



Seward County Independent



STEPHANIE CROSTON/SCI Braxton Bishop, age 2, is ready to take to the fields on this John Deere tractor.

Look inside for more Fourth of July coverage.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 2024

SEWARD, NE | WWW.SEWARDINDEPENDENT.COM

First Nebraska Infantry stands guard at National Guard Museum

BY ANDRES LOPEZ reporter1@sewardindependent.com

The First Nebraska Volunteer Infantry Regiment Company A spent the night on July 3 to spend the following day speaking with guests outside of the Nebraska National Guard Museum in Seward.

The infantry is a group of civil war reenactors dedicated to providing accurate information and learning the history of this moment in America.

Having spent the night before, the reenactors shared how they loved the museum and that it's one of their favorites.

"It doesn't come alive like the movies tell you," said Paul Lahowetz, captain of the infantry. "We've spent many nights in this museum and it's always a treat."

Lahowetz said this is a way he and many others show their respect and dedication to America.

The most important thing to me is it's a way for me to show my patriotism," Lahowetz said. "I was unable to join the military, so this is how I serve."

The National Guard Museum is not their only stop along the way. Lahowetz and the rest of the reenactors said they



Reenactors from the First Nebraska Infantry, from left, Jack Eager, Gage Stermensky, Tyler Howard, Jeanette Fangmeyer, an unidentified group member and Paul Lahowetz, stand outside the National Guard Museum on July 4 after spending the night.

have traveled far and wide across the continental United States in rain, sun and even snow. Last year, the group went to a reenactment in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

With varying weather conditions this Fourth of July, Lahowetz said no weather condition is perfect for wearing thick wool. However, the solution to overheating comes by wearing a linen shirt under the wool jackets so when a breeze comes by, you get a sense of relief.

"When you're in formation and a wind comes down, you know it's coming because you hear the sighs coming down the line," Lahowetz said.

Even when the rain

began in the morning,

Lahowetz and the rest

of the infantry huddled under their tent. "There's nothing like

wet wool," Lahowetz said. Putting aside the hot or wet outfits, Lahowetz said one of his favorite parts about days like the Fourth of July is getting

to talk to people interest-

ed in knowing more.

"We're here to help teach people about the history – little things you wouldn't even think about," Lahowetz said. "Since we pretty much live it and learn it the hard way, it's fun to pass along those little trinkets."

The group is always looking for new members. Regardless of age or gender, anyone can suit up and reenact alongside them, according to Lahowetz.



Despite flooding earlier in the week, fireworks filled

the sky above Plum Creek Park to cap off the July 4

Going out with a bang

festivities.

STEPHANIE CROSTON/SCI

Griffin Jordan, 17, of Norfolk set a new personal record at 15 feet at the annual pole vault competition during the Seward Fourth of July celebration.

Pole vaulters celebrate Fourth with flight

BY ANDRES LOPEZ reporter1@sewardindependent.com

The 34th Annual Street Pole Vault Competition was held outside of Bottle Rocket Brewing Company throughout during Seward's Fourth of July celebration.

This year saw 45 pole vaulters fling themselves over the bar, competing in open class, a middle school, high school and college level class and masters class, according to event organizer and Concordia pole vaulting coach, Jason Berry.

Berry, who has been a part of the pole vaulting competition since its founding, said over the years, there have been several top-tier athletes from all over the country. With this year being an Olympic year, Berry said there were no Olympic-level pole vaulters participating in this year's event.

However, Berry said there were some of the best pole vaulters who came from places as far as Arizona and as local as Nebraska.

The winner for middle school boys was Jace Knott from Seward. For high schoolers, Lilly Nichols from Broomfield, Colorado, took first for girls and Dash Wasson from San Tan Valley, Arizona, won for boys.

In the college division, Amira Cummings from Concordia University took first place for the women and Zach Zohner, a fellow Concordia student, won first place with the men. Finally, Julius Dickmander from Crete won the open/master class division.

In total, there were seven personal records, one meet record and one division record.

Even though there were winners for this competition, most of the vaulters participated because of their

See POLE VAULT, page 3



STEPHANIE CROSTON/SCI

Bump, set, splash

Plum Creek left its banks July 2, leaving behind flooded areas like the sand volleyball court at Plum Creek Park and forcing organizers to cancel the July 4 Freedom Run. This year's route was to follow the Plum Creek Hiking/Biking Trail, but the trail was under water in places. They hope to reschedule the race for later this month.

Elected officials prep for budget, tax discussions

BY LORI SHRINER

For the Seward County Independent

Editor's note: This is the first in a two-part series.

Most Seward County residents associate summer with fun times, but county, city, school and other officials elected or hired to run tax-supported entities know summer is budget season.

Between now and October, all tax-supported entities in Nebraska will be finalizing their budgets for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

Taxpayers seeking information about the budgets can attend any of the public meetings these boards and councils schedule, but there are specific opportunities to see how the 2024-2025 budgets and tax impact are shaping up:

• Regular meetings - Starting in July, many governing boards will give final considerations to potential programs and budget lines to be included in their submitted budget.

• Public budget hearings – Those same governing boards will schedule public hearings to review their proposed budget.

• "The Postcard Hearing" – A

See BUDGET, page 3





Brady A Johnson, AAMS™ **Financial Advisor**

116 S 4th St Seward, NE 68434 402-643-6651



John R Owens, AAMS™ **Financial Advisor**

445 N 6th St Seward, NE 68434 402-643-6635



Adam R Greenquist, CRPC™

212 S 1st St Seward, NE 68434 402-643-6689

There's no time like now to plan for tomorrow.



ANDRES LOPEZ/SCI

Roger Dobesh stands outside the bandshell before a Seward Municipal Band performance. He has performed with the group for 42 years.

Making music for decades

Roger Dobesh celebrates 42 years in Seward Municipal Band

> BY ANDRES LOPEZ reporter1@sewardindependent.com

From the center back row of the bandshell, Roger Dobesh has dedicated a large chunk of his life to music, playing in various polka bands and ensembles.

However, there is one music venture that Dobesh has loved more than anything else - The Seward Mu-

For more than four decades, Dobesh has been the group's baritone saxophone player, an instrument he said he fell in love with ever since his band instructor told him to play it his sophomore year of high school.

Dobesh lived through many challenging feats. Having worked for the Department of Roads and Highway Maintenance for 37 years in David City as well as helping run his family's farm, Dobesh was always helping

"It was hectic, but you just did what you had to do," Dobesh said. "(It was) long hours, but it worked out." With a busy life, Dobesh said he turned to music as

an escape from life's monotony.

"Every spring, you need to plant. Every fall, you need to harvest. Cattle – there's always a fence to make. It's a very routine thing," Dobesh said. "Here (the Seward Municipal Band), you play different kinds of music."

With only two hours of preparation time for band members, Dobesh said he loves the thrill of having to learn new music and perform it quickly afterwards, and it has been that way ever since he joined. During his time in the band, Dobesh served as the group's president, a responsibility his daughter now takes on.

Dobesh said he was introduced to the municipal band through a friend who told him he should join. For the first two years, Dobesh played a very old and wellused horn. Later, Dobesh came across one in better condition.

"We've been together for 40 years," Dobesh said. Dobesh said that even during his time serving the country in the navy during the Vietnam War, he found ways to incorporate music into his life by picking up bits and pieces of guitar playing.

"We'd (those serving with Dobesh) get together and I teach them a little something and they'd teach me some stuff," Dobesh said.

While serving, Dobesh worked as an aviation electronic technician. He worked heavily with communications and navigation systems that, at the time, were highly secretive.

"Most of it was classified, highly top secret at that time," Dobesh said. "Now it's like caveman stuff."

Still running his family farm, but now retired, Dobesh has been able to spend more time on music and said he recognizes how much the band has grown over these last several decades.

Dobesh said when he joined they were lucky to have 30 to 35 members playing at one time and that a majority of the music was simple. However, in recent decades, the band has nearly doubled and the music has become much more complex.

The changes in the band haven't only been for the group, Dobesh said the group's changes have incorporated his family members. Dobesh gets to perform on the stage with his daughter and granddaughter – three generations altogether.

"It was something we could do as a family, at practice and here at the concert," Dobesh said. "It was just enjoyable to be able to be in the group with the kids."

Dobesh said he wants to continue pursuing his passion for the band as long as he can and as long as he feels comfortable playing.

Joanie Brecka, Dobesh's daughter and president of the Seward Municipal Band said her father inspired her to keep music in her life.

"He's the reason I'm here," Brecka said.

Seward County

Milford Times



Stay up-to-date with news, sports and community events!

ERA program keeping **Seward County homes intact**

BY HANNA CHRISTENSEN scireporter@sewardindependent.com

Assistance from the \$48 million Nebraska Emergency Rental Assistance program is being put to use throughout Seward County, and money is still up for grabs.

This is the second round of the program, funded by the 2021 American Rescue Plan

Nebraska ERA provides financial help for past-due and future rent payments and past-due utility and internet payments to income-qualified Nebraskans who experienced financial hardship during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Robin Ambroz, deputy director of programs and marketing for the Nebraska Investment Finance Authority, said it has helped people stay in their homes and avoid eviction.

"People still feel the impact of the pandemic whether it was a change in their job, whether they lost their job or whether they had to transition to a different type of job where they lost childcare, I mean, there's all sorts of things that have had kind of trickle impacts to people," Ambroz said. "I think a lot are still dealing with that, and this program has helped with bridging that gap that people are still experiencing so that they can stay in their house.'

Ambroz said more than 11,000 applications have been filed throughout Nebraska this round and NIFA had to adjust its staff and processes at the start of the program due to unexpectedly high demand.

Seward County residents filed 72 ERA program applications this round, 32 of which were duplicates, incomplete, withdrawn or denied. Thirty of the applications were from the city of Seward, 20 were from Milford and the rest of which were from the rest of the county, the Southeast Nebraska Collective said.

As of July 2, the program has paid 10 applications in Seward County.

NOTICES

"The vast majority of the people that we're working with are working and they are helping themselves. Sometimes there's an idea that it's just a handout or it's encouraging people not to work, and that really has not been the case. Our data has shown that we really are helping people help themselves."

Collena Laschanzky, executive director of the Southeast Nebraska Collective

According to NIFA, the program has distributed more than \$64,000 of assistance in Seward County, for an average of \$6,401 received per household.

The remaining applications are in the review or payment process.

Collena Laschanzky, the executive director of the Southeast Nebraska Collective, said rent payments are the most common type of assistance people request, followed closely by utility payments. Budget assessments of the household's need determine the amount of rent assistance the program provides.

Ambroz said NIFA works with community collaboratives that help people fill out their applications and act as case managers when necessary. Additionally, Legal Aid of Nebraska will help advocate for people facing eviction who are set to go to court.

The biggest impact is probably keeping people in their homes and giving hope in terms of mitigating ways to manage their budgets so that they can continue to be housed while they're working," she said. "And, keeping power on for people who came out of the winter with large bills and need to get caught up or had their hot water shut off."

Laschanzky said most people the program serves are members of the working poor, and she is grateful for the opportunity to bring hope and help into their lives.

"The vast majority of the people that we're working with are working and they are helping themselves," she said. "Sometimes there's an idea that it's just a handout or it's encouraging people not to work, and that really has not been the case. Our data has shown that we really are helping people help themselves.

She said helping with the program has been a reminder of the importance of working together to help one another. She and her colleagues have learned more about local families, deepened their connections with the communities they served and helped connect providers through the program.

If the program spends 75% of its funds this round, the remaining 25% can be put toward creating a new, affordable housing development, Ambroz said.

To qualify for assistance, applicants must have experienced a financial hardship during the COVID-19 pandemic, have an income at or below 80% of the area median income, rent their primary place of residence in Nebraska and be a legal resident. Renters in Douglas and Lancaster counties have separate assistance programs and are therefore not eligible.

Ambroz said she encourages anyone who might qualify to apply, and funds will be distributed up until September 2025 or until they run out. They do not need to be paid back. To learn more or apply, visit NebraskaRentHelp.org.

"The ERA program has helped so many families get past a really difficult time, especially in rural communities where housing is in short supply," housing navigator Sandy Nation said in a press release. "I've spoken to people who think they may not qualify, but I always say, you don't know unless you apply. The ability to get caught up on past-due payments and build a cushion for future needs relieves a lot of stress and provides a sense of stability."

CD RATE SPECIALS

5 Month

24 Month

View all specials at lincolnfed.com | 402-474-1400.



*Annual Percentage Yield (APY). Minimum \$5,000 to obtain special rates. 5 month special renews at 6 month rate. Interest paid on balances over \$0.01. Pen-alty for early withdrawal. Fees may reduce earnings. Interest rates effective as of publication date and are subject to change at any time.

DISABILITY: Live Independently

If you have a disability, you still have a right to live and work in your community, like anyone else.

The staff at the League of Human Dignity is skilled at helping you develop a program of services tailored to meet vour

unique needs. Call us today to see how we **HUMAN** can help.

LEAGUE DIGNITY



Phone 833-800-5643

TELL US WHY YOU'RE PUBLIC SCHOOL PROUD

PUBLIC Your Right



Share your story through a short video, text and/or photos telling us why you're public school proud. We'll send you a **FREE** t-shirt.

Get started at PublicSchoolProudNebraska.org



Win this 2024 GMC Sierra 1500 Pro truck, valued at \$53,500! All proceeds support

the Nebraska State Fair, through the 1868 Foundation

Raffle Tickets - \$25 each Winner drawn September 2, 2024.

Need not be present to win!

To Enter:

1. Scan QR code and enter/pay online:



2. Or clip coupon and mail with payment to:

Nebraska State Fair 1868 Foundation, PO Box 80698 Lincoln, NE 68501

1868 Foundation 2024 Truck Raffle Address Name Email. Number of Tickets Phone-Amount Enclosed Checks payable to: Nebraska State Fair 1868 Foundation

Visit www.1868foundation.org for more details!

Raffle Authorization #35-9131372

Cement handprints fill sidewalk outside Seward Memorial Library

BY ANDRES LOPEZ reporter1@sewardindependent.com

Dozens of children left handprints in cement in an area outside of the Seward Memorial Library on July 3 as a way to commemorate the highway construction and for some great memories.

Dozens of families and daycares stood in lines and started placing their hands in the cement starting around 10:30 a.m.

Each child was allowed to place one hand in the cement while a construction worker helped write down their first two initials alongside the handprint.

The hand-cementing project was sponsored by Constructors Inc. with concrete donations coming from Gerhold Concrete Company and management help from the Nebraska Department of Transportation, according to Mike Oneby, Seward's city engineer.

On top of a fun event for families approaching the Fourth of July, the cement ceremony allowed families to remember a moment as the town continues to grow.



ANDRES LOPEZ/SCI

Ben Gremel (left) watches his son, George, place his hand in the cement outside of the Seward Memorial Library on July 3 alongside those of hundreds of other kids.

"Seward continues, unlike many Nebraska cities. to grow at a nice, steady pace," Oneby said. "At this point and time, there's a lot of construction activity that has to match that growth in population."

Oneby said a moment like this between families and construction workers is also a way to remember a major part of Seward's

history in recent years the highway construction.

"This is just a nice commemoration," Oneby said. "We don't have the highway repairs but every 50 years, so when we do it, it's nice to be able to set aside a marker of some kind."

Ben Gremel of Seward brought his 2-year-old son, George, to the event and said a day like today is one he and so many parents will be able to come back and remember.

"It'll be cool to see it decades later to show him the day he was here," Gremel said. "Almost all these kids can do the same thing – decades later see their handprint and show their kids their handprint."

Pole vault

Continued from 1 passion for the sport, Berry said.

"They just want to come out and just jump," Berry said.

The day's big winner was Lilly Nichols ,who is committed to Arkansas. Nichols set a new Fourth of July record for the women's division at 14-2.5. On top of this record at the competition, this was also a personal and division record. Nichols has dual citizenship in the United States and Poland and at a sanctioned meet, she would have made the Polish Under 20 Division National Record, according to Berry.

"We will keep an eye on her future. We may see her vaulting at the Olympics some day," Berry said.

A competitor who brought smiles to the faces of onlookers was Concordia University's Mayson Ostermeyer, who jumped 15 feet while dressed as movie character Forrest Gump.

"Not only can Forrest run, but he can also fly," Berry said.

The most important part of the day was getting to see the vaulters' faces light up after doing what they love, according to Berry.



PAGE 3

STEPHANIE CROSTON/SCI Griffin Jordan focuses on the bar during the pole vault July 4 in Seward.

"During the event, seeing the smiles on the faces of the kids and having fun and the community is the best part," Berry said.
Berry said he is

thankful for all the help in preparation for this all-day event.

"A special thanks to the Seward Fourth of July Committee for allowing us to yet again pole vault on the streets of Seward, to Concordia University for the continued support through the use of the landing mats and equipment and a massive thank you to all the volunteers that helped in the set-up and the teardown of the equipment and also helping to run the event,"Berry said. "Without them, we could not do this every year."

Budget

Continued from 1 state-required joint public hearing for entities exceeding their allowable growth – a percentage based on the increase in total property values from the prior year – that must be scheduled and publicized by a mailing between Sept. 14 and Sept. 23 by County Clerk Sherry Schweitzer. Each entity involved must have a representative attend to present their budget plans.

• Final public budget hearing – The Seward County Board of Examiners' (comprised of the Seward County Board of Commissioners) will schedule a final public hearing on the 2024-25 budgets and the tax rates required to support them.

Having been through a few budget cycles, Seward County Commission Chair Misty Ahmic, Commissioner Raegan Hain and Schweitzer, said individual taxpayers are often focused on the total tax rate they pay. To impact that, individuals could attempt to lower their own property valuation and assessment but that happens months prior to the public budget hearings.

Seward County Commissioners anticipate the dozen or so tax assessment protests they received prior to the June 30 protest deadline will be heard during their July 9 and 16 meetings.

Taxing entities discussing budgets now

Ahmic and Hain also encourage taxpayers interested in the varied entities' budgets to start learning about their situations and timelines before the public hearings. The two commissioners have been compiling a list of public entities who are scheduling time in their public meetings to talk about budget items.

The information is listed here by month, but residents should confirm dates, times and locations in the places where these boards usually post their meeting notices to comply with the Nebraska Open

Often they list meeting schedules and agenda on their websites. Budget discussions are anticipated on these dates:

• July - Seward County Commissioners, 16th and 23rd; Seward County Ag Society, 15th; Upper Big Blue Natural Resources District Board, 18th; Milford City Council, 22nd and 23rd; Pleasant Dale Village Board, third week in July; and Seward City Council, July 30

 August – Goehner Village Board, 6th; **Educational Service Unit** #6, 14th; Lower Platte South Natural Resources District Board, Aug. 14' Milford School Board, second meeting; and Seward School Board, last week in August

• September – Garland Village Board budget hearing, 3rd; Utica Village Board, 9th; Seward School Board public hearing, 9th; and Beaver Crossing Village Board,

The Bee Village Board, Centennial School Board, Cordova Village Board, Rural Fire District, Staplehurst Village Board dates were not yet available. This list does not include the Seward Airport Authority, cemeteries, special tax funds for buildings and projects, and other taxing entities that may be specific to a taxing district.

School districts, cities and the county budgets are typically the largest items on taxpayers' tax statements.

Ahmic said the county board has asked its de partments to target zero increases in their proposed budgets for 2024-2025. The board has been reviewing program and department budget proposals during recent regular meetings and will begin looking at its total budget picture on July 16.

Seward City Manager Greg Butcher said the city's tax process is somewhat routine, beginning with the council's public work session on July 30 followed by regular and special meetings to discuss budget items as necessary.

At this point, he anticipates discussion of the city's 1- and 6-Year Plan for improvements at the Aug. 6 city council meeting and further discussion of budget details Aug. 20, but other meetings may be added to devote time to topics specified by city council members.

The city's public hearing date for the budget is set for Sept. 3, with a second meeting to handle any changes following that hearing tentatively set for Sept. 17.

"You have to anticipate that you are not going to show up and approve everything," Butcher said.

Likewise, he said Mayor Josh Eickmeier calls a special meeting in the days following the "postcard hearing" to finalize and adopt the budget to be sent on to the state.

Butcher said it's difficult to pick one meeting to attend if a taxpayer is interested in a cert category of expenditures. From July to September, some part of the budget will be on council agen-

Timeline complex for school budgets

Seward School Superintendent Josh Fields said school district budgets and the budget-setting timeline create some challenges.

The district's fiscal year starts Sept. 1, but the budget being set for the 2024-2025 year will be approved after that and the district operates six months in arrears as the tax cash flow comes in.

That means when they discuss projects and maintenance for budget items, they are projecting a year ahead. Salary and insurance budget items are discussed much earlier than summer as required by the state.

Last year, because of state changes in per-pupil funding, the Seward district was able to lower its property tax needs by about \$2.1 million, which includes the amount generated the previous year and the amount of increase that would have been necessary.

"Our process has always been that we have a budget meeting toward the end of August," Fields said. A budget hearing is scheduled for Sept. 9, but like the city, they plan to submit their final budget to the state after the "postcard hearing."

it so difficult," Fields said. In addition to the pub-

lic meetings and hearings, Fields said his budget presentation is posted online under the district's annual report section.

"We try to be as transparent as possible," Fields

Based on the Nebraska Department of Education timelines, school districts begin consideration of budget-related items in January.

• By Jan. 31, school districts must identify the amendments due for general, depreciation or employee benefit funds to be included in their budget authority.

• On March 1 the state certifies budget authority and the certified percentage school districts may hold in reserves.

• By April 15, the

district must announce whether it anticipates a reduction in the workforce (RIF) for the following year.

• In mid-June school districts receive state forms for the next years year's budget proposals before it joins other county taxing entities in the budget hearing timeline. Next week: State legis-

lation and how property tax rates are determined.







Fri-Thurs: 6:30 p.m.

Sun: 3:30 p.m. ★ STARTING FRI., JULY 19 ★

TWISTERS

Despicable Me 4

Fri-Thurs: 7:00 p.m. Sun: 4:00 p.m.



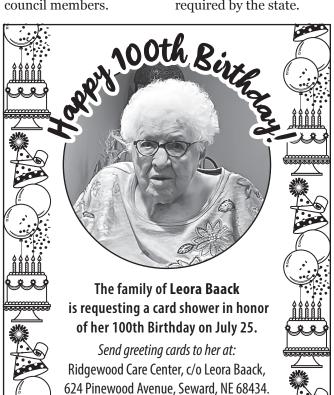






JULY 10 - Hamburger Stand Hosted by: Firecracker Dance Group

See our Facebook page for other available items. PLEASE CALL 402-641-4670 FOR VENDOR INFO.





Janitorial Services Commercial / Residential Carpet Cleaning

THE NAME TO TRUST FOR CARPET CLEANING

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



2713 Pine Street • Seward, NE • 402.499.9509 Call or Text for Appointment

JULY 10, 2024

Parade looks different from inside

BY STEPHANIE CROSTON scroston@sewardindependent.com

I got a new look at the Fourth of July parade this

Normally, I'm on a street corner taking pictures of the entries and trying to avoid the political stickers. Why avoid the stickers? Because I'm with the media and am supposed to be neutral. If I'm sporting stickers, it appears that I'm supporting one candidate or another.

But I digress.

This year, I was actually in the parade. The Fourth of July Committee chose me as the Community Service Award winner, which meant I was a parade entry.

The night they announced the award, I called my mom and asked if she wanted to be in the parade with me. She agreed.

So there we were, sitting on the back of a convertible driven by Shane and Ayden Martin, cruising down the parade route waving at people.

To those of you who cheered and shouted hello as we drove by, thank you. If I missed saying hi, sorry about that. There were a lot of faces going past, and I might have missed you.

Unfortunately for the kids along the parade route, we didn't have any candy to throw out. Some of the kids took steps toward the car (not a very safe idea, by the way) and asked for candy. I'm sorry



STEPHANIE CROSTON/SCI

Mom (Elaine) and I wait for the start of the 2024 July 4 parade.

I didn't have any. I wanted some, too.

I'd never been in a parade before. Well, that's not entirely true. When I was in high school, our band marched in a couple, and I was in the Lions Band my junior summer and we marched. But that's more of a workout than just a walk.

I played French horn and that's what I marched with. That instrument is not light, nor is it easy to carry. Every time the drum major whistled the cadence to play, I groaned (not out loud, though) and my back groaned and my shoulders screamed.

Again, I digress. I guess I can now say I know what it's like to be a celebrity, to have people shouting your name as you when my brother-in-law

go past. Usually when people are shouting my name, it's because they want me to take their picture or they have a story idea for me and want to get my attention.

It was fun to see the parade from a different perspective. It didn't take as long as I thought it would to go down the parade route – only about 30 minutes. Usually, I'm at the parade for an hour or more. Granted, we were at the beginning of the entries so we didn't have to wait to get started.

It was nice to have Mom along. I had someone I could talk to, and I'm glad she was able to come up. This was her second Fourth in Seward, I think. The first was 2002 Ken was included with the Nebraska's Friend Award winners. That year, the FDNY and other first responders were recognized, and Ken was an FDNY membr. He got to ride in the parade that year.

Anyway, I wanted to thank the committee for choosing me. Thanks to Shane and Ayden for being great drivers (Ayden got a bunch of shout-outs, too, as we cruised along). Thanks to all of you who cheered for me.

And now, it's back to behind the camera for me. I'm headed off to the Liberation Tour for the next two weeks. Watch our Facebook page and my blog (www.blogspot. com/stephtriestoplay) for updates on where we are and what we're doing.

OBITUARY

Robert "Bobby" V. Kuhl Sept. 23, 1955 – June 30, 2024

Robert "Bobby" Vernon Kuhl was born Sept. 23, 1955, to Elmer and Connie (Nichols) Kuhl in Denver,

A service date and time are pending. Arrangements by Volzke Funeral Home.

REAL ESTATE

Information taken from records filed with the Seward County

June 28 – July 2 Jeane Loos to Joshua R. Loos and Amanda M. Loos, Fractional Tax Lots 159, 157, 158 and 322, west of creek and east of Highway 34, NW1/4 SE1/4 21-11-3. DS exempt

Dylan T. Owen and Jacy L. Owen to Conner Riley and Joanna Daigle, Lot 8, Block 3, Laune's Addition to Milford. DS \$540

R & M Hotovy, Inc., to Jayne A. Petersen, trustee, Lot 9, Block 1, Seward Lumber Subdivision (Phase III) in Seward. DS \$742.50

Russell G. Hans and Joanne Hans, Bradley A. Hans and Tiffanie Hans, Pamela Hochstein and Glen Hochstein, Janelle Schut-

tler and Mark Schuttler and Brenda Janak and Christopher Janak to Trenton Beckmann and Sara K. Beckmann, a tract of land in the SE1/4 SE1/4 15-11-2. DS \$877.50

Zachariah L. Klenke to Klenke Farms, LLC, SE1/4 SW1/419-11-4. DS exempt

Acorn Properties, LLC, to James D. Hood, N1/2 Lots 4-6, Block 11, Wright's First Addition to Utica. DS

Travis J. Fougeron and Kendra K. Fougeron to Tyler D. Gingerich and Elya Gingerich, Lots 30-32, Block D, Johnson's Addition to Milford. DS \$573.75

Bryce A. Nolde and Amanda L. Nolde to Travis H. Maxson, a tract of land in the E1/2 NW1/4 2-11-4. DS \$2,666.25

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Information taken from records filed with the Seward County clerk.

June

Rebecca Reiter, Staplehurst, and Dustin Burton, Staple-

Nicole Carter, Lincoln, and Matthew Hurt, Lincoln Avery Lewis, Seward, and Isaac Rolf, Seward Abigail Preuss, Seward, and Owen Augustine, Costa Mesa, California

Rylee Haecker, Seward, and Dominic Philippi, Seward Jill Dlugosh, Utica, and Bradley Ueckert, Utica Breauna Derr, Beaver Crossing, and Jade Blizek, Beaver Crossing

'You're killing me, Andres'

The most nonathletic person reviews "The Sandlot"

> BY ANDRES LOPEZ reporter1@sewardindependent.com

During one of our meetings for the paper, my editor, Amy, asked if I wanted to cover a baseball game.

As an intern, you would expect to accept this assignment and move right ahead and do a deep dive into the game to understand all the rules, right?

Wrong.

I am more than willing to try any type of story, no matter how difficult, but sports stories are where I have to draw the line.

In high school, I never attended a single sporting event because I was too busy with homework and every other organization I was a part of. Plus, I thought I was too cool to attend at the time and would much rather read insufferable poetry collections and listen to a playlist chock full of boygenius and Lana Del Rey.

The only reason my friends would catch me at sporting events was because I had to run the concession stands and wanted a free candy bar by the end of night.

So, to say my knowledge of sports is limited would be an understatement. I know nothing.

Jokingly, Amy said it was basically like "The Sandlot." That would be an excellent reference for me,



To be frank ... Andrés López reporter1@sewardindependent.com

however, I have never seen this cult classic and I never anticipated I would need to for an internship.

In order to broaden my horizons, and become a little more knowledgeable on the game of baseball. I was assigned to watch this beloved movie.

Following my watchthrough, I learned plenty on the basis of friendship, and just a bit on baseball. I can now pinpoint where left of center is and know that throwing baseballs is like throwing newspapers, according to Benny.

However, I learned true friendship can be more powerful than a swing that rips the leather off a baseball.

Even though I haven't found myself getting chased down by a beast or faking a drowning out of desperation, I have helped and been helped by friends in tricky situations.

Honestly, you could switch out baseball with a plethora of things and this movie would still work with its general themes. Friendship is not really a groundbreaking concept.

Now, I don't mean to hate on something so many people hold

near and dear to their hearts, but I feel like this movie embraced that 90s cheesiness with the idea that "maybe the real treasure was the friends we made along the way."

One thing I caught myself thinking about the whole movie was when some of these kids were going to shut up, to be completely honest. It felt as if nearly every 30 seconds all nine boys were yelling the same thing toward Smalls.

Like, we get it, Smalls needs to throw the ball back, but you don't need every character to say it out loud for me. In the time frame it took Smalls to register what they were saying, I had already won the World Series and became a baseball historian.

Putting aside cheesiness and general annoyance from the characters, I still did enjoy pieces of this movie.

For a movie nearing two hours, I found it to fly by quickly, but with a narrative that made sense. The plot was fun to follow, and I loved how it had a kid-like vision with certain things, such as how they thought the dog was a beast and the dialogue between Ham and Phillips when their two teams played each other.

Although my lack of sports knowledge killed my editor, "The Sandlot" did not kill me, nor did it add any time to my lifespan. I give this movie a solid 6/10 despite what any baseball lover would like to tell me.

TRAFFIC

Information taken from records filed with the Seward County

June 24 – 28

Michael A. Leibbrandt. 30, Sprague, violate stop or yield sign, \$75 fine.

Braidan M. Guerra, 23. Milford, following too close, \$50 fine; no operator's license/waiverable, \$75 fine.

Julie E. Anderson, 56, Littleton, Colorado, speeding 11-15 mph interstate, \$75 fine.

Yao Zhang, 41, Las Vegas, Nevada, speeding 36+

mph interstate, \$300 fine; careless driving, \$100 fine.

Bertino Martinez Izquierdo, 45, Lincoln, speeding 16-20 mph county/state, \$125 fine; no operator's license/waiverable, \$75 fine Eli S. Mejilla, 21, Lin-

coln, speeding 16-20 mph interstate, \$125 fine. Katie E. Svoboda, 35,

Friend, speeding 21-35 mph interstate, \$200 fine; no motorcycle operator's license, \$75 fine.

Zackary A. Parra, 17, Seward, speeding 6-10 mph municipal, \$25 fine.

BIRTH

Luebbe

Tate James Luebbe was born to Troy and Kaylene (Harms) Luebbe of Utica on June 8, 2024.

He was born at Bryan East Hospital in Lincoln and weighed 7 lbs., 5 oz., and was 20.5 inches long.

His grandparents are John Luebbe of Utica, Sharon Luebbe of Seward, and Ray and Lynn Harms of Dodge. Great-grandparents are Harold and Joan Luebbe of Utica.

Tate was welcomed



Tate James Luebbe

home by his brother, Jack Luebbe, age 2.

STAFF DIRECTORY

	J.7 (1.1 Z.11(1.2	
Kevin L. Zadina, pub	olisher/owner	kevinzadina@sewardindependent.com
Nichole Javorsky, a	dvertising manager	nichole@sewardindependent.com
Amy Hausman, edito	or	amy@friendsentinel.com
Pam Callahan, crete	office manager	creteofficemgr@gmail.com
Stephanie Croston,	seward co. sports editor	scroston@sewardindependent.com
Hanna Christensen,	reporter	scireporter@sewardindependent.com
Craig Jones, reporte	r	craig@sewardindependent.com
Jade Elder, circulation	on/office assistant	jade@sewardindependent.com
Sarah Stinson, legal	notices/bookkeeping	office@sewardindependent.com
Kaitlyn Dallmann, m	arketing director	kaitlyn@sewardindependent.com
Paula Miller, multi-m	edia sales executive	paula@sewardindependent.com
Hayli Frosheiser, gra	aphic designer	creative@sewardindependent.com
Kennedy Goldsmith	, graphic designer	kennedy@sewardindependent.com
Lucas Miller, page d	esigner	lucas@sewardindependent.com
Bill Gadberry, distrib	oution	-



Seward County Independent

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

Postage paid at Seward, NE 68434 Published once a week Owned by Sweet Tea Media, LLC

USPS 491-500

SUBSCRIPTIONS

\$48.00..... Seward County

\$48.00. Adjoining counties (York,

Lancaster, Saline, Butler, and Saunders)

\$62.00.....Statewide

\$65.00..... Out of State

A weekly newspaper published each Wednesday at 129 S. 6th St., Seward, NE 68434 by Sweet Tea Media. 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 paula@sewardindependent. com, the circulation dept. at jade@ sewardindependent.com.

Office hours 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday. Normal deadline is noon Friday.

Five initiative petitions returned for signature verification for the November general election ballot

The Nebraska Secretary of State's Office received five initiative petitions for signature verification. The deadline to return completed initiative petitions for signature verification was July 3.

The graphic shows a list of initiative petitions filed and returned to the Nebraska Secretary of State's Office.

Five additional initiative petitions were authorized for circulation but were not returned for signature verification. Referendum petitions are not due back until July 17.

"Nebraska law outlines a thorough process for verifying signatures on petition pages," Secretary Bob Evnen said. "County election commissioners and county clerks will be vigilant about ensuring each signature accepted will be that of a Nebraskan currently registered to vote in our state.'

Petitions seeking to



create a constitutional amendment needed to collect valid signatures from 10% of registered Nebraska voters. Peti-

tions seeking to create a new state law needed to collect valid signatures from 7% of registered Nebraska voters.

Every petition needed to meet the distribution requirement - valid signatures from at least 5% of registered voters in 38 counties. The percentages will be based off a voter registration list processed by the Nebraska Secretary of State's Office on July 5.

It will take several weeks to verify signatures. The Secretary of State's Office will paginate each petition page and distribute petitions to county election offices. Upon receiving petition pages, county election offices will have 40 days to verify signatures.

Once the signature verification process is completed, county election offices will send petition pages back to the Secretary of State's office. The Secretary of State's office will total the number of valid signatures and determine if constitutional and statutory requirements were met.

Troopers arrest LRC escapee after foot pursuit on coal train

Troopers with the Nebraska State Patrol, with assistance from Butler and Seward county deputies, have arrested a man who had escaped from the Lincoln Regional Center on July 2.

At approximately 7:15 a.m. July 4, the **Butler County Sheriff's** Office reported that they believed Justin Daro was present at a residence in Ulysses. About 10 minutes later, deputies reported that Daro had left the residence and fled as they attempted to make contact.

Butler County deputies pursued Daro's vehicle as he fled into Seward County, where the vehicle became disabled near a railroad crossing just west of Tamora, south of

Highway 34.

Daro then climbed onto a coal train and began running on top of the train cars, which were loaded with coal. The train was stopped. An NSP K9 was deployed onto the train and Daro jumped onto another stopped train on an adjacent track.

A trooper then deployed a bean bag round, which brought Daro to a stop. Daro continued to resist arrest, but he was taken into custody on top of the coal train. Seward County deputies assisted as well.

Daro was medically cleared at the hospital in Seward and has been lodged in Lancaster County Corrections. Charges are pending.

HAPPENINGS

JULY FUNDRAISER: The Milford Senior Center will host its July fundraiser from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, July 10. Sloppy joe sandwiches, salads and desserts will be available for a \$7 minimum contribu-

SCIENCE ADVENTURE WEEK: The

Seward Memorial Library will host Potions Between the Pages at 1 p.m. Wednesday, July 10, for grades K-5, no registration or limit. Participants will make their own potions with the help of science teacher, Laura Goracke.

JULY 11

SCIENCE ADVENTURE WEEK: Name coding and exploding sticks will be offered at 1 p.m. Thursday, July 11, at the Seward Memorial Library for grades K-5, no registration or limit. Learn how to code your own name into beads and build popsicle stick blasters. Practice releasing them and see if you can hit your target.

JULY 11 AND 17

FREE MOVIE: The Seward Memorial Library will show motion pictures on Thursday, July 11, and Wednesday, July 17, both at 1 p.m. Feel free to bring snacks and a drink. Visit sewardlibrary.org for more information.

COUNTY REPUBLICANS HOLD MONTHLY MEETINGS: The Seward

County Nebraska Republicans invite any registered Republicans to attend monthly meetings on the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. (subject to change). Meeting locations may vary. Each month, meeting information and location will be posted on their Facebook page at www. facebook.com/SewardNEGOP and their website at Seward-GOP.org.

INVITATION TO MEET AT THE

GATHERING TABLE: Make plans to meet at The Gathering Table (Milford Mennonite Fellowship Hall at 920 F St). The table is set on the second Thursday of each month for this complementary meal. Come anytime between 5:30 and 7 p.m.

JULY 13

FUN RUN: The Malcolm Cross Country team will host the Brie Walklin Fun Run Saturday, July 13, at Larry Murray Park in Malcolm starting at 9:30 a.m. Entry fee is \$15 for adults and \$8 for kids for a one-mile walk/run or a three-mile run. Proceeds go to the Breast Cancer Research Foundation.

JULY 14

POTATO BAKE: The Utica Senior Center will host a potato bake Sunday, July 14, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

SEWARD MUNICIPAL BAND: The band will provide music at its weekly concert at 7:30 p.m. at

the bandshell.

CONSTRUCTION ADVENTURE WEEK:

There will be a LEGO™ Brick Challenge at the Seward Memorial Library with the Lincoln Children's Museum at 1 p.m. Tuesday, July 16, with a repeat session at 2 p.m. There is a limit of 25 participants in each time slot, which will be enforced. Registration is required. Only sign up a K-fifth grader if they will be available to attend. A waiting list will be maintained if needed. Notify the library if your plans change

SUPPORT GROUP MEETING: The

quarterly support group meeting for diabetics and their family members will be Tuesday, July 16, at 5:30 p.m. in Memorial Hospital's meeting room A. The event will feature a round table discussion with Brenda Roth, Diabetic Educator. Bring your questions and share solutions about diabetes management. RSVP by July 12 by calling (402) 646-4667 or register online at www. mhcs.us. Enter through the hospital front doors and take the elevator or stairs by the Specialty Clinic to the third floor meeting room.

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP TO

MEET: The Seward County Alzheimer's Care Givers Support Group will meet at Kinship Pointe the third Tuesday of every month. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. If you are interested in attending, contact Cass at (402) 258-3700.

JULY 18 CONSTRUCTION ADVENTURE

WEEK: Big Truck Exploration is planned at 1 p.m. Thursday, July 18, at the Seward Memorial Library parking lot for families of all ages. There is no registration or limit.

CAR CLUB: The next meeting of Seward Good Life Car Club will be at 6 p.m. Tuesday, July 18, at City Slickers in Dorchester. If you want to cruise to Dorchester, meet at the east side of the Seward square at 5:30 p.m.

ONGOING

G.I. CUP OF JOE: A veterans coffee will be every Wednesday from 7:30 - 9:30-ish at the Spare Time Lounge in Seward.

PEACHES AND PEARS: The Utica Lions are offering peaches and pears for sale. Peaches will be sold at 20 pounds for \$52 or 10 pounds for \$28. Pears are available at 20 pounds for \$40 or 10 pounds for \$22. To order, contact a Utica Lions club member or call (402) 641-5537, (402) 643-1150 or (402) 641-1122 before Saturday, July 29.

MUSEUM OPEN: The Seward County Historical Society Museum is open Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sundays from 1:30 – 5 p.m.

REHEARSALS CONTINUE: Rehearsals for the Seward Municipal Band's 137th season continue on Thursdays from 7 - 9 p.m. at the Borland Center on the Concordia University campus throughout the summer. The band presents weekly concerts on Sundays at 7:30 p.m. at the bandshell.

OREGON TRAIL ESCAPE ROOM:

During June and July, embark on the adventure of a lifetime with your wagon train in our Oregon Trail Escape Room at the Seward Memorial Library.

Participants must RSVP and sign up has begun. Time slots vary so call or come by the library to register. It is recommended that children 9 and under have an adult with them, but all ages are welcome.

READING COMPETITION: The annual Seward/York adult reading competition has begun. Each summer, the two towns compete to see who can read the most books. Patrons of all ages can participate. Read books and win prizes throughout the summer. Each person will have until July 26 to read as many books as possible.

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY: The

Seward County Genealogical Society is open Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Fridays from 3 – 5 p.m. and the first Saturday of the month from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. or by appointment. A business meeting is the third Thursday of the month at 10 a.m. The organization is located at 233 Jackson Ave., Seward. Phone (402) 400-5250.

READING TOGETHER: This summer's All Seward Reads Together novel will be "The Reading List" by Sara Nisha Adams. Join Seward as we all read this heartwarming story about an unlikely friendship developed through a chance encounter at a library and a lost reading list found in the back of a book. Patrons will get a chance to meet and discuss the book at the end of the summer.

SCAVENGER HUNT: Pick up an Adventure Scavenger Hunt sheet through July 26 at the Seward Memorial Library to ioin this quest featuring iconic landmarks from around the world. Travel to Seward businesses to fill in your passport to far-off places. Return your sheet to the library to enter a prize drawing. The scavenger hunt is open to all ages.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, AL-ANON MEETINGS: Alcoholics Anony-

mous groups will meet at the following times: Mondays at noon at Living Word Lutheran Church in Seward; Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. at Faith Lutheran Church in Seward; Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. at Living Word Lutheran; Grateful

at the Living Word Lutheran Church in Seward; Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. at the Bellwood Mennonite Church in Milford; Fridays at 7:30 p.m. at Living Word Lutheran; Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. at Living Word Lutheran; and Sundays at 9 a.m. at Living Word Lutheran in Seward and 7 p.m. at Faith Lutheran Church in Seward. Al-Anon meetings are scheduled at 7:30 p.m. Thursdays at the Bellwood Mennonite Church in Milford and at 7:30 p.m. Fridays at Living Word Lutheran in Seward.

CHAIR YOGA: A 15-25 minute Chair Yoga class will be offered at the Utica Senior Center on Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. Contact the Senior Center at (402) 534-3435 for more information.

COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP: Come for coffee and fellowship Monday through Friday from 8 to 11 a.m. at the Milford Senior Center. Coffee, tea, pastries and other treats are served.

LUNCH SERVED AT MILFORD SENIOR CENTER: Lunch is served Mon-

day through Friday at noon at the Milford Senior Center. one day in advance by calling or leaving a message at (402) 761-3367. Meals for seniors ages 60 and older have a suggested contribution of \$7 for regularly scheduled meals. Meals for guests under age 60 are \$8. All are welcome.

YOGA CLASSES: Different yoga classes are offered weekly at the Milford Senior Center, led by Kelly Haney. Offerings include: Adaptive Yoga on Mondays at 9 a.m.; Assisted Yoga on Wednesdays at 9 a.m.; and Next Level Yoga on Fridays at 9 a.m.

TAI CHI CLASSES: Join Tai Chi classes on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. at the Milford Senior Center. Enhance your muscle strength, flexibility, balance and aerobic conditioning.

TOPS MEETS WEEKLY: TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) meets weekly on Thursdays at the Living Word Church, 1300 Hillcrest, south door. TOPS is a weight management support group. Weigh-in begins at 11:15 a.m. and the meetings are from noon to 12:30 p.m. The initial



Centennial BOE sets improvements in motion

BY STEPHANIE CROSTON scroston@sewardindependent.com

If you're a Centennial Broncos fan, it will cost you a little more to get into activities in 2024-25.

At its May meeting, the Centennial School Board approved increases in ticket prices. Single game admission will be \$5 for students and \$7 for parents. A year-long pass for an individual will be \$65.

- approved a bid of \$9,829 from No Swett Fencing Company in Columbus to install new fencing on the east side of the football field;
- approved a bid of approximately \$10,000 from Prime Secured for door controls and monitoring
- updated the signers on the accounts at First Bank of Utica;
- approved the 2024-25 Colt's Corral agreement that includes the use of the small gym, cafeteria, kitchen, playground and parking lot for the supervised before- and after-school program;
- at its May meeting, accepted a bid of \$26,600 from Midwest Sound and Lighting to improve the acoustics in the west gym;
- · at its April meeting, approved the addition of junior high girls' wrestling for the 2024-25 school year.

REUNION

Fritz reunion

The Fritz reunion will be Sunday, July 28, at 12:30 p.m. at the 4-H Cottage on the Seward County fairgrounds. Remember William, Anna, Walter, Maria, Mandy, Alvina, Alma, Emil, Albert, Ernie, and Iven? Your grandparents and great-grandparents? Let's get together as they did every summer and have some fun. Bring you family's table service, a main dish and a salad or a desert.

Drive safely in construction zones!





A Legion Rider lets his engines roar.





Seward Mayor Joshua Eickmeier waves at onlookers.



Miss Nebraska 2024, Raechel Warren, front, and Miss Nebraska's Teen 2024, Janae Harris, wave to people along the

Awards announced for celebration's Grand Parade

The 2024 Seward Fourth of July Grand Parade is in the history books, and the winners of the parade have been announced.

The Seward July Fourth Celebration slogan was "Always Ready-Always There," honoring the First Responders-Law Enforcement, Fire Fighters and the National Guard.

The top award, the Best of Show, was awarded to H & S Plumbing of Seward for their creative and colorful float. The float was designed and created by Brian and Allyson Krohe of H & S Plumbing, their staff, friends and family. The Best of Show Trophy is sponsored by the Seward Fourth of July Celebration.

Other winners included:

· Cecil Drew Memorial Trophy, best horse drawn unit— Stava's Cross Creek Percheron team by Dr. Cori Stava.

· Mel Bolte Memorial Trophy, best live music entry-City of Seward Municipal Band.

· Dessalee Rouselle Memorial Trophy, the People's Choice Award—Anderson Constrution of Seward and their World's Largest Firework.

· Luke Mohatt Memorial Trophy, best youth entry-The Middle Creek Mavericks 4-H Club of Seward County.

· Jim Orr Memorial Award, most patriotic entry—Cutting It Close Lawn Care with their giant Statue of Liberty.

· Florence Keller Memorial

Award, best business award-Alps Bark Park of Seward.

 Mary/Margaret Sweasey Memorial Award, best civic entry-Beatrice Homestead Monument.

• Merv Zillig Memorial Award, best horse unit in parade—Seward County Sheriff's

• Mayor's Award, best unit following the theme "Always Ready, Always There"-The Nebraska National Guard's "Weasel" that save many during the blizzards of '48 and '49.

· Dorothea Bek Memorial Award, best marching or walking unit—The Seward High Marching Band and Flags.

 Chairman's Award, the judge's favorite-The Wilber Czech Alumni Band of Wilber. The Parade Awards feature the new Seward Branding Logo

and are all at the Nebraska National Guard Museum this year, as the Civic Center is closed. They can be picked up Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Parade Chairman for 2024 is Donna Hendrickson of Seward at the Seward County Chamber and Development Partnership offices. She was assisted by Collin Hain, Jonathan Jank, Tarah Thurber, Tim Thurber, Miley Thurber, Natalie and Jacob

Taylor and Jordan Walton. Judges for the parade were Melanie Nutt of Cozad and Teresea Wilson of Lincoln, with Riley Nuttleman serving as the

judges' coordinator. The parade Emcees were Gerald "Jerry" Meyer and Clark Kolterman of Seward.

The parade results will be listed on the Seward Fourth of July website at julyfourthseward.com

Members of the Seward High **Future Business Leaders of** America served as the parade banner carriers, chaired by Jena Eberspacher.

Steve Hambek of Seward coordinated the parade review facilities and Joe Ruzicka of Seward Electronics coordinated the public address system.





ANDRES LOPEZ/SCI

ABOVE LEFT, Jill Beisel, 50, of Seward won the bubble gum-blowing competition and ABOVE RIGHT, Steve Balboni from Melbourne, Australia, took the win for the collegiate age group in the pie eating contest, both during the annual Fourth of July celebration in Seward.

Coffin takes top honors for pie, Biesel for gum

Brian Coffin, the winner in the Seniors Division of the Seward Rotary Club Apple Pie Eating Contest, was named the State Apple Pie Eating Champion for 2024.

The annual event was held at the Seward Bandshell on July 4. He was presented with the new State Apple Pie Eating Champion Trophy. The contest was sponsored by

the Seward Rotary Club. Division winners were Kids/ Pre-Teen Stella Mueller of Seward, Men's Division Dan Dobesh of Denver, Colorado (originally Seward), Teenager Division Josh Keller of Seward, "Real" Women Division

(Adult Women)Kayla Arneson of Lincoln, Collegiate Steve Balboni of Melborne, Australia, and Open Class Mark Arneson of Lincoln, and Brian Coffin-Overland Park,

The State of Nebraska Bubble Gum Bubble Blowing Championship was also decided at the Bandshell on July 4, with a contest sponsored by the Seward Rotary Club for all ages. There were three divisions, Pre-Teen, Teen and Adult. The state champion was Jill Beisel of Seward, who won the Adult Division.

Preliminary winners included

PreTeen Division Eleanor Curns of Omaha, Teen Ager Division Rose Laffa of Marysville, Kansas, and Adult Division-Jill Beisel of Seward.

The contests were sponsored by the Seward Rotary and judges were Rotarians Dr. Matt Dominy, Doug Gremel and Anita Foor. They were assisted by Rotarians Greg Zabka, Shelly Nitz and Rick Gray. Rotarian Jessica Kolterman served as the Scribe and Rotarian Clark Kolterman was the emcee. Helpers included Jocelyn Gray, Linda Kolterman, Dixie Zabka and Riley Nuttleman.



ANDRES LOPEZ/SCI

It's an Explosion!

LUXE Dance Academy's group, LUXE Explosion performs a contemporary clogging piece for the audience at the bandshell during Seward's Fourth of July celebration. Kiley Conway, the director of the studio, said its dancers have been coming to the Fourth festivities for 40 years. "Clogging and sharing that with the community has always been one of our favorite things," Conway said. "Everyone is so friendly, positive. We just love the atmosphere and it's super fun to be a part of it."

Fourth of July and Seward art appear in **Red Path for festivities**

BY ANDRES LOPEZ reporter1@sewardindependent.com

Work from various artists was put on display at Red Path Gallery and Tasting Room to commemorate this year's Fourth of July Theme - Always Ready-Always

Owner and director Alison Koch said many of the pieces on display for this year's Fourth of July festivities revolve around Seward and Fourth of July imagery. She also said there is plenty of art created by first responders that is able to be purchased.

Some of the highlighted art pieces pointed out by Koch were from Pam Apley, Bill Shaffer and the Lincoln Artists'

Koch said that Apley's work consists of layered fabric mosaics that are later painted. All of the work done on the pieces is done freehand. One piece Apley has done is artwork of the Seward County Courthouse. Apley, a Lincoln native, has had her work on display at Red Path Gallery for several years, according to Koch.

Another artist's work that Koch suggested looking into was Shaffer's. For this year, Shaffer, also of Lincoln, made a collection of pieces depicting various locations within Seward. A lot of this work is done with pastels and uses various

forms of mixed media.

"He has other of these graphic design prints that he's done," Koch said. "He has some of McCook, Lincoln – places people would know and recognize."

Hailing from several artists, the back room of the gallery was set aside for the Lincoln Artists' Guild.

This section of art is usually put inside the Civic Center, according to Koch, however, with it being under construction, it was moved to the gallery.

This art is being voted on and the winner will get to have their own show in the gallery in August, Koch said.

With the gallery being a potential stop for any Fourth-goer, Koch said she saw an even split for art sales and beverage sales. Koch said that in years past, she's noticed an increase in people who call asking about art for sale days after the Fourth of July has ended.

Even after caravans of out-of-staters make their way out of Seward County following the Fourth, Koch said she can guarantee that all the art in the gallery comes directly from people living in the state.

"The cool thing about our gallery is they're all Nebraska artists, so when you're buying from Red Path, you're getting truly a local piece of original artwork," Koch said.



ANDRES LOPEZ/SCI

Sue King admires the art of various artists, including mosaic fabric art of the Seward Courthouse done by Pam Apley inside the Red Path Gallery and Tasting Room.

COMMUNIT MNECTIONS











402-643-2971 www.mhcs.us



508 N 6TH ST., SEWARD 402-646-2020





402-643-3644 734 Seward St. Seward, NE







402-643-3602 | jonesbank.com Seward | Milford | Valparaiso







938 Seward St. 402-643-6262



pacnsaverx.com





COURTESY PHOTO

The Raw Nerve played at the bandshell on June 8 to kick off this year's 5th Street Summer Music Series.

5TH STREET SUMMER MUSIC SERIES RETURNS

BY HANNA CHRISTENSEN

scireporter@sewardindependent.com

Seward's 5th Street Summer Music Series is back after rave reviews following its 2023 debut.

The series features free, family-friendly live music events at the bandshell once a month and was designed to be something all generations can enjoy.

The Seward Arts Council recently conducted a survey to determine what activities the community most wanted to see continue downtown, and the 5th Street Summer Music Series ranked number one.

The event is presented by the Seward Arts Council and funded by grants the area obtained through becoming a Creative District and by local sponsors, according to SAC president Jeanne Wiemer.

In addition to live music, the series features attractions such as face painting, food trucks and, new this year, carnival games. Local artist Lois Smith enjoys painting at the events and welcomes anyone who wants to watch.

"The art of music helps people, and I just think all creativity is very helpful for everybody," said SAC vice president Alison Koch. "If they see it in action, they are more apt to do it themselves."

Also new this year, the street in front of the bandshell is blocked off during 5th Street Summer Music Series events. Wiemer said alcohol and food vendors will be in the street, which will allow more space for people to set out their lawn chairs and convene on the grass.

"We expanded it into the street so that parents and everybody could have their kids out in the street and it's just a safer situation for everybody," Wiemer said. "And, overall, there's more space for everybody to enjoy the music."

Each event runs from 5-8 p.m., which Koch said makes things easier for people with children - herself included.

"I have a three-year-old, and seven o'clock is really close to bedtime, so I wasn't really ever able to take her to those events," she said. "It's been fun having this a little bit earlier so that she can go there. She loves danc-

ff It's just been a very positive experience, and I think that's what the whole world needs right now - a place to relax and breathe a little bit and enjoy life. ""

Seward Arts Council President Jeanne Wiemer

ing, and she really liked the whole thing." The Raw Nerve, a band of dentists out of

Lincoln, performed on June 8

B Street Band will play on July 13 and is based out of Milford. Sunset Lounge Trio, led by the owner of Drum Outfitters, Phil Hendrickson, will perform on August 3.

Koch said she enjoys that the event supports local bands and fosters community

engagement. "We see people from all different walks of life, all age ranges, and everyone is just there

to have a relaxing evening and enjoy the music," she said. "And, that's really what I was hoping for when planning it." The idea for the series came to Koch when

she was watching the Elvis movie at the Rivoli Theater. There is a scene in the movie where a young Elvis goes to a church revival and is inspired by the music and community experi-

"For some reason, that really stuck out to me," she said. "I was like, how cool would that be to have kind of a musical experience that kids can come see and that adults can come see and maybe feel a little bit inspired."

Wiemer said the community has supported the series well, and SAC hopes to continue it for years to come.

"It's just been a very positive experience, and I think that's what the whole world needs right now – a place to relax and breathe a little bit and enjoy life," Wiemer said.



Music lovers from Seward and the surrounding communities fill the seats at the 5th Street Summer Music Series.

Concert gets celebration off on right foot

BY GERALD D. "JERRY" MEYER

NENG Historian

The Nebraska National Guard Historical Society hosted its annual kick off for the Fourth of July in Seward July 3. The "Civil War Revue" was in honor of the museum's dedication of the "Nebraskans in the Civil War" Exhibit on July 4. The revue featured local talent and a special guest – Major Gen. Craig Strong.

The invocation and benediction were given by Pastor Scott Krohn of Living Word Lutheran Church in Seward.

Strong, the 34th Adjutant General and Commander of the Nebraska National Guard, gave welcome comments. He reminded the crowd that the heart of the Nebraska National Guard is in Lincoln (the headquarters) but its "soul" is in Seward (Nebraska National Guard Museum).

Following his comments, the program opened with a narrative for Part I - Nebraskans at War (1861-1862). The narrator talked about the role of Nebraskans at Fort Donelson and 35 other battles in the war.

The importance of Donelson changed the trajectory of the war with the victory for Gen. Ulysses S. Grant.

Part II was the Homefront (1862-1865) and covered what Nebraska National Guard soldiers did in the territory. Part III was Total War and Victory (1864-1865) and focused on Grant and his leadership in bringing victory to the Union.

Entertainment in each set consisted of the:

Firehouse Five Plus: "Yankee Fanfare," "Battle Cry of Freedom," "When Johnny Comes Marching Home," The Blue and the Gray," "Gettysburg," "Akhokan Farewell" and "Civil War Echoes"

Blue River Men's Quartet: "Aura Lee," "Battle Hymn of the Republic" and "Shenandoah"

Rory Nolan: "Gettysburg Address" and "Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address"

The Firehouse Five Plus consisted of Naomi Ristvedt (flute/piccolo), Jessica Schreiner and Dan Murray (clarinet), Rebekah Lawton (alto sax), Jared Schreiner, Joanie Brecka, Christie Brecka and Kris Anderson (trumpet), Dave Wesely (French horn), Wendy Schultz and Dennis Haberstich (trombone), Dave Kasl (euphonium), Dan Hicks (tuba),



AMY HAUSMAN/SCI

Baritone Pete Jurchen of the Blue River Men's Quartet performed along with Jonathan Jank, Logan Walgate and Joshua Jurchen at the Civil War Revue on July 3 at Seward High School.

Curt Nelson and Xander Foulk (percussion).

The Blue River Men's Quartet consisted of Tenor Logan Walgate, Lead Jonathan Jank, Baritone Peter Jurchen and Bass Joshua Jurchen.

The revue was directed by Mary Meyer. Sound and lights were controlled by Jay Ferris. Logistics for the event were taken care of by Steve and Sharon Hambek. Technical direction was provided by Clark Kolterman.

Programs and logistic sponsorship for the July 3 and 4 activities were provided by Dr. Van and Becky Vahle and Cattle Bank and Trust. Special thank you to Dr. Josh Fields and the Seward Public Schools staff for the use of the auditorium and facilities.

The Rally Song for the revue was "Stars and Stripes Forever" by the Firehouse Five Plus. The crowd clapped along to the song and left the program ready to celebrate the nation's birthday on July 4.



JEFFREY CALHOUN/SCI

Julia DeBoer (left) and Linda Sackschewsky wish each other well as they change shifts on the Jones Bank trolley.

Trolleys make the rounds during Fourth celebration

BY JEFFREY CALHOUN reporter@sewardindependent.com

The trolleys that cart people around town on the Fourth of July have become a staple of the celebration, but these transporters are not able to make their rounds around town without the help of their volunteer conductors.

"I just make sure that the trolley comes to a full stop and then I step off and allow people to get off that need to get off at each stop that we're on," said conductor Julie DeBoer. "I want to make sure whoever's on board is fully on before we depart and start driving again."

These trolleys also serve as sponsorship opportunities for different businesses in the community.

"We get some marketing on the side of the trolley, get our name out there and we try to man the trolley ourselves with people that work at (Union Bank)," said UBT employee and conductor Holly Placke.

While the sponsorship does help them, supporting the community is the main goal.

"It's a community event, we're a community bank and we're here to support that," said Jones bank employee and conductor Linda Sackschewsky.



STEPHANIE CROSTON/SCI

Fourth of July ends with a bang

Fireworks filled the sky above Plum Creek Park to cap off the July 4 festivities.

GREENESENIORLIVING.COM

Greene SENIOR LIVING

GET IN THE GROOVE

AT OUR SUMMER CONCERT

Friday, July 19 | 4 - 7 p.m.

Looking for a blast of summer fun? Join us for a jam session! It's the perfect family-friendly activity to kick-start the season. Prepare to tap your feet or groove to the beat as you enjoy:

- Tasty snacks and refreshments
- A tour of our wellness amenities
- Lighthearted live entertainment

Don't miss out on the excitement and the chance to experience our vibrant senior lifestyle.

RSVP TODAY: 402-665-4767

GREENE SENIOR LIVING

600 Church St. | Seward, NE 68434 Assisted Living







Everyone loves a parade ... and more

Hundreds line the streets of Seward the afternoon of July 4 to watch the Fourth of July parade and participate in the various events planned during the city's annual celebration.



The American Legion sets off the Fourth of July parade as they begin to make their way through downtown Seward.



Stephanie Croston of the Seward County Independent was the recipient of the Seward County Community Service award. Her mom, Elaine, rode with her.



 $\label{lem:employees} \textbf{Employees of Jones Bank handed out flags to parade watchers.}$



Kayla Albright, a drum major, helps conduct the Seward High School marching band along the parade route during Seward's Fourth of July celebration.





STEPHANIE CROSTON/S

Philip and Monique Miller from Marysville, Kansas, are the 2024 tourist family. Their children are Grace (22), Isaiah (20), Silas (18) - (He did not attend), Nathanael (17), Sarah (16), Eden (14), Micah (11), Josiah (9) and Sophia (5). Philip is a pastor at Mount Calvary Lutheran Church (LCMS) in Marysville. They came to Seward with their daughter Grace who is attending Concordia as a K-12 Music Education major and getting her LTD (Lutheran Teacher's Diploma). They heard about the 4th from Grace and her fiancé Josh Hendrinkson who lives in Seward. "It was a great experience and we really enjoyed our time. Sorry we weren't from somewhere more exotic," Philip Miller said. The boys especially enjoyed the car show, and everyone enjoyed being in the parade.



STEPHANIE CROSTON/SCI

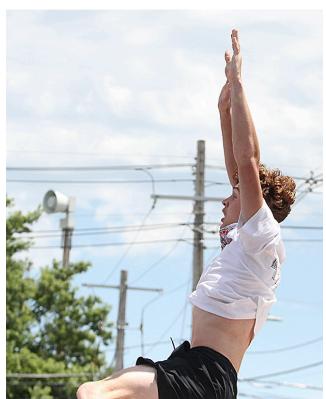
Volunteer fire departments from around the area participated in the annual July 4 water fights.

Thank you to the Fourth of July committee and all of the volunteers who made this year's celebration a memorable one.



STEPHANIE COSTON/SCI
One-year-old Reese Bogus
didn't mind the raindrops
during the bike parade July 4

at the Seward bandshell.



STEPHANIE CROSTON/SCI

Griffin Jordan shows his excitement at clearing a personal best of 15-0 in the pole vault July 4 during the street vault in Seward.

JULY 10, 2024

'To preserve the past for future generations'

Car sealed in pyramid in 1985 shown in Fourth of July parade

> BY IEFFREY CALHOUN Reporter@sewardindependent.com

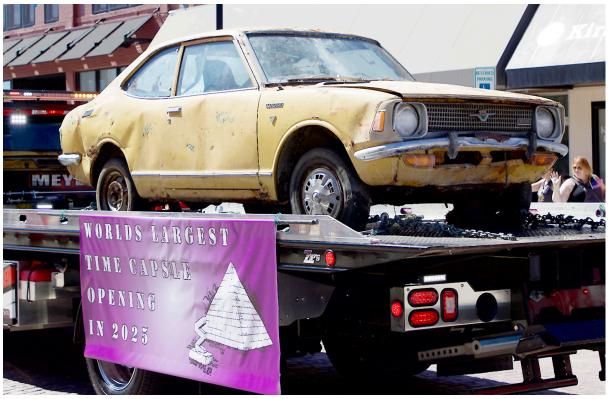
Even though the world's largest time capsule is not planned to be opened until the summer of 2025, the pyramid that was sealed on top of it in 1985 was opened this year on the Fourth of July.

Over time, there has been growing concerns about the ability to open the lid to the time capsule come the 50th anniversary of its sealing next year.

"For the last 10 years, I have worried about this and for the last five years. I've lost sleep about this," said keeper of the crypt Trish Davisson Johnson. "It seemed to me that there was no way you're going to lift a 20ton lid inside a pyramid."

When the capsule was constructed, Johnson's father, Harold Davisson, believed that technology would advance enough in the future to open the lid, but even with today's technology, the task of even opening the pyramid constructed on top served to be incredibly difficult.

"The pyramid door took about six hours to chop out by Troyer Concrete out of Milford,"



The car that was inside of the time capsule pyramid makes its way through the Fourth of July parade. In 1985, people could pay \$1 for a swing with a sledgehammer and then sign their dents. Signatures are still visible all over the car.

Johnson said. "I had numerous men back out on me because they couldn't figure out what to do, how to do it, how heavy it was going to be.'

The door ended up weighing about 7,000 pounds and caused the forklift that was used to nearly sink into the dirt.

After opening the pyramid, a number of items were in poor

condition, but there were a few bright spots, including a box that was given to the president of the VFW auxiliary, Vicki Luebbe, containing "a scrapbook compiled by Gladys Ost in 1975 and a history book compiled by Gladys Ost in 1975," Johnson

Another bright spot was a car that was pulled out and put on

a trailer to be sent through the Fourth of July parade.

Now that the pyramid has been cleared, Johnson is looking ahead to next year. Opening the capsule raises some concerns, and the possibility of demolishing the pyramid to get into the capsule has been considered.

"The pyramid itself weighs more than 70 tons and Meyer Ford has a crane that will do 70 tons," Johnson said. "My construction guys at Troyer said 'that's not big enough, we need something bigger."

People have not responded well to the proposal of tearing down the pyramid.

"I had people last year up in arms when I said it," Johnson said. "It's a landmark."

Once the capsule is opened, there is a major concern about returning items to the original owners. While receipts were given out to people in 1975, most people have lost them in the nearly 50 years since the sealing, and the duplicates the Davissons had were presumably

"It was in a Hershey candy box, I can see it plain as day,' Johnson said. "They were on a shelf down in the paper room, I went down after he died and the box was gone."

While she wants the box to return, her hopes are not high.

"Is somebody going to be stupid enough to show up with the box? Would somebody be kind enough to hand it back to us?" Johnson asked.

Despite all of the challenges, changes and setbacks, the goal of the capsule remains the same.

'There's a sign in the store that we'll pull up next year that is from the original that says 'to preserve the past for future generations,' and that's why (my father) did it," Johnson said.



JEFFREY CALHOUN/SCI

Darryl Wattier brought his trinket-filled Model A pickup to the Seward Fourth of July car show.

Model As and art displays

BY IEFFREY CALHOUN reporter@sewardindependent.com

What do a metal cockatoo, a collection of wooden crosses and a woven basket full of koozies have in common?

Well, nothing, unless you are Darryl Wattier and you decide to attach these objects and many more to your 1930 Model A pickup truck.

Wattier's truck was always a little bit mismatched after he inherited it from his late father.

"It's not really original, it's a mix between '28 '29 and '30 parts, it's all

Ford parts," Wattier said. "When he got it, it didn't have any fenders and the wheels were mismatched, so I got all matching wheels and found fenders to put on it and made it into artwork.'

After landing on bright purple wheels, the loud visuals ensued as he started attaching various trinkets to the car last winter. He decided to go through items he had collected over the years and show them off on his truck.

One of the most interesting parts of the pickup is actually the bars he uses to attach a large number of the trinkets

that used to be part of a piano.

"They hold the wires where they tune this piano, and I tore this piano apart," Wattier said. "Nobody wanted it, so that's why I put those bars on there and bolted things on."

What he decides to put on the car is not completely random as he does have a level of criteria for what gets put on display.

"It has to be family friendly, it can't be negative, I try to be positive," Wattier said.

There are a few specific display pieces that hold special significance to him as all of the crosses are from the Cross Makers.

"My dad was part of the Cross Makers over here in Seward," Wattier said. "Dad was with them for years and he had a pile in his garage that he added or did stuff to and added growth to them, and I just put a couple on here."

So whether it is a rat hoisting a wrench in the air, an American flag, or a rock he took from a beach in Hawaii, there is always room for more on the art piece that is this vintage vehicle.





- AUTO REPAIRS
- SUSPENSION
- WHEEL BALANCING
 BRAKES
- ALIGNMENTS
- SHOCKS

408 Main Street Seward, NE 402-643-3361





TRUCK ACCESSORIES

- Weather Tech products
- Truxedo covers
- Grill guards by Trail FX
- Car stereos
- Access covers



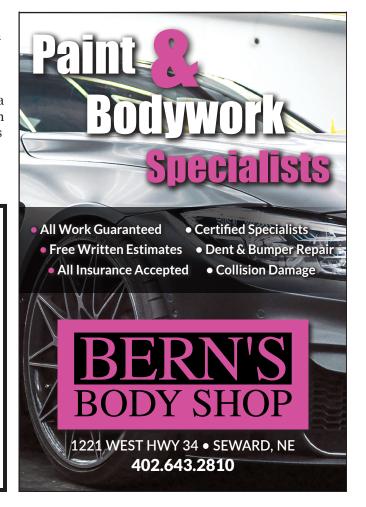








321 Jackson Ave., Seward, NE • 402-643-2560 ehlerstv@ehlerstv.com • www.ehlerstv.com



JULY 10, 2024

PAGE 11



STEPHANIE CROSTON/SCI

Ruger Webb of Utica-Beaver Crossing stretches to catch a throw from the catcher as Wilber's Carter Skleba steals second July 1.

Badgers get win on road

BY STEPHANIE CROSTON scroston@sewardindependent.com

The Utica-Beaver Crossing seniors picked up their third win of the season July 5, beating Wymore Diller Odell 18-12.

UBC had to come from behind to get the win. The Badgers trailed 9-5 after the third inning but tied the score with four in the top of the fourth. Wymore retook the lead with a run in the bottom of the inning, but UBC jumped on top with four uns in the top of the fifth. The team added a run in the sixth and four in the seventh to put the game out of reach.

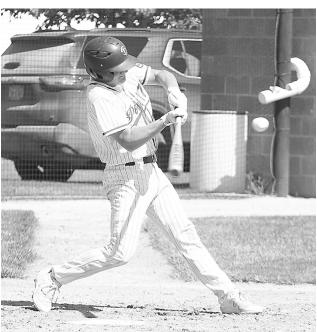
UBC had just three hits in the game but drew 16 walks and had five reach base after being hit. Devin Slawnyk doubled and drove in four runs. Keenan Kosek also drove in four, and Hurley Harroun added two RBIs.

The week started with an 8-3 loss at Wilber July 1. UBC had just one hit, a single by Ruger Webb. Webb, Slawnyk and Jackson Wellman drove in runs for the Badgers. Kosek pitched five innings and struck out for.

Up next for UBC (3-10) was a doubleheader against Cornerstone Bank (Geneva) July 8. The Badgers are on the road for their final regular-season contests – at Friend Saturday, July 20, and at Tri County Tuesday, July 23

Wilber Po	st 101 8, U	tica-Be	aver	Cros	sin	g 3
UBC	000	100	2	3	1	6
WIL	120	221	х	8	8	1
HBP-	-Slawnyk, \	Nellma	n, Ra	thjer	1. S	В—
Slawnyk 2	, Stelling,	Fehlha	fer. R	BI—	We	bb,
Slawnyk, W	/ellman. K-	-Kosek	4, St	elling	g 2.	Hit
hatters—K	osek 2					

320 441 531 120 4 18 3 1 0 12 9 6 WDO 2B—Slawnyk, HBP—Wellman 2, Fehlhafer Fehlhafer Kosek Richters Rathien RRI-Kosek Slawnyk 2, Webb 2, Konken 2. WP—Webb. Hit batters—Slawnyk 2, Webb, Konken 2.



STEPHANIE CROSTON/SCI

Westin DeLong of Milford swings at an inside pitch against Crete July 6.

Milford 1-2 in week's contests

BY STEPHANIE CROSTON scroston@sewardindependent.com

The Milford Post 171 juniors picked up their fourth win of the season July 3 at Wilber. Milford scored 11 runs in the final two innings to put the game away.

Milford pitchers held Wilber hitless, walking five and hitting two. Arthur Price struck out four in his five innings of work.

At the plate, Westin DeLong and Gabe Mach

see MILFORD, page 12



STEPHANIE CROSTON/SC

Malcolm's Justin Wisnieski attempts to tag Seward's Bostyn Happ at first base during July 7's game.

Malcolm ties, beats Seward

BY HEATH KRAMER Seward County Independent

Having moved past the fourth of July, the postseason is in sight for the Malcolm Legion baseball

Postseason comes with the pressure of both the juniors and seniors teams being two-time defending state champions. This is when it gets serious.

"Our guys are the hunted," Malcolm head coach Tanner Soderberg said. "It's been like that for a while now. Opposing teams want to do everything they can to take us out.'

In preparation for the C4 Area Tournament which begins Friday, July 12, in Malcolm, the juniors played road games on three consecutive days. Malcolm traveled south on July 5 and earned a 9-1 win at Adams. Miles McGill picked up his first junior-level win as he pitched four of the game's five innings, allowing no

runs and just one hit. "Miles' growth can be attributed to the number of reps he's getting while playing on both the reserves and juniors teams, Soderberg said. "He's pitched 18 innings on the reserves team (with a 4-1 record). His demeanor and attitude has changed this summer. When adversity hits, he doesn't let one bad thing ruin an otherwise good game."

Malcolm went to Syracuse the next day and escaped with a 7-4 win. McGill had a big day at the plate, going 3-for-4 with a double and four runs batted in, while Brixon Meyer took care of business on the mound, improving his record to 4-0 with a six-inning, seven strikeout performance.

The juniors ended the weekend playing Seward to a 3-3 tie on July 7.

While Malcolm scored the game's first two runs in the top of the first, Seward scored the next three to go up by one.

Nolan Duzik opened



STEPHANIE CROSTON/SCI

Quin Berner of Seward throws to first against Malcolm July 7. The Class C Legion juniors defending state champion and Class B Legion juniors defending state runner-up played to a 3-3 tie.

the top of the seventh with a double before Carson Frank drove him in with an RBI-single.

Frank came on in relief in the bottom of the seventh. After a dropped third strike allowed Seward's Boston Happ to get on, Kyle Riley walked to put runners at first and second before Karson Dyer sacrificed both up a

Justin Wisnieski fielded a ground ball off the bat of Kolton Loos and threw out Happ to keep the winning run off the board. The game ended – due to time limit - when Brixon Meyer threw out Riley attempting to steal third.

"The winning run was 90 feet away with one out and our guys found a way to keep them off the board," Soderberg said. "Adversity like that will only help us the next two weeks.

The game was the only one of the week for Seward (14-10-3). Happ finished the game 3-4 with an RBI, and Dyer drove in two runs.

Malcolm (13-0-1)

was set to face Lincoln Southeast (17-15-1) July 8 before entering the area tournament as the top seed.

Sutton (16-4) is the No. 2 seed while Lincoln Lutheran (9-5) is third. Malcolm will play Saturday against the winner of No. 4 Wilber (6-11) and No. 5 Friend (2-8).

"Our guys have to handle the pressure," Soderberg said. "Four games in four days against four quality opponents was designed to help them get there. We'll be ready."

Seward is in the Class B Area 4 tournament at Elkhorn. In addition to ETC, the bracket includes Arlington, Ashland, Omaha Concordia, Wahoo and Waterloo-Valley.

MAL	200	000	1	3	7	0
SEW	110	010	0	3	5	0
2B—Fra	nk, Wisniesk	i, Duzi	k. HB	P—S	mi	th,
Loos. RBI-F	rank, Wisnie	ski, Lit	tle, H	арр,	Dy	/er
2. K—Smith	5, Robotham	1, Fran	nk 1, F	lamr	no	nd
261 11	4 M/D C		- 1			100

Malcolm 9, Adams 2						
MAL	202	05	9	7	3	
ADM	000	01	1	2	2	
2B—Meyer.	SF—McG	ill. SB-	-Frank 3, <i>I</i>	Иey	/ei	
2, Little 2, A. Syke	es, Smith.	RBI Li	ttle 2, Mc	Gill	2	

Kucera, Zegar, Duzik. W-McGill. K-McGill 1 Savicky 1. WP—McGill, Savicky. Hit batters-Gill 2.

	Vlaicolm 7, S	yracus	se 4			
MAL	010	221	1	7	12	1
SYR	010	001	2	4	8	0
2B—Fra	ank, McGill, I	Duzik.	3B—	Wisr	nies	ki.
SF—Duzik.	SB—Meyer	2, Syk	es, R	obot	tha	m,
Little. RBI-	McGill 4, Litt	le, Du	zik. V	۷—۸	Леу	er.
S—Savicky.	K—Meyer 7.	WP—S	avick	y. Hi	it b	at-
	,					

Seniors win two

The Malcolm seniors joined the juniors on the trips to Syracuse and Seward and made quick work of both opponents.

The seniors disposed of Syracuse with a 10-0 mercy rule win in five innings. Mason Wisnieski hit his sixth triple of the season on a 2-for-2 day. He also fanned nine Syracuse batters in three-and-twothirds while earning his third win of the summer.

Maddox Meyer had a pair of doubles and drove in three runs. Luke Schmidt also added three

For Seward, Finn Hochstein was 2-3 with a double. Kolton Loos and Ryley Hain singled for Seward's other two hits.

Conner Sveeggen took the loss, going three innings and giving up seven

The next day, Wisnieski tripled at Seward as part of a three-hit day in a 9-0 victory. The senior-to-be is hitting .544 this summer with 16 of his 31 hits going for extra bases.

The game against Malcolm was the only contest of the week for Seward (13-9).

The Malcolm seniors (15-4) will visit Elkhorn North (23-13-1) on Tuesday before heading to Wahoo (10-7) Saturday, July 13.

Seward was scheduled to be at Fairbury Wednesday, July 10, for a 7 p.m.

Malcolm 9, Seward ZKE Storage Post 33 0								
MAL	024	102		9	10	0		
SEW	000	000	0	4	0			
2B—C. Frank,	, Mc	Greer,	Μ.	Mey	er,	M.		
Wisnieski, Hochsteir	ո. 3B-	-M. W	/isni	eski. I	HBF	_		
Schmidt, Ernesti. RE	BIM	. Mey	er 3,	C. Fr	ank	٤2,		

McGreer, M. Wisnieski, O. Little. W-M. Meyer -Sveeggen. K—M. Meyer 8, Sveeggen 2, Matzke 3. Hit batters-M. Meyer, Sveeggen.

MAL	252	01	10	10	2
SYR	000	00	0	0	4
2B—M. Meyer	2, Engl	and. 3B-	-M.Wis	nies	ki.
HBP-Sykes, M. Wi:	snieski. !	SF—Scl	nmidt. RE	3I—	M.
Meyer 3, Schmidt	3, Eng	land 2,	M. Wist	nies	ki,
C. Frank. W-M. V	Visniesk	ki. Κ—Λ	۸. Wisnie	eski	9,

uinn earns second team

Following one of the greatest seasons ever enjoyed by a Concordia Bulldog baseball player, Jaidan Quinn has landed another award. On July 2, the NAIA First Team All-American was honored by College Sports Communicators as a 2024 NAIA Second Team Academic All-American®.

In early June, Quinn was honored as Academic All-District along with teammates Blake Benson, Brad Hallock and Ty Nekoliczak. There have been eight Academic All-America awards by the Concordia Baseball program during Head Coach Ryan Dupic's tenure.

The 2024 Academic All-America® Baseball Teams, selected by College Sports Communicators,

recognize the nation's top student-athletes for their combined performances on the diamond and in the classroom. Student-athletes must achieve a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher in order to be nominated for this award. The CSC Academic All-America® program separately recognizes honorees in four divisions — NCAA Division I, NCAA Division II, NCAA Division III and NAIA — for each gender.

Named the GPAC co-Player of the Year along with teammate Joey Grabanski, Quinn enjoyed another stellar campaign in 2024 as he reset program single season standards for home runs (tied at 27), runs scored (81) and walks

(49). The Bonner Springs, Kansas, native batted .387 and posted impressive .535 on-base and .880 slugging percentages while starting all 57 games. He also drove in 75 runs while primarily batting out of the No. 2 spot in the lineup.

A three-time First Team All-GPAC honoree, Quinn has played in 173 career games as a Bulldog and has batted .360 with 200 hits, 214 runs scored, 37 doubles, 73 home runs and 205 RBIs. He was named an NAIA Second Team All-American in 2023, First Team All-American in 2024 and ranks as one of the top hitters in school history. Quinn majors in Exercise Science and has one season remaining at Concordia.

NSAA names academic excellence award winners for spring 2024

The Nebraska School Activities Association announced the student recipients of the Spring 2024 Nebraska Chiropractic Physicians Association Academic All-State Awards. Since 2006 this NSAA Awards Program has recognized students who meet the criteria for nomination by their school in the season of their activity.

Each year the NSAA and the NCPA recognize students during Fall, Winter and Spring Seasons who are nominated by their schools for their individual academic excellence, leadership and significant contributions in their NSAA activity.

Area students honored for spring 2024 are:

Centennial

Baseball-Bryson Hornbacher and Devin Slawnyk

Boys' Golf—Samuel Ehlers and Jordan Wagner

Journalism-Karley Naber and **Abigail Saunders**

Music-Meg Hoffschneider and Kate Luebbe

Boys' Track & Field-Matthew Hoops and Camden Winkelman Girls' Track & Field—Cora Hoffschneider and Savannah Horne

Unified Track & Field—Ella Baack and Abigail Saunders

Malcolm

Baseball-Maddox Meyer and Luke Schmidt

Music-Madison Pavlik and Anna Schweitzer

Boys' Track & Field—Dalton Amen and Nathan Swenson Girls' Track & Field—Jessica Sandell and Abigail Zegar

Milford

Boys' Golf—Kellan Kubicek and Landon Roth

Journalism-Jonathan Kohout and Mackenzie Watenpaugh Music-Veronika Johns and

Allyson Taylor Boys' Track & Field-Avery Carter and Isaac Roth

Girls' Track & Field-Addisyn Mowinkel and Sarah Spahr

Seward

Baseball-Carter Ernesti and Kyle Peery

Boys' Golf-Hayden Burhoop and Matthew Wegman

Music-Libby Kratochvil and Sjoen Munk

Boys' Soccer-Cardin Goracke and Joshua Ringler

Girls' Soccer—Olivia Delcamp

and Ella Kossow Boys' Track & Field-Caden

Brooks and Kameron Dyer Girls' Track & Field-Coral Collins and Tessa Greisen

Milford

Continued from 11 notched two hits and two RBIs each.

Milford played a triangular at Crete July 6 and dropped both games, losing to Crete 15-0 and to Chick-Fil-A 18-3.

Milford recorded just one hit against Crete, a single by Justin Dixon. Conner Chapman pitched both innings of the run rule-shortened game and struck out two.

In game two, Trayton Nelson had both Milford's hits, and he, Mach and Brodie Roth each drove in a run. Graydon Meredith-Walker pitched two innings and struck out three.

Up next for Milford (4-21) is the Class B Area 5 tournament in Central City. Also in the bracket are Columbus Lakeview, O'Neill, Pierce and Shelton-Gibbon. First-round pairings had not been announced at press time.

100 165 HBP—Dixon 3. SB—Dixon 2, Kempf, Mach, Hansen, Zegers. RBI—DeLong 2, Mach 2, Bousquet, Zegers, Nelson, Kempf, Price. K—Price

Crete 15, Milford 0 CRT 15 13 0

Chick-Fil-A 18, Milford 3 18 8 1 16(11) CFA

HBP—Zegers. SF—B. Roth. SB—Zegers. RBI—Mach, Nelson, B. Roth. K—Meredith-Walker 3, Zegers 1. WP—Meredith-Walker.

Good luck to our Legion juniors teams at area tournaments.

NEED SOMETHING PRINTED? WE GOT YOU COVERED.

Call today to get started! 402-643-3678

Public Notices

MINUTES

SEWARD CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS Following is a condensed form of minutes. A complete copy is on file at City Hall, 537 Main St. or may be viewed at http://www. CityofSewardNE.gov. The Seward City Council met in regular session in the Council Chambers, 142 N 7th Street, Seward, on June 18, 2024, at 7:00 p.m., with Mayor Joshua Eickmeier presiding. Councilmembers present: Megan Kahler, Jessica Kolterman, Karl Miller, Matt Stryson, Tatum Tonniges, Rich Wergin, Jonathon Wilken. Councilmembers absent: John Singleton. The following items were approved: City Codes Rept; Treasurer Rept; Claims; Police Dept Rept; Rept of Discounted Rec Fees; Minutes of June 4, 2024; Appt Dorothy Marshall to Housing Appeals Board for 3-Year Term: Appoint Frank Daley Jr. to Civil Service Commission for 5-Year Term; Re-Appt Brade Perdue and Ben Hughes to Cemetery Board for 3-Year Term; Re-Appt Dr. Matt Dominy, Justin Hartman, and Wade Miller to CARC for 3-Year Term; Re-Appt Jan Matzke and Pat Sanley to Civic Center Commission for a 5-Year Term; Re-Appt Jessica Dominy and Stacey Parr to the Civil Service Commission for a 5-Year Term; Re-Appt Scott Sloup to the CRA for a 5-Year Term; Re-Appt Pat Coldiron to LB840 Review Board for a 3-Year Term; Re-Appt Tasha Osten and Kenneth Schmieding to Parks & Rec Board for a 3-Year Term; Re-Appt Clarence Kotera, Jacob Miller, and Scott Seevers to the Planning Commission for a 3-Year Term; Re-Appt Charles Matzke to the Tree Board for a 3-Year Term; Re-Appt Dr. Dan Ellis and Brad Vancura to the Zoning Board of Adjustments for a 3-Year Term; Ord. No. 2024-9 - Vacate City ROW of Midland Pacific Railway Townsite Company's Addition Plat: Revised 1&6 Year Street Improvement Plan; Bids and Advertisement of Temporary Embankment Surcharge Project; Agree with The Schemmer Assoc for Eng. Services related to Temporary Embankment Surcharge Project; Compilation Letter with AMGL for FY24-25 Budget; City Admin Rept. The following items were discussed with no action taken: Update on the Seward Wellness

Altec Industries Inc, RE, 1,441.46; Ackerman Rock & Gravel Co, SU, 4,558.37; AKRS Equipment Inc, RE, 416.15; All Copy Products Inc, MA, 18.19; Allegiant Utility Service, UT, 31.92; ALLO, SE 530.59; Amazon Business, SU, 149.27; Aqua-Chem Inc, SU, 5,208.50; AT&T, SE, 80.08; Axt Natalie, RI, 40.00; Badger Meter, SE, 1,741.44; Baker & Taylor, SU, 3,845.85; Baker Becky J, MI, 38.19; Benedict Caden, SE, 60.00; Benedict Jeremy, SE, 60.00; Bizco Technologies, IT, 10,542.75; Blackburn Manufacturing C, SU, 632.31; Blersch Jenna, RI, 40.00; Blue Cross Blue Shield Ne, BE, 61,559.27; Blue River Electric LLC, BU, 165.00; Border States Industries, SU, 383.78; Callaway Golf, MH, 359.28; Capital Business-Cheyenne, MA, 9.84; Cash-Wa Distributing Co, SU, 678.85; City Seward Buildings/Gr, RI, 3,000.00; City Seward Electric Fund, UT, 44,187.95; City Seward Merchant Serv, SE, 6,040.03; City Seward Payroll Accou, SA, 213,744.80; City Seward Perpetual Fd, SL, 1,050.00; Codr Plumbing/ Excavation, BU, 14,991.42; Commonwealth Electric Co, RE, 363.99; Convergint Technologies, BU, 578.34; Cross Creek Animal Health, SE, 150.00; Cuttin It Close Lawncare, GU, 910.00; Delcamp Carson, SE, 115,00; Eakes Office Solutions, SU, 72.96; Electronic Contracting Co, SE, 85.05; ERA, SE, 910.93; Exchange Bank, FA, 3,300.00; Faller Landscape, GU,

1,393.20; Farmers Coop Seward,

GS, 8,076.93; Fastenal Company,

SU, 496.78; First Wireless Inc, RE 530.00; Frihauf Lauren, SE, 50.00; Galls LLC, UN, 127.33; Gerhold Concrete Co Inc, CI, 2,545.87; H T M Sales Inc, RE, 7,375.00; H&S Plumb Heat & Air Inc, BU, 152.00; Hartmann Construction Co, SU, 135.36; Hemphill Electric LLC, RE, 75.00; Hireright LLC, SE, 53.05; Hobson Automotive & Tire, SE, 84.00; Hoffschneider Law PC LLO, SE, 450.00; Janousek Lathan, SE, 50.00; K & Z Distributing, SU, 417.00; 105.00; Lynn Peavey Co, SU, 137,320.00; Matheson Tri-Gas Inc,

Last Mile Network Consult, IT, 62.00; Lincoln Childrens Museum, SE, 225.00; Lindau Kohltyn, SE 40.21; Macqueen Equipment, EQ, 168.00; Maguire Iron Inc, CI, OP, 153.56; McMaster-Carr, SU, 230.21; Memorial Health-Drug, SE, 105.00; Menards North, GU. 293.86: Mid-American Benefits Inc. BE. 856.00: Midwest Auto Parts, RE, 1,202.20; Midwest Laboratories Inc, OP, 3,143.50; Midwest Petroleum Equip, RE, 1,313.26; Midwest Turf & Irrigation, RE, 404.74; Miller Greg / Mindy, SE, 105.00; Municipal Supply Omaha, RE, 365.35; Nebrascut Lawn Care, GU, 82.04;

Nebraska Bounce, SE, 420.00; Nebraska Dept Env/Energy, MS, 150.00; Nebraska Generator, RE, 1,007.50; Nebraska Golf & Turf, RE, 452.25; Nebraska Golf Association, MS, 475.00; Nebraska Nursery & Landsc MS, 125.00; Nebraska Pub ow-Desmoine, U1, 463,533.89 Nebraska Star Beef Co LLC, MH, 48.60; Nebraska Treasurer, OP, 9.76; Nifco Mechanical Systems, SE, 200.00; Norris Public Power Distr, UT, 1,565.47; Olsson, SE, 444.95; One Call Concepts Inc, SE, 242.30; One

Source Background Che, SE,

127.50; O'Reilly Automotive Inc,

RE, 202.62; Overhead Door Co-

Lincoln, BU, 9,596.82; Pac 'N'

Save Discount Foo, ML, 3,463.48; Paper Tiger Shredding, SE, 70.00; Pavers Inc, CI, 248.00; Plunkett's Pest Control, BU, 69.65; Policky Brandon A, UN, 75.83; Prairie Mechanical Corp, MA 2,466.67; Pride Legion Baseball, MS, 350.00; Principal Financial Group, BE, 2,532.72; Quality Brands Of Lincoln, SU, 2,033.42; Quill Corp, SU, 624.31; Reams Sprinkler Supply, GU, 92.00; Resco, IV, 143,447.42; Richards

Rodney, MC, 599.80; Riverside Portables LLC, SE, 361.00; Rumery Lawn & Landscape, GU, 32.25; Sargent Drilling Inc, RE, 2,355.82; Schemmer Architects Center Project; Update on the Hwy 15 Construction Project; Adj. Engin, CI, 29,623.79; Seward Co Clerk/Register, SU, 4.50; Seward

County Bridges Inc, MC, 150.00; Seward County EMA, SU, 9.00; Seward County Independent, PU, 1,324.26; Seward County Treasurer, SE, 23,507.08; Seward Lumber & Home Cent, SU, 227.97; Seward Public Schools, MC, 304.02; Seward Wind LLC, UT, 45,488.60; Shoemaker Cash, SE,

155.00; Short Elliott Hendrickson, CI, 97,462.13; Siteone Landscape Supply, SU, 1,565.69; Sons Of American Legion, MS, 300.00; Southeast Library System, TG, 50.00; State Distributing Co, SU, 606.98; Stryker Sales LLC, SU, 769.60; Summit Fire Protection, BU, 225.00; Sveeggen Collin, SE 95.00: Terziu Naim. SL. 13.614.11:

Time Warner/Spectrum, SE, 425.54; Tractor Supply, SU, 704.58; Transunion Risk, MC, 75.00; Trimax Mowing Systems, RE, 394.65; U S Postal Service, MS, 188.00; United Rentals, RE, 937.79: Verizon Wireless, SE 223.09: Visa-Pinnacle Bank (Lib).

1,277.93; Amazon, SU, 145.11, DEMCO, SU, 170.44, Gotprint. com, SU, 224.31, Heartsmart, SU, 161.25, Nextlink, SE, 115.00, OTC Brands Inc, SU, 49.94, Techsoup, SE, 10.00, Walmart, SU, 385.89, Zoom, MS, 15.99, Voehl Cindy, MI,

Inc, SE, 769.01; Woods & Aitken LLP, SE, 105.00; York Equipment, FA, 8,495.48; CLAIMS TOTAL, \$1,434,414.60. Derek Bargmann, City Clerk. SCI — July 10, 2024

18.76; White Castle Roofing, BU,

17,615.00; Windstream Nebraska

JULY 2, 2024 **COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS**

Board 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 Board of Equalization will meet on July 16, 2024 at 8:30 a.m. to hear Property Valuation Protests. 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 JULY 30, 2024

The Seward County Board of Commissioners convened on July 2, 2024 at 8:30 a.m.

Present: Chairperson: Misty Ahmic Members: Raegan Hain, John Culver, Ken Schmieding, Darrell County Clerk: Sherry Schweitzer

Jounty Chamber gave an update of the organization.

Sherry Schweitzer gave an update of her office.

Approved consent agenda consisting of the minutes of June 25, 2024 and the Emergency Manager's Annual Return of Disposed items.

through June 21, 2024.

Commissioners gave reports of their activities. Amended the previously adopted

to correct the typographical error in the motion to approve the Zoning Administrator's wage.

with the Nebraska Dept. of Environment & Energy Waste Tire Grant.

Borchers Williams for Contract/ Data collection work for the Seward County Broadband Task Force.

Appointed Tom Sieck and Dave Pankoke to the Veteran's Service

Committee.

Approved the Preliminary Engineering Agreement with Mainelli Wagner for Beaver

Approved Highway Dept. to purchase a pickup from the

employee appreciation events. Held public hearing for the purchase of a new Public Transit Vehicle.

Policy and Application.

Discussions were held on

Approved the agenda for July 9, 2024 and adjourned at 11:12 a.m. Sherry Schweitzer, County Clerk SEWARD COUNTY CLAIMS

OFFICE AUTOM, SE, \$269.21; AMERITAS LIFE INS CORP, FE, \$21,198.83; REGION V SERVICES, SE, \$2,484.58; CAPITAL BUSINESS SYS, SE, \$39.14; CHARTER COMM, UT, \$333.59; CROWNE PLAZA KEARNEY, TR, \$559.80; EAKES OFFICE PLUS, SU, \$476.87; JENNIFER EICKHOFF, SE,

THROUGH JUNE 21, 2024, ADP

INC, SE, \$2,760.45; ADVANCED

\$14.74: FIRST WIRELESS. UT. \$3,807.50; GAGE COUNTY CLERK, SE, \$59.50; GALLS LLC, SE, \$533.90; GREAT PLAINS COMM, UT, \$1,230.99; HELMINK PRINTING. SU. \$902.00; HERPOLSHEIMERS EQ, \$1,522.78; HOMETOWN LEASING, EQ, \$574.03; INDOFF INC, SU, \$16.99; JONES BANK (FICA), FE, \$21,458.36; KONICA MINOLTA FINANCE, FE, \$131.48; KOTIK & MCCLURE, ATTYS, SE, \$1,025.00; LIBERTY LAW GROUP, SE, \$4,312.50; LINCOLN POLICE GARAGE, SE, \$20.80; MEMORIAL HOSPITAL,

SE, \$3,219.74; MIPS INC. SE. \$2,264.46; NE HLTH & HUMAN SERV, SE, \$93.00; NE WEED CONTROL ASSN, FE, \$150.00; OREILLY AUTOMOTIVE SE, \$39.94; PAPER TIGER

SHREDDING, SE, \$148.80; PETTY CASH FUND. FE. Jonathan Jank of the Seward \$1,378.85; RAMADA MIDTOWN \$214.00; REDWOOD TOX LAB, SE, \$48.00; SEWARD CO SHERIFF, SE, \$31.20;

> SEWARD CO TREASURER, SE, \$15.00; SOARIN GROUP, LLC, SE, \$193.00; SPARETIME,

Approved claims for the period

minutes of May 21, 2024 minutes

Approved amended agreement

Approved agreement with Oliver

Approved paying the invoice to Mainelli Wagner for grant preparation costs

No bids were received to be opened for rock.

Crossing Southeast Bridge.

Building & Grounds Dept. Approved request for funds for

Approved courthouse Library Use

Approved County Attorney to sign the 24-25 DHHS Grant for Child Support Enforcement via electronic signature.

Maria' Scamehorn, 911 Director, was present to discuss the 911 budget.

the conditions and repairs for abandoned cemeteries in Seward County, "Daughters of the American Revolution" organization for the abandoned cemetery grant, and grants being sought by Seward County.

SU, \$94.01; SUMMIT FIRE PROTECTION, SE, \$196.00; SUMMIT FOOD SERVICE, SE, \$6,215.30; SVEHLA LAW OFFICES, SE, \$512.50: TARGETS ONLINE, SU, \$60.86; UNITED STATES TREASURY, FE, \$570.00; VERIZON WIRELESS SERV, UT, \$811.83; VISA, FE, \$1,251.47; WYTHERS LAW. SE. \$8,199.50; AKRS EQUIPMENT EQ, \$2,160.00; BLACK HILLS ENERGY, UT, \$41.51; HEARTLAND TIRES, EQ, \$4,402.19; MAINELLI WAGNER, SE. \$87.088.56: NE EQUIPMENT EQ, \$8,839.04; SAPP BROS PETROLEUM, SU, \$20,766.82; SEWARD CO INDEPENDENT, SE, \$251.58; BURDEN SALES COMPANY, EQ, \$366.70; TRUCK EQUIP SERV, SE, \$130.56; DALE JOHNSON ENT, INC, SU, \$30,223.64; BASEPOINT BUILDING , SE, \$3,845.00; CHAPTERS BOOKS, SU, \$36.77; KOLTERMAN, CLARK, SE. \$33.37: NE NATL GUARD MUSEUM, SE, \$50.00; PAC N SAVE, SU, \$1,175.75; RED PATH GALLERY, SE, \$40.00; SEWARD CO CHAMBER, SE, \$1,500.00; VALENTINO'S SEWARD, SU, \$392.75: BAUDVILLE, SE. \$326.16: CELLEBRITE INC. FE. \$6,450.00; CENTRALSQUARE TECH, EQ, \$1,130.50; COVERTTRACK GROUP, FE, \$4,800.00; NORRIS PUB POWER DIST. UT. \$490.43: NE DAS STATE ACCNTNG, SE, \$738.50; URIBE REFUSE SERVICES, SE, \$156.00; US BANK EQUIP FINANCE, EQ, \$167.99; VIGILANT SOLUTIONS, SE, \$6,006.00; MOTIVATE 2 COMMUNICATE, FE, \$150.00; CENTURYLINK, EQ, \$1,557.66; PATRICK HOTOVY, SE, \$1,000.00; ST OF NE DAS COMM, SE, \$844.80; LANGUAGE

LINE SERVICES, SE, \$68.44; SALARIES, , \$305,361.90; GROSS SALARIES INCLUDE **DEDUCTIONS TO: AMERITAS** DENTAL, AMERITAS VISION, COLONIAL SUPPLEMENTAL

INSURANCE, MID AMERICAN

CO WISCONSIN, POINT C FSA,

WADDELL & REED.

SCI/MT — July 10, 2024

ESTATES

NOTICE

In the County Court of Seward County, Nebraska Estate of Amy B. Kment, Deceased

Estate No. PR24-43 Notice is hereby given that on June 14, 2024, in the County Court of Seward County, Nebraska, Charlotte K. Volnek, whose address is 901 N. 5th, Seward, NE 68434, was informally appointed by the Registrar as Personal Representative of the Estate. Creditors of this Estate must file their claims with this Court on or before August 23, 2024

or be forever barred /s/ Kimberly Haberman Clerk of the County Court Karel & Seckman Attorneys for Applicant 1109 C Street P.O. Box 466 Schuyler, Nebraska 68661 402-352-5118 ljkarel@qwestoffice.net SCI — June 26, July 3, 10, 2024 ZNEZ

NOTICE IN THE COUNTY COURT OF SEWARD COUNTY. **NEBRASKA**

Estate of Kenneth R. Schultz,

Deceased

Estate No. PR 24-51 Notice is hereby given that on July 2, 2024, 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 Sharvl L. Schultz, whose address is 1035 Willow Ave., Seward, NE 68434, was informally appointed by the Registrar as Personal Representative of the Estate.

Creditors of this Estate must file their claims with this Court on or before September 2, 2024 or be forever barred.

/s/ Kimberly Haberman Clerk of the County Court Seward County Court 261 8th St. Seward, NE 68434

Anthony M. Aerts (#26295) Rembolt Ludtke LLP 1128 Lincoln Mall, Suite 300 Lincoln, NE 68508 (402) 475-5100 SCI — July 10, 17, 24, 2024

Hoffschneider Law, P.C., LLO 510 Seward Street Seward, NE 68434

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

County Court of Seward County, Nebraska Estate No. PR 24-47 of Terrence

J. Bartholomew, deceased Notice is hereby given that on June 25, 2024, in said court, in Seward County, Nebraska, the registrar issued a written statement of informal probate of the Last Will and Testament of Terrence J. Bartholomew, deceased, and appointed Kristin L. Bartholomew, as personal representative of the estate. Kristin L. Bartholomew's address is 443 406th, Beaver Crossing, NE 68313. Creditors must file their claims with this court on or before the 30th day of August, 2024, or be forever barred. Dated: June 25, 2024.

/s/ Kimberly Haberman Clerk of the County Court SCI — July 3, 10, 17, 2024

NAME CHANGE

LEGAL NOTICE ADULT NAME CHANGE IN THE DISTRICT COURT

OF SEWARD COUNTY, **NEBRASKA** IN RE NAME CHANGE OF **MADELYN JOY BALES**

Case Number: Cl24-89 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on the 26th day of June 2024, a petition was filed in the District Court of Seward County, Nebraska, the object and prayer of which is for the change of the petitioner's name from Madelyn Joy Bales, to Grayson Vincent Bales. A hearing will be had on said petition before the Honorable James C. Stecker, in courtroom no. 1, Seward County Justice Center, 261 S. 8th St, Seward NE on the 5th day of August, 2024 at 9 am, or as soon thereafter will be convenient for the court and that unless sufficient cause is shown to the contrary, the petitioner's name will be changed from that of Madelyn Joy Bales, to Grayson Vincent Bales.

/s/ Madelyn Bales 3762 Davey Rd Staplehurst, NE, 68439 402-646-0860 SCI — July 3, 10, 17, 24, 2024

DDODEDTVCALEC

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

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the following-described property will be sold by FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF OMAHA. Trustee, at public auction to the highest bidder on the first floor of the Seward County Courthouse, 529 Seward, Seward, Nebraska, on August 14, 2024 at 12:00 o'clock noon:

Lot Seven (7), Block Two (2), Bader-Jirovsky 4th Addition, City of Seward, Seward County, Nebraska.

The highest bidder shall submit payment in full on the day and time of the sale cerified funds with remainder to be received in cash or certified funds by 5:00 p.m. on the day of the sale, at the offices of Locher Pavelka Dostal Braddy & Hammes, except this requirement is waived when the highest bidder is the Beneficiary. The Purchaser shall be responsible for all prior liens, 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 the title or

condition of the property. DATED this 19th day of June, 2024 FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF

> OMAHA, Trustee BY: /s/ Donald J. Pavelka, Jr. For: LOCHER PAVELKA DOSTAL BRADDY & HAMMES, LLC 200 The Omaha Club 2002 Douglas Street Omaha, Nebraska 68102

Phone: 402-898-7000 Fax: 402-898-7130 Donald J. Pavelka, Jr, #17773 STATE OF NEBRASKA ss. COUNTY OF DOUGLAS

On this 19th day of June, 2024, before me, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, personally came Donald J. Pavelka, Jr., to me known to be the identical person whose name is affixed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged the execution thereof to be a voluntary act and deed.

Witness my hand and notarial seal the day and year last above written.

/s/ Sheryl Pavelka NOTARY PUBLIC SCI — June 26, July 3, July 10, July 17, July 24, 2024 **ZNEZ**

JULY 10, 2024 SEWARD COUNTY INDEPENDENT PAGE 13

ORGANIZATION

Notice of Organization of Inn His Grip, LLC

Notice is hereby given that Inn His Grip, LLC, a Nebraska Limited Liability Company, has been organized under the laws of the state of Nebraska, with its initial designated office at 1101 North Fifth Street, Seward, Nebraska, 68434. The initial agent for service of process of the Company is Janice K. Bruick, 1101 North Fifth Street, Seward, Nebraska 68434. Inn His Grip, LLC

SCI — July 10, 17, 24, 2024 **ZNEZ**

Hoffschneider Law, P.C., LLO 1120 K Street, Suite 200 Lincoln, Nebraska 68508

NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION Notice is hereby given of the organization of Wiese Spraying, LLC. The street and mailing address of the initial designated office is 676 476th Road, Beaver Crossing, NE 68313. The name and mailing address of the registered agent for service of process for the company is Kelly R Hoffschneider, 1120 K Street, Suite 200, Lincoln, NE 68508. SCI - July 10, 17, 24, 2024

NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION OF

COUNTRY COMPOST, LLC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has formed a limited liability company under the laws of the State of Nebraska as follows:

- 1. The name of the limited liability company is: Country Compost,
- 2. The initial designated office is 452 County Road 500, Friend,
- 3. The name and address of the initial agent for service of process of the company is Jared L. Stutzman, 452 County Road 500, Friend, NE 68359.

4. The limited liability company commenced existence on the filing and recording of its Certificate of Organization with the Secretary of State on June 27, 2024 and it shall have perpetual existence. Jared L. Stutzman, Member Alicia M. Stutzman, Member

Paul N. Bixby 143 North 9th Street P.O. Box 347 Geneva, NE 68361 SCI — July 3, 10, 17, 2024 **ZNEZ**

CERTIFICATE OF ORGANIZATION

LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY Name of the limited liability company: Louella and Co. LLC Address of initial designated office 2151 Sunrise Road, Milford, NE

Name of the initial agent for service of process: Kaylee Fulton Street, mailing address and post office box (if any) of the initial agent

for service of process: 2151 Sunrise Road, Milford NE 68405 Effective date if other than the date

filed: 05/23/24 /s/ Kaylee Fulton SCI - July 3, 10, 2024 **ZNEZ**

Hoffschneider Law, P.C., LLO 1120 K Street, Suite 200 Lincoln, Nebraska 68508 NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION

Notice is hereby given of the organization of Full Send Ag, LLC. The street and mailing address of the initial designated office is 442 364th, Beaver Crossing, NE 68313. The name and mailing address of the registered agent for service of process for the company is Kelly R. Hoffschneider, 1120

SCI — June 26, July 3, July 10, 2024 **ZNEZ**

K Street, Suite 200, Lincoln, NE

Notice of Organization of Valley View Rentals, LLC

Notice is hereby given that Valley View Rentals, LLC, a Nebraska limited liability company, has been organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska, with its initial designated office at 628 294th Street, Milford, Nebraska 68405. The initial agent for service of process of the Company is Carrie L. Burkey, 628 294th Street, Milford, Nebraska 68405. Valley View Rentals, LLC SCI — July 3, 10, 17, 2024 ZNEZ

KNUDSEN BERKHEIMER RICHARDSON & ENDACOTT,

ATTORNEYS 3800 VerMaas Place, Suite 200

Lincoln, Nebraska 68502 NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION FUEHRER INVESTMENTS, LLC Notice is given that Fuehrer Investments, LLC, a Nebraska limited liability company, has been organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska, with its initial designated office at 1561 Raymond Road, Garland, NE 68360. The name and address of the initial agent for service of process of the Company is Bradley Fuehrer, 1561 Raymond Road, Garland, NE 68360.

Fuehrer Investments, LLC SCI - June 26, July 3, July 10,

GENERAL NOTICES

TO: NICK SVOBODA RE: 1230 MAY STREET, GOEHNER, NE 68364 UNLESS YOU ACT YOU WILL LOSE THIS PROPERTY.

Please take notice that on or about April 5, 2021, Ryan Pankoke purchased a Seward County . Treasurer's Certificate of Tax Sale (Certificate No. 2022-042) on the real property legally described as: LOT 10 IN BLOCK 5, ORIGINAL

TOWN OF GOEHNER, SEWARD COUNTY, NEBRASKA The said real property was assessed in the name of Nick R. Svoboda and was sold for taxes and/or special assessments for the tax years of 2019 (2ND), 2020 (FULL), 2021 (1ST), 2021 (2ND), 2022 (FULL) in the amount of \$545.01. Subsequent taxes may have been paid and interest may have accrued as of the date of this notice.

The issuance of a tax deed is subject to the right of redemption under Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 77-1824 to 77-1830. The right of redemption requires payment to the county treasurer, for the use of such purchaser, or his or her heirs or assigns, the amount of taxes represented by the tax sale certificate for the year the taxes were levied or assessed and any subsequent taxes paid and interest accrued as of the date payment is made by the county treasurer. The right of redemption expires at the close of business on the date of application for the tax deed, and a deed may be applied for after the expiration of three months from the date of service of this notice. Kelly R. Hoffschneider #22839 Hoffschneider Law, P.C., LLO 1120 K Street, Suite 200 Lincoln, Nebraska 68508 (402) 261-7677 Kelly@hoffschneiderlaw.com SCI - July 10, 17, 24, 2024 **ZNEZ**

TO: KEVIN DAHL and JEANE DAHL RE: 565 DAILEY STREET,

SEWARD, NE **UNLESS YOU ACT YOU WILL** LOSE THIS PROPERTY.

Please take notice that on or about April 5, 2021, Gary Wergin purchased a Seward County Treasurer's Certificate of Tax Sale (Certificate No. 2022-052) on the real property legally described as: LOTS 9 AND 10, BLOCK 1,

TAMORA DAILEY'S SECOND ADDITION, SEWARD COUNTY, **NEBRASKA**

The said real property was assessed in the name of Kevin and Jeane Dahl and was sold for taxes and/or special assessments for the tax years of 2019 (2ND) and 2020 (FULL) in the amount of \$97.21. Subsequent taxes may have been paid and interest may have accrued as of the date of this notice.

The issuance of a tax deed is

subject to the right of redemption under Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 77-1824 to 77-1830. The right of redemption requires payment to the county treasurer, for the use of such purchaser, or his or her heirs or assigns, the amount of taxes represented by the tax sale certificate for the year the taxes were levied or assessed and any subsequent taxes paid and interest accrued as of the date payment is made by the county treasurer. The right of redemption expires at the close of business on the date of application for the tax deed, and a deed may be applied for after the expiration of three months from the date of service of this notice. Kelly R. Hoffschneider #22839 Hoffschneider Law, P.C., LLO 1120 K Street, Suite 200 Lincoln, Nebraska 68508 (402) 261-7677 Kelly@hoffschneiderlaw.com SCI — July 10, 17, 24, 2024

MEETINGS

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE: Regular Business Meeting

Seward County Ag. Society Monday July 15, 2024 Immediately Following the Preliminary Budget Meeting Harvest Hall Conference Room Seward County Fairgrounds Michael J. Flyr

Secretary, Seward County Ag. Society

SCI/MT - July 3, 10, 2024

NOTICE

The regular meeting of the Malcolm Board of Education will be Monday, July 15, 2024 at 7:00PM at the District Board Room, 10004 NW 112th St., Malcolm, NE. The agenda will be published the Friday before each meeting. SCI — July 10, 2024 ZNEZ

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE:

Budget Meeting Seward County Ag. Society Monday July 15, 2024 7:00 p.m.

Harvest Hall Conference Room Seward County Fairgrounds Michael J. Flyr Secretary, Seward County Ag.

SCI/MT - July 3, 10, 2024 **ZNEZ**

BIDS

Public Notice Advertisement for Bids

The City of Seward (Owner/Buyer) is requesting proposals for the following Project: 2024 Reverse Osmosis

Improvements Sealed bids for the construction of the Project will be received by the City Clerk of the City of Seward, Nebraska, in their office at the City Hall located at 537 Main St, Seward, NE 68434 until July 26, 2024 at 2:00 PM local time. At that time, the Bids received will be

publicly opened and read. Bidder may view the digital documents for free at QuestCDN. com and must input the Quest eBidDoc Number: 9195679 on the website's project search page. Document download is \$22 and Bid submittal is \$42. All bids must be submitted according to the requirements described in the bid documents.

SCI — July 10, 17, 24, 2024 ZNEZ

DOCUMENT 00 11 13 ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS 2024 WWTF Soil Surcharge Seward, Nebraska

SEH No. SEWAC 163917 Notice is hereby given that Online Bids will be received by the City Administrator until 11:00 a.m., QuestCDN for the furnishing of all labor and material for the construction of 2024 WWTF Soil

Surcharge.

The bid opening will be conducted via Microsoft Teams, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud:

2024 WWTF Soil Surcharge Bid Opening Thursday, July 25, 2024 at 11:00

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone: https://teams.microsoft.com/l/ meetup-join/19%3ameeting_Nm Y5MTY0ZmYtODBhYy00ZDd kLWJmNDktMDdhMzQwNDkx OTQ0%40thread.v2/0?contex t=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2264 2f4553-88f1-43dc-9a29-90842cd 19d4c%22%2c%22Oid%22% 3a%2248472820-a408-4d5cb262-d033b1c6fa20%22%7d Meeting ID: 274 189 163 084 Passcode: h3ubKQ

Or call in (audio only) +1 872-242-7640,,704999110# United States, Chicago Phone Conference ID: 704 999

Any person monitoring the meeting remotely may be responsible for any documented costs. Message and data rates may apply.

Major components of the Work include installing miscellaneous piping and fencing as shown on the drawings prior to the installation of settlement plates and risers and the buildup of a surcharge area at the wastewater treatment facility to the specified elevation.

The Bidding Documents may be seen at the Issuing Office of SEH located at 2351 Connecticut Avenue, Suite 300, Sartell, MN 56377-2485, 320,229,4300, Colin Marcusen, PE, 320.229.4359, cmarcusen@sehinc.com.

The Bidding Documents may be viewed for no cost at http:// www.sehinc.com by selecting the Project Bid Information link at the bottom of the page and the View Plans option from the menu at the top of the selected project page. Digital image copies of the Bidding Documents are available at http:// www.sehinc.com for a fee of \$30. These documents may be downloaded by selecting this project from the "Project Bid Information" link and by entering eBidDocTM Number 8921858 on the SEARCH PROJECTS page. For assistance and free membership registration, contact QuestCDN at 952.233.1632 or

info@questcdn.com. For this project, bids will ONLY be received electronically. Contractors submitting an electronic bid will be charged an additional \$42 at the time of bid submission via the online electronic bid service QuestCDN.com. To access the electronic Bid Worksheet, download the project document and click the online bidding button at the top of the advertisement. Prospective bidders must be on the plan holders list through QuestCDN for bids to be accepted. Bids shall be completed according to the Bidding Requirements prepared by SEH dated June 18,

In addition to digital plans, paper copies of the Bidding Docu may be obtained from Docunet Corp. located at 2435 Xenium Lane North, Plymouth, MN 55441 (763.475.9600) for a fee of \$75.

500.00

148,169.55

20,159,090.34

Bid security in the amount of 5 percent of the Bid must accompany each Bid in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all Bids, to waive irregularities and informalities therein and to award the Contract in the best interests of the Owner. Grea Butcher

City Administrator City of Seward, NE SCI — July 3, 10, 17, 2024 **ZNEZ**

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS CALL ORDER: 100

CONTRACT ID: 13576 FEDERAL PROJECT NO. DPS-S80B(119) LOCATION: BEE & STAPLEHURST SPUR IN COUNTY: SEWARD

The Nebraska Department of Transportation will receive sealed bids in Room 104 of the Central Office Building at 1500 Nebraska Parkway in Lincoln, until 1:30 PM on July 25, 2024. At that time the bids will be opened and read.

Bids will be opened and the bid totals will be read via Webex. The Webex information will be available on the BidX Letting webpage a minimum of 2 days prior to the opening, and can be found by selecting the applicable letting from: https://www.bidx.com/ ne/lettings

Plans, specifications, and additional letting information may be found at the Nebraska Department of Transportation's Web Site at http://dot.nebraska. gov/business-center/businessopp/hwy-bridge-lp/.

This project is funded under the Federal-Aid Highway Act, all appropriate Federal requirements SCI — July 3, 10, 17, 2024 ZNEZ

INVITATION FOR BIDS

The Seward County Ag. Society will receive sealed bids until July 15, 2024, 7:00 p.m., at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and all bids recorded for furnishing the labor, materials, and performing all necessary work for construction of the project entitled "Ag Pavilion Parking Lot & East Grandstands Lighting Upgrades.' The envelopes containing bids shall be marked as follows: Proposal For:

"Ag Pavilion Parking Lot & East Grandstands Lighting Upgrades" Seward, Nebraska.

Bids must be submitted before: July 15, 2024, 7:00 p.m., which bids will be opened at the Harvest Hall conference room during the Seward County Ag. Society regular business meeting. Bids submitted prior to the meeting shall be submitted to:

Mike Flyr 203 S. 6th Street Seward, NE Plans and specifications may be obtained at the following location: Mike Flyr

203 S. 6th Street Seward, NE SCI/MT - July 3, 10, 2024 **ZNEZ**

HEARINGS

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING A Public Meeting of the Seward

County Planning Commission will be held July 15, 2024, 7:00 pm, Seward County Extension Office, 322 South 14th Street, Seward, Nebraska. Regarding a Carbon Dioxide Overlay Map. Information on the proposed action is available in the Seward County Zoning Office. The public's comments are welcome at the time of the Public Hearing.

Marissa Pfile **Seward County** Zoning Administrator SCI/MT — July 3, 10, 2024 **ZNEZ**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING A Public Meeting of the Seward County Planning Commission will be held July 15, 2024, 7:00 pm, Seward County Extension Office, 322 South 14th Street, Seward, Nebraska. Regarding a Conditional Use Permit for a private golf course Parcel ID: 800016467 Owner on record: Perfect Building Solutions LLC Located in O-2, Section 4

Township 9, Range 3, Seward County, Nebraska. Information on the proposed action is available in the Seward County Zoning Office. The public's comments are welcome at the time of the Public Hearing.

Marissa Pfile **Seward County** Zoning Administrator SCI/MT — July 3, 10, 2024 **ZNEZ**

NOTICE

A Public Meeting of the Seward County Planning Commission will be held July 15, 2024, 7:00 pm, Seward County Extension Office, 322 South 14th 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 Planning Commission has the right to modify the agenda to include items of an emergency nature only at such meetings Marissa Pfile

Seward County Zoning Administrator SCI/MT — July 10, 2024 **ZNEZ**

NOTICE

A total of 119 cases will be heard by the Board in July 2024. The following case(s) sentenced in Seward County will be seen by the Board of Parole. July 25, 2024 - 8:30 a.m.

Reception & Treatment Center, Lincoln, Nebraska Johnson, Mark, 69883, Burglary (2 counts)

ROSALYN COTTON, CHAIR NEBRASKA BOARD OF PAROLE SCI — July 10, 2024 **ZNEZ**

SEWARD COUNTY TREASURER SEMI-ANNUAL STATEMENT 1/1/2024 TO 6/30/2024

RECONCILIATION CASH TO TOTAL FUNDS BALANCE @ 6/30/2024

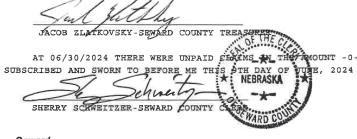
CASH DRAWER JONES CHECKING ACCOUNT 819,859.78

CATTLE CHECKING ACCOUNT

TOTAL FUND BALANCE

INVESTMENTS 19,190,561.01 TOTAL CASH 20,159,090.34

I, JACOB ZLATKOVSKY, SEWARD COUNTY TREASURER, DO HEREBY CERTIFY, THAT THE ABOVE AND FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND CORRECT STATEMENT OF COLLECTIONS, DISBURSEMENT, AND BALANCES FOR PERIOD 01/01/2024 TO 06/30/2024 AND TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF THE AMOUNTS ENUMERATED IN THE ABOVE ARE CORRECT.



Seward 2023 - 2024 FUND BALANCE 6 MONTH ACCUMULATED REPORT 6 Month Report From January Through June

Fund	Fund Name	Beginning Balance	Collections	Disbursements	Fund Transfers	Ending Balance		
0100	COUNTY FUNDS	19,246,263.04	11,926,393.88	-16,115,404,73	3,865,322.68	18,922,574,87		
6000	STATE TREASURER FUNDS	136,209.23	756,556.28	-796,420 03	0.00	96,345 48		
6009	DEPT OF REVENUE FUNDS	310,094 87	2,086,948.25	-2,038,037 96	0.00	359,005_16		
6100	SCHOOL/JPA	5,239,830 03	15,645,559 31	-20,376,249.31	81.56	509,221.59		
6900	ESU FUNDS	99,457.56	293,662 03	-386,073,67	0.00	7,045_92		
7100	TECH SCHOOL FUNDS	599,073.08	1,768,858 50	-2,325,508 40	0.00	42,423 18		
7300	NRD FUNDS	136,658,62	402,318 88	-529,345,67	0.00	9,631.83		
7500	CEMETERY FUNDS	2,980.75	1,686.70	-2,100 22	0.00	2,567.23		
7700	RURAL FIRE FUNDS	165,176.85	501,981 99	-653,382 64	0.00	13,776.20		
8600	HOSPITAL/VILLAGE/CITY	382,354.99	2,087,243,98	-2,390,071,41	2.73	79,530.29		
8650	TAMORA ROAD FUND FROM TAMORA GENERA	0.00	0_00	0 00	0.00	0.00		
9200	AG SOCIETY	66,195.56	195,041.70	-256,558 64	0.00	4,678 62		
9400	AIRPORT FUNDS	25,253.21	127,351 76	-148,791.08	0.00	3,813_89		
9500	HOLDING ACCOUNT FUNDS	132,365 82	299,656 45	-325,175,03	0.00	106,847_24		
9700	TIF FUNDS	56,639,68	515,703 51	-570,714.35	0.00	1,628.84		
	Grand Totals	26,598,553,29	36,608,963.22	-46,913,833.14	3,865,406.97	20,159,090.34		
Total of disbursements from your disbursement work was -46,822,650.50.								

STATEWIDES

DIRECTV NOW. No Satellite needed. \$40/month. 65 Channels. Stream Breaking News, Live Events, Sports & On Demand Titles. No Annual Contract. No Commitment. Call 1-855-417-4299.

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

Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-theline installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-877-933-0188

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.

SAFE STEP. North America s #1 CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING in over 150 newspapers. Reach thousands of readers for \$225/25 word ad. Contact your local newspaper or call 1-800-369-2850.

SCI - JULY 10, 2024

JACUZZI BATH Remodel can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, waving ALL installation costs! (Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. (Offer ends 6/30/24.) Call 1-888-448-1509

We want to Read Your Book! Dorrance Publishing-Trusted by Authors Since 1920 Book manuscript submissions currently being reviewed. Services: Comprehensive Consultation, Production, Promotion and Distribution Call for Your Free Author's Guide 1-877-858-2822 or visit dorranceinfo.com/Nebraska

BECOME A Published Author.

space need some attention? Call Repair! A permanent solution for waterproofing, failing and nasty crawl spaces. FREE Inspection & Same Day Estimate. \$250 off ANY project your right to know. with code GET250. Call 1-844-958-3431

DOES YOUR basement or crawl HELLO NEBRASKA! Introducing www.nepublicnotices.com, Thrasher Foundation a new public notice website presented as a public service by all Nebraska newspapers. foundations, sinking concrete Free access, fully searchable because democracy depends upon open government and

ZNEZ

SEWARD COUNTY INDEPENDENT PAGE 14 JULY 10, 2024

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

In print weekly and online.

Ads must be prepaid unless you have pre-approved credit. Cash, personal check, Visa, Mastercard or Discover are welcome.

HOW TO PLACE YOUR AD

Call: 402-643-3676 • Email: office@sewardindependent.com Online: sewardindependent.com • In person: 129 S. 6th St., Seward, NE

cretenewsonline.com

402-643-3300

PRICE REDUCED!

www.UnderwoodTeam4You.com

1153 N 12th St. * Seward 623 Woodsage Rd. * Seward 874 Ironwood Dr. * Seward

Agent/Owne

CLASSIFIED LINE AD RATES

25 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.

AD DEADLINE: NOON FRIDAY*

FOR ALL PUBLICATIONS holidays

* Subject to change on

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.

sewardindependent.com

milfordtimes.net

UNDERWOOD

TEAM D.C.

Al Underwood

Ashley Crowdell

Agent/Owner

friendsentinel.com

205 HICKORY ST

wilber-republican.com

112 S 4TH, SEWARD, NE 68434

402.643.2541

WWW.WOODSBROS.COM

PETS

Purebred registered golden retriever puppies for sale - 3 boys and 2 girls available. 8 weeks old on July 1st. Asking \$1000 for boys, \$1200 for girls. Contact Hailey @ 402-937-3847

GARAGE SALE

GARAGE SALE SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE 1415 Iris Ave-Crete

Fri., July 12, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sat., July 13, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Home decor, lamps, baby strollers, highchair, toddler toys, Junior boys and girls, women and plus sized clothing, purses and shoes.

REAL ESTATE







140 E SEWARD ST



1050 N 6TH ST





SERVICES

Oatman Paint & Repair

Interior & Exterior Painting

Laminate & Tile Floors

Home Repair & Remodel

Jeff Oatman

402-540-5473 • Milford, NE

Drvwall

We CUSTOMER are FOCUSED. With PROVEN RESULTS.

SHELLY NITZ REALTOR® 402-641-0698 KELBY NITZ REALTOR® 402-646-0429 ASHLEY TERRY REALTOR® 402-509-7755

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. Paid for in part by the Saline County Visitors Advisory Committee.

FOX RUN APARTMENTS 690 S. Columbia Ave.

Seward, Nebraska Spacious 2 Bedroom **Apartments Available Now!**

Rent based on income Rental assistance available

for those who qualify! Call Cheryl for details (402) 643-2347 TDD 1-800-833-7352

Managed by RWI Property Management, Inc.

1-800-829-0636 **Equal Housing Opportunity** This institution is an Equal Opportunity

Computer and network repairs, maintenance, upgrades, replacements. 15+ years experience. Call Joe at 402-

641-4255

Air Duct Solutions

402-641-6656 Colby VanDerslice • 3110 McKelvie Rd., Seward, NE airductsolutionsofseward@gmail.com



WENDY'S Premier PAINTING

Interior Home or Business Refurbished Furniture 402-641-6092 Find me on **f** too!

REFRIGERATION HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

402-643-3644

24/7 Service • Sales Installation

Commercial/Residential 734 Seward St. Seward, NE

MILFORD AIR CONDITIONING

309 1st Milford 402-761-2433

Air Conditioning

 Heating Sales & Service

DAIKIN Saltzman Air Conditioning & Heating **E**CONTRACTORS. LLC Since 1996

Call us for your roofing needs

Call Matt & Dave Burkey 402.641.2214

Call today to schedule a check on your air conditioning unit.



402-643-5711

dougshvacllc@gmail.com

Call us for all farm and ag-related dirtwork 402-641-4064 Dave & Matt Burkey **Owners**

Randy Ulrich Owner/Operator 20+ Years Experience

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 discrimiillegal 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

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.

WEET TEA

Sweet Success. Starts Here.

NEED SOMETHING PRINTED? WE GOT YOU COVERED.

> Call today to get started! 402-643-3678



HELP WANTED

THE CITY OF CRETE is currently accepting applications for full-time Electric Lineman I. The general functions include; Organize and implement all aspects of direct work on the City electrical distribution system. This is a full-time, hourly position subject to oncall status. Job description and application is available online at www.crete.ne.gov. You may email the application to jobs@ crete.ne.gov or send to City of Crete, 243 East 13th Street,

Crete NE 68333. WILBER CLATONIA Public Schools has the following positions open: EL (English Language) Para Position (must be able to read, speak and interpret English); Elementary Para Position; Preschool Para Position. Please go to www. wilberclatonia.org>> Choose District>> Employment Opportunities and fill out the Classified Application form. Open until filled. Equal **Opportunity Employer**

- Nurse: RN Every Other Wknd Day/Eve; PT Eve (Fri)
- CNAs: Weekends Day/Eve Shift; PT Evenings
- Med Aide: Part Time Evenings • Dietary Aide: Weekends Shifts
- Cook: Full Time PM Shift
- Housekeeping: Full Time Weekday; Weekend
- Laundry & Activities: Part time positions



FOR MORE INFO or TO APPLY VISIT: SUNRISECOUNTRYMANOR.COM/CAREERS 610 224th Road, Milford Ph: (402) 761-3230 ext. 224

THE VILLAGE OF MALCOLM is accepting applications for a full-time VILLAGE CLERK/TREASURER person.

Applicants must be at least 18 years of age, hold a valid driver's license, and be able to pass a drug test.

Individual responsibilities would include a wide variety of clerical and receptionist tasks that involve working with the public; using the utility billing system including computing, sending bills, reading meters and making deposits; payroll; office procedures and

Must have a working knowledge and experience in computer software, spreadsheets and word processing and good communication skills. Wages are negotiable depending upon qualifications.

Applications are available at the Malcolm Village Hall, 137 E. 2nd Street, Malcolm, Nebraska. For more information call Nadine at (402) 580-3959 or (402) 796-2250. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.



HOSPITAL OPENINGS

- RN Day & Night shifts: FT, PT, PRN • Admissions Coordinator: FT
- Nutritional Services Member: FT
- 340B Program Coordinator/
- Pharmacy Technician: FT
 Medical Laboratory

Scan for all opportunities

- Scientist/Technician: FT
- Hospital Billing Coordinator: FT • Human Resources Assistant: FT

- Billing Coordinator: FT • Phone Triage Nurse: PT PRN Positions: Respiratory

CLINIC OPENINGS

• RN/LPN/CMA: FT

Therapist, Support Services Technician, Child Care Teacher Aide





300 N. Columbia Ave. • Seward, Nebraska 402.643.2971 • MHCS.us • **f o in**

B Street Band connects with favorite songs

Milfordbased group to perform at Summer Music Series July 13

BY LORI SHRINER For the Seward County Independent

Dave Miller likes it when people in the audience are nodding, singing and moving with the classic rock and country songs The B Street Band performs.

"I want to make sure people are familiar with the songs," Miller said, "The main goal is really to make that connection with people."

For the past 15 years, Miller, his wife, Tammy Miller, on vocals and percussion, Tom Troyer on bass, Craig Bontrager on percussion, Steve Hanson



The B Street Band, which is rooted in Milford and plays classic rock and country music, performed in Seward's inaugural Fifth Street Concert Series in 2023 and returns to the bandshell stage Saturday, July 13, from 5 – 8 p.m.

on guitar and Phil Goddard on keyboard have comprised The B Street Band.

The band will be on the Seward Bandshell stage for the Seward Arts Council's 5th Street Summer Music Series on Saturday, July 13, performing from 5 - 8 p.m.

"I started as a kid playing music in a bluegrass

band," Dave Miller said. "Playing music has been a part of what I do whatever I am doing."

The band members first connected during the 11 years Miller served as pastor at the Bellwood Mennonite Church, which is on B Street in Milford. Troyer and Bontrager still live in Milford.

A couple band members

were in the church's worship band and before long, Miller said, they decided to take their music out into the community. They soon had gigs at wineries and other venues.

One night about six years ago, the band was short a keyboard player and one of the bandmembers knew a guy in Lincoln from his hometown of

Imperial who could fill in. Brad Moline sat in with the band that night, and

quickly connected with its members, Miller said. Moline, it turns out, is the founder and president of Allo Fiber Nebraska, and before long, Miller found himself joining the Allo team.

Part of his job as Allo general manager is connecting with the 35 Nebraska communities, like Seward, in which it now provides fiber-optic communication and internet services.

"One of the things we like to do is support things that pertain to music and the arts," Miller said.

He works with the company's sponsorship of the Live@ Telegraph **Summer Concert Series** near Allo's offices in the Telegraph District, which has featured local bands on Wednesday nights for the past six summers.

That made for instant interest when Allo was asked to help sponsor the Seward Arts Council's inaugural Fifth Street Concert Series in 2023, and The B Street Band was on stage to connect with the Seward audience.

Miller said Allo and the band are pleased to be coming back as a sponsor and performers in year

Allo is a bronze sponsor of the 2024 series, with Cattle Bank and Trust, Suhr & Lichty Insurance Agency, ASPYR Professional Group and Seward County Gives. Jones Bank and Jones Group Insurance/Financial Services are silver-level sponsors.

Miller said band members saw many familiar faces in the crowd last year and anticipate seeing friends, family and coworkers again this year.

Memorial Hospital addition to improve patient services

Information taken from archived files of the Blue Valley Blade and the Seward County Independent for the third week of July.

The unveiling of the Soldier's Monument at the Seward County Courthouse will be July 23rd with appropriate ceremonies for such an occasion under the auspices of Seward Post No. 8, Grand Army of the Republic.

Four government men will be working in Seward County for the next two or three weeks. A large number of barberry bushes have already been removed from the county and the rust must be destroyed in order to get rid of the black stem rust.

1934

In talking with old residents who have lived here fifty years and more, they inform us that they have never known the hot weather to come so early and keep right at it every day without a letup. The reports coming to us Sunday were all the way from 105 to 119, and we know that it was hot.

Workmen are busy just across the street from the Blue Valley Blade office, digging, leveling and laying stone to build the beautiful Rose Bowl, Greek ampitheatre, band stand, or whatever you wish to call it. Anyway, it promises to be a beauty spot in Seward, and one that can be used in many ways for the entertainment of the people of the community.

A highlight of the upcoming Seward County Fair will be a regular old-fashioned balloon

ascension and parachute jump. Professor Murphy will shoot into the sky with his 72 feet high balloon and return to earth by leaping at a height of 5,000 feet with a parachute. Old timers say that it has been about 20 years since a balloon ascension has been held in Seward.

1944

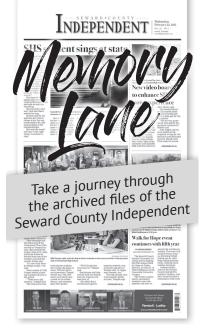
Seward and community has been quite lucky in receiving rainfall all during the present season, with several nice rains during the month of July. However, last Friday night we received a little more than we really cared for when 5.80 of an inch fell in about three hours. A drive west of Seward disclosed the low lands all flooded on both sides of the road, all of the flood water coming down Lincoln creek and backing up the Blue above the park.

The appointment of R.A. Summers as its ambassador of good will for Seward and surrounding territory has just been announced by Ak-Sar-Ben.

1954

State officers of the Junior Chamber of Commerce will be special guests of the Seward Jaycees next Sunday. The occasion will be "Charter Night" for the new Seward organization, when the official charger will be presented at ceremonies in Hughes Brothers cabin near Seward.

Representatives of the Milford Grange brought the oxygen air pressure lock, bought by the Grange for service in Memorial Hospital, to the hospital Monday morning.



Plans have been made to hold a Seward county irrigation tour on Aug. 10. Visits will be made to farms where members of the tour will see how irrigating is being done.

Seward's national guard unit is busy preparing for annual field maneuvers starting August 1, as the men go to Camp Ripley, Minn., for two weeks of training

1964

The 1964 Seward School District Census shows a slight gain over last year. The 1964 figures show 2,720 children up to and including age 20, 93 more than a year ago.

Residents of the Seward area will have an opportunity to visit the recently completed facilities of the Anna Sundermann Nursing Home at the north city limits of Seward on July 19.

The 1974 Seward County Fair will feature an RCA approved championship rodeo this year, according to general superintendent Dick Stillahn. The rodeo will offer the biggest prize purse ever for the fair - \$1,000 and will include six events.

Clifton Foster, new superintendent for the Seward School District, says he hopes to make the district a AA-accredited system before he is done here. In an interview with the Independent, Foster said there are now 34 AA-accredited school systems in the state, "and I'd like to make Seward be 35."

1984

A photo caption read: Sue Beach of Seward purchases vegetables from Jason Herrold, 11, at the Farmer's Market held on the north side of the square on Seward Street on July 14. About 10 farmers gathered for the early morning sale, which included a variety of vegetables, fresh eggs and other items for the general public's purchase.

"My philosophy is to develop not brick and mortar but services to the community, said Doug Ellis, who has been administrator at Memorial Hospital, Seward, since January. Ellis was explaining the addition which the hospital hopes to have ready for use by spring 1985. The addition, to be attached on the north side of the building, will house a new radiology room, a radiology office and an emergency room garage. It will cost \$473,000.

Milford will once again host the annual Lovefest Christian music festival. According to John Nellessen, co-chairman of the Lovefest steering committee, a year of preparation will draw to a climax when 10 individual singers and groups gather for the concert on July 23 at Riverside Park.

Seward High School students, many of whom drive to school daily, will find some changes in their parking lot this fall. And the changes will be student-instigated.

2004

Seward-area residents raised \$21,000 for the American Cancer Society during a Relay for Life event on June 4.

Seward County students acquitted themselves well at the national SkillsUSA competition in Kansas City. Lindsay Wallman was the top finisher from Seward High, earning third place in medical assisting.

2014

Carnegie Hall in New York City is a mecca for musicians. Not everyone has a chance to perform there, however. Dr. Rodney and Mrs. Laura Jean Hiser of Seward, however, are now among those who have. The two members of Lincoln Choral Artists were part of the choir on May 24 that performed "To Be Certain of the Dawn" by Stephen Paulus.

The Village of Utica held public hearings July 7 to determine the community perspective on a proposed local option sales tax.

New Malcolm principal strives to expand others' impact

BY STEPHANIE CROSTON scroston@sewardindependent.com

The principal's job at Malcolm Public School was a homecoming, of sorts, for Simon Weidel.

Weidel student taught at Malcolm with Becky Densberger while he was a student at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Now he's back in the district as the principal.

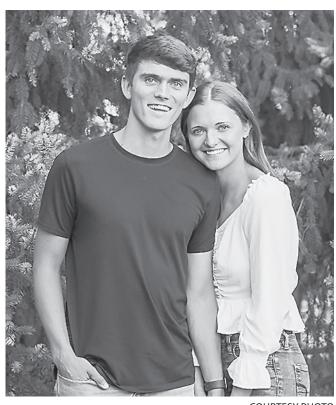
"I'm looking forward to it, to be part of the existing culture of excellence," he said.

The students he taught in Densberger's fifth-grade class are sophomores now, he said.

Weidel grew up in Hebron, the same hometown as his parents. Both were active in the community, and Weidel, who is the third for four kids, said that set a good example for him.

After deciding to leave the farm, his father became the principal at Thayer Central and his

mother was the secretary. "There was a lot of time



COURTESY PHOTO

Simon Weidel, pictured with his wife Abigail, is the new high school principal at Malcolm Public School.

were talking about it at home."

Watching how his

spent at school," he said. parents worked together -"If we were not there, we

his dad had ideas and his mom put them together - inspired him. He didn't want to go into education

at first, however. With his interest in math and numbers, he decided to try engineering and architecture and design spaces. It wasn't quite right, though, so he changed to elementary education.

UNL provides a lot of practicum experience, and Weidel spent time in many different grades, he said. When he graduated, he was hired to teach fourth grade at Gretna. He ended up teaching third grade and loved it, he said.

"It was nice to find a home there," he said.

However, administration was always his goal. He earned his PK-6 admistrative degree at UNL. He's finishing his 7-12 certification. Weidel said he is looking forward "to exploring the unknowns with middle school and high school."

Being a principal allows him to continue to teach.

"I can partner with teachers," he said, and that will allow both to

expand their impact. He wants to cultive an

environment in which students can thrive. He wants teachers to push them and hold them accountable while providing structure.

Weidel ran short sprints (100 and 200) and long jumped for the track and field team at UNL. He coached track at Gretna, which gave him a different eryone - Weidel into an perspective.

He started officiating volleyball as a sophomore in high school but said he will not do as much of that now.

His wife Abigail is from Crete and works at Bryan Health in the cardiac intensive care unit. They have two golden doodles, Winston and Oliver, and are expecting their first child this fall.

This year will be a transition year for evadministrative role and the district adjusting to a new principal.

"I want to build on what's been done," Weidel said.









PHOTOS BY ANDRES LOPEZ/SCI

Strike up the Municipal Band

ABOVE LEFT: Jessica Schreiner, director of the Seward Municipal Band, leads the group through a variety of instrumental pieces at a packed bandshell during Seward's Fourth of July celebration. ABOVE: The audience dances out the YMCA song with the Seward Municipal Band. ABOVE RIGHT: Jared Schreiner debuts his patriotic hat while playing his trumpet with the Seward Municipal Band.



Donelson was the battle

in which the Nebraska sol-

diers stopped the Confederate retreat and helped

vault Ulysses S. Grant to national prominence.

into the brigade's com-

mand and saw all the streamers, "that was pow-

erful," he said.

When Strong stepped

Exhibits like the one

at the museum will keep

history from being forgot-

ten – a history of strength

"This is our history as

and of honor, he said.

Nebraskans," he said.

From left, Pedro DeLaPaz, plant manger, and Amy Patterson, president. of Petsource by Scoular and Major Gen. Craig Strong unveil the new exhibit at the Nebraska National Guard Museum recognizing the Nebraska soldiers who fought in the Civil War.

New exhibit at NNGM honors soldiers from Civil War era

BY STEPHANIE CROSTON

scroston@sewardindependent.com

It's been almost 160 years since the end of the Civil War, but the impact of that conflict is still felt today.

On July 4, the Nebraska National Guard Museum unveiled its newest exhibit honoring the Nebraska soldiers who fought in the Civil War.

Major Gen. Craig Strong of the Nebraska National Guard talked about the history and importance of the guard.

The history goes back to 1636 in Massachusetts Bay and the Minutemen, he said. At Lexington and Concord, the "shot heard round the world" was fired by one of the Minutemen, who were the forerunners of the guard.

In 1854, Nebraska was still a territory on the western frontier of America. In 1860, Col. John Thayer helped establish and solidify the Nebraska National Guard. The territory's population was less than 30,000, Strong said, but when the Civil War began, more than 3,200 men enlisted.

"Nebraska always punches above its weight class," Strong said.



STEPHANIE CROSTON/SCI

Major Gen. Craig Strong speaks at the dedication of the Nebraskans in the Civil War exhibit at the Nebraska National Guard Museum July 4.

Today, that percentage would be about 200,000 people in the state enlisting at one time. That equals the entire Army reserve, Strong said.

He served with the 67th Brigade, which traces its service back to the Civil War. Each battle it was in adds a streamer to the brigade's colors. The brigade includes streamers for Fort Donelson, Shiloh and Missouri 1862 and 1863.





JEFFREY CALHOUN/SCI

'Oh, say can you see'

Members of Scout Troop 256 salute the flag during their presentation of the colors as Brynlie Robbins sings the National Anthem during Seward's Fourth of July celebration.



PHOTO COURTESY MONICA (BARRY) BRENTANO

Capturing the spirit

A flag blowing in the wind taken July 3 frames the Seward County Courthouse prior to the city's annual Fourth of July celebration.