



**Dr. Kramer presented with  
'Early Career Alumni' Award**

See page 8



**Wolfpack basketball teams  
win holiday tournaments**

See page 9

SERVING ANTELOPE, BOONE, and WHEELER COUNTIES, NEBRASKA SINCE 1883

# The Elgin Review



Wednesday  
January 7, 2026

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## In Brief //

### District #18 School Board to meet next week

To begin at 6:30 p.m.

The District #18 Board of Education will meet in regular session on Wednesday evening, January 14. The meeting, to be held in the board meeting room at the high school, will begin at 7 p.m. and is open to the public.

### Tickets now on sale for 'Evening With Friends' gala

To be held on Sunday, January 25.

"Grace" is the theme for the 2026 Evening With Friends gala.

Once again the Elgin Knights of Columbus Hall will host the event. This year marks the 26th year for the event. It will be held on Sunday evening, January 25.

Social hour and auction viewing will begin at 5 p.m. that night with dinner to follow at 6:15 p.m. There will be both a silent and live auction. Tickets are now on sale. Cost of the tickets are \$100 per person (need not be present to win) and can be purchased by contacting Pope John School at (402) 843-5325. One-half of each ticket (\$50) is tax deductible. This event is held annually as part of a fundraiser to support education offered at Pope John Central Catholic school here in Elgin.

## Public Notices //

Public notices in this week's newspaper include:

- Notice — Estate of Stacy Charf
- Notice of Organization — NA Family Farms, LLC
- Notice to Defendants — The Antelope County District Court

*The Elgin Review* is the official legal newspaper for Antelope County, Antelope County Historical Society, Village of Bartlett, Upper Elkhorn Natural Resources District, the State of Nebraska, the City of Elgin and Elgin School District #18.

## Weather //

The high temperature last week was 55 degrees recorded on Wednesday, December 31.

The low temperature during the same period was 6 degrees recorded on Sunday, December 28.

Altogether, .04 of an inch of precipitation was recorded last week.

Following are the high and low temperatures, and precipitation amounts, as recorded by Elgin weather observer Leonard Orlowski.

Date	High	Low	Prec
Dec 28	14	06	.00
Dec 29	23	07	.00
Dec 30	50	23	.00
Dec 31	55	24	.00
Jan 1	46	21	.00
Jan 2	29	21	.04
Jan 3	44	28	.00
Total for last week		0.04	
Total for December		0.20	
Total precipitation 2025		25.90	

## "Free Lucky Duck!"

**For Lucky**, a pet duck belonging to Kelly Starman, the animal appears to be behind prison bars. That's what it looked like Friday morning as a cold spell with moisture in the air swept through this part of the state. The weather system created icy roads across the county and much of northeast Nebraska. Fortunately, it was a one-day event as the sun came out Saturday and temperatures warmed up to make roads safe to travel again.

*Photo courtesy of Kelly Starman*



## Oversize permits abuse may see significant hike in fines

To increase wages or not to increase wages; that is the question for the Antelope County Commissioners (ACC), meeting yesterday for the first time in 2026 with all commissioners present.

An almost hour and a half long discussion/debate took place between the ACC and elected officials on wage/benefit increases for the years 2027 through 2030.

All parties involved spoke respectfully to each other but with no consensus at this time. Matters concerning the poor ag economy, inflation, cost-of-living and the high cost of health insurance were discussed at length with lots of "number crunching" taking place.

In the end, the ACC decided to continue to get as much information as possible, including wage/benefit comparisons with other Nebraska counties, before making a decision at the upcoming January 13th meeting. Discussion/debate will begin at 8:00

See FINES, Page 2 ▶

## 2025: The Year in Review July — December

The second half of 2025 featured a wide array of activities in and around Elgin. *Elgin Review* intern Reese Stuhr has spent the past several weeks compiling items from the second half of the year. Among them were:

**July 2025**

Steve Pelster of Petersburg was inducted into the Golden Gloves Hall of Fame. Nicole Starman is the owner of the newest business along Highway 14 here in Elgin, Balanced Fitness.

Elgin 10U Pee Wees took second place at the season-ending tournament at Neligh. The coaches were Tina Thiele-Blecher, Matt Pelster and Tenley Schindler.

The Elgin Eliminators 10U softball team won the Class D State Tournament in Hastings. The head coach was Jill McNally.

July saw numerous severe thunderstorms sweep through much of Antelope County. Several featured golf ball sized hail, mainly west of Elgin.

On Thursday, July 3 at the Neligh Legion Post 172, there was a ceremony in which Governor Jim Pillen and other distinguished guests from Ft. Benning, Georgia attended. The ceremony recognized the legacy of the late U.S. Army Sergeant Fred G. Benning, WWI and the Ft. Benning dedication.

The Boone County Health Center partnered with Senior Life Solutions to help older adults who are experiencing symptoms of depression, anxiety, or other mental challenges often associated with aging.

Elgin's seventh grade D Basketball League won the championship. Coaches were Brian Selting and Keith Borer. Members included Charles Miller, Garrett Busteed, Braxtyn Eisenhauer, Jacob Niewohner, Carter Selting, Harmon Borer and Cael Bottorf.

Randy Eisenhauer got his first ever hole-in-one while playing a round at the Niobrara golf course with his son Braxtyn, who was the witness.

The 2025/2026 sports classifications for high schools was released. The EPPJ volleyball team dropped to a Class D1 school for competition.

Pope John CC hired two new teachers. Ms. Cailen Moeller will be teaching pre-



**Pope John** Homecoming Queen and King were Tessa Barlow and Aiden Klein.



**Elgin High** School Homecoming Queen and King were Kayton Zwingman and Jarek Erickson.

*See YEAR, Page 6 ▶*

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Good Day!  
This weekend I have a couple more fun party recipes for anyone who still is celebrating the holidays.

I think this recipe would be good for any occasion. Roll-ups are a favorite in our family.

## Bacon Ranch Cheese Ball & Cheddar Bacon Roll-Ups

Never have to worry about taking any home from any party. Keep them close by and make

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1/2 cup shredded cheese  
- Colby  
1 cup crumbled bacon  
1/2 cup green onion finely sliced

1 pkg. Hidden Valley® Ranch Dip seasoning

Mix all the ingredients well and form into a ball. Roll in crumbled bacon. Serve with crackers.

### CHEDDAR BACON ROLL-UPS

2 8 oz. pkg. cream cheese  
1 cup shredded cheddar cheese  
6 slices of bacon cooked and crumbled

2 tbs chopped chives  
2-3 diced green onions  
4-6 flour tortilla shells (soft)  
3 tbs ranch dressing

Mix all the ingredients well. Spread on the soft shells, roll them up and slice into bite-size pieces.

## Year

◀ FROM Page 1

school and Mr. Jomari Fernandez will be teaching junior high and high school math.

A ranch rodeo benefit hosted by the Wheeler Central Class of 2011, for the Jordan Pella family of Exeter, Nebraska, Nebraska was held on Saturday, July 19, in honor of the late Sara (Lincoln) Pella. Sara Lincoln Pella passed away to her heavenly home at the age of 33, June 10, 2025 after battling colon cancer. She was the daughter of Lynn and Mindy Lincoln who were once Wheeler County residents. Sara left behind her husband Jordan and two young children.

### August 2025

The summer reading participants at the Elgin Public Library were treated to a "Foam Party" on August 1st to celebrate the end of this year's summer reading program.

The 10th annual Herb and Sherry Mignery "Good Hand" award was presented to Sharon (Mignery) Derner during this year's Wheeler County Fair and Rodeo, held at the fairgrounds in Bartlett.

Kierstyn Eisenhauer of the Elgin FFA chapter was named a national finalist this year in the Food Systems Category, Division 3. The team of Aubrie Parks and Brooke Kinney of the Elgin FFA chapter was named national finalist this year in the Plant Systems category, Division 4. Three Elgin FFA members earned National FFA Degrees. They were Nick Anderson, Gage Thiessen and Samuel Hemenway.

World champion auctioneer Dean Edge made quite an impression at the Elgin Livestock Sale Barn. Making a swing through the Midwest, Edge was busy behind the microphone.

### September 2025

The Elgin Bargain Box presented teachers in the Elgin schools a monetary gift as they begin their 2025-26 school year. The gift is given in appreciation for the teacher's dedication.

Homecoming royalty candidates at PJCC include Quinn Hoefer, Tessa Barlow, Camry Kittelson, Harlie Tyler, Jovie Borer, Reese Stuhr, Aiden Klein, Grady Drueke, Landy Veik and Karson Kallhoff.

Homecoming royalty candidates at EPS include Haley Parks, Andrea Hansen, Kayton Zwingman, Halle Lueking, Kyndal Busteed, Jaydalynn Chessmore, Kaiden Bode, Isaac Hemenway, Jarek Erickson, Trey Rittscher, Tice Sparr and Creighton Harkins.

The Elgin Public-Pope John

## Fines

◀ FROM Page 1

Kluth said that one wind farm project had seven oversize permits attached to it, with all seven violating the conditions of the permit. It was suggested that a \$7,000 penalty might be enough to get someone's attention.

More discussion will take place at the next ACC meeting on this topic, with all five commissioners eager to put some "teeth" into the regulation of oversize permits.

County Attorney Joe Smith reported to the ACC that Martin Klein agreed to be the county's temporary public defender after the resignation of Pat Carney, who was appointed as a County Court Judge. Search for a full-time public defender is under way.

Finally, after several months of updating by County Clerk Lisa Payne and staff, the ACC approved a new Antelope County Employee Handbook, the last update taking place in 2009.

Church at Raeville for Confirmation students. Nearly 70 youth participated.

The EPPJ Wolfpack football team came short to Overton in the District game, 49-42. The loss ended their 2025 season.

### November 2025

After 58 years, a "MIA" designation changed to "KIA" as remains are identified. The Shipley family members (several with connections to Elgin) will attend a funeral service honoring their long missing relative Thomas Edwin Scheurich.

Elgin native Michael Schmitt is planned to be the guest speaker at the Elgin Veterans Day program. The annual event was held on November 11th.

Jovie Borer signed a 'Letter of Intent' recently to attend Mount Marty and compete in cross country/track while there.

The EPPJ Wolfpack Volleyball team traveled to the District final in Bartley. The matchup ended in a 3 set sweep by Bartley, putting an end to EPPJ's 2025 season.

The annual Shop The North Pole event for local vendors drew customers from far and wide to Elgin on November 14-15.

Among the Elgin FFA chapter members qualifying for state at the district livestock judging contest were Evin Pelster, Sophia Burke, Anna Dworak, Kaidynce Schrad, Elizabeth Moser, Kinley Miller, Haley Parks, Gemma Miller, Kyla Donaldson and Dannyka Smidt.

Mandated as lectors and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion at Pope John XXIII Central Catholic School were Samantha Stuhr, Brooke Kinney, Elizabeth Moser, Gavin Kallhoff and Aubrie Parks.

A ceremonial "burning of the note" for the Elgin Swimming Pool took place, closing this chapter of the pool, a journey which began for the City of Elgin in 2014.

The Elgin City Council made several changes to water bills sent out to residents. The water bill has been sent out quarterly, but beginning in January 2026, the City will change to a monthly billing cycle.

### December 2025

Sandi Henn fulfilled a dream as she was able to attend and participate in the show Live with Kelly and Mark.

Prior to the start of the auction at the Elgin Livestock Sales, Baum family matriarch Doris Baum was the recipient of the LMA Lifetime Service Award. Doris began helping at the barn in 1960 and still continues to be a fixture.

Employees of Antelope Memorial Hospital were recognized for years of service and Caring Kind at the AMH Christmas Party held on Saturday, December 13th at the American Legion in Neliigh.

The Elgin and Neliigh Knights of Columbus made separate donations to the Antelope County Food Pantry. Each presented \$1,000 checks to the food pantry.

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2021 RAM 2500 Tradesman Crew Cab, 4x4, 6.7L Diesel, Longbox, 95K

2020 Jeep Gladiator Sport S, 4x4, V-6, Heated Seats, 23K

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## Death cleaning is not about dumping everything

Death cleaning. Sounds morbid though it can be a perfectly enjoyable diversion for the dark, cold days of January. And a precious gift for you and your loved ones.

The term comes from the book "The Gentle Art of Swedish Death Cleaning: How to Free Yourself and Your Family from a Lifetime of Clutter" by Margaret Magasson.

Went to an excellent presentation recently on this topic hearing yet again what is so true for so many of us. Nobody (mostly) wants our s\*&% unless it comes with a back story and mutual understanding why you want the precious item to be theirs.

Being a neatnik, this task has always been viewed as stuff management to me. A place for everything and everything in its place. The term death cleaning carries much more

incentive to JUST DO IT. Consider it a joyful opportunity, not obligatory drudgery.

If you haven't opened the box left by a deceased family member or moved it in five, 10, even 25 years, maybe it's time to take a look. It could be mostly photos, books, letters, or general memorabilia. Not saleable items though priceless in understanding ones historical roots. You might just discover a family secret or two.

Death cleaning is not about dumping everything in the burn barrel and lighting a match. It's thoughtful and careful decision-making about each item – pitch, take a photo and then discard, give to a relative or friend with an explanation, give to charity (think Elgin's Bargain Box) or to the historical society (think Antelope County Museum), save with a note attached

telling the item's story and who you'd like to have it upon your death. Maybe create a notebook or framed collage of treasured cards and photos you'd like to pass on.

Maybe a box a week and a couple hours a day would give Rick and me a serious start. Truth be told, this writer would much rather read, write, play piano, travel, volunteer, or hang out with friends and family.

Though we've lived on this farm nine years already, moving back home to our beloved Nebraska after retirement from careers in Washington, DC, more exhilarating tasks always caught our attention. When it's time to be back out in the organic field or on the deck, ask us if we've gotten an acceptable grip on this task.

Now, for Rick and my stuff, that's meant to last a lifetime -- to savor how and why it became ours, to enjoy, to cherish the memories, to use for entertaining, to relax, to accomplish a new skill or sharpen one we already know.

Maybe cutting back, or what a friend reframes as 'death decluttering', would be good. Maybe avoid buying travel trinkets and cherish cell phone photos and videos instead. Maybe make gift giving about experiences instead of stuff. Maybe reuse, recycle, repurpose instead of buying new without disposing the old willy-nilly.

With my 74th birthday fast approaching, it's a stern reminder that my days as a living being on this good earth are winding down. It's just not fair to leave all those boxes for our son Philip to face when we're

not able or around to do it anymore.

Beyond death cleaning, other uses of the word 'clean' pop up. Clean your plate, my mom always commanded.

Those with alcohol and gambling addictions struggle to get clean. Eating 'clean food', those without a lot of processing or additives, is supposed to be just the ticket for good health.

We're compelled to clean house especially if company's coming. We clean the pet bowl, clean manure out of livestock barns, enjoy putting on clean clothes or slipping between clean sheets, and clean our flower beds before spring planting. A smile is much more attractive with clean, sparkly white teeth. And on and on. We all like clean.

Maybe the bottom line is that family and friends want you, your time, your talents, your undivided attention instead of more stuff. Death cleaning, including passing things, most importantly with stories while you're alive, shares joy and a lighter home to welcome each new day. The best to you in 2026!

Your comments always welcome at [jane.schuchardt@gmail.com](mailto:jane.schuchardt@gmail.com).

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## Looking Back

The Elgin Review

### Sixty Years Ago

January 13, 1966

Mrs. John B. Koenig of Petersburg was born Feb. 15, 1874 at Verailles, MO., a daughter of Henry Koester and Margaret Hoffman Koester. She passed away at the May Gray Rest Home in Greeley on Jan. 10, 1966, where she had been a resident the past 22 months.

Elgin High won an afternoon basketball game at Petersburg High School Tuesday by a score of 51-33. Nineteen players saw action for the Eagles with nine of them scoring.

Wins over traditionally strong St. Ludger and Class C Niobrara over the weekend jumped St. Boniface's record to eight wins and two losses for the season.

Mrs. Margaret Brewster Crabtree of Brunswick lost their two-year-old son recently with the flu. He died unexpectedly in their home. Margie taught the Sunnyside School and graduated from Wheeler County High School.

The Elgin Speed Wash is announcing their opening date, Monday, Jan. 17. This business has been closed for around a year. Located in the same building as previously, Bob P. Summerer stated this week that the new coin operated business would be managed by Mrs. Harold Anderson.

### Fifty Years Ago

January 7, 1976

Elgin High School's wrestlers placed second in the 8-team Newman Grove Invitational Tournament recently. The Eagles wrestled quite well as a team and out of ten wrestlers who made the trip, nine scored points needed to gain the second place trophy.

The Crusaders lost in the Wayne Christmas Holiday Tournament 55-31, 63-53, and 53-46.

Winter weather ushered in the new year of 1976 by closing the old 365-day period with freezing mist which changed to snow and cold temperatures. Snow and wind created snow-packed highways and made return trips of holiday drivers quite hazardous in this area of the state.

Roxie Lee DePeel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mearl DePeel, of Brunswick became the bride of David Lee Boschult of Neligh, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Boschult of Tilden, on Sunday, Dec. 28, at the Community Church in Brunswick.

The New Year's baby at the Tilden Hospital was born at 9:30 p.m. on January 5, 1976 to Mr. and Mrs. Larry Tegeler of Elgin. The baby girl weighed 7 lbs. 51/2 oz. and was named Michelle DeAnn. Mrs. Tegeler is the former Brenda Werner of Meadow Grove.

### Thirty Years Ago

January 10, 1986

Elgin Police Chief Bob Moore this week issued a report of police activities in Elgin during 1995. The department investigated 22 traffic accidents, three assault cases, seven vandalism incidents, and two child abuse complaints. Officers issued 41 traffic citations, 57 traffic warnings and 13 citations for minors in possession of alcohol. Various minor complaints were also investigated.

Jerome and Betty Temme will be honored on their 40th wedding anniversary with a reception and dance on Saturday, Jan. 13, at the American Legion Hall in Petersburg, from 8 p.m. to 12 midnight.

Elgin received about three inches of snow overnight on Jan. 3-4, and smaller amounts from flurries Jan. 2 through Jan. 6. Temperatures were very cold over the weekend, but moderated to a high of 43 degrees on Monday, Jan. 8.

A car and a semi tractor-trailer truck were damaged in an accident at an Elgin intersection on Jan. 5, at 11:45 a.m. Marie G. Starman of Elgin was westbound on Cedar Street and pulled into the intersection on highway 14, striking the trailer of the southbound semi, which was driven by Jerry L. Meyer of Orchard.

Elgin City Council approved a motion to eliminate truck parking along a short section of Highway 14 in Elgin during its regular meeting Monday night, Jan. 8.

### Twenty Years Ago

January 11, 2006

The Elgin City council has decided to hire an earthmoving contractor to clean up the city's tree and compost dump site, and haul away unauthorized materials to a licensed solid waste facility. The decision was made at the council's Jan. 3 regular meeting due to numerous violations at the dump.

Brienne Gossman, a third grader at St. Boniface School in Elgin, with her aunt Tami Miller, cut off more than 10 inches of her hair to be donated to Locks of Love. Brienne is the daughter of Dave and Sharon Gossman of Neligh.

Lindsey Sanne of rural Elgin is among 211 students who were named to the dean's list for the fall 2005 term at Midland Lutheran College, Fremont.

Undefeated Leigh used a strong first half to take a 72-55 victory over Pope John. The Panthers dominated the first half and had a 41-23 advantage by halftime.

Colson Simmons, a senior at Pope John Central Catholic High School, received several post season awards in football after the 2005 season.

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# Opinion

READ, REFLECT, RESPOND.

"To be persuasive, we must be believable; to be believable, we must be credible; credible, we must be truthful."

Edward R. Murrow

## Opinion Take time to breath before legislative storm

We all know what's coming. Legislative sessions are rough whenever state government is short of money, and Nebraska spent the last legislative session checking couch cushions.

The state's projected budget deficit sits at \$471 million, pretty close to the \$500 million target for spending cuts set by Gov. Jim Pillen.

This budget-cutting session starts a political year in which Nebraska could see competitive races for Congress in the Omaha-based 2nd Congressional District and the U.S. Senate, plus the possibility of a 2026 rematch from the 2022 GOP primary for governor.

Nebraskans don't need reminding of what happens when elected leaders need to goose supporters to show up. Many can close their eyes and hear the familiar promises of property tax relief offset with loosely defined cuts to waste and fraud.

But stop before we reach the point when political interests align into camps that argue who will be the losers of what they will again describe as a zero-sum game. One that often isn't.

Take a deep breath and relax.

Because no matter your politics or beliefs, this season is set aside for breaks from the daily grind. It's meant for love, kindness and reflection. And to remind us to think of our neighbors, friends and family.

To remember that people who are hungry need to be fed, that people who are sick need care, that people who are old and young need love and that we are all part of a human family that cares.

We also need to think about the people for whom this time of year brings pain, thoughts of loved ones lost and the digital-fed epidemic of loneliness. If you see someone alone, say hello.

This is also a moment to act with our thoughts and wallets to help families impacted by job loss in Lexington or elsewhere, farmers who are fighting economic disruption and more.

You're going to be bombarded this month by appeals to help others, including by the Nebraska Examiner, the work of which we hope you'll support.

But do what makes you and yours feel good. Not out of duty but hope.

This is not the first time Nebraska has faced headwinds, nor will it be the last. The boom and bust economic cycle is the political world's only constant. But that means better days are coming.

Nebraskans face a number of outside influences competing for our attention, from national and international news to far-flung football games. We cannot let any of that distract from who we are.

We are a prairie people, proud and private and strong. And this is our month to celebrate what makes us one. We chose to live here. This is home. And no matter our fights, I'm glad you're here.

Aaron Sanderford is the Editor-in-chief of the Nebraska Examiner.

## The men who signed the Declaration of Independence

*Editor's note: This week marks the second installment of a new series tied to our nation's 250th birthday in July 2026.*

*As time draws near to Celebrate 250 years of Independence, it seems appropriate to review the Declaration of Independence and to explore the background of those who created and signed the most important document in our country's history.*

*It is written by Caroline Epp of Giltner, Nebraska.*

\*\*\*\*\*

George Wythe (1726-1800)

George was born into a wealthy family as an only child. His father passed while George was quite young but his mother, being well educated, took it upon herself to teach him Latin and study the classics. She passed away

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*Editor's note: Opinions expressed here are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of The Elgin Review.*

A former Nebraska state senator, once again, is calling on the United States to do more to help Ukraine win its war with Russia.

Tom Brewer, who served in the Legislature from 2017 to 2025 and earned two Purple Hearts during 36 years in the military, recently made his eighth trip to the front in Ukraine.

The trips have been part of Brewer's personal crusade to show support for that war-torn country, and to help Americans realize that stopping Russia from overtaking Ukraine is a stand for democracy that we all should care about.

"We in America tend to take freedom for granted. They're paying dearly for it every day, with their sons and daughters," Brewer recently told an interviewer on a Ukrainian television network.

Ukraine, he said, is much like Nebraska – an agricultural based region with friendly, hard-working people who just want to live their lives in a safe place.

Brewer has often compared Ukraine's fight against Russia with the patriots who fought the American revolution against Britain – a war against a much larger country with much more military assets.

Yet the patriots, and Ukraine, held their own. Eventually, the fledgling United States prevailed.

This latest trip comes as President Donald Trump is working to get agreement on a peace plan between the Russians, who invaded Ukraine nearly four years ago, and Ukraine.

Brewer, like a lot of Americans, believes the now, 20-point peace plan being proposed favors Russia, and its president, Vladimir Putin, much too much.

The state senator said that if Canada invaded and took over Montana, Americans would not stand for allowing Canada to take U.S. territory, and similarly, Ukrainians won't accept giving Russia a huge chunk of its territory on

## Former state senator tries again to help Ukraine win their war



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the eastern front.

In Brewer's view, trying to negotiate a peace deal is a losing proposition: it just allows the war to drag out, and plays into Putin's goal of seeing Europe and the U.S. eventually give up, and allowing him to annex a huge chunk of Ukraine. Putin, he said, doesn't want a peace deal.

Brewer, who served six tours of duty in Afghanistan, believes the better approach is to get aggressive, and supply Ukraine with long-range missiles capable of striking deep into Russia.

Russia, he said, is suffering economically due to the war, and its military is in tatters due to incredible losses of troops in Ukraine. They can't hang on too much longer, in Brewer's view.

If Ukraine hits hard, with the help of U.S. and European missiles, it would

force Putin to strike a peace deal that favors both sides, Brewer told the Ukrainian interviewer.

"If President Trump wants to see an end to the death and dying, this is a way of doing it," he said.

For too long, Brewer said, the U.S. has been slow-walking military weapons to Ukraine for fear of sparking a wider war in Europe, or the use of nuclear weapons by Russia. Instead of allowing Putin to be the bully, he said the Americans should make it clear any use of nuclear weapons would be a mistake and trigger a harsh response.

At age 67, Brewer could be doing a lot of things other than risking his life by traveling to the front in Ukraine. But he's grown to admire their tenacity on the battlefield and their thirst for freedom. He's an old warrior, who can't

seemingly give it up.

I recently watched two, excellent and brutal PBS documentaries on the war in Ukraine, "20 Days in Mariupol" and "2000 Meters to Andriivka."

You gotta wonder, after seeing the battlefield sacrifices of Ukrainians, why we aren't doing more to help these freedom-seeking people.

\*\*\*\*

*Paul Hammel has covered the Nebraska state government and the state for decades. Prior to his retirement, he was senior contributor with the Nebraska Examiner.*

*He was previously with the Omaha World-Herald, Lincoln Journal Star and Omaha Sun. A native of Ralston, Nebraska, he loves traveling and writing about the state.*

## Community bank survival does not hinge on stablecoins

U.S. Rep. Mike Flood, R-Neb., recently suggested at a financial technology conference that stablecoins could be a lifeline for community banks, saying we have no choice but to be in the stablecoin business if we want to survive.

While I respect his commitment to innovation, this argument is misguided and risks diverting attention from the real challenges facing community banks today.

To be clear, Flood and the rest of the Nebraska delegation have consistently supported policies, such as reducing regulatory burden and ensuring a level playing field, which help the community bank industry continue to thrive with longevity. We are greatly appreciative of their support and Nebraska banks know that when push comes to shove our delegation will be in our corner because they understand the importance of community banks to our state.

Community banks make 80% of agricultural loans within the banking sector and 60% of small business loans under \$1 million. It is clear that in a state like Nebraska, our economy and our communities rely on community banks.

We keep deposits local by lending locally, with lending decisions made locally by those who have relationships with customers that extend beyond the bank branch. Community bank survival does not hinge on the implementation of a crypto strategy.

Rather, it hinges on policies that address regulatory structural issues and strengthen the communities we serve.

If a community bank does choose to be active in the stablecoin space, Flood was correct in pointing out it will take

partnerships with fintech companies if we hope to compete with big Wall Street banks and existing stablecoin companies.

Innovation has, and always will be, essential to ensuring our industry remains competitive. However, fair competition also relies on fair regulation.

What is important for community bank survival as technology progresses and interest in stablecoins grows is for Congress to ensure stablecoin companies are subject to a similar regulatory regime as banks, such as consumer protection and anti-money laundering laws.

Furthermore, it is critical that stablecoin companies and big tech companies issuing stablecoins cannot siphon away deposits from banks by offering interest via third parties, profit sharing, rewards or rebates to a consumer or business customer in exchange for bringing their money over to stablecoins.

To put it quite simply, without deposits community banks will not be able to offer the volume of agriculture, small business and mortgage loans that are currently the backbone of Nebraska's economy.

As this once speculative crypto and

stablecoin industry grows, it is essential that we are allowed to compete on an even playing field, with the importance of community bank survival front of mind with policymakers.

Outside of stablecoins, there are other challenges currently threatening community banks today that are of equal importance. Consider the agricultural economy: For our rural communities, farming and ranching are the pillar of local prosperity.

When agricultural markets suffer and our borrowers feel the pain, so do community banks. While markets ebb and flow, our relationship banking model will assist us in working with agricultural customers and our community banks will do all they can to navigate these long-time customers through uncertainty.

Then there's the overwhelming regulatory burden. Community banks mostly operate under the same framework as trillion-dollar institutions, but without their armies of compliance officers.

Every new rule adds cost and complexity, which takes resources away from technology upgrades, lending

See BANKS, Page 5 ►

## Numbers to Know

President Donald J. Trump, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D.C. 20510; phone (202) 456-1111.

U.S. Senate Website: [www.senate.gov](http://www.senate.gov)

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

Senator Pete Ricketts: 386A Senate Russell Building, Washington, D.C. 20510. Phone (202) 224-4224.

U.S. House Website: [www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov)

Representative Adrian Smith: 503 House Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20515-2703. Phone (202) 225-6435. Fax: (202) 225-

0207. E-mail: <http://www.house.gov/writerep/>.

Nebr. Unicameral Website [www.unicam.state.ne.us](http://www.unicam.state.ne.us)

Governor Jim Pillen: Executive Suite, P.O. Box 94848, Lincoln, NE 68509. Phone: (402) 471-2244.

Lieutenant Governor Joe Kelly: Office of the Lt. Gov., P.O. Box 94863, Lincoln, NE 68509-4863. Phone: (402) 471-2256.

District 40 State Senator Barry DeKey: P.O. Box 94604, Lincoln, NE 68509. Phone: (402) 471-2801. E-mail: [bdekey@leg.ne.gov](mailto:bdekey@leg.ne.gov).

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## Independence

◀ FROM Page 4

when George was 21. For a period of almost ten years, he did what we might call 'throwing in the towel' on his education and chose to live life as he pleased. At about the age of thirty he had a change of heart giving up 'places of revelry and the companionship of the thoughtless,' of which he mourned those years as 'time once lost, is lost forever.'

George immediately began the study of law. He studied under Mr. Jones who was the most distinguished lawyer in the colony of Virginia. In 1757 he was admitted to the bar. Quickly Mr. Wythe gained respect from his community through integrity in all dealings whether private or public. Even to people he argued against, they could not fault him due to his thorough investigation of each case. Wythe never outgrew his love of education for personal growth and of those aspiring to be lawyers. He personally was a teacher of law to more than 30 governors, senators, members of congress, ambassadors and judges. His most famous student was Thomas Jefferson. They spent five years together studying not only law but history, literature, political philosophy, rhetoric, ethics and much more. They even read many ancient works in their original language, so they were sure not to miss the actual meaning of the writing! George Wythe had to take pride in signing the Declaration of Independence because it was penned by his student, Thomas Jefferson!

As to a list of accomplishments:

Member of the Virginia House of Burgesses prior to the Revolution, where on May 24, 1774, the House passed a resolution declaring June 1 as a day of fasting and prayer, which Wythe signed and posted.

In 1775 & 1776 elected delegate to the General (Continental) Congress - Signed the Declaration of Independence

1777 - appointed Chancellor of the State (Virginia) - highest judicial office, held office 20 years. During this time Wythe wrote the oath for admiralty justices which stated his judicial philosophy: "You shall swear that ... you will do equal right to all manner of people, great and small, high and low, rich and poor, according to equity and good conscience, and the laws and usages of Virginia, without respect to persons. ... And, finally, in all things belonging to your said office, during your continuance therein you shall faithfully, justly and truly, according to the best of your skill and judgment, do equal and impartial justice, without fraud, favor or affection, or partiality." (Wikipedia)

1786 - chosen as delegate to the Constitutional Convention to frame the Constitution. In the process, he listed items which needed inclusion, later becoming the Bill of Rights - thus some have referred to George Wythe as the 'Father of the Bill of Rights,' though not all hold to that opinion.

Served on the Virginia convention to adopt the Constitution 1789 - appointed professorship to William and Mary by Governor Thomas Jefferson

Some other interesting facts about Wythe. He tried to join the army in the battle at Williamsburg at age 49 but others firmly talked him out of it. George became an abolitionist, setting his slaves free, even making provision for some in his will. Mr. Wythe also started a free private school for those who chose to come. One of his students was a black boy but unfortunately a disgruntled relative decided to poison both the boy and Wythe, ending their lives in June of 1806.

As John Witherspoon was considered America's pastor, Benjamin Rush America's doctor, George Wythe was America's lawyer.

As John Witherspoon was considered America's pastor, Benjamin Rush America's doctor, George Wythe was America's lawyer.



Caroline Epp



Photo and story submitted

Janet Schrunk Hale's last air flight with 'Skywest,' before her retirement. She retired as flight attendant on July 6, 2025. Pictured (l-r) are Captain Sean, Janet and First officer Mark. The photo was taken in Hobbs, NM.

## Bartlett native honored for excellent performance

SkyWest Airline flight attendant Janet Schrunk Hale of Arvada, Colorado, was honored at a SkyWest "Step It Up All Stars" Awards Banquet held Tuesday, October 14 in Salt Lake City, Utah.

She was one of 44, chosen from a total of 4,000 SkyWest Airline flight attendants. The 44 flight attendants were honored for their excellent performance in 2024. Janet was the only retired flight attendant selected.

Janet was an employee of SkyWest for 20 years.

She worked 10 years as a baggage handler, then at the age of 57 she trained intensively to be a SkyWest Flight Attendant.

She served SkyWest faithfully as a flight attendant for 10 years, retiring July 6, 2025.

Janet is the daughter of Lois Schrunk and the late Ellis Schrunk of Bartlett. She is married to Russell Hale.

## Banks

◀ FROM Page 4

programs, and customer service. Policymakers should tailor regulations to reflect our size and risk profile, not push us toward ventures that introduce new operational and cybersecurity risks.

Stablecoins may one day have a role in the broader financial system, but they are not a survival strategy for community banks. Our mission is rooted in trust, relationships and local decision-making, and these will be the principles that continue to guide us into the future.

We aren't asking for shortcuts to relevance by adopting a technology that has uncertain consumer demand. We're asking for a fair shot from policymakers to keep doing what we've done for generations: serve our communities with integrity, stability and trust.

By S. Dexter Schrodert. He is the President and CEO of the Nebraska Independent Community Bankers. A graduate of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and University of Nebraska College of Law, he grew up in North Bend and currently resides in Lincoln.

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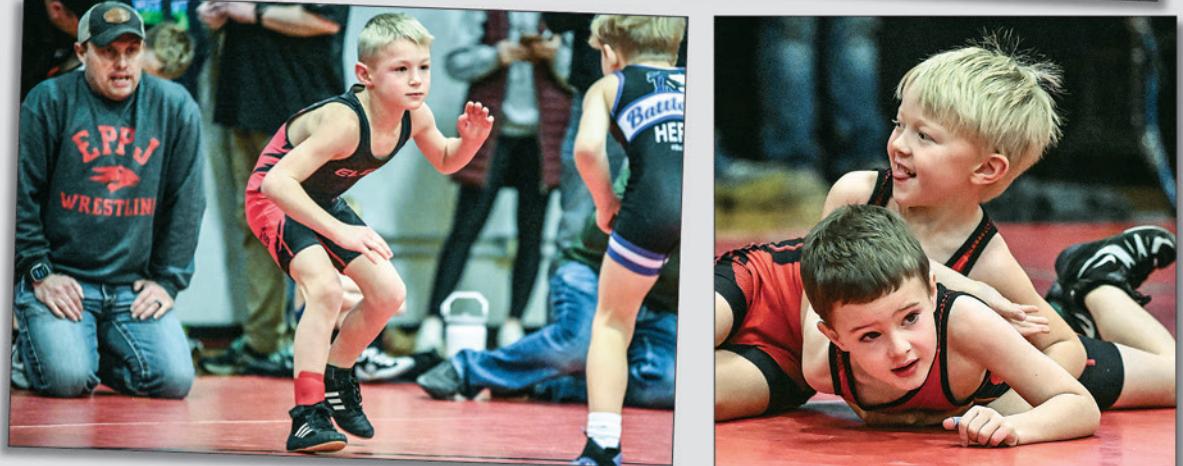


Boys, girls, parents, grandparents and more spent Saturday in Elgin....

## Wolfpack Little Kids Wrestling Tournament

The St. Boniface Auditorium was packed Saturday as kids from all over the area came to "duke it out" on the mats.

E-R photos by Dennis & Lynell Morgan



## Community Calendar

\* See ad/story in this week's Elgin Review

### Friday, January 9

Raising Dough fundraiser at the Elgin Community Center (9 a.m.).

### Tuesday, January 13

Regular meeting of the Antelope County Board of Commissioners • Antelope County Board of Equalization meeting at courthouse in Neligh.

### Wednesday, January 14

Regular meeting of the District #18 Board of Education @ 7 p.m.

### Sunday, January 15

Caregivers Support Group meeting at the Elgin Community Center (1 p.m.).

### Monday, January 19

No School at Elgin schools (teacher in-service).

### Sunday, January 25

Evening With Friends Gala.

### Sunday, January 31

Start of NVC Basketball Tournaments

 Events listing courtesy of  
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## Coach Eisenhauer 'seizes the moment' for 300th victory

MADISON — 'Seizing the moment.'

When time and opportunity come together to create a 'once in a lifetime' achievement.

Moments like that are rare, that's for sure. But when they happen, you need to take a step back and savor the occasion.

I've covered more than my fair share of events like this dating to my first newspaper job at the Gothenburg Times in the early 1980s. You're never sure when it's going to happen, but you need to be ready when it does happen.

I was there when the Grant Plainsmen, in the late 1980s were three seconds away from a 'Triple-Double' of state championships in football and basketball only to see it slip away when Lincoln Christian hit a trey at the buzzer in the state championship game. The basketball coach for the Plainsmen was Larry Pritchett who finished with more than 600 victories. And there were the state football titles won by Pope John, Elgin High and then the Wolfpack in a magnificent run not that long ago.

That was then, this is now. For weeks now, we've been aware of Wolfpack girls Coach Randy Eisenhauer approaching a major milestone in his coaching career - 300 wins.

We thought it was possible to take place sometime in December, but you can never be certain. When Elkhorn Valley upended the Wolfpack, we knew if they put together a winning streak it could happen at the Madison Holiday Tournament. For that to happen, they had to survive at Creighton which they did with three-point victory. They had to beat Madison who didn't put up much of a fight.

That set the stage for Coach E's first chance to win #300 if they could defeat Lyons-Decatur in the championship game. The Cougars did their best to not allow that to happen. But, in the end, as the seconds finally ticked off, Coach E rose to his feet and raised a fist into the air as he eyed family and friends in the stands.

There were plenty of congratulations handed out, plenty of family photos taken. Then, with seven minutes to go before the start of the boys game, we were granted access to the girls locker room where a celebration

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fit for a champion was captured with our cameras. We armed Mady Kurpgewiet and Braelyn Martinsen with confetti cannons, other team members were given '\$300' bills. With a little assistance from wife Krista Eisenhauer and daughter Keyera, everybody came together around the coach. Bills flew into the air, confetti cannons fired and a private celebration ensued.

By now you've likely seen the photos posted on social media. The camera doesn't lie, it was great to celebrate a moment which was years in the making.

You don't get to a milestone by being a 'lucky' coach. Luck happens once, maybe twice, but it doesn't last. Legendary coaches do the necessary homework, they mold and shape a winning team in practice then put it on display on game day for all to see.

During a brief interview, I could sense the relief that the game was over, I think it has been on his mind for some time now.

Coach E spoke about the difficult, early years at Elgin High. He lost a fair share of games early on, but he learned from those losses. Then came the co-op forming the Wolfpack and

he finally had some players to work with and the wins starting piling up. But it's the last five years which he reflected on the most.

"I stood in the exact same spot (five years ago) and got my 200th win," he said.

### SPINNING TALES



Publisher  
**Dennis Morgan**

See BACK, Page 10 ▶

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**ATHLETES OF THE WEEK**

**KARSON KALLHOFF**  
BOYS BASKETBALL

**BRAELYN MARTINSEN**  
GIRLS BASKETBALL

**LIBBY EVANS**  
WRESTLING (GIRLS)

**ELGIN PUBLIC POPE JOHN**

**ATHLETES OF THE WEEK**

**KARSON KALLHOFF** BOYS BASKETBALL

**BRAELYN MARTINSEN** GIRLS BASKETBALL

**LIBBY EVANS** WRESTLING (GIRLS)

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Thomas Meis

# Winter cow care agreements

## IT'S ALL ABOUT BEEF



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who makes treatment decisions, and who pays for veterinary and medication costs. It's also wise to identify a veterinarian ahead of time and clarify when cattle may need to be moved for care.

Death loss and missing cattle are uncomfortable topics, but they need to be addressed before cattle are turned out. Agreements should define how losses are verified, how animal value is determined, and whether there is an acceptable level of death loss assigned to the owner before additional responsibility shifts to the care provider.

Feeding expectations are another key piece. This includes what cattle will graze, when supplemental protein or energy may be needed due to snow, ice, or forage conditions, and how those decisions are made. Assigning body condition scores when cattle arrive—and discussing acceptable condition targets during the care period—can help keep nutrition decisions objective and transparent.

Other items to consider in-



AI generated image

The goal of a good agreement is simple: no surprises. Written agreements help clearly define responsibilities, costs, and risk so both the cattle owner and care provider know what's expected before cattle ever arrive. Verbal agreements may work in good years, but when weather, markets, or animal health issues arise, clear documentation becomes especially important.

Start with the basics—when cattle will arrive and leave, how many animals are involved, how they're identified, and whether there are performance or body condition expectations. Clearly defining these items up front helps avoid confusion later, especially if conditions change during the winter.

Health management should also be spelled out. Agreements should address how sick cattle will be handled, who is notified,

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25 BLK Hfrs.....	567#.....	428.00
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22 BLK/BWF Hfrs....	787#.....	336.00
51 BLK/RED Hfrs....	980#.....	303.75
15 BLK Strs.....	462#.....	537.00
40 BLK Strs.....	623#.....	450.00
80 BLK Strs.....	727#.....	412.00
65 BLK/BWF Strs....	747#.....	410.75
64 BLK Strs.....	848#.....	378.75
58 BLK Strs.....	1036#.....	334.25

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**FEB. 16** Feeder Cattle Special/Yearlings/Weigh Cows & Bulls

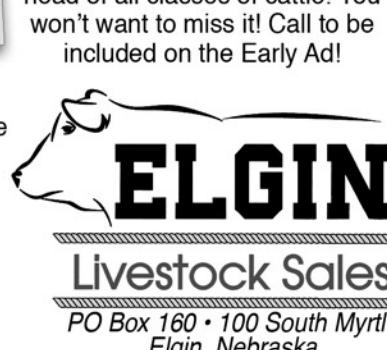
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If you have any questions or to consign your cattle for one of the upcoming auctions, call:

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**Field Rep. Trey Baum**  
402.843.6683

**Field Rep. Brenden Peister**  
308.750.3322



## BCHC hosts Green Dot training for the public

Albion, NE (January 7, 2025) – Boone County Health Center (BCHC) will host its first Green Dot Bystander Intervention Training on Thursday, January 22, 2026, from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. at Boone County Health Center. The training is free and open to the public, and a light lunch will be provided. Participants should enter through the north Kvam Room doors.

The session will be led by Abbi Shanle with Faith Regional Child Advocacy Center and Traci Pilar with Center for



Survivors, both trained presenters experienced in violence-prevention education.

Green Dot is a nationally recognized program that teaches community members how to identify potentially harmful situations—such as harassment, bullying, or signs of abuse—and safely intervene. The training provides realistic, actionable strategies anyone can use to reduce harm and support a safer community.

Participants will learn how to recognize warning signs, use safe intervention techniques,

support individuals affected by violence, and help shift community norms toward greater safety and respect.

"This training gives people practical tools they can use in daily life," said Valorie Slizoski, Social Worker at Boone County Health Center. "Violence prevention doesn't require heroic actions. Sometimes it's as simple as checking in, creating a distraction, or calling for help when something doesn't feel right."

Slizoski emphasized the power of community involvement. "No one can do everything, but

everyone can do something," she said. "When more people feel confident stepping in, it creates a ripple effect that strengthens our entire community."

The training is designed to be interactive, engaging, and empowering for anyone who wants to help build a safer environment for friends, neighbors, and families.

Registration is free, but space is limited. To sign up, visit <https://forms.office.com/r/JBq18sctXG> or contact Traci at 402-564-2155 or [traci@centerfor-survivors.org](mailto:traci@centerfor-survivors.org).

## Nebraska Cattlemen Foundation accepting 2026 scholarship applications

Applications Due March 1, 2026

LINCOLN, NE (January 6, 2026) – The Nebraska Cattlemen Research and Education Foundation (NCF) announced they are now accepting scholarship applications for the 2026-2027 academic year from qualified youth in Nebraska with an interest in the beef industry.

NCF President Malina Lindstrom stated, "The Nebraska Cattlemen Foundation is dedicated to supporting future professionals who are driven and passionate about the beef industry. We understand the importance of the next generation of beef industry leaders, and want to ensure they have the tools for success as they pave the way to their careers and seek to advance beef production."

The prestigious Nebraska Cattlemen Beef State Scholarship awards a \$10,000 scholar-

ship to an outstanding college junior, senior or graduate-level student. Eligible students must be residents of Nebraska and be enrolled in a Nebraska college or university pursuing a beef industry-related degree. The scholarship will be awarded based on student need, Nebraska beef industry involvement including past achievements and future plans, and academics. Completed applications are due by Sunday, March 1, 2026. Incomplete applications and applications received after the due date will be disqualified. Finalists will be invited to a personal interview with the selection committee.

NCF offers numerous other \$1,000 minimum scholarships, awarded on the basis of academic achievement, beef industry involvement, and goals/quality of application. Completed

applications are due by Sunday, March 1, 2026. Incomplete applications and applications received after the due date will be disqualified. Scholarship recipients must be a high school senior or college student, have a "C" or higher grade point average, and be enrolled or intending to enroll full time in a college or university that offers a bachelor's degree, an approved vocation or trade school, or a state accredited junior college.

Applications are available on the Nebraska Cattlemen website. Questions can be referred to [Ashley.McClinton@necattlemen.org](mailto:Ashley.McClinton@necattlemen.org) or by calling the NCF office at (402) 475-2333.

All scholarship winners will be announced during the Nebraska Cattlemen Annual Midyear Meeting in June 2026.

## This week's Crossword Puzzle

### CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Lakes
- 6. Electromotive force
- 9. Invests in little enterprises
- 13. Longtime Utah Jazz coach
- 14. Small sailboat
- 15. Actor Idris
- 16. Mild yellow Dutch cheese made in balls
- 17. System that detects objects under water
- 18. Harsh, grating noise
- 19. Steward
- 21. A fencing sword
- 22. Infections
- 23. Actress Ryan
- 24. Sodium
- 25. Swedish castle
- 28. A lump of slime
- 29. African antelope
- 31. Insurance providers
- 33. Choosy
- 36. Ringworm
- 38. Unpolished
- 39. Drenches
- 41. Pant style
- 44. Son of Noah
- 45. Spiritual being
- 46. Upton Sinclair novel
- 48. Journalist Tarbell
- 49. Popular sports highlight show
- 51. Born of
- 52. Rich tapestry
- 54. S. China seaport
- 56. State of being unclothed
- 60. Surrounded by
- 61. Residue
- 62. Away from wind
- 63. Dried-up
- 64. Visionary
- 65. A very large body of water
- 66. Garden tools
- 67. Screen type
- 68. Ancient Scandinavian poet

### CLUES DOWN

- 1. Millisecond
- 2. Spanish city
- 3. A sudden very loud sound
- 4. "The Indiana Jones of beer"
- 5. Tin
- 6. Sea eagles
- 7. Volcanic crater
- 8. Type of coat
- 9. Women's apartments in Ottoman palace
- 10. Divulge a secret
- 11. Norwegian playwright
- 12. "It's a Wonderful Life" director
- 14. Poisonous perennial plant
- 17. 18-year astronomical period
- 20. Clothes
- 21. Places to sit
- 23. Family of regulator genes
- 25. New York ballplayer
- 26. Impressive in size or scope
- 27. Jacques \_\_\_\_\_ French biologist
- 29. One from the Big Apple
- 30. Genus of woolly lemurs
- 32. Songs to one's beloved
- 34. Indigenous person of N.E. Thailand
- 35. Supplemented with difficulty
- 37. Farewell
- 40. Investment account (abbr.)
- 42. One from Utah
- 43. Begets
- 49. 50. 51. 52. 53. 54. 55. 56. 57. 58. 59. 60. 61. 62. 63. 64. 65. 66. 67. 68. 69. 70. 71. 72. 73. 74. 75. 76. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 82. 83. 84. 85. 86. 87. 88. 89. 90. 91. 92. 93. 94. 95. 96. 97. 98. 99. 100. 101. 102. 103. 104. 105. 106. 107. 108. 109. 110. 111. 112. 113. 114. 115. 116. 117. 118. 119. 120. 121. 122. 123. 124. 125. 126. 127. 128. 129. 130. 131. 132. 133. 134. 135. 136. 137. 138. 139. 140. 141. 142. 143. 144. 145. 146. 147. 148. 149. 150. 151. 152. 153. 154. 155. 156. 157. 158. 159. 160. 161. 162. 163. 164. 165. 166. 167. 168. 169. 170. 171. 172. 173. 174. 175. 176. 177. 178. 179. 180. 181. 182. 183. 184. 185. 186. 187. 188. 189. 190. 191. 192. 193. 194. 195. 196. 197. 198. 199. 200. 201. 202. 203. 204. 205. 206. 207. 208. 209. 210. 211. 212. 213. 214. 215. 216. 217. 218. 219. 220. 221. 222. 223. 224. 225. 226. 227. 228. 229. 230. 231. 232. 233. 234. 235. 236. 237. 238. 239. 240. 241. 242. 243. 244. 245. 246. 247. 248. 249. 250. 251. 252. 253. 254. 255. 256. 257. 258. 259. 260. 261. 262. 263. 264. 265. 266. 267. 268. 269. 270. 271. 272. 273. 274. 275. 276. 277. 278. 279. 280. 281. 282. 283. 284. 285. 286. 287. 288. 289. 290. 291. 292. 293. 294. 295. 296. 297. 298. 299. 300. 301. 302. 303. 304. 305. 306. 307. 308. 309. 310. 311. 312. 313. 314. 315. 316. 317. 318. 319. 320. 321. 322. 323. 324. 325. 326. 327. 328. 329. 330. 331. 332. 333. 334. 335. 336. 337. 338. 339. 340. 341. 342. 343. 344. 345. 346. 347. 348. 349. 350. 351. 352. 353. 354. 355. 356. 357. 358. 359. 360. 36

**NOTICE**

## ESTATE OF STACY CHARF, DECEASED

**NOTICE**Estate of **STACY CHARF**,  
Deceased

Notice is hereby given that on December 30th, 2025, in the County Court of Antelope County, Nebraska, Case No. PR25-43, Danelle Charf, whose mailing address is 802 E. 3rd Street, Neligh, Nebraska 68756, has been appointed as personal representative of this estate. Creditors of this estate must

file their claims with this Court on or before March 9, 2026 or be forever barred. Creditors shall submit their claims to the Antelope County Court, P.O. Box 26, Neligh, Nebraska 68756.

/s/ Martin V. Klein  
Martin V. Klein, #22220  
Attorney for Applicant  
PUBLISH: January 7, 14 & 21, 2026  
ZNEZ



Photos submitted

Dr. Nicole Kramer is with her husband Kyle and parents John and Tracy Beckman following her Early Career Alumni Award recognition.

**Future Albion physician, honored with 'Early Career Alumni' Award**

Boone County Health Center is proud to recognize Dr. Nicole Kramer, who was recently honored with the Early Career Alumni Award from Bryan College of Health Sciences. The award was presented during Bryan's December commencement ceremony and recognizes alumni who have demonstrated early professional achievement and a commitment to service.

Dr. Kramer graduated from Bryan College of Health Sciences in 2019 with a Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Sciences. She earned her Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Medicine in 2024 and is currently completing her residency through the UNMC Family Medicine Rural Training Track in Grand Island, Nebraska. Dr. Kramer is the first physician to complete undergraduate training through Bryan's Biomedical Sciences program, which was established in 2013.

Originally from Elgin, Nebraska, Dr. Kramer has remained committed to serving rural communities throughout her medical training. Upon completion of her residency in 2027, she will join Boone County Health Center in Albion as a full-scope Family Medicine physician, including obstetrics.

In her acceptance remarks, Dr. Kramer noted that healthcare is "a profession built on service" and emphasized the importance of compassion and recognizing the humanity behind every patient encounter—values that align closely with Boone County Health Center's mission of patient-centered care.

Dr. Kramer maintains strong ties to Bryan College of Health Sciences through its professional mentoring program and currently serves as a resident board member of the Nebraska Academy of Family Physicians, where she advocates for the future of primary care in Nebraska.

Boone County Health Center congratulates Dr. Kramer on this recognition and looks forward to welcoming her to the medical staff in Fall 2027.

**Minnesota man, child die in Friday accident**

On January 2, 2026 at about 9:18 P.M., Boyd-Holt E911 Dispatch received a call about an injury accident that occurred on 508 Ave on the S curves about 2.5 miles south of Ewing.

Upon arrival, it was determined that a 2020 Ram pickup was northbound on 508 Ave when it lost control on an icy curve, left the roadway, and rolled onto its top into a pond.

The driver, a 34 year old Minnesota man, was trapped in the vehicle and was pronounced dead at the scene.

Four children, also from Minnesota, who were passengers were able to escape and went looking for help.

One of the children, a 5 year old boy, was not able to continue walking and was left by the other siblings while they continued looking for help. They located a motorist about 1 mile north the accident scene and asked for help. That motorist contacted authorities and assisted in locating the other children and accident scene.

Shortly after Ewing Fire and Rescue arrived, they determined the 5 year old boy was still missing and further help was requested from other agencies in the search. After hours of searching with volunteers on the ground walking and using ATVs as well as multiple drones with thermal imaging, the 5 year old boy was found deceased.

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The Plaintiff alleges in the Complaint that there is now due the Plaintiff on said Certificate of Tax Sale the original amount of said Certificate of Tax in the sum of \$1,003.27, plus all subsequent taxes that the Plaintiff has paid together with interest upon such original sum and additional sums as may be paid by the Plaintiff at the rate of 14.00% per annum from and after the date(s) of delinquency thereof, costs and attorney fees.

The Plaintiff prays that in default of payment by the Defendants of

the amount due the Plaintiff as aforesaid, the Property be decreed to be sold according to law to satisfy the sums found due to the Plaintiff, with interest, costs of suit, and attorney fees, and that such Defendants be forever barred and foreclosed of all right, title, lien, equity of redemption or other interest in, to and upon the Property.

You are required to answer such Complaint on or before the 6th day of February, 2026.

MANUEL PARRA, Plaintiff  
By: /s/ Martin V. Klein

Martin V. Klein, #22220  
KLEIN LAW OFFICE, P.C.  
101 West 4th Street  
P.O. Box 166  
Neligh, NE 68756  
402-887-4190/Fax 402-887-5189  
marty@kleinlawpc.com  
His Counsel  
PUBLISH: December 24 & 31, 2025  
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Hartley Burr Alexander

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# Wolfpack Sports

## EPPJ boys, girls defeat North Central

**BASSETT** — The Wolfpack boys basketball team rolled to their 11th victory Saturday afternoon, defeating North Central 50 to 24.

EPPJ never trailed in the game. They held the Knights scoreless in the first quarter and led 25 to 7 at halftime.

Over the final two quarters, EPPJ outscored their opponent 25 to 17.

Karson Kallhoff led the Wolfpack with 16 points followed by Max Henn with 14 and Jarek Erickson added 10.

A key statistic in the game was rebounds as EPPJ pulled down 42 compared to 19 for the Knights. Henn had 16 rebounds in the game.

The Wolfpack will next be in action Saturday afternoon when they host Bloomfield at St. Boniface Auditorium.

### EPPJ 50, North Central 24

Knights.....0 7 12 5 — 24  
Wolfpack.....13 12 14 11 — 50  
Wolfpack — Michael Seling 2-9 0-0 4, Karson Kallhoff 6-16 1-1 16, Evin Pelster 3-7 0-0 6, Brayden Burenheide 0-1 0-0 0, Jarek Erickson 3-8 3-4 10, Max Henn 6-8 2-6 14, Braedon Hinkle 0-0 0-0 0, Christian Preister 0-0 0-0 0, Justice Blecher 0-0 0-0 0. Team totals: 20-49 6-10 50. Three-point shots — Wolfpack 4-26 (Kallhoff 3, Erickson 1). North Central team totals: 10-47 2-2 24. Three-point shots — Knights 2-20.

Team statistics: Rebounds — Wolfpack 42 (Henn 16, Erickson 10), Knights 19. Assists — Wolfpack 13 (Seling 6). Steals — Wolfpack 4 (Erickson 2). Turnovers — EPPJ 14, Knights 8.

\*\*\*\*\*

**BASSETT** — Elgin Public-Pope John delivered the 'D' Saturday afternoon as they defeated North Central 64 to 30.

A constant all season, the Wolfpack's prowess on defense was on full display. They held the Knights scoreless in the first quarter, and single-digit scoring in two of the final three quarters to easily win the game. EPPJ forced the Knights into 30 turnovers in the lop-sided game of which the outcome was decided by halftime.

Senior Kayton Zwingman led the Wolfpack scoring parade with 14 points, Mady Kurpgeweit and Braelyn Martinsen each had 10 points. EPPJ made 25 of 55 field goal attempts and were a solid 12 of 18 from the three point line. In contrast, North Central made 11 of 39 shots from the field and seven of 11 free throws.

### EPPJ 64, North Central 30

Wolfpack.....14 15 12 23 — 64  
Knights.....0 9 16 5 — 30

Wolfpack — Kayton Zwingman 4-8 6-7 14, Gentry Zwingman 2-5 0-0 4, Elizabeth Moser 2-6 0-0 5, Kinley Druke 3-4 1-1 7, Braelyn Martinsen 3-13 3-4 10, Lillian Moser 0-0 0-0 0, Kinley Miller 0-0 0-0 0, Sydney Niewohner 0-1 0-0, Jael Lammers 3-3 2-2 8, Kierstyn Eisenhauer 3-3 0-0 6, Mady Kurpgeweit 5-12 0-4 10, Macy Rokahr 0-0 0-0 0, Gemma Miller 0-0 0-0 0. Team totals: 25-55 12-18 64.

Three-point shots — Wolfpack 2-13 (E. Moser 1, Martinsen 1). North Central team totals: 11-39 7-11 30. Three-point shots — Knights 1-13.

Team statistics: Rebounds

— Wolfpack 34 (Kurpgeweit 10), Knights 21. Assists — Wolfpack 13 (Kurpgeweit 5), Knights 5. Steals — Wolfpack 13 (G. Zwingman 3, Kurpgeweit 3), Knights 9. Turnovers — Wolfpack 18, Knights 30.



Karson Kallhoff (4) averaged 19 points per game at the Madison Holiday Basketball Tournament.

## EPPJ wins holiday tournament

MADISON — It's almost become a tradition for Elgin Public-Pope John to face Riverside in the championship game of the Madison Holiday Tournament.

Such was the case again Tuesday afternoon (December 30) as the two teams met for the second time this season.

The Chargers started out strong in both halves, but the Wolfpack's steady play proved too high an obstacle to overcome as EPPJ prevailed 64 to 41.

The Chargers used the trey to stay close in the first quarter. They made three to trail 16 to 15. EPPJ capitalized on baskets by Max Henn, Michael Seling, Jarek Erickson and Evin Pelster to build a 10-point lead. Then, after a three-point play by Carter Cooper, Henn closed out the half with a two-pointer for a 30 to 21 lead.

The Wolfpack matched the Charger point for point in the third quarter, then pulled away in the fourth quarter. Over the final eight minutes of the game, EPPJ outscored Riverside 16 to four. Karson Kallhoff had seven of his 16 points in the fourth quarter.

"Our defense finally stepped up. We were giving up some easy shots wide open guys, and they had a couple guys that had some shots we didn't expect to and then we just adjusted," Coach Matt Euse said. "I felt like the whole second half, we forced them to take really tough shots, and nothing was easy for their better offensive players. And I thought that went a long way for us. Good defense generates offense."

Euse complimented the Chargers, saying "they're just like a bunch of little gnats. I mean, they're a very good basketball team, as in the sense of, they just annoy you, you can never swat them away ... They're always right there, just bothering you. That's just the way they're coached. That's the way they play. It's just a tough team."

Aside from Kallhoff, other Wolfpack players scoring in double figures were Erickson 18, Seling 11 and Henn 13. EPPJ made 25 of 42 shots from the field and seven of 10 free throws, showing no ill effects from the Christmas break.

The Wolfpack will be back in action Saturday afternoon, at home, against Bloomfield. The game will be played at St. Boniface Auditorium.

### Opening round

In the opening round, the Wolfpack overcame a pesky Madison squad 59 to 51.

Behind Karson Kallhoff's 22 points, the Wolfpack quickly took control of the game.

After building a 10-point lead after one quarter, the Wolfpack

expanded the margin to 45 to 29 at halftime.

With Wolfpack reserves playing much of the third quarter, they went ice-cold shooting. They failed to score in the quarter. Madison didn't fare much better as they managed just four points to trail 45 to 33 entering the fourth quarter.

The Dragons closed out the game outscoring EPPJ 18 to 14 but the Wolfpack were never seriously threatened as they remain undefeated.

Aside from Kallhoff, Erickson had 10 points and Henn added 13.

### EPPJ 59, Madison 51

Dragons.....10 19 4 18 — 51

Wolfpack.....20 25 0 14 — 59

Wolfpack — Michael Seling 2-10 0-0 6, Karson Kallhoff 8-15 1-2 22, Evin Pelster 3-5 2-2 8, Brayden Burenheide 0-0 0-0 0, Jarek Erickson 2-7 4-6 10, Max Henn 6-10 0-3 13, Jayvin Erickson 0-1 0-0 0. Team totals: 20-49 6-10 50. Three-point shots — Wolfpack 10-23 (Seling 2, Kallhoff 5, Ja. Erickson 2, Henn 1). Madison team totals: 20-53 3-4 51. Three-point shots — Madison (8-25).

Team statistics: Rebounds — Wolfpack 26 (Henn 9, Pelster 6), Dragons 29. Assists — Wolfpack 17 (Ja. Erickson 8, Kallhoff 5), Dragons NA. Steals — Wolfpack 4 (Kallhoff 2), Dragons NA. Turnovers — Wolfpack 6, Dragons 9.

### EPPJ 64, Riverside 41

Chargers.....15 6 16 4 — 41

Wolfpack.....16 14 18 16 — 64

Wolfpack — Michael Seling 4-8 0-0 11, Karson Kallhoff 5-8 2-2 16, Evin Pelster 2-5 2-2 6, Jarek Erickson 9-11 0-0 18, Max Henn 5-10 3-6 13. Team totals: 25-42 7-10 64. Three-point shots — Wolfpack 7-18 (Seling 3, Kallhoff 4). Riverside team totals: 15-47 5-4 41. Three-point shots — Riverside 6-15.

Team statistics: Rebounds — Wolfpack 27 (Erickson 12, Henn 8), Riverside 18. Assists — Wolfpack 13 (Erickson 6), Riverside NA. Steals — Wolfpack 2 (Erickson 2), Riverside NA. Turnovers — Wolfpack 4, Riverside 3.

Wolfpack began the

third quarter with a 10 to four run to increase their lead to 48 to 33. Martinsen and Gentry Zwingman each had four points and Kurpgeweit added two.

With the game no longer in doubt, Wolfpack fans let out a big roar when the clock expired as Coach Eisenhauer secured the victory milestone. It meant as much to the players and fans as it did to Coach Eisenhauer.

"We kind of own this tournament," Coach Randy Eisenhauer said after defeating the Cougars. "I think seven years now, seven or eight, we've won it in a row. So it took a little bit today, but the girls answered, and they did a good job."

For the game, Martinsen led the way with 16 points, Moser had 14. EPPJ made 21 of 61 from the field and finished 12 of 31 from the free throw line. LDNE was 11 of 47 from the field and 14 of 23 from the free throw line.

Kurpgeweit led EPPJ in rebounds with 12, Moser had 10. Martinsen added a team-high eight steals.

## EPPJ girls tourney champs again

MADISON — For 2 1/2 quarters, Lyons Decatur Northeast entertained thoughts of upsetting EPPJ in the finals of the Madison Holiday Tournament. Then, suddenly, those thoughts vanished as the Wolfpack pulled away for a 54 to 37 victory.

The victory marked Coach

Randy Eisenhauer's 300th as a basketball coach, playing out like many of his past victories — a defensive effort which eventually took away many scoring chances. And, at the other end of the court, finding a way to put points on the board.

"We are going to play in your face," Eisenhauer said. "We're going to try with our press, our defense, and then we're going to get out and run ... We were running the first half. We just couldn't make a layup. We're losing the ball, you know, everywhere. So it's just like I told the girls at half, we were going 110 miles an hour, but our body was only going 60 miles an hour. So I just told us relax. We were down two at halftime, but I said we missed how many free throws? I think we were 4-17 from the free throw line first half. But they stayed the course. That's what I'm just gonna get they stayed the course. This year, greatness takes grind. We had a grind out win tonight. So I'm pretty proud of all of them."

With 5:05 left in the third

quarter, the teams were tied at 24-all. Then, Mady Kurpgeweit did something the team had struggled to do, made consecutive free throws. In the first half they made just four of 17 free throws which allowed the Cougars to take a 22 to 20 lead at intermission.

After Kurpgeweit's free

throws, Braelyn Martinsen took

over as she had six points and Elizabeth Moser added four, including a buzzer beater at the end of the quarter to give EPPJ a 38 to 31 lead.

The Wolfpack began the

fourth quarter with a 10 to four

run to increase their lead to 48 to 33. Martinsen and Gentry

Zwingman each had four points and Kurpgeweit added two.

With the game no longer in

doubt, Wolfpack fans let out a

big roar when the clock expired

as Coach Eisenhauer secured

the victory milestone. It meant

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Kurpgeweit led EPPJ in

rebounds with 12, Moser had 10.

Martinsen added a team-high

eight steals.

### First round

In opening round action, the

Wolfpack did a number on the

host Madison Lady Dragons,

winning 66 to 25.

As has been the case in all

but a couple of games, the Wolf-

pack's pressure defense to start

the game played big dividends.

Madison managed just seven

points in the opening quarter as

EPPJ built a 19 to 7 lead.

Turnovers would be a problem all

game for the Lady Dragons as

they had 41, many coming in the

first quarter.

EPPJ outscored their oppo-

nent in all four quarters. Over

the final three quarters, EPPJ

outscored Madison 45 to 18.

The game marked the return

of Kierstyn Eisenhauer who

came off the bench to score two

points. Her returns strengthens

a potent Wolfpack bench.



## Back

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many other players contributed as well.

Through his time here, Coach E said he learned the road to 300 means learning to 'stay the course.'

"You know, I could have folded my first three years. You know, I started out my first five years winning only seven games. You know, that was the best season I had, but I wanted to continue my course. I thought I had some good things going on at both schools. And then, you know, since I became the Wolfpack coach, we've actually won like 240-260 some games. So the girls kind of responded to what I asked of them. I'm not gonna lie, I expect a lot all these girls, and they give it back to me."

No truer words have ever been spoken.

Congratulations Coach E!

**Members of the Wolfpack girls basketball team** had plenty to celebrate at Madison last Tuesday. First, they won the holiday basketball tournament. Second, it was Coach Randy Eisenhauer's 300th career victory. Confetti, '300' win currency and other signs made the celebration extra special as did celebrating the moment with wife Krista and daughters Keyera and Kierstyn Eisenhauer.

E-R photo/LMorgan

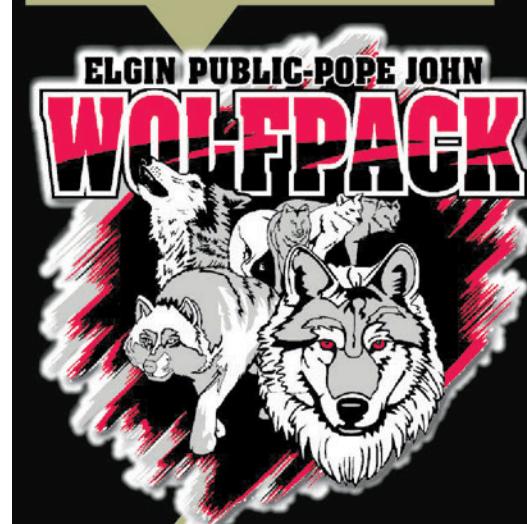
**BOYS WRESTLING**  
 Jan. 9....@ Burwell .....10:00  
 Jan. 10....@ Summerland .....10:00  
 Jan. 16....@ Sumner-Eddyville-Miller .....12:00

**GIRLS WRESTLING**  
 Jan. 8....@ Norm Mankert Inv. (Columbus) 8:00  
 Jan. 12....@ Summerland .....1:00  
 Jan. 15....@ Ord .....1:00  
 Jan. 19....@ Battle Creek .....11:00

**GIRLS JH WRESTLING**  
 Jan. 12....@ Randolph .....2:00  
 Jan. 17....@ Plainview .....10:00

**BOYS & GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL**  
 Jan. 8....@ St. Mary's (G) .....6:15  
 Jan. 10....vs Bloomfield (PJ) .....2:15  
 Jan. 13....vs Fullerton (EPS) .....4:30

**BOYS & GIRLS JH BASKETBALL**  
 Jan. 8....@ St. Mary's (G) .....4:30  
 Jan. 12....@ Niobrara-Verdigre (B) .....4:00  
 Jan. 13....vs Archangels CC (PJ) .....3:00



**SCHOOL ACTIVITIES**  
 Jan. 12-Feb. 6 .....PJCC STAR testing  
 Jan. 14.....FFA District LDE @ West Holt • EPS school board meeting  
 Jan. 15.....PJCC NHS Induction  
 Jan. 16.....PJCC K-6 only - NO SCHOOL  
 Jan. 17.....Pierce Speech Meet  
 Jan. 19.....All Schools - NO SCHOOL  
 Jan. 20.....PJCC Student Council  
 Jan. 23.....EPS-CyberPatriots Semi Finals  
 Jan. 24.....PJCC - speech meet TBD  
 Jan. 26.....EPS-designated day for Honor Day  
 Jan. 27.....PJCC Speaker DeMoine Adams  
 Jan. 28.....Howells-Dodge Speech Meet • EPS, no school for Prek-6

## WEEKLY SCHEDULES BROUGHT TO YOU BY THESE ELGIN - POPE JOHN SCHOOL BOOSTERS

**The Willows**  
 402-887-9059  
**TC Vet Clinic**  
 402-843-5756  
**Jeff Temme - Ag Land Realty LLC**  
 402-843-8440  
**Switzer Welding/Iron Creations Country Crafts**  
 Tom, Brenda & Brian  
 402-750-7749, 402-750-7748 & 402-841-8184  
**Stealth Broadband**  
 402-347-1010  
**Starman Seed & Supply, Inc.**  
 402-843-8393  
**Schindler Ag Services**  
 Jake Schindler 402-843-8812

**Sands Truck Service & Repair**  
 402-843-1010  
**Ruterborries Construction**  
 Paul Ruterborries 402-649-5827

**River Mill Coffee Company**  
 402-929-2425  
**Precision Repair**  
 402-843-2181  
**Petersburg Building & Supply**  
 Monty & Teri Reicks 402-386-5207  
**118 Insurance**  
 Megan, Marla & Jeslynn 402-843-5741  
**Levander Funeral Home of Elgin**  
 402-843-5400  
**Koinzan Enterprises Inc.**  
 402-843-5800  
**Kittelson's Home Repair**  
 Jim Kittelson 402-843-5833  
**Jonny Dodge CJ**  
 402-887-4182 or 800-510-1303  
**Invenergy Wind Energy, LLC**  
**Insurance Mart**  
 Janet-Tracey 402-843-2410  
**Keith Hemmer, CPA, P.C.**  
 Certified Public Accountant 402-843-2380

**Heithoff Irrigation**  
 402-843-2307  
**Great Plains State Bank**  
 402-386-5297  
**Elgin Veterans' Medical Clinic**  
 an outpatient clinic of Boone Co. Medical Center 402-843-5910  
**The Elgin Review**  
 402-843-5500  
**Elgin Pharmacy and Gift**  
 402-843-5555  
**Elgin One Stop & Sleepin Inn**  
 402-843-2100  
**Elgin Livestock Sales, Inc.**  
 402-843-2275  
**Elgin Body & Glass**  
 402-843-2418  
**Dwyer Manufacturing**  
 402-843-6167  
**Klein PC, Attny at Law**  
 402-887-4910

**Dean's Market**  
 402-843-5300  
**Central Valley Ag**  
 402-843-2416  
**Beckman Lumber Inc.**  
 402-843-2131  
**Baum Seed Service, LLC**  
 402-843-5802 or 402-843-8282  
**Bar U Farms**  
 402-843-8921  
**Bank of Elgin**  
 402-843-2228  
**Antelope Memorial Hospital**  
 402-887-4151 Elgin Clinic 402-843-5444

