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Eagles roll to state appearance



STEPHANIE CROSTON/MT

The Milford boys' basketball team and student section celebrate the Eagles' Feb. 25 win over Lincoln Christian in subdistricts. The Eagles went on to beat Mitchell 75-46 in the district final to earn a spot at the state tournament next week. Read more on page 6.

Starkey steps in as veterans service officer

by Stephanie Croston
scroston@sewardindependent.com

Matt Starkey has seen a variety of service. From Desert Storm as a medic to National Guard to Veterans Affairs, he knows the military.

Starkey is the new veterans service officer for Seward County, accepting the position in January.

He was born in Ashland and moved with his family to Lincoln in junior high. He graduated from Lincoln High and attended the University of Nebraska-Lincoln for a year.

"I floundered. I was not ready, not motivated," he said. "I walked to the recruiting office and joined the Army."

In 1989, he was sent to a tank battalion in

Germany and went with it into Iraq for Desert Storm. As the unit's only medic, he was in the lead company of the Third Armored Division.

When the Army downsized in 1992, he didn't have many chances to reenlist, so he joined the National Guard. He moved to Seward the first time in 1995 and was on full-time active duty with the National Guard until 2001.

In 2003, the Guard moved him to Kearney, then McCook and Beatrice before he retired in 2013.

He went to work for the state Veterans Affairs office and continued to travel the state. In 2017, he became the outreach and training

coordinator and traveled to all 93 counties in Nebraska.

They were sent home in March because of COVID-19 and just went back to the office in February, he said. Despite working from home, he continued to help veterans, although he had to learn new ways to do so.

After seven years with Veterans Affairs, he decided he wanted a narrower focus. He always liked Seward, and when Jeff Baker, the previous veterans service officer, decided to step down, Starkey decided to step in.

"I'm very qualified on the law and benefits," he said. "I specialize in being a problem solver."

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STEPHANIE CROSTON/MT

Libbie Reil (at machine) puts together a quilt block as, from left, Neliyah Yoder, Brynlee Ficke and Staccia Johnson watch her progress Feb. 18. See more pictures on page 3.

Milford students explore career skills

by Stephanie Croston
scroston@sewardindependent.com

Milford Public School is helping people share their passions – not just students, but teachers, too.

To help celebrate Career and Technical Education Month, which was February, MPS created a CTE exploration program that met seven times during February.

Shelly Mowinkel and Mallory Gregory, teachers at Milford, put together seven after-school sessions for Milford sixth graders.

Gregory said the program was a chance to dream big and explore a variety of areas, "just to get exposure to them, to get their toes wet."

Topics covered included culinary knife skills, photography and digital editing, floral design, the vinyl t-shirt printing process, sewing, wood-

working and saving and investing.

"It's a chance to teach skills they can use outside of school," Mowinkel said.

Students left each session with something to take home. For example, after the knife skills workshop, they took home a stir-fry kit. They made their own floral arrangements during that session.

As part of the sewing session, students made quilt blocks to be put together into a Quilt of Valor. Mowinkel, whose mother was a quilter, said her father provided money for the students to have their own sewing kits to take home.

Gregory said she had a class do a Quilt of Valor at a previous school and described it as a humbling experience. She hopes the students who worked on the quilt squares get to meet the

veteran who receives the quilt.

Mowinkel said she and Gregory found other presenters to share their passions, as well. Brandon Mowinkel talked to the students about photography, and Katrina Polk of Friend gave the presentation on floral design.

Because this was the first year for the program, Shelly Mowinkel and Gregory capped participants at 20. Gregory said about half the sixth-grade class signed up.

The program was funded by the anonymous donor, who gave money to Milford Public Schools to be used for projects not included in the district budget.

The sessions lead into the seventh-grade exploratory classes, Gregory said.

Climbing COVID mountain: One year later

Part one: Area medical experts reflect on pandemic battle and a new hope

by Greg Forbes
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Four Corners Health Department Executive Director Laura McDougall recalls reading a ProMED listserv in December 2019 that told of a new strain of coronavirus spreading overseas.

That article made her think of the SARS outbreak in 2002, which began shortly after her arrival at Four Corners and introduced her to the unpredictability of coronaviruses.

"I have always kind of known that coronaviruses were one of those viruses, from a world perspective, that like to mutate to the point of being a problem and can cause a pandemic," she said. "My family teases me that I'm a germophobe. I don't see myself that way, but I have a very healthy respect for all of these viruses

and antibiotic-resistant bacteria strains. These little microbes are smart. They find ways to survive and thrive."

McDougall's suspicions and fears proved to be correct as the virus detailed in that article eventually led to the global COVID-19 pandemic that changed the life of billions over the course of a year.

"Once we started seeing them putting up new hospitals (in China), I thought, 'This is it,'" she said.

"This was going to disrupt life"

McDougall's familiarity and respect for the strain's potential resulted in an advanced warning for communities within the Four Corners district. As cases began to spread throughout the world, the United States and Nebraska, businesses, schools and medical systems were bracing for the virus' arrival in Seward County.

"I think it was an advantage in our com-

munities that we were really paying attention to what was going on in the world that we could get out there and start talking to the businesses and the communities and say, we're going to have a problem," she said.

Business owners were informed of potential impacts to their revenues and workforces while schools were warned they may have to close buildings and educate students in non-traditional meth-

ods.

"We knew this was going to disrupt life and we wanted to talk to them about what that means, how we mitigate it, how we make sure employees are taken care of, our kids are taken care of and our businesses survive," she said.

Roger Reamer, Memorial Health Care Systems administrator and CEO, said the hospital first started hearing about the virus as a threat in February

of 2020 and activated its emergency response plan by early March. This involved reevaluating its infectious disease plan and how it matched up with the known effects of this particular strain.

"March was kind of when things started happening for us with planning sessions and putting together task forces as we were hearing from associations how to get geared up," he said. "The biggest thing was our infectious disease plan and how to prepare for potential PPE problems and put together an information planning team that would start meeting weekly."

"Everything was changing so rapidly"

The disruption of life McDougall and the staff warned about had arrived by March 20

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COVID

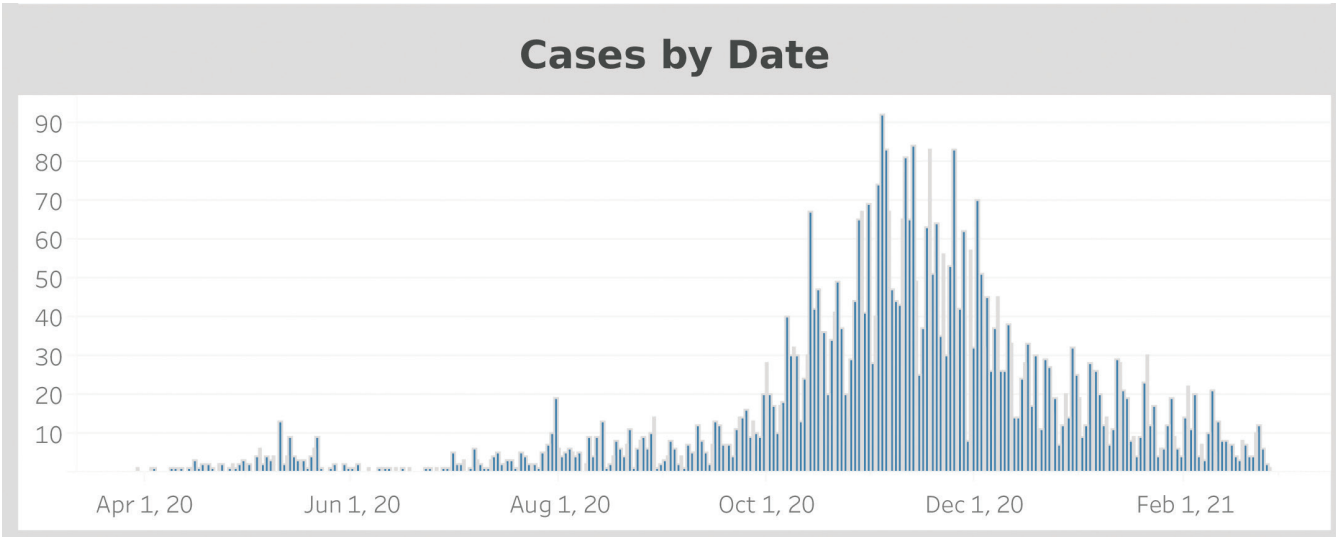
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and the county awaited its first case, which came on March 30. She said this challenged Four Corners to collaborate with the rest of the health departments across Nebraska in order to provide citizens with the best information to keep themselves safe and calm as they saw cases spread into their communities.

“Everything was just changing so rapidly and we were trying to stay up-to-date on the latest information,” she said. “As health directors, we were trying to stay on the same message because it gets really confusing for the public if everyone has different messages.

As cases started showing up in the community, Reamer said the hospital reacted with defensive procedures in an attempt to keep patients and staff safe. This involved taking temperatures of those who passed through hospital doors and eventually masking staff. Staff were trained how to effectively put on, take off and maintain PPE.

“The whole idea of starting it there was to try to keep our staff safe and the patients safe that are here having care and then have our waiting rooms be safe for each other,” he said. “It wasn’t because we had COVID in our facility – we didn’t have cases yet. That’s when things were really starting to ramp up in New York City, and we were starting to see travel bans, and that was getting people excited.”

Reamer added that the hospital began working with Bryan Health in Lincoln to set up a surveillance method for rural hospitals to



A day by day chart of COVID-19 cases in Seward County shows the area hit its peak of cases-per-day in October and November. The highest count, according to the graph, was 94 on Nov. 4, 2020.

report their situations to Bryan to get hospital bed counts in anticipation of a surge. Reamer said staff kept eyes on the situation worldwide, nationally and statewide to best develop a plan.

The preparedness plan included the hospital adding more inpatient rooms with negative air pressure, which means the air in the room is constantly pushed out so to not spread the disease elsewhere in the hospital.

“We went through that spring and summer with a lot of preparation, preparation, preparation and heard things about how this disease was taking a lot of lives,” he said. “That’s how this got kicked off. Most of our time was spent training and getting set up and being ready in case that big surge came and put pressure on hospitals across the state.”

“Dark days in November”
The area experienced its first peak in April and May but promoted efforts to slow the spread. That, along with the arrival of summer and activities moving outdoors, knocked num-

bers back down for a number of months.

However, as people moved back inside with the colder temperatures, the virus truly took hold in the community. The region saw its highest number of cases per day on Nov. 4 at 94, and 83 new cases were recorded the following day. The next week saw multiple days with 80 or more new cases.

“We had some pretty dark days in November,” McDougall said. “From our viewpoint here in the public health sector, you talk to physicians and nurses and those caring for people with COVID and there’s not really any way that you can explain what that looks like unless you’re living it.”

Reamer said the late fall surge impacted Lincoln hospitals to the point where they could no longer take patients who required inpatient care. At the time, rural hospitals would identify individuals that needed to be admitted and would transfer those patients to larger facilities.

“But it got to the point in October and Novem-

ber where they couldn’t take anymore and we were in the position of managing patients,” he said. “We were prepared for it, we had the tools and training for it, the rooms were prepped, so our plan did work very well.”

Reamer said that the later timing of the eventual surge allowed the hospital enough time to view what treatments were being administered across the country and translate those to the clinic.

“The surge came, but we prepared, prepared, prepared,” he said. “I’ll never forget back when we first started this, we said we hoped we could prepare to the nth degree and never have to put it into play. But we did have to put it into play and we were proud of our team and how we were able to manage the sickest of the sick.”

“Our communities will be stronger”
The November surge eventually leveled and new cases have continually dropped since December. The receding surge coincided with the arrival of the Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19

vaccines.

Reamer said the hospital received notice that the vaccine was close to developed in July and, again, planning for distribution with Four Corners immediately began.

“We’ve been through a vaccination situation with H1N1, but not to this capacity, but we had some practice on it and could identify how we could approach it,” he said. “We started thinking about how we could approach this knowing that it’d be much more aggressive since it’d be the whole population.”

The first doses arrived in December and medical staff began receiving shots on Dec. 22. Four Corners and MHCS worked their way through the “1A” group for essential employees and frontline workers. The attention was then focused to the “1B” group in January, starting with the oldest and most susceptible citizens. Regular vaccination efforts have continued and as of Feb. 26, 2,950 people in Seward County have been vaccinated, according to the Four Corners website.

McDougall said the vaccine is critical piece to the fight against COVID-19, but it doesn’t mean the fight is over. She equated the effort to downhill skiing, stating that medical professionals and citizens have only reached the top of the mountain. Now, she said, it’s time to navigate down the hill.

“You’re happy to be there because you know you’re at the mountain, but you also have to ski down it and hope you get down alive,” she said, adding that distributing the vaccine as quickly as possible is crucial, as new variants of the virus have arrived in the United States. “It’s a race against time.”

Along with the growing number of vaccinated individuals in the community, the area has seen a significant drop in new cases. From Friday, Feb. 19 to Friday, Feb. 26, just 46 new cases were recorded in the four-county region.

With hope of an end increasing each day, McDougall said the situation could have been far worse and last longer than it eventually will had it not been for the cooperation of medical professionals, businesses and organizations and citizens. Collaboration and understanding, she said, have been the most important tools in regaining a sense of normalcy.

“We have all these incredible partnerships and people have gone over and above what was required of them to serve their community. There are so many people out there that are really trying to help in any way they can,” she said. “Our communities will be stronger because of this because we’re all in it together.”

Starkey

(continued from 1)
He said he likes to help veterans solve issues and is looking forward to helping them cut through the red tape. “Government is not meant for normal people to understand,” he said. “It gets more technical all the time. “Helping with benefits is what I like to do.” His goal is to increase outreach to veterans and surviving spouses to help

them get the benefits to which they’re entitled. He hopes to have alternate office hours for veterans who work during the day and can’t get to his office between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. “I want to carry on what Jeff did,” he said. Because he comes from state employment, he said Seward County is a test to see if that might work for other counties. Starkey currently

lives in Lincoln with his dog, a 7-year-old Aire-dale terrier/German Shepherd mix. He likes to fish, travel and camp and cheers for the Denver Broncos. He enjoys sports, he said, and is looking forward to watching more local teams, something he liked doing as a recruiter. He’s planning an open house in May to meet more Seward County veterans and residents. He encouraged all

veterans to contact him to make sure they’re in the database so any new benefits can be applied. Starkey can be reached in the office at (402) 643-4105, via email at mstarkey@co.seward.ne.us or by cell phone at (402) 641-8808.

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Students learn new skills



Annika Hendl, left, helps Lane Jensen get his sewing machine ready to go during a Career and Technical Education program at Milford Feb. 18.



Mallory Gregory (at sewing machine) shows Milford sixth graders how to use a sewing machine during a Career and Technical Education program Feb. 18.



Zephyr Mowinkel checks over a sewing machine before beginning work on a quilt block during Milford's Career and Technical Education after-school program Feb. 18.

Vaccination efforts ramp back up after slight hiccup

by Greg Forbes
editor@sewardindependent.com

After a brief hiccup due to the extreme winter weather in February, COVID-19 vaccination efforts in Seward County are once again in full swing.

At the regular Four Corners Health Department briefing Feb. 18, Executive Director Laura McDougall explained that the vaccination shipments for that week had been delayed because of the snow and cold received throughout the week.

McDougall said some clinics had to be downsized that week and some were slightly delayed last week as a new shipment arrived. Early last week, McDougall said, the Four Corners region received its delayed allotment and welcomed an additional shipment of vaccines Feb. 25.

"We've gotten two weeks' worth in one week and will get another early next week," she said. "The next clinics should be good sized and we ran a few big ones this week. We have a lot of people getting shots out there."

Roger Reamer, Memorial Health Care Systems Administrator and CEO, said the delay did not hurt MHCS' distribution efforts, as the doses that were late were ones that would be given out later instead of immediately.

"We really didn't get disrupted with our plans and it didn't throw us off of our schedule because we had kind of taken a little different route early on, so we were OK," he said. "We were pretty lucky in that and were able to stay the course in what we would be able to get out each week."

"It showed up just in the nick of time," added Mallory Gibreal, Director of Community Relations for MHCS. "We were really thankful it arrived."

After shipments arrived, McDougall said the region continued its mission to distribute shots as quickly as they arrive and will do so as allotments allow.

"We still are dedicated to the idea of getting those shots and not letting them sit," she said. "We're going to be

running things as wide open as we can go."

As of Feb. 26, Four Corners reported that 8,493 total vaccines had been given with 2,950 of those in Seward.

Last Wednesday, MHCS distributed the first round of second doses to 180 individuals in the 1B group with an additional 250 first doses Feb. 25.

"We've had some really great efforts," Gibreal said. "They went really, really well."

Reamer said MHCS is continuing to work its way down the list of 1B recipients from oldest to youngest. He said the clinics for the week of March 3 will be in the 70 to 71 age range and staff hopes to begin on individuals in the 65-year-old age range by the end of the month.

"Going forward if the doses stay exactly how we've been getting, we can anticipate each week 250 first-time and 250 second-time people," he said. "We'd like to see that get bigger, we'd like to see more but that's what we're going to do now."

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Tournaments mark start of pandemic

by Stephanie Croston
scroston@sewardindependent.com

Remember this time last year?

The girls' state basketball tournament was coming up, and everyone was excited. Teams were getting ready to make a final run at the ultimate prize. Fans were submitting requests to take time off work. Students were determining what their theme days would be and how they would look. But underneath the excitement was a rumbling of



Stephanie Croston
sports editor

uncertainty. This coronavirus thing – how concerned should we be? Should we take any precautions? If so, what should we do?

Should we even have the boys' state tournament?

The girls' state tournament went as usual – big crowds, pep bands, student sections. The boys' state tournament, just one week later looked much different. No crowds – family only. No pep bands, no student sections. Instead cardboard cutouts filled seats at Pinnacle Bank Arena.

Little did we know cutouts would become the norm for the next year.

I was at the girls' state tournament. It was as exciting and enthusiastic and energetic as you would expect.

I was at the boys' state tournament, too. It was definitely a different feel. With limited fans in the stands, the outside energy level wasn't as high, as you might guess. Those who were there did their best to keep the athletes pumped up, but it wasn't the same.

Kids started practices for spring sports – digging out spikes, oiling gloves, knocking mud off cleats.

Then nothing.

Schools closed their doors and classes went online. Sports practices stopped. Spring concerts, musicals and graduations were canceled or reworked into a virtual format.

Summer was more of the same. Local festivals were canceled, summer vacation

trips called off, events of all kinds put on hold.

It was one of the stranger summers I've lived through.

Officials tried to determine what precautions we should take to stop or at least slow the spread of this insidious virus. Masks became more than just a fashion statement. No one liked it, but we agreed to wear them.

When schools started in-person classes again, everyone held their breath. Would the virus wipe out whole classrooms? What about the teachers and support staff? Masks were required to even enter the buildings.

We've adapted over that last year, but that doesn't mean we like it. I think we're

all looking forward to going to an event and not worrying about if you've got a mask with you or not.

Virus case numbers are dropping, and that's a good thing. Crowds at ball games are slowly growing, and that's definitely a good thing, although I'd forgotten how loud a gym can get when everyone is into a game.

And this weekend and next are the state basketball tournaments – the dividing point of coronavirus before and after.

Maybe this year they'll mark the beginning of a return to something like what we call normal.

We asked you:

Have you done your taxes yet?

Yes: 2

No: 7

Now we want to know:

March is here and spring will be upon us soon!
So what's your favorite season?

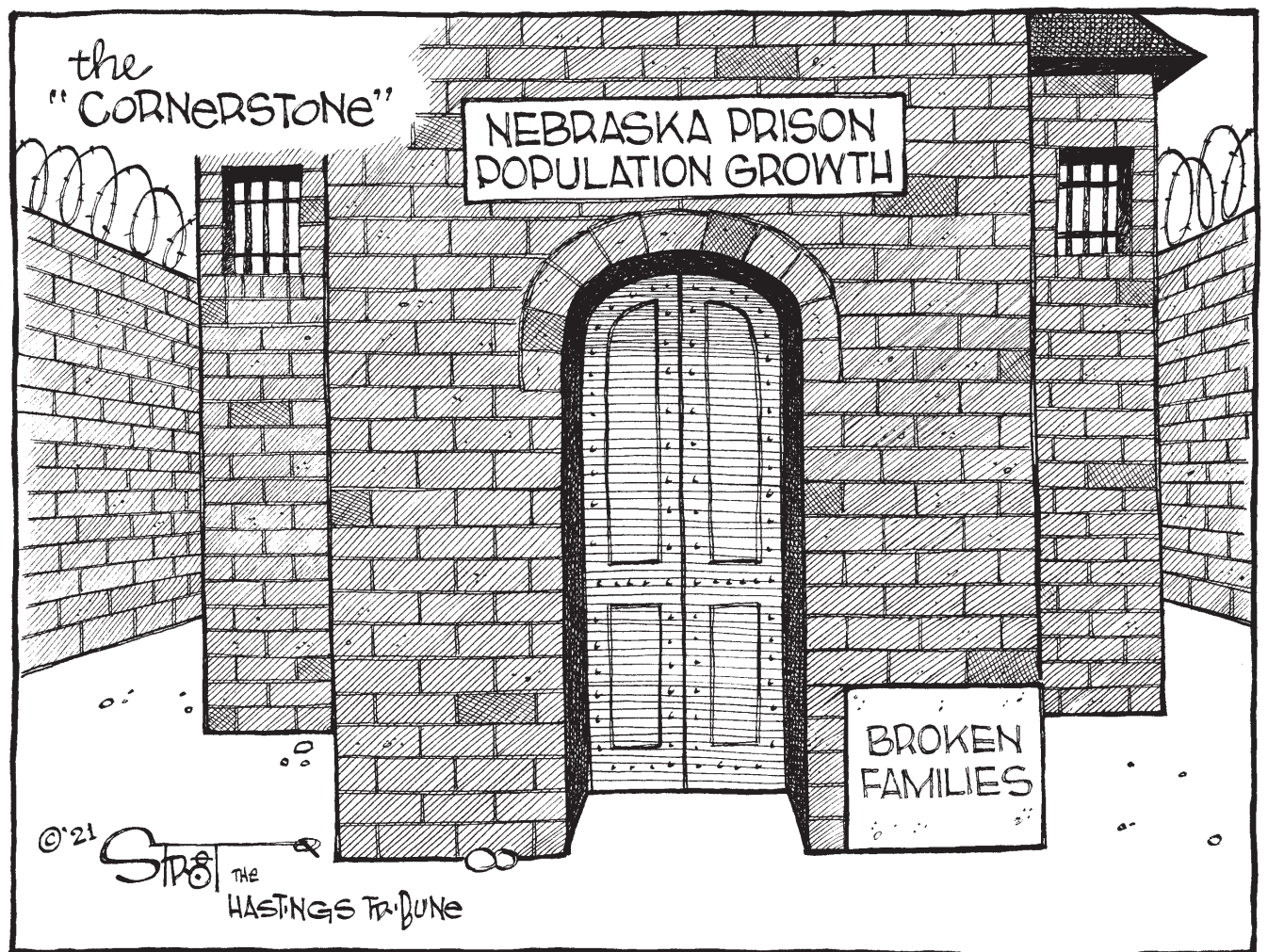
Spring

Fall

Winter

Summer

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



Marijuana use should be seen as clear, present danger

by Gov. Pete Ricketts

The marijuana industry, which is now partially owned by Big Tobacco, has its eye on Nebraska as a new place to turn a profit.

Previously, they hid this moneymaking motive under the guise of “medical” marijuana. Now they are just pushing for full legalization.

Nebraskans have common sense and instinctively understand how this dangerous drug could harm our youth, our communities, and our economy. We don't have to guess at the steep social costs of marijuana legalization—they have already played out tragically all over the country.

States that legalize marijuana outright or incrementally (that is, through “medical marijuana”) have seen a human toll. This has included devastating effects on kids, tragic accidents, decreased participation in the

workforce, and horrible mental health outcomes.

While popular media has tried to reframe how the public thinks about marijuana, it's important to understand the health consequences and dangers of this drug.

There are good reasons why the federal government classifies marijuana as a Schedule 1 drug, which means it has no medical value and high potential for abuse. Other Schedule 1 drugs include heroin, LSD, and ecstasy.

Marijuana has a profoundly harmful effect on teens and young adults. THC (the psychoactive component of marijuana) impacts the developing adolescent brain severely and in many cases permanently. Actual physical changes in the grey matter of the brain in young marijuana users are documented.

Frequent marijuana use is associated with learning impairment and poor academic performance. Additionally, increased marijuana use is correlated with greater risk of depression and suicidal thoughts for adolescents.

Marijuana triggers psychotic episodes that can end in tragedy. Levi Pongi, age 19, died after consuming a marijuana cookie and jumping off a balcony. Marijuana use also increases depression, thoughts of suicide, and suicidal behaviors among young adults. Marc Bullard, age 23, committed suicide after he began using a concentrated form of marijuana. He had no previous history of depression.

These examples, both from our neighboring state of Colorado, show the potential of the drug to ruin young lives.

While putting youth at risk, marijuana use also increases the likelihood of on-the-job accidents and decreases worker productivity. States that have normalized marijuana use have experienced a sharp increase in workforce positivity rates since legalization. Examples include Oregon, Nevada, and Colorado where the rate of workers testing positive for marijuana have increased 63%, 55% and 47% respectively.

Overall, the rate of people testing positive in the workplace went

Frequent marijuana use is associated with learning impairment and poor academic performance. Additionally, increased marijuana use is correlated with greater risk of depression and suicidal thoughts for adolescents.

up about 17% from 2014 to 2018. Alarming, there was an increase of about 24% in the rate of workers testing positive whose job performance has an impact on public safety, such as airplane pilots and workers in nuclear power plants.

Along with these workforce issues, marijuana also endangers public safety on the roads. For instance, in Washington, the number of drivers involved in fatal crashes testing positive for THC has doubled since the state legalized marijuana in 2012.

Aside from its particularly harmful influ-

ence on youth and in workplaces, marijuana is bad for health, especially mental health. Marijuana poses risks to brain development and cognitive functioning.

The National Academy of Medicine, the non-profit group that advises the federal government on health and medicine, released a report in 2017. It shows that “Cannabis use is likely to increase the risk of schizophrenia and other psychoses.” According to NAM, the higher the use is, the greater the risk is.

The American Psychiatric Association's statement on marijuana

says, “there is no current scientific evidence that cannabis is in any way beneficial for the treatment of any psychiatric disorder.

In contrast, current evidence supports, at minimum, a strong association of cannabis use with the onset of psychiatric disorders. Adolescents are particularly vulnerable to harm, given the effects of cannabis on neurological development.”

The multi-billion dollar marijuana industry will continue to say anything to get the drug legalized and avoid regulation for public safety.

I urge Nebraskans to be steadfast in resisting their tactics. As the Legislature debates bills related to marijuana this session, contact your state senator to remind them of the dangers of bringing marijuana legalization to your community.

You can find their contact information at www.nebraskalegislature.gov. If you have questions on other topics, contact my office at pete.ricketts@nebraska.gov or (402) 471-2244.

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Students show artistic skills

The GFWC Seward Women's Club and Junior Women's Club hosted their annual art show, featuring work from students in Seward County schools.

Winners include:
BEST OF SHOW—Sam Dunbar, Centennial
Kindergarten—Hanna Obrien, St. Vincent

First grade—Rose Gesell, St. John
Second grade—Mya Boggs, Seward Elementary School; Quinn Hohman, Seward Elementary School
Third grade—Tessa Soukup, Our Redeemer

Fourth grade—Aveya Rixtine, Seward Elementary School; Blair ? Milford

Fifth grade—Jacob Ennis, Centennial; Bentley Juranek, Centennial

Sixth grade—Aeva Corbin, St. John; Kassey Tieken, Seward Middle School

Seventh grade—Makennah Matalaka, Seward Middle School

Eighth grade—Lauryn Breitzkretz, Centennial; Grant Cast, Centennial; Elizabeth Prachel, Seward Middle School

High school

Acrylic—Heidi van der Heijden, SHS

Charcoal—Braden Adams, SHS
Prints—Rachel Shively, Milford
Scratchboard—Sam Dunbar, Centennial; Kayla Moore, Centennial
Mixed Media—Samantha Keith, Centennial

Pen & Ink—Heidi van der Heijden, SHS; Addison Opfer, SHS; Dominic Torres, SHS

Portrait—Krislyn Guthril, Milford

Computer—Brayden Songster, Centennial

Chalk—Brylie Strait, Centennial
Watercolor—Miriam Voehl, SHS
Pastels—Hannah Helmer, SHS
Pencil—Marrisa Hurley, SHS;

Audrey Davis, SHS

Hand Thrown Pottery—Hannah Helmer, SHS

Sculpture—Lexus Prochaska, Centennial

Misc.—Savannah Spahr, Milford

Because of COVID-19, no in-person awards show was held. A video presentation was done on Seward's STRIV channel. Featured speakers are Heidi van der Heijden, Hannah Kolterman-Wagner, Miriam Voehl, Kitty Vacha and Jean Kolterman.

Art is on display through March at the Seward Civic Center's Langworthy Gallery. Vacha was the chair for this year's art show.

How to use nitrogen equation

by Jenny Rees
Seward-York counties Extension educator

March is here and it sounds like we're in for a beautiful week, temperature-wise.

The following website may be helpful for those wondering about frost layer depth: <https://www.weather.gov/mbrfc/frost>. It's updated on Thursdays and is saying about 4 inches now. The snow greatly insulated the soil with the cold temps.

UNL nitrogen equation: There's several ways nitrogen recommendations are figured. Often nitrogen removal from the grain is factored and varies by the entity figuring it from 1.0-1.3 lbs N per bushel of grain. One difference between the UNL equation and soil test labs is that the UNL one takes into account organic matter.

Some don't like this and feel the equation mines nitrogen while the UNL soil scientists feel they're conservative with the way the remainder of the equation is built.

The UNL N recommendation for corn grain (lb/ac) = $[35 + (1.2 \times EY) - (8 \times NO_3\text{-N ppm}) - (0.14 \times EY \times OM) - \text{other N credits}] \times \text{Priceadj} \times \text{Timingadj}$ where:

EY = expected yield (bu/ac) which should be about 105% of the five-year yield average

$NO_3\text{-N ppm} = \text{average nitrate-N concentration in the root zone (2-4 foot depth) in parts per million}$

OM = percent soil organic matter (with a minimum of 0.5 and a 3% maximum)

Other N credits include N from previous legume crop, manure and other organic material applied and irrigation water N.

Priceadj = adjustment factor for prices of corn

N Timingadj = adjustment factor for fall, spring and split applications

The UNL nitrogen equation uses a weight-

ed average soil nitrate test for the ppm nitrate. A minimum depth of two feet is required. Thus, with a 0-8-inch soil sample, one needs to account for a weighted average. If ones doesn't, the equation will overestimate the amount of soil nitrate and result in a lower requirement than what may be needed.

If one doesn't have a deep sample, use a default of 3 ppm for silt loam/silty clay loam soils or 1.5 ppm for sandy soils in the two-foot depth. The Extension circular "Fertilizer Recommendations for Corn" (<http://extensionpublications.unl.edu/assets/pdf/ec117.pdf>) explains this in detail with an example.

There is also an Excel spreadsheet that does this when the depth of soil samples taken is inputted. A more visual excel spreadsheet is also available at the following website by scrolling to "Corn Nitrogen Recommendations Calculator" <https://cropwatch.unl.edu/soils>.

Other nitrogen credits include N from previous legume crops, manure applied and irrigation water. The UNL equation credits soybean as the previous crop for 45 lbs of N due to nitrogen scavenging

abilities and the increased mineralization from their low carbon to nitrogen ratio. On-farm research studies in this part of the state found, in irrigated soybeans, we could credit more: 1 lb of nitrogen for every bushel of soybean raised up to 60 bushels (so up to 60 lbs. N 'credit' from soybeans).

Irrigation water often contains a significant amount of nitrate-N (and other nutrients, including sulfur) that is readily available to corn. Dr. Charlie Wortmann shared, for every 10 acre-inches of water applied, one can take ppm in the sample X 2.265 to determine lbs. of the nutrient applied via irrigation. Irrigation amounts vary from year to year, so one could take a three-year average for irrigation amount.

I use the equation without the price and timing adjustment. Higher corn prices will show that one can apply more nitrogen economically. However, the research bell curve will show little to no yield increase for that additional nitrogen. The timing adjustment assumes nitrogen loss in the fall, building in N for that, and assigns a small reduction if applying nitrogen in-season.

Young writers win awards in annual contest

Winners for the 2021 GFWC Seward Women's Clubs literature contest have been announced.

The contest is for students in kindergarten through Grade 12. Jean Kolterman serves as the chair of the contest for both GFWC Clubs. There are two winners in each division, as there are two GFWC Clubs in Seward – the GFWC Seward Woman's Club and the GFWC Seward Junior Women's Club.

Winners included:
Short Story, Grades K-2

Emalyn Meyer, Grade 2, St. John Lutheran, "Attack on the Colony," SWC

Amiyah Fitzmann, Grade 2, St. John Lutheran School, "The Story of the Prince and the Princess," SJWC

Poetry, Grades K-2

Olivia Kitt, Grade 2, St. Vincent DePaul School, "Ginger," SWC
Ben O'Brien, Grade 2, St. Vincent DePaul School, "I Saw Christmas!," SJWC

Short Story, Grades 3-5

Kade Benson, Grade 5, St. John Lutheran School, "Ned's Return Home," SWC

Jordyn Samuels, Grade 5, St. John Lutheran School, "A Pup's Journey Home," SJWC

Poetry, Grades 3-5

Michael Frisbie, Grade 3, St. Vincent DePaul School, "Michael's Never Poem," SWC
Trey Schultz, Grade 3, St. John Lutheran, "Cooldown," SJWC

Short Story, Grades 6-8

Abigayil Wunderlich, Grade 8, Seward Middle School, "The Water's Gleam," SWC
Molly Marroquin, Grade 7, St. John Lutheran School, "Lemon Everheart and the Professor's Plot," SJWC

Poetry, Grades 6-8

Blair Briggs, Grade 7, Seward Middle School, "SEWARD," SWC

Jane F. Friesen, Grade 7, Homeschool, Milford, "All Alone," SJWC

Short Story, Grades 9-12

Keira Lliteras, SHS, Grade 10, "Mr. Peterson," SWC

Lydia Lobmeyer, SHS, Grade 10, "Breath of Coreton," SJWC

Poetry, Grades 9-12

Noah Fields, SHS, Grade 10, "Dusted Valley," SWC

Landon Nelson, Grade 12, "The Kids in the Bath," SJWC

Judges for the writing contest were English/Language Arts education majors at the

University of Nebraska, Julie Marie Smith, Alliance, and Nancy Nexton, Shelby.

The Cattle National Bank and Trust of Seward and Lincoln cosponsor the event and present commemorative coins to the winners. The students also each receive a signed certificate by the GFWC Seward Woman's Club and GFWC Seward Junior Women's Club. There were over 200 entries in the contest this year. The awards will be distributed in their classrooms, as there is not a program this year due to Covid-19.

Students were honored with a "no host" reception Feb. 28 at the Seward Civic Center. The student writing will be on display at the Civic Center. Each winning entry is now submitted to the GFWC Nebraska Federation of Women's Clubs' Inc. State Literature Contest and will be judged and printed in the GFWC NFWC Anthology in the spring of 2021.

One entry per category will go on the complete at the national GFWC Literature contest to represent Nebraska and the GFWC Nebraska Federation of Women's Clubs, Inc.

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303 S. A St. • Milford • 761-2664
Pastor Lamoyn Lytle • familylifemilford.com
Sunday Worship10:00 a.m.
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KidLife (Wednesday)6:00 p.m.
Vertical Youth (Wednesday)6:00 p.m.
RoundTable Discussion Review (Wednesday)6:00 p.m.

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Monday Worship6:30 p.m.
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www.gracemissionary.org
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Youth Jr. High (Wednesday at Bellwood)6:15 p.m.
Youth Sr. High (Wednesday at Bellwood)7:30 p.m.

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milfordmennonite@gmail.com
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James Landholm DDS



Jesse Murphy DDS

Eagles down Mitchell to make state

by Stephanie Croston
scroston@sewardindependent.com

The Milford boys' basketball team picked up a couple big wins in subdistricts Feb. 23 and 25 to advance to a March 1 district final.

The Eagles (26-0) beat Mitchell 75-46 March 1 in North Platte to qualify for the state tournament.

Milford is the No. 5 seed and will play No. 4 seeded Concordia at 4 p.m. Wednesday, March 10, at Pinnacle Bank Arena. It's the first trip to state for the Eagles since 2019.

Milford took care of business in subdistricts, beating Raymond Central 85-53 and Lincoln Christian 64-53.

The Eagles built a 55-29 lead at halftime against Raymond Central Feb. 23 and continued to pull away in the second half.

Coach Tony Muller said Milford did a good job pressuring the Mustangs and forcing turnovers. Raymond Central shot well to start the game, he said, with 18 first-quarter points.

This was the second time the teams had played, and Muller said Milford went with more full-court pressure and speeded up the tempo.

Jaxon Weyand and Micah Hartwig led Milford in the first half with 17 and 14 points, respectively. Weyand finished with 25 and Hartwig scored 17. Seth Stutzman and Cabe Schluckebier joined them in double figures with 10 each.

Schluckebier added six rebounds, four of them offensive. Stutzman recorded six assists and four steals.

Muller said Stutzman does a good job finding the open man when he's double teamed in the post.

Raymond Central was 9-23 from three-point range, while Milford was 3-5. Muller said the Eagles scored more quickly, allowing the Mustangs more possessions.

The Eagles, however, were 14-17 at the free throw line, while RCHS was 4-7.

The win put the Eagles in the subdistrict final against Lincoln Christian Feb. 25. The Milford High gym was at 75% capacity, the limit at this point. The fans were loud, and both schools brought their pep bands.

"The intensity was up the whole time," Muller said.

The match-up on paper was not favorable for the Eagles, he said. Lincoln Christian has Drew Buekelman who's 6-7 and Easton Marshbanks who's 7-0. In addition, the Crusaders have talented guards who can shoot well from outside.

Isaac Yeackley drew the task of guarding LC's Buekelman, while Schluckebier stuck to Marshbanks. Muller said both played very good defense, and the team did a good job helping out. Both Crusaders got in foul trouble and had to spend time on the bench.

The Eagles led by five at halftime. In the third quarter, the pace slowed and the Lincoln Christian big men were able to block some Milford shot attempts, Muller said. LCHS outscored Milford 10-6 in the period.

MHS came back in



Milford's Micah Hartwig shoots over the Mitchell defense March 1.



Cabe Schluckebier is fouled on a rebound against Lincoln Christian in the subdistrict final Feb. 25 at Milford.



Isaac Yeackley of Milford gets fouled on the way to the hoop March 1 in the Eagles' district win over Mitchell.

the fourth after struggling from the free throw line all game and started making free throws to keep and even build the lead. Milford was 24-39 from the line for the game after going 6-14 in the first three quarters.

Muller said Lincoln Christian tried to cover Milford's perimeter shooters but couldn't stop the drives to the hoop.

"It was a great win," Muller said.

Weyand led the Eagles with 21 points, and Stutzman added a double double with 15 points and 10 rebounds.

Milford 85, Raymond Central 53					
RCHS	18	11	11	13	53
MHS	26	29	13	17	85
RCHS—Totals 20-47 4-7 53.					
MHS—Isaac Yeackley 4-6 0-0 9, Micah Hartwig 7-9 2-3 17, Bryce Jakub 0-0 0-1 0, Camden Springer 0-1 2-2 2, Maddox Baack 1-1 0-0 3, Jaxon Weyand 8-12 9-10 25, Carter Roth 2-2 1-1 5, Kaleb Miller 1-3 0-0 2, Seth Stutzman 5-10 0-0 10, Cabe Schluckebier 5-6 0-0 10, Nelson Girmus 1-3 0-0 2. Totals 34-53 14-17 85.					
Three-point goals—RCHS 9-24, MHS 3-5 (Yeackley 1-1, Hartwig 1-2, Baack 1-1, Weyand 0-1). Rebounds—RCHS 12, MHS 31 (Schluckebier 6). Assists—MHS 17 (Stutzman 6). Steals—MHS 15 (Stutzman 4). Blocked shots—MHS 1 (Schluckebier 1). Turnovers—RCHS 17, MHS 12. Fouls—RCHS 12, MHS 12.					

Milford 64, Lincoln Christian 53					
MHS	16	15	6	27	64
LCHS	15	11	10	17	53
LCHS—Totals 19-44 9-13 53.					
MHS—Yeackley 2-3 0-0 6, Hartwig 3-6 4-4					
12, Jakub 0-0 2-2, Weyand 4-11 11-17 21, Miller					
1-2 0-0 2, Stutzman 6-14 2-6 15, Schluckebier 1-6					
4-10 6. Totals 17-42 23-39 64.					
Three-point goals—LCHS 6-22, MHS 7-13					
(Yeackley 2-2, Hartwig 2-5, Weyand 2-5, Stutzman					
1-1). Rebounds—LCHS 30, MHS 29 (Stutzman					
10). Assists—MHS 13 (Yeackley 5). Steals—MHS					
7 (Yeackley 3). Blocked shots—LCHS 10, MHS					
3 (Stutzman 2). Turnovers—LCHS 16, MHS 4.					
Fouls—LCHS 27, MHS 15.					

Milford vs. Concordia, March 10, 4 p.m. Pinnacle Bank Arena



Seth Stutzman of Milford dribbles around the Mitchell defense during March 1's district final win.

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Obituary

Dennis R. Stapelman

Oct. 31, 1950 – Feb. 26, 2021

Dennis Ray Stapelman was born Oct. 31, 1950, to Clarence “Bud” and Alice “Joyce” (Young) Stapelman, the fourth of five children, and passed away Friday, Feb. 26, 2021, at Memorial Hospital in Seward at the age of 70.

Dennis was baptized and confirmed in the Union Presbyterian Church in Belden. As a young boy, he attended country school district 37 and later went to Belden Public School before graduating from Randolph High School with the class of 1969. While growing up, he was active with the Boy Scouts. Dennis enlisted into the Army Reserves in Norfolk and served for eight years. He furthered his education by enrolling in the building construction program at Southeast Community College in Milford. Afterwards, he worked as a maintenance carpenter for the college for more than 20 years. He continued being a local carpenter in the Milford area and was an avid collector of antiques. He attended the Milford United Methodist Church. He volunteered for the Habitat for Humanity and helped with the Milford Food Pantry from time to time.

Survivors include his brothers and sisters-in-law, Ron and Sharlene Stapelman, Belden, and Gary and Debra Stapelman, Sioux Falls, South Dakota; twin sister and brother-in-law, Dianne and Meryl Loseke, Badger, Iowa; several nieces, nephews and a host of other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents; parents; and sister, Deborah Stapelman.

Dennis was cremated and there will be a celebration of Dennis’ life in May 2021 at the Milford United Methodist Church. He will be laid to rest at Belden Cemetery in the family plot. Memorial contributions are suggested to the family for future designation.



Real estate

Information taken from records filed with the Seward County clerk.

Feb. 18 – 23

Stanley A. Eberspacher and Shirley A Eberspacher to Keith H. Eberspacher, Carl S. Eberspacher and Jane A. Flanagan, an undivided, one-half interest in the NW1/4 17-9-2. DS exempt

Leah H. Pankoke and Benjamin Pankoke to Lauren E. Johnson, Lot 7, Block 4, Wright's Third Addition to Utica. DS \$310.50

Heidi J. Johnson to Robert Brauer and Frances Brauer, Lot 2, Country Club Heights Sixth Addition, Seward. DS \$528.75 297V, LLC, to the Village of

Pleasant Dale, the north 60 feet of the Farmer's Co-op Grain Company Subdivision in the W1/2 36-10-4. DS exempt

Peek Property Management, LLC, to Peek Commercial Property, LLC, a tract of land in the replat of Lots 5 and 8, Twin Oaks Development in the NE1/4 32-11-3. DS exempt

Arrests

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

Michael Rengstorf

was arrested Jan. 11 in connection with the offenses of willful, reckless driving and avoiding arrest. Rengstorf is set to appear for arraignment March 1.

Jonathan Foreman, 23, Seward, was

arrested Jan. 2 in connection with the offenses of criminal mischief, disturbing the peace and third-degree assault. Ten percent of a \$10,000 bond was filed and Foreman has a plea hearing scheduled for March 10.

Eric Hill, 41, Seward, was arrested Dec. 26 in connection with the offenses of using a firearm to commit a felony, terroristic

threats and disturbing the peace. Ten percent of a \$10,000 bond was filed and Hill has a preliminary hearing scheduled for March 17.

Matthew Boyd, 41, was arrested Jan. 9 in connection with the offenses of driving under the influence and an improper lane change. Ten percent of a \$5,000 bond was filed and a pretrial hearing is set for March 10.

Anderson Stewart

was arrested Jan. 9 in connection with the offenses of flight to avoid arrest, driving under revocation with an open alcohol container, obstructing a police officer and failure to display plates. Ten percent of a \$10,000 bond was filed and Stewart is to appear for sentencing March 24.

Keep youth safe in a virtual environment

by Brandy Vandewalle
Clay/Fillmore County Extension educator

Since early 2020, our world has changed greatly.

You may find yourself reaching out to engage with youth virtually more than you ever thought you would. As many of you enter the world of online learning and meetings, it is important to consider the safety and security of your participants. Remember to consider virtual programming in the same lens that you would for in-person programming. It is just as important to make participants feel safe and inclusive as they did when meeting in person.

As you prepare for your virtual learning experience think about

the following.

Use passwords and/or waiting rooms to protect from unwanted participants.

No one-on-one interactions. Have a second adult managing or participating in the virtual experience.

Notify parents that you will be using virtual platforms to connect with their child.

Keep conversational, professional, and focused on educational or meeting purposes.

Make sure your background is appropriate for audience.

Watch for outside party connections and be prepared to remove or close out of learning experience, i.e. hackers, unintended participants

Be aware of online capabilities of your club members. Do they all

have access to technology? Do they know how to use technology safely?

Do not make video a requirement. Parents/Guardians may not be comfortable allowing video conferencing.

Create some ground rules for usage and participation in virtual environments.

Do not provide identifiable details such as address, school, full names.

Remind that photos and videos shared online always have the potential for becoming a permanent part of history.

Never share passwords or links to join virtual experience with others.

Do not respond to messages that make you feel bullied, threatened, or uncomfortable.

Be careful of what you are showing in the background that might identify where you are. This is especially important if meeting with people you may not know.

It is just as important to keep a safe online learning environment as it is to keep youth engaged by creating educational, active and fun learning experiences.

County court

Information taken from Seward County court records.

Feb. 15 – 19

Austin J. Waller, 23, Seward, disturbing the peace, seven days jail.

Cory H. Deweese, 29, Palmer, driving under suspension before reinstated, \$100 fine.

Davis L. Luebbe, 21, Milford, procure/sell alcohol to a minor/incompetent, one year probation.

Payton W. Kidder, 22, Holdrege, DUI-alcohol first offense, \$500 fine, revoked license 60 days, six months probation and interlock device.

Shawn T. Two Crow, 20, Seward, willful

reckless driving-first offense, six months probation, \$467.20 restitution.

Gene A. Selby, 32, Seward, dogs running at large, \$10 fine.

Billy F. Scdoris, 30, Ulysses, possess or use drug paraphernalia, \$100 fine.

Heather Vanderslice, 40, Seward, DUI-alcohol first offense, \$500 fine, six months probation, revoked license 60 days, interlock device.

Joey J. Rodriguez, 22, Lincoln, third degree assault, six months jail, \$71.58 restitution; violation of protection order, nine months jail.

Traffic

Information taken from Seward County court records.

Feb. 15 – 19

Cody M. Lomax, 20, Crete, speeding 21-35 mph county/state, \$200 fine.

Terrelle L. Kearney, 36, Lucama, North Carolina, no valid registration on truck, \$200 fine.

Chase L. Brown, 19, Yutan, speeding 6-10 mph municipal, \$25 fine.

Roberto Parra, 23, Grand Island, speeding 16-20 mph municipal, \$125 fine.

Trevor R. Renquist, 21, Geneva, muffler required/good working order, \$25 fine.

Valerie J. Hansen, 54, York, no valid registration-car/pickup/stepvan, \$25 fine.

Christian T. Heil, 21, Lincoln, no valid registration-car/pickup/stepvan, \$25 fine; unlawful/fictitious display of plate/renew tab, \$50 fine.

Loc T. Phan, 57, Hastings, driving below minimum freeway speed, \$10 fine.

Ayanna M. Sabat-

ka-Turley, 18, Lincoln, speeding 21-35 mph municipal, \$200 fine.

Mark Sutton, 34, Lubbock, Texas, speeding 6-10 mph county/state, \$25 fine.

Kent G. Fickel, 55, Utica, no brake lights/turn signals, \$25 fine.

Matthew J. Robb, 28, Lincoln, no valid registration-car/pickup/stepvan, \$25 fine.

Skylor N. Altstadt, 20, Council Bluffs, Iowa, no operator's license/waivable, \$75 fine.

Reece M. Yant, 19, Seward, no valid registration-car/pickup/stepvan, \$25 fine.

William J. Bodish, 57, St. Petersburg, Florida, violation of parking regulations, \$25 fine; impeding traffic, \$25 fine.

Lori L. Sheehan, 62, Friend, driving too fast for conditions, \$100 fine.

Fru Ravinder Singh, 38, Turlock, California, careless driving, \$100 fine.

Rebecca A. O'Flaherty, 39, Seward, disobey stop lights, \$75 fine.

Good luck to the Eagles at boys' state basketball next week.

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Browning calls it: 2021 is the year of garden beans

by Sarah Browning
Lancaster County Extension educator

There are many species of beans in cultivation around the world, yet it is the common garden bean, *Phaseolus vulgaris*, that takes on celebrity status as National Garden Bureau’s vegetable focus for 2021.

One of the earliest cultivated plants, garden beans can trace their beginnings to Central and South America. Vining or climbing beans were an original member of the “Three-Sisters” – a companion planting of the first domesticated crops of maize, winter squash and climbing beans. These became the three main agricultural crops used for trade and food for Native North Americans.

Green beans were once referred to as string beans due to the long fibrous thread along the pod seams. The first stringless green bean was developed in 1894 by Calvin Keeney who later became known as the “father of the stringless bean.”

Breeders continue to breed this stringless trait into modern genetics. Other desirable traits include dark green succulent pods, good bean flavor, concentrated fruit set, stress tolerance, and disease resistance.

Basic types of garden beans

The common garden bean is anything but common. Green beans or ‘snap’ beans as they are also referred to come in a variety of flavors, pod shapes, sizes and a colorful pallet including shades of green, purple, yellow and speckled bicolors.

Bush beans are the workhorse of the garden and the mainstay in the kitchen. Bush beans are compact and fit well into both small garden patches or patio containers fitted with cages.

Pole beans with their vining habits can be trained up poles, trellises, netting or supportive structures such as a teepee. With proper support pole beans can also be grown in containers.

Filet beans or Haricots Vert (French green beans) are distinguished by elegant ultra-slim pods. Due to their delicate appearance, filet beans are gaining in popularity with foodies and chefs. Filet beans come in both bush and pole bean types.

Dried or shelling beans are grown for their edible seeds rather than edible pods. Pinto beans, kidney beans and black beans fall into this category.

Varieties to try

Pole beans

Seychelles – Seven to nine-foot vines produce multiple crops of 5-6-inch long stringless pods with excellent flavor. Fast-growing and early-to-produce crisp delicious pods. 2017 AAS Winner.

Kentucky Blue – Produces 6-8-inch dark green pods on six-foot vines with outstanding Blue Lake flavor. Can be harvested all season long. 1991 AAS Winner.

Bush beans

Mascotte – A gourmet compact variety perfect for today’s small space gardens. Produces long slender pods that stay above the foliage for easy harvest. 2014 AAS Winner.

Desperado – Heat and stress tolerance makes this an easy to grow and high yielder of long straight 5-inch dark green pods.

Specialty beans

Roma II – A Romano or Italian flat bean that produces an abundance of wide, flat 5-inch long pods with a distinctive rich, intense, beany flavor. Bush type habit.

Amethyst Purple – A French filet bush bean that produces beautiful violet-purple, long slender stringless pods on compact plants suitable for containers and raised beds.

Gold Rush – The gold standard for yellow wax beans, Gold Rush produces clusters of straight 5-6-inch long yellow pods. Pods hold well on the bush and are versatile in the kitchen.



Garden beans growing tips

- Beans are warm-weather vegetables and are best planted after soil temperatures reach 70F.
- Avoid sowing too early in the season. Cool wet soils can lead to rot.
- Beans thrive with at least eight hours of daily sun, moderate fertility and well-drained soil.
- Beans have shallow roots; weed carefully to prevent damage to the root system.
- Mulch the soil around the bean plant; consistent moisture results in the highest quality harvests.
- Quick to mature, harvests can begin 50-60 days after sowing.
- Bush beans typically grow 12 to 24 inches tall and produce harvests for about three weeks.
- Succession sowing of bush beans every 2-3 weeks will produce delicious beans all season.
- Pole beans have a long harvest season, generally lasting about six to eight weeks.
- Harvest frequently to encourage pod production.
- Pole beans can quickly grow a lush privacy wall around porches or patios.
- Create a living fort or teepee with pole beans for a fun play space.
- Yellow wax beans lack chlorophyll and will retain their beautiful golden color when cooked.
- Purple beans contain anthocyanins (the purple pigment) that disappear when beans are cooked.

MARKETPLACE

Help Wanted

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.

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

PART-TIME RECEPTIONIST Milford United Methodist Church

Taking applications for a part-time church receptionist. A minimum of 16 hours per week.

Contact the church office by phone at 402-761-2375 or by email at

umcmilfordne@gmail.com

for a job description and application.

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



Dorchester Public School



Looking for a dynamic, energetic, hard-working individual to fill the following position:

Food Service Worker (Cook)

- Preparing and serving meals with general kitchen duties

Those interested should contact Daryl Schunk, Superintendent, at (402) 946-2781.

Support Staff Application may be picked up at the office or found on our website at dorchesterschool.org (located on our website under DISTRICT “Application Process”)

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Applications at www.sunrisecountrymanor.com/careers.html



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2021 Swimming Pool Staff

The City of Milford is accepting applications for **Lifeguards for the 2021 season.**

Join the lifeguard and management team and enjoy a summer of working outdoors with people of all ages. Competitive wages, uniform allowance and training paid. Applications are now available at the City Office and will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on 3/19/21. An equal opportunity employer.



Memorial
Health Care Systems

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

HR 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

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

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

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BIG GUN Show - March 5-7, 2021, Mid American Center, Council Bluffs, IA. Friday 4pm-9pm, Saturday 9am-5pm, Sunday 9am-3pm. Nebraska FFL Dealers available for transfers. Admission \$8. Info: 563-608-4401, www.marvkraspromotions.net.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Hearings

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Notice is given that the Seward County Board of Commissioners will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 16th, 2021, 9:45 a.m., Seward County Court House, 529 Seward Street, Seward, Nebraska.
Regarding the following:
PUBLIC HEARING FOR A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT
For the rebuild, replacement, and installation of the KOLN/KGIN Channel 10/11 Telecommunication Tower. Owner: KOLN/KGIN Inc. Contractor: KOLN/KGIN c/o Gray Television Group Inc.
PID: 800007662
Precinct K. 43.66 acres. In the South East ¼ of the South East 1/4 of, Section 27, Township 10N, Range 2E, Seward County Nebraska. Information on the proposed action is available in the Seward County Zoning Office. The public's comments and concerns are welcome at the time of the Public Hearing.
Seward County Zoning Administrator
SCI/MT — March 03, 2021

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Notice is given that the Seward County Zoning Board will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, March 15th, 2021, at 7:30p.m., Seward County Civic Center 616 Seward Street, Seward, Nebraska, regarding the following:
A Public Hearing for a Conditional Use Permit to construct and operate a Campground in a (C-2) Highway Commercial District on a tract of ground located in the South East 1/4 of the South East ¼ of, Section 20, Township 10 North, Range 3 East, Seward County, Nebraska. Information on the proposed action is available in the Seward County Zoning Office. The public's comments and concerns are welcome at the time of the public hearing.
Seward County Zoning Administrator
SCI/MT — March 03, 2021
ZNEZ

Bids

PUBLIC NOTICE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
The State of Nebraska, Department of Transportation (NDOT) is issuing this Request for Proposal (RFP), R211-21, for the purpose of selecting a qualified Contractor to provide Right-of-Way Mowing Services for NDOT, District 1.
Those interested in bidding on this proposal may view the Prequalification information and the Request for Proposal (RFP) #R211-21 at the Nebraska Department of Transportation website: <http://dot.nebraska.gov/business-center/business-opp/pre-main/>. A copy of the RFP may be obtained from the Nebraska Department of Transportation.
An Optional Pre-Proposal Conference will be held on March 8, 2021, at 10:00 A.M. CT at Nebraska Department of Transportation District 1 Headquarters, 302 Superior Street, Lincoln, NE.
Written questions are due no later than March 9, 2021, and should be submitted via e-mail to: NDOT.OperationsProcurement@nebraska.gov.
Sealed proposals from pre-qualified Contractors must be received in the Nebraska Department of Transportation, PO Box 94759, Lincoln, NE 68509-4759, on or before March 18, 2021, 3:00 P.M. CT at which time the opening of the proposals will be public and the Contractors will be announced.
SCI/MT/FS/WR/CR — March 03, 10, 17, 2021
ZNEZ

Meetings

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MILFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT
Notice is hereby given that the regular school board meeting of the Milford School District will be held Monday, March 8, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. at the Milford Elementary Multi-Purpose Room. The agenda for this meeting is kept current and is available during regular working hours at the Superintendent's office, 1200 West First Street, Milford, NE.
MT — March 03, 2021

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE
Seward County Ag. Society
Monday, March 15, 2021 7 p.m.
Harvest Hall
Seward County Fairgrounds
Michael J. Flyr
Secretary
Seward Co. Ag. Society
SCI/MT — March 03, 10, 2021

NOTICE
A Public Meeting of the Seward County Planning Commission will be held, March 15th, 2021, 7:30 pm, Seward Civic Center, 616 Bradford Street, Seward, Nebraska. Notice of said meeting will be posted on the Courthouse bulletin board and in the Zoning Administration Office. The agenda for said meeting will be kept continually current and available for public inspection at the Zoning Administration Office during normal business hours. The agenda will be held open until 4:00 p.m. of the day, five days before the day of the meeting. The Planning Commission has the right to modify the agenda to include items of an emergency nature only at such meetings.
Seward County Zoning Administrator
SCI/MT — March 03, 2021

PUBLIC NOTICE
The Early Childhood Planning Region Team Meeting for the ESU 6 service area will be held on Friday, March 5th at 12:00 noon at ESU 6 in Milford. The ESU 6 PRT holds six meetings throughout the year for local school providers, DHHS, Head Start and Early Head Start, families and others to assist in collaborative planning and problem solving to serve young children with disabilities and their families. Please register at www.esu6.org and following the registration instructions when you click on the Login to Upcoming Events button.
If you are concerned about a child's development or ongoing health condition contact ESU 6 Early Development Network for more information about referral, evaluation and possible services available at no cost to your family. Call 402-761-3341 and ask for the EDN Office.
MT — March 03, 2021

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
The March meeting, followed by a work session, of the Board of Educational Service Unit 6 will be held at the Holthus Convention Center in York, NE, on Thursday, March 18th, 2021, at 12:00 p.m. The agenda for said meeting is on file at Educational Service Unit No. 6 offices in Milford, NE, and kept continually current.
SCI/MT/FS/WR/CR — March 03, 2021
ZNEZ

Minutes

PROCEEDINGS OF PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING OF THE PLEASANT DALE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
The following is a condensed version of the minutes from February 11, 2021, meeting of the Pleasant Dale Board of Trustees. A complete copy of the minutes is on file with the Village Clerk's Office and posted at the following three places: the Community Hall, U.S. Post Office, and the American Legion's bulletin boards. The next regular meeting will be held March 11, 2021. Pleasant Dale Board of Trustees convened on February 11, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. for a Public Hearing on the Application for Special Use Permit for 500 Cedar pursuant to Zoning Ord section 5.74 to conduct Light manufacturing operations, providing that such use is not noxious by reason of vibration or noise beyond the confines of the building, or by the emission of particulate, fumes, gas, odor or smoke.
Members Present: Dennis Hill, Leroy Trease, Leslie Thomas. By phone: Jeff Oehm. Absent: Jerry Allen
Also Present-Clerk: Amber Karel
The Chair noted the posting location of the Open Meetings Act on the East Wall, as required by law.
The Chair opened the Public Hearing on the Application for Special Use Permit for 500 Cedar pursuant to Zoning Ord section 5.74 to conduct Light manufacturing operations, providing that such use is not noxious by reason of vibration or noise beyond the confines of the building, or by the emission of particulate, fumes, gas, odor or smoke at 7:02 p.m. Adjourned the Public Hearing at 7:02 p.m.
Pleasant Dale Board of Trustees convened on February 11, 2021, at 7:02 p.m. for the Regular Board Meeting. The Chair noted Open Meetings as posted on the East

Wall. Approved the 1/14/2021 Regular Meeting Minutes. Buildings – The light at the Fire Barn is blinking. Will look into fixing. Water/Sewer – Water Operator-Coliform test negative. Nitrate test 5.9. Lead/Copper test will be completed one more time this year, if passing it will move to a 3-year schedule. Will need to work on an Emergency response plan. Planning and Zoning – Looking to print more readable copies of maps for P&Z books. Will meet in March. Lower Platte South Presentation on Nitrate Study – Tabled. American Legion Liquor License – Tabled. Approval by the Board for the Liquor License at 202 Ash Street – Travis Meyer introduced himself to the board. Public Hearing/Special Meeting is scheduled February 25th 2021, for approval. Adopted Resolution 2021-01 Special Use for 500 Cedar Street. Discussion on an Ordinance for Restricting Live-In Campers – Discussed details with Attorney. Board to set a list of guidelines. Blade for Tractor – Tabled. Rock for Parking Lot – Tabled. Approved Armor Coat – Topkote for Streets – Quote for \$1.49 per SqFt plus the cost of rock. All streets will be done except Main St, Pine St and Ash St. Abbreviations: Ins-Insurance; Li-License Renewal; Pub-Publishing; Qt-Quarterly Filing; Re-Reimbursement; Se-Services; Su-Supplies; Tr-Travel; Tx-Tax, Ut-Utilities; Bromm Lindahl Freeman Caddy-Se \$1,342.60, Burger, Ryan CPA-Se \$375.00, DHHS-Se \$15.00, Hill, D-Re \$197.99, Hill, S.-Re \$75.00, Karel, A.-Re \$258.82, NE Equipment-Su \$335.43, NE Snow Equipment-Su \$44.52, Norris PPD-Ut \$946.91, Phillip 66-Su \$230.30, Uribe-Se \$340.06, Windstream-Ut \$146.30
Salaries: \$1,339.07
Total Claims: \$5,647.00
Set agenda for March 11, 2021, meeting.
Meeting Adjourned at 7:39 p.m.
Submitted by:
Amber Karel
Village Clerk
MT — March 03, 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 30, 2021

The Seward County Board of Equalization convened on February 23, 2021, at 8:30 a.m. Present: Chairperson: John Culver Members: Bob Vrbka, Ken Schmieding, Darrell Zabrocki Deputy County Clerk: Brandy Johnson County Assessor: Marilyn Hladky Absent: Member: Misty Ahmic
Approved the minutes of February 9, 2021.
Hladky updated the Commissioners on activities of her office.
Convened as the Board of Commissioners.
Approved the minutes of February 16, 2021.
Commissioners gave an update of their activities.
Discussed wage for the new HR Director.
Awarded the bid for the preparation and painting of the exterior of the courthouse dome to Lindner Painting, Inc.
Approved Conditional Use Permit for a new telecommunications tower in K precinct.
Approved 3 short form plats in I precinct, J precinct and L precinct.
Carrie Rodriguez of District 5 Probation was present to discuss creating a fund for Problem Solving Court.
Approved the Seward and Butler County Comprehensive Juvenile Services Community Plan for 2021-2025, as presented by Casey Tiemann of the County Attorney's Office and Megan Kahler, Seward County Chamber & Development Partnership.
Signed contracts with Adams and Fillmore Counties to House Safekeep Inmates at the Seward County Detention Center.
Approved establishment of Seward County Detention Center House Arrest Fund.
Approved Interlocal Agreement with Butler County for Diversion and Truancy Services, as presented by Katrina Ramer of the County Attorney's office.
Adopted the agenda for March 2, 2021, and adjourned at 10:50 a.m.
Brandy Johnson
Deputy County Clerk
SCI/MT — March 03, 2021
ZNEZ

HAVE YOU moved?

LET US KNOW!

THE MILFORD
Times
PO Box 449, Seward, NE 68434
402-761-2911

UNRESERVED ONLINE LAND AUCTION

DRYLAND CROPGROUND
146.37± ACRES LANCASTER COUNTY, NE
» SELLING IN 2 TRACTS «
Tract #1: 54.87± Acres ————— **Tract #2: 91.5± Acres** —————
Lot 14 in the SE ¼ of Section 7-7-8E Lancaster County, NE. Lot 5 in the NE ¼ of Section 18-7-8E Lancaster County, NE.
Location: From Hickman, NE, (Hickman Rd & 68th St.) go south on 68th Street 2 miles turn east on Panama Road, go to 120th Street, and go 1 mile south to the intersection of 120th Street and Olive Creek Road. Tract #1 will be on the north side and Tract #2 will be on the south side of the road. Or from Lincoln, NE, go south on Hwy 77 to Hickman Road, then go east to 68th Street and follow the above directions. Watch for the For Sale signs.
» BID ONLINE MAR. 9-23, 2021 «
BIDDING ENDS AT 11 A.M. CST
Get a sale bill, register and bid at www.bigironrealty.com
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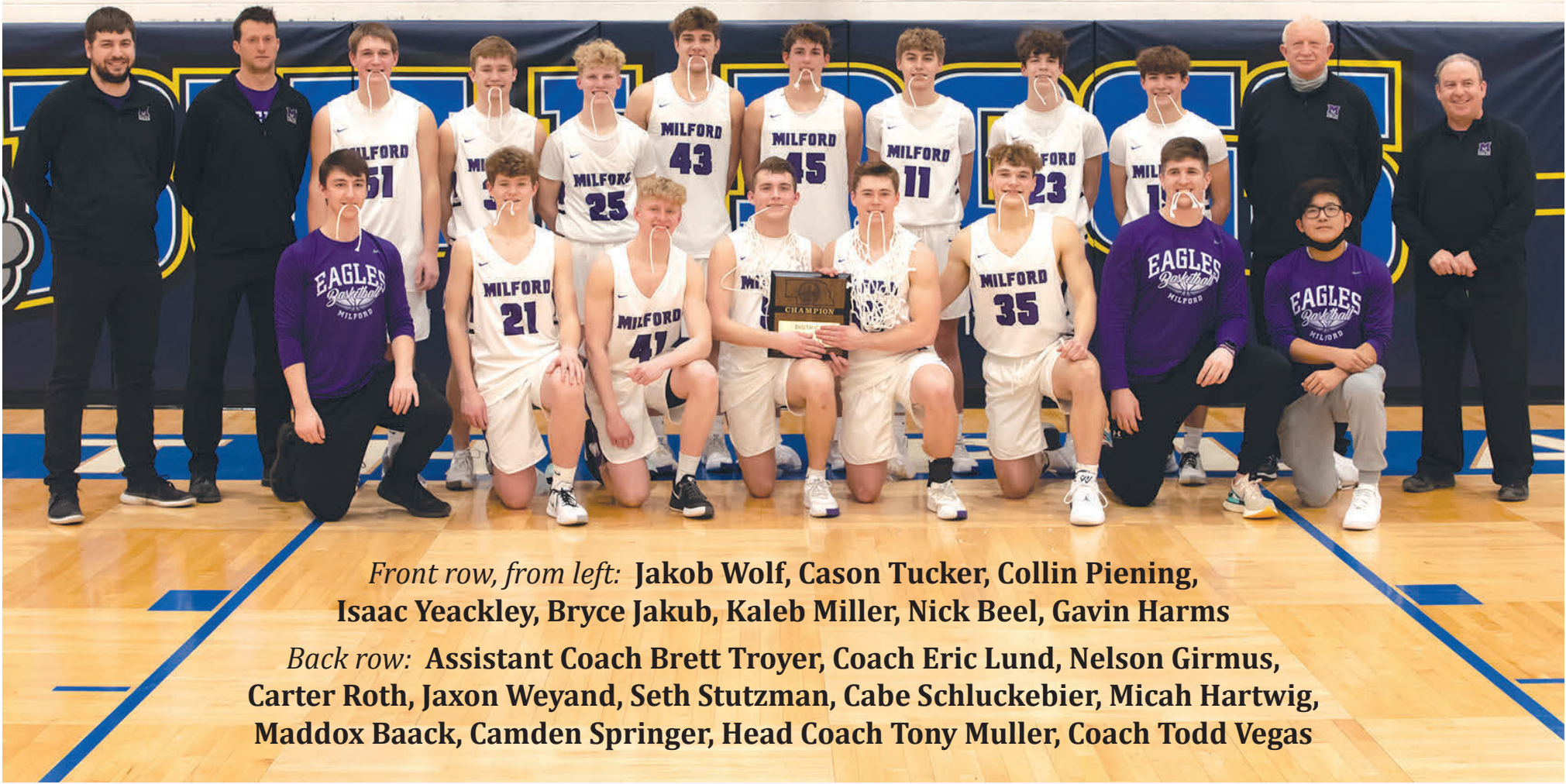
CONGRATULATIONS Eagles!

The Milford High School boys basketball team defeated Mitchell 75-46 for the district title Monday, March 1.

2021 Boys Basketball District C1-4 Champions

26-0 and counting!

Good luck at State!



Front row, from left: Jakob Wolf, Cason Tucker, Collin Piening, Isaac Yeackley, Bryce Jakub, Kaleb Miller, Nick Beel, Gavin Harms

Back row: Assistant Coach Brett Troyer, Coach Eric Lund, Nelson Girmus, Carter Roth, Jaxon Weyand, Seth Stutzman, Cabe Schluckebier, Micah Hartwig, Maddox Baack, Camden Springer, Head Coach Tony Muller, Coach Todd Vegas

Brandon Mowinkel

#4 **Omaha Concordia** (21-4)
vs. #5 **Milford** (26-0)
Wednesday, March 10, 2021 • 4:00 p.m.
Pinnacle Bank Arena • Lincoln, NE

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