m., Monday, March 1st. For more information call Bruce Filipi at 402-821-2737.THE
CLASSIFIEDS
small ads **BIG** deals*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 or on location at **Midwest Feeding Co.** 851 238th Milford, NE**Administrative Assistant
Institutional Advancement**

This position requires the ability to multitask in a fast-paced environment while self-managing time and projects according to deadlines. The position requires strong communication skills, both verbal and written.

The complete job description, requirements and application are available at www.cune.edu/employment.

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

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

EST. 1953
Sunrise
COUNTRY MANORFOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:
SUNRISECOUNTRYMANOR.COM
610 224th Road, Milford
Ph: (402) 761-3230 ext. 224Applications at www.sunrisecountrymanor.com/careers.html**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***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 of 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:** 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*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 SystemsFor immediate consideration,
complete an application at or send your resume to:**Memorial**
Health Care SystemsHR Dept., 300 N. Columbia Ave.
Seward, NE 68434
or visit www.MHCS.US to complete an online application. For more information call 402-646-4618. EOE**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



- **Have DRIVE? Then APPLY!**
- Open Position: **Shop & Equipment Coordinator**
- Varied Responsibilities Related to Fleet & Inventory Management
- High Expectations for Quality of Work Completed
- Call 402-266-5347 and ask for HR Dept or email resume to humanresources@hbtrenchless.com
- Full job posting at <http://www.hbtrenchless.com/careers/>

City of Seward is accepting applications (until positions are filled) for the **Seward Dowding Swimming Pool** for the following seasonal positions:**Assistant Manager** (Age 18 & Up)**Lifeguard** (Age 15 & Up)**Water Safety Instructor and Instructor Aide**
(Age 14 & Up)Applications available at Seward City Hall, 537 Main St., P. O. Box 38; Seward, NE 68434-0038, Telephone 402-643-2928 and at City website: www.CityofSewardNE.gov.

Reasonable accommodations available for persons needing assistance in completing application. Request for accommodations should be made at time of application.

All positions of employment with the City of Seward are subject to a Veteran's Preference. City of Seward is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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:
HR Learning and
Development
Coordinator**

YORK GENERAL

DUTIES:	SKILLS NEEDED:	REQUIREMENTS:
• Staff Development	• Organization	• Associates in a Human Resources related field (min.)
• Onboarding Activities	• Attention to Detail	• 5 years/experience in a similar role
• Other HR duties	• Multitasking	• Preference to individuals with HRIS experience
• Monday - Friday 36 - 40 hours/week	• Customer Service	
	• Integrity	
	• Confidentiality	

We offer competitive wages, benefits package, and an outstanding work environment. Apply online at YorkGeneral.org. Contact Human Resources at 402-362-0479 for additional information. EEO Employer/Vet/Disabled**SELL IT FAST**
IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!**NOW HIRING
CDL Ready
Mixed Drivers**Crete • Palmyra • Beatrice
Other locations throughout Nebraska

Earn \$50k-\$60k in first year

Medical & Retirement Benefits

Immediate Paid Time Off

NEBCOinc.com/careers
402-826-2779

A NEBCO COMPANY

SHOP LOCAL

Aramark Facility Services

ARAMARK Facility Services, located at Concordia University in Seward, NE, is seeking applicants for the following position:

GroundskeeperDrug screen and background check required. Full-time benefits include 10 paid holidays, optional health/dental insurance, paid vacation and PTO. Applicants can apply at the Concordia University Buildings and Grounds office, 700 E. Lincoln St., Seward, Nebraska, or online at www.aramark.com/careers.

Aramark is an EOE, Minority/Female/Disability/Veteran

School-age Coordinator & Teacher Assistant

St. John Child Development Center is looking for someone who loves working with children ages 5-13. The applicant must have organizational, leadership and computer skills. They plan the activities for school-age children for their attendance days. This person will also work as an assistant teacher during the time when school is in session. Full-time with benefits.

Contact Lisa Aring at 402-643-3122.

City of Seward - Full-Time Position • Full Benefits**STREET MAINTENANCE WORKER I**

*** \$14.50-\$19.50/hour ***

Maintenance Worker I: Performs a variety of manual labor in the construction, maintenance and repair of streets, storm sewers, dike, municipal building and grounds and equipment; drives trucks and operates light equipment depending on the job; assists in vector control; assists in operating municipal burn pile and Recycling Center. Graduation from high school or equivalent and prior experience as a laborer in the maintenance of buildings and grounds, streets; one year of experience with various computer programs and functions is desirable; or any equivalent combination of experience and training; possession of a valid Class B Commercial Driver's License, or ability to obtain; ability to obtain a state pesticide application license within one year. Applications accepted until filled. Must meet minimum requirements.

Full job description and application:
www.CityofSewardNE.gov.Seward City Hall, 537 Main St.; P.O. Box 38;
Seward, NE 68434 • 402-643-2928

Reasonable accommodations available for persons needing assistance in completing application and should be made at time of application.

All positions of employment with the City of Seward are subject to a Veteran's Preference. Equal Opportunity Employer.

MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION STUDY SESSION
School District of Seward
410 South Street
Seward, NE 68434
Monday, February 8, 2021
5:30 PM
Attendance Taken at 5:32 PM.
Paul Duer: Present
Jill Hochstein: Present
Jana Hughes: Absent
Ryne Seaman: Present
Danielle Shipley: Present
Shawn Svoboda: Present
Attendance Update Taken at 5:35 PM.
Jana Hughes: Present
1. Preliminary Procedures
1.1. Call meeting to order & announce Open Meetings Act is Posted
1.2. Public Notice as publicized per board policy
The public notice was publicized in the Seward County Independent and posted at city hall, library and the courthouse. The public notice was dated February 3, 2021.
1.3. Roll Call
1.3.1. Action to excuse board members if necessary
Motion to excuse Jana Hughes from tonight's meeting. Passed with a motion by Paul Duer and a second by Jill Hochstein.
Paul Duer: Yea, Jill Hochstein: Yea, Ryne Seaman: Yea, Danielle Shipley: Yea, Shawn Svoboda: Yea
2. Possible Discussion Items
2.1. Residential TIF
Dr. Fields and Ryne Seaman discussed residential TIF and what the board would like to do with the 10-year TIF at arrowhead estates. Thomas Kayton discussed his TIF project and what he would like to do.
2.2. Summer Projects/ Custodian Update
Dr. Fields discussed the summer projects coming up- greenhouse at the High School, Elementary Playground and carpet at the Elementary. Dr. Fields updated the board on custodial staff.
2.3. Weight Room History/ Programming
Dr. Fields discussed the weight room at the high school and future programming.
2.4. Cares Act ESSER'S II Funds
Dr. Fields discussed the CARES Act.
3. Adjournment
Present Seaman adjourned the meeting at 7:01 p.m.
Prepared by:
Heidi Covert
Paul Duer
Secretary
SCI — February 17, 2021

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 meeting.
CLAIMS ALLOWED MARCH 2, 2021
The Seward County Board of Equalization convened on February 9, 2021, at 8:30 a.m. Present: Chairperson: John Culver Members: Misty Ahmic, Bob Vrbka, Ken Schmieding, Darrell Zabrocki
Deputy County Clerk: Brandy Johnson
County Assessor: Marilyn Hladky
Approved the minutes of January 12, 2021.
Approved vehicle exemption for Memorial Health Care Systems. Hladky gave an update of her office.
Convened as the Board of Commissioners.
Approved minutes of February 2, 2021.
Terry Wicht, Highway Supt., gave an update of his department.
Commissioners gave an update of their activities.
Approved Jones Bank to withdraw pledged securities.
Approved Cattle Bank to pledge additional securities.
Accepted January 2021 Fee Reports for Clerk of the District Court and County Clerk.
Held public hearing and approved conditional use permit for a livestock feeding operation in N precinct, as presented by Becky Paulsen, Zoning Administrator.
Approved short form plat in J precinct.
Approve an Interlocal Agreement for Problem Solving Court Expansion into Seward County, as presented by Carrie Rodriguez and Morgan Campbell, District 5 Probation.
Approved authorization for Highway Supt. to advertise the 1 & 6 Year Road Plan Presentation.
Approved Highway Supt. to purchase a used Trench Compactor for Road Dept.
Adopted the agenda for February 16, 2021, and adjourned at 10:34 a.m.
Brandy Johnson
Deputy County Clerk
SCI/MT — February 17, 2021

BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
School District of Seward
410 South Street
Seward, NE 68434
Monday, February 8, 2021
7:00 PM
Attendance Taken at 7:10 PM.
Paul Duer: Present
Jill Hochstein: Present
Jana Hughes: Present
Ryne Seaman: Present
Danielle Shipley: Present
Shawn Svoboda: Present
1. Preliminary Procedures
1.1. Call meeting to order & announce Open Meetings Act is Posted
1.2. Public Notice as publicized per board policy
The public notice was publicized in the Seward County Independent and posted at city hall, library and the courthouse. The public notice was dated February 3, 2021.
1.3. Roll Call
1.3.1. Action to excuse board members if necessary
1.4. Pledge of Allegiance
1.5. Mission The school district of Seward--where every student, every day is a success--affirms that all students will have the skills to become productive and contributing members of a global community. In cooperation with family and community members, the district is committed to the development of each student academically, emotionally, socially, and physically.
1.6. Approval of Agenda
Motion to approve the agenda as presented Passed with a motion by Paul Duer and a second by Jill Hochstein.
Paul Duer: Yea, Jill Hochstein: Yea, Jana Hughes: Yea, Ryne Seaman: Yea, Danielle Shipley: Yea, Shawn Svoboda: Yea
2. Public Forum: (The Board President reserves the right to place time limits on individuals and topics.)
2.1. Public Forum on Agenda Items: This is your opportunity to speak to items on the agenda. If you are not a part of the presentation of the agenda item you need to speak now. Thank you for your participation.
There was none.
2.2. Public Forum on Any Topic: This is your opportunity to speak to any topic concerning the school district. Since it is not an agenda item the board cannot discuss or take action at this time on the matter. Future discussion can be requested as an agenda item. Thank you for your participation.
Travis Schaefer discussed strength and conditioning.
3. Reports
3.1. Administrator Reports
Written reports were received from the administrators.
3.2. Student Board Report
Anna Hughes presented her report to the board.
3.3. Superintendent's Report
Dr. Fields updated the board on legislative issue, agronomy academy, kindergarten numbers, teacher pool, COVID, board commitees and the importance of EAP.
4. Discussion Items
5. Old Business
6. New Business
6.1. Greenhouse Expansion
Motion to approve the bid from Stuppy for \$40,600 and \$30,000 for installation for the expansion of the high school greenhouse. Passed with a motion by Jana Hughes and a second by Jill Hochstein.
Paul Duer: Yea, Jill Hochstein: Yea, Jana Hughes: Yea, Ryne Seaman: Yea, Danielle Shipley: Yea, Shawn Svoboda: Yea
6.2. Elementary Playground
Motion to accept the bid of Crouch Recreation for \$248, 659 for the elementary playground. This bid included installation and some drainage work. Passed with a motion by Danielle Shipley and a second by Shawn Svoboda.
Paul Duer: Yea, Jill Hochstein: Yea, Jana Hughes: Yea, Ryne Seaman: Yea, Danielle Shipley: Yea, Shawn Svoboda: Yea
6.3. Residential TIF
Motion to recommend to the city council of Seward that residential TIF for the Arrowhead Estates be at 10 years for the best interest of Seward Public Schools. Passed with a motion by Jill Hochstein and a second by Paul Duer.
Paul Duer: Yea, Jill Hochstein: Yea, Jana Hughes: Yea, Ryne Seaman: Yea, Danielle Shipley: Yea, Shawn Svoboda: Yea
7. Personnel
7.1. Resignation
Motion to accept the resignation

of Russ Wissing effective at the end of the 2020-2021 school year
Passed with a motion by Paul Duer and a second by Jill Hochstein.
Paul Duer: Yea, Jill Hochstein: Yea, Jana Hughes: Yea, Ryne Seaman: Yea, Danielle Shipley: Yea, Shawn Svoboda: Yea
7.2. Special Services Director
Motion to offer an administrative contract to Dr. Shannon Hall-Schmeckpeper effective August 1, 2021, Passed with a motion by Danielle Shipley and a second by Shawn Svoboda.
Paul Duer: Yea, Jill Hochstein: Yea, Jana Hughes: Yea, Ryne Seaman: Yea, Danielle Shipley: Yea, Shawn Svoboda: Yea
7.3. High School Business Teacher
Motion to offer teaching contract to Andrew Sisteck for the 2021-2022 school year. Passed with a motion by Shawn Svoboda and a second by Paul Duer.
Paul Duer: Yea, Jill Hochstein: Yea, Jana Hughes: Yea, Ryne Seaman: Yea, Danielle Shipley: Yea, Shawn Svoboda: Yea
7.4. Math High School Teacher
Motion to offer teaching contract to Ross Briggs for the 2021-2022 school year. Passed with a motion by Paul Duer and a second by Jana Hughes.
Paul Duer: Yea, Jill Hochstein: Yea, Jana Hughes: Yea, Ryne Seaman: Yea, Danielle Shipley: Yea, Shawn Svoboda: Yea
7.5. High School Business Teacher
Motion to offer teaching contract to Seth Montag for the 2021-2022 school year. Passed with a motion by Paul Duer and a second by Shawn Svoboda.
Paul Duer: Yea, Jill Hochstein: Yea, Jana Hughes: Yea, Ryne Seaman: Yea, Danielle Shipley: Yea, Shawn Svoboda: Yea
8. Future Agenda Items
Strength and Conditioning
Multi-Cultural Report
Americanism Report
9. Consent Agenda
9.1. Approval of Minutes
9.2. Approval of Financial Reports
9.2.1. Treasurer
9.2.2. Budget
9.2.3. Activities
9.2.4. Athletic
9.3. Approval of Claims
9.3.1. General Fund - \$1,483,557.49
9.3.2. Special Building Fund - \$1,551.19
9.4. Approval of Consent Agenda
Motion to approve the consent agenda as presented Passed with a motion by Jill Hochstein and a second by Danielle Shipley.
Paul Duer: Yea, Jill Hochstein: Yea, Jana Hughes: Yea, Ryne Seaman: Yea, Danielle Shipley: Yea, Shawn Svoboda: Yea
10. Adjournment
Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 PM with the next study session and regular board meeting scheduled for March 8, 2021, at 5:30 and 7:00 PM Passed with a motion by Shawn Svoboda and a second by Jana Hughes.
Paul Duer: Yea, Jill Hochstein: Yea, Jana Hughes: Yea, Ryne Seaman: Yea, Danielle Shipley: Yea, Shawn Svoboda: Yea
Prepared by:
Heidi Covert
Paul Duer
Secretary

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SEWARD PROPOSED WARRANTS FEBRUARY 8, 2021
Salaries for January: 597,636.13
Jones Bank, 66,083.78; Nebraska.gov, 103.00; Jones Bank, 20,085.48; Tennessee Child Support, 59.98; ASPIRE, 28,200.00; Jones Bank, 164,760.16; Nebraska Child Support, 2,535.00; ASPIRE, 8,575.00; Jones Bank, 18,970.40; Tennessee Child Support, 59.98; NPERS, 165,280.49; Nebraska Department of Revenue, 30,826.62; Pay Flex, 3,623.71; ACT, 3,206.00; Amazon, 1,839.70; Awards Unlimited, 44.88; Bern's Body Shop, 5,088.00; Betty's Bunch, 2,579.83; Blue Cross Blue Shield, 206,176.98; Canon Financial Services, 1,204.04; C.A.P. Inc, 173.00; Capital Business Systems, Inc, 1,174.12; Card Services, 119.88; Cash-Wa Distributing, 7,153.37; CDWG, 220.35; Central Nebraska Rehabilitation Services, 2,357.20; City of Seward Utility Dept, 20,365.95; Cornhusker International Trucks, 936.28; Cross, Travis J., 75.00; Culligan, 36.00; DAS State Accounting, 232.49; DWF, 204.02; Ellis, Gayle, 4,022.85; ESU 2, 30.00; ESU 6, 14,001.04; Farmers Cooperative, 41.17; Follett, 635.70; Galusha, Dana, 588.06; General Fire &

Safety, 1,051.20; Glass Doctor, 1,025.00; Grainger, 81.97; Haney, Kelly, 300.00; Hardwood Heaven, 2,527.27; Helmink Printing, 149.00; Hiland Dairy & Foods, 4,394.72; Hillyard, 697.33; Hire Right, 31.40; J.F. Ahern Co., 1,667.00; Jones Bank, 50.00; JW Pepper, 275.99; Kathleen A. Laughlin, 102.00; Kluthe, Rachel, 35.99; KSB School Law, 152.00; Liz's Sweet Stuff, 72.00; Macgill & Co, 68.50; Madison National Life, 2,653.13; Matheson, 427.29; McGraw Hill, 768.15; Jan Meehl, 2,043.50; Merchant Credit Adjusters, 77.31; Messersmith, Jen, 189.96; Midwest Auto Parts (Napa), 311.58; Midwest Automotive, 481.65; Jen Nantkes, 1,029.84; NCS Pearson, 100.07; Nebraska Association of School Boards, 6,481.00; Nebraska Council of School Admin, 150.00; Nebraska Landscape Solutions, 1,150.00; Nebraska State Fire Marshal Agency, 288.00; One Source, 50.00; O'Reilly, 63.21; Pac N Save, 324.00; Pac N Save, 1,781.16; Paper Tiger, 30.00; Pay Flex, 147.90; Pepsi, 2,329.25; Pflughaupt, Brandi, 217.31; Pinkall, Jenny, 6.08; Riley, Heather, 86.25; Schegg, Christy, 1,417.27; Schlueter Repair & Specialties, 1,311.19; Seward County Independent, 673.25; Seward Lumber, 100.40; Seward Middle School Activity Fund, 202.22; Shifferler, 6,400.00; Southeast Community College, 12,342.00; Southpaw, 331.74; Stepp, Nate,

53.38; Suhr & Lichty Insurance Agency, 217.00; Superior Text, 153.36; Sysco, 12,874.99; Telecky, Marty, 16.00; Time Warner Cable, 99.98; Tobii Dynavox, 198.00; Twin Rivers Urgent Care, 95.00; Unite Private Networks, 1,414.49; UNUM, 536.40; Uribe, 1,818.00; US Cellular, 256.14; US Foods, 20,404.07; Verizon, 152.76; Ward's Science, 84.31; WaterLink, 225.00; Weber, Heidi, 33.99; Windstream, 2,202.59; York Public Schools, 325.00; Symmetry, 5,830.62; Wells Fargo, 614.69
SCI — February 17, 2021

VILLAGE OF UTICA PROCEEDINGS
February 1, 2021
The following is a condensed form of the minutes. A complete copy is on file and available for inspection upon request at the Village office. The Board of Trustees met in regular session at 7:00pm at the Village Auditorium. Roll Call answered by Swanson, Powell, Ohlsen, Baack and Micek. Following actions were taken with motions properly carried. Approved: agenda, Minutes January 4, 2021, to enter an agreement with Filament, to update Board of Health, pool staff roles, hiring of pool staff, set pool wages, set swimming lesson prices, set pool admission rates, set pool hours, appoint additional persons to Park board, to send Maintenance supervisor to

ADVERTISING LIST FOR PUBLIC SALE SEWARD COUNTY				
NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL TAXES AND SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS ON THE FOLLOWING LOTS AND TRACTS OF LAND IN SEWARD COUNTY, SAID PUBLIC SALE WILL COMMENCE THE FIRST MONDAY IN MARCH (3/01/2021) BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 9 A.M AND 4 P.M., EXCLUDING SATURDAY, SUNDAYS AND HOLIDAYS.				
TAXES AND SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS WILL BE OFFERED FOR SALE UNTILL ALL TAXES AND SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS LISTED ON THIS ADVERTISING LIST HAVE BEEN OFFERED TO THE PUBLIC, INTEREST, ADVERTISING, AND OTHER RELATED COSTS WILL BE ADDED AT THE TIME OF THE PURCHASE OF TAXES, AND/OR SPECIALS.				
ON THOSE PROPERTIES, UPON WHICH A PREVIOUS COUNTY TAX SALE CERTIFICATE HAS BEEN WRITTEN, THE COUNTY CERTIFICATE MAY BE PURCHASED. THOSE PROPERTIES WHICH WOULD FALL UNDER THE REGULATIONS FOUND IN SECTION 362 OF THE U.S. BANKRUPTCY CODE HAVE BEEN OMITTED FROM THE ADVERTISING LIST, AND/OR OTHER EXCEPTIONS AS DETERMINED BY LAW.				
THE AMOUNTS ARE AS OF THURSDAY AT 5 P.M., PRIOR TO PUBLICATION, THE AMOUNTS ARE EXCLUSIVE OF ACCRUED INTEREST AND OTHER RELATED COSTS. ON*ONE SIDE INDICATES SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS ON THE PROPERTY TAX SALE MARCH 1, 2021.				
SEWARD	800072243	SEWARD ORIGINAL TOWN BLOCK 1 E 40' L	OTS 2-3 & 6 (TL 14) & 1/2 ADJ VAC ALLEY	763.34 1
SEWARD	800072324	SEWARD ORIGINAL TOWN BLOCK 2 LOT 1 &	N 24' LOT 4	1,776.22 1
SEWARD	800077156	SEWARD CANNON ADDITION BLOCK 2 LOT 6		1,081.44 1/2
SEWARD	800083113	SEWARD H M & R ADDITION BLOCK 26 LOT	5 3 & 4	85.20 2017
SEWARD	800083644	SEWARD H M & R ADDITION BLOCK 38 LOT	5 8-9	1,489.58 1
SEWARD	800085779	SEWARD H M & R ADDITION BLOCK 84 LOT	5 11-12	1,609.98 1
SEWARD	800086740	SEWARD HMM&R ADDITION BLK 96 LOT A ADMIN REPLAT 58' LT 8 & ALL LOT 9		1,658.44 1
SEWARD	800091183	SEWARD PETERSEN'S SUBDIV OF BECK'S ADD ITION BLK 4 W 49' LOT 15 & E 53' LOT 1 6		2,921.94 1
SEWARD	800093593	SEWARD 21-11-3 NW 1/4 NW 1/4 TL 224	248 AC	2,449.66 1
SEWARD	800105206	SEWARD HROMAS SUBDIVISION BLOCK 2 LO	T 1 ADMIN REPLAT OF LOT 4**	2,380.94 1
SEWARD	800226330	SEWARD JIROVSKY-FEIGION RAILROAD SUBDI	VISION BLOCK 1 4SW CORNER LOT 1	43.80 3-2018-072
SEWARD	800226435	SEWARD HMM&R ADDITION BLK 96 LOT 8 ADMIN REPLAT 58' LT 8 & ALL LT 9		1,643.54 1
SEWARD	800229355	SEWARD RIDGE RUN 4TH ADDITION BLOCK 1	LOT 13	669.86 1
SEWARD	800252861	SEWARD RIDGE RUN ADDITION LOT 4 1.1	0 AC	2,087.11 1/2
BC	800046900	BEAVER CROSSING ORIGINAL TOWN BLOCK'S	LOTS 6-7 & #LOTS 4-5	530.56 3-2019078
BC	800047354	BEAVER CROSSING MRS ROSS NICHOLS' SUBDI	IV OF BLOCK 9 0 TLOTS 11 -12	572.98 1
BC	800047559	BEAVER CROSSING DIMERY'S ADDITION BLOC	CK 12 TAX LOTS 17 & 20	1,122.24 4-2018057
BC	800047877	BEAVER CROSSING DIMERY'S 2ND ADDITION	BLOCK 19 LOT 4 & N 28' LOT 5	76.32 1
BC	800048296	BEAVER CROSSING PIONEER TOWNSITE BLOC	K 5 LOTS 32-34	155.50 1
BC	800048385	BEAVER CROSSING PIONEER TOWNSITE BLOC	K 6 LOTS 15-16	541.54 1
BC	800048679	BEAVER CROSSING PIONEER TOWNSITE BLOC	K 9 W 50' LOT 3 & #LOT 4	612.98 1
BC	800049276	BEAVER CROSSING THOMPSON'S 1ST ADDITIO	N BLOCK 1 LOTS 7-10	387.70 1
BC	800219090	BEAVER CROSSING PIONEER TOWNSITE BLOC	K 5 LOTS 29-31	290.62 1
BC	800228955	BEAVER CROSSING DIMERY'S 2ND ADDITION	BLOCK 18 S 22' LOT 2 & N 13' LOT 3	135.56 4-2018069
BEE	800050398	BEE ORIGINAL TOWN BLOCK 2 LOTS 8-12		392.46 1
BEE	800050681	BEE ORIGINAL TOWN BLOCK 7 LOTS 1-3		209.03 1/2
BEE	800051092	BEE ORIGINAL TOWN BLOCK 11 LOTS 18-2	0	211.60 1
BEE	800051122	BEE ORIGINAL TOWN BLOCK 12 S 50' LOT	1 & ALL LOT 2	481.80 1
BEE	800051246	BEE 14-12-3 SW 1/4 #TL 44-91' X 100	' 20 AC	1,289.90 1
BEE	800230220	BEE HIVE ADDITION REPLAT OF #TL 30	LOT 5	33.22 1
BEE	800230225	BEE HIVE ADDITION REPLAT OF #TL 30	LOT 6	37.70 1
BEE	800230235	BEE HIVE ADDITION REPLAT OF #TL 30	LOT 8	75.38 1
BEE	800051114	BEE ORIGINAL TOWN BLOCK 12 N 100' LOT	T 1	93.12 1
BEE	800051262	BEE 14-12-3 SW 1/4 S 90' OF N 360' T	L 43, 25 AC	222.76 1
GARLAND	800052994	GARLAND ORIGINAL TOWN BLOCK 3 N 60'	LOTS 1-2	787.10 1
GARLAND	800053354	GARLAND ORIGINAL TOWN BLOCK 10 LOT 5	& E1/2 LOT 6	555.09 1/2
GARLAND	800053869	GARLAND 4-11-4 #SE 1/4 SW 1/4 & 1/2 A	DJ VAC NASH ST .63 AC	2,422.50 1
GOEHNER	800054466	GOEHNER ORIGINAL TOWN BLOCK 2 LOTS 1	0-11	846.02 1
GOEHNER	800054679	GOEHNER ORIGINAL TOWN BLOCK 5 LOT 10		158.44 1/2
GOEHNER	800055071	GOEHNER ORIGINAL TOWN BLOCK 9 N 35'	LOT 19, ALL LOTS 20-21 & S 15' LOT 22	1,798.80 1
MILFORD	800060474	MILFORD ORIGINAL TOWN BLOCK 7 LOTS 6	-7 & N 18' LOT 8	1,549.60 1
MILFORD	800064135	MILFORD LAUNE'S 2ND ADDITION BLOCK 2	LOT 1 & E 20' LOT 2	1,405.50 1/2
P DALE	800056264	PLEASANT DALE BEST'S ADDITION BLK 6	N100' LOT 8 & 1/2 ADJ VAC ST	2,301.56 1
P DALE	800056795	PLEASANT DALE BEST'S 4TH ADDITION BLOC	CK 2 LOTS 1-2	1,583.90 1
P DALE	800213831	PLEASANT DALE REEDS LANDING SUBDIVISIO	N OUTLOT A	15.00 1
STAPLEH	800057457	STAPLEHURST ORIGINAL TOWN BLOCK 4 LO	T 6 & W 1/2 LOT 5	1,299.62 1
STAPLEH	800057589	STAPLEHURST ORIGINAL TOWN BLOCK 6 LO	TS 5-7 & W 67' LOTS 8-10	112.78 1
STAPLEH	800058348	STAPLEHURST JORGENSENS ADDITION BLOCK	16 E 60' LOTS 17-20	150.04 1/2
UTICA	800070283	UTICA UTICA WRIGHTS 3RD ADDITION BLOCK	38	3,763.50 6*
UTICA	800067886	UTICA WRIGHT'S 3RD ADDITION BLOCK 5	LOTS 1-6 & 1/2 ADJ VAC F ST**	482.37 2-202053
UTICA	800069196	UTICA WRIGHT'S 3RD ADDITION BLOCK 23	NE 1/4	724.10 1*
UTICA	800070054	UTICA WRIGHT'S 2ND & 3RD ADDITION BLOC	CK 34 S 84' LOTS 11-12	458.83 2-202061
UTICA	800071069	UTICA 29-11-1 NW 1/4 TL 60 & #TL 61	24 AC	313.77 1/2
UTICA	800071867	UTICA SOUTHWIEW ADDITION LOTS 18, 20	& 22	1,227.26 1/2
O	800015932	1-9-3 TL 28 S OF RIVER NW 1/4 SW 1/4	2.74 AC	90.16 1/2
O	800019237	33-9-3 E 1/2 320 AC		24,335.74 1
GROVER	800055764	GROVER ORIGINAL TOWN BLOCK 12 LOTS 1-	6	34.86 1
GROVER	800055772	GROVER ORIGINAL TOWN BLOCK 12 LOTS 7	-18	423.71 1/2
GROVER	800055950	GROVER FIRST ADDITION BLOCK 5 LOTS 1-	12 & ADJ VAC ALLEY & STREETS	28.58 1/2
GROVER	800055977	GROVER FIRST ADDITION BLOCK 7 LOTS 1-	6	17.43 1/2
GROVER	800056000	GROVER FIRST ADDITION ALL BLOCK 8 & AD	J VAC ST	54.14 1/2
J	800216105	27-10-3 NELY COR NE 1/4 NE 1/4 10.26	AC	377.47 1/2
I	800002679	35-10-4 #S 1/2 NE 1/4 61.52 AC		2,443.16 1/2
I	800002849	36-10-4 SW1/4 NW1/4 EXC SE COR & SE	1/4 NW1/4 EXC SW CORNER & #W1/2 SW1/4 1 33.43 AC	2,557.72 1/2
P	800019792	3-9-4 #E 1/2 SE 1/4 20 AC		3,412.86 1
P	800020774	15-9-4 E 1/2 SW 1/4 79.75 AC		1,737.62 1
I	800099354	26-10-4 #E 1/2 SE 1/4 72.48 AC		1,046.54 1/2
C	800028864	34-12-2 HERRING REPLAT IN W 1/2 SE 1/4	LOT 1 4.15 AC	1,659.72 1
C	800028945	35-12-2 TL 25-26 IN NW 1/4 NE 1/4 1.	58 AC	2,043.92 1
TAMORA	800059204	TAMORA DAILEY'S ADDITION & ORIGINAL TO	WN BLOCK 14 LOTS 9-12	79.08 2-2019081
TAMORA	800059670	TAMORA 29-11-2 #TL 7 IN SW 1/4 & 1/2	ADJ VAC ALLEY**	139.08 2-2019084
TAMORA	800108124	TAMORA DAILEY'S ADDITION & ORIGINAL TO	WN BLOCK 13 LOTS 8-12	72.38 2-2020058
TAMORA	800209044	TAMORA DAILEY'S 2ND ADDITION BLOCK 1	LOTS 9-10	25.38 1
TAMORA	800209125	TAMORA DAILEY'S ADDITION & ORIGINAL TO	WN BLOCK 13 LOTS 5-7	53.15 2-2020059
TAMORA	800209567	TAMORA DAILEY'S ADDITION & ORIGINAL TO	WN BLOCK 13 LOT 13 & 1/2 ADJ VAC DAIL Y ST	36.70 1/2
J	800003373	6-10-3 S 496' OF E 451' OF SE 1/4 S	14 AC	140.98 1/2
J	800044940	20-10-3 LT 27 BLK 3 (CT LOT 30) GLENHAV	EN SUB REPLAT SE1/4 SE1/4	1,119.68 1
J	800229650	12-10-3 ROLFSMEIER SUBDIVISION IN NE	1/4 LOT 2 5.01 AC	415.32 1
H	800043685	26-11-4 #W 1/2 SW 1/4 78.25 AC		3,545.74 1
H	800043782	27-11-4 N 1/2 SE 1/4 & #SE 1/4 SE 1/4	117.99 AC	3,161.78 1
A	800099141	22-12-4 DISHMAN ACRES IN E 1/2 NE 1/4	LOT 1 13.93 AC	601.46 1
M	800012070	18-9-1 #E 1/2 SE 1/4 20.04 AC		1,535.30 1
L	800085150	6-10-1 N 1/2 SE 1/4 EXC E 85' 76.66 AC		3,621.30 1
M	800010744	1-9-1 E 1/2 SE 1/4 SE 1/4 SW 1/4 OR E	1/2 LT 10 5 AC	757.84 1/2
M	800011503	11-9-1 TRACT IN NE 1/4 NW 1/4 1.15	5 AC	177.58 1
N	800011538	11-9-1 TL 18 E 1/2 W 1/2 W 1/2 NE 1/4	NW 1/4 5 AC	488.21 1/2
N	800013727	6-9-2 GEIS ADDITION IN NW 1/4 & NW 1/4	NE 1/4 1.57 AC	1,855.24 1
E	800033205	23-11-1 N 1/2 SE 1/4 40 AC		5,022.22 1
F	800033981	34-11-1 EIKENHORST ADDITION IN W 1/2 S	W 1/4 3.58 AC	848.16 1/2
F	800035720	21-11-2 TRACT 125'X20' SW 1/4 SW 1/4	.63 AC	305.21 1/2
E	800097068	23-11-1 #SE 1/4 SE 1/4 38.16 AC		2,169.20 1
L	800210026	6-10-1 #NE 1/4 NE 1/4 & #S 1/2 NE 1/4	& E 50' OF NW 1/4 NE 1/4 106.87 AC	6,153.96 1
M	800012313	22-9-1 N 1/2 SW 1/4 & NW 1/4 EXC 1.5 AC	TRACT IN SW 1/4 NW 1/4 238.5 AC	12,548.42 1
M	800227210	24-9-1 #S 1/2 S 1/2 NW 1/4 15.01 AC		514.62 1
A	800226935	12-12-4 .53 AC	TRACT IN NW 1/4 SW 1/4	57.24 1
TOTAL				138,053.66
SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS				
55	80069196	UTICA WRIGHTS 3RD ADDITION BLOCK 23 NE 1/4		352.61
55	80069196	UTICA WRIGHTS 3RD ADDITION BLOCK 23 NE 1/4		249.93
55	80070283	UTICA UTICA WRIGHTS 3RD ADDITION BLOCK 38		1,110.00
55	80070283	UTICA UTICA WRIGHTS 3RD ADDITION BLOCK 38		4,100.00
55	80070283	UTICA UTICA WRIGHTS 3RD ADDITION BLOCK 38		1,410.00
TOTAL				
TOTAL SUM				145,276.20

SCI — February 17, 2021

FDA assistance deadlines are coming up

by Greg Forbes
editor@sewardindependent.com

Deadlines for various producer assistance programs are fast approaching, and local Farm Service Agency chapters are making sure growers are prepared for several vital resources.

Bobbie Kriz-Wickham, Public Affairs and Outreach Coordinator for the USDA-FSA Nebraska State Office, said land owners have three deadlines to consider in the near future. The first, she said, is the Conservation Reserve Program, which allows landowners to take environmentally sensitive land out of production for rental payment.

She said the deadline for the CRP signup is a bit of a question mark this year. While signups began in January and the deadline was originally scheduled for Friday, Feb. 12, the Joe Biden presidential administration has extended the deadline. Kriz-Wickham said the administration is currently considering changes to the program. Although she said no details are available to FSA offices about what the changes may be or when the new deadline is, submissions can still be made and reconsidered should the design of the program change.

"We don't know what changes maybe are coming at this time and we hope to have those details soon," she said. "There's a lot of work to go ahead and do on the application now, and once we get the details and

there are changes made, we can go back in and update that with our customers. It's up to them (customers) whether they want to move forward or just wait and see."

She said FSA and the USDA will publicize the new deadline thoroughly once it becomes available.

The next program to keep in mind, she said, is the Quality Loss Adjustment Program. This provides assistance to producers who suffered crop quality losses due to natural disasters in 2018 and 2019. Kriz-Wickham said the most notable event in that timeframe would have been the significant flooding and excessive moisture in 2019.

"For this program, one of the qualifying things is they had to have a 5% quality loss reflected in quality discount or nutrient loss shown through documentation," she said. "That means producers have sales sheets or sales contracts with customers that would outline what kind of discounts were imposed due to quality losses."

She said those who would like to learn more about the program can tune into a webinar through the Nebraska FSA State Office from noon to 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 17, by logging onto https://global-meetwwebinar.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1432338&tp_key=649d5d67ba. The link, as well as more information, can also be found at fsa.usda.gov/ne.

The third program Kriz-Wickham highlighted was

the annual Agriculture Risk Coverage/Price Loss Coverage. The commodity safety programs, part of the 2018 Farm Bill, provide a safety net of sorts to producers. She said the enrollment process for that program is March 15. Those who have not completed it are advised to schedule a meeting with their local FSA offices. An archived video to help with the decision making process can be found at <https://farm.unl.edu/farm-program-and-ag-policy-update-dec-17-2020-webinar>.

Additionally, Kriz-Wickham said she recommended producers begin loan applications for new loans or request for service on existing loans if they have not done so yet.

"We definitely want folks to come in and talk to us about their operations, what they hope to achieve and what help they would like and we see where we can provide a loan," she said.

Kriz-Wickham said she does encourage all producers to check with their local FSA offices before scheduling a meeting to see how the offices are operating amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Producers who want service should always call first to find the status of the office, and get an appointment," she said.

She also encouraged producers to frequently visit farmers.gov and fsa.usda.gov/ne for updates and additional resources as they become available.

USDA offers grant for specialty projects

The Value Added Producer Grant program, one of the few U.S. Department of Agriculture grant programs available directly to farmers and ranchers, is now open. In Nebraska, 35 projects were funded by the program in the past two years. The grants help farmers and ranchers offset costs of developing or expanding their added-value products.

USDA Rural Development is accepting applications for the Value Added program, which offers two types of grants, through March 22.

Planning grants of up to \$75,000 help pay for feasibility studies and business plans that support future financing and business development. Working Capital grants of up to \$250,000 can cover marketing and product development costs. Projects more than \$50,000 require a previous feasibility study and business plan to document viability of the product.

Individual farm businesses, as well as groups of farmers and ranchers, may apply for funds to develop new or existing products. Applicants must own at least 50% of the agricultural commodity being addressed. Matching funds (in-kind and/or cash) of 50% of the project are required. Registration with USDA as a business is required; this free process is not immediate, so register early.

A page on the National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition website describes the program requirements with examples of eligible products, such as organic or local food crops, renewable energy crops, lightly processed raw commodities, etc. A short video from USDA describes the benefits of the program to a number of farmers and ranchers.

Contact your local USDA Rural Development for application materials and advice on a successful proposal. In Nebraska, you can reach Brant Richardson at usda.rural.development@brant.richardson@usda.gov or (402) 437-5568.

Wyatt Fraas at the Center for Rural Affairs also can advise you on your project ideas. Contact him at wyattf@cfra.org or (402) 254-6893.

How farmers use drones in fields

The farmers of yesteryear might not be too familiar with their surroundings if they were to visit a modern farm. While the men and women who made their livings as farmers decades ago would no doubt still recognize certain farm features that have withstood the test of time, they might not understand the inner workings of the modern farm, particularly in regard to the role technology now plays within the agricultural sector.

Technology has changed agriculture in myriad ways. The methods farmers employ to produce food and improve the efficiency of their operations has changed as technology has evolved. One of the more noticeable changes that's hard to miss on modern farms is the use of agricultural drones.

Drones have been around for decades. Sometimes referred to as "unmanned aerial vehicles," or "UAVs," drones can be utilized in ways that can save farmers money and protect the planet.

- **Monitor crops:** According to senseFly, the commercial drone subsidiary of Parrot Group, drones can help farmers effectively monitor their crops. With a drone flying overhead, farmers can spot and quickly identify issues affecting their crops before those issues escalate into something larger.
- **Soil analysis:** Another potential benefit of agricultural drones highlights their role in analyzing soil. Agricultural drones utilize complex mapping functions to gather data about the soil, including areas where it might be stressed. That enables farmers to develop accurate soil samples that can be used to guide decisions in regard to irrigation and fertilization.
- **Reduce waste:** SenseFly notes that data gathered by drones can help farmers determine the vigor of their crops at various stages of growth.



COURTESY PHOTO

Drones have been around for decades. Sometimes referred to as "unmanned aerial vehicles," or "UAVs," drones can be utilized in ways that can save farmers money and protect the planet.

Such information can prevent overfertilization and overwatering, thereby reducing waste and runoff, benefitting the planet as a result.

- **Planning:** Drones can be used to collect data on crop growth and health at various times throughout the growing season. That can help farmers develop accurate predictions regarding harvest quality and crop yield, making it easier for them to plan ahead.

Agricultural drones are one of the many examples that illustrate how technology has changed and will continue to change the ways modern farmers conduct business

Tech in agriculture

When asked to think of industries that utilize technology in unique ways, few people may immediately think of agriculture. But technology has left a significant footprint in every industry, and the agricultural sector is no exception.

Robots, temperature and moisture sensors, aerial images, and GPS technologies are now routinely employed within the agricultural industry. The NIFA notes that the value of such technologies cannot be understated. Thanks to the technologies at their disposals, farmers no longer have to uniformly apply water, fertilizer and pesticides to their farms. Technology now allows them to use only the minimum amounts required as they zero in on individual plants and target specific areas of their farms. The NIFA notes that the utilization of these technologies produces some very real benefits, including:

- Higher crop productivity
- Reduced impact on natural ecosystems
- Less runoff of chemicals into rivers and groundwater
- Increased worker safety

Though few may recognize the role of technology in modern farming, there's no denying the impact that various technologies have already had on the agricultural industry. And that impact figures to become even more profound in the decades to come.



Don't Bury Your Head in the Sand...

...Read Public Notices Each Week and Stay Informed!

SEWARD COUNTY
INDEPENDENT

129 S. 6th St. • Seward, NE 68434 • 402-643-3676

MAKE THE
PRECISION
✓**DECISION**



Precision
Seed & Chemicals, LLC.



**BIGGEST SAVINGS
OF THE YEAR!**

647 US Highway 6
Friend, Nebraska | 402-947-2080

▼ Precision Planting



CERTIFIED

TRUCK & TRAILER REPAIR INC.

Certified Truck & Trailer Repair is committed to excellence in customer service and quality workmanship. Our dedicated service team knows exactly how to get the most out of your truck and trailer. With a combined 45 years of truck and trailer repair experience, you'll find efficient truck repair, ASE certified technicians and all your high quality parts at Certified Truck & Trailer Repair.

WE OFFER SEMI-TRUCK MAINTENANCE:

- Semi-truck repair • Trailer repair • D.O.T. inspections
- Aero roll tarp installations and repair
- Thunderstone tarp installations and repair
- Air conditioning repair and service • Minimizer fenders

Minimizer
Fenders
Authorized Dealer

Aero
Authorized Retailer

Thunderstone
manufacturing..
Tarps



402-759-3156 • 2243 R St. • GENEVA, NE 68361 • CERTIFIEDTRUCKREPAIR.COM