



**Pope John speech team opens season at West Holt**  
See page 7



**More than 200 attend Lions Groundhog Supper**  
See page 6

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

# The Elgin Review



Wednesday  
February 11, 2026

Volume 143, Number 21

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## In Brief //

### Boys wrestling district meet to be February 13-14

At Shelby/Rising City High School.

A trio of Wolfpack boys wrestlers will seek this weekend to qualify for the NSAA State Wrestling Championships later this month.

Seniors Landyn Veik and Grady Druke and freshman John Zwingman will be among the many wrestlers competing Friday and Saturday at the Class D-3 Wrestling Tournament to be held in Shelby.

Both Veik and Druke have qualified for the state wrestling tournament during their time as Wolfpack wrestlers.

Competition will begin Friday at 2 p.m. while Saturday action will start at 9:30 a.m.

The top four finishers in each weight class will advance to the state competition to be held in Omaha next week.

Schools sending wrestlers to Shelby this weekend will be Archangels Catholic, Central Valley, Creighton, Dorchester, EMF, EPPJ, Franklin, Fullerton, Giltner/Harvard, High Plains Community, Homer, Humboldt/Table Rock-Steinauer, Loomis, NG/SE, Nebraska Christian, Neligh-Oakdale, Osmond-Wausa, Pawnee City, Shelby-Rising City, Shelton, O'Neill St. Mary's, Stanton and Twin River.

## Public Notices //

Public notices in this week's newspaper include:

Proceedings — The Elgin City Council  
Proceedings — The Antelope County Board of Commissioners  
Notice of Delinquent Taxes — Antelope County Treasurer  
Notice of Organization — Kerkman Land & Cattle LLC  
Notice of Incorporation Non Profit — EAS Ministries

*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 //

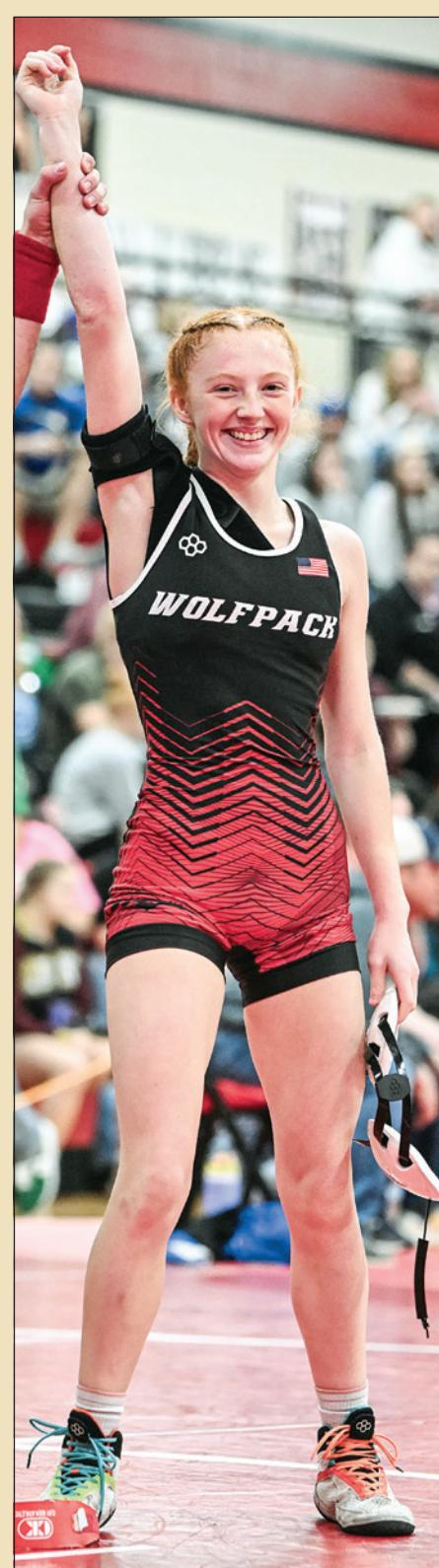
The high temperature last week was 60 degrees recorded on Thursday, February 5.

The low temperature during the same period was 9 degrees recorded on Sunday, February 1.

Altogether, no precipitation was recorded last week.

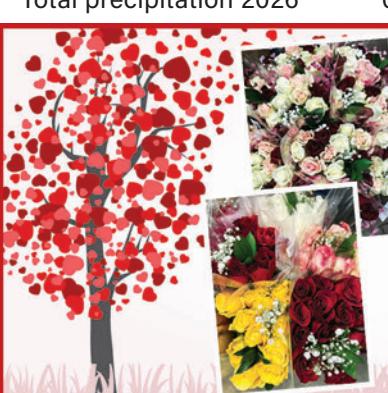
Following are the high and low temperatures, and precipitation amounts, as recorded by Elgin weather observer Leonard Orlowski.

Date	High	Low	Prec
Feb 1	48	9	.00
Feb 2	39	23	.00
Feb 3	33	27	.00
Feb 4	41	23	.00
Feb 5	60	37	.00
Feb 6	43	23	.00
Feb 7	54	25	.00
Total for last week	0.00		
Total for February	0.00		
Total precipitation 2026	0.14		



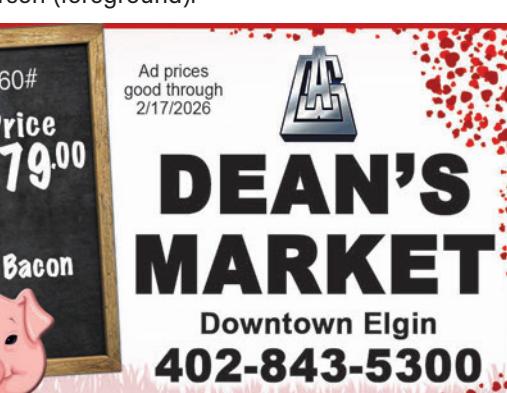
E-R photo/DMorgan

Now that's a smile! Wolfpack freshman Anna Dworak had plenty to smile about this past weekend, earning a berth at the NSAA Girls State Wrestling Tournament next week in Omaha.



Nothing says I Love You' like a bouquet of **ROSES**  
arriving on Thursday!

**LOVE**  
is "in-store" for you!



**EPPJ fans celebrate Erickson's achievement**  
There was jubilation in the stands for family, friends and Wolfpack fans Saturday night when EPPJ senior Jarek Erickson eclipsed the 1,000 point career mark. Signs celebrating the moment could be seen throughout the Wolfpack side of the Niobrara gymnasium. Leading the cheers was mom Angie Anderson (foreground).



E-R photo/DMorgan

Ad prices  
good through  
2/17/2026

**DEAN'S MARKET**  
Downtown Elgin  
**402-843-5300**

### Evans, Dworak to wrestle at state next week

First round pairing have been announced for two Wolfpack wrestlers scheduled to compete at the NSAA Girls State Wrestling Championships beginning Tuesday in Omaha.

Competing in Class B, 170-pound wrestler Libby Evans will be making her third trip to state.

A medalist last year, Evans will take a 35-9 record into her first round matchup against Maura Vrbka of Fillmore Central.

Vrbka, a sophomore, came on late in the season. She enters the state meet with a 22-23 record.

A freshman, Anna Dworak will be making her first appearance at the state championships, competing in the 100-pound division. She has compiled a 28-17 record while hampered by injury. However, she had a strong district meet finishing third at Weeping Water.

Her first round opponent will be Yutan's Hayleigh Darling. A freshman, Darling has compiled a 40-13 record this season.



E-R photo/DMorgan

### First-time ever NVC champs!

For the first time ever, Elgin Public-Pope John won the Niobrara Valley Conference girls basketball tournament Saturday night with a big win over Santee. Team members are (front row, l-r): Elizabeth Moser, Kierstyn Eisenhauer, Braelyn Martinsen, Kayton Zwingman, Kinley Druke, Kinley Miller and Gentry Zwingman. Back row: Ass't. Coach Trent Ostransky, Sydney Niewohner, Gemma Miller, Macy Rokahr, Lillian Moser, Jael Lammers, Mady Kurpgewit, Head Coach Randy Eisenhauer and Ass't. Coach Keyera Eisenhauer.

### City looking for maintenance, summer help

Meeting last week, the Elgin City Council was looking to take steps to be implemented in the coming months.

February is the month when council members begin to look at filling summer job openings.

The biggest position to fill will be the role held by Donnie Poulsen, Jr. Having held his position for many years, Poulsen previously announced his intentions to retire later this year.

Because of that, the council authorized City Clerk Kristin L. Childers to begin advertising the position. Applications will be accepted through the end of the month.

The council will then conduct interviews and ultimately hire a person in the coming months.

That's just one position. The council also approved advertising for summer pool staff and lifeguards as well as a summer maintenance person. Applications will be accepted through the end of February.

In recent years, the city has found it difficult to find lifeguards for the Elgin City Swimming Pool.

Hopefully that won't be the case this year.

### Dittrich seeks to retain seat as commissioner

District #5 Antelope County Commissioner Casey Dittrich will seek to retain his seat on the board.

He was among the latest filings, according to Antelope County Election Commissioner Lisa Payne.

Other local filings have been (\* denotes incumbent):

Elgin Mayor Mike Schmitt\*  
Ward #1 Elgin City Councilman  
Leigh Kluthe\*

District #18 Board of Education Lisa  
Welding\*, Kimberly Young and Kyle  
Heithoff

County Officials who have filed for re-election include County Assessor Kelly Mueller-Oltjenbruns; County Treasurer Deb Branstiter; County Sheriff Robert L. Moore; and Clerk of the District Court Angela F. Mortensen

The deadline for incumbents to file for re-election is Tuesday, February 17.

The deadline for non-incumbents to file is Monday, March 2.

The item which council members spent the most time on was one on which they took no action.

Mayor Mike Schmitt and council members voiced concerns about motorized scooters being operated inside the city limits.

"It's becoming more and more of an issue," Schmitt said, "I don't know what we can do ... I don't understand why parents don't know that kids have to be 16 and have a license/insurance."

Councilman Leigh Kluthe said there's language in a city ordinance which deals with the issue. "It's up to the cops to enforce it," he said.

City Clerk Kristin Childers said the city has a different ordinance for four-wheelers.

Although frustrated and concerned about the danger, the council (at Mike Dvorak's suggestion) decided to leave the current ordinance as it is right now.

They will be seeking a price for 3-4 inches of asphalt for the lot, fully aware that concrete will be needed for the entrances.

Bids — The City will be seeking bids for one to two loads of armor coating to be applied to city streets later this year.



E-R photo/DMorgan

## Sentences announced, continuances granted in county court cases

The Honorable Donna Taylor presided over multiple cases during a Feb. 4 session of Antelope County Court. Luis A. Gomez Hernandez, 28, of Wahpeton, North Dakota, failed to appear for arraignment on three misdemeanor counts. Hernandez faces charges of no proof of insurance, a Class II misdemeanor; no operator's license/non-waiverable, a Class III misdemeanor; and speeding 11-15 mph county/state, an infraction. \*\*\*\*

Michael D. Sheldon, 25, of Elgin, pleaded guilty to a Class II misdemeanor charge of no proof of insurance and was fined \$100. \*\*\*\*

A continuance was granted in a case involving Donnelle J. Weed,



From JoAnn Baum's Kitchen

## Peanut Butter Cookies, Cream Cheese Crescent Rolls

Good day,

Sweet treat!! I have a cookie recipe to share with those who are not able to have sugar. I know there are a lot of people who have to watch their sugar intake and I want you to know that I am thinking of you when you want a "sweet treat." This is one that you will really enjoy. Give it a try!

Who doesn't use canned crescents in their baking and cooking? There are a million recipes you can use them for. This week's is just another idea you can use them for. This makes a yummy breakfast roll to go with your coffee. It's so very simple. Make one for your breakfast tomorrow! Delicious!

JoAnn

## District #18 Board of Education to hold monthly meeting tonight

Eight items are listed on the 'action' agenda when the District #18 Board of Education meets Wednesday, February 11 (tonight).

Scheduled to meet at 7 p.m. in the EPS board room, the board will likely take action on the following items:

- Approve Principal Greg Wemhoff's contract for the 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 school years
- Approve the transfer of funds from the general operating fund to an interest-bearing account
- Approve the offering of teacher contracts for the 2026/2027 school year
- Approve a school calendar for 2026/2027

- Approve on second reading NASB recommended policies 718.00 fiscal management internal controls; Policy 802.07 school food procurement
- Approve sidewalk improvement project bid
- Approve the purchase of Wolfpack football helmets
- Approve the paper order

Just one item is listed for "discussion," the Americanism hearing to be held at 7 p.m. before the regular March meeting.

The meeting is open to the public.

## MENTORING IT TRANSFORMS LIVES!



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**4th Grade Female**  
- Personality traits include adventurous, energetic, caring, and funny. Interests include art, reading, and crafts.

**4th Grade Female**  
- Personality traits include shy, planner, thinker, and creative. Interests include crafting, organizing, and shopping.

**4th Grade Female**  
- Personality traits include kindhearted, energetic, organizer, and creative. Interests include animals, shopping, and sports.

**5th Grade Male**  
- Personality traits include curious, open-minded, thinker, and funny. Interests include building Legos, Minecraft, and playing chess.

**6th Grade Female**  
- Personality traits include curious, energetic, outgoing, and creative. Interests include crafting, playing games, and shopping.

**6th Grade Male**  
- Personality traits include competitive, energetic, outgoing, and confident. Interests include technology, gaming, and fitness.

**7th Grade Female**  
- Personality traits include kindhearted, curious, shy, and creative. Interests include sports, cooking, animals, and crafting.

**7th Grade Female**  
- Personality traits include kindhearted, curious, open-minded, and energetic. Interests include reading, sewing, baking and playing games.

**\$7,000.00**

In 2025, our chapter awarded **\$1,000.00** in educational scholarships. The state organization awarded an additional **\$6,000.00** to our Elgin students!

### 8th Grade Male

- Personality traits include shy, energetic, and achiever. Interests include animals, outdoors, technology, gaming, and travel.

### 8th Grade Male

- Personality traits include curious, adventurous, thinker, positive, and funny. Interests include animals, farming, and sports.

### 8th Grade Male

- Personality traits include curious, energetic, and adventurous. Interests include gaming, board games, chess, and sports.

### 8th Grade Female

- Personality traits include compassionate, adventurous, creative and independent. Interests include animals, baking, music, sports and fitness, and travel.

**TEAMMATES**  
MENTORING  
of Elgin

To find out more about TeamMates mentoring, contact Sonia or Krista at **402-843-2455**

Visit with any mentor to learn more about mentoring in Elgin.

39, of Oakdale, who faces one count of abandon/cruelly neglect animal, a Class I misdemeanor. Arraignment will be on March 12.

\*\*\*\*

Scarlett A. Pedersen, 19, of Omaha, appeared for sentencing. Taylor ordered Pedersen to a \$100 fine for one count of driving under suspension/before reinstated-state, a Class III misdemeanor. The Omaha woman will also pay a \$25 fine on one count of operate or park unregistered vehicle, a Class III misdemeanor. She will also pay court costs totaling \$50. If the balance is not paid by March 12, Pedersen will appear for a show cause hearing.

\*\*\*\*

Jace A. Rocha, 19, of Neligh, appeared for sentencing after he

pledged guilty to operating a motor vehicle/avoid arrest-misdemeanor, a Class I misdemeanor. Sentencing will be March 12.

\*\*\*\*

Sean R. Tyler, 37, of Norfolk, appeared for sentencing on two counts. For driving under suspension/before reinstated-state, a Class III misdemeanor, Tyler was ordered to pay a \$100 fine.

On count two, speeding 11-15 mph county/state, Taylor ordered Tyler to pay a \$125 fine. Additionally, he will pay court costs totaling \$50. Taylor ordered the defendant to pay \$150 that day, with the balance remaining by March 12. If not paid by that date, Taylor ordered Tyler to appear for a show-cause hearing.

## PEANUT BUTTER COOKIES

1 cup peanut butter  
1/2 cup Splenda®  
1/2 cup dry, non-fat milk  
1 egg

Mix all the ingredients together. Roll into balls the size of walnuts and place on an ungreased cookie sheet. Flatten with a fork.

Bake at 350° for 10-12 minutes.

## CREAM CHEESE CRESCENT ROLLS

2 tubes of crescent roll dough  
2 8 oz pkgs cream cheese  
1 tsp vanilla  
1 cup sugar

Topping:  
1/3 cup butter, melted  
1 tsp cinnamon  
1/4 cup sugar

Press down 1 can of crescents in the bottom of a 9x13 pan. Combine cream cheese, vanilla and sugar. Spread over the crescent roll dough.

Place 2nd tube of dough on top and again press down over the cream cheese topping.

Drizzle the melted butter on top and spring with the cinnamon/sugar mixture.

Bake at 350° for 25 minutes.

## American Heart Month



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# Perfect practice makes perfect

Investing your time, energy, and emotional resources in the life of a child is one of the greatest gifts. As parents, we have the opportunity to do this with our children daily. As a piano teacher, I get to invest in the lives of other children.

I started playing piano at age

five and when I was 11, I had the chance to train with someone at the local college. This man had a tremendous impact on my life. He cultivated my love of music, and he helped me become confident in my abilities. I have learned so many life lessons in both taking piano and teaching

it to others. We've all heard the phrase "practice makes perfect." My teacher always said, "Practice doesn't make perfect. Perfect practice makes perfect." If you practice with mistakes, those mistakes won't magically correct themselves. It takes intentionality and practicing correctly to truly perfect a piece of music.

Over the years I have taught many students. It started in high school, continued in college and even now I have several students a week. I absolutely love teaching younger students who don't read music at all. It's fun to watch them learn the concepts and grow to eventually read notes on the staff and understand the different terminology.

I want to instill in them the same love for music that I have. I struggle with anxiety; my mind is constantly racing and it's hard to quiet it down. But whenever I sit at the piano, the whole world goes silent and it's just me and the music. It consumes me. Music elicits so many different emotions in me, depending on the song. Imagine watching a movie without music? A love scene without the swelling before the kiss? A horror movie with the quivering strings, indicating something is about to happen? Music brings the movie to life, and I feel like it's the same in our lives. Certain songs pop on the radio and I'm instantly cruising the strip in Auburn, Nebraska or transported back to another memory from my childhood.

Whenever a student is struggling or having a hard day, we can look back at the early lessons to encourage them. I help them to see how far they have come and just how much they have learned. And even though this next phase might be hard, eventually with practice and dedication, it too will become easy. It's exciting to see that "aha" moment, when something clicks and they get it. It's akin to potty training where a toddler finally realizes that the seat with a hole in it has a purpose other than just sitting. The light bulb goes on, and you see their face light up. It's an awesome moment when that clarity

strikes and unlocks a new level of learning.

I have one student right now that truly struggles with confidence. The second she plays an incorrect note she wants to give up and loudly exclaims, "I can't do it." I constantly have to lift her up and remind her that she can do it, she has done

it, and that she can do it again. I told her about a concept that if you stand in the Superman pose for a bit before a stressful situation, that it does boost your confidence. Since then, we start each lesson in the pose before sitting at the piano, and it certainly helps her feel more confident.

I won't name names, but I do have a favorite student. She's quirky and makes the best facial expressions. She always comes prepared and ready to work. We laugh throughout the lesson, and I feel lighter after she comes. She is such a joy to teach.

My other student is my best friend's son. I have known him his entire life and he refers to me as "Aunt Kat". We already

See PRACTICE, Page 6 ▶

## GPSB adds Devall to Petersburg branch

Great Plains State Bank is pleased to announce the addition of Annette Devall as a Teller at the Petersburg Branch.

Market President, Todd Heithoff, shared his enthusiasm for Devall joining the team, stating, "We are very excited to welcome Annette to our Great Plains State Bank family in Petersburg. She has hit the ground running and is already a familiar face to many of our customers. Annette's positive attitude, strong work ethic, and excellent customer service make her a great fit for our branch."



Annette Devall

Devall brings a strong background in customer service to her role. She previously worked for five years at the Specialty Clinic at Boone County Hospital and, prior to that, served as the Physical Therapy Department secretary at Avera St. Anthony Hospital in O'Neill.

A Petersburg native, Devall is a graduate of Petersburg Public Schools. She is an active member of the community, currently serving on the Village Board and volunteering annually at the Ag Breakfast.

"I jumped at the opportunity to work at Great Plains State Bank so I could stay local and continue serving my community," said Devall. "This role allows me to do what I love—work with customers and help however I can. I'm excited to grow with GPS bank and work in my hometown." Devall joined the Petersburg branch in late December and has made a seamless transition into her new role.

She can be reached at 140 Main in Petersburg or by phone at (402) 386-5297, extension 211.

# Looking Back

## The Elgin Review

### Sixty Years Ago

February 17, 1966

Icy highways were prevalent in this area Saturday, the result of dropping temperatures and snowfall which amounted to about one inch. The mercury climbed to above freezing Monday but started its downward trend on Tuesday.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Theodore (Dick) Hoefer invite all relatives and friends to an open their house for their 65th Wedding Anniversary on Sunday, Feb. 20, 1966 at the K.C. Hall in Elgin from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Leonard Bennett, president of the Antelope county fair board, announced that while attending the recent convention of the Nebraska Association of county fair managers, he contracted with Johnny King's Thrill Show (formerly known as the Death Dodgers), for one appearance at the Antelope County Fair on Sunday evening, Aug. 28.

### Fifty Years Ago

February 11, 1976

Roy Bailey, 87, passed away suddenly Tuesday morning at his home four miles east of town. The Elgin Rescue unit was called to take him to Antelope Memorial hospital where he was pronounced dead. The body lie in state at Huffman's Brooke Chapel from 4 to 9 p.m. Thursday. Burial will be made in the Oakdale cemetery.

Elgin High School will again host the D-2 District Wrestling Tournament Friday and Saturday. Action will begin Friday afternoon at 1 p.m. and continue until approximately 5 p.m. Saturday wrestling will begin at 1 p.m. and continue throughout the afternoon and evening. Consolation finals will start at 6 with the finals starting at 7:30.

Steve Borer, a junior at Wayne State College was recognized by Wayne Second Guessers Club as Athlete of the Week for the week of January 25, 1976. Steve is student manager for the Wayne State College Wildcat basketball team.

Pope John homecoming candidates are Jay Pelster, Jerry Schmitz, Ted Pelster, Gary Borer, Tammy Heithoff, Pam Dinslage, Sandy Borer, and Sandy Zegers. The homecoming opens with a dance Sunday, Feb. 15 from 7-10 p.m. with the crowning taking place at 8 p.m.

Friends and relatives are invited to attend the open house Sunday, Feb. 15 honoring Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Dozler's Golden Wedding Anniversary. The affair is being put on by the couples children.

### Thirty Years Ago

February 14, 1996

Moderate weather prevails in the Elgin area during the past week, and a high temperature of 66 degrees was recorded on Friday, Feb. 9. There was no measurable precipitation for the week. The high for the week was 66 degrees and the low for the week was 16 degrees.

A wind-whipped grass fire burned about 80 acres of grass on the Judd Wagner ranch eight miles west of Petersburg last Saturday,

See BACK, Page 6 ▶

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## AMH Urology Clinic Dr. Jamie Olsen, Urologist

Urology Services offered: 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at Antelope Memorial Hospital.

Dr. Olsen treats issues such as:

- incontinence
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- urological cancers
- difficulty urinating
- enlarged prostate
- vaginal prolapse
- recurrent urinary tract infections
- an excessive need to urinate
- painful bladder and pelvic conditions.

Plus, Dr. Olsen offers surgical options as needed.

Dr. Olsen's next AMH urology clinics: Feb. 18th and Mar. 4th.

\*This notice is to inform patients of urological services and location.



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# ELGIN COMMUNITY CENTER BREAKFAST BUFFET Fundraiser

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Proceeds to install a handicap accessible door for the back entrance

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## What's our obsession with license plates?

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

What is it about Nebraskans and the slab of aluminum we bolt onto the back of our cars, the license plate?

For some reason, we Cornhuskers get emotional over the design of the state's plates. There are gripes aplenty.

"It's too boring." "You can't see the graphic." "It doesn't represent our state." "It doesn't inspire people to visit or live there."

Nebraskans' opinions about license plates are almost as strong as those about the second-string quarterback for the Huskers. Why isn't that guy starting?

### ALL THINGS NEBRASKA



State Correspondent

**Paul Hammel**

A couple years back, a columnist with a website called "beautiful-publicdate.com" counted 8,331 different styles of license plates across the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Some commemorate military service, others sports teams or universities, still others special causes, like cancer prevention or wildlife conservation, or occupations, like farmer, nurse and railroader.

Dolly Parton is on a plate in Tennessee, and rocker Alice Cooper appears on an Arizona plate. There are plates that celebrate barbershop quartets and the National Speleological Society, those who study and protect caves. I looked it up.

In Nebraska, I counted 40 different styles of "specialty" or "organizational" plates, which, according to that 2023 column, puts our vertically challenged state among the five states with the fewest license plate styles.

The top place for plates back then was Maryland, with 989 different kinds.

The biggest loser in the plates race was Hawaii, with only 14 styles of license plates. They must be too busy surfing out there to get worked up over this issue.

In the past, then State Sen. Ernie Chambers – the self-proclaimed "Defender of the Downtrodden" – would trot all over efforts to add new styles of license plates.

"Why waste our time with this," the well-muscled legislator would roar.

## Bringing taxpayer dollars home to Nebraska

Congress' most basic responsibility is also one of its most important: funding the federal government. When Congress fails to do that job, the consequences reach beyond Washington — delaying services, creating uncertainty for families and businesses, and eroding trust in government.

That's why I'm encouraged by the progress made by the Senate this week: we passed five additional government funding bills, bringing our total to 11 out of 12 funding bills now signed into law.

In addition to keeping the government open, passing funding bills is an opportunity to bring back Nebraska tax dollars we send to Washington every year. My team works closely with localities back home to ensure we get their input on how their federal tax money is spent. Because I value transparency, I list the community projects I'm advocating for here in Washington online at [www.fischer.senate.gov](http://www.fischer.senate.gov).

In the Agriculture and Rural Development funding bill, I secured \$16 million for the USDA's Agricultural Research Service facility at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. It's clear this investment will support research that benefits Nebraska producers and strengthens American agriculture.

In the Commerce, Justice, and Science funding bill, I secured over \$7 million for radio communications and equipment upgrades for Nebraska law enforcement. Nearly a dozen counties reached out asking for help replacing outdated systems and gear. These upgrades will help officers communicate and respond faster, improving safety for both first responders and the communities they serve.

I also worked to secure \$8.8 million in the Interior and Environment funding bill to upgrade aging water treatment plants and sewer systems in McCook, Greeley, Farwell, Gothenburg, Genoa, Shelby, Valparaiso, and Ong that were beginning to require costly repairs. These projects will help ensure safe drinking water and sustainable infrastructure for residents across these counties.

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

Edward R. Murrow

## Celebrating the gift of life

Life is a gift worthy of protection, care, and support at every stage. On January 31st, I, along with hundreds of other Nebraskans, will gather at our state capitol to affirm the dignity of every human life while acknowledging the responsibility we share to support every mother and family.

Across Nebraska and throughout the country, pregnancy resource centers are at the heart of this responsibility.

These centers walk alongside expectant mothers and families during moments often marked by overwhelming uncertainty or fear. They offer compassion, encouragement, and practical help when it is needed most. Serving as an important reminder for expectant mothers that they are not alone and their lives—and the lives of their children—matter.

Pregnancy centers provide critical services that empower women and their families to choose life—from diapers, food, and prenatal vitamins to parenting and relationship education, transportation assistance, and more. These organizations meet real needs with meaningful support, ensuring that families have access to the resources they need to thrive.

In 2024 alone, more than 2,700 pregnancy centers nationwide served nearly two million people, delivering an estimated \$452 million in services and material assistance.

This impact is real, measurable, and deeply personal for the families they served.

Nebraska has long recognized the value of this work by utilizing Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds to support pregnancy centers through the Crisis Pregnancy Program.

This vital program promotes child-birth and parenting while enabling more mothers and their families to choose life.

As a senior member of the House Ways and Means Committee, which has direct jurisdiction over TANF, I have long fought to ensure that states focus their TANF spending on the neediest among us. I am proud Nebraska's continued support for pregnant women and the unborn clearly meets this standard.

This approach reflects congressional intent when TANF was created in 1996, which granted states like ours the flexibility to meet the unique needs of local communities. Unfortunately, this flexibility came under threat in 2023, when the Biden Administration proposed a rule singling out pregnancy centers and suggesting states could no longer use TANF funds to support them.

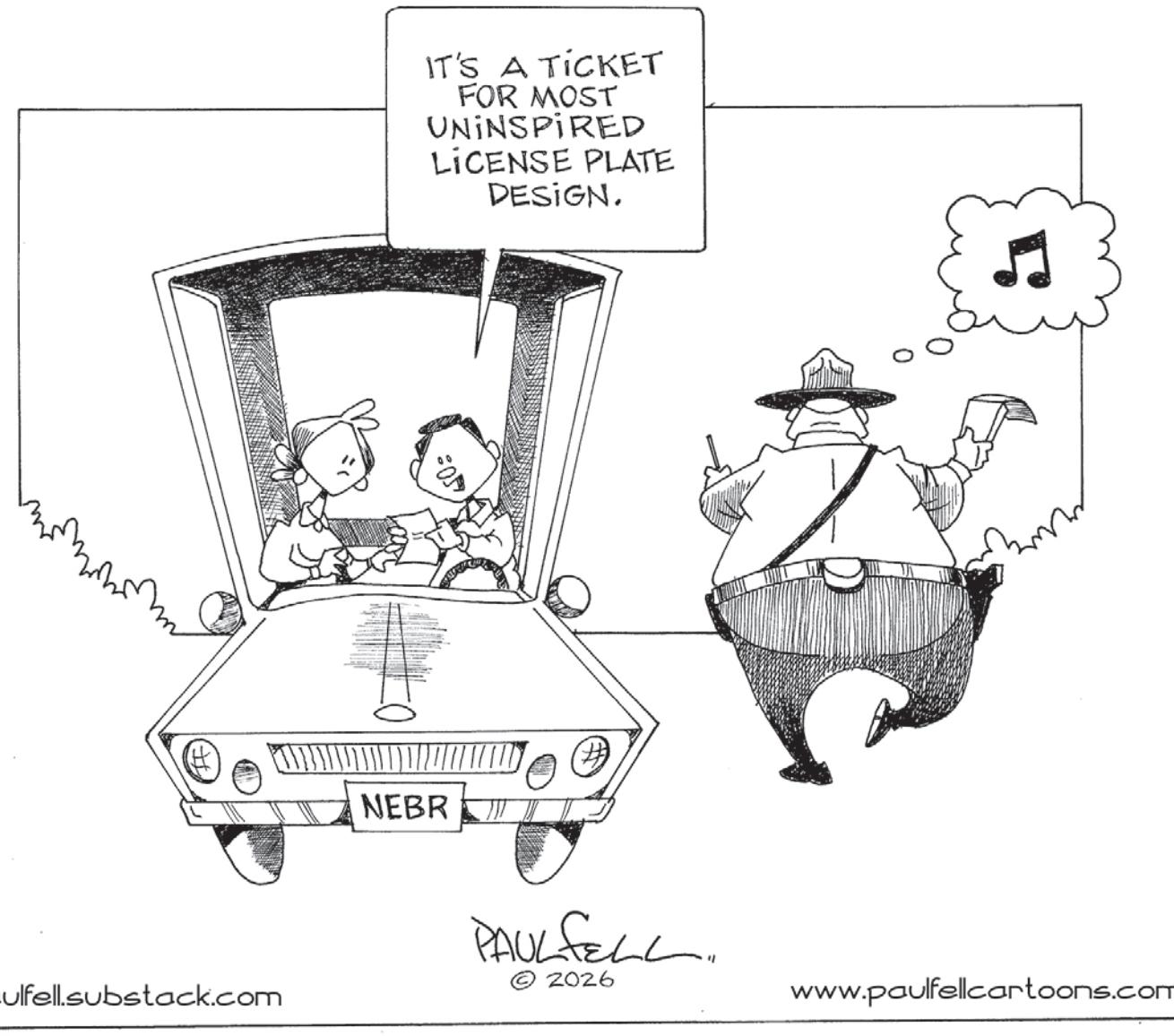
Although the rule was never finalized, it highlighted the importance of protecting pregnancy centers from discrimination, now and in the future.

For this reason, I proudly supported the Supporting Pregnant and Parenting Women and Families Act, which passed the House earlier this month. This vital legislation ensures that states may continue to use TANF funds to support pregnancy centers and prevent future discrimination against organizations that serve mothers and families choosing life.

Celebrating the gift of life means standing with both mother and child, not only in words but through meaningful action.

As Nebraskans gather this weekend to affirm the right to life, we must also reaffirm our responsibility to provide real support for mothers and families facing difficult circumstances.

In Congress, I remain committed to defending the unborn and ensuring families across our state receive the support they need to thrive.



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[www.paulfellcartoons.com](http://www.paulfellcartoons.com)



Congressman

**Adrian Smith**



U.S. Senator  
**Deb Fischer**

### WASHINGTON REPORT



U.S. Senator  
**Pete Ricketts**

See RICKETTS, Page 5 ►

## Paving the road to affordable housing

Nebraska is the best place in the world to live. But for so many potential first-time homebuyers, the market has become out of reach. This year, the average age of a first-time homebuyer is 40 across the country. But in 2016, just a decade ago, the average first-time homebuyer was 31. Why is the age of an average homeowner increasing? That's because buying a home has become less affordable. Red tape and regulations drive up the cost of housing. This makes it more difficult for first-time homebuyers.

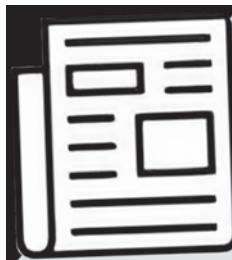
By one estimate, regulations account for nearly 25% of the cost of a single-family home. For a typical apartment development, it's even worse. Regulations account for 40% of the cost. That means fewer families can achieve the American dream. I am fighting to provide more opportunity for hard-working Nebraskans. With more available housing supply, we can make the Good Life more affordable for everyone.

Across Nebraska, rural housing is in high demand. When I was Governor, I took steps to address this. We passed a rural workforce housing bill. We created a \$7 million Rural Workforce Housing Fund and later added \$10 million more. Nebraska communities applied for grants, typically to make low-interest loans. These funds helped homebuilders come to a rural community to build houses and apartment buildings. They helped cover construction costs, down payment assistance, and technical assistance. This program was simple and successful.

Housing is a barrier for people taking jobs in rural communities. We made it easier for rural communities to build housing. As Senator, I am advocating for this proven Nebraska solution for the rest of the country. I'm working with my Republican colleagues to make it easier to build homes.

The Renewing Opportunity in the American Dream (ROAD) to Housing Act is a landmark achievement for Nebraskans. My Senate Banking Committee colleagues and I already passed it out of committee. The vote was bipartisan

See RICKETTS, Page 5 ►



## VILLAGE OF BARTLETT CLERK/TREASURER POSITION

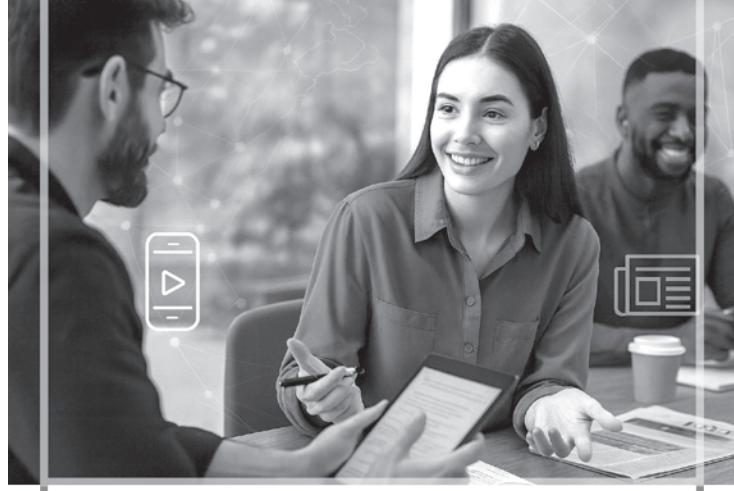
The Village of Bartlett Board of Trustees is seeking applicants for the position of

### 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](mailto: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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Attending church services has so many benefits...spiritual growth, community connections, and - believe it or not - positive health outcomes. Regular church attendance can also give you opportunities for personal development, service, and a deepening your faith. If your faith could use a booster shot, attend a service of your choice.



## What A Revelation!

Jesus' closest disciples saw and heard the truth of Jesus.

He was the fulfillment of the Law and the Prophets.

He was the Son of God.

Meet that Jesus this Sunday in church.

You don't need a mountaintop.

## ...he was transfigured before them...

Matthew 17:1-9

Exodus 24:12-18

2 Peter 1:16-21

Psalm 2

Revised Common Lectionary © 1992 by the Consultation on Common Texts for

Sunday, February 15, 2026  
Transfiguration Sunday

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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## 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.*

\*\*\*\*\*

Matthew Thornton (1714-1803), born in Ireland, but as a toddler his parents moved to Wiscasset, Maine, then to Worcester, Massachusetts where his father educated him for a 'learned' profession.

In his childhood, his family had to escape an Indian attack by canoe. Their house was burnt to the ground.

Matthew chose to be a doctor. His practice, set in Londonderry, New Hampshire, quickly became successful and through the trust of the people, he was thrown into limelight positions as Justice of Peace and a Colonel in the militia.

In 1745, age 31, Dr. Thornton was appointed as surgeon for a British led 500-troop expedition against a French fortress in Nova Scotia.

Here is a brief rundown of his life activities:

1775 - he strongly denounced the tyrannical acts of the British Parliament; elected president over the New Hampshire Congress when the Royal Governor Wentworth fled; in taking that office he stated, "...Duty to God, to ourselves, to posterity...to take up arms in our own defense...to cultivate that Christian union, harmony, and tender affection, which is the only foundation upon which our invaluable privileges can rest with any security, or our public measures be pursued with the least prospect of success." (Lives, Fortunes and Sacred Honor, 2007 by Mark J. Cole) By the end of 1775 Thornton was the president of a 5-man committee drafting the 1st state constitution of the colonies for New Hampshire - adopted January 5, 1776; he also was put on the Committee of Safety as chair - the committee being key to freedom.

1776 - under the newly adopted constitution of New Hampshire, Thornton was elected to the new state legislature, continuing on to be elected as Speaker; though debates were completed over the Declaration of Independence, most signing on August 2, 1776, he was chosen as a delegate from New Hampshire to the Continental Congress, taking his seat November 4, 1776; with insistence, his name was added, risking life and good fortune

1776-1782 - appointed to the Court of Common Pleas - considered the superior court of New Hampshire; for a time, holding the Chief Justice seat while never receiving formal legal education.

1780 - purchased a farm and ferry service on the Merrimac River

1784-1786 - served in the New Hampshire Senate while in his 70's; in 1786 he lost his beloved wife

1803 - at age 89 Dr. Thornton passed away. His gravestone inscribed, "Honest Man."

Rev. Dr. Burnap spoke these words at his funeral: "He was venerable for his age, and skilled in his profession, and for the several very important and honorable offices he had sustained; noted for the knowledge he had acquired, and his quick penetration into matters of abstruse speculation; exemplary for his regard for the public institutions of religion, and for his consistency in attending the public worship, where he trod the courts of the house of God, with steps tottering with age and infirmity. Such is a brief outline of one who was honored in his day and generation; whose virtues were a model for imitation, and while memory does her office, will be had in grateful recollection." (dsdi1776.com)

## Ricketts

◀ FROM Page 4

and unanimous. Now, we're working to pass it into law. The House also passed its version of the bill almost unanimously out of committee as well. ROAD to Housing Act puts us on the path to make home ownership a possibility for all Americans. The housing bill includes my bipartisan Streamlining Rural Housing Act.

The Streamlining Rural Housing Act will enhance efficiency and lower costs. When I was Governor, Nebraska's community-driven rural housing development program successfully built more homes. However, the program faced burdensome and conflicting federal regulations. In rural

communities, financing for homes often draws on both the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Each has their own process. Their regulations overlap, creating confusion and more red tape.

The Streamlining Rural Housing Act is just one piece of how we are making housing more affordable. I co-sponsored the bipartisan Rural Housing Service Reform Act. The bill will improve existing loans, grants, and rental assistance to rural communities. Veterans will also benefit from the ROAD to Housing Act. I co-sponsored both the VA Home Loan Awareness Act and the Veterans Affairs Loan Informed Disclosure (VALID) Act. These will help more veterans become homeowners. They will make it easier for veterans to access the resources they need to benefit from the VA Home Loan Program. I also co-sponsored the Housing Supply Frameworks Act, led by Nebraska Congressman Mike Flood in the House. This will allow HUD to provide assistance to help state and local governments develop best practices on zoning and land-use policies.

Senate Republicans are working to enable more Nebraskans to become homeowners. The Working Families Tax Cuts permanently raises the low-income housing tax credit. The bill gives Nebraskans an extra 12% in tax credits to build more affordable housing. This historic investment in America helps local governments, housing developers, and hardworking Nebraskans. People seeking affordable housing will have the resources they need to develop their communities.

These projects reflect what I believe federal funding should do: invest in practical, local needs that improve daily life. It's imperative that elected representatives continue to have influence over this process and not leave these decisions to unelected bureaucrats in Washington.

Just as important, bringing federal tax dollars back home provides relief to Nebraska tax-payers. Many of these projects would otherwise fall on local property taxes — shifting the burden onto families, farmers, and small businesses. When we can fund these priorities with the federal dollars Nebraskans already contribute, it's a win for our communities and for responsible government.

## Fischer

◀ FROM Page 4

And after the EPA deemed the Santee Sioux Nation's water source "not consumable," I secured \$8.25 million to deliver safe drinking water to the tribe, a necessity no community should be without.

Finally, in the Energy and Water Development bill, I secured \$14.6 million to restore irrigation tunnels on the Gering-Fort Laramie Canal, after a catastrophic tunnel collapse left 55,000 acres of farmland without reliable irrigation. This investment will protect regional economic stability and reduce financial pressure on local farmers.

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Just as important, bringing federal tax dollars back home provides relief to Nebraska tax-payers. Many of these projects would otherwise fall on local property taxes — shifting the burden onto families, farmers, and small businesses. When we can fund these priorities with the federal dollars Nebraskans already contribute, it's a win for our communities and for responsible government.

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## St. John's Catholic Church

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Fr. Frank Baumert, Associate Pastor  
Weekend Mass: 1st, 3rd & 5th Saturday, 5:30 am.  
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## St. Paul Lutheran Church

Chambers, NE  
Pastor Leif Hasskarl  
Sunday Worship: 8:30 am.  
Sunday School/Bible Study: 9:30 am.

## Immanuel-Zion Lutheran Church

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Faith  
is confidence is what we  
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about what we do not see.  
Hebrews 11:1

## Practice

◀ FROM Page 3

have a close relationship, so it's been fun getting to have this new relationship as student and teacher. He's excited about the prospect of learning piano, and even though he feels comfortable with me, he's still always respectful and listens well.

It's also interesting to see which students excel and which don't go very far. There are those that have a natural affinity for music and/or piano. They pick up on it quickly and, if they practice, do well. In those instances, I think it comes down to whether they fall in love with it. You can have all the talent in the world, but if it doesn't resonate with them or truly pique their interest, they will only go so far.

Then there are students that don't have the natural ability but work really hard. I can always tell when a student practices (or doesn't). Some pour themselves into it and put in their all, and despite not having a natural talent, they can still go far.

There's also the dichotomy of the students who want to take piano and the ones whose parents want them to learn. If they aren't in it for themselves, and just trying to appease the parent, it never goes well. Forcing this on them isn't going to have the desired effect.

It's my job to encourage despite the abilities they possess. I want to foster a love of music, teach them the confidence that my teacher taught me, and make them feel comfortable. When they come to my home, I want them to know they are safe, they are loved, and they can be themselves. My goal is to always put them at ease. You never know what kind of home life a child has, so the thirty minutes a week they spend with me can be a haven for them.

I love these kids and it is such a joy to be able to spend this time with them each week. Perhaps someday they'll look back on their time with me and remember it just as fondly as I do my own teacher. Either way, I know that I'm pouring into these kids in a way I wouldn't get to otherwise and I count as one of the biggest blessings in my life.

Comments are welcome and can be sent to [talesofatiredmomma@gmail.com](mailto:talesofatiredmomma@gmail.com).

## Back

◀ FROM Page 3

Feb. 10. Petersburg Volunteer Fire Department responded, and contacted the Elgin Volunteer Fire Department at 10:55 a.m. for mutual aid. Petersburg Fire Chief Vet Stuhr said the fire was caused by a spark from a trash pile that had been burned several days earlier and was thought to be extinguished.

Voting on the nationwide referendum of sheep producers was completed in Antelope County on Tuesday, Feb. 6. Voting was conducted that day at the Antelope County Extension office. Absentee ballots were due into the extension office by Feb. 2, 1996.

Contracts for both the superintendent of schools and principal were approved by the Elgin Public Schools Board of Education during its regular meeting Monday, Feb. 12.

## Twenty Years Ago

February 8, 2006

A Corn and Soybean Update meeting is planned next Tuesday, Feb. 14, starting at 8:30 a.m. in the courthouse meeting room in Neligh. Topics will include the latest research on nitrogen management, how to save on nitrogen and irrigation energy costs, insect management, and how to market your 2006 crop using crop insurance.

Fifth and sixth grade girls basketball team from St. Boniface School in Elgin won all three of its games in a round robin tournament at Neligh-Oakdale last weekend.

Clearwater-Elgin wrestlers placed ninth in a strong 11-team field at the annual Clearwater Invitational wrestling Tournament last Friday, Feb. 3.

Nebraska Repertory Theatre will present a play, "Wiley and the Hairy Man," this Friday, Feb. 10, at 1:30 p.m. in the Boone Central Gymnasium at Albion. The play is based on a legend from the Old South, and teaches young people the importance of facing their fears and having confidence in themselves.

By Reese Stuhr



Photos courtesy of Sherry Tetschner

More than 200 persons attended the Bartlett Lions Club Groundhog Supper held Sunday, February 1.

## Bartlett News

The 63rd annual Ground Hog Supper was held in the new gym in Bartlett, on Sunday, February 1.

Altogether, 212 people of all ages enjoyed the sausages, corn, bread, applesauce, large baked potato and a choice of pie or other types of desserts.

The event has been hosted by the Bartlett Lions Club for quite a number of years now. The Wheeler Central FFA students helped with drinks and other types of help.

Results of recent CWC Varsity Boys NVC Conference games are as follows: January 31 CWC 47, Boyd County 39; February 3 Elgin Public/Pope John 61, CWC 56 and February 7 CWC 45, Stuart 40 with CWC placing third in Conference Games.

I had the privilege of attending the 50th wedding anniversary celebration of Hank and Marci Thoene, Saturday evening in Burwell. The event was held in the 'Event Center,' located under the grandstands of Nebraska's Big Rodeo.

The evening was very special for the couple and those attending. Good food and great fellowship with folks I don't get to see much anymore.

By Sherry Tetschner

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Deeni and Dwight Nichols cut and plate pie pieces for the Ground Hog Supper held Sunday evening, February 1. They make a great team.

**HELP WANTED**  
The Center for Rural Affairs is currently accepting applications for a  
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Interested individuals should submit an application to the City of Elgin, PO Box 240, Elgin, NE 68636 or drop off at City Hall, 104 Pine Street, Elgin, NE. Applications can be found on the City of Elgin website [www.elginnebraska.org](http://www.elginnebraska.org), or by stopping at City Hall during open business hours. Position open until filled. EOE.

## Healthy Strides: Where heart health meets community

Heart Month is a time to focus on prevention, movement, and connection—and at Boone County Health Center, all three come together through the Cardiac Rehab Healthy Strides program.

Healthy Strides is more than a supervised exercise group. It's a place where heart health is closely monitored, friendships are built, and lives are truly impacted. Each session includes heart rate and blood pressure checks, medication reconciliation when needed, and the reassurance that help is close by. If something doesn't look right, the Cardiac Rehab team can act quickly—sometimes making all the difference. Just this past December, a participant arrived unaware she was experiencing a serious irregular heart rhythm. The team identified the issue and fast-tracked her to the emergency room, potentially saving her life.

Participants travel from across the region—Fullerton, Genoa, St. Edward, Lindsay, Humphrey, Spalding, Petersburg, Elgin, Cedar, Albion and beyond—because they know Healthy Strides offers something special. Safety matters, but so does the sense of belonging.

This group celebrates birthdays with donuts, shares laughs, and cheers each other on. One morning, a couple even danced together between exercises. Many participants attend as couples, helping motivate one another to keep moving for their health. The atmosphere is supportive, lighthearted, and genuine.

Some members have been coming for decades. Bill and Eileen Wieser have participated since 2007—nearly 20 years. Eileen says it feels good and is a great way to start the day. While battling cancer, she followed advice she received years ago from the Cardiac Rehab team: keep moving. And she has.

Others come for different reasons—Ron Levander jokes that the best part of the workout is the coffee, while Brian Rasmussen, a three-year participant, values the social connection just as much as the exercise. Rain, snow, or shine, this group shows up.

According to Cardiac Rehab Supervisor Angie Swantek, it's especially meaningful to see seasoned members encourage newcomers. "It's a workout," she says, "and encouragement matters." Beyond physical benefits, the gathering supports mental health, offering routine, friendship, and purpose.

Healthy Strides is proof that caring for your heart isn't just about numbers—it's about people. During Heart Month and all year long, this group reminds us that movement, monitoring, and meaningful connection can help hearts grow stronger together.

If you or a loved one are interested in joining our Healthy Strides program please reach out to our Cardiac Rehab team at 402-395-3156.

## Wisconsin man requests hearing in DUI felony case

Dillon W. Eckstein, 29, of Oshkosh, requested a preliminary hearing in Antelope County Court last week after he was arrested on three charges on Dec. 13.

Eckstein is charged with one count of DUI-15+ or refusal (2 prior convictions), a Class IIIA felony; one count of refuse to submit to pretest, a Class V misdemeanor; and one count of possess marijuana 1 oz or less-1st offense, an infraction.

Eckstein was arrested west of Neligh, by Antelope County Deputy Keegan Barker, who observed Eckstein cross the

centerline while driving a dark colored SUV and pulled the vehicle over.

Barker detected odor of alcoholic beverage in the vehicle. Due to weather conditions, Barker detained Eckstein and transported him to the Antelope County Sheriff's Office for field sobriety tests. At the ACLEC, Eckstein gave permission for those tests and failed. He refused further testing.

He is scheduled to appear March 12 for a preliminary hearing. Bond, set at \$5,000-10%,

See COURT, Page 7 ▶

# City of Elgin

# SUMMER HELP WANTED

- Pool Manager
- Pool Staff
- Summer Maintenance Help

For details, contact City Hall at **402-843-5822** or send your application to:

**Elgin City Clerk**  
PO Box 240  
Elgin, NE 68636-0240

Apply by  
Monday,  
**March 2,  
2026**

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104 Pine Street, Elgin, NE 68636

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or visit [www.elginnebraska.org](http://www.elginnebraska.org)

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or stop by City Hall

## Heart Health: Understanding Arrhythmias

February is "American Heart Month" and what better time to discuss some common heart issues than right now?

The most asked question about heart health is "What is an arrhythmia?"

An arrhythmia is when there is an abnormality in the rhythm of the heartbeat; this can either mean it is beating too fast, too slow, or irregularly.

It's important to recognize symptoms of arrhythmias and seek out medical attention if needed. The most common symptoms include heart palpitations or racing heart. If you notice this, especially in the presence of feeling fatigued, dizzy, lightheaded, short of breath, sweating, passing out, or having chest pain you should seek care in your nearest emergency department.

While there, your provider will be able to examine you as well as perform a multitude of tests to determine what is going on and get you on the right track for treatment, if indicated.

What can you do to help yourself? The best way to prevent cardiac arrhythmias is to control aspects of your life that are under your control. The first is to eat a healthy diet which includes balanced protein, plenty of fruit and vegetables, limiting processed food, and to drink plenty of water.

Another is to maintain an active lifestyle; not just day to day work-life but to incorporate physical exercise (walking, running, lifting, yoga, etc) into your daily life.

It is also important to avoid or limit alcohol, control your stress, get enough sleep, and avoid drug use. As always, controlling your chronic medical conditions along with the help of your healthcare provider is another big way to prevent any adverse cardiac outcomes.

At BCHC we are here to help you and want what is best for the health of our community. If you have questions, please schedule a visit with one of us or your established health care provider.

By Laura Klassen, PA-C



Laura

Klassen, PA-C

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At BCHC we are here to help you and want what is best for the health of our community. If you have questions, please schedule a visit with one of us or your established health care provider.

By Laura Klassen, PA-C



Earning a medal in OID was the team of (l-r): Aiden Klein, Brooke Kinney, Tessa Barlow, Camry Kittelson and Matthew Kerkman.



Photos submitted

Taking fourth in duet was Aiden Klein and Brooke Kinney.

# PUBLIC NOTICES

Stay in the know. Read the Public Notices

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE FEBRUARY 2, 2026 MEETING

### THE ELGIN CITY COUNCIL

#### ELGIN CITY COUNCIL Proceedings February 2, 2026

The Elgin City Council met in regular session on Monday, February 2, 2026, at 7:30 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 Leigh Kluthe. Jeremy Young was absent.

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 items were approved:

- January regular meeting minutes, treasurer's report, transaction report, and paying the claims

**General Checking:** U.S. Post Office, postage, 277.80; Black Hills Energy, util, 1,493.50; Elgin Cham-

ber of Commerce, misc, 10,000.00; Prudential Annuities Service, retirement, 366.42; 118 Insurance LLC, ins, 4,904.00; APPEARA, srv, 72.34; Amazon Capital Services, sup, 207.78; Antelope County Sheriff, srv, 2,850.00; Applied Connective Technologies, srv, 25.00; Bomgaars, sup, 108.97; Bradley Bode, travel, 32.68; Bud's Sanitary Service LLC, srv, 6,872.25; Corner Service & Tire, LLC, srv, 620.59; Donald E Poulsen, postage, 33.65; Elgin One Stop, fuel & sup, 261.05; Elkhorn Rural Public Power District, util, 3,259.52; Fitzgerald, Vetter, Temple, Bartell & Henderson, srv, 350.00; Fyr-Tek, srv, 500.00; Great Plains Communications, util, 317.52; IIMC, dues, 195.00; Midwest Laboratories Inc., srv, 141.70; Modern Marketing, sup, 119.71; Municipal Supply, Inc. of Omaha, sup, 593.28; NE Public Health Environmental Lab, srv, 7.00; Neligh Auto & Machine Inc., sup, 153.35;

One Call Concepts, Inc., sup, 5.31; Platte Valley Communications, Inc., srv, 212.00; Precision Repair, LLC, srv, 168.64; Rutjens Construction Inc., srv, 68,500.00; Sapp Bros, Inc - Elgin, sup, 1.00; The Elgin Review, print, 269.69; Verizon Wireless, srv, 125.49; Nebraska Department of Revenue, tax, 2,455.12; Nebraska U C Fund, tax, 21.35; United States Treasury, tax, 3,497.83; American Funds Service Company, retirement, 513.20; Payroll, 12,936.73

**Rescue Checking:** Elgin One Stop, fuel, 131.00

- Connor Bentley to Elgin Volunteer Fire Department

- Proposal from Complete Pest Elimination, Inc. for mosquito spraying for June through September for a prepayment amount of \$3,211.00

- Send for two separate bids of armor coat oil, bid one: one tanker (7,000 gallons), bid two: two tank-

ers (14,000 gallons), to be opened at the March meeting

- Advertise for full-time maintenance position
- Advertise for pool and summer maintenance positions
- Regular meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

The following agenda items were discussed:

- Public comment: none
- Motorized scooters in city limits
- New sewer cutter is installed and working
- Parking lot at the library in need of repair/replacement
- Clerk report: 2024-2025 audit submitted to the state, first monthly billing completed
- Next regular meeting will be held on Monday, March 2, 2026

Mayor MIKE SCHMITT  
City Clerk KRISTIN L. CHILDERS  
PUBLISH: February 11, 2026  
ZNEZ

## Elgin man faces felony counts after January incident

A continuance was granted in a case involving a 47-year-old Tilden man charged with assault.

On Feb. 4, Antelope County Attorney Joe Smith requested a continuance to discuss a plea deal with Joshua G. Andrews. The Honorable Donna Taylor granted Smith's request.

The charges stem from a Dec. 5 incident in Neligh when Andrews is alleged to have pushed Craig Smith, owner of Smitty's Super Clean, to the ground in the east wash bay. Andrews is scheduled to appear March 12 for further arraignment.

\*\*\*\*\*

Robert M. Carnes, 49, of Elgin, appeared for arraignment on two felony counts: use deadly weapon to commit a felony, a Class II felony; and terroristic threats, a Class IIIA felony.

The charges stem from a Jan. 29 incident. According to the probable cause affidavit, Antelope County Deputy Darin Ternus assisted Antelope County Deputy Barker at Carnes' rural Elgin home, where he was alleged to have had disagreement with his brother, Billy Carnes, about selling his house. According to a witness, Robert Carnes is alleged to have grabbed a butcher knife and was "going to stab Billy."

Later, Robert Carnes allegedly told his brother "that he was joking and he hadn't sold the house."

Ternus arrested Carnes and transported him to the Ante-

lope County Jail. Bond was set at \$20,000-10%. He will appear March 12 for further arraignment.

\*\*\*\*\*

Joy L. Joyce, 23, of Neligh, appeared for further arraignment. Joyce pleaded not guilty to one count of domestic assault-third/threat/bodily injury, a Class I misdemeanor.

The charges stem from a New Year's Eve incident on Clearwater's Main Street. Two Antelope County Sheriff's deputies responded to a 911 call about a physical altercation.

The caller, Zachary Sohler, said he and Joyce had been drinking and were leaving via vehicle when Joyce allegedly began hitting him.

Sohler said he returned to Main Street so "he was in public" and that he "tried to push her out of the vehicle."

Joyce was not located on Main Street, but found nearby by two Clearwater residents, who brought her back to the Legion building.

Joyce requested a jury trial. Taylor ordered Joyce to appear March 12 for a pretrial hearing. Bond, set at \$10,000-10%, remains in effect.

\*\*\*\*\*

Alma Marrufo Zubaran, 48, of Neligh, pleaded no contest to one count of disturbing the peace, a Class III misdemeanor.

Taylor adjudged Marrufo Zubaran guilty and sentenced her to pay a \$100 fine, plus court costs.

\*\*\*\*\*

Russell Starkey, 52, of Tilden, pleaded not guilty to a charge of disturbing the peace, a Class 3 misdemeanor.

Taylor ordered Starkey to pay a \$500 fine on count two.

He will serve a 24-month probation term, pay probation costs of \$750, and pay restitution totaling \$3,892.00.

Courtesy of SAM

## Court

◀ FROM Page 6

remains in effect.

\*\*\*\*\*

Jackson Z. Sanford, 20, of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, failed to appear for arraignment on one count of possession of marijuana 1 oz or less-1st offense, an infraction; and one count of speeding 11-15 mph county/state, an infraction.

Taylor informed Smith the county attorney's office may file a motion and order for Sanford's arrest.

\*\*\*\*\*

Martin R. Siems, 51, of Clearwater, failed to appear for arraignment on one count of DUI-alcohol-1st offense, a Class W misdemeanor. A warrant was issued for Siems arrest on Feb. 6.

\*\*\*\*\*

Jesse J. Borer, 48, of Neligh, appeared for sentencing on one count of DUI-15+ or refusal (one prior conviction), a Class I misdemeanor.

Taylor sentenced Borer to pay a \$1,000 fine, plus associated court costs of \$150. Borer will spend 90 days in the Antelope County Jail and will receive credit for one day served. Borer's license is revoked for 18 months, and an ignition interlock permit was ordered.

Borer agreed to have his bond exonerated to pay fines and costs. He may receive \$100 credit for the cost of his evaluation.

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

Courtesy of SAM

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\*\*\*\*\*

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Daycare Provider  
EVS Technician  
LPN/RN - Specialty Clinic  
Medical Lab Scientist I  
Mental Health Therapist - Independently Licensed  
Patient Access Coordinator  
Physical Therapist  
Radiology Technologist II  
RN/LPN/CMA - Albion Clinic  
RN - Room Care  
Sterile Processing Tech  
Surgical Tech I

402-395-3178  
[hr@boonecohealth.org](mailto:hr@boonecohealth.org)  
[boonecohealth.org/careers](http://boonecohealth.org/careers)  
EEO Employer/Vet/Disabled

## Warrants issued for county court no-shows

Two individuals were scheduled to appear before the Honorable Donna Taylor for show-cause hearings in Antelope County Court on Feb. 4. Hope M. Petite, Columbus, contacted the court on Feb. 3 to make payment toward fines and court costs.

Taylor scheduled a show cause hearing for March 12. Petite was found originally found guilty on one count of driving under suspension/before reinstated-state, a Class III misdemeanor.

\*\*\*\*\*

Raymond F. Poli, 49, of Norfolk failed to appear. Since payment in full was not received, Taylor issued an warrant.

Poli owes \$225 after sentencing for one count of no operator's license/non-waiverable, a Class III misdemeanor.

## UPPER ELKHORN NRD GROUNDWATER IRRIGATED ACRE TRANSFER PERIOD RUNS UNTIL MARCH 1, 2026

The Upper Elkhorn NRD will be taking requests for the transfer of groundwater irrigated acres from **November 1, 2025 through March 1, 2026**. Due to changes in the UENRD GWMP Rules and Regulations, there is now a **\$50 application fee** for landowners who would like to make an appointment and review a possible transfer. The Upper Elkhorn NRD Board of Directors have adopted changes to the Transfer program over the last couple of years pertaining to the Transfer Agreement and added an application fee. The Transfer Agreement, transfer procedures and support information can be found on the UENRD website at [www.uenrd.org](http://www.uenrd.org). We are encouraging anyone interested in signing up for a Transfer to go through the information on the website first before making an appointment.



If you have questions, please feel free to contact the office at **402-336-3867**

# PUBLIC NOTICES

Stay in the know. Read the Public Notices

### NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION

KERKMAN LAND & CATTLE, L.L.C.

#### NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION

The name of the limited liability company: Kerkman Land & Cattle, L.L.C. The address of the designated office is: 84760 513 Ave., Clearwater, Nebraska 68726. The name and mailing address of the initial agent for service of process of the company is Martin V. Klein, 101 W.

4th Street, P.O. Box 166, Neligh, NE 68756. It is organized to transact any lawful acts concerning any and all lawful business, other than banking or insurance, for which a limited liability company may be organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska.

This company commenced upon

filling the Certificate of Organization with the Secretary of State on January 21, 2026, and its existence shall be perpetual. The affairs of the limited liability company are to be conducted by the members under an operation agreement duly approved by its members.

Kerkman Land & Cattle, L.L.C.

Martin V. Klein  
Klein Law Office, P.C.  
P.O. Box 166  
Neligh, NE 68756-0166  
(402)887-4190

PUBLISH: January 28, February 4 & 11, 2026  
ZNEZ

### NOTICE OF INCORPORATION NONPROFIT

EAS MINISTRIES

#### NOTICE OF INCORPORATION NONPROFIT

Notice is hereby given that the Articles of Incorporation of EAS Ministries, a Nebraska nonprofit corporation, were filed with the Nebraska Secretary of State on 12/11/2025.

The corporation is designated

as a Religious corporation. The corporation shall have the powers permitted under the Nebraska Nonprofit Corporation Act. The corporation shall not have members. The physical address of the registered office of the corporation is: 1101 L Street, Neligh, NE 68756 and The mailing address of the

registered office is: P.O. Box 27, Neligh, NE 68756-0027, the initial registered agent at such address is Eric Schutt. The name and street address of the incorporator(s): Eric Schutt, 53605 836 Road, Tilden, NE 68781. Randy Schutt, 83630 535 Avenue, Tilden, NE 68781. Benjamin Thomas McBride, 2620

Crestview Rd., Norfolk NE 68701. Bruce J Zimmerman, 54335 849 Rd, Pierce, NE 68767. Mark James Martin, 16335 Winding Blossom Dr, Groveland, FL 34736.  
PUBLISH: January 28, February 4 & 11, 2026  
ZNEZ

### PROCEEDINGS OF THE FEBRUARY 3, 2026 MEETING

THE ANTELOPE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

#### ANTELOPE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS Neligh, Nebraska February 3rd, 2026

Chairman opened the meeting. Notice of meeting published as required by statute.

Approved agenda. Approved minutes of January 13th, 2026 Board of Commissioner Meeting and Board of Equalization Meeting.

Public comments.

Correspondence was reviewed.

Discussed with Great Plains Communication transferring telephone and internet provider.

Heard from NACO regarding current benefit savings.

No action on 852nd Road west of Clearwater.

Zoning Administrator had no report.

Approved LEOP resolution for 2026.

Approved pay application for Dixon Construction.

Road Superintendent Report: approved one (1) oversize, two (2) access permits and six (6) underground permits. Approved two (2) Temporary Road Use Permits. Various department updates and dis-

cussions. No further report.  
Meeting Adjourned.  
Antelope County Board of Commissioners  
CHARLIE HENRY  
Chairman of County Board  
Attest: LISA PAYNE /s/  
Antelope County Clerk  
PUBLISH: February 11, 2026  
ZNEZ

## DELINQUENT TAX LIST

Notice is hereby given that in compliance with the revenue laws of the State of Nebraska, all land and town lots in the County of Antelope, State of Nebraska, on which taxes remain unpaid, a list of which is hereto annexed, will be offered for sale at public auction at the County Treasurer's office in Neligh, Nebraska, on the first Monday in March 2026, starting at 9 a.m. of said day, for payment of taxes, interest and costs thereon. Taxes are delinquent for the year of 2024 and prior years. Purchasers must notify property owners by personal service and will collect an administrative fee of \$150 from the property owner for the cost of service upon redemption.

Deb Branstetter  
Antelope County Treasurer

SEQ #	DISTRICT	PARCEL	MULTIYEAR	NAME	PROPERTY ADDRESS	LEGAL	TOTAL DUE
1	1	0000004600		LEGATE, BRIAN K & TERESA A	405 M ST NELIGH NE 68756	LOT 15 EX S 1.1' OF W 72' BLK 4 NELIGH CITY	379.80
2	1	0000005200		LEGATE, BRIAN K & TERESA A	417 M ST NELIGH NE 68756	LOT 20 BLK 4 NELIGH CITY	327.74
3	1	0000011600		HOEFER, ROBERT P	506 M ST NELIGH NE 68756	LOTS 7-8 & E2 VAC ALLEY BLK 18 NELIGH CITY	342.04
4	1	0000019600		LEGATE, BRIAN K & TERESA A	609 O ST NELIGH NE 68756	LOT 10 BLK 28 NELIGH CITY	84.86
5	1	0000019700		LEGATE, BRIAN K & TERESA A	611 O ST NELIGH NE 68756	LOTS 11-12 BLK 28 NELIGH CITY	798.34
6	1	0000025600		PARRA, JENNIE	307 W 8TH ST NELIGH NE 68756	LOTS 7-8 BLK 38 NELIGH CITY	1,068.78
7	1	0000030100	***	WOODARD, SARAH	606 P ST NELIGH NE 68756	LOT 4 N2 LOT 5 BLK 50 NELIGH CITY	834.40
8	1	0000032200		WERNER, BILLIE ETAL	908 P ST NELIGH NE 68756	LOTS 2-3 BLK 53 NELIGH CITY	219.90
9	1	0000034901	***	LIERMAN, DARRYL & JULIE	600 R ST NELIGH NE 68756	S 10' LOT 9 & S 10' OF W2 ADJ VAC ALLEY NELIGH CITY	47.74
10	1	0000037700		HOEFER, ROBERT P	912 V ST NELIGH NE 68756	LOTS 7-9 EX RR ROW BLK 72 NELIGH CITY	171.50
11	1	0000046200		GRIM, CARLEY TAINIEL	202 E 6TH ST NELIGH NE 68756	LOTS 1-3 EX RR BLK 119 NELIGH CITY	1,159.44
12	1	0000046400		GRIM, CARLEY TAINIEL	608 E 6TH ST NELIGH NE 68756	LOT 6 BLK 120 NELIGH CITY	72.38
13	1	0000047900		CAROTHERS, THOMAS B	313 PINE ST TILDEN NE 68781	W 72' LOTS 7-10; S 6' OF W 72' LOT 11 BLK 127 NELIGH CITY	394.68
14	1	0000068200		STUTHMAN, ERIC W & KATHARINE	708 5TH ST OAKDALE NE 68761	E 54' LOTS 7-9; S 12' OF E 54' LOT 10 & VAC ALLEY ADJ BLK 171 NELIGH CITY	5,098.12
15	1	0000095100	***	LIERMAN, DARRYL & JULIE	400 WILSON ST OAKDALE NE 68761	FORMER RR ROW 20-25-6 LOT 18 EX STR FOR CITY RD NELIGH CITY	263.52
16	2	0000106400		RATH, CYNTHIA	408 GRANT ST OAKDALE NE 68761	S 35' OF S 80' OF W2 LOT 1 N 25' OF THE W 150' LOT 2 BLK 35 TILDEN CITY	227.22
17	3	0000117000		STAN WILKINSON FARMS INC	400 JENKS ST OAKDALE NE 68761	THAT PART OUTSIDE ST GDS BLK 1 EX .422 AC FOR ST HWY OAKDALE VILLAGE	11.96
18	3	0000123500		BARRINGTON, STEPHAN ALLEN & FRANCIS JEAN	401 HOHMAN ST OAKDALE NE 68761	LOTS 1-2 BLK 26 OAKDALE VILLAGE	400.08
19	3	0000123600		JAMES, HEATHER ETAL	203 5TH ST OAKDALE NE 68761	LOTS 3-4 BLK 26 OAKDALE VILLAGE	171.54
20	3	0000124000		BISHOP, SANDI JO & JOHN A	307 5TH ST OAKDALE NE 68761	LOTS 1-2 BLK 27 OAKDALE VILLAGE	405.36
21	3	0000124800		STARKEY, RON & BECKY	508 WALTER ST OAKDALE NE 68761	LOTS 3-4 BLK 28 OAKDALE VILLAGE	344.36
22	3	0000125600	***	SHORT, JOHN R	704 6TH ST OAKDALE NE 68761	LOTS 9-11 BLK 29 OAKDALE VILLAGE	509.28
23	3	0000128500	***	DECAMP LEGAL SERVICES PC	704 6TH ST OAKDALE NE 68761	LOTS 6-10 BLK 33 1/2 OAKDALE VILLAGE	498.94
24	3	0000129100		FULSAAS, DELAYNE & ANGELA	508 WALTER ST OAKDALE NE 68761	W 2' LOT 3; LOTS 4-5; E 7' LOT 6 BLK 34 OAKDALE VILLAGE	73.30
25	3	0000129800		WORLEY, KIMBERLY J	704 6TH ST OAKDALE NE 68761	LOTS 1-2 BLK 35 OAKDALE VILLAGE	452.36
26	3	0000131800		HINES, ELIZABETH	704 6TH ST OAKDALE NE 68761	LOTS 7-8 BLK 37 OAKDALE VILLAGE	50.50
27	3	0000132600		DEWEY, MICHAEL & REBECCA ETAL	00000 WILSON ST OAKDALE NE 68761	LOTS 1-4 BLK 42 OAKDALE VILLAGE	49.66
28	3	0000133400		KIMBER, EILEEN	609 JENKS ST OAKDALE NE 68761	LOTS 7-8 BLK 43 OAKDALE VILLAGE	38.12
29	3	0000134000		PACK, MATHEW G	605 WALTER ST OAKDALE NE 68761	W 90' LOTS 7-10 BLK 44 OAKDALE VILLAGE	104.92
30	3	0000134500	***	SCHULTZ, JANE M ETAL	605 HOHMAN ST OAKDALE NE 68761	LOTS 15-17 BLK 45 OAKDALE VILLAGE	987.90
31	3	0000134900		JACOBS, JAMES & KAREN	601 TAYLOR ST OAKDALE NE 68761	LOTS 13-16 BLK 46 OAKDALE VILLAGE	310.36
32	3	0000135800		SLEISTER, SHANE	606 RATH ST OAKDALE NE 68761	LOT 2 BLK 48 OAKDALE VILLAGE	233.27
33	3	0000135900	***	SPANGLER, SEAN M	600 RATH ST OAKDALE NE 68761	LOTS 3-4 BLK 48 OAKDALE VILLAGE	670.78
34	3	0000136800	***	STINES, FRED & CANDICE	702 WILSON ST OAKDALE NE 68761	BOYD'S ADD E2 BLK 3 OAKDALE VILLAGE	194.16
35	3	0000137300		WILKINSON, MATT & KELLI	601 LAWTON AVE OAKDALE NE 68761	BOYD'S ADD W 82' W2 BLK 4 OAKDALE VILLAGE	367.46
36	3	0000138200		THOMAS DONNELLY, KATHLEEN ANN	707 SUMMIT AVE OAKDALE NE 68761	BOYD'S ADD BLK 12 OAKDALE VILLAGE	78.62
37	3	0000138300		THOMAS DONNELLY, KATHLEEN ANN	700 TAYLOR ST OAKDALE NE 68761	BOYD'S ADD BLK 14 OAKDALE VILLAGE	334.94
38	3	0000139100	***	HAWKINS, JAMES &			

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I would like to thank everyone for the birthday wishes I received for my 85th birthday, and thank you to my family for the great party. It is all very much appreciated.

Susie Borer

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## Head into calving season prepared

Calving is a busy time at best, and heading into the season unprepared certainly doesn't help. As calves start to hit the ground this year, make sure that you're ready with plans and a toolkit to deal with any calving difficulty that may arise.

First on our checklist is a visit with your vet. Establish that relationship now, before a midnight call to deal with a problem calf. There may be a new face to acquaint yourself with, or on call protocols that are easier to understand now than in the heat of the moment. It's also a good time to discuss things for the toolkit like medication and pain management.

Next, find the place where a laboring cow can be dealt with. Ideally a location inside with good light. A solid place to secure an animal by rope or halter if needed is nice. If we are getting really picky, a pulley or beam to throw a rope over and help vertical lifting, especially in the case of a C-section is a plus.

With a veterinary conversations and a place to calve sorted away, let's take a look at the tool kit and see what items are useful to have on hand. We already mentioned a rope or halter to help secure an animal. OB sleeves and lube are next on the

**IT'S ALL ABOUT BEEF**

Beef Systems  
Asst. Ext. Educator  
**Ben Beckman**

list. You'll want to be generous with lube if it's needed, so don't be afraid to get the larger jug. Most water based lubes work well and have the added benefit of being non-toxic in the case of a C-section. Other options like J-lube might be slicker, but can be toxic if they get into the abdominal cavity.

Next, a bucket, and disinfectant for cleaning the animal, tools and hands. We don't want any contamination of the birth canal, so cleaning any manure off the animals

back end before working is a good practice to minimize this risk. Dedicated disinfectants are fine to use, but regular dish soap will do just fine in a pinch. A stainless steel bucket is great if you can spring for one due to the ease of keeping clean between cows.

If we do have to aid the cow, a pulling aid like chains or straps are invaluable. Chains are easier to clean and often longer, allowing the legs to be tied with a half hitch and spreading out the pressure across multiple points. Having a calf jack on hand isn't a bad thing, but make sure you know how to properly use it, when use won't cause problems, and equality important, when to stop use so a bad situation doesn't turn into a train wreck.

Once the calf is out, have some towels and rags on hand to help dry off and for cleaning up.

Although maybe not regularly used, an item like calf claim powder or other scent discussing technique to help pairs that are having trouble bonding can be handy.

If the calf had a difficult birth or is otherwise struggling, colostrum replacer is another item to keep handy, as well as something to mix it up with and bottle and tube for feeding. We always want to use colostrum from mom first if we can, so milking out is our first choice. Second is colostrum supplied by another cow in the herd. If neither one of those options are doable, a replacer that contains greater than 100g IgG (immunoglobulin - G) is the next best thing. Make sure you choose a colostrum replacement not supplement. Supplements will contain lower amounts of IgG per dose and are meant to supplement low quality or quantity colostrum from the dam. Ideally, calves need to receive 5% of their body weight in colostrum within the first 6 hours of life. This is typically around 2 quarts. After the first 6 hours, the calf's gut starts to change and it's ability to absorb IgG drops drastically. After 24 hours IgG absorption is practically nil.

The last few items to have on hand are basic needles and syringes for both calf and mom, a headlamp to provide hands free lighting, a thermometer to help determine if calves need additional warming up, a place to keep records, and any ID method you may use like tags.

Calving can be a hectic time, but going in prepared can keep the twists and turns Mother Nature throws our way manageable.

- Ben Beckman is a beef systems Extension Educator serving northeast Nebraska. He is 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](mailto:ben.beckman@unl.edu)

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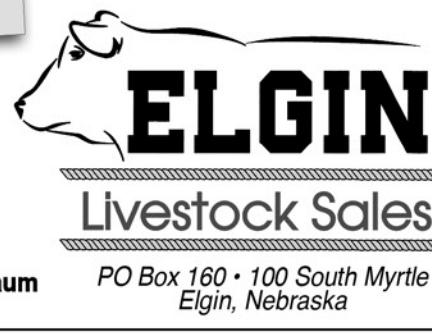
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New phone system, cut phone line, Extension open house and permits discussed

## Phones issues heard at Commissioners meeting

A phone system upgrade for the Antelope County Courthouse was again the main topic of discussion for the Antelope County Commissioners (ACC) at yesterday's second meeting in February.

Representatives from Stealth Broadband (SBB) were in attendance, proposing an upgraded phone system and a number of options regarding service, leasing and/or buying phones, fax options and other phone related issues.

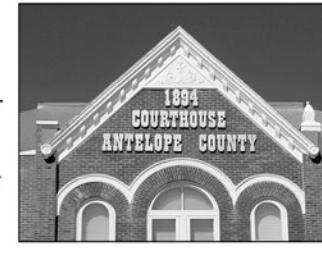
A lengthy discussion ensued with numerous questions asked by the ACC and County Clerk Lisa Payne about service and quality in an upgraded system. Frustration with the current

system, believed to be over ten years old, was expressed a number of times.

SBB informed the ACC that any wiring needed for an upgraded phone system would be done at no charge to the county.

Great Plains Communications (GPC), who offered an upgraded phone system last week, informed the ACC that any wiring needed for their system would need to be done by a private contractor at the county's expense.

Also in attendance at the meeting was a representative



from Applied Connective, who was gathering information and will present the ACC with a phone system bid at the March 3rd meeting.

In one other phone matter, Frontier Communications dropped a bill for a cut telephone cable by the County Roads Department last summer. Although a locate was called in, the work done was outside the time period allowed. However, Frontier said there were no phone cables in the work area and that the county was clear to work, making this "cable cut"

clearly Frontier's fault. There were no kind words for Frontier Communications.

Pam Slaymaker, County Extension Office educator, gave an annual report and review to the ACC, with a bit of excitement happening in the 4-H department. Slaymaker introduced Brooke Kumm, new 4-H coordinator, to the ACC. Kumm thanked the ACC for any and all support and announced that on March 22nd an open house will take place at the new county fairgrounds building. All are welcome to attend.

Finally, six oversize permits were approved as wind farm equipment continues to move through Antelope County.



## Out with the old...

Downtown Petersburg saw a change in its business district last Friday as crews demolished the old Cunningham Antiques buildings.

Debris was quickly cleaned up so future plans for the lots can proceed.

E-R photo/LMorgan

### Excessive alcohol consumption linked to ischaemic heart disease

The National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute identifies excessive consumption of alcohol as one of the lifestyle choices associated with a higher risk for ischaemic heart disease, which the World Health Organization notes is the leading cause of death across the globe. Excessive alcohol consumption increases blood pressure, and high blood pressure is a risk factor for heart disease. The NHLBI considers consumption of more than two drinks per day for men and more than one drink per day for women excessive. Such consumption can increase cholesterol and triglyceride levels, and elevated levels of each is considered a risk factor for heart disease. Triglycerides are a common type of fat found

in the body that are also found in certain foods, including butter, foods with high amounts of saturated fat, sugary foods, and simple carbohydrates.



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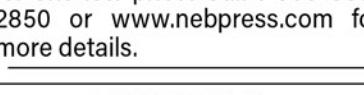
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Anna & Libby state bound!!



**Lady WOLFPACK**  
2026 Niobrara Valley Conference Girls Basketball Tournament **CHAMPIONS**

Grady, Landyn & John competing at wrestling Districts this weekend.



**WOLFPACK**  
2026 Niobrara Valley Conference Boys Basketball Tournament **RUNNERUPS**

### BOYS & GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL

Feb. 12 ..vs Randolph (Senior Night, EPS) 4:00  
Feb. 16-17 ... Girls Subdistricts ..... TBA  
Feb. 19 ... Girls Subdistricts ..... TBA  
Feb. 20 ..@ St. Mary's (B) ..... 6:15

### BOYS & GIRLS JH BASKETBALL

Feb. 13 ..vs Humph.-Lind. HF (B, EPS) ..... 3:00  
Feb. 20 ..@ St. Mary's (B) ..... 4:00

### SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

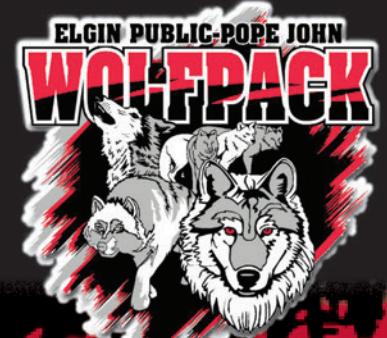
Feb. 11 .... Red Cross Blood Mobile • EPS School Board meeting  
Feb. 12 ..... EPS-MAPS testing • Senior Night at the bb game. Drawing for Duck Toss winner  
Feb. 14 ..... Stanton JH Honor Band • Speech at Burwell  
Feb. 18 ..... EPS, 1 pm dismissal  
Feb. 20 ..... NO SCHOOL, all schools • State Dance, Grand Island  
Feb. 22 ..... KC Free Throw Contest

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# Wolfpack Sports



In her semifinal matchup, Wolfpack wrestler Libby Evans displayed jubilation as did the Wolfpack delegation after recording a pin to guarantee her a spot in next week's state championships.

## Evans a three-time state qualifier Dworak shows little rust as she returns to qualify for state

WEEPING WATER — Wolfpack wrestlers Libby Evans and Anna Dworak will wrestle among the best in the state next week in Omaha.

The duo qualified Saturday for the NSAA Girls State Wrestling Championships. Evans placed first/second in the 170-pound division. After recording pins in her first two matches, Evans faced Pierce's Isabelle Kuehler in the finals Saturday afternoon. Kuehler pinned Evans in 3:34.

Dworak's path to qualifying for state took a different

route. Unable to wrestle the last couple of weeks due to injury, she wrestled with 'fire' in her eyes starting with Friday's first round match against Fairbury's Chloe York, pinning her opponent in less than a minute.

Two matches later Dworak wrestled in the 'heart break' round against Palmyra's Brylee Manley. Up to 0, Dworak went on to pin Manley to earn her state berth. In the consolation finals, she pinned her opponent to finish third.

Speaking of heart, no Wolfpack wrestler showed

more heart than senior Jayda Chessmore on Friday. Having dropped her first match, Chessmore trailed Palmyra's Chloe Weathert 10 to five to start the second period. Having been close to being pinned, Chessmore put Weathert on her back to pin her at 2:22.

Cielo Kuhlman, wrestling in just her second meet of the season, competed well in both of her matches.

Individual results were:

100 — Anna Dworak (EPPJ) pinned Chloe York (FAIR) in 40 seconds; Dworak pinned Kennedy Kellogg (BECA) in 1:11; Dworak was pinned by Kora Schaapveld (ARLN) in 5:12;

Dworak pinned Brylee Manley (PMYR) in 2:09; Dworak pinned Kennedy Kellogg (BECA) in 2:40 105 pounds — Cielo Kuhlman (EPPJ) was pinned by Harper Doane (WOOD) in 3:03; Kuhlman was pinned by Kobi Kosek (CENT) in 2:47

130 — Jayda Chessmore (EPPJ) lost 5 to 4 to Capri Hansen (WEWA); Chessmore pinned Chloe Weathert (PMYR) in 2:22; Chessmore lost 17 to 0 TF to Evelyn Skrdla (PRCE)

170 — Libby Evans (EPPJ) pinned Zailey Spilker (SAND) in 1:10; Evans pinned Fran Klabenes (WICL) in 3:04; Evans was pinned by Isabelle Kuehler (PRCE) in 3:34



Early in the first quarter, Jarek Erickson eclipsed the 1,000 point career mark. He finished with 12 points against the Cardinals.

## Cardinals snap EPPJ's winning streak at NVC

depth.

With the winning streak gone, the Wolfpack, now 19-1, will be looking to close out the season strong and getting ready for the postseason.

St. Mary's 63, EPPJ 47

Cardinals.....17 16 17 13 - 63  
Wolfpack.....10 16 9 11 - 46  
Wolfpack — Michael Selting 1-7 1-2 6, Joseph McNally 0-1 0-0, Karson Kallhoff 4-7 1-1 10, Devin Pelester 0-1 0-0, Brayden Burenheide 1-1 0-1 2, Jarek Erickson 4-14 3-4 12, Max Henn 5-10 1-1 13, Braedon Hinkle 0-0 0-0, Christian Preister 0-0 0-0, Justice Blecher 0-0 0-0, Jayvin Erickson 1-5 0-0 3. Team totals: 17-46 6-9 46. Three-point shots — 6-22 (Selting 1, Kallhoff 1, Ja. Erickson 1, Henn 2, Jv Erickson 1). St. Mary's team totals: 26-56 2-4 63. Three-point shots — Cardinals 10-25.

Team statistics: Rebounds — Wolfpack 27 (Henn 9), Cardinals 29.

Assists — Wolfpack 7 (Kallhoff 3).

Steals — Wolfpack 2, Turnovers — Wolfpack 11, Cardinals 4.



## EPPJ wrestlers all medal at SW

BARTLEY — Medals were the reward for Wolfpack wrestlers competing Friday far from home at the Southwest Invite.

Senior Landyn Veik claimed the third place medal, teammate Grady Druke took fourth and John Zwingman won the 'B' division in his weight class.

Veik won his first two matches by pin, then lost his third match before closing out the day with two more victories to finish third.

Druke, like Veik, won his first two matches before losing a decision to Trenton's Aaron Samson.

He then split his final two matches to finish fourth.

### It Pays To Advertise!

Veik and Druke wrapped up the regular season wrestling on the mats at the same time to close out the tournament.

Zwingman, wrestling in the 'B' division won all three of his matches, two by pin.

Individual results were:

165 — Landyn Veik (EPPJ) pinned Ryan Engel (ALMA) in 1:47; Veik pinned Gus Bryan (OB) in 1:24; Veik was pinned by Dylan Kollmorgen (HICO) in 5:28; Veik pinned Rhett Brown (BERT) in 48 seconds; Veik defeated Brody Schelkopf (SUTT) 10 to 0

157 — Grady Druke (EPPJ) pinned Liam Albertson (SUTH) in 1:45; Druke pinned Tucker Myers (SHV) in 5:32; Druke lost 8 to 1 to Aaron Samson (TRE); Druke won 6 to 1 over Hunter Jorschumb (ARAP); Druke was pinned by Parker Schutz (HILI) in 3:44

165B — John Zwingman (EPPJ) pinned Jason Marks (HICO) in 1:47; Zwingman won 5 to 2 over Roy Hoetscher (CAMB); Zwingman pinned Brayden Gries (SUTT) in 1:38

The Wolfpack would cut the lead to seven points midway through the final quarter before St. Mary's put together a seven-point run to bump the lead back to 16 points and hand the Wolfpack their first loss of the season, snapping a 19-game winning streak.

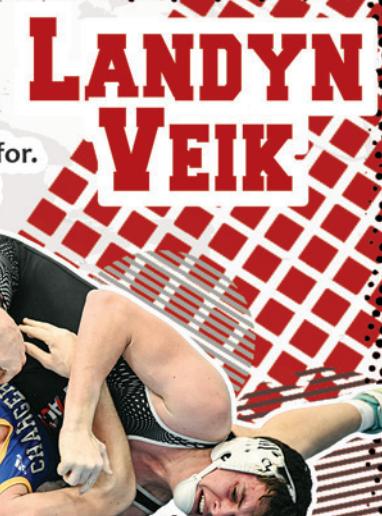
Wolfpack senior Jarek Erickson started the game strong, scoring the team's first eight points. With a free throw he reached a career plateau, scoring 1,000 points.

In the second quarter, the Wolfpack's Max Henn and Karson Kallhoff completed back-to-back three-point plays to cut the Cardinals' lead to just one point.

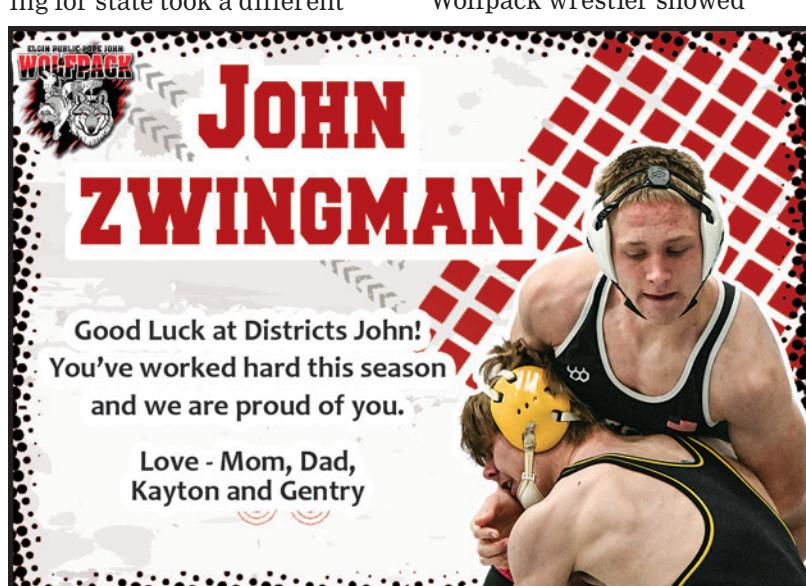
Their last lead in the game came at the 3:31 mark in the second quarter as Erickson connected on a trey to take a 23 to 21 lead. St. Mary's would then outscore EPPJ 12 to three to close out the first half, setting the stage for a remarkable second half for both teams.

Euse said the game was much closer than the final score. A couple of plays, had they gone the other way, he said would have made a competitive game til the final buzzer.

The game marked the return of Jayvin Erickson who had been out with a foot injury for weeks. His return provides the Wolfpack with some added



Karson Kallhoff eyes the basket for two of his 10 points Saturday night against O'Neill St. Mary's in the finals of the Niobrara Valley Conference Boys Basketball Tournament played at Niobrara.



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# EPPJ crush Warriors for first NVC title

NIOBRARA — Pumping in a career-high 29 points, Wolfpack junior Braelyn Martinsen led Elgin Public-Pope John to a place they have never been before.

The Wolfpack defeated Santee 67 to 43 to claim their first-ever championship trophy from the Niobrara Valley Conference girls basketball tournament.

Capping a dominating tournament performance, the Wolfpack won their third game in a row in convincing fashion — jumping out to a 15-point lead after one quarter and denying the Warriors any opportunity to get back into the game.

Coach Randy Eisenhauer said going into the game Santee was a very 'quick' team. However, in that, he saw a weakness which the Wolfpack could exploit.

Time and time again the Wolfpack beat the Warriors down the court and, when they did, they nearly always scored.

Martinsen scored the team's first 11 points of the game as EPPJ capitalized on Warrior turnovers.

The Wolfpack then got points from Elizabeth Moser, Jael Lammers and the Zwingman sisters to lead 24 to nine after the first quarter.

The Warriors tried to answer back but it was to no avail. It seemed that every time Santee

would score, EPPJ answered right back. Mady Kurpewit was able to work inside for scoring chances as she finished with six points in the quarter. Martinsen had five as did Kayton Zwingman as EPPJ lead 40 to 22 at halftime. The outcome was no longer in doubt, the only question was how big the margin of victory would be. EPPJ outscored the Warriors 27 to 22 to close out the game.

Aside from Martinsen, Kurpewit finished with 14 points and Zwingman had 11. Altogether, eight Wolfpack players scored in the game.

Eisenhauer said he wasn't aware that Saturday's victory would be a championship first for the Wolfpack until the players researched it prior to the game.

He said the championship has been a long time coming as the Wolfpack have been in the championship game many times before only to be denied, adding that the Wolfpack's success on this night was built by many great players who played in past year.

The victory boosted EPPJ's record to 16-5 heading into the final week of the regular season.

**EPPJ 67, Santee 43**

Wolfpack.....24 16 14 13 — 67

Warriors.....9 13 13 8 — 43

Wolfpack — Braelyn Martinsen 8-18 11-18 29, Kayton Zwingman 5-11 1-2 11, Gentry Zwingman 1-4 0-0 2, Elizabeth Moser 1-4 0-0 2, Kinley Drueke 1-9 2-2 5, Lillian Moser 0-0 0-0 0, Kinley Miller 0-0 0-0 0, Sydney Niewohner 0-0 0-0 0, Jael Lammers 0-1 3-4 3, Kiersyn Eisenhauer 0-0 1-2 1, Mady Kurpewit 3-10 7-10 14, Macy Rokahr 0-0 0-0 0, Gemma Miller 0-0 0-0 0. Team totals: 19-57 25-38 67.



Braelyn Martinsen (5) scored a career-high 29 points to lead EPPJ to their first-ever NVC championship.

Three-point shots — Wolfpack 4-13 (Martinsen 2, Drueke 1, Kurpewit 1). Santee team totals: 17-62 7-25 43. Three-point shots — Santee 2-19.

Team statistics: Rebounds — Wolfpack 49 (Martinsen 13, Kurpewit 10), Santee 31. Assists — Wolfpack 5 (E. Moser 2), Santee 7. Steals — Wolfpack 28 (G. Zwingman 4), Santee 13. Turnovers — Wolfpack 27, Santee 38.

## Wolfpack hold off Renegades 61 to 56

ELGIN — Four Wolfpack players scored in double figures Tuesday night as EPPJ defeated CWC 61 to 56 in the semifinals of the Niobrara Valley Conference Tournament.

St. Boniface Auditorium was packed with fans of both teams for a game in which the Renegades trailed by as few as four points in the fourth quarter before the Wolfpack iced the game.

The Wolfpack played just five players in the game, the Renegades played six in a game which seemed to get more physi-

cal as it went along.

The Renegades, behind Michael Jesse who finished with 27 points, cut the Wolfpack's lead to 21 to 19 with just under two minutes to go.

Then, the Wolfpack scored the last seven points of the first half to take a 28 to 19. Michael Selting drained a trey in-between baskets by Max Henn, the last coming on a putback at the buzzer.

The Renegades kept a tight rein on Wolfpack senior Jarek Erickson in the first half as he

had just three points.

That all changed in the second half as he tallied 16 points. It seemed as if every time the Renegades appeared ready to make a run, Erickson would score.

Up 45 to 39, Erickson had four points, Henn and Kallhoff each had two before Selting drained a trey to make the score 57 to 49 with 2:22 left in the game.

Jesse had CWC's next four points to cut the lead to four points with 32 seconds left.

That's when Erickson and Selting closed out the game with free throws to bump the lead back to eight points before Trey Blackmore made a trey as time ran out.

Erickson led the Wolfpack with 19 points followed by Karson Kallhoff with 14, Henn 12 and Selting 11. Jesse made 11 of 19 field goal attempts to finish with 27 points.

Henn had 13 rebounds to finish with a double-double.

The victory boosted the Wolfpack's record to 19-0.

**EPPJ 61, CWC 56**

Renegades.....6 13 20 17 — 56

Wolfpack.....16 12 17 16 — 61

Wolfpack — Michael Selting 3-10

2-2 11, Karson Kallhoff 6-0 0 14,

Evin Pelster 2-7 1-2 5, Jarek Erickson 6-8 6-9 19, Max Henn 5-9 1-2

12. Team totals: 22-41 10-15 61.

Three-point shots — Wolfpack 7-14

(Selting 3, Kallhoff 2, Erickson 1,

Henn 1).

Renegades — Jackson Wright 3-7

0-0 7, Carter Metschke 0-2 0-0

0, M. McManigal 5-6 0-0 10, Trey

Blackmore 3-11 0-0 8, Daniel Kluver 2-6 0-0 4, Michael Jesse 11-19

3-3 27. Team totals: 24-51 3-3 56.

Three-point shots — Renegades

5-17 (Wright 1, Blackmore 2, Jesse 2)

Team statistics: Rebounds — Wolf-

pack 24 (Henn 13), CWC 19 (Mc-

Manigal 5). Assists — Wolfpack

10 (Kallhoff 4), CWC 6 (Wright 2,

Blackmore 2). Steals — Wolfpack

4 (Erickson 3), CWC 8 (Wright 3).

Turnovers — Wolfpack 11, CWC 8

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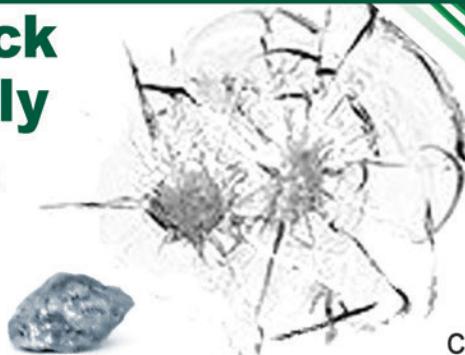
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