



Elgin schools announce third quarter honor rolls
See page 10



Wolfpack open track season at Snowmelt Invite
See page 11

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

The Elgin Review

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In Brief

Smith, Huebner to participate in candidate forum

At the Neligh American Legion Hall.

The Antelope County GOP will host a candidate forum on Thursday, April 9 at 7 p.m. at the American Legion in Neligh. Participating in the forum will be incumbent Adrian Smith and challenger David P. Huebner, both candidates for Nebraska's 3rd Congressional District.

The forum is being held due to strong interest from constituents across the district who want the opportunity to hear directly from both candidates in the same setting.

Each candidate will have time to introduce themselves and present their views on key issues. Following opening remarks, the candidates will take questions and comments from the audience. This forum is intended to be a casual and respectful exchange of ideas. The goal is not to host a formal debate, but to facilitate an open, grassroots discussion.



Photo submitted

State FFA Champions

Nebraska's future converged on the Pinnacle Bank Arena last week for the annual State FFA Convention. Two members of the Elgin chapter of FFA were judged the best in the state during competition. Isaac Hemenway (r) placed first in Diversified Ag Production Proficiency and took third in Beef Proficiency. Kaiden Bode (l) placed first in Forage Proficiency. They are shown with Elgin FFA Advisor Julia Schwartz (c).

Public Notices

Public notices in this week's newspaper include:

- Proceedings — District #18 Board of Education
- Notice to Bidders (4) — Antelope County Board of Commissioners
- Notice of Meetings — Antelope County Board of Commissioners
- Notice to Bidders — Wheeler Central School District

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 85 degrees recorded on Wednesday March 25.

The low temperature during the same period was 23 degrees recorded on Sunday, March 22 and again on Thursday, March 26. No precipitation was recorded last week. Following are the high and low temperatures, and precipitation amounts, as recorded by Elgin weather observer Leonard Orłowski.

Date	High	Low	Prec
March 22	51	23	.00
March 23	52	30	.00
March 24	68	35	.00
March 25	85	52	.00
March 26	58	23	.00
March 27	58	26	.00
March 28	62	37	.00
Total for last week			0.00
Total for March			0.59
Total precipitation 2026			0.98



E-R photo/LMorgan

Father John Norman (r) presented Allan Kluthe with the Roncalli Award, awarded annually at the Pope John Development Dinner held in Petersburg.

Faithful support recognized as Roncalli Award presented

The 40th Annual Pope John Development Dinner was held Sunday evening, March 29th at Werner Hall in Petersburg.

One of the highlights of the evening was the presentation of the Roncalli Award. This award is named after the school's patron, Saint Pope John the XXIII, who was born Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli.

This prestigious award is presented each year to an individual or family in recognition of their long-term contribution to Pope John. Father John Norman presented this year's award to Allan Kluthe and to recognize the

beautiful legacy he shares with his late wife, Doris. They have been faithful supporters of Catholic education and Pope John XXIII Central Catholic for many years.

"Allan dedicated countless hours and miles as a longtime bus driver for Pope John. Generations of students have been blessed by his steady presence behind the wheel — safely transporting them to games, activities, and events. But Allan's role has always been about more than driving a bus. He has been a quiet guardian,

See KLUTHE, Page 2 ▶

Man charged with online threats against policeman

A Neligh resident, charged with one count of terroristic threats, a Class IIIA felony, appeared for arraignment, March 25, in Antelope County District Court.

Martin Klein requested to withdraw as counsel for Jonathyn Gunderson, which Judge Michael L. Long granted. The judge appointed Nate Stratton to represent the defendant.

Gunderson entered a not guilty plea. Long set a pretrial hearing for April 29 and a jury trial for May 18.

Gunderson was arrested Feb. 20, after writing threatening posts on Facebook (Meta) about Neligh Police Officer Aubrey Miller. State Patrol Investigator Mann met with Miller and AC Sheriff Moore.

When contact was made, Gunderson told Mann he was deleting the posts. According to the probable cause affidavit, Gunderson said "he was upset the night prior he had gone to the gas station to buy alcohol and he couldn't because Officer Miller was in there and he didn't want to get a DUI."

A \$50,000 bond remains in effect. Gunderson was remanded to the ACSO.

Austin Klabenes, 20, of Neligh, appeared for arraignment in a case where he is charged with deliver/dispense/distribute/manufacture/possess except hazardous drug, a Class II felony.

Klabenes pleaded not guilty to the

See COURT, Page 2 ▶

Scholarship fund drive underway

The Elgin Area Community Foundation has kicked off its annual scholarship fund drive. Since its inception 15 years ago, donors have helped 184 local students with \$162,700 in scholarships to continue their education. Last year, 10 local students each received \$1,000 scholarships. They were Sara Bode, Natalie Bur-enheide, Darby Carstens, Callie Heithoff, Austin Hinkle, Kellan Hoefler, Landon Kallhoff, Olivia Klein, Kaitey Schumacher and Kaeden Schwarting.

Persons wishing to contribute can send their donations to Elgin Area Community Foundation, PO Box 345, Elgin, NE 68636-0345.

The scholarship committee consists of Lisa Schumacher, Dean Schrage, Greg Wemhoff, Vicki Miller, Anne Parks and Dennis Morgan.

CATHOLIC MASSES

HOLY THURSDAY

St. Bonaventure (Raeville) - 7 p.m.
St. Francis (Neligh) - 7 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY

St. Boniface (Elgin) - 3 p.m.
St. John the Baptist (Deloit) - 3 p.m.
St. Peter (Ewing) - 7 p.m.
St. John the Baptist (Petersburg) - 7 p.m.

EASTER VIGIL

St. Francis (Neligh) - 8:30 p.m.
St. John the Baptist (Petersburg) - 8:30 p.m.

EASTER SUNDAY

St. Peter (Ewing) - 6:30 a.m.
St. Bonaventure (Raeville) - 8 a.m.
St. Francis (Neligh) - 8 a.m.
St. Boniface (Elgin) - 10 a.m.
St. Theresa (Clearwater) - 10 a.m.
St. John the Baptist (Deloit) - 11:30 a.m.
Our Lady-Mt. Carmel (Tilden) - 12:00 (noon)

ELGIN COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH

HOLY THURSDAY
- 6:30 p.m. Communion Supper w/Passover program
EASTER SUNDAY
- 9:15 a.m.
EASTER SUNDAY
- 9:30 a.m. w/Communion, games for kids

LUTHERAN SERVICES

(Trinity)(*@Neligh) (Immanuel Zion)
MAUNDY THURSDAY
- 7 p.m.
THURSDAY*
- 6:30 p.m.
GOOD FRIDAY*
- 6:30 p.m.
EASTER SUNDAY
- 9 a.m.
MAUNDY THURSDAY
- 7 p.m.
GOOD FRIDAY
- 7 p.m.
EASTER SUNDAY
- Sunrise 7 a.m.
Youth-served breakfast to follow at 8 a.m.
All are welcome!



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15# - Pork Featherbones

15# - Ground Pork, Ground Sausage or Ring Sausage

DEAN'S MARKET

Downtown Elgin

402-843-5300

Ad prices good through 4/1/2026

Six achieve NSAA Academic All-State recognition

The Nebraska School Activities Association (NSAA) last week announced the student recipients of the Winter 2025-2026 Nebraska Chiropractic Physicians Association (NCPA) Academic All-State Awards.

Since 2006 this NSAA Awards Program has recognized students who meet the criteria for nomination by their school in the season of their activity. Each year the Nebraska School Activities Association and the Nebraska Chiropractic Physicians Association recognize students who have been nominated by their schools, based on their individual academic excellence, leadership, and significant contributions made to their NSAA activity.

Selected from Elgin High School were Jarek Erickson, boys basketball; Kayton Zwingman and Gentry Zwingman, girls basketball; Kyndal Busted and Kayton Zwingman, speech.

Chosen to receive the award from Pope John XXIII Central Catholic High School were Landyn Veik, boys wrestling;



Landyn Veik



Jarek Erickson



Kayton Zwingman



Jovie Borer

Brooke Kinney and Jovie Borer, speech.

Students in grades 9-12 who are nominated by their school and meet the criteria below will be recognized and awarded a certificate of achievement by the NSAA and NCPA.

The following leadership and scholarship guidelines shall apply: 1. Varsity player or organizational leader who has played a significant role on the team or in the organizational activity during the seasons for

which nominations are accepted. 2. Must have a minimum cumulative GPA in all curricular subjects, of 93% or 3.7 on a 4.0-point scale or the equivalent. 3. NSAA high schools or their cooperative sponsorship may nominate a maximum of two students per NSAA activity program. Students who meet these requirements and are nominated by their school administration shall be awarded the NCPA Academic All-State Award for that activity.

ESU8 K-12 art show is April 10-12

The 2026 ESU 8 K-12 Art Show will be held at the Antelope County Youth Enrichment Building in Neligh. K-12 student artwork will be displayed from Antelope, Boyd, Holt, Madison, Pierce, Stanton, and Wheeler Counties, all served by ESU 8. The show will be open to the public for viewing from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day starting Friday, April 10, through Sunday, April 12. The show will represent approximately 30 schools and over 5,500 students.

Pope John Pre-K Visit Day

FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 2026
8:15-11:00 A.M.

Contact the school for more information or
if you have questions 402.843.5325

*Pre-registration NOT required!



E-R photo/DMorgan

Members (including extended) of the Allan Kluthe family gathered as Allan was presented the 2026 Roncalli Award at Sunday night's Pope John XXIII Central Catholic Development Dinner. Pictured are, back row l-r: Sam Reynoldson, Jeff Krebs, Kerry Kluthe, Chris Kluthe, Letha Smith, Scott Heim, Ron Luebe, Paula Heim, AJ Kluthe, Erick Kluthe and Jordan Murray. Front row: Callie Krebs, Lynette Krebs, Linda Schindler, Diane Kluthe, Allan, Mary Bergstrom, Pat Quinn, Carla Quinn, Julie Kluthe, Anne Marie Kluthe and Lindsay Murray. Unable to attend from his immediate family were sons Dave, Leigh and Corey.

Kluthe

◀ FROM Page 1

a friendly face, and a constant supporter of the students entrusted to his care," said Father John Norman in making the presentation.

"And of course, anyone who knows Allan knows he is famous for always having root beer barrels and butterscotch candies on hand. Students quickly learned that a ride with Allan often came with a sweet treat — a small but memorable gesture that perfectly reflects

his kindness and grandfatherly spirit. Those candies have become part of his signature, a simple tradition that has brought countless smiles over the years. Doris shared that same generous spirit. Together, they supported school events, encouraged students, and stood

firmly behind the mission of Catholic education. Their support was never about recognition — it was about commitment. They have always been there for the kids, cheering them on, helping when needed, and saying "yes" whenever Pope John called."

Approximately 180 tickets were sold for the event. Alan Reicks and Martin Klein served as Masters of Ceremonies. The evening included a social hour, sit-down dinner, silent and live auctions, and various raffles. The evening concluded with a live auction.

Court

◀ FROM Page 1

charge. Long set a pretrial conference for April 29 and scheduled a jury trial for May 18. Bond, set at \$20,000-10%, with previous conditions, is continued. Klabenes was remanded to Platte County Jail following the hearing.

Gage T. Schultz, 27, of Tilden, appeared for arraignment on one count of terroristic threats, a Class IIIA felony. The charge stems from a July 9, 2025, incident.

Schultz entered a not guilty plea. Two exhibits were received by the court during a bond review hearing. Antelope County Attorney Joe Smith requested bond be revoked. Defense counsel Brad Montag objected to Smith's motion, which Long overruled. Montag requested additional time for a hearing on the bond revocation. Long continued that hearing to April 7 in Madison County District Court.

Schultz will appear for a pretrial hearing on April 29. A jury trial is scheduled for May 18. Bond remains in effect.

Buller request on 26/27 contract accepted by #18 school board

Short meetings are rare when it comes to school board meetings.

However, they do happen.

On Thursday night, the District #18 Board of Education conducted a short meeting. How short? From the time Board President

Lisa Welding convened the meeting until the time the board voted to adjourn, just eight minutes passed. Why so short?

There was just one action item which needed to be acted upon.

The board accepted 'with regret' the 2026-2027 teaching contract resignation sought by fifth grade teacher Melissa Buller.

The vote was unanimous by the five members in attendance. Absent from the meeting was board member Todd Heithoff.



Melissa Buller

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The City of Elgin is accepting applications for a full-time

CITY MAINTENANCE WORKER



High School Diploma or equivalent and a valid driver's license required. Successful candidate will need to live within a reasonable distance from city limits. Applicant shall have or be willing to obtain a Grade IV Water Operator's license and Grade I Wastewater Operator's license.

Job responsibilities will be across all departments - streets, water, sewer, park, pool. Work duties will be labor intensive which can include, but not limited to testing; repair and maintenance of the municipal streets, water and sewer systems; heavy equipment operator; snow removal; general labor; upkeep of city owned properties and equipment. Drug test required. Salary based on qualifications and experience.

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, or by stopping at City Hall during open business hours. Position open until filled. EOE.

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Dr. Roger Rudloff Angela Sucha, PA-C
Dr. Kelli Osborn Anita Murphy, PA-C
Dr. Josh Thoendel Kimberly Wiese, APRN

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Dr. Troy Dawson Angela Sucha, PA-C

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Dr. Roger Rudloff Anita Murphy, PA-C
Dr. Kelli Osborn

*This notice is provided to inform patients of primary care services & location.



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Speaking of forks, where did they all go?

Are you serious? It'd been a while since we've hosted a formal dinner party, this time for a table of eight celebrating a precious friend's birthday.

Takes some planning. Decide on the menu, get out Grandma Lois' Sunday dishes, and get the spots off the glassware. One more thing -- line up our no-silver silverware. Out of three sets, our deceased son Ryan's, some old ones used while living in Virginia, and some new ones here at the farmhouse, not a single one had all the dinner forks to make a full set.

Where'd they go? Dishwashers don't grind them up. Garbage disposals won't tolerate them. Our cutlery drawers are neat. Maybe blame helpful guests who scooped them into the garbage by mistake along with food scraps. Not noticed. Gone. It's not really that big of a deal for everything to match. Amongst laughter, libations, and scrumptious food, no one really notices. Differences make life fun. So does thinking about the humble fork.

Often thought of as the utensil to carefully carry vistles from plate to palette, the fork is used in geography, computing, tools, and machinery. Where to begin? Let me fork over my best shot of playful meanderings related to the word fork.

Basically, this word references anything that splits in two. There's the fork in the road. Do I swerve left or right? Both the Elkhorn and Loup Rivers, not far from Elgin, fork. As an aside, there are 80,000 miles of rivers in Nebraska and the state's name comes from the Native America word for flat waters, referencing the Platte River. Speaking of rivers, the fine founders of that city mostly east of Elgin submitted the name Norfork (with an R) to commemorate its location on the north fork of the Elkhorn River. Fine folks in DC thought the spelling was incorrect, so recorded the name to be Norfolk (with an L), just as in Virginia. Longtime Norfolk residents retain the FORK pronunciation.

Now, on to nature. Looking out our farmhouse window,

nearly every tree has a fork where a trunk or branch splits. Definitely not a biologist, though do understand that the point where DNA strands unwind for replication is called a fork. Son Philip, a software engineer, helped with this one. When a code is copied to develop more software off the original, it's called a fork. When computer tasks run in parallel, a fork system splits the running

process in two. Now, onto something more understandable to me. There's the pitchfork used for moving hay.

The pitchfork gained iconic acclaim from the 20th century Grant Wood painting where a man and woman, both with Depression-era drawn faces, stand with house in background. Even though both are dressed in their Sunday best, he is holding a pitchfork.

Our neighbor owns a forklift. It came in real handy when we restored the 1903 barn out here on the farm. Need to place a hay door near the roof peak? No problem. Need to hoist siding materials up 28 feet? No problem.

Back to forks in the kitchen, now a staple, they met with rejection when first introduced in the United States in the 17th century. Considered satanic devices (the devil often is depicted holding a pitchfork) and too luxurious (since colonists were used to eating with a knife and spoon, or their fingers), the fork never really caught on until the mid-1700s. By the 1800s, specialty forks entered the culinary world joining the standard dinner fork.

One could set a fancy table with salad, dessert, and seafood forks, even one designed to get a pickle out of a tall jar. My favorite is the minimalist eating utensil used by backpackers with a fork on one end and a spoon on the other.

Eating with a fork here in the USA is an interesting cut-and-switch approach. For right-handers, hold the knife in your right hand, fork jabbed in the food with your left hand, cut, then put down knife, put fork in right hand, and savor.

During a recent trip in Denmark, we attempted to use the knife and fork their way. Grasp the fork in the left hand and the knife in the right and leave them there, none of this zigzag

Say What?



Elgin Columnist Jane Schuchardt

Looking Back
The Elgin Review

Sixty Years Ago

April 7, 1966

Bernard Kluthe, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Kluthe, was named for the third straight year to the Top Twenty Basketball Club in Northeast Nebraska. Kluthe and Dennis Loewe of Clearwater are the first ever to receive the honor three times in one sport. Loewe has also been honored twice for his powers on the gridiron. Bernie has played basketball four years on the St. Boniface Knight squad and the past two years he has helped his team participate in state Class D competition.

Local firemen were on duty 16 hours last week while controlling a corn crib fire at the Virgil Lawson farm north of town. The fire alarm sounded here at 3 Thursday afternoon. The fire was discovered by Paul Miller, a neighbor of the Lawsons, who noticed the smoke. He investigated and found the Lawsons, to be away from home and then had to go to the Ed Fink home to turn in the alarm. The fire is believed to have started from smoldering embers from a cob pile that had been burned a week previous. Thursday's strong wind apparently brought the embers to life and blew some into the ventilating shaft of the steel wire ring of corn. The bin contained 1,200 bushels of corn and both were destroyed. They were insured. Elgin firemen took shifts in keeping guard over the fire all night Thursday and were not able to safely leave the Lawson place until 7 a.m. Friday.

Fifty Years Ago

April 7, 1976

A truckload of ten fat steers went into the ditch and flipped over end-wise Monday forenoon resulting in the death of two animals and cuts and bruises to the driver, Rolen Sell of Arcadia. Rolen stated that the box seemed to start shifting, possibly due to a loose clamp. Headed east on Highway 70 the long wheel-base truck was carrying livestock to the Sioux City, Iowa markets. One steer was killed in the accident and a second animal had to be shot by a deputy from the Antelope County Sheriff's office which investigated the accident. Mr. Sell was taken to Antelope Memorial Hospital in the deputy's car. The other animals were penned at the Kluthe farm just west of where the accident happened. The truck left the highway just east of the West Cedar Creek bridge (Black Snake). Mr. and Mrs. Rudy Heithoff of Elgin observed their 50th wed-

See BACK, Page 4

NELIGH KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Join us for our 45th Annual **Ham and Beef Dinner**

Sunday, April 12 Dine in or Carry out

-serving from 5 - 8 p.m. at the Neligh American Legion

\$15 Adults
\$6 Ages 10/Under

CANDIDATE FORUM
Featured Speakers



Adrian Smith
Incumbent



David P Huebner
Candidate

Congressional District 3

Thursday, April 9th
Neligh American Legion

6 PM Social hour & dinner
Dinner \$18 rsvp 719-640-4266 or 402-929-0234

7 PM Candidate Forum

ALL ARE WELCOME

Gateway Theatre
136 South 4th Street
402-395-3394, Albion, NE

http://ins2.esu7.org/bcbusiness/about/ Stop in & pick up a POP & POPCORN TO GO even if you're not viewing the movie.

Show Time...7:30 pm
Ticket sales begin at 7:00 pm
Concessions begin at 7:00 pm

Fri., Sat. & Sun.
April 3, 4 & 5
REMINDERS OF HIM Rated PG-13
Next Weekend: Project Hail Mary

See FORKS, Page 6

KEEP YOUR SMILE BRIGHT!

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The Elgin Review

Community Calendar

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

Friday, April 3
No School (Easter break)

Saturday, April 4
Easter Egg hunt at Petersburg.

Sunday, April 5
Easter Sunday

Monday, April 6
Regular monthly meeting of the Elgin City Council ■ No school (Easter break)

Tuesday, April 7
Regular meeting of the Antelope County Board of Commissioners at Neligh.

Wednesday, April 8
Red Cross bloodmobile at Elgin KC Hall.

Friday-Sun., April 10-12
ESU8 K-12 art show at Neligh.

Tuesday, April 14
Regular meeting of the Antelope County Board of Commissioners.

Wednesday, April 15
Regular meeting of the District #18 Board of Education.

Events listing courtesy of **ELGIN VETERANS' MEDICAL CLINIC**
an outpatient department of Boone County Health Center
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This notice is provided to inform patients of primary care and colonoscopy services and location.

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

Edward R. Murrow

Close encounters of the zoning kind

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

The Nebraska Legislature began talking about "extraterrestrials" the other day, and well, who could pass up writing about that?

I have a buddy who insists that an alien craft hovered over his acreage outside of Ashland. There's another buddy who is convinced that he was followed by an alien ship while driving down a remote western Nebraska highway.

So I've heard some stories.

Thanks to these new-fangled "prediction markets" like Kalshi and Polymarket, we can actually place bets on the chances that extraterrestrials will visit our planet in the next few years.

I mean, what a wonderful world.

Anyway, the conversation in the State Legislature was about those folks who live just outside our cities, towns and villages, but are within the zoning jurisdiction of those municipalities.

Those three- to one-mile areas are called "extraterritorial zoning jurisdictions" or EZJs. Anyone who lives in those doughnut-shaped zones should rightly be called "extraterrestrials."

State Sen. Beau Ballard, who represents northwest Lincoln and areas just outside Lincoln in Lancaster County, said it was unfair that those who live in EZJs cannot vote in city elections, since such extraterrestrials are subject to zoning and planning laws -- and associated fees -- adopted by the adjacent city or town.

That amounts to "taxation without representation," the senator maintained. So he proposed Legislative Bill 915, which would allow voters who live

in EZJs to vote in city elections and even run for city offices.

His pitch invoked the rallying cry that inspired the Boston Tea Party after Britain imposed an unpopular tax on tea. The act of defiance ultimately led to the American Revolution.

But we ought to consider that zoning and planning rules are a very small part of what a city does. Cities build streets and sewers, ensure fire and police protection, and provide nice parks and areas for businesses, using taxes paid primarily by city residents.

Sure, a city can impose rules and fees on the construction of new homes and streets in EZJ areas outside the city, but those areas will eventually be annexed into a city, so it makes sense that homes, sewers and roads meet city standards.

An Omaha state senator, John Cavanaugh, pointed out that allowing people from outside the city to influence a wide range of city services -- besides zoning -- tended to give them more power than they deserved. He argued that EZJ residents shouldn't have a say on how a city provides water, police and fire and snowplowing, because they don't support those services with their tax dollars, and don't receive those services.

The senator also speculated that if you allowed people in an EZJ to run for city offices, you could have an entire city council and mayor elected to run a city they don't live in.

That seems kinda far-fetched until you consider Gretna, a fast-growing Omaha suburb. That city's population has grown to 9,300 people, but more than 12,000 people live just outside Gretna in housing subdivisions within its EZJ. Who would have the voting power there?

Ballard came loaded for bear when he introduced his bill to a legislative committee. Supporters included the current Secretary of State, Bob Evnen, and a former state attorney general, Doug Peterson.

But representatives of Lincoln and Omaha, which would be the only places impacted after Ballard's bill was



ALL THINGS NEBRASKA



State Correspondent Paul Hammel

amended, opposed LB 951 as going too far.

They pointed out that county zoning boards already allow at least one member to be from the EZJ, so their views should be represented. Cavanaugh offered to work with Ballard on a compromise, maybe one that allowed extraterrestrials to vote only on who sits on planning boards.

It was a fascinating debate, albe-

it one that gets pretty deep into the weeds of municipal governance.

But I'd say this -- anyone who builds a house or moves into one near a city is doing it because they want the benefits of a city -- like shopping, jobs, schools and entertainment options -- without paying the taxes or fighting the traffic every day in the city.

Somehow, I think living close to a city ought to be enough.

***** Paul Hammel has covered the Nebraska state government and the state for decades. Prior to his retirement, he was senior contributor with the Nebraska Examiner. He was previously with the Omaha World-Herald, Lincoln Journal Star and Omaha Sun. A native of Ralston, Nebraska, he loves traveling and writing about the state.

Commonsense steps to restore trust Back

Growing up in Gering, I learned early on that commitment is key. Reputation and relationships are built by keeping one's commitments. This principle has guided me throughout my life and continues to shape my work in Congress today.

In Nebraska, a handshake still means something. That sense of trust between neighbors is part of what makes our communities strong.

It is something we value deeply and something worth protecting. Unfortunately, that same level of trust is in short supply in Washington.

According to the Pew Research Center, just 17 percent of Americans say they trust the federal government to do what is right most or all of the time. That number should concern every elected official, regardless of party. It reflects a growing belief that Washington is no longer working for the people it was meant to serve.

In an environment filled with constant finger-pointing

and political theater, it is difficult to separate public service from personal gain. The American people deserve better. They deserve leaders who act in the best interest of their constituents, not themselves.

Serving the American people is a privilege, not a pathway to profit.

That is why I introduced the PREDICT Act alongside Representative Budzinski of Illinois. This bipartisan legislation takes a commonsense approach to restoring trust by putting clear guardrails in place.

In short, it would prohibit Members of Congress, their spouses and dependent children, the President and Vice President, and other senior government officials and employees, from betting on the outcomes of political events, policy decisions, and other government actions through prediction markets.

Prediction markets are a growing industry, and like any emerging financial instrument, they present both opportunities and risks.

Without proper safeguards, individuals with access to sensitive, nonpublic information could exploit these markets for personal gain. That undermines the integrity of our institutions and erodes public confidence even further.

The PREDICT Act addresses this directly. It holds bad actors accountable by imposing meaningful penalties, which include fines and the return of any profits made through prohibited transactions.

The message is simple: if you have access to non-public information, you should not be able to use it to make money. This bill is about accountability, transparency, and restoring faith in government.

It is about ensuring decisions made in Washington are driven by what is best for the country, not personal financial interests.

I know rebuilding trust will not happen overnight. But it starts with taking clear, decisive steps to show the American people their leaders are committed to doing what is right.

I'm proud to work with Representative Budzinski on this effort, and I look forward to working with my colleagues to move this legislation forward—for Nebraska and for the nation.

FROM THE HILL



Congressman Adrian Smith

◀ FROM Page 3

ding anniversary Sunday, April 4 with a Mass at 10:00 celebrated by Father Hugh Schwartz. Mass servers were grandsons, Chuck and Tom Pelster. Dale Heithoff and Jay Pelster were ushers and Ron Jochum was lector. They are also grandsons of the couple. The mass was followed by a dinner for the immediate family. Open house was held from 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. Linda Dinslage, Susie Seier, Janet Schmitt and Doris Faust, granddaughters were the hostesses.

Janet Schrunk received a dislocated bone in her left arm Saturday morning when a tractor she was driving on a country road upset in the left ditch 1 1/2 miles from the Ellis Schrunk home. The tractor cab, which apparently saved her life, was demolished.

Thirty Years Ago

April 3, 1996

Amy Moser, daughter of Ed and Sandy Moser of rural Clearwater, finished in third place at the Omaha World-Herald Midwest Spelling Bee held on March 30 in Omaha. Amy was one of the 93 students participating. Amy is an eighth grade student at Pope John XXIII Central Catholic School in Elgin. Her teacher is Ann Meis. Amy's third place accomplishment is the highest finished by a seventh or eighth grade student in Antelope County for many years. She received a certificate and a Bookman Advanced electric thesaurus from Franklin Publishers. The word Amy misspelled was "linearity," meaning - a condition of extending along or in a line. Amy won the Antelope County Spelling Bee at Neligh.

Shawn M. Cannon, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Cannon of Elgin, received his Eagle Scout award at a Court of Honor in Cordova, Ne on March 17. To achieve the Eagle Scout rank, Shawn earned 25 merit badge and seven ranks within four years as a member of Cordova Boy Scout Troop 359. One of the badges he earned was the Ad Altare Dei, a religious emblem. He was the troop's first Boy Scout in 25 years to receive this award. Only one percent of Boy Scout in the United States receive the Ad Altare Dei. Shawn is a sophomore at Pope John Central Catholic School, where he has been on the honor roll, and participates in football, wrestling, golf and music.

Twenty Years Ago

March 29, 2006

Kathryn Score, a senior at Elgin High School, has been awarded a \$1,000 Chancellors Leadership Class Scholarship to attend the University of Nebraska-Lincoln next year.

Travis Sprout, a junior at Elgin High School, won third place in his weight class at the Class D High School State Powerlifting Contest last Saturday, March 25, at Waco, NE. Sprout competed in the 148 pound class. He lifted 280 pounds in the bench press and 320 pounds in the dead lift, for a total of 820 pounds.

A special award to the family of Viola and the late Cyril Pelster highlighted the 20th annual Pope John Central Catholic Development Dinner on Sunday evening, March 26, at Werner Hall in Petersburg. The Pelster family received the Pope John Roncalli Award.

By Kari Schindler

Celebrating 80 years of the NP Canteen

Here in Nebraska, we reserve a special spot in our history and in our hearts for the North Platte Canteen. This year marks the 80th anniversary of the Canteen, a remarkable legacy of service and compassion. Serving over 6 million soldiers from December 1941 to April 1946, the Canteen and its volunteers provided our brave World War II service members moments of respite as they traveled on the Union Pacific railroad.

One of these volunteers was my mother, Florence Strobel, and like many of you, I grew up hearing the incredible stories of the Canteen.

In 1941, 10 days after the attack on Pearl Harbor, a train whistled through the heartland carrying with it the hopes of Nebraska families that their sons, brothers, and fathers were on board. In preparation, the Nebraskans had made egg salad sandwich-

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

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

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

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 DeKay: P.O. Box 94604, Lincoln, NE 68509. Phone: (402) 471-2801. E-mail: bdekay@leg.ne.gov.



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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.

John Morton (1724-1777) was less than one year old when his father passed. His mother, Mary Archer Morton, soon remarried an English gentleman, John Sketchley, who graciously took on the responsibility to raise and educate John as his own. Mr. Sketchley was a surveyor, so it was natural for him to teach John Morton the skills of surveying, along with reading, math and morality (an eventual specified requirement in schools for territories to become states; still in the Nebraska Constitution). Law was intricately involved with surveying to which he also excelled. John Morton, due to his good character yet only 31, was elected to the Pennsylvania Assembly. (It was said of John that he was a man of sound judgment and pleasant temperament, very involved with his church.) He held that position ten years until the local sheriff died and Mr. Morton was appointed and re-elected as sheriff of Chester County for 3 years, then returned to the Pennsylvania Assembly by re-election in 1769.

He was a busy man! In the years of 1757-1774 he also held these positions: Justice of the Peace, Judge of the Court of General Quarters Session, Common Pleas of the County of Chester, Associate Judge of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, and Justice of Orphan's Court from 1770-March 25, 1774. He had a common-sense approach to legal matters which the public respected.

While a representative to the Pennsylvania Assembly, Mr. Morton was a delegate to the Stamp Act Congress. It was interesting when time came for the Stamp Act to begin, no 'stamp masters' were found to distribute the stamps which England had provided for this Act.

Those who were to do the job resigned or wouldn't do as the British had asked due to pressure from the people. It was soon repealed. But at the same time, Parliament in England passed a Declaratory Act stating they had "full power and authority to make laws and statutes of sufficient force and validity to bind the colonies and people of America, subjects of the crown of Great Britain, in all cases whatsoever." (americanhistory-central.com)

In 1774, when Speaker of the Assembly, he was chosen as a delegate to the First Continental Congress in Philadelphia, as well as the Second and Third Continental Congresses in the following years. As July 1776 rolled around, Pennsylvania was still split on how they would vote regarding Independence. Even John Morton questioned if total separation was the answer, but when time for the vote, he was affirmative. Two delegates who did not agree abstained from voting.

John Morton was put on a committee to write the Articles of Confederation. This, unfortunately, was one of his last accomplishments. He died in 1777 of tuberculosis.

Some other items of interest: John was married to Anne Justis from a neighboring farm. Together they had 8 children. Two of their sons and a son-in-law fought in the Revolutionary War. One, a surgeon for the Continental Army, was taken captive, placed on the British prison ship Falmouth and from there never returned. He basically was starved to death. After the Battle of Brandywine, the British destroyed much of the late John Morton's property which then belonged to his wife and children.

Fischer

◀ FROM Page 4

es, cookies, popcorn balls, and other treats to share with their beloved family members, but upon arrival, the crowd gathered at the station found a different group of soldiers, ones who called Kansas home instead.

One young drug store clerk named Rae Wilson decided to gift her cookies to the soldiers on board. Immediately, the rest of the crowd followed. Hundreds of people distributed the gifts and food originally meant for their own sons to the service members and wished them off. The very next week, Wilson organized more women to meet the train, and thus, the North Platte Canteen was born.

Each day, up to 32 trains rolled into North Platte, carrying thousands of uniformed personnel. And as World War II raged on, donations and support from the communities surrounding North Platte poured in. In just one month, the North Platte Canteen received around 40,000 cookies, 30,000 hard-boiled eggs, 6,900 birthday cakes, and 2,800 pounds of sandwich meat.

Over the course of its nearly five-year existence, the Canteen brought in 55,000 volunteers — mostly women — from 125 different towns. In many cases, these volunteers commuted from distant rural areas, offering their time and money to our nation's bravest. Still, they managed to meet every train with friendship and care, providing much needed morale to our service members. This morale was returned through thank you letters and poems written by the soldiers served by the Canteen women.

As Nebraskans, we still remember the North Platte Canteen. In fact, April 1, 2026, marks the 80th anniversary of the last day of the Canteen. That is why Senator Ricketts and I reintroduced my North Platte Canteen Congressional Gold Medal Act to honor the thousands of Nebraskans who served our troops. This bill would award a collective Congressional Gold Medal to all of the individuals and communities who volunteered at or donated to the North Platte Canteen. I look forward to passing my North Platte Canteen Congressional Gold Medal Act to recognize and remember Nebraska's incredible service, hospitality, and dedication toward some of our nation's bravest during a time of great need.

When should farmers retire?

By Wyatt Fraas

associate director of farm and community, Center for Rural Affairs
Retirement from a farm business may not mean moving away or giving up on mentoring the next generation, but it does entail transferring management decisions to someone else.

It can be a gradual or sudden process. It may be driven by long-term goals, by sudden health issues, or events outside your family. When should farmers retire? The answer is related to choices and goals, and can happen at any time. While many can't imagine doing anything else except farming, their families may have other ideas and want to share more time with them. Discussions with your family can help design the retirement process.

Allan Nation, late editor of Stockman Grassfarmer magazine, observed that a farmer or rancher is at his peak combination of labor, innovation, and management skills at age 50. To maintain or grow the farm business after 50 can require an additional infusion of labor and maybe of innovation. That often means a young partner with energy and new ideas. Such a partnership process can greatly improve the income of the business, which may be the means to fund retirement savings after a lifetime of investing in farm assets.

A farm or ranch owner can look for someone to work into the business at any time, but a planned process will take several years of testing the relationship, training to the uniqueness of the business, and a gradual shifting of management. Add ample time for readying the business framework for this transition and for selecting the best candidate. A descriptive timeline, of perhaps five years, and a written agreement can reassure both parties of a smooth transition and steady progress toward their goals.

OBITUARIES

Nelda Reicks, 78

January 22, 1948 — March 26, 2026

She was a woman of deep faith who was raised Freewill Baptist before becoming Catholic after marrying John.



Nelda Reicks, 78, passed away peacefully on March 26,

2026, in Centerton, Arkansas. Born on January 22, 1948, she was raised in Oklahoma City and graduated from Crooked Oak High School.

Nelda had a remarkable career in sales before retiring early to focus on her home and family. Over the years, she also worked in production and floral design. Her true passion lay in decorating, a talent that was both her hobby and gift to others. Known for her exceptional design flair, she often shared her creativity freely, leaving a lasting impression on all who experienced her work.

She is survived by her devoted husband, John Reicks of Centerton, AR; her daughter, Andrea Smith Vasquez of Moore, OK; her son, Robert Geoff Smith of Lowell, AR; stepson Shawn Ragan of Riverside, CA; and stepdaughter Jaimie Skinner and husband Jay of Idaho. Nelda also leaves behind numerous grandchildren: Kiley Vasquez and partner Kenneth Foreman; Michelle (Chelbi) Black and husband Boedy Black Jr.; R Cole Vasquez of Moore, OK; Robert Whitten Smith of Lowell, AR;

Macaela and Jeff McGuire; Sakoya Skinner; Talon Skinner of Idaho; Brendan Ragan and partner Kenzie of Nevada; Caleb Ragan and Elisabeth Ragan of California. She cherished her many great-grandchildren as well as nieces and nephews who lovingly called her their favorite aunt. Also, brother in law Monty (Teri) Reicks and Dennis Reicks.

Preceding Nelda in death were her parents, Raymond and Jewel Watkins; siblings Billy Watkins, Eddie Watkins, and Linda Sweet; nephew Joe Lynn Stevens; and first husband Robt Gene Smith. Also, mother and father-in-law Al & Helen Reicks; Chuck Reicks and Doug Reicks

A woman of deep faith, Nelda was raised Freewill Baptist before becoming Catholic upon marrying John. She loved decorating, fashion, animals, cinema, and swimming. Her laughter and wit brought joy to all who knew her.

Celebration of Life details to be posted soon, service will be held in the South Oklahoma City metro area.

May her memory bring comfort to all who loved her.

Condolences can be sent to John Reicks, 3341 Oak Tree Drive, Centerton, Arkansas 72719.

The Elgin Review • April 1, 2026

Budget issues again dominate session

This past week, Senators gave first-round approval to LB525, a bill introduced by Senator Jacobson to protect the data collected by farmers' equipment.

This measure would create a first-of-its-kind ag data privacy protection for agricultural producers on subjects like soil conditions, weather, and crop yields.

This ag data has completely changed the landscape of agriculture thanks to the growing use of precision technologies in agricultural equipment.

See DeKAY, Page 8 ▶

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Re-Focus
How easy it is to focus on the myriad of problems of our day. That can lead to an emotional downhill spiral. It's better to focus on the Big Picture: this life is not all there is. Celebrate that this week in church.

Set your minds on things that are above... Colossians 3:14-24

Acts 10:34-43 John 20:1-18 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

Revised Common Lectionary © 1992 by the Consultation on Common Texts for
Sunday, April 5, 2026
Easter 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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Fr. Frank Baumert, Associate Pastor
Confessions: 5-5:30 on Wednesdays.
Weekend Mass: Sunday, 10 am.
cppnebraska.org

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

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

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church
Petersburg, NE
Fr. John Norman, Pastor
Fr. Frank Baumert, Associate Pastor
Weekend Mass: 2nd & 4th Sunday, 8 am.
cppnebraska.org

Bartlett Church of Faith
Bartlett, NE
Pastor Mark Hoffman
Sunday Worship Service: 9 am.
Sunday School: 10-10:45 am.

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

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

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

St. John's Catholic Church
Rural Clearwater, NE
Fr. John Norman, Pastor
Fr. Frank Baumert, Associate Pastor
Weekend Mass: 1st, 3rd & 5th Saturday, 5:30 am.
cppnebraska.org

St. Paul Lutheran Church
Chambers, NE
Pastor Leif Hasskall
Sunday Worship: 8:30 am.
Sunday School/Bible Study: 9:30 am.

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

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Hebrews 11:1

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FFA members excel at state convention

Nearly 8,000 FFA members from across the state gathered in Lincoln March 25-27 for the annual Nebraska FFA State Convention, a three-day event showcasing leadership, career skills, and student achievement in agriculture.

The Elgin FFA Chapter was well represented, with 44 members attending the convention, each having qualified through competition or participation in an event. In addition, seven seniors earned their State FFA Degree, one of the highest honors bestowed at the state level, recognizing outstanding achievement in Supervised

Agricultural Experience (SAE), leadership, and academics.

Throughout the convention, students competed in a wide range of Leadership Development Events (LDEs) and Career Development Events (CDEs), held in downtown Lincoln hotel conference spaces and across the University of Nebraska-Lincoln East Campus.

Each day featured three general sessions—morning, afternoon, and evening—held at Pinnacle Bank Arena.

Several local members earned top honors during the event.

Isaac Hemenway had an out-

standing showing, earning first place in Diversified Agriculture Production Proficiency. He also placed third overall in Beef Production Placement, as FFA members are only eligible to win one proficiency area, limiting him from earning multiple top awards despite qualifying performances in both categories. He was also named a State Star Finalist in Agricultural Production, one of the highest honors in the organization. The State Star program recognizes FFA members with exceptional Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) programs, and Hemenway was selected as one

of just ten finalists statewide.

Kaiden Bode also brought home top recognition, winning Forage Production Placement Proficiency.

In the Agriscience Fair, multiple teams achieved high placements across several categories:

Kyla Donaldson and Megan Wright — 2nd Overall, Food Systems

Zoey Buechter and Dannyka Smidt — 2nd Overall, Environmental/Natural Resource Systems

Jayvin Erickson and John Zwingman — 2nd Overall, Power, Structure, and Technical Systems

Braxtyn Eisenhower and Garrett Busted — 2nd Overall, Social Systems

Kyndal Busted — 3rd Overall, Food Systems

Team competitions also highlighted the depth of talent among local FFA members. The Floriculture Team—Kylee Lichtenberg, Sydney Niewhoner, Kynlee Tillis, and Kinley Miller—earned a 13th place overall finish. The Agriscience Team, consisting of Macy Rokahr, Braedon Hinkle, John Zwingman, and Gentry Zwingman, placed 20th overall, with Rokahr finishing as the 13th overall individual.

In Agronomy, the team of Isaac Hemenway, Haley Parks, Jayda Chessmore, and Brayden Burenheide secured an 18th place overall finish.



Zoey Buechter (r) and Dannyka Smidt (l); 2nd Overall, Environmental/Natural Resource Systems



Jayvin Erickson (l) and John Zwingman (r); 2nd Overall, Power/Structure/Technical Systems



Braxtyn Eisenhower (r) and Garrett Busted (l); 2nd Overall, Social Systems



Kyla Donaldson (l) and Megan Wright (r); 2nd Overall, Food Systems



Photos submitted

Seven Elgin FFA members with their State FFA Degrees are joined with the other 44 chapter members.

Forks

◀ FROM Page 3

eating like we do here.

Well, the dinner bell is ringing here at the Schuchardt farm. Time to stick a fork in a scrumptious slab of Elgin's

Dean's Market steak. And, by the way, to stick a fork in it always means a task is finished. Happy reading!

Comments welcomed at jane.schuchardt@gmail.com.

ECCC to host special communion supper Thursday

The Elgin Community Christian Church will be hosting a special communion supper, this Thursday evening, April 2 at 6:30 p.m.

Pastor Jonathan Braden said the focus will be the meaning of the Jewish passover and how it translates into today's version of communion in the church.

A special meal will be served for all who attend!

Shop at Home!



Kyndal Busted; 3rd Overall, Food Systems

Elgin Community Center menus

Monday, April 6: Sloppy joes, potato wedges, peas/carrots, mandarin oranges, bread & butter, milk.

Tuesday, April 7: Bean burritos with toppings, Spanish rice, refried beans, pineapple, milk.

Wednesday, April 8: Fried chicken, mashed potatoes &

gravy, green beans, peaches, bread/butter, milk.

Thursday, April 9: Spaghetti with meat sauce, corn, lettuce salad, tropical fruit, garlic stick, milk.

Friday, April 10: Chili cheese dogs, French fries, carrots/celery, pears, milk.



ELGIN'S EASTER EGG HUNT IS A... SCRAMBLE

Eighty-nine youngsters were signed up and took part in Elgin's Easter Egg Hunt this year.



The 2026 Elgin Easter Egg Hunt prize winners, l-r: Lainey Henn (up to 2), Nadia Vietor (3-4), Randy Score (5-6) and Oliver Mork (7-8-9).



"Chilly" members of the Elgin High Community Club assisted with the hunt.



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PJCC Speech team brings home medals from state

PJCC senior Aiden Klein did something Saturday no other Crusader has ever done. Competing at the Class D2 State Speech Championships at Kearney, Klein won three medals.

Competing in Entertainment, Klein placed fifth. Competing in Duet with Brooke Kinney, they placed second. Then, in OID competing alongside Kinney, Matthew Kerkman, Tessa Barlow and Camry Kittelson, they placed fourth.

Jovie Borer, participating in Persuasive, brought home a third place medal.

Also competing at state was Lillian Moser.

"This year we set a goal and that was to lock in and make state," Coach Amy Klein said. "Districts didn't turn out how we'd hoped for everyone, but that is the unfortunate side of the activity. Taking five events to state and medaling 4 of them is just incredible. This team has been

amazing." Osmond captured the team title followed by Chambers, O'Neill St. Mary's, High Plains, Stuart and Pope John. The team is coached by Klein and Chris Grundmayer.



EHS's Buechter is Runner-up at speech meet

The Elgin Public Speech Team finished their season on a strong note Saturday. Four members competed in the State Speech Championships in Kearney.

Zoey Buechter brought home top honors on the day winning the D2 Runner-up medal in Serious Prose.

Senior Kyndal Busted in her final career meet placed just one spot out of finals contention. She earned a Superior Rating for her performances.

Gemma Miller and Braedon Hinkle also earned Superior Ratings in Extemp and Humorous Prose respectively.

Coaches Jessie Reestman and Stacy Shumake-Henn were pleased with their season.

"It was exciting to see Zoey bring home the runners-up medal. That's a pretty impressive feat. We were especially proud of the kids for delivering some solid performances on Saturday. Kyndal Busted turned in her best performance of the season and just missed finals. Both Gemma and Braedon were impressive as well. All four kids represented their school and community well. It's been a fun season with these kids. We will miss our seniors next year. Kyndal and Kayton have been a joy to work with."

The event was held at Kearney High School a day later than usual due to State FFA being scheduled at the same time. Due to the schedule change, the speech competitors also shared a venue with All State Band participants, which made for a busy day.



Congratulations, speech team, on a job well done.

Article submitted

"We were especially proud of the kids for delivering some solid performances on Saturday."



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Former PJCC graduate up for national 'Trooper of the Year'

A South Dakota Highway Patrol trooper with local roots has been named a finalist for Trooper of the Year by the International Association of Chiefs of Police/Motorola Solutions.

Kyle Knievel, a 2011 Pope John XXIII Central Catholic graduate, represented the Mountain Pacific region of the IACP State and Provincial Police Division during a March 12 award ceremony in Boston. He was one of four finalists recognized nationwide, standing among the best in a field defined by service and split-second decisions.

According to IACP officials, the award "recognizes state troopers and provincial police who have demonstrated bravery, courage, leadership and professionalism." Knievel, who joined the SDSP in 2020, called the nomination "an incredible honor."

"Out of all the things law enforcement around the country have done, it was an honor to be one of the four officers recognized," Knievel said during a telephone interview with SAM.

His nomination stemmed from an August 5, 2025, incident that began with a request for assistance. Cheyenne River Tribal police were pursuing a suspect following a report of shots fired. The suspect, considered a violent felon with a federal warrant, led officers on a pursuit that crossed multiple jurisdictions, turning rural roadways into a high-stakes corridor.

The chase ended when spike strips disabled the suspect's vehicle, sending it into a ditch. After exchanging gunfire with officers, the suspect fled on foot, forced his way into a nearby home, and created a hostage situation.

He forced a female hostage into her vehicle and fled again. Knievel observed the vehicle leaving the scene and initiated a pursuit. During the chase, the suspect fired a rifle round through a pursuing trooper's windshield, narrowly missing, a near miss with life-or-death consequences.

From inside the vehicle, the hostage called 911 and confirmed she was being held at gunpoint.

Officers deployed spike strips a second time, bringing the vehicle to a stop. The suspect dragged the woman from the vehicle, used her as a human shield, and held a gun to her head as she screamed for help, an already volatile situation reaching a critical point. Officers issued commands for the suspect to drop his weapon, but the threat remained imminent.

Knievel recognized the hostage was in immediate danger. Despite being exposed without cover, he moved into position, gained a clear line of sight, and fired two rounds, stopping the suspect and ending the threat in a matter of seconds.

The hostage was rescued unharmed. About the incident, Knievel said, "I'll tell you the same thing I told them in Boston. I was just doing my job. Plenty of officers would've done the same thing."

Knievel is also a member of the South Dakota National Guard. He joined the Nebraska National Guard in 2010 before transferring after relocating to South Dakota.

First reported by SAM

Governor to choose from five nominees to replace Judge Taylor

The Judicial Nominating Commission for County Court Judge in the Seventh Judicial District advanced five names for consideration by Governor Jim Pillen: Benjamin D. Borgmann, Beemer; Bradley A. Ewalt, Stanton; Danielle J. Fliam, Lincoln; Chelsey R. Hartner, Madison;

and Ted M. Lohrberg, Pierce. The Seventh Judicial District consists of Antelope, Cuming, Knox, Madison, Pierce, Stanton, and Wayne counties. The vacancy is due to the retirement of Judge Donna Farrell Taylor.

Bartlett News



Asher Pahl (l) and his father Caleb Pahl (r) participate in 'Minute to Win It' competition at the Palm Sunday Program at the Bartlett Church of Faith.

A Palm Sunday program was held at the Bartlett Church of Faith, March 29 at 9:00 a.m. After a congregational hymn the High School Class 'Child of the Risen Son,' gave a presentation called 'Resurrection Eggs.' This was followed by Sunday School Children singing a variety of songs. Other presentations were: Nursery; The Donkey Ride, Primary; Easter Play, Juniors: Easter Victory and Minute to Win It.

The final presentation was the Palm Sunday Pageant with students dressed as disciples bringing a donkey to Jesus and children singing and waving palms. (I have no idea how many pageants the toy donkey on rollers has gone through.)

Those helping with the program were: Marcia Smith; Music coordinator, Donna Sears; Nursery class, Sherry Tetschner; piano accompanist and Primary class, Lettie Nichols; Junior class and Chrissie Olson; youth group leader. A reception followed the program.

Wheeler Central was quieter than usual Wednesday through Friday due to a large number of Jr. High and high school students attending State FFA Convention in Lincoln.

By Sherry Tetschner



Bartlett Church of Faith Sunday school students singing for the Palm Sunday Program



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NOTICE FOR GRAVEL BIDS ANTELOPE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

NOTICE FOR BIDS Gravel

The Antelope County Board of Commissioners will accept sealed bids until 9:45 AM on April 14th, 2026, for gravel. Bids may be brought in or mailed to the Antelope County Clerk's Office, 501 M Street, PO Box 26, Neligh, NE 68756-0026. Successful bidder will supply the specified product from July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2026. Bids will be opened and publicly read on April 14th, 2026 at 9:45 AM in the County Commissioners room of the Antelope County Courthouse Annex. The Antelope

County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids. ROAD GRAVEL - Purchase of Road gravel to be bid as follows: Priced per Ton, transported by county, loaded by pit operator. ARMOR COAT GRAVEL - Priced per Ton, transported by county, loaded by pit operator. All bids must be plainly marked "Gravel Bid" on lower left-hand corner of envelope. **Pricing all types of fill and aggregate.** PUBLISH: March 18, 25 & April 1, 2026 ZNEZ

NOTICE FOR ARMOR COATING BIDS ANTELOPE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

NOTICE FOR BIDS Armor Coating

The Antelope County Board of Commissioners will accept sealed bids until 9:45 AM, on April 14th, 2026 for armor coating of oil roads within Antelope County. Said bids are for the application of armor coating using county furnished materials. Successful bidder will supply the specified product from April 1, 2026 to December 1, 2026. Price should be per mile. All work to be done according to county specifications. Contractor must supply traffic control, signing and proof of bonding and insurance.

Bids can be brought or mailed to the Antelope County Clerk's Office, 501 M Street, PO Box 26, Neligh, NE 68756-0026 and will be opened at 9:45 AM, on April 14th, 2026 in the Antelope County Commissioners Room, Antelope County Courthouse Annex. Envelopes should be marked in the lower left-hand corner with the wording, "Armor Coating Bid." The County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids. PUBLISH: March 18, 25 & April 1, 2026 ZNEZ

NOTICE FOR ASPHALT OIL BIDS ANTELOPE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

NOTICE FOR BIDS Asphalt Oil

The Antelope County Board of Commissioners will accept sealed bids until 9:45 AM, on April 14th, 2026 for asphalt oil. Price should be per gallon. Purchase of asphalt oil to be delivered to each county shop from April 1, 2026 to December 1, 2026 for the following types of asphalt: MC-800, RC-250, MC3000, CRS2, and CRS-2P. Bids can be brought or mailed to the Antelope County Clerk's Office, 501

M Street, PO Box 26, Neligh, NE 68756-0026 and will be opened at 9:45 AM on April 14th, 2026 in the Antelope County Commissioners Meeting Room, Antelope County Courthouse Annex. Envelope should be marked in the lower left-hand corner with the wording, "Asphalt Oil Bid." The County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids. PUBLISH: March 18, 25 & April 1, 2026 ZNEZ

ELGIN PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD Special Board Meeting EPS Board Room

March 26, 2026, 6:00 PM

President Lisa Welding called the Special School Board meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The board members present were Eric Beck-

man, Ron Bode, Luke Hinkle, Steve Busted and Lisa Welding. Todd Heithoff was absent.

Also present were Superintendent Mike Brockhaus, Mrs. Buller & Becky Lindgren

Steve Busted motioned to excuse Todd Heithoff and Luke Hin-

Judge hears long slate of cases

A Plainview man accepted a plea deal, March 25, in Antelope County District Court. Christopher Beltz, 39, appeared before Judge Michael L. Long and agreed to the deal, spelled out by Antelope County Attorney Joe Smith.

Beltz agreed to plead guilty to amended information, charging one count of criminal attempt - possession of a firearm by a prohibited person, a Class II felony. In exchange, the State will not file additional charges.

Beltz waived his right to one-day notice of the 2nd amended information. He will appear May 27 for sentencing.

Long continued bond at \$250,000-10%, with all previously-ordered conditions.

The charge stems from a May 30 incident where a search warrant was executed along Highway 20, near Plainview, at Beltz's residence.

Nicholas T. Stewart, 37, received a continuance in a case where he faces one count of possession of a firearm by a prohibited person, a Class ID felony.

Stewart's attorney, Preston Koehler, requested a continuance of the hearing, as well as a jury trial.

Long granted the request and set an April 29 pretrial hearing. A trial is scheduled for May 18.

Stewart was remanded to the Pierce County Sheriff's Office.

Counsel for Denise A. Blevins, 64, of Norfolk, requested a motion to withdraw as her attorney. Long granted Martin Klein's request and appointed Nate Stratton to represent her.

Stratton requested a continuance of the pretrial hearing and jury trial. Long agreed to continue the hearing to April 29 and the jury trial to be held May 18. Stratton requested to continue the trial date, which Long denied.

A status hearing in the case is set for April 3 in Madison County District Court.

A \$1,500/PR bond, with previously conditions, will remain

in effect.

Calin M. Bosse, 27, appeared for a pretrial conference. The Clearwater resident faces three charges, including DUI-alcohol-4th offense, a Class IIIA felony; driving without ignition interlock, a Class IV felony; and resisting arrest-1st offense, a Class I misdemeanor.

Klein requested a continuance of both the hearing and jury trial. Long granted the motion. Bosse will appear April 29 for the hearing. A trial is scheduled for May 18.

Long ordered any pretrial motions to be filed within 10 days.

Bond, set at \$50,000-10%, is continued, with previously-ordered conditions.

Rowdy Burke, 54, of Elgin, appeared for hearing on revocation of probation.

Long continued the hearing to April 29.

Burke was arrested by Antelope County Sheriff's Department officials on March 18, for first degree criminal trespass, failure to obey a lawful order, and disturbing the peace. According to an arrest affidavit, Antelope County Sheriff Bob Moore requested Burke to submit to a preliminary breath test. Burke refused, admitting "to drinking four or five beers." Moore made the request a second time and Burke refused.

Defense counsel for Ray M. Connot, 61, of Neligh, requested a continuance in a case where Connot is charged with one count of assault by strangulation or suffocation, a Class IIIA felony, and one count of commit child abuse intentional/no injury, a Class IIIA felony.

Smith did not object to the request made by Paul A. Lembrick. Long continued the pretrial hearing to April 29. Jury trial is scheduled for May 18.

A \$50,000-10% bond is continued, with all previously ordered conditions in effect.

A pretrial hearing was held

PUBLIC NOTICES

Stay in the know. Read the Public Notices

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

WHEELER CENTRAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS – ADDITION AND RENOVATION

Wheeler Central Public Schools - Addition and Renovation INVITATION TO BID

Ladies/Gentlemen:
BD Construction, Inc. Kearney, acting as construction manager as agent, is seeking subcontractor and supplier proposals on behalf of Wheeler Central Public Schools for their Addition and Renovation project.

We are soliciting Bid proposals for the Scope of work as listed below on Tuesday April 14, 2026 at 2:00 PM Central Time for the Wheeler Central Public Schools – Addition and Renovation. Bids will be publicly read aloud at the office of BD Construction – 209 E 6th Street – Kearney, NE 68847.

The project consists of a 1,700 sf conventionally framed addition that connects (2) existing elementary buildings (with storm shelter) adding classrooms; renovation of the existing administrative area; overhaul of the existing high school mechanical and electrical systems. Specific work to include: selec-

tive demolition, concrete (foundations, floors, toppings, site), reinforcing steel, hollow core concrete planks, masonry, structural and misc. steel, rough carpentry, casework, insulation, waterproofing, EIFS, membrane roofing, joint sealants, doors / frames / hardware, aluminum storefront framing and glazing, gypsum drywall, metal stud framing, painting, ACT, flooring, tiling, sealed concrete, misc. specialties, signage, window coverings, fire sprinklers, plumbing, HVAC, electrical, fire alarm, site prep, termite control, fencing, and site utilities.

Pre-Bid Conference: A pre-bid conference will be held at Wheeler Central Public Schools, 600 W Randolph Street, Bartlett, NE 68622 on April 2, 2026, at 3:45 p.m. Attendance is strongly recommended.

Bidding Instructions: All subcontractor bids (containing installation labor) MUST be submitted in a SEALED ENVELOPE and MUST contain bid security in the amount

of 5% of your proposal. Bid security can be an official bid bond or a cashier's check. Awarded contractors will also be required to furnish a performance and payment bond, or supply bond (suppliers). Supplier bids can be sent via email to: Austin Larson with BD Construction at: alarson@bdconstruction.com. Hand delivered or mailed bids will also be accepted.

All proposals shall remain in effect for a period of Forty-Five (45) calendar days after the scheduled closing time for the receipt of proposals.

All bids are to be in strict accordance with the Contract Documents and all other related Bid Documents, which can be viewed/obtained (electronically) from BD Construction.

The Owner shall have the right to reject any or all bids and to reject a bid not accompanied by other data required by the bidding documents; or to reject a bid which is in any way incomplete or irregular and to waive any informalities in

any proposal.

We look forward to receiving your proposal on bid day. If you should have any questions or require further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Austin Larson of BD Construction at 308-234-1836.

Schedule: Work is expected to begin at school release in May 2026 and run through summer of 2027. Portions of work will need to be isolated to summer work in 26' and 27' to minimized school disruption. A final schedule will be determined with the assistance of awarded contractors.

By submitting a bid for this project, Bidder agrees he has read the BD Construction Standard Subcontract Agreement and if bid is accepted, is willing to execute this Subcontract. This Subcontract Agreement is available for review at BD's office, 209 East 6th Street, Kearney, NE 68847
PUBLISH: April 1, 2026
ZNEZ

NOTICE FOR HOT MIX ASPHALT BIDS ANTELOPE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

NOTICE FOR BIDS Hot Mix Asphalt

The Antelope County Board of Commissioners will accept sealed bids until 9:45 AM, on April 14th, 2026, for hot mix asphalt. Price should be per ton and per location. Purchase of hot mix asphalt picked up at location between April 14th, 2026, to December 1, 2026, for all types of hot mix asphalt. Bids can be brought or mailed to the Antelope County Clerk's Office, 501 M Street, PO Box 26, Neligh, NE

68756-0026 and will be opened at 9:45 AM on April 14th, 2026, in the Antelope County Commissioners Meeting Room, Antelope County Courthouse Annex. Envelope should be marked in the lower left-hand corner with the wording, "Hot Mix Asphalt Bid." The County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

PUBLISH: March 18, 25 & April 1, 2026 ZNEZ

NOTICE OF APRIL MEETINGS ANTELOPE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

NOTICE OF MEETINGS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, ANTELOPE COUNTY, NEBRASKA FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL, 2026

Notice is hereby given that the County Board of Commissioners of Antelope County, Nebraska will hold meetings in the County Commissioner's meeting room in the Antelope County Courthouse Annex, Neligh, Nebraska on the following dates and times:

April 7, 2026 at 9:00 AM
April 14, 2026 at 8:00 AM

Meetings will be open to the public. An agenda, kept continuously current, is available for public inspection at the Antelope County Clerk's office and may be modified at such meeting to include items of an emergency nature pursuant to Section 84-1411 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes.
PUBLISH: April 1, 2026
ZNEZ

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MARCH 26, 2026 MEETING DISTRICT #18 BOARD OF EDUCATION

kle seconded the motion. Vote 5-0, motion carried.

President Welding led the "Pledge of Allegiance." Welding reminded everyone that a copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Law was posted in the meeting room.

School board meeting notice

complied with Meeting Notice Policy #204.07. Posting was done on the High School building window, post office bulletin board and The Elgin Review Facebook page.

Luke Hinkle motioned, and Ron Bode seconded to approve the Consent Agenda: #5- Minutes of Previous Meeting, #6 - Adopt the Agenda, - Board Motion carried, vote 5-0.

President Welding recognized visitors and asked if the patrons had any comments.

Ron Bode motioned to accept Mrs. Buller's 2026-2027 teaching contract resignation with regret, Steve Busted seconded. Vote 5-0, motion carried.

Motion by Eric Beckman, seconded by Steve Busted to adjourn the meeting. Vote 5-0, motion

carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:08 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on April 15, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. with the Americanism Committee meeting at 6:30pm in the Elgin Public School Board Room.

Respectfully submitted,
Ron Bode, Secretary
PUBLISH: April 1, 2026
ZNEZ

DeKay

◀ FROM Page 5

Senators also advanced LB1165 to the next stage of debate. This measure would amend several of Nebraska's business tax incentives programs meant to attract and retain major employers.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

To qualify for the incentives in LB1165, a company with at least 3,000 workers would have to retain 90 percent of its

employees and offer competitive benefits, including child care.

Companies would also have to hire at least 500 new employees who are paid at least \$100,000 annually and keep those jobs for a decade. Credits are withheld until 2031, meaning incentives would not be paid until a company has been established and paying Nebraska employees for several years.

The budget again dominated conversations this past week. The one principal issue that stood in the way of passing the budget was a proposed \$3.65 million appropriation for K-12 private school scholarships. Proponents of this program argue that this funding would fill the gap between now and when the federal tax credits take effect. Opponents argued the appropriation goes against the will of the people, which rejected a similar program at the ballot in 2024.

This latest time spent debating the budget focused on an amendment that included both the Appropriations Committee's recommendations and the \$3.65 million appropriation for K-12 private school scholar-

ships. This amendment spurred lengthy debate, resulting in a cloture vote on LB1071 which failed 27 to 15. The following day, a new compromise amendment to remove the scholarship program from the budget was adopted, and LB1071 was then advanced to Final Reading. In each round of debate, I voted in favor of the budget.

Speaker Arch has scheduled "consent calendar" bills and "speaker priority" bills that generally have strong support and garner little debate.

Several bills that advanced in this manner include LB753 which provides recognition and enforcement of military protective orders under Nebraska law, LB784 which restructures existing rural county sheriff residency requirements and the continuing education requirements for law enforcement officers, and LB977 which codifies safety procedures for drivers when encountering farmers and ranchers who are leading, herding, or crossing livestock on a roadway.

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Early season alfalfa stand, pest management

As the 2026 growing season begins, evaluating alfalfa stands and preparing for insect pests can help maximizing yield and maintaining healthy fields this year. Assessing plant health in the spring helps set expectations, while timely scouting can prevent pest infestations from reducing production. Proper evaluation and management allow for more informed decisions regarding fertilization, irrigation, and harvest timing, ultimately improving overall forage quality and yield.

IT'S ALL ABOUT BEEF



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

We'll start with plant health. Dig down 4-6 inches down next to a plant and inspecting the taproot. A healthy plant will have a white, firm taproot, while winter-damaged plants may show stringy, brown, or yellow roots. Next, examine the crown for basal buds, which are critical for strong early growth. The presence of intact buds indicates a productive first cutting, while missing buds suggest reduced initial yields. Plants that have sustained significant winter damage may struggle to regrow, making it necessary to consider replanting or overseeding where stand density is too low.

Stand counts provide further insight into potential productivity. Established stands should have 4-5 healthy plants or at least 55 stems per square foot for optimal production. Newly seeded stands should maintain at least 12 plants per square foot to remain viable. Using a hay square—either a 17x17 inch square or a 19-inch diameter circle—makes counting plants or stems per square foot simple. Sampling 4-5 random areas ensures an accurate assessment. If stand density is below recommended levels, yield potential

will be significantly reduced, and supplementation with other forages may be necessary.

Spring insect pressure has been an issue the past few years and can often sneak up on us. The most significant pests to monitor for early are army cutworms and alfalfa weevils. Army cutworms, which feed at night, cause semi-circular leaf damage and can delay green-up. Higher bird activity in fields can indicate their presence, and scouting should begin in early April.

Alfalfa weevils, start feeding in early spring. Their feeding causes pinholes in terminal leaves, progressing to skeletonization and a frosted field appearance. Early detection and intervention can help keep pest populations below economic thresholds. Adults typically overwinter and lay eggs in the spring in northeast Nebraska, so scouting should begin at 200 to 250 GDD. While there isn't evidence of fall laid eggs overwintering, if this does occur, the timer for scouting should be lowered to 180 GDD, which we have already reached. Peak damage occurs around 575 GDD. If left unchecked, these pests can cause severe yield loss and diminish forage quality, leading to reduced feed value for livestock.

By evaluating alfalfa stands early and implementing a proactive pest scouting program, producers can set realistic yield expectations and protect their crops from potential losses. - Ben Beckman is a beef systems Extension Educator 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.

The following contains excerpts from a March 18, 2026 *Aerospace America* AIAA story by Paige Feikert. The full story may be found at <https://aerospaceamerica.aiaa.org/institute/artemis-moon-missions-take-center-stage-at-wichita-engineers-week-banquet/>

With NASA's Artemis II moon mission set to launch this Wednesday evening, many around the world have renewed questions. Why are we going back to moon? Can we really establish a moon base? Will the astronauts be safe? Safe - that is where Elgin comes in to play. Alica Dwyer Cianciolo grew up surrounded by Sandhills ranch land, just to the west of Elgin. It's a safe guess that little did she know as a young girl looking up towards the skies and stars, she would play a pivotal role in the space program.

In February, she addressed engineers at the annual Wichita Council of Engineering Societies' Engineers Week Banquet at Wichita. Her topic contained details of the Artemis project, the missions currently underway and the role of her team is setting requirements of the safe and precise landing of humans on the moon plus ensuring those requirements are met. Her program is known as the Human Landing System (HLS).

As she told writer Paige Feikert following her speech "This is not our grandparents' Apollo, this is our chance to do something different".

The HLS program involves the vessels that will carry



Dwyer Cianciolo was a speaker at the February Wichita Council of Engineering Societies' Engineers Week banquet. Dwyer Cianciolo is the daughter of Mary Alice and Mike Dwyer, rural Bartlett.

Photo: aerospaceamerica.aiaa.org

humans to the surface of the moon and is part of several programs being developed within the Artemis project, which also include the space launch system, the Orion spacecraft, the Lunar Gateway station and the Extravehicular Activity and Human Surface Mobility Program.

The Artemis program will deliver humans to the south pole of the moon. This will be the first time humans have stepped foot

on the moon since 1972. Cianciolo has worked for NASA more than twenty years. In the course of her career, she had helped calculate robotic missions including the land of the Curiosity rover (in 2012), human landing technologies for

Mars, and she is now leading the Artemis human landing

system team.

Continued from Page 6

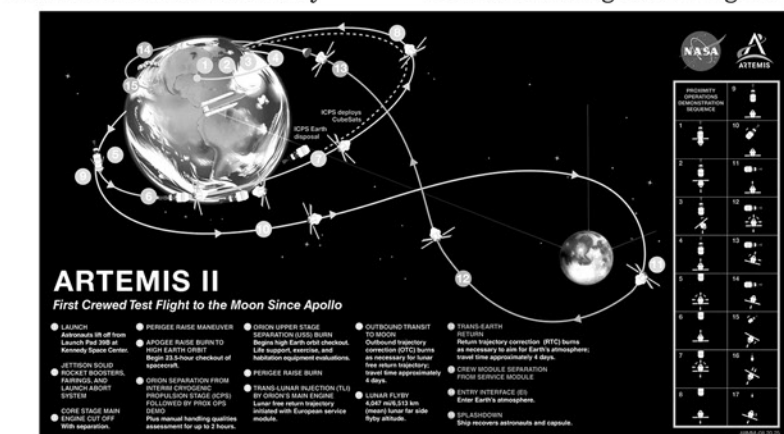
State FFA awards



Agronomy Team (l-r): Brayden Burenheide, Jayda Chessmore, Haley Parks and Isaac Hemenway, 18th overall team.



Agriscience Team (l-r): Macy Rokahr, Braedon Hinkle, John Zwingman, and Gentry Zwingman, 20th overall team. Macy was the 13th overall individual. Photos submitted



Wednesday, April 1
7:45 a.m.: Coverage of tanking operations to load propellant into NASA's (SLS) Space Launch System rocket begins, including views of the rocket and audio from a commentator.
12:50 p.m.: NASA+ coverage of launch begins. Coverage will continue on YouTube after Orion's solar array wings deploy in space.

Approximately two-and-a-half hours after launch, NASA will hold a postlaunch news conference after the SLS rocket's upper stage performs a burn to send Orion and its crew to high Earth orbit.

Mission coverage
NASA's real-time coverage will continue throughout the mission on YouTube. The agency also will provide a separate live stream of views from the Orion spacecraft as bandwidth allows.

The agency will provide daily mission status briefings from NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston beginning Thursday, April 2, except for April 6, due to lunar flyby activities. The crew will participate in

live conversations throughout the mission. NASA will provide the exact times of each of these downlink events in the Artemis blog and on the agency's launch events page.



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UPCOMING SALES:

April 13 Expecting a strong sale of Fall Calves, load lots of Yearling Steers & Heifers, Bred Fall Cows and more valuable consignments by sale time! Usual run of Weigh Cows & Bulls to follow.

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ALL-STARS



Eagles Elgin Public

ALL A

(All grades, 94 or above)
Harper Childers, Harper Evans, Charles Miller, Makenna Sauser, Sophia Burke, Sydney Niewohner, Kynlee Tillis, Gentry Zwingman, Gemma Miller, Dannyka Smidt, Kyndal Busted, Jarek Erickson, Creighton Harkins, Isaac Hemenway and Trey Rittscher.



HONOR ROLL

(GPA 3.5 - 3.99 - All grades 86 or above)
Shania Buschow, Ava Dworak, Ryker Lammers, Allie Scheer, Cael Bottorf, Garrett Busted, Braxton Eisenhauer, Tenley Schindler, Anna Dworak,

Jayvin Erickson, Braedon Hinkle, Jae! Lammers, Kinley Miller, Macy Rokahr, John Zwingman, Bristol Buschow, Max Henn, Evin Pelster, Kaidynce Schrad, Molly Thiessen, Justice Blecher, Kyla Donaldson,

Kierstyn Eisenhauer, Libby Evans, Gavin Harkins, Kylee Lichtenberg, Braelyn Martinsen, Wyatt Paul, Kaiden Bode, Jaydalynn Chessmore, Halle Lueking, Haley Parks, Ticen Sparr and Kayton Zwingman.



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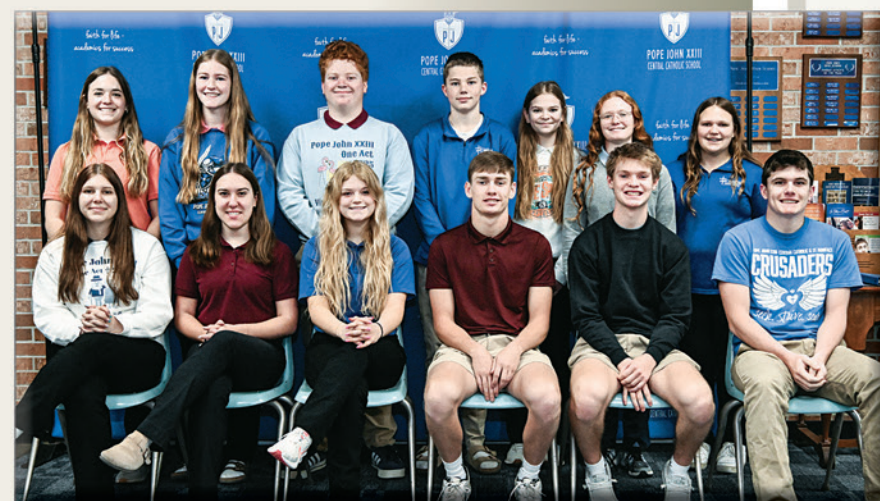


HIGH HONORS:

Seniors: Camry Kittelson, Aiden Klein and Reese Stuhr. **Juniors:** Brooke Kinney. **8th Grade:** Chloe Kielty.

HONOR ROLL:

Seniors: Tessa Barlow, Jovie Borer, Grady Druke, Quinn Hoefer, Karson Kallhoff and Landyn Veik. **Juniors:** Elizabeth Moser and Samantha Stuhr. **Freshmen:** Raaf Klein and Lillian Moser. **8th Grade:** Anna Stuhr. **7th Grade:** Kate Barlow, Jacob Niewohner and Melissa Stuhr.



All courses taken will be used in determining a student's eligibility for one of the above categories. Any student who receives a C or below in any course will not be eligible to be included in either of the above categories.

*PJCC Honor Roll Criteria: High Honors: All A's Honor Roll: An average of at least 92.5%

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Henn, Zwingman lead Wolfpack track team at Snowmelt Invite Monday



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WEST POINT — The Wolfpack track team (boys and girls) opened the season Monday competing at the Snowmelt Invite.

Max Henn and Trey Rittscher placed second and fourth respectively in the shot put while teammate Justice Blecher took sixth in the discus. Evin Pelster placed sixth in the long jump.

On the girls side, Kayton Zwingman won the 300 meter hurdles. She also placed fourth in the 400 meter dash.

Other girls finishing in the top six in their events were Braelyn Martinsen (200, 400), Sydney Niewohner (long jump) and Megan Wright (discus). Also, the 1600 meter relay team placed sixth.

Tekamah-Herman bested the 12-team girls field with 102 points, EPPJ placed ninth with 23 points.

In the boys team race, Archbishop-Bergan won with 108 points, EPPJ was 10th with 14 points. Individual results were:

Girls

100 dash — 1. Sydney Sagehorn, LV, 13.14 seconds
200 dash — 1. Sydney Sagehorn, LV, 27.25 seconds; 4. Braelyn Martinsen, EPPJ, 28.63; 8. Anna Dworak, EPPJ, 29.29
400 dash — 1. Cameron Brummond, T-H, 1:00.86; 4. Kayton Zwingman, EPPJ, 1:04.30; 5. Braelyn Martinsen, EPPJ, 1:05.18
800 run — 1. Carsyn Magill, T-H, 2:34.75
1600 run — 1. Edyn Goodwin, T-H, 6:17.32; 8. Gentry Zwingman, EPPJ, 6:56.46
100 hurdles — 1. Audrey Praest, H-D, 17.23 seconds
300 meter hurdles — 1.

Kayton Zwingman, EPPJ, 49.69 seconds

400 relay — 1. Archbishop Bergan, 53.48 seconds; 6. EPPJ (Anna Dworak, Braelyn Martinsen, Gentry Zwingman, Kayton Zwingman), 55.72
1600 relay — 1. Tekamah-Herman, 4:15.49; 8. EPPJ (Braelyn Martinsen, Anna Dworak, Gentry Zwingman, Kayton Zwingman), 5:10.17
3200 relay — 1. Tekamah-Herman, 10:30.8
High jump — 1. Emilee Thayer-Mencke, Fort Calhoun, 5'2"
Pole vault — 1. Afton Byelick, Fort Calhoun, 10'6"
Long jump — 1. Kenadee Weitzel, A-B, 16"5.75"; 6. Sydney Niewohner, EPPJ, 14'2.75"
Triple jump — 1. Jadyn Doggett, WP-B, 31'3"; 7. Sydney Niewohner, EPPJ, 29'8"

Shot put — 1. Bailey Gerths, GACC, 33'1"
Discus — 1. Lily Ann Willing, T-H, 112'9"; 6. Megan Wright, EPPJ, 85'6"

Boys

100 dash — 1. Gavin Dean, A-B, 11.20 seconds; 8. Ethan Hansen, EPPJ, 12.32
200 — 1. Camdan Chase, T-H, 23.39 seconds
400 dash — 1. Cael Johnson, Wakefield, 51.09 seconds; 7. Ethan Hansen, EPPJ, 55.46
800 run — 1. Brendan Horvatic, LV, 2:08.97
1600 run — 1. Benny Palma, Wakefield, 4:57.46
3200 run — 1. Benny Palma, Wakefield, 10:57.31
110 hurdles — 1. Cael Johnson, Wakefield, 15.41 seconds
300 hurdles — 1. Cael Johnson, Wakefield, 39.64 seconds

400 relay — 1. Archbishop Bergan, 44.44 seconds
1600 relay — 1. Tekamah-Herman, 3:38.06
3200 relay — 1. Fort Calhoun, 8:46.83; 7. EPPJ (Ethan Hansen, Matthew Kerkman, Evin Pelster, John Zwingman), 9:33.67
High jump — 1. Christopher Smith, T-H, 6'2"
Pole vault — 1. Sawyer Pruss, A-B, 12'
Long jump — 1. Mason Lamprecht, Wakefield, 20'8.5"; 6. Evin Pelster, EPPJ, 19'1"
Triple jump — 1. Conner Hart, Fort Calhoun, 40'9.5"
Shot put — 1. Gavin Bakier, A-B, 50'9"; 2. Max Henn, EPPJ, 43'11.5"; 4. Trey Rittscher, EPPJ, 41'4.5"
Discus — 1. Ian Schiller, WP-B, 131'5"; 6. Justice Blecher, EPPJ, 114'10"

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Members of the Wolfpack track team this season are (front row, l-r): Anna Dworak, Gentry Zwingman, Braelyn Martinsen, Kayton Zwingman, Sydney Niewohner, Gemma Miller, Reese Stuhr, Megan Wright and Cielo Kuhlman. Back row: Evin Pelster, Ethan Hansen, Trey Rittscher, Jayvin Erickson, Max Henn, Trey Rittscher, John Zwingman and Matthew Kerkman.

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SUVs

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- 2019 Dodge Durango GT AWD, V-6, 6 Pass., 70K
- 2019 Jeep Cherokee Latitude Plus, 4x4, 2.4L, Remote Start, 33K
- 2016 Lexus NX 200T, 4x2, 2.0L, Loaded, 107K

VANS

- 2024 Chrysler Pacifica Touring L, FWD, V-6, 40K
- 2020 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT, V-6, Remote Start, 99K

PICKUPS

- 2022 RAM 1500 Longhorn Crew Cab 4x4, 5.7L, 86K
- 2021 RAM 2500 Tradesman Crew Cab 4x4, 6.7L Diesel, Longbox, 94K
- 2020 RAM 1500 Bighorn Crew Cab 4x4, 5.7L, 6'4" Box, 79K
- 2020 Jeep Gladiator Sport S 4x4, 3.6L V-6, Remote Start, 23K
- 2019 RAM 3500 Tradesman Crew Cab 4x4, 6.7L Diesel, Longbox, 120K
- 2019 RAM 2500 Tradesman Crew Cab 4x4, 6.4L V-8, 75K
- 2014 RAM 1500 Bighorn Crew Cab 4x4, 3.0L Diesel, Remote Start, 205K
- 2014 RAM 2500 Tradesman Crew Cab 4x4, 6.4L V-8, 119K
- 2011 RAM 1500 SLT Crew Cab 4x4, 4.7L, Auto, 80K
- 2010 RAM 1500 Crew Cab 4x4, 5.7L, Auto, 191K
- 2005 Ford F250 Lariat SuperCab 4x2, 6.8L V-10, Clean, 131K
- 1994 Ford F250 XLT Extended Cab 4x4, 7.3L Turbo Diesel, 5 Speed Manual

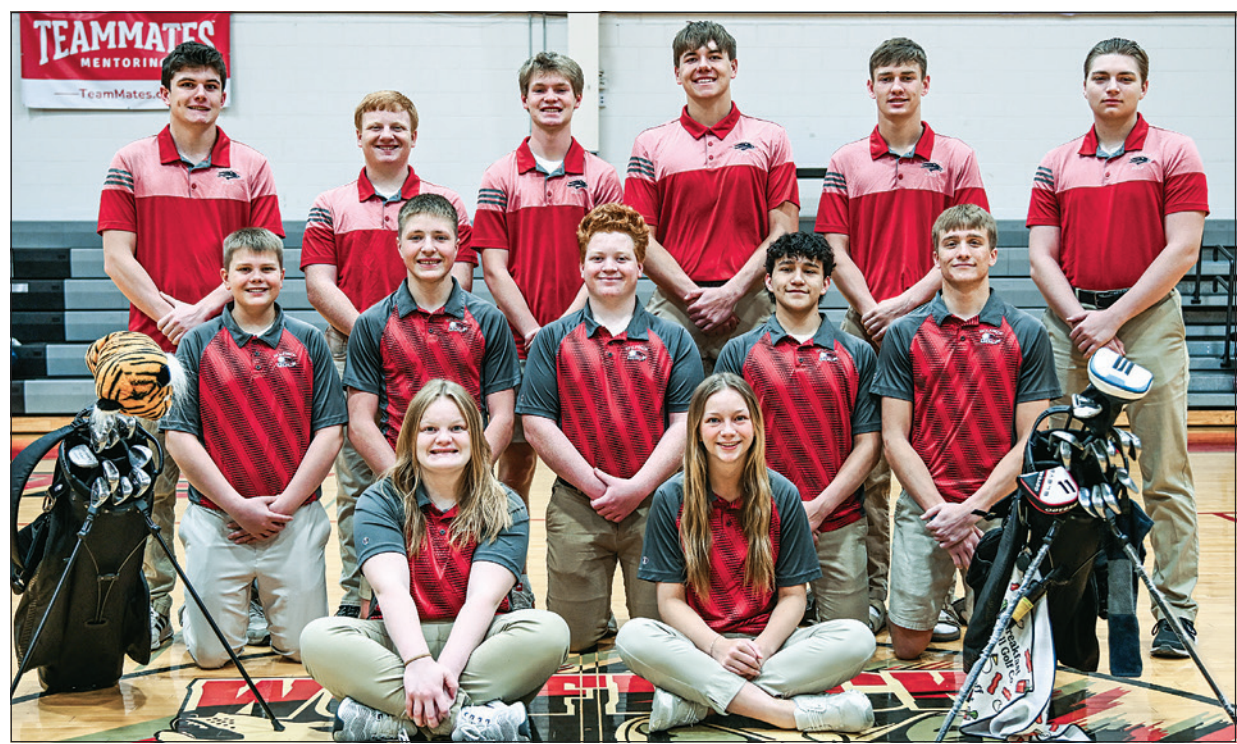
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Thirteen to compete for EPPJ golf team

The golf season began Tuesday for Elgin Public-Pope John, competing at the Antelope Country Club. Members of the team this year are (front row, l-r): Danyka Smidt and Molly Thiessen. Middle row: Braedon Hinkle, Michael Selting, Raaf Klein, Joseph McNally and Gavin Kallhoff. Back row: Landyn Veik, Aiden Klein, Karson Kallhoff, Jarek Erickson, Grady Druke and Creighton Harkins.

Plea agreement reached in case involving Orchard man

Plea agreement reached in case involving Orchard man Michael F. Doty, 32, of Orchard, appeared for a preliminary hearing before the Honorable Kale Burdick, March 26, in Antelope County Court.

Antelope County Attorney Joe Smith announced a plea agreement had been reached, which included Doty's entry of a guilty plea to an amended charge, no additional charges from the incident will be filed. Two charges against the

defendant were dismissed with prejudice, including one count of possession of a firearm by a prohibited person, a Class IB felony, and one count of terroristic threats, a Class IIIA felony.

Doty pleaded guilty to an amended charge of domestic violence assault-3rd/cause bodily injury, a Class I misdemeanor.

Burdick ordered a full presentence investigation.

Bond was reduced to \$10,000-10%, with previously set bond conditions in place.

Doty was ordered to contact the probation office within 24 hours of the hearing to schedule an interview for the PSI. Doty will appear May 14 for sentencing.

Dillon W. Eckstein, 29, of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, was scheduled to appear for a preliminary hearing on three charges, including one count of DUI -.15+ or refusal (2 prior convictions), a Class IIIA felony; refuse to submit to pretest, a Class V

misdemeanor, and possession of marijuana 1 ounce or less - 1st offense, an infraction.

Eckstein's attorney, Brad Ewalt of Norfolk, requested a continuance since Eckstein is in jail in Wisconsin. Ewalt requested time to make arrangements for an appearance via Zoom. Antelope County Attorney Joe Smith did not object.

Burdick set an April 23 preliminary hearing date. Bond, set at \$5,000-10% is continued.

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Erickson, Kallhoff & Henn led EPPJ roundballers during 2025/26

ELGIN — The Wolfpack boys basketball team began the season with a goal of being the best team in Class D2. In a season in which the team played 29 games, winning 25, they capped the season by finishing as state runner-up, accepting the trophy and accompanying medals at Pinnacle Bank Arena on Saturday, March 14. Final season statistics were recently compiled showing just how great a season it was for the young men who wore the Wolfpack colors and battled on hardwood floors week after week.

Three members of the Wolfpack team averaged more than 10 points per game. They were led by senior Jarek Erickson who averaged 16.6 points per game, scoring inside and outside. He led the team in assists (134) and steals (47). Erickson led the team in free throw shooting, making 134 of 174 attempts. Senior Karson Kallhoff averaged 12.1 points per game from his point guard position. Kallhoff was the team's best three-point shooter, making 74 during the course of the season. He averaged just over two treys

per game. Sophomore Max Henn dominated the paint, averaging 11.7 points per game. Henn led the team in rebounds, pulling down 283 (nearly 10 rebounds per game). He also led the team in

two-point field goals, making 126. Starter Michael Selting, a junior, averaged 6.6 points per game and seemed to come up clutch when the team needed a basket.

The fifth starter during the season was Evin Pelster averaging nearly 3 points per game and pulled down 81 rebounds. Top reserve on the roster was a freshman, Jayvin Erickson. Playing the role of sixth man

when he came back from injury late in the season to provide a spark off the bench. Erickson provided another offensive threat from behind the three-point arc as he made 27 of 73 treys.

Elgin Public Pope John Wolfpack Boys Basketball End-of-Season Statistics

Name	PPG	Pts	2pt	3pt	FT	Reb	Asst	Steals
Ticen Sparr	3.0	3	0/0	1/4	0/0	2	0	2
Michael Selting	6.6	192	44/118	30/108	14/21	68	39	14
Joseph McNally	0.2	2	1/4	0/3	0/0	7	1	0
Karson Kallhoff	12.1	352	48/81	74/209	34/45	95	91	30
Evin Pelster	2.7	79	31/67	2/26	11/21	81	20	10
Brayden Burenheide	1.2	15	6/20	0/4	3/6	11	1	4
Jarek Erickson	16.6	481	118/198	37/106	134/174	266	134	47
Max Henn	11.7	339	126/322	9/37	56/108	283	25	16
Braedon Hinkle	0.1	1	0/1	0/4	1/2	5	0	0
Christian Preister	0.0	0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0	0	0
Justice Blecher	0.2	3	1/5	0/3	1/2	5	0	0
Jayvin Erickson	5.0	95	4/9	27/73	6/8	7	13	3
Season totals	53.9	1562	381/714	180/577	260/387	885	324	126



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TRACK

BOYS/GIRLS VARSITY
April 7 ... @ Battle Creek..... 11:30

JUNIOR HIGH
April 4 ... @ Plainview 4:00

GOLF

BOYS/GIRLS VARSITY
April 7 ... EPPJ Hosts @ ACC..... 4:00

April 11 @ Plainview 8:30

JUNIOR HIGH
April 6 ... @ Fullerton 2:00

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

April 1 NECC Scholastic Contest

April 3-6 EASTER BREAK

April 8 Bloodmobile, 9-3 • Statewide ACT

April 9-10 NSCA ELA test (3-8th grade)

April 10 PJCC Prek Roundup

April 10-12 ESU8 Art Show

April 15 Early dismissal • NECC HS Quiz Bowl

April 18 Prom

April 22 EPS, no school

April 28 PJCC 1 pm dismissal

April 29 FFA Banquet

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