

From JoAnn Baum's Kitchen

Squash or Sweet Potato Casserole



Good day, It's getting to that time of year to harvest the garden as well as the corn and soybeans. This week I have a recipe where you can use some of that butternut squash you grew this summer.

We love squash in our house. I do freeze it every year and use it on the holidays, this recipe is my all time favorite. I love the flavor the spices give it. Remember the raisins are optional and not something I add! Happy cooking!

Jo Ann

SQUASH OR SWEET POTATO CASSEROLE

6 cooked mashed sweet potatoes or 4 cups cooked mashed squash
1/4 cup butter melted
1/2 cup brown sugar
1/2 tsp salt
1/2 tsp cloves

1/2 tsp vanilla
1/8 tsp nutmeg
1/2 cup raisins (optional)

Preheat oven to 350°. Mix all the ingredients well. Bake in a sprayed casserole dish. Before removing from the oven, add a handful of miniature marshmallows to the top. Hint: My family really likes it made from butternut squash. It's really good leftover! Delicious!

Sex-based constitutional restriction to be on ballot

LINCOLN — A ballot measure that would let Nebraska voters decide whether to constitutionally limit sports participation in public K-12 schools and colleges to teams that are biologically male, female or co-ed will be on the November ballot, the state's top election official announced Friday.

Nebraska Secretary of State Bob Evnen announced the conservative-leaning group behind the measure collected at least 138,613 valid signatures. The group, Fairness for Girls, said it submitted more than 211,000 signatures in June for the proposal.

The group needed to gather signatures from 10% of the state's registered voters, as well as a geographic cross-section of Nebraska.

The measure would "amend the Nebraska Constitution to establish constitutional protections for sex-separate athletics

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See BALLOT, Page 6 ▶



Photo submitted

Reese Stuhr completes USAF military training in Texas

Reese Stuhr, a 2026 graduate of Pope John XXIII Central Catholic High School, graduated U.S. Air Force Basic Military Training on August 26 & 27, 2026. Reese is the daughter of Brian & Clarissa Stuhr of Petersburg. She will continue on to technical training with the United States Air Force.

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‘Skip’ is the word’ moving forward

It’s September, the month when children skip down the driveway to catch the school bus. Farmers skip cranking up the pivot irrigation system in hopes of drying down a high-yield corn crop for harvest. And, without skipping a beat, Husker football and volleyball wins make the wish list. Only a couple of weeks ago, we heard this -- “No running,”

the mom forcibly reminded the exuberant child the last day the Elgin Municipal Pool was open. To get to the deep end for one more cannonball, walking just wouldn’t do, so the child skipped, gleefully. After all, the glimmering water was merely a hop, skip, and a jump away. Tomorrow, the pool would be transformed into a giant cement-lined hole in the Elgin City Park. For a youngster who loves the water, waiting nine long months until the pool opens again is definitely not a hop, skip, and a jump away. Maybe the parents will skip out for a winter trip where a heated indoor hotel pool will suffice. Keep the swimsuit and goggles handy. Heck, maybe you’ll even get to skip school for a day. Though not generally advised, with parental and teacher support, most students nary skip a beat if they miss a day. Travel can be a different, enriching kind of learning experience. Skipping rope was always a fun pastime growing up. Turns out, it’s actually a great exercise for adults as well. During a recent cruise

through the Inside Passage of Alaska, the evening entertainment was stellar. Some skipped it and watched TV in their cabins instead. Hard for this music lover to understand. How can you skip out on a talented rock band, exuberant dancing, top-notch vocals, and banter by the cruise director resulting in uproarious laughter? High quality entertainment can make your heart skip a beat with excitement. Same happens when you see a child graduate from school, catch sight of a drop-dead gorgeous human, or marvel at the way a community like Elgin pulls together to help others. In medical terms, there actually is no such thing as a skipped heartbeat. The feeling is an extra, premature beat. The heart completely fills with blood, a brief pause follows while the heart resets, and the next beat is stronger than normal. This is generally caused by too much caffeine, dehydration, or intensive anxiety. Speaking of anxiety, especially related to struggling relationships, therapists sometimes refer to a scratch in an old vinyl record as a metaphor to make a point about relational ruptures.

The song plays beautifully until the record player needle reaches the scratch. Then it jumps back to replay the same few seconds over and over. Unless the needle is gently moved past the scratch, or the record is somehow repaired, the music stops cold. Like the record, relationships can get stuck, always replaying old, painful emotional wounds. Sometimes the scratch is so deep that the record needs to be pitched. Therapists help clients repair the record through honest conversation, seeking understanding and forgiveness. The word skip shows up in a new way in the United Kingdom, Australia, and New

Say What?



Elgin Columnist Jane Schuchardt

See JANE, Page 7➤



Looking Back

Sixty Years Ago

September 8, 1966

Representing the Elgin FFA Chapter at the Antelope County Fair were Don Carr, Doug Von Bonn, and Roger Braband. Don exhibited 15 sheep including the grand champion Hampshire ram and ewe, the reserve champion Hampshire ram and ewe, and several groups receiving blue and purple ribbons. Doug exhibited a Hereford cow and received the top blue ribbon. Roger received a blue ribbon on his Angus cow. An attendance of 1000 Catholic women and priests, representing 23 northeastern Nebraska counties, is expected at the 42nd annual convention of the Omaha Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women on Tuesday, Sept. 20 at Notre Dame Academy in Omaha. His Excellency, Archbishop Paul J. Hallinan of Atlanta, Ga. will be the principal speaker. Elgin came through the month of August with 9.75 inches of rainfall and the month had no more than closed its books when the advent of September brought a continuation of belated moisture to the tune of 2.50 inches in two days of moisture.

Fifty Years Ago

September 8, 1976

Mr. and Mrs. Leland Pierce returned home Thursday night from a three week vacation on the west coast and in Denver, CO. Leland attended the 58th National Convention of the American Legion in Seattle, WA as a delegate from Nebraska. Mrs. Anna Pelster celebrated her 89th birthday anniversary on September 3rd with a birthday party. In attendance at the party were Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Schrage of Elgin ; Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Pelster and family, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Pelster and family of Petersburg; Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Moser of Orovada, NV; Mr. and Mrs. Victor Borer and family of Albion and Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Vanderheiden of Elgin. Mr. and Mrs. Mike Schmitt and Chad, Mrs. Mike Seier and sons and Mr. and Mrs. Bob Thiele and daughters also attended. Two hundred thirty Nebraska cities and towns have realized \$1,536,736 as a result of agreements leasing their electrical distribution systems to the Nebraska Public Power District, according to Bernard M. DeLay of Norfolk, member of the NPPD Board of Directors, Elgin received \$6,688.

Thirty Years Ago

September 11, 1996

Elgin High School’s volleyball teams swept both varsity and JV matches at Springview Keya Paha last Friday, Sept. 6. The Lady Eagle varsity dominated by scores of 15-4 and 15-0. A total of 32 Elgin area youngsters participated in the annual Punt, Pass and Kick Contest last Sunday, Sept. 8, at the Elgin High School football field. Top three placers in each of the four age groups will advance to a regional contest on Sept. 22 at O’Neill. Antelope County Board of supervisors have proposed a 3.5 percent property tax increase in their county budget for the 1996 fiscal

See BACK, Page 5 ➤

Elgin Community Center meals

Monday, September 7: Closed (Labor Day). **Tuesday, September 8:** Spaghetti & meatsauce, corn, lettuce salad, tropical fruit, garlic stick, milk. **Wednesday, September 9:** Smothered pork cutlets, mashed potatoes & gravy, green beans, mandarin oranges, bread & butter, milk. **Thursday, September 10:** Baked chicken breast, stuffing, sweet potato, mixed vegetables, peaches, bread & butter, milk. **Friday, September 11:** Tator tot casserole, lettuce salad, fruit cocktail, bread & butter, milk. Menus are provided by the Community Center and are subject to change. **Suggested price is \$7 per meal** for persons 60 years of age and older. **Under 60 is \$10.** Serving starts at approximately 11:45 a.m. and ends around 12:15 p.m. Meals are served Monday thru Friday. Takeout starts at 11:30 a.m. Please call 843-5757 by 9:30 a.m. to reserve a meal for that day. For a great meal, come to the community center!

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Athletes on this year's calendar are Dannyka Smidt, Matthew Kerkman, Elizabeth Moser, Jayvin Erickson, Brooke Kinney, John Zwingman, Justice Blecher, Anna Dworak and Gavin Kallhoff.
The calendars contain sporting events and scheduled activities at Elgin Public and Pope John XXIII Central Catholic schools.

A shared commitment to service

Whether it's caring for our nation's veterans, helping a neighbor in need, or defending our freedom, Nebraskans understand the importance of serving those around them. Over the past several days, that commitment was on full display across our state. I was proud to witness and share the spirit of service that makes Nebraska so special.

To begin the week, I celebrated the groundbreaking of a new Gathering Place facility. The Gathering Place has served Lincoln for more than four decades, offering hot meals to hundreds of residents every evening. The current facility is a century-old house with a 120-square-foot kitchen, which is in desperate need of an upgrade. I'm excited to see the additional lives they will touch once their new space is finished.

Next, I met with the Rare Disease Legislative Advocates to discuss legislation advancing access to rare disease treatments and cures. I was proud to cosponsor the Accelerating Kids' Access to Care Act and the Give Kids a Chance Act, which were both signed into law earlier this year. Today, over 30 million Americans suffer from one of 7,000 rare diseases. I know we can count on Nebraskans to continue advocating for those who need it most.

I also had the privilege of being at Offutt Air Force Base, home of U.S.

WASHINGTON REPORT



U.S. Senator
Deb Fischer

Strategic Command (STRATCOM), with the Secretary of War, Pete Hegseth, and Senator Pete Ricketts. After a tour and discussion, I was honored to take part in a troop re-enlistment ceremony. These brave individuals renewed their commitment to serving our country and defending our freedom - a commitment that reflects the dedication of everyone serving at STRATCOM. Secretary Hegseth underscored just how critical their mission is to our national defense. Much of their work happens quietly, far from the public eye, but their service keeps Americans safe every day. I could not be prouder that Offutt calls our state home, and I am grateful Secretary Hegseth joined us for this special occasion.

But our appreciation for service-members should not end when their duty is complete. We owe it to our veterans to provide quality healthcare and benefits.

That's why I was pleased to welcome the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Doug Collins, to Omaha to visit the VA Hospital and Sarpy County Clinic. I appreciate Secretary Collins for taking the time to meet with VA staff, who work tirelessly to assist our veterans. It was especially meaningful to join him in presenting coins of recognition to hardworking VA healthcare providers. Nebraska's best is reflected in these men and women who dedicate themselves to our veterans.

Last week was a reminder that service takes on many forms, but each is rooted in a commitment to improving the lives of others.

It is a commitment I will continue to carry with me as I represent Nebraskans in the U.S. Senate.

I'm no farmer. And I haven't slept at a Holiday Inn lately.

But I do know a few folks who work the soil and tend to livestock.

And despite abundant rains lately, it's not the best of times down on the farms and ranches of Nebraska -- the backbone of the state's economy.

Low crop prices have hurt the bottom line of corn and soybean producers, and drought and spring wildfires out west put a hurt on cattle producers there.

Beyond that, the war with Iran has dramatically increased prices for fertilizer and diesel, which are essential farm inputs.

According to the American Farm Bureau, fuel prices for farmers shot up 46% after missiles began flying in late February. Prices for urea rose a similar amount after the Strait of Hormuz (one we'd hardly heard of before) was shut down. That's a big deal because about half of the world's supply of urea travels through that strait, the AFB said.

So it came as a proverbial boot in the behind when President Trump recently announced that he was allowing 300,000 metric tons of ground beef to be imported tariff free over the next 90 days.

Raising cattle, according to my farming friends, is making good money right now, in large part because the supply of cattle is at a 75-year low. Demand is still high, so with supply limited, prices have risen.

But if you bring in more imported beef, the one bright spot down on the farm isn't so bright anymore.

President Trump, as he often does, blames former President Joe Biden for the high cost of hamburger and other beef products.

But other factors are to blame -- costs to buy calves and raise cattle have risen, drought in some areas cut into hay supplies, there's competition from imported meat, and overall, there's fewer ranchers and farmers to raise beef critters.

There's a pretty consistent cycle in the beef business.

When prices go down and it becomes

ALL THINGS NEBRASKA



State Correspondent
Paul Hammel

Importing more beef a bad idea for Nebraska farmers



more expensive to feed and process your cattle, like they did a few years back, cows are sold off, and the nation's beef herd shrinks. But when prices get good again -- like they are now -- producers start rebuilding their inventories.

But it takes a few years for beef herds to rebound, so expect to pay more for your burgers for a while.

The head of the Nebraska Farm Bureau, Mark McHargue, didn't mince words about Trump's latest tariff-related, low blow to farmers. It "could not have come at a worse time" for the state's cow-calf producers, he said, because they are right now making business decisions for the future.

"Temporary injections of tariff-free beef to 'maybe' address higher beef prices only creates short-term pain on feed calf prices without long-term solutions for cattle producers," McHar-

gue stated.

Beyond that, he said, an extra 300,000 metric tons won't make much of a dent in high burger prices.

Several politicians, including U.S. Sen. Deb Fischer, panned the move by Trump as a bad idea.

But the president seems to enjoy messing with international markets, as he has done with China, once a much bigger buyer of American farm goods. Trump failed to cut a great deal with the Chinese, and farmers paid the price.

Now, our president is picking a trade fight with Canada, a consistent ally that purchases \$29 billion worth of U.S. farm goods each year.

Only Mexico buys more. I guess it worked out so well with China, why not?

By law, Congress is supposed to decide what tariffs to impose, not the

president. The chief executive can only do so in special circumstances, which the White House has been claiming.

I've got an idea -- why not stop picking fights and work to increase exports of American farm products? That might raise prices and improve economic prospects for farmers and ranchers.

That's what they want, not another check from the government.

Another idea -- go golfing and let Congress handle tariffs. Maybe they can do better.

Paul Hammel has covered the Nebraska state government and the state for decades. He is a retired senior reporter for the Nebraska Examiner and the former Capitol Bureau Chief for the Omaha World-Herald. A native of Ralston, Nebraska, he loves traveling and writing about the state.

Creating a seat at the table for Nebraska's next generation

Some of the most important conversations I had growing up happened around the kitchen table with my grandfather. From a young age, he challenged me to pay attention to the world around me and form my own opinions. We talked about what was happening in our community, the policies being debated, and the leaders making the decisions that affected our lives.

My grandfather never told me what to think; instead, he asked me what I thought and challenged me to explain my reasoning. Our conversations were never about seeing eye-to-eye on every issue. But something far more important: the value of being engaged, asking questions, listening to different

perspectives, and having a voice in the conversations that shape our communities.

Those conversations continue to shape the man I am today, which is why I want to return the favor and continue to create opportunities for young Nebraskans to have a seat at the table.

As I travel throughout Nebraska's Third District, some of my favorite conversations are with our next generation of leaders.

Whether I am visiting with students in a classroom, meeting with young people in their communities, or hearing their questions at a local event, I am continually impressed by their curiosity and willingness to engage on the issues that matter most to them.

They have thoughtful perspectives on the challenges facing their communities and big ideas about how we can build a stronger future.

That is why I created the Third District Youth Advisory Council.

My Youth Advisory Council gives high school students from across the Third District an opportunity to bring those ideas and perspectives directly to me.

Throughout the school year, advisory members discuss local and federal issues, share their thoughts and concerns, and learn more about the legislative process and how decisions made in Washington can affect our communities.

Through in-person meetings, online

forums, and conference calls, students also have the opportunity to hear from their peers, engage in meaningful discussions, and learn from perspectives different from their own. I hope that students leave the Council with a better understanding of how our government works and, more importantly, a greater sense of their own ability to make a difference.

Applications for my 2026-2027 Youth Advisory Council are now open, and I encourage all interested students to visit my website adriansmith.house.gov/services/youth-advisory-council and apply before applications close on September 25, 2026.

I look forward to listening to Nebraska's next generation of leaders, learning from their perspectives, and giving them the same opportunity my grandfather gave me: to think critically about the world around them and find their own voice.

FROM THE HILL



Congressman
Adrian Smith

Numbers to Know

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U.S. Senate Website: www.senate.gov

Senator Deb Fischer: 825 B Hart Senate Office Bldg., Washington D.C. 20510. Phone: (202) 224-6551. Fax: (202) 228-1325.

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District 40 State Senator Barry DeKay: P.O. Box 94604, Lincoln, NE 68509. Phone: (402) 471-2801. E-mail: barry.dekay@leg.ne.gov.

coaching and access to nicotine replacement therapies at no cost to the participant, regardless of their health insurance status or coverage limits.

The Nebraska Tobacco Quitline mirrors medical guidelines by focusing on combination therapy to increase success rates.

Under this framework, participants can receive free cessation medication kits containing long-acting nicotine patches alongside short-acting nicotine gum

or lozenges.

This dual approach is clinically proven to be more effective than using a single product alone. Research and surveys suggest nearly 7 out of 10 adults who smoke report wanting to quit.

However, the out-of-pocket costs for these therapeutic tools often deter people from taking the first

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Long presides over pretrial hearings in district court

A 35-year-old man was scheduled to appear on Aug 26, in Antelope County District Court, for a pretrial hearing on one count of operating a motor vehicle/avoid arrest-felony, a Class IV felony.

Instead, defense attorney Doug Stratton requested a continuance of the hearing and jury trail for Michael S. Boughton of Krum, Texas. Antelope County Attorney Joe Smith did not object, and The Honorable Michael L. Long set a court date on Sept. 30 for the pretrial hearing. A jury trial is scheduled for Nov. 16.

Jonathyn Gunderson, of Neligh, accepted a plea agreement in a case where he faced one count of terroristic threats, a Class IIIA felony. According to Smith and Stratton, the state will recommend probation at sentencing if Gunderson pleads guilty.

The defendant withdrew his prior not guilty plea and pleaded guilty to the charge, and Long adjudged him guilty. The judge ordered a presentence investigation, which will need to be completed by Oct. 14. Gunderson will appear for sentencing on Oct. 28.

Bond, set at \$50,000-10%, with all previous conditions, remains in effect.

Sean T. Hammock, 22, of Neligh, accepted a plea deal. Per the agreement, the state will file amended information, dismissing Count II, and Hammock will plead guilty or no contest to the amended charge.

Smith filed an amended charge of Count I, strangulation, a Class IIIA felony, and Hammock pleaded guilty. Long found the defendant guilty and ordered a presentence investigation be completed by Oct. 14. Hammock will appear for sentencing on Oct. 28.

Hammock requested a bond hearing and asked for a treatment bond to allow him to attend treatment. Smith objected to the request. Following arguments from Smith and defense counsel Doug Stratton, Long denied the request and continued bond at \$75,000-10%, with all previously-ordered conditions in effect. Hammock was remanded to the custody of the Antelope County Sheriff.

A pretrial conference was held for Austin Klabenes, 20, of Neligh. He faces one count of deliver/dispense, distribute/manufacture/posses an exceptional hazardous drug, a Class II felony.

Martin Klein, defense attorney, requested a continuance for the hearing and jury trial. Smith did not object, and Long granted the motion.

Klabenes will appear Sept. 30 for a pretrial hearing. A jury trial is scheduled for Nov. 16.

Bond, set at \$20,000-10%, with all previously-ordered conditions, remains in effect.

Klabenes was remanded to the custody of the Antelope County Sheriff.

Jace Rocha, 19, of Neligh, accepted a plea agreement. In exchange for a guilty or no contest plea, Smith would file amended charges - theft by unlawful taking, a Class IV felony, and will recommend probation at sentencing.

Smith filed the amended count, and Rocha pleaded guilty. Long found Rocha guilty, ordered a presentence investigation to be completed by Oct. 14, and set sentencing for Oct. 28.

Bond, set at \$5,000-10%, with all previously-ordered conditions, remains in effect.

A Norfolk woman facing a felony controlled substance charge requested a continuance.

Bryce T. Sealock, representing Denise A. Blevins, made the request. Smith did not object, and Long continued the pretrial and Motion - Rule 104 hearing to Sept. 30.

A jury trial is scheduled for Nov. 16.

A \$1,500 personal recognizance bond, with all previously-ordered conditions, remains in effect.

Courtesy of SAM

DeKay

◀ FROM Page 4

step.

Funding for this offer is provided by DHHS as a result of the 1998 Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement.

By providing these resources free of charge, this program eliminates a primary obstacle for individuals seeking healthier lives.

The scope of the program has also evolved to address modern shifts in nicotine consumption. In addition to traditional cigarette smoking, the Quitline offers specialized support tracks designed to address the rise of vaping, electronic cigarettes, and smokeless nicotine pouches.

These newer products present unique behavioral challenges, particularly among younger demographics and workers.

DHHS has structured its coaching programs to include these specific device and pouch dependencies, making sure the state's outreach remains relevant to current public health trends.

The program operates with an emphasis on accessibility and individual privacy. Services are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, ensuring that support is accessible to individuals working non-traditional shifts or irregular hours.

To accommodate all Nebraskans, the state provides dedicated hotlines for both English and Spanish speakers, alongside comprehensive digital registration options.

To use these state resources or to assist a loved one in their cessation, residents can contact the English hotline at 1-800-QUIT-NOW (1-800-784-8669) or the Spanish hotline at 1-855-DEJELO-YA (1-855-335-3569).

Registration and additional program details can also be accessed online at QuitNow.ne.gov. By using these state-funded tools, Nebraskans can take steps toward long-term health improvements.

I invite you to let me know your thoughts or concerns. My Capitol office telephone number is (402) 471-2801, my email is barry.dekay@leg.ne.gov, and my mailing address is Senator Barry DeKay, District #40, P.O. Box 94604, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE 68509.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



District 40 Senator
Barry DeKay

Back

◀ FROM Page 3

year. A public hearing on the new county budget will be held at 9 a.m. next Monday, Sept. 16, in the county supervisors' room at the courthouse.

Twenty Years Ago

August 30, 2006

On Thursday, Aug. 31, a report of a car and tractor accident was investigated six miles north of Neligh on Highway 14. The vehicles involved were a 1999 Pontiac and an 8320 John Deere tractor. Both vehicles were driven from the accident scene.

On Labor Day, Sept. 5, members of the Pope John Central Catholic football team spent several hours doing community service work in Elgin. The team members worked at the St. Boniface Church, the Elgin City Park, Centennial Garden and The Homestead. The community service work was organized by Connie Dvorak.

Stephanie Blair and Scott Stuhr have announced their engagement and plans for an Oct. 14 wedding at St. Bonaventure Catholic Church in Raeville. The future bride is the daughter of Dennis and Priscilla Blair of Elgin. Her fiancé is the son of Joe Stuhr, Jr. of Petersburg and Jean Breen of Eustis, NE.

Prepared by Olivia Klein

OBITUARIES

Allan J. Kluthe, 87

June 8, 1939 — August 26, 2026

An Elgin native, he became a school bus driver for generations of families. He always had a smile on his face and candy in his pockets.



Allan J. Kluthe, 87, of Elgin, NE, passed away on Wednesday,

August 26, 2026, at his home in Elgin.

Mass of Christian Burial will be 10:30 a.m., Thursday, September 3, 2026, St. Boniface Catholic Church with Rev. Frank Baumert officiating. Burial will follow at the parish cemetery. Visitation will be from 5-7 p.m. Wednesday at church with a 7:00 p.m. Wake Service.

Memorials are suggested to the family for later designation.

Levander Funeral Home of Elgin is in charge of arrangements. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.levander-funeralhome.com

Allan John Kluthe, son of Leander "Lee" George and Margaret Frances (Schneider) Kluthe, was born on June 8, 1939, at Elgin. He was baptized and confirmed at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Elgin. Allan attended St. Boniface School, graduating with the class of 1957. During high school, he worked hard on the family farm, spending his early mornings and evenings milking cows. Following graduation, Allan continued farming and raising livestock with his father. On December 26, 1962, Allan was united in marriage to Doris Jean Thille at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Elgin. The couple made their home near Elgin and were blessed with seven children: Paula, Carla, Leigh, Erick, David, Corey, and Allan Jr. "AJ."

While continuing to stay active in the farming operation, he partnered with Jim Hausmann to start H&K Fertilizer Company, which Allan eventually became sole owner selling farm equipment, seed, feed, fertilizer, lawn and garden products. He also dedicated

The Elgin Review • September 2, 2026

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Conflict Guidance From The Master

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Jesus counsels getting two witnesses or more when we are harmed.

"Or more" might even involve the church.

Because Jesus lives with us, two are enough to prompt God's acting.

In church this week, learn how Jesus' approach works.

For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.
Matthew 18:15-20

Exodus 12:1-14 Romans 13:8-14 Psalm 149

Revised Common Lectionary © 1992 by the Consultation on Common Texts for
Sunday, September 6, 2026
Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

For from him and through him and for him are all things.
To him be the glory forever!
Amen.
Romans 11:36

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St. Boniface Catholic Church
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Rev. Anthony Weidner, Associate Pastor
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Weekend Mass: Sunday, 10 am.
cppnebraska.org

St. Bonaventure Catholic Church
Raeville, NE
Fr. Frank Baumert, Parish Administrator
Rev. Anthony Weidner, Associate Pastor
Weekend Mass: 1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday, 8 am.
cppnebraska.org

Park Congregational U.C.C. Church
Elgin, NE
Congregational
Sunday Worship Service: 9:15 am.
Sunday School: 10:15 am.
Communion Sunday: 1st Sunday of each month. Park Women's Fellowship: 2 pm on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the church. Parish Council: 7:30 pm on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the church.

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church
Petersburg, NE
Fr. Frank Baumert, Parish Administrator
Rev. Anthony Weidner, Associate Pastor
Weekend Mass: 2nd & 4th Sunday, 8 am.
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Bartlett Church of Faith
Bartlett, NE
Pastor Mark Hoffman
Sunday Worship Service: 9 am.
Sunday School: 10-10:45 am.

Calvary Bible Church
Neligh, NE
Pastor Peter Sample
Sunday School: 9:30 am.
Worship Service: 10:45 am.

Trinity Lutheran Church
Elgin, NE
Vacancy Pastor Brian Bucklew
Sunday Worship Service: 8 am.
Sunday school follows service.
Saturday Evening Service: 6 pm on the 2nd Saturday of each month.

Elgin Community Christian Church
Elgin, NE
Pastor Jonathan Braden
605-430-9171
Sunday Worship Service: 9:30 am.
Church Council: 2nd Tuesday of each month.

St. John's Catholic Church
Rural Clearwater, NE
Fr. Frank Baumert, Parish Administrator
Rev. Anthony Weidner, Associate Pastor
Weekend Mass: 1st, 3rd & 5th Saturday, 5:30 am.
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St. Paul Lutheran Church
Chambers, NE
Pastor Leif Hasskari
Sunday Worship: 8:30 am.
Sunday School/Bible Study: 9:30 am.

Immanuel-Zion Lutheran Church
ELCA
Rural Albion, NE
Pastor Elizabeth Goehring
Worship Service: 9:30 am.
Coffee following services
Sunday School: 10:30 am.
Holy Communion, 1st & 3rd Sundays
(facility is handicap accessible plus Facebook Live and broadcasts on cable channel 65, Tuesday at 10:30 am.)

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Ashley Niewohner, APRN
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Ballot

◀ FROM Page 3

to ensure equal access to athletic opportunities for females.” The amendment, if passed, would constitutionally cement an existing state law requiring that all student-athletes compete in public K-12 or college sports compete on a team that matches their sex at birth.

The Nebraska Secretary of State’s Office will produce an informational pamphlet for this measure and hold public meetings in each of the state’s three congressional districts. The ballot initiative is one of the four statewide ballot measures whose petitions are under investigation by the Lancaster County Sheriff’s Office for possible fraud.

The Legislature passed a law last year, introduced by state Sen. Kathleen Kauth, that defined “sex” as whether someone “naturally has, had, will or would have, but for a congenital anomaly or intentional or unintentional disruption, the reproductive system that at some point produces, transports and utilizes” either eggs or sperm for fertilization.

The ballot language won’t define “sex” in the state constitution itself, relying on the definition in state law.

The general election is Nov 3.

County tax asking for 2026/2057 budget down slightly from one year ago

By Greg Tharnish
Special to The Elgin Review

The Antelope County Commissioners (ACC) met yesterday and set Tuesday, Sept. 8 at 10 a.m. for a Public Hearing concerning questions or issues with the upcoming budget.

The county valuation is \$37.1 million, up a bit from last year, while the tax asking is \$9.6 million, slightly down from last year.

The tax rate is also slightly down by 1.31%.

County Clerk Lisa Payne and Commissioner Regina Krebs were thanked by the other commissioners for their extensive work in putting the budget together.

County Attorney Joe Smith discussed contract issues with the ACC over the proposed phone system installation by Great Plains Communications (GPC).

A snafu came about when it was discovered that the current 911 system would not integrate with the new phone system without an expensive piece of equipment.

GPC will cover the cost of the equipment (\$11,000) but in the meantime, Sheriff Bob Moore informed the ACC that a new 911 system will be put in place within a year.

After a lengthy discussion, the ACC decided to put the new phone system on hold until the new 911 system is in place. Talks with GPC will continue, headed by Attorney Smith.

County Engineer Brian McDonald met with the ACC and is authorized to advertise for bridge replacement work north-east of Elgin.

Two bridges will be replaced and a hill will be cut down for better visibility. McDonald estimated the cost of the work to be about \$450,000.

Locals refer to one of the bridges for replacement as the “Starman bridge.”

In another matter concerning county roads, Oct. 6 has been set for a Public Hearing on the One-and-Six year road plan. The hearing is scheduled to begin at 9:30 am.

A promotional grant has been awarded to Elgin’s Treasures in the Park vendor fair by the Young and Lively Club. The

BCHC again earns five-star PER rating from CMS

Boone County Health Center (BCHC) has once again earned a five-star patient experience rating from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), marking the fifth time

BCHC has received this prestigious recognition.

The latest CMS data places BCHC among just 250 hospitals nationwide to receive the highest possible patient experience rating, highlighting the exceptional care and experience reported by patients.

The rating is based on the Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS) survey, which gathers feedback directly from patients about their hospital experience. The latest data reflects surveys collected from Oct. 1, 2024, through Sept. 30, 2025.

Earning five stars is a significant achievement and one that only a select number of hospitals across the country receive.

For BCHC, the recognition is

especially meaningful because it reflects the voices of the patients and the area families the hospital serves.

The HCAHPS survey measures key aspects of the patient experience, including communication with nurses and doctors, responsiveness of staff, communication about medicines and discharge, care transitions, and

patients’ overall ratings of the hospital.

“This recognition belongs to our entire team and, most importantly, to our patients,” said Caleb Poore, BCHC President/CEO.

“We are grateful for their trust and feedback and proud to continue providing exceptional care close to home.”

Death Notice

James Meis, 93 of Elgin, passed away Tuesday, September 1, 2026 at Accura Care Center in Neligh, NE.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be 10:30 a.m. this Saturday, September 5 at St. Boniface Church in Elgin, with Rev. Frank Baumert officiating. Interment will follow in the parish cemetery.

Visitation will be 5:00-7:00 p.m. Friday at the Church.

Levander Funeral Home of Elgin is in charge of the arrangements. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.levanderfuneralhome.com.

Bartlett still looking for village clerk

The Village of Bartlett Board of Trustees continues to advertise for a new clerk/treasurer. The opening came about following the resignation of clerk/treasurer Teri Ellenwood.

The position involves administrative and financial record-keeping for the Village. It is a part-time position. Interested candidates must submit a letter of application and resumé to villageofbartlett@gmail.com or contact the Village at (402) 419-8876. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

Teresa Swick is serving as interim clerk.



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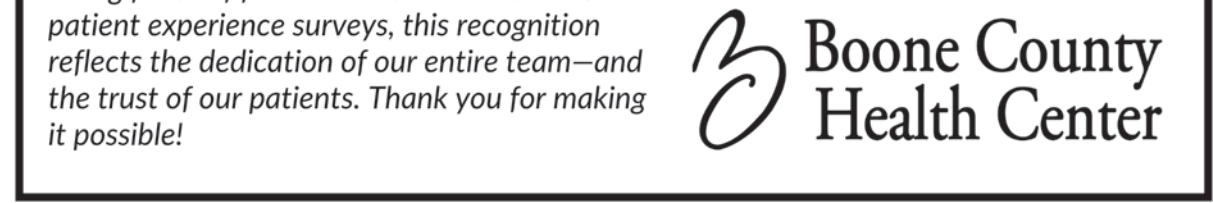


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Continuance granted in terroristic threats involving O'Neill man

A 48-year-old O'Neill man and his attorney requested a continuance in a felony case. Defense attorney Doug Stratton made the request, Aug. 26, in Antelope County District Court. County attorney Joe Smith did not object.

Stratton represents Dustin E. Zuhlke, who is charged with two counts of terroristic threats, both Class IIIA felonies, and two counts of use of a firearm to commit a felony, a Class IC felony.

The Honorable Michael L. Long granted the motion. He set a pretrial hearing for Sept. 30. A jury trial is scheduled for Nov. 16.

Bond, set at \$500,000-10%, with all previously-ordered conditions, remains in effect.

Zuhlke was remanded to the custody of the Antelope County

Sheriff.

Dillon W. Eckstein, 29, of St. Edward, entered not guilty pleas to three counts, including DUI .15+ or refusal (2 prior convictions), a Class IIIA felony; refuse to submit to pretest, a Class V misdemeanor; and one count of possession of marijuana 1 ounce or less-1st offense, an infraction.

A bond hearing was conducted. Eckstein requested that the previously-posed \$5,000-10% bond be reinstated or increased to no more than \$10,000-10%.

Smith objected to the request. Long increased bond to \$10,000-10%, with conditions to appear as ordered, not leave Nebraska, obey all laws, not possess or use alcohol, not possess or use any controlled substance without a prescription, submit to blood, breath, or urine testing,

and submit to search and seizure of premises, person, or motor vehicle.

Eckstein was remanded to the custody of the Antelope County Sheriff.

Yeltsin Lopez-Gonzalez, 29, of Schuyler, appeared for a pretrial hearing and a motion to endorse hearing.

Lopez-Gonzalez is charged

with one felony count of CR impersonation/court or LEO, a IIIA felony; DUI-.08 breath-1st offense, a Class W misdemeanor; and no operator's license/non-waiverable, a Class III misdemeanor.

An interpreter was present via Zoom until court equipment caused the interpreter not to be broadcast in the courtroom.

Stratton requested a continu-

ance for the pretrial hearing and jury trial. Smith did not object and Long granted the motion.

Lopez-Gonzalez will appear Sept. 30 for a pretrial hearing. A jury trial is scheduled for Nov. 16.

Bond, set at \$15,000-10%, with all previous conditions, is continued.

A show-cause hearing was

held in a 2014 case involving Megan L. Brandt, 43, of Oakdale.

Brandt told the court she has gained employment and can make monthly payments.

Long continued the show-cause hearing to Feb. 24.

Brandt was originally charged theft by unlawful taking over \$1,500, a Class III felony.

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Bidding Closes: November 6, 2026 at 1:00 pm (Central)

General Property Location: From the Intersection of Hwy. 281 and 870 Road South of O'Neill, travel 2.25 West to 490th Ave, then 1/2 mile North to the southwest corner of the property.

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The Village of Bartlett Board of Trustees is seeking applicants for the position of

VILLAGE CLERK/TREASURER

This position involves administrative and financial record-keeping duties for the Village. It is a part time position.

Interested candidates must submit a letter of application and resumé to villageofbartlett@gmail.com or contact the Village at 402-419-8876.

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. The Village of Bartlett is an equal opportunity employer.

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NORFOLK — Sitting in the stands of this sports arena, waiting for the show to begin. Red and blue uniforms in front of me, a Diet Coke beside me, such is the scene of opening night.

No it's not Broadway, nor is there a singer singing 'My Way,' but there's no denying how this night, in this arena, begins a journey.

Although some may have butterflies, no one can tell me lies - what I see on the court with my own eyes is something to watch unfold.

Dark chocolate candy bars only tell you so much and yet I can't help but wonder how, no matter what others say, this is the dawn of a new day.

Coach Jordynn Luettel may not play a fiddle, but she and her helpers are in the process

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of orchestrating a season where the sky's the limit. It's no secret how our coach, now playing with players she has tutored to play her way, is on the verge of something big. Beginning season four, she's created a varsity team which all shall fear, nobody should want to come near. She may have been the perfect hire to coach a sport where you can't quit ever and win.

At this point, with the success we've had, teams eye the schedule and circle the Wolf-pack match. EPPJ has become the team by which others compare themselves to. Opponents say to themselves, "can we win a set or will we be swept? Can we beat the 'Pack' or will we take a step back."

Success for those who play the Pack and lose may be defined by putting up a good effort. As I see it, EPPJ has the potential to hold most opponents to single-digit scoring in each set when they play their 'A' game.

Community Calendar

- * See ad/story in this week's Elgin Review
- Sunday, September 6**
St. John's - Petersburg annual bazaar.*
- Monday, September 7**
Labor Day holiday ■ Elgin Community Center closed.
- Tuesday, September 8**
Regular meeting of the Antelope County Board of Commissioners.
- Wednesday, September 9**
Monthly meeting of the Elgin City Council ■ Monthly meeting of the District #18 Board of Education.
- Saturday & Sunday, September 12 & 13**
Benefit Sort for Adam & Kelly Seier ■ 84008 Highway 14 Elgin.
- Sunday, September 13**
Show & Shine car show (cars, pickups & motorcycles) from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. ■ Elgin City Park * ■ Treasures in the Park ■ Elgin City Park from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.*
- September 10, 11 & 14**
Mum Sales by the Elgin FFA Chapter.*
- Events listing courtesy of **ELGIN VETERANS' MEDICAL CLINIC**
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tions. The certification process evaluates program practices as well as patient outcomes and quality of care.

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This is the dawn of a new day

If I may be so bold, to share what I've been told, a hard schedule is better than a soft schedule. Playing tough matches against quality opponents, prepares a team mentally for matches that matter at the end of the season. To Luettel's credit, our schedule is as strong as any team in this part of the state.

In contrast, teams playing soft schedules to build up their record, melt like ice cream when it's 'survive and advance' time.

I'd rather advance than go home. Just how far will we go? Only a few truly know.

This Saturday marks the beginning of a new season for the Huskers football team. There's very little buzz about the outlook for the Big Red. The powers that be must have sensed that the kool-aid they've been serving fans for years just doesn't seem to be working like it once did. The precious selling streak may not last the season. If it dies, it dies.

Husker football hasn't been the hottest selling ticket in town for a number of years. That title now belongs to the Husker volleyball team.

When I first became a season ticket holder in 1989, I used to go to the games, believing if the stars aligned, a national championship was possible. I still have season tickets but now I go to the games just wanting

to win more than we lose each season.

I just don't understand why the team, with all the resources it has, can't be more competitive in the Big Ten? Especially now when other Husker sports are playing for conference championships.

If you follow social media this past week, everyone seems to want to post a tribute about time shared with Dolly Parton. I have no such memories, my memories are via TV shows like Porter Wagoner's, movies like '9 to 5' and late night talk shows like when Johnny Carson ruled. She was the queen of all media. And, she was uniquely American.

The day after her passing, another legendary actor passed, Tim Curry. Best known as Dr. Frankenfurter from 'The Rocky Horror Picture Show', I can't help but laugh when thinking about the good doctor following Dolly past St. Peter's Gate. As she might say, "that's shock and awe."

SPINNING TALES



Publisher
Dennis Morgan

Jane

◀ FROM **Page 3**

Zealand.

It stands for a dumpster. The word skip also rings true in music - a step moves from one note to another; a skip jumps over one or more notes.

And then there's that nonsensical song that jumps into my head.

The lyrics do something like this - Lost my partner, what'll I do? Skip to my Lou, my darling. I'll get another one, prettier than you, Skip to my Lou, my darling.

As we all welcome autumn, make every attempt to work through those scratches in relationships and keep that skip in your step.

Elgin's inviting swimming pool will be open again in a few short months.

Comments welcome at jane.schuchardt@gmail.com.

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for your appointment

JENNIFER FURSTENAU, OD

PROCEEDINGS OF AUGUST 26, 2026 MTG.
THE ELGIN CITY COUNCIL

ELGIN CITY COUNCIL Proceedings August 26, 2026
The Elgin City Council met for a budget workshop on Wednesday, August 26, 2026, at 7:00 p.m., pursuant to posted notice.
Mayor Schmitt called the meeting to order, and announced the location of the Open Meeting Act.
Councilmembers present were Craig Niewohner, John “Mike” Dvorak, and Jeremy Young. Leigh Kluthe absent.

Argument over tootsie roll leads to 15-month jail term

The Honorable Michael L. Long presided over multiple sentencings, Aug. 26, in Antelope County District Court.
Long sentenced Ray M. Connot, 61, of Neligh, to a Nebraska Department of Corrections facility for 15 months, with credit for one day previously served.
Connot was convicted on one count of criminal attempt, child abuse, a Class IV felony. During the July 6, 2025 incident, Connot grabbed a “juvenile by the throat and strangle(d) him during an argument over a tootsie roll candy.” He then forced the juvenile to the door, pushed him outside and locked him out of the residence. Neighbors witnessed the altercation and contacted Neligh Police Department.
Long ordered Connot to pay court costs totaling \$929.95 within one year of release from custody. He also required Connot to submit to DNA collection, per state statute.

Christopher Beltz, 39, of Plainview, will report to supervised probation for 24 months and will pay a \$1,000 fine by the end of probation for one count of criminal attempt of possession of a firearm by a prohibited person, a Class II felony.
Long ordered Beltz to pay court costs totaling \$138 by the end of probation, and mandated DNA collection, per state statute.
The balance of Beltz’s bond will be refunded.

Calin Bosse, 28, of Clearwater, will pay a \$1,000 and serve jail time in the Antelope County Jail for one count of DUI-alcohol, fourth offense, a Class IIIA felony. Bosse was sentenced to a nine-month term and will receive credit for one day served.
Long also revoked Bosse’s license for a term of 15 years.

Hawkins

◀ FROM Page 1
Officials believe that Dugal and Sleister overdosed on fentanyl, based on symptoms the two experienced after using drugs, as well as the effectiveness of Narcan, after Sleister received it.
The Antelope County Sheriff’s Office, with assistance from the Nebraska State Patrol, investigated the package delivered to the post office and retrieved by Hawkins and her daughter.
Officials also so conducted a search at 604 Rath Steet.
After the initial investigation, a warrant was issued for Hawkins’ arrest. On June 25, she was taken into custody. Approximately a week later, she posted 10% of the \$100,000 bond set by Judge Danielle Fliam.
During last Wednesday’s appearance, Antelope County Attorney Joe Smith requested that Hawkins be required to submit to drug and alcohol testing.
Long ordered Hawkins to submit to drug and alcohol testing as part of the bail conditions. According to a participant in the Nebraska Adult Drug Court program, Hawkins purportedly supplied drugs to her.
Doug Stratton, defense attorney, said Hawkins will submit to testing.
The \$100,000-10% bond will remain in effect, with conditions that Hawkins not use or possess alcohol or any controlled substance with out a prescription, submit to blood, breath or urine testing upon request, and submit to search and seizure of premises, person or motor vehicle upon request.
Stratton also requested that Hawkins be given permission to travel to Texas for a week with friends and family. Smith objected, and Long denied the request.
The defense also requested that the Chevy Impala seized and impounded in the case be released. Long approved the request and ordered the vehicle be released to its owner.
She will appear Oct. 28 for a pretrial hearing.

Courtesy of SAM

A complete and accurate copy of the minutes is available for public inspection during normal business hours at the City Clerk’s office.
The following agenda item was discussed:
2026-2027 budget, no action was taken
Budget workshop adjourned at 8:21 p.m.
Mayor Mike Schmitt
City Clerk Kristin L. Childers
PUBLISH: September 2, 2026
ZNEZ

An ignition interlock device will need to be installed on each vehicle operates after 45 days without driving.
He will also pay a \$250 fine for one count of resisting arrest-1st offense, a Class I misdemeanor.
Bosse will pay \$138 in court costs and will be required to submit to DNA collection, per state statute. Bosse’s bond will be exonerated after payment of restitution, fines, and costs.
He was remanded to the Antelope County Sheriff’s Office to serve his sentence.

Marty Klein, counsel for Rowdy L. Burke, 55, of Elgin, requested a continuance so Burke could have additional time to speak with Klein regarding the case.
Antelope County Attorney Joe Smith objected, but Long overruled Smith.
Burke will appear Sept. 30 for sentencing on one count of revocation of probation stemming from a 2024 case.

A bench warrant was issued for Hannah M. Thomas, 38, of Sioux City, Iowa, after Long denied a motion for a continuance, made by Brad Ewalt, counsel for Thomas. Ewalt said Thomas did not have a ride to Neligh, and stated she may be able to find a ride later that day.
Smith objected, and Long agreed with the county attorney.

Robert M. Carnes, 49, of Elgin, appeared. Smith and defense attorney, Doug Stratton, said a plea agreement had been reached.
Per the agreement, Count 1 - terroristic threats, a Class IIIA felony - will be dismissed if Carnes enters a guilty or no contest plea to Count 2 - terroristic threats, a Class IIIA felony - and Smith will not file additional charges. Furthermore, there will be no agreement at sentencing.
Carnes pleaded no contest to Count II. Long ordered a presentence investigation report.
Carnes will appear Oct. 28 for sentencing. If he fails to appear, Long advised Carnes he could face failure to appear felony charges.
Bond, set at \$20,000-10%, with all previously conditions, will remain in effect.

TO: All Antelope County Landowners
Referencing Nebraska State Statutes 39-301, 39-302, 39-1811, 39-1812, and 39-1813.
You are informed that the Antelope County Board of Commissioners adopted the following resolution at their April 13th, 2021 board meeting:
WHEREAS, in 2008 the Antelope County Board of Supervisors passed a resolution regarding obstructions in Antelope County Road rights of way, it is the Antelope County Board of Commissioners intention to update said resolution; and
WHEREAS the Antelope County Board of Commissioners has received evidence that unauthorized fences, crops, trees, shrubs, weeds, tall grass, berms, trash, equipment and other obstructions placed within the public rights-of-way maintained by Antelope County cause hazards that endanger motorists, County employees, and County equipment, and interfere with the proper maintenance of the roadway, especially during road maintenance, construction, and snow removal operations.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Antelope County

ATTENTION ALL ANTELOPE COUNTY LAND OWNERS
ANTELOPE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

shall, after first giving reasonable notice to the affected landowner, exercise its right to remove hazards from the public rights-of-way except that no notice shall need to be given during snow removal operations or emergency operations; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Antelope County Road Department employees shall identify and document such hazards, shall provide ten days written notice to any affected landowner to remove the hazards from the right-of-way, and, if such hazards remain within the right-of-way ten days after Antelope County gives such notice to any affected landowner, shall remove the hazards, returning all salvaged materials to the affected landowner.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Antelope County Road Department employees shall invoice the costs of the removal of the hazards to the affected landowner, including the cost of labor and machine use.
Dated this 13th day of April, 2021.
You are further notified that the County Board of Commissioners intends that the above resolution shall be enforced, and that any person may make a proper complaint

regarding a violation of the above resolution to the Commissioner(s) or Road Superintendent.
Antelope County Board of Commissioners
39-302 Roads; sprinkler irrigation system; restrictions; violations; penalty.
A sprinkler irrigation system which due to location or design diverts, or is capable of diverting, water onto or across a public road so as to saturate, wash, or impair the maintenance, construction, or pass ability of such public road or allows water to accumulate on the roadway or traveled surface of the public road shall be equipped with a device which will automatically shut off the end gun of the irrigation system causing such diversion or accumulation of water. Any person who fails to comply with this sec-

tion shall, upon conviction thereof, be guilty of a Class IV misdemeanor, except that section 39-301 shall be controlling with respect to mechanical malfunctions and normal weather conditions.
39-1811 Weeds; mowing; duty of landowner; neglect of duty; obligation of county board; cost; assessment and collection.
(1) It shall be the duty of the landowners in this state to mow all weeds that can be mowed with the ordinary farm mower to the middle of all public roads and drainage ditches running along their lands at least twice each year, namely, sometime in July for the first time and sometime in September for the second time.
PUBLISH: September 2, 2026
ZNEZ

NOTICE OF NAME CHANGE
ANDREW FANGMAN INSPECTIONS, LLC

Notice is hereby given that Andrew Fangman Inspections, LLC has changed its name to Fangman Farms, LLC by amendment to its Certificate of Organization filed with the Nebraska Secretary of State.
PUBLISH: September 2, 9 & 16, 2026
ZNEZ

City of Elgin
IN
Antelope County, Nebraska

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING AND BUDGET SUMMARY

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given, in compliance with the provisions of State Statute Sections 13-501 to 13-513, that the governing body will meet on the 9th day of September 2026, at 7:15 o'clock P.M., at Elgin City Hall, Elgin, NE for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of taxpayers relating to the following proposed budget. The budget detail is available at the office of the Clerk during regular business hours.

2024-2025 Actual Disbursements & Transfers	\$	1,719,598.92
2025-2026 Actual/Estimated Disbursements & Transfers	\$	1,686,347.00
2026-2027 Proposed Budget of Disbursements & Transfers	\$	2,692,523.00
2026-2027 Necessary Cash Reserve	\$	577,172.35
2026-2027 Total Resources Available	\$	3,269,695.35
Total 2026-2027 Personal & Real Property Tax Requirement	\$	235,742.42
Unused Budget Authority Created For Next Year	\$	10,472.92

Breakdown of Property Tax:

Personal and Real Property Tax Required for Non-Bond Purposes	\$	193,382.42
Personal and Real Property Tax Required for Bonds	\$	42,360.00

NOTICE OF SPECIAL HEARING TO SET FINAL TAX REQUEST

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given, in compliance with the provisions of State Statute Section 77-1632, that the governing body will meet on the 9th day of September 2026, immediately following the conclusion of the budget hearing, at Elgin City Hall, Elgin, NE for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of taxpayers relating to setting the final tax request.

	2025	2026	Change
Operating Budget	2,683,458.00	2,692,523.00	0%
Property Tax Request	\$ 230,050.00	\$ 235,742.42	2%
Valuation	68,577,270	71,163,543	4%
Tax Rate	0.335461	0.331269	-1%
Tax Rate if Prior Tax Request was at Current Valuation	0.323269		

PUBLISH: September 2, 2026 ZNEZ

ANTELOPE COUNTY
NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING AND BUDGET SUMMARY

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given, in compliance with the provisions of Section 13-501 to 13-512, R.R.S. 1943, that the governing body will meet on the 8th day of September 2026 at 10:00 AM at County Commissioner Meeting Room, Antelope County Courthouse Annex, Neligh, NE for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of taxpayers relating to the following proposed budget. The budget detail is available at the office of the Clerk during regular business hours.

Funds	Actual Disbursements 2024-2025 (1)	Actual Disbursements 2025-2026 (2)	Proposed Disbursements 2026-2027 (3)	Necessary Cash Reserve (4)	Total Available Resources Before Property Taxes (5)	Total Real and Personal Property Tax Requirements (6)
GENERAL	11,791,157.88	10,440,752.32	13,736,793.54	1,000,000.00	5,705,150.12	9,031,643.42
ROAD & BRIDGE	10,448,934.22	8,923,516.19	11,650,194.88	0.00	11,650,194.88	0.00
NEW LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER BOND	485,990.00	489,718.75	486,938.75	425,000.00	499,431.29	412,507.46
COUNTY VISITORS PROMOTION FUND	4,539.77	1,400.00	62,257.69	0.00	62,257.69	0.00
COUNTY VISITORS IMPROVEMENT FUND	7,000.00	1,750.00	17,022.11	0.00	17,022.11	0.00
REGISTER OF DEEDS PRESERVATION FUND	4,197.60	4,537.92	19,818.16	0.00	19,818.16	0.00
VETERANS AID	10,485.00	3,489.60	20,000.00	3,000.00	17,465.31	5,534.69
STOP PROGRAM (REPLACES 2355)	0.00	0.00	10,952.08	0.00	10,952.08	0.00
DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT/EDUCATION FUND	0.00	0.00	840.86	0.00	840.86	0.00
K-9 FUND	0.00	0.00	26,000.00	0.00	26,000.00	0.00
FEDERAL GRANTS FUND	0.00	0.00	30,000.00	0.00	30,000.00	0.00
DISASTER 2019 FLOOD	2,618,197.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
INHERITANCE	398,200.00	1,027,226.32	7,546,218.31	0.00	7,546,218.31	0.00
LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER	223,711.38	278,710.19	1,137,057.50	0.00	1,137,057.50	0.00
COMMISSARY - LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER	36,426.33	26,679.78	71,535.41	0.00	71,535.41	0.00
HIGHWAY ALLOCATION BOND	318,352.50	320,822.50	317,572.50	300,000.00	617,572.50	0.00
BUILDING	51,877.56	179,361.75	181,000.00	25,000.00	29,771.84	176,228.16
GRAND TOTAL	26,399,069.32	21,697,965.32	35,314,201.79	1,753,000.00	27,441,288.06	9,625,913.73
Unused Property Tax Request Authority available for next year						0.00

ANTELOPE COUNTY
NOTICE OF SPECIAL HEARING TO SET FINAL TAX REQUEST

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given, in compliance with the provisions of State Statute 77-1632, that the governing body will meet on the 8th day of September 2026 at 10:00 AM at County Commissioner Meeting Room, Antelope County Courthouse Annex, Neligh, NE for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of taxpayers relating to setting the final tax request at a different amount than the prior year tax request.

	2025	2026	Change
Operating Budget	33,853,217.77	35,314,201.79	4.32%
Property Tax Request	9,625,955.59	9,625,913.73	0.00%
Valuation	3,692,464,423.00	3,741,419,991.00	1.33%
Tax Rate	0.260691	0.257279	-1.31%
Tax Rate if Prior Tax Request was at Current Valuation	0.257281		

PUBLISH: September 2, 2026 ZNEZ

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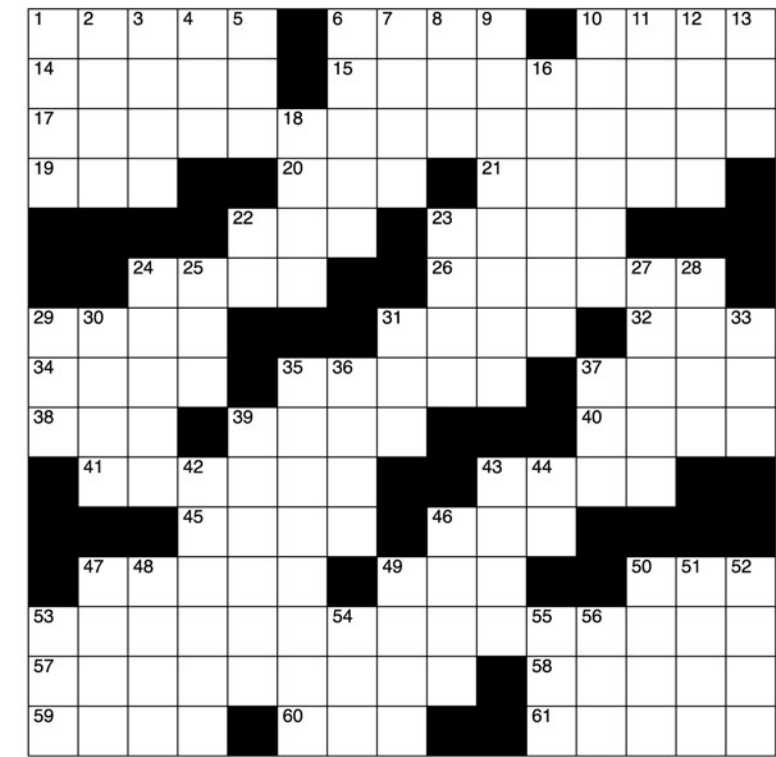
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Crossword Puzzle Clues

- CLUES ACROSS**
- 1. Manila hemp plant
 - 6. Turkish river
 - 10. Something to read
 - 14. In a way, initiated
 - 15. Popular Apple TV series
 - 17. King Charles is part of it
 - 19. Earlier
 - 20. Foot (Latin)
 - 21. Zodiac sign
 - 22. A browning of the skin
 - 23. Remain as is
 - 24. Turfs
 - 26. It's used to slaughter animals
 - 29. Volcanic crater
 - 31. The mother of Jesus
 - 32. One's life story
 - 34. One-time Liverpool coach Slot
 - 35. Counterparts
 - 37. Jacob __, American journalist
 - 38. Digital audiotape
 - 39. River in South Africa
 - 40. Kimono sashes
 - 41. Rooting somewhere
 - 43. American spy Aldrich
 - 45. A way to call for
 - 46. Taxi
 - 47. Pancakes made of buckwheat flour
 - 49. Swiss river
 - 50. Popular type of video game (abbr.)
 - 53. Have surgery
 - 57. Formal withdrawal from a union
 - 58. Performs spoken improv
 - 59. Greek war god
 - 60. 2,000 lbs.
 - 61. Helps to evade capture
- CLUES DOWN**
- 1. Swedish rock group
 - 2. "Friday Night Lights" director Peter
 - 3. Currency exchange fee
 - 4. Feline
 - 5. Folk singer DiFranco
 - 6. Ghostly pale from distress
 - 7. Rapid eye movements
 - 8. Monetary unit of Macao
 - 9. Lawmakers
 - 10. Colorless mineral
 - 11. At some prior time
 - 12. American protest singer
 - 13. Opener
 - 16. Seldom
 - 18. Relaxing places
 - 22. Touchdown
 - 23. From end to end
 - 24. Kids love him
 - 25. Metal-bearing solid
 - 27. Skin care product manufacturer
 - 28. Thirteen
 - 29. Angry
 - 30. Member of a Semitic people
 - 31. One-thousandth of an inch
 - 33. Former CIA
 - 35. Most lemony
 - 36. Engage in
 - 37. Mass of fish eggs
 - 39. Food supplies
 - 42. Backbones
 - 43. American real estate investment firm
 - 44. Megabyte
 - 46. "Three Coins in the Fountain" songwriter
 - 47. Dutch colonist
 - 48. Full-grown pike fish
 - 49. Emergency prep expert Edwards
 - 50. Flute
 - 51. Dismissive sound
 - 52. Slang term for marijuana
 - 53. Young women's association
 - 54. Cosmopolitan city
 - 55. Narrow isthmus in Thailand
 - 56. Pointed end of a pen



IT'S ALL ABOUT BEEF



Beef Systems
Asst. Ext. Educator
Ben Beckman

As we move into fall, alfalfa harvest is beginning to wind down for the year. Whether another cutting is still planned or the final crop is already off, this is a good time to take stock of stand fertility and start thinking about what that field needs for next year.

Alfalfa is a heavy user of nutrients. Nebraska Extension estimates that each ton of alfalfa hay removes about 10 pounds of phosphate, 60 pounds of potash, or K₂O, and 8 pounds of sulfur. Even at four tons of production per acre, that adds up quickly.

That doesn't mean we should automatically replace every pound removed with fertilizer. UNL recommendations are based on correcting deficiencies, so soil tests, soil type, irrigation water, and other nutrient sources should guide applications. Let's look at four things worth watching: phosphorus, potassium, sulfur, and soil pH.

Phosphorus is important for root growth, stand vigor, and

maintaining production. For established stands, phosphorus can be broadcast in early spring or after the last cutting in fall when soil tests indicate a need. For example, an irrigated field testing in the low range, 6 to 15 ppm Bray-1 or Mehlich-3 phosphorus, would call for about 40 pounds of phosphate per acre annually. Once soil tests are above 25 ppm, no phosphorus is recommended.

Potassium also deserves attention. Alfalfa removes around 60 pounds of K₂O per ton of hay, but many Nebraska soils naturally supply enough potassium that fertilizer may not be needed. When deficiencies do occur, they are

more common on coarse-textured or sandy soils.

Adequate potassium supports plant vigor, stress tolerance, and stand persistence. Fall after the final harvest is a good application window when soil tests show a deficiency. Don't view potassium simply as a fall "winterizer," though. Adding potassium where levels are already adequate may simply add cost without improving winter survival.

Sulfur is another nutrient worth watching, especially on sandy, low-organic-matter soils. When needed, UNL recommends about 30 to 40 pounds of sulfur per acre annually for irrigated alfalfa. However, irrigation water may already be supplying part or even all of that need.

A water test can tell you how much sulfate-sulfur is present. Each ppm of sulfate-S applied in one inch of irrigation water supplies about 0.23 pounds of sulfur per acre. So, water containing 10 ppm sulfate-S applied at 10 inches during the season would supply roughly 23 pounds of sulfur per acre. That amount should be credited before deciding how much additional sulfur

fertilizer is needed.

Finally, pay attention to soil pH. Alfalfa performs best around neutral soil conditions, and low pH can limit nodulation, nutrient availability, and stand productivity. Lime can be surface-applied to an established stand, but it moves slowly and mainly affects the upper soil surface. The best opportunity to correct a major pH problem is still before the next alfalfa stand is planted, when lime can be incorporated.

As harvest winds down, think of fall fertility as a chance to evaluate the field rather than an automatic fertilizer application. UNL recommends soil sampling established alfalfa every three to five years. If you're due for a test, this fall is a good opportunity to find out what the stand actually needs and put fertilizer dollars where they have the best chance of paying back.

- Ben Beckman is a livestock systems Extension Educator based out of the Cedar County Extension office in Hartington. You can reach him by phone: (402) 254-6821 or email: ben.beckman@unl.edu

Consider adopting a shelter dog

Millions of dogs enter shelters and rescues in the United States each year. According to the ASPCATM, 2.8 million dogs entered shelters and rescues in 2025. While the ASPCATM reports euthanasia rates for shelter dogs decreased by 7 percent between 2024 and 2025, 320,000 dogs were still euthanized in

2025. Dogs, and large dogs in particular, also are spending more time in shelters than they were as recently as five years ago. Prospective dog owners are urged to consider adoption when looking for a dog, as adoption can help prevent euthanasia and alleviate space issues at local shelters.

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NO SALE MONDAY, SEPT. 7

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SEPT. 28 - Feeder Special/Weigh Cows & Bulls

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FOOD TRUCKS • BACKYARD BBQ RIB COMPETITION

PEOPLE'S CHOICE BBQ JUDGING: FRI, WINGS; SAT, RIBS

SCAN ME! FOR SCHEDULE, REGISTRATION, AND MORE INFORMATION!





E-R photo/LMorgan

In the heartland where corn grows tall and pride in country is a given, Wolfpack senior cross country runner is gearing up for her final season. A three-time letterwinner, she's hoping to become the first EPPJ runner to qualify for the State Cross Country Meet in October at Kearney.

Running for a place in history

ELGIN — This may be the season where the Wolfpack cross country team raises the bar.

The 2026 season begins Friday and the Wolfpack's two runners - senior Samantha Stuhr and junior Matthew Kerkman - have their minds set on ending the season competing with the best at the Class D State Cross Country Meet in Kearney.

To do so, they will have to take their 'running' to a new level.

Head Coach Shanda Schindler said the goal of EPPJ's running duo is to make state.

For Stuhr, she's been training hard, starting months ago. Schindler said Stuhr has a time in her mind which she wants to reach and, by doing that, she should be able to medal in each meet. "She's a great runner," Schindler said.

For Kerkman, Schindler said he has similar goals. Most im-

See HISTORY, Page 11 ▶

NEW YEAR. SAME FIRE.

THE WOLFPACK ARE SMOKIN'

CROSS COUNTRY

BOYS & GIRLS JUNIOR HIGH/VARSITY

Sept. 4 Boone Central Invite (Alb. CC)..... 10:00

Sept. 10 Boyd Co. Invite (Butte GC).....4:30

FOOTBALL

VARSITY

Sept. 4vs Wynot2:30

Sept. 11 ..vs GACC3:00

Sept. 18 ..@ North Central (Springview).....7:00

JUNIOR VARSITY/JUNIOR HIGH

Sept. 10 .@ Creighton (no JV)4:00

Sept. 21 .@ Central Valley (Wolbach)4:30/6:30

VOLLEYBALL

VARSITY

Sept. 3 ...Tri @ Stuart.....5:00

Sept. 8 ...Double Tri @ *Niobrara-Verdigre5:00

Sept. 10 .vs Boyd County (EPS)6:30

Sept. 12 .Tourney @ *Howells-Dodge9:00

Sept. 15 .Tri @ Norfolk Catholic.....5:00

JUNIOR VARSITY & C TEAM

Sept. 8 ...Double Tri @ *Niobrara-Verdigre5:00

Sept. 10 .vs Boyd County (EPS)4:30

Sept. 15 .Tri @ Norfolk Catholic (JV only)5:00

Sept. 21 .vs Boone Centr. (C team) (EPS)... 6:00

JUNIOR HIGH

Sept. 2...vs Niobrara-Verdigre (EPS)2:00

Sept. 10 .@ Creighton.....2:00

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Sept. 2 FFA District Range Judging South @ Sargent

Sept. 4 ALL SCHOOLS early dismissal

Sept. 7 Labor Day

Sept. 9PJCC Senior Parent Financial Aid • EPS , 1 PM dismissal • EPS School Board Meeting • PJCC One Act Practice

Sept. 10FFA A rea V Range Judging @ Pierce

Sept. 11All schools-early dismissal • Back the Pack Burger Feed • FFA Labor Auction

Sept. 13Treasures in the Park

Schedules brought to you by these SCHOOL BOOSTERS

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Baum Seed Service, LLC
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402-887-4151 Elgin Clinic 402-843-5444

Wolfpack held to six points in loss to BC Spartans

SPENCER — This rarely happens. Elgin Public-Pope John has long dominated Boyd County on the gridiron. That was yesterday.

On Friday night, the Spartans pounded their way to a 24 to 6 victory in the season opener for both teams.

With 10 players weighing over 200 pounds, the Spartans used their physicality to dominate both sides of the line of scrimmage.

“They’re (Spartans) big size wise and physical,” Co-Coach Nick Heithoff said. “They’re happy with three to four yards, and then they line up and do it all over again. They just kinda wore us down.”

The Spartans never trailed in the game. On their first possession, they methodically marched down the field. Content to run the ball on almost every play, they went 54 yards in 13 plays. Senior Peyton Wickersham snared a seven-yard pass from fellow senior Wade Pritchett. The two-point conversion gave the Spartans the lead with 3:00 left in the first quarter.

EPPJ battled back with a 65-yard touchdown drive. Evin Pelster sped past tacklers, Gavin Kallhoff got open and quarterback Michael Selting delivered the ball for a first down near midfield.

A 20-yard completion to Max Henn put the ball near the 20-yard line. Then it was back to the ground game as six of the next seven plays put the ball on the 12-yard line where, on fourth down, Selting lofted a pass high into the right corner of the endzone to Henn who won a battle for the ball for a touchdown. The two-point conversion failed, making the score eight to six.

From that point, for the remainder of the half, the game became a ‘slobber-knocker’, a slugfest of wills. Boyd County moved the ball slowly, methodically, down the field. Inside the 10-yard line, on fourth down, Justice Blecher and Henn stopped Pritchett short of the line of gain.

The half ended with the Spartans up by two. The second half would see Boyd County hold the Wolfpack out of the endzone.

Over the final two quarters, Boyd County controlled the clock while scoring two touchdowns to ice the game.

On the first possession of the second half, they went 57 yards on five plays, all on the ground. Senior Logan Jackson scored on a seven-yard run, Pritchett added the two-point conversion to lead 16 to 8 with 9:30 left in the quarter.

EPPJ responded with a first down on a 16-yard run by Kallhoff. The drive ended two plays later when Pritchett picked off Selting at the Spartans’ 33-yard line.

Boyd County then ground out another time-consuming drive which culminated with a Ben Schmitz four-yard touchdown run.

The Wolfpack had two subsequent possessions which moved the ball into Spartan territory. The first drive stalled after a quarterback sack and two failed pass attempts turned the ball over on downs. Then, after forcing a punt, EPPJ drove down to the Spartans’ 25-yard line before again turning the ball over on downs.

Kallhoff led the Wolfpack with 17 tackles. Henn added 12 and Blecher added 10.

On offense, Henn had four catches and scored the team’s only touchdown. Pelster led rushers with 58 yards on 13 carries.

“They always say your your biggest jump of improvement happens between week one and week two,” Coach Heithoff said.



Using his height, Max Henn reached above the Spartan defender to score the Wolfpack’s first touchdown. He finished with four catches in the game.

“So yeah, now they kind of got a taste of what it’s like actually under the lights. So we should know what to expect next week.”

Next up for the Wolfpack will be a Friday afternoon game against Wynot (0-1). Wynot lost their season opener to Archangels Catholic by the score of 34 to 6. The home opener for EPPJ, will kickoff at 2:30 p.m.

Spartans 24, EPPJ 6		
Wolfpack.....	0	6
Spartans.....	8	0
BC — Wade Pritchett 7 pass to Peyton Wickersham (PAT good)		
EPPJ — Max Henn 5 pass from Michael Selting (PAT failed)		
BC — Logan Jackson 7 run (PAT good)		
BC — Ben Schmitz 4 run (PAT good)		
Team Stats	BC	EPPJ
First Downs	15	11
Rushing/Yds	47/312	18/122
Passing	1/2/0	7/20/2
Passing Yds	7	55



Evin Pelster went low and Gavin Kallhoff went high to bring down this Spartan ball carrier. Together, the Wolfpack duo combined for 26 tackles in the game.

LHNE

◀ FROM Page 11

playing like we did against Stanton, but at the end of the day we found a way to win. We took care of our side of the net, that’s what the girls did - they leaned on each other.”

Lammers led the team in kills notching 15 on 31 swings, Kurpgeweit had 13 on 24 swings.

Moser led the team with two ace serves.

Lammers also led in solo blocks with two.

Brooke Kinney had a team-high 18 digs while Moser led in

set assists with. 20, Lammers had 16.

EPPJ 3, LHNE 1

Eagles.....25 19 23 23
Wolfpack.....12 25 25 25
Attacks (K/Att/E) — Gentry Zwingman 0/2/0, Braelyn Martinsen 8/35/9, Mady Kurpgeweit 13/24/4, Kinley Druke 2/8/0, Jael Lammers 15/31/5, Lillian Moser 3/11/1, Sydney Niewohner 3/6/1. Team totals: 44/117/20

Serving (A/A/E) — Zwingman 0/10/0, Brooke Kinney 0/9/1, Martinsen 0/17/0, Lammers 1/5/0, Sophia Burke 1/13/1, Elizabeth Moser

2/25/3. Team totals: 4/86/10
Blocks (BS) — Lammers 2, L. Moser 1, Niewohner 1. Team totals: 4 Digs (D/DE) — Zwingman 13/8, Kinney 18/6, Martinsen 10/3, Kurpgeweit 1/0, Druke 1/0, Lammers 1/0, E. Moser 5/2. Team totals: 49/19

Set Assists (A/At/E) — Zwingman 4/8/0, Kinney 0/1/0, Martinsen 1/1/0, Kurpgeweit 0/1/0, Lammers 16/50/3, E. Moser 20/51/1. Team totals: 41/112/3
Serve Receive (SR/SE) — Zwingman 25/6, Kinney 5/0, Martinsen 39/0, Lammers 2/0. Team totals:

PIGSKIN predictions

2026

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OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

Entry Deadline: Sept 4 at 5 p.m.

OFFICIAL RULES:

1. Select the winner of each game found in the ad & write it on the corresponding line in the official entry form.

2. One entry form per person. Must use official form from newspaper.

3. Elgin Bucks are redeemable at businesses participating in the football contest. Decision of the judge is final. Winners will be announced the week following each contest.

4. In the event of a tie, the person predicting the total number of yards without going over will be named the winner.

5. Elgin Bucks must be picked up by January 31, 2027. Contest is open to everyone except employees of the Elgin Review.

Insurance Mart:

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Four Corners Bar & Grill:

TC Vet Clinic:

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Sands Land & Cattle LLC:

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Levander Funeral Home of Elgin:

City Limits:

Elgin Body & Glass:

Elgin Pharmacy:

118 Insurance:

TIE-BREAKER: Combined total yards Nebraska and Ohio

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