

The Elgin Review

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In Brief

NVC Art Show starts Thursday at Verdigre

Public invited to attend.

Around 1,000 pieces of high school and junior high artwork will be on display Thursday, May 1 from 5-8 p.m. and Friday, May 2 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the ZCBJ Hall in Verdigre as part of this year's Niobrara Valley Conference Art Show.

The Niobrara Valley Conference Art Show is open to the public and is free of charge. The artwork on display represents the yearlong efforts of hundreds of art students throughout this area. Categories are as diverse as the students that enter work with drawing, painting, sculpture, textiles, and more.

Schools showing artwork include Boyd County, Chambers, Elgin Public, Keya Paha, Niobrara, Pope John, Rock County, St. Mary's, Santee, Stuart, Verdigre, and Wheeler Central.

The judges for this year's art show are Cathy Barta, Renae Wacker, Mary Pfanstiel, and Diane Cole.

This is an excellent opportunity to view the artwork and appreciate the talent showcased in the Niobrara Valley Conference Art Show.

Time winding down to renew dog licenses

Deadline is Thursday, May 1.

Attention Elgin dog owners! April is the month to renew dog licenses and today is the last day of the month. The deadline for renewal is Thursday, May 1. Renewals can be done at City Hall during regular business hours.

Public Notices

Public notices in this week's newspaper include:

- Notice of Organization — Siems hot-shot's LLC
- Notice of Personal Representative — Estate of Phyllis Kinney
- Notice of Meeting — Antelope County Board of Equalization
- Notice of May Meetings — Antelope County Board of Commissioners

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 76 degrees recorded on Monday, April 21.

The low temperature during the same period was 28 degrees recorded on Sunday, April 20.

Altogether, 0.48 of an inch of precipitation was recorded last week.

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

Date	High	Low	Prec
Apr. 20	53	28	.00
Apr. 21	76	36	.00
Apr. 22	70	40	.00
Apr. 23	70	46	.00
Apr. 24	51	43	.14
Apr. 25	52	43	.00
Apr. 26	52	46	.34
Total for last week			0.48
Total for April			0.73
Total precipitation 2025			2.29



Photo submitted

Ready and willing to serve

The Elgin FFA Chapter held their annual banquet Thursday night. Near the conclusion, new officers for 2025-2026 were announced. Pictured in the front row (left to right) are Parliamentarian Libby Evans, President Isaac Hemenway and Secretary Kylee Lichtenberg. Middle row: Reporter Braelyn Martinson, Sentinel Brayden Burenheide and Junior Advisor Jayda Chessmore. Back row: Treasurer Kyndal Busteded and Vice President Gemma Miller.

Statewide burn ban now in effect - Pillen

Governor Jim Pillen has issued a statewide burn ban to remain in effect until further notice.

He emphasized the persistent dry conditions that have continued to plague the state.

"It's way too dry in Nebraska right now, and it only takes one burn, one mistake and then you have a situation like we have in Plum Creek. The risks are too significant," said Gov. Pillen.

Department of Agriculture Director Sherry

Vinton touched on the rough and dangerous terrain where fires are burning near Plum Creek near Johnstown, and the extreme difficulty that it posed for fire crews and others who were trying to control flames.

"As the director of agriculture, and a rancher myself, I support the statewide burn ban. While

See **PILLEN**, Page 2 ►



Courtesy photo

New NPAS President Lynell Morgan

Morgan elected as president of NPAS

Becoming first female publisher of an Antelope County newspaper to hold the position

KEARNEY — In the history of Antelope County newspapers, Saturday night marked a milestone.

Lynell Morgan, co-publisher of *The Elgin Review*, became the first female publisher from our county to be elected as president of the Nebraska Press Advertising Service. She received the ceremonial gavel Saturday night in the final session of the Nebraska Press Association annual convention held in Kearney.

The two-day convention brings together newspaper professionals from across the state to recognize outstanding work, lifelong achievement and the future of the industry through a series of prestigious awards and scholarships.

The Nebraska Press Association (NPA) celebrated the best in Nebraska journalism during its annual convention held April 25-26 in Kearney.

"I'm looking forward to different ways I can serve our member newspapers," she said following the convention.

The NPAS/One Press is the advertising arm of the NPA. It oversees the statewide advertising network whereby ads are placed in the state's newspapers either regional or statewide. Morgan will fill the position previously held by Dee Klein, Regional Business Development Director, Western Nebraska, Lee Enterprises.

See **NPAS**, Page 12 ►

Review earns 21 awards in 'Better Newspaper Contest'

Twenty-one awards recognizing excellence in all facets of newspaper production were bestowed upon *The Elgin Review* Saturday night.

Results of the annual Better Newspaper Contest, judged by the North Carolina Press Association, were announced at Saturday night's banquet held at the Crowne Plaza Convention Center.

Newspaper publishers from across the state were in attendance.

"Each year the Nebraska Press Association holds a contest to recognize top achievers in advertising, photography and reporting as well as newspaper production," Co-Publisher Dennis Morgan said. "*The Elgin Review* strives weekly to provide a newspaper our subscribers can be proud to call their own."

The contest is divided into four divisions for weekly newspapers and one division for daily newspapers. Altogether, there were 1,983 separate entries for judges to review.

The Review received seven first place awards. They were:

- Advertising Campaign — A series of ads for Dean's Market. Judges said, "Excellent theme, use of color, chalkboards ad attractiveness. A whimsical theme demands to be read."
- Single Ad Color — Girls Basketball 'good luck' ads from parents. Judge's Comments: "Fun layout with lots of nice touches like the basketball hearts. The trading cards are great, good color throughout."
- Sports Column — 'Spinning Tales' column. "Great blend of local sports history juxtaposed against national history for relative points. Too, the local blend of sports paints a portrait and timeline of community that offers more insight into what the area's sports offerings mean to the community's members. To encapsulate and intertwine the nation's history along with the fleeting seasons of sports is truly masterful," the judge said.
- Photo Page — A grouping of photos

taken at the Antelope County Fair. Judge's Comments: "Very enjoyable page and layout. The photographers were able to capture great expressions or happiness, concentration and anticipation on the faces of the participants, showing the essence of the county fair."

- Use of Color (News) — Front page design
- Building Circulation — An ad entitled 'Catch A Deal' for newspaper renewals. Judge's Comments: "Love the message, the offer, and most of all the outstanding design of this ad! Excellent job!"

Categories in which the newspaper received second place awards were:

- General Excellence — This awards recognizes all facets of several issues of the newspaper. "Strong local paper, your community is better because of you," the judge said.
- Agricultural Advertisement — An ad designed for the Bank of Elgin
- Advertising Campaign — A series

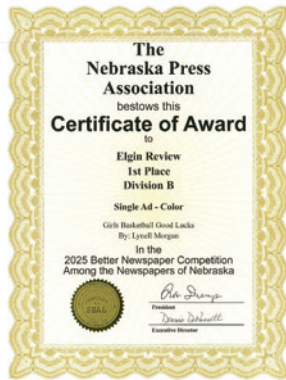
of ads running in consecutive weeks promoting the Bank of Elgin

- Photo Page — A grouping of photographs celebrating Elgin's Vetch Days celebration
- Youth Coverage — Spotlighting coverage of youth activities
- Editorial Page
- Use of Computer Graphics (produced in house)

Third place awards were for:

- Building Circulation
- Agricultural Advertisement
- Signature Page
- Advertising Campaign
- Personal Column
- Editorial
- Preserving Local History

"We don't put out a paper just to receive awards," Co-Publisher Lynell Morgan. "However, receiving recognition (through awards) tells us we're producing a quality newspaper. We can't be a quality newspaper without the support of our advertisers and our subscribers."



MAY BUYS

Cinco de Mayo

Cilantro 79¢ bunch

On-the-vine

Tomatoes 89¢ lb

Jalapeños \$1.99 lb

Limes 2 for \$1.00

USDA Inspected Pork

Shoulder Roast \$1.99 lb

Pork Baby Back Ribs \$3.99 lb

USDA Choice Beef

Front Quarter Bundle Special

13# - Boneless Rib Eye Steaks

25# - Boneless Chuck Roasts or Steaks

7# - Minute Steaks

40# - 85% Lean Ground Beef

1/2 Bundles \$350.00

Approx. Wt. 42#

DEAN'S MARKET

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402-843-5300

Prices good through 5/6/2025

Six seniors scheduled to graduate Sunday at Bartlett

The awarding of high school diplomas at Wheeler Central High School. According to the

Pillen

◀ FROM Page 1
fire is a tool that we use in our agricultural operations and for conservation, right now our current conditions make it just too dangerous,” stressed Dir.

school, six seniors are in line to graduate from high school. The ceremony will be held on

Vinton. “Protecting our land, our livestock, wildlife, and most importantly, people in our neighborhoods and our communities from the potential of wildfire

Sunday, May 4, and is scheduled to begin at 2 p.m. at the school gymnasium.

damage, is of the utmost importance right now.” Currently, more than 60 local, state and federal partners are responding to the fire.

Elgin FFA Awards Presented Thursday



Greenhand degrees were awarded to (back row, l-r): Joseph McNally, Donmetrious Dredge, Wyatt Paul, Max Henn and Evin Pelster. Front row: Makenna Mortiboy, Bristol Buschow, Sadie Thiessen, Molly Thiessen, Kaidynce Schrad and Kinley Druke.



Recipients of chapter degrees were (back row, l-r) Kyla Donaldson, Gavin Kallhoff, Brayden Burenheide, Michael Selting, Justice Blecher and Gemma Miller. Middle row: Libby Evans, Braelyn Martinsen, Madelyn Kurpgewit, Elizabeth Moser, Brooke Kinney and Kylee Lichtenberg. Front row: Zoey Buetcher, Megan Wright, Rylen Schwartzing, Aubrie Parks, Kierstyn Eisenhauer and Dannyka Smidt.



Discovery degrees were presented to (back row, l-r): Jael Lammers, Jayvin Erickson, Macy Rokahr, John Zwingman and Sydney Niewohner. Front row: Anna Dworak, Kynlee Tillis, Gentry Zwingman and Sophia Burke.



Photos submitted
Kaidynce Schrad was awarded the Star Greenhand Degree.



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From JoAnn Baum's Kitchen

Crunchy Pea & Pasta Salads

Good day. This week I am sharing a couple of ideas for your "summertime" menus. Either would go good with a back yard cookout, or a family get-together, or just for a family supper meal. I love salads like these in the summer. I can make it a meal along with a grilled burger.
May you and your family

enjoy one or both of these ideas! Delicious.

JoAnn

CRUNCHY PEA SALAD

10 oz fresh or frozen peas
1 cup diced celery
1 cup chopped cauliflower
1/4 cup diced green onion
1 cup roasted cashews
1/2 cup crisp cooked bacon

1/3 cup Ranch dressing
1/2 tsp Dijon mustard
1 small clove garlic

Mix all the ingredients and chill! Delicious.

PASTA SALAD

1 (12 oz) pkg spiral pasta
1/4 cup black olives (sliced)
1 cup diced green pepper
1/4 lb hard salami (cubed)

1 small red onion (diced)
1/4 cup parmesan cheese
1/4 cup fresh parsley
3/4 cup Italian dressing

Cook and drain the pasta, add the remaining ingredients and mix well.
Let it set for awhile. It will enhance the flavor.
Delicious!

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FFA STUDENT of the MONTH

Kyndal Busteed

Kyndal Busteed is this month's FFA Member of the Month. Kyndal is the daughter of Steve and Casey Busteed of Elgin.

Kyndal has been a member of the Elgin FFA Chapter since her 8th grade year. That year she experienced FFA at the highest level when she and her partner had their Agriscience Fair project selected as a National finalist in their division.

Since then, Kyndal has taken full advantage of all that FFA has to offer. She was a chapter officer this past year and was recently

selected again to serve as the chapter treasurer. She has been to the state FFA convention for the past three years for Agriscience Fair and two years for the Agricultural Issues Academy.

We are thankful to have Kyndal in our chapter and to serve as one of our leaders!

Congratulations Kyndal!

CELEBRATING

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Handling big changes is part of life

I’ve heard that the only thing constant in this life is change. That certainly seems to be true. Just when I think we’re getting into a groove, things get shaken up. As someone who enjoys routine, there has been quite a bit of turmoil in the last few years. This year is no exception as we enter yet another new chapter as a couple and a family.

A couple of months ago my husband was laid off from his company. They were bought out and 90% of the employees lost their jobs. The “plan” (que God laughing) was for him to get the same pay, or a better paying job and I would continue to work part-time.

He applied day in and day out with very little response. Some of the job postings were getting hundreds to thousands of applicants. How do you make yourself stand out against a thousand other people with similar experience? He finally found something he was very excited about, unfortunately it didn’t come with benefits. With three kids, having insurance is a necessity.

At first, we thought he’d just keep looking but then out of nowhere an opportunity fell into my lap. It wasn’t something either of us expected but it would require me to go back full-time and

start commuting to an office again, something I wasn’t sure I wanted to do. After interviewing and a lot of praying, we decided that the best thing for our family was for me to take this job and for him to pursue his opportunity.

This was the first week of the new change and it has been quite the adjustment. The first day, my son was already asking why I was so late getting home. For the last year and a half, my kids have been used to me being there in the mornings, being able to pick them up if they needed to stay after school, and being home when they got off the bus. And before this, I worked remotely so I still had that flexibility. I haven’t worked in an office in five years!

It’s going to take everyone in the family to make this work. The kids will need to pitch in more with housework and chores. My husband will have to make more dinners than before. And I must get up earlier than I would like. I am not a morning person, so this has been my least favorite part of the change.

As much as we tend to resist change as human beings, change can be good. It helps to break up old routines, challenge ourselves, and ditch bad habits we’ve picked up along the way. It’s also a great way to demonstrate to my kids that not all change is bad and how to handle change gracefully. We can show them how to take the changes with stride, rely on family friends, and stay in prayer as we navigate a new chapter.

Tales of a Tired Momma



Elgin Columnist
Katherine Cobb

Comments are welcome and can be sent to talesofatiredmomma@gmail.com.

Salwei joins BCHC with 20 years PT experience

Boone County Health Center (BCHC) announced last week that Amber Salwei, Physical Therapy Assistant (PTA), has joined their therapy team. According to a press release from BCHC, Amber brings with her nearly two decades of experience in physical therapy, spanning a variety of settings including outpatient care, skilled nursing, acute rehab, and home health. Her passion for rural healthcare and her deep local roots make her a valuable addition to BCHC.

Amber grew up northeast of Albion on a family farm, and after years of working in Columbus and Omaha, she and her husband Mathew moved back to raise their four children—Hailey, Jase, Carter, and Tristan—on the same farm. In her spare time, Amber enjoys camping, fishing, and supporting her kids at their many sporting events.

Amber earned her Associate Degree as a Physical Therapist As-



Amber Salwei, PTA

See BCHC, Page 12 ▶

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Looking Back

The Elgin Review

Sixty Years Ago

April 29, 1965

Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Alderson of Grand Island are announcing the engagement of their daughter Barbrea to Mr. Richard Russell, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Tucker of Grand Island. The wedding will take place in the First Presbyterian Church in Grand Island on August 21.

Janice Hoefer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Hoefer and eighth grade student in the Elgin Public School, placed fourth in the World-Herald sponsored Nebraska and Western Iowa spelling contest held Saturday at the Fontenelle Hotel in Omaha. Janice had won the Antelope County Spelling contest in March to earn the right to compete in the Omaha event.

Clarence L. Scholl, who is employed by Harold Benda, was injured Saturday night in a three-car accident on Highway 14. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Scholl of Fordyce. The Stuhr and Scholl cars were both southbound. Matejka said Stuhr had stopped to make a left hand turn. All three vehicles were damaged considerably.

In a ceremony at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 24, 1965 in St. Boniface Church, Miss Charlene K Schindler became the bride of Dr. John Tarsney of New York City, N.Y. Parents of the couple are Mr. and Mrs. Lambert Schindler and Dr. and Mrs. Francis Tarsney of Forest Hills L.I., N.Y.

The month of April has been dry for all but two periods of rainfall this season, one the forepart of the month and again for two days the past week. Below average, or less than 50 percent R.A.M., moisture in the top four feet of soil was indicated for all counties surrounding Antelope county.

Fifty Years Ago

April 24, 1975

Alydthe Carr, daughter of James and Nannie Knewstubb Alderson, was born at Elgin, May 12, 1895 and departed this life at Lutheran Community Hospital, Norfolk, April 18, 1975, at the age of 79 years, 11 months and 6 days. Survivors include her daughter: Mrs. Kenneth (Nina) Schulte of Omaha; her son: Dewey J. Carr of Elgin; eight grandchildren; four great grandchildren; one brother: Clifford Alderson of Grand Island; a number of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Moisture of the month of April was boosted to 2.55 inches Friday with the addition of .80 of an inch of precipitation in the form of rain and snow.

Three of Elgin High School’s Vo Ag instructors since the program was started were present for the annual FFA banquet Saturday night. They were Dave Doeschot, Russell Lechtenberg, and Larry Shavlik.

Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Bauer of Ewing are parents of a 6 pound 3 ounce son, Wade Anthony, born April 17, 1975 at Antelope Memorial Hospital.

Cloudy weather did not dull interest, as 235 area women attended the Home Extension Spring Fling. The one day event was held Thursday, April 17, at the Methodist Church in Plainview.

Thirty Years Ago

April 26, 1995

Elgin High School students earned third place in the Class D Division of the Inter-High School Scholastic Contest held Monday, April 24, at Northeast Community College in Norfolk. A total of 20 students from Elgin High School competed, along with more than 1,100 students from other Class C and D schools.

Members of the Elgin Public Schools fourth grade class provided the entertainment for an Arbor Day program held last Friday afternoon, April 21, at the Elgin Senior Citizens/Community Center.

About 20 children received First Holy Communion at St. Boniface Church in Elgin last Sunday, April 23, with Rev. Owen Korte officiating.

Elgin Public School students earned five superior rating, seven excellent ratings and one good rating in the District Music Contest at Creighton last Friday, April 21.

Joe and Lori Beckman of Elgin are the parents of a son, Shane Joseph, born Saturday, April 15, at Antelope Memorial Hospital. He weighed six pounds, 13 3/4 ounces. He joins three sisters.

Twenty Years Ago

April 27, 2005

Farmland in an area covering more than 10 square miles was inundated by a heavy downpour of rain late last Tuesday night, April 19, and early Wednesday, April 20, near Elgin. Rainfall as heavy as six to eight inches occurred in an area from six to 10 miles west of Elgin.

Elgin Postmaster Gary Hawkins will become the new postmaster at Battle Creek, NE, effective April 30, 2005. Hawkins has been Elgin’s postmaster for the past 14 years.

Elgin High School groups and soloists earned a total of eight superior ratings and four excellent scores in the District Music Contest at Norfolk last Friday, April 22. Elgin Public Schools choir was one of three choirs to receive a superior rating from all three judges. The EHS choir received a plaque from the Nebraska School Activities Association for this honor.

By Olivia Klein

Elgin Community Center Menus

Monday, May 5: Beef stroganoff over noodles, peas & carrots, pears, milk.
Tuesday, May 6: Breaded pork tenderloin sandwich, potato wedges, baked beans, cinnamon apples, milk.
Wednesday, May 7: Fried chicken, baked potato, baked corn, tropical fruit, milk.
Thursday, May 8: Lemon pepper fish, rice, green beans, stewed tomatoes, pineapple, milk.
Friday, May 9: BBQ riblets on bun, french fries, carrots, fruit cocktail, milk.

All meals served with bread & butter.
Menus are provided by the Community Center and are subject to change).
Suggested price is \$7 per meal for persons 60 years of age and older. Under 60 is \$10.00. Serving starts at 11:45 a.m. and ends around 12:15 p.m.
Meals are served Monday thru Friday.
Takeout starts at 11:30 a.m. Please call 843-5757 by 9:30 a.m. to reserve a meal for that day.
For a great meal, come to the community center!

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

Edward R. Murrow

Sad standoff, and now an expensive repair estimate, deters the telling of an important history

LINCOLN – As a kid, our grade school class was one of many that got to visit John Brown’s Cave in Nebraska City.

There was a cool log cabin, the Mayhew Cabin, hewn from local cottonwoods before Nebraska became a state.

There was this kinda spooky, underground “cave” -- a hand-made tunnel to a nearby ravine that was billed as a hiding spot for slaves escaping bondage in nearby slave states (but was really an effort to increase tourism and the tunnel was never used by escaping slaves).

Back then, John Brown’s Cave was one of the Missouri River city’s top tourist attractions, along with Arbor Lodge.

Now the cabin and the cave are closed up, victims of calamities and a lack of funds while Nebraska City has become a museum mecca. It now has eight museums focusing on all kinds of local history, from windmills to firefighters, Lewis & Clark to the Civil War.

The focus of John Brown’s Cave has shifted over the years to the authentically historic Mayhew Cabin, which historians believe sheltered up to 14 escaping slaves overnight. They were brought there by John Kagi, a top deputy of the famed abolitionist John Brown and a brother of Barbara Mayhew, whose family lived in the cabin.

But fallen tree branches and floods from a nearby ravine in 2013 and 2019 have taken their toll. A museum building that focused on Underground Railroad history smells of mold and sewer backups. Its foundation is sinking.

The Foundation that owned the site, which had drawn tourists since the 1930s, didn’t have the money, or the insurance, to make repairs. So a “closed” sign went up in 2019. Only a “miracle,” the Foundation stated, could reopen the complex.

A bitter spat followed, with the Foundation blaming the city for failing to maintain a drainage way around the historic Mayhew Cabin and a “historic village” cluster of old buildings; the city claimed it was the foundation’s fault for not keeping a drainage pipe clear of debris.

Three lawsuits followed, and the

ALL THINGS NEBRASKA



State Correspondent
Paul Hammel



feud culminated with the Foundation posting a sign outside its then-closed museum stating that the city “killed” the attraction. A glimmer of hope came after the State Legislature, led by then State Sen. Justin Wayne, launched an effort to get the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission to take over the site, the first location in the state named to a national “Underground Railroad Network to Freedom.”

But that hope was pretty well crushed with the release of a recent assessment that put the cost of restoring the structures at an unaffordable cost of \$20 million.

It’s an awful shame on several levels. The story of the Mayhew Cabin is part of an important chapter in Nebraska history. Some brave settlers in Nebraska City and Falls City helped “freedom seekers” escape enslavement during the late 1850s and into the Civil

War.

Abolitionists also flowed southward through southeast Nebraska – avoiding Missouri, a slave state and diverting through Iowa, a free state – to join the “Bleeding Kansas” fight over slavery.

Former Omaha World-Herald colleague and columnist Robert Nelson has written some excellent articles about the role his hometown, Falls City, played in equipping abolitionists heading south and helping escaped slaves heading north. A site in Falls City is now part of the national freedom trail and a museum is in the works.

Nebraska History, the always informative journal of the State Historical Society, featured a fascinating tale by writer Gail Shaffer Blankenau about the harrowing escape in 1858 of two female slaves, Celia and Eliza Grayson, from servitude.

The history of Mayhew Cabin and its role in the Underground Railroad needs to be told and the Nebraska City site, in some form, needs to be restored and reopened.I’ve done more than one story on this sad saga and always walk away scratching my head.

Now is the time for these sparring parties to drop their differences and starting working together to restore the historic cabin and revive the important story it tells.

Paul Hammel has covered the Nebraska state government and the state for decades. He retired in April as 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.

Nebraska: The birthplace of Arbor Day

Before Nebraska was called the “Cornhuskers”, we were known as “The Tree Planters.” It seems ironic, given our state is characterized by its expansive Great Plains and rolling Sandhills. However, in 1895, the Nebraska legislature passed a bill establishing Nebraska’s nickname in honor of their tree planting efforts.

To understand why, let’s take a step back into history.

To set the scene, it’s the 1840’s on the East Coast, and farmers are finding it increasingly difficult to buy and farm fertile land. Outbreaks of malaria and yellow fever are ravaging towns, while many face religious persecution. Meanwhile, rumors of gold in California and fertile land stretching across the vast Great Plains stir the hope of a better life.

Driven by the promise of opportunity, thousands of pioneers set out across the continent, chasing new beginnings in the west.

As pioneers moved into the Nebraska territory, they entered a land virtually devoid of trees, which greatly affected them.

Not only did the settlers miss the green foliage populating the forests of the East Coast, but they realized trees were necessary for their survival. Trees acted as windbreaks to keep tilled soil in place, provided fuel and building materials for settlers, and offered protection from the hot sun.

It was clear they needed a solution.

J. Sterling Morton, editor of the Nebraska City News, was deeply passionate about trees and became one of their most ardent advocates. His home was filled with trees, shrubs, and flowers. Through articles and editorials, he encouraged his community to join him in tree planting. As his prominence in the area increased, Morton was named Secretary of the Nebraska Territory, a position he used to champion this cause.

On January 4, 1872, at a meeting of the State Board of Agriculture, Morton first proposed “Arbor Day”, a day to plant and celebrate trees.

To incentivize communities to take part in Arbor Day, the state offered prizes to counties and individuals who planted the largest number of trees. Thanks to Morton’s efforts, it’s estimated over one million trees were planted in Nebraska on this very first Arbor Day.

Two years later, Nebraska’s governor, Robert W. Furnas, officially declared Arbor Day a day of celebration. In 1885, Arbor Day was named a legal holiday in Nebraska and was to be observed on April 22—Morton’s birthday. Today, we celebrate national Arbor Day on the last Friday in April.

The first official Arbor Day celebration was monumental for Nebraska. According to newspaper accounts, Nebraska City festivities consisted of a grand parade, a speech by Morton, and, of course, the planting of many trees.

Schools played a large part in the festivities, too. Each grade planted at least one tree for which they would care for. When the plantings were complete, 1,000 students lined up carrying colorful satin banners lined with silk and trimmed with gold fringe. The banners painted in oil colors were paraded through the streets to the opera house, where over 1,000 townspeople joined in the celebration.

What began as a simple initiative to plant trees in Nebraska has grown into a nationwide celebration. Today, Arbor Day is recognized across the country,

WASHINGTON REPORT



U.S. Senator
Deb Fischer

The constitutional rights of law-abiding gun owners

The right to keep and bear arms is fundamental to the American experiment in self-governance. From its founding, our nation has recognized how a free people must not be deprived of means of protection and self-defense. In 1791, the Founders enshrined the Second Amendment in the Bill of Rights, declaring the right to bear arms “shall not be infringed.”

I have always strongly supported the Second Amendment because I recognize it speaks to the heart of our country. This right is more than a safeguard for sportsmen, hunters, and firearms collectors. Law-abiding Nebraskans and other Americans across our land own and utilize guns in order to deter crime and protect or defend themselves, their families, livestock, crops, and homes.

Congress has a responsibility to uphold the Second Amendment and apply its constitutional authority to our nation’s laws.

For this reason, I am again a cosponsor of the Con-

stitutional Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act. This bill would provide legal clarity for carrying concealed firearms when crossing state lines. In 2023, Nebraska passed constitutional carry legislation enabling individuals over 21 years old to carry concealed firearms without a permit, and many other states already practice reciprocity. In 2024, with my support, the House passed a version of this bill. However, it was not taken up by the Senate before the end of the 118th Congress.

I am also an original cosponsor of the Reining In Federal Licensing Enforcement (RIFLE) Act. Under the Biden administration, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives’ (ATF’s) zero tolerance policy of revoking licenses from dealers threatened the livelihood of Federal Firearm Licensees (FFLs) such as small and mid-sized gun stores for making minor clerical errors and typos on paperwork required by federal law.

I am encouraged to see how after President Trump took office, ATF’s zero tolerance policy was repealed administratively. Yet, the consequences of this overbearing policy have been serious. In 2024, the ATF recorded its third straight year of increased FFL license revocations and the greatest number of revocations in 20 years.

The RIFLE Act would reinstate licenses suspend-

ed, revoked, or denied under Biden’s zero tolerance policy and enact permanent avenues for FFLs to appeal before the ATF moves to revoke a license.

Furthermore, I am a cosponsor of the No Retaining Every Gun in a System That Restricts Your (REGISTRY) Rights Act. Currently, FFLs which go out of business must provide all firearm transaction records to the ATF, which maintains these records in the Out-of-Business Records Imaging System (OBRIS) database.

This bill would safeguard the privacy of American gun owners by requiring the ATF to destroy existing firearm transaction records and requiring FFLs to destroy existing transaction records should they go out of business.

Without privacy protections like the ones provided by this bill, creating such record keeping requirements leads down a path toward a mandatory gun registry, threatening law-abiding citizens with excessive scrutiny.

The constitutional rights of law-abiding gun owners must be respected. Standing the test of time, the Second Amendment has proven the wisdom of the Founders. Its critics are misguided, and I will never stop defending American liberties from abuses by the ATF or encroachment by overreaching restrictions.

FROM THE HILL



Congressman
Adrian Smith

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-

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

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See **FISCHER**, Page 5 ►

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Fischer

◀ FROM Page 4

but its origins remain deeply rooted in Nebraska soil.

Nebraska is now home to about two million acres of trees, thanks to the dedication of our community forests and tree-planting efforts. Named as one of the top ten states in the nation with the highest number of "Tree City USA" designations, an honor bestowed by the National Arbor Day Foundation, Nebraska stands as a model for the rest of the country.

At its heart, Arbor Day is more than just a day to plant a tree; it's a symbol of hope for the future, a commitment to advancing a better tomorrow for generations to come. So, on this Arbor Day, consider planting a tree—for yourself, for your community, and for Nebraska.

Community Calendar

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

Wednesday, April 30
Pope John Spring Concert.

Thursday, May 1
City of Elgin Dog License deadline • Park Cemetery Cleanup Day @ 9 a.m.

Friday, May 2
EPS Grandparents Day followed by Elementary Spring Concert.

Sunday, May 4
Wheeler Central graduation program.

Monday, May 5
Elgin City Council regular meeting @ City Hall.

Tuesday, May 6
EHS National Honor Society Induction/Academic Awards.

Saturday, May 10
Elgin Public School graduation program.

Sunday, May 11
Pope John XXIII Central Catholic graduation program.

Wednesday, May 14
District #18 Board of Education regular meeting @ 7 p.m.

Events listing courtesy of
ELGIN VETERANS' MEDICAL CLINIC
an outpatient department of Boone County Health Center
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State legislators to begin debate on budget bills on May 6

This past week, the Legislature made some progress in breaking through the logjam of bills currently sitting on the agenda. Senators are trying to find ways to move their bills since time for debate on non-budget bills is growing short. The budget is scheduled to be advanced to the full Legislature on April 29, and Speaker Arch announced that debate on budget bills will begin on May 6.

One measure advanced to Final Reading this past week was Senator Hallstrom's LB80. This bill builds upon legislation I tried to pass last year, LB1098, to help further protect individuals from abuse and harassment. In Lincoln and other parts of the state, protection order requests have skyrocketed in recent years.

Streamlining the process to obtain a protection order would make it easier for victims of abuse or harassment to get needed legal protection.

LB80 would (1) consolidate and streamline the existing statutes dealing with domestic abuse, sexual assault, and harassment protection orders, (2) enable a protection order to be issued for an initial period of at least one year and no more than two years, and (3) allow harassment protection orders

to be renewed. Under current law, protection orders can only be in place for one year, and only domestic abuse or sexual assault protection orders can be renewed. I am pleased a proposal I brought last year was built upon and moved forward this year.

Another measure considered was LB89, the Stand with Women Act. This bill was introduced by Senator Kauth and would codify Governor Pillen's executive order to establish a women's bill of rights. LB89 would create restrictions on biological males from competing in women's sports as well as establish policies designating school restroom and locker room spaces for use by males, females, single occupancy, or family use.

As with the proposed Sports and Spaces Act last year, LB89 was subjected to a filibuster during General File debate. Discussion centered on the conflict between women's rights and transgender rights when it comes to fair sports opportunities and privacy in restroom and locker room spaces. After four hours of debate, Senator Kauth moved to invoke cloture, whereupon the motion passed and the bill was moved to Select File by a 33 to 16 vote. I voted in support of LB89. As a longtime high school and college basketball official of over 40 years, I believe women have a right to fair competition in sports. Looking ahead, Select File debate will likely focus on an amendment filed late by Senator Riepe which would limit LB89 to sports only.

Other bills that were advanced to Select File that I

voted for include:

LB346 by Speaker Arch which would combine or outright repeal over 35 boards and commissions. Over the years, the Legislature has created more than 240 legislatively created entities. This bill eliminates duplicative entities and eliminates approximately 370 positions;

LB660 by Senator Andersen which would create the Secure Drone Purchasing Act and require state agencies and organizations receiving state tax dollars to only purchase drones that comply with certain federal security standards.

The intent of the legislation is to ensure drone technology used or paid for by the State of Nebraska does not become avenues for surveillance by foreign adversarial nations like Russia and China; and

LB561 by Senator Brandt which would grant a harvest exemption for milk trucks to have overweight loads when traveling from a dairy farm to a processing facility. This bill would allow milk haulers to transport more raw product from a dairy farm to a processing facility which will increase efficiencies for all parties, especially for the small dairy producers toward the end of a route who may have to dump product if a milk truck ends up overweight along the way.

If there are bills of interest to you, I encourage you to inform me of your opinion. You can call my Capitol office telephone number at (402) 471-2801 or send email to bdekay@leg.ne.gov. My mailing address is: Senator Barry DeKay, District #40, P.O. Box 94604, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE 68509.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



District 40 Senator
Barry DeKay

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Sometimes even the strongest of us need help.

Who to ask and who really can help are the questions.

Begin by asking God.

Then you will know.

This week in church you can find God's helpers.

O Lord, be my helper!

Psalms 30

Acts 9:1-6 (7-20) Revelation 5:11-14 John 21:1-19
Revised Common Lectionary © 1992 by the Consultation on Common Texts for
Sunday, May 4, 2025
Third Sunday of Easter

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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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.
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Park Congregational U.C.C. Church
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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
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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
Pastor Norlyn Bartens
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
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St. Paul Lutheran Church
Chambers, NE
Pastor Leif Hasskari
Sunday Worship: 8:30 am.
Sunday School/Bible Study: 9:30 am.

Immanuel-Zion Lutheran Church
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Faith
is confidence is what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.
Hebrews 11:1



Father Brian from a local Catholic Parish who prayed for rain and blessed the ground behind the school for a new building to prepare food and a sit-down lunch room. Now the children eat outside, rain or shine. Shown are Ed and Suzanne Koucheravy, Fairfax Station, VA, who traveled with the Schuchardts, Father, Elly, and Rick and Jane.



Opondo with winners of the reading contest who each got a loaf of bread.



Shown is the front of the St. Jerome school where a rain water harvesting and storage system funded by donations from IZ members will be installed before the Kenyan rainy season begins in late March.

Pride in Elgin and a nearby church shows up constantly, even on another continent far, far away

Kenyan Luo Community are very thankful for the support given to them from Elgin and the rural Albion Immanuel Zion (IZ) Lutheran Church.

Expressions of sincere gratitude rang out across the hot, dusty hills surrounding the rural St. Jerome Project near Kisumu, Kenya in early March.

There to witness heart felt thanks firsthand were Rick and Jane Schuchardt, who hosted Elly Opondo, the project founder and director, at their Elgin organic farm last September.

All residents in this limited resource Luo community (one of 46 tribes in Kenya) sported broad smiles and offered warm hugs of appreciation.

Babies wore diapers made from tee-shirts by IZ. Surrounding school children walked long distances to participate in a reading contest using the books donated by the Elgin Public Library.

Shipping from Elgin was supported by a grant from the Elgin Bargain Box and facilitated by the Elgin Post Office.

Plans based on recommendations by Elgin area food producers and Nebraska Extension are in motion including extensive gardening and egg production.

The goal is to grow, instead of purchase, more of the food needed for the lunch program reaching some 250 children weekdays, the only substantial nutritious meal many will receive.



Rick Schuchardt and children in the food line to receive a meal. All food is prepared outdoors over an open fire.

Story, captions and photos submitted by Jane Schuchardt

Vanishing \$100 million: Health officials decry federal cuts

By Joshua Shimkus
Flatwater Free Press

Molly Pofahl had big plans for the \$370,000 in federal money awarded to the East Central District Health Department in March.

They would use the money to provide cleanup for homes with high lead levels in Boone, Colfax, Nance and Platte counties, said Pofahl, the department's chief public health officer. They could make it easier for people living in the district's rural areas to get vaccinated. She planned to get training for her staff to better teach central Nebraskans about preventing infections.

Lessons learned during COVID-19 informed their plans for the money – it showed them areas, she said, where they could improve before the next crisis.

The local health department had barely started to use the money when Pofahl received word that the grant was canceled.

“Now we can't do all this work,” she said, “and so we're just going to almost be stuck in the same spot we were during COVID because we can't expand our capacity.”

The department, and many other public health providers in Nebraska, are staring down a shifting reality in Washington, D.C.

Nearly \$100 million in funding already disbursed to Nebraska is being clawed back as part of the Trump administration's plan to shrink the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

In Nebraska, it will mean less federal money for university research, childhood vaccinations and mental health and substance abuse treatment. It means fewer dollars for battling opioid addiction, addressing health disparities in underserved areas and responding to infectious diseases.

“It's going to hit the community at some point,” Pofahl said of the cuts. “Whether that's tomorrow, a month or a year from now,

See CUTS, Page 8 ▶

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Changes in the United States Postal Service have led to ever-increasing delayed deliveries for **ALL** classes of mail, including community newspapers. To make matters worse, coming this summer there will be postal rate increases plus another change in small town mail delivery which will add yet another delay in all classes of mail.

We will continue to pressure the powers that be in the USPS and appreciate your understanding as these are decisions being made without regard to or with input from newspapers and the public. We ask that the public also contact post offices about the degrading mail service in rural Nebraska.

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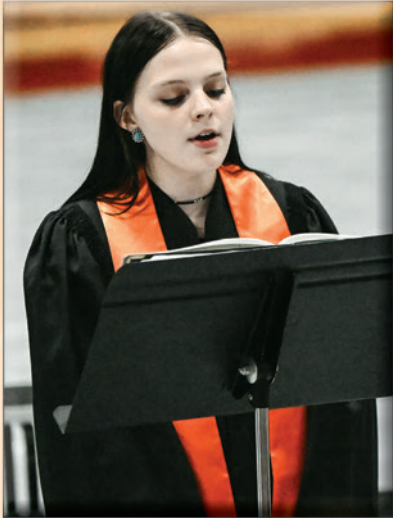
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Elgin Public School 7-12

Spring Concert

Under the direction of music
instructor Eric Heithoff



E-R photos by Dennis
& Lynell Morgan



Cuts

◀ FROM Page 6

it's going to happen.”

A grant termination order recently sent to leaders at the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services lays out two reasons for the cuts.

One: It will save money. A representative of the federal government wrote in an email that the cancellation was part of President Donald Trump’s February executive order to start the “Department of Government Efficiency” Cost Efficiency Initiative, to reduce federal spending.

And two: The COVID-19 pandemic is over.

Dr. Mark Rupp, a professor of infectious diseases and the interim chair for the Department of Internal Medicine at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, said that in some ways, the message seems correct: COVID-19 is no longer a public emergency. Hospitals aren’t overcrowded with COVID patients, he said, the vaccine is available and effective and the general population has largely developed immunity.

But what the cancellation email from the federal government doesn’t capture, Rupp thinks, is the fact that COVID-relief dollars have since been used to address other serious public health concerns.

At the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, multiple studies on alcohol’s connection with intimate partner violence were wounded by grant cancellations. UNMC lost money for strengthening infectious disease prevention. Nearly \$19 million vanished that had been set aside to combat substance abuse and grapple with various mental health issues. More than \$15 million for childhood immunization grants to the state got chopped as well.

“They don’t sit on their hands waiting for the next pandemic to occur,” Rupp said of public health officials across Nebraska. “I think that’s the concept people have is that, ‘oh you’re just going to be dumping money into folks who aren’t going to be doing anything because we don’t have a pandemic right now.’ Nothing could be further from the truth.”

The Nebraska Hospital Association lost a part of one of the grants, more than \$3 million, that was supporting a pilot program meant to limit Nebraskans’ exposure to opioids after hip and knee replacements.

Instead of sending patients home with something like a 30-day opioid prescription after surgery, the pilot program assigned patients case managers to help them manage pain in other ways during the recovery process, said Margaret Woepel, chief nursing and informatics officer at the hospital association.

The program was supposed to impact the recoveries of 4,000 Nebraskans over a year.

Teresa Anderson, health director of the Central District Health Department, said that there were lots of indicators that federal cuts were coming with the new administration. But what was unexpected was the federal government canceling already-committed funding.

“It’s the first time in 21 years that I’ve seen it,” said Anderson, who runs the department overseeing public health in Hall, Hamilton and Merrick counties.

Emails that the Flatwater Free Press obtained through a public records request show that the specific grant cancellations weren’t expected at the state level either.

A representative from the federal Department of Health and Human Services emailed Nebraska DHHS at 4:50 p.m. on Monday, March 24, to cancel grants effective that same day. Subsequent emails the following day show Nebraska DHHS employees communicating to figure out what funds were cut and which sub-recipients were affected.

One of the impacted programs was Vaccines for Children (VFC), which provides vaccines for free to children without health insurance. It was first established by Congress after a measles outbreak starting in 1989 killed hundreds of people. The state is awarded the funds, and passes some money to local health departments.

Jeff Powell, communications director for Nebraska DHHS, declined multiple requests for

interviews, but responded to a list of emailed questions, saying that the majority of the federal money for the VFC program paid for “staff support” and “data system costs.”

The state “immunization programs and systems remain active,” he wrote.

Twenty-three states and Washington, D.C. have filed a lawsuit against the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, alleging that these grant cancellations were unlawful.

So far, the judge has issued a temporary restraining order in favor of the states, effectively pausing the funding cuts until the court reaches an official ruling. But the restraining order only applies to the 23 states.

More than half of the \$100 million Nebraska is losing is meant to help detect, prevent and respond to infectious diseases.

Nebraska’s DHHS was already preparing for an end to this funding Powell said in an email. The grant was scheduled to end in 2027.

“The announcement in March expedited those plans,” Powell wrote. “DHHS is prepared to address any emergencies that may occur.”

But some local health officials — people like Pofahl in central Nebraska — were counting on that money. The Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department lost more than \$600,000 in infectious disease funding. The Douglas County Health Department lost \$900,000.

And in south-central Nebraska, \$350,000 for future outbreak response disappeared, which will probably require pulling resources from other services, said Michele Bever, the South Heartland District Health Department’s executive director.

“Without those federal funds that help stretch our chronically limited resources, we use more of our general funds for that purpose,” Bever said.

Rupp said that local health departments would be critical for the initial response to any infectious disease, whether that was measles, bird flu or some new, unknown virus. In his estimation, it’s worth the cost to have well-trained, well-funded public health teams able to meet the next challenge.

“When public health is working appropriately, nobody hears about it, because they’re taking care of a lot of things and preventing a lot of issues,” Rupp said. “It’s only when it’s underfunded and under-resourced, and can’t do the job that we want them to be able to do ... that it becomes problematic.”

PUBLIC NOTICES

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NOTICE OF MEETING

ANTELOPE COUNTY BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

Antelope County Courthouse Annex, 501 M Street, Neligh, Nebraska, for the purpose of holding a hearing to determine the approval or disapproval of a Tax Exemption Application for:

Pope John XX111 Central Catholic High School – Elgin – Lot 1, The Homestead Subdivision, City of Elgin, Antelope County, Nebraska

The applications, descriptions of property, and recommendations of the Assessor are available in the Assessor’s Office. All comments will be made to the County Board of Equalization.

As a Board of Equalization, actions such as approving tax roll corrections, motor vehicle exemptions and various other items which may

become necessary to act upon. The meeting will be open to the public. An agenda is on file in the County Clerk’s Office.

/s/ LISA PAYNE
Antelope County Clerk
/s/ KELLY MUELLER
Antelope County Assessor
PUBLISH: April 30, 2025

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

ESTATE OF PHYLLIS MARIE KINNEY, DECEASED

Case No PR25-14, Richard Charles Kinney, whose mailing address is 50990 Hwy 70, Elgin, NE 68636, has been appointed as personal representative of this estate. Creditors of this estate must file their

claims with this Court on or before June 30, 2025 or be forever barred. Creditors shall submit their claims to the Antelope County Court, P.O. Box 26, Neligh, Nebraska 68756.
/s/ Martin V. Klein

Martin V. Klein, #22220
Attorney for Applicant
PUBLISH: April 30, May 7 & 14, 2025
ZNEZ

NOTICE OF MAY MEETINGS

ANTELOPE 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:

May 6, 2025 at 9:00 AM

May 13, 2025 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 30, 2025
ZNEZ

NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION

Siems hotshot's LLC

NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION
Notice is hereby given that Siems hotshot's LLC has been organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska.

The address of the designated office of the Company is 409 SOUTH MADISON STREET TILDEN, NE 68781.

The initial agent for service of process is NORTHWEST REGISTERED AGENT SERVICE INC 200 S 21ST ST STE 400A LINCOLN,

NE 68510. The general nature of the business will be to engage in the transaction of any or all lawful business, for which a limited liability company may be organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska. The Company commenced its existence on February 12, 2025, and its duration shall be perpetual.
Organizer Name: Mason Robert Siems

PUBLISH: April 16, 23 & 30, 2025
ZNEZ

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All Elgin Review public notices can also be found on this portal.

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Can you guess the year?

Ted Baum found this photo taken of Elgin Livestock and he is trying to narrow down the year this was taken. Note the fence poles on the ground and the new boards on the new pens. Several men can be found in the alleyway if you look closely. If you would like to venture a guess or know someone who was in this photo, pass it along to Ted.

Photo submitted

Plan for your first cutting of alfalfa this season

As spring rolls into full swing across Nebraska, it's time to think ahead—specifically, to the first alfalfa cutting of the season. That first harvest is more than just a kickoff to the hay season. It sets the tone for yield, forage quality, and your entire harvest schedule for the rest of the year.

In most years, the target window for first cutting in Nebraska falls between late May and early June, depending on your location and spring temperatures. The goal is to harvest when the plant is in the late bud to early bloom stage—typically when 10% or fewer of the plants are blooming. This stage provides the best balance between forage quality and tonnage. Wait too long, and you'll get more bulk but lower feed value. Cut too early, and you may sacrifice yield and risk depleting the plant's energy reserves, especially in younger stands. Personally, with first cutting often having the highest yield of the year and being more stemmy, I'd rather err on the side of cutting a bit earlier than later. Yield will still be adequate, quality will improve, and issues with slow dry down during cool spring weather can be alleviated.

One reliable method to guide timing is growing degree days, or GDD. Starting from spring green-up, alfalfa accumulates heat units. Research suggests that 750 GDD is a good marker for first cutting in Nebraska. But don't just rely on the calendar or the thermometer—get out and scout your fields. Look for growth stage, stem density, insect pressure, and any signs of disease. Pests like alfalfa weevil or other disease pressure might make cutting earlier than planned worth while.

Finally, don't forget the weather. First cutting is often the trickiest to get dry in the windrow, especially with spring showers and cooler nights. Harvesting a high-quality crop is no good if it gets rained on after cutting. While a light

IT'S ALL ABOUT BEEF




Beef Systems
Asst. Ext. Educator
Ben Beckman

shower might not be a big issue, a few days' delay for good drying weather may be better than risking heavy rain and moldy hay.

Why is first cutting so critical? Because poor timing now can snowball. Delaying your first harvest pushes back second cutting, which may then fall in the heat of July or even into drought-stressed periods. That means slower regrowth, lower quality, and possibly losing the chance at a late-summer or fall cutting. On the flip side, cutting too early can weaken the stand and reduce its ability to bounce back for the next harvest.

There's a lot to balance—yield, quality, plant health, and weather—but the decisions you make now affect every cutting that follows. That's why it's important to start planning early. Get your mower blades sharpened, balers serviced, and harvest labor or custom operators lined up before you hit go.

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



Kindergarteners, Young N Lively celebrate Arbor Day

The kindergarten classes from Elgin Public and Pope John schools gathered at the Elgin City Park on Monday afternoon. There, they took part in a tree planting to celebrate Arbor Day (April 25th). Young

N Lively members Connie Dvorak and Michele Reicks assisted the children with the planting and watering. Dvorak also spoke to the group about the importance of trees.

E-R photo/LMorgan

If you're looking for a unique graduation gift...

Graduation season is on the horizon. This time of year is often a frenetic time for students and their families, with the promise of celebrations to come. Graduation is preceded by prom for high schoolers, and for those bidding farewell to the hallowed halls of higher education, it may mean last-minute interviews and pre-commencement résumé-building. This whirlwind of activity culminates in a degree or diploma to wrap up years spent in the classroom.

Graduates have many things to look forward to this time of year, not the least of which are gifts from close friends and family. Those tasked with

coming up with graduation gifts can take inspiration from these ideas that break the mold.

- Retirement account funds: Helping a new graduate get started is a popular sentiment among gift givers, but it's also possible to give grads a leg up on the future. Helping them to fund an individual retirement account can be a thoughtful gift. Keep in mind that parameters for IRAs differ between a

traditional and a Roth IRA, and it is best to speak with a financial advisor to determine the best fit.

- Quality luggage: A good set of luggage can often last a person a lifetime if properly cared for.

- Student loan interest payment: Many students must rely on federal or private loans to offset the costs of attending college or even trade schools.

- Roadside assistance service: The road may take graduates near and far. A membership to a roadside assistance service can

be a practical gift that ensures grads get from point A to point B with fewer hiccups.

- Professional course or tickets to a conference: Help support a graduate's career growth and professional development with a subscription to a course, a book about their industry or

tickets to a relevant conference or trade show.

- Travel: Grads can be treated to the gift of travel.

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29 BLK & Charolais Steers.....	692.....	333 ⁰⁰
55 BLK & Charolais Steers.....	583.....	393 ⁰⁰
84 BLK & BWF Steers ..	691.....	313 ⁰⁰

Heiferettes.....	190 ⁰⁰ to 230 ⁰⁰
Thin Cows	115 ⁰⁰ to 135 ⁰⁰
Feeding Cows	136 ⁰⁰ to 156 ⁰⁰
Bulls - Thin & Cripples.....	121 ⁰⁰ to 150 ⁰⁰
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WOLFPACK

Wolfpack Sports



Wolfpack sophomore Braelyn Martinsen (r) owned the sprints, winning the 100 and 200 meter events at the quadrangular held in Humphrey.

H-L Quad showcases Wolfpack competitors

HUMPHREY — The weather was right for running and jumping Tuesday afternoon, April 22, as the Wolfpack track team competed at the Humphrey-Lindsay quadrangular. Albeit just four teams at the meet, Wolfpack athletes were given the opportunity to display their track talents and the team delivered.

On the girls side, sophomore Braelyn Martinsen won two gold medals, taking first in the 100 and 200 meter dash events. Gemma Miller and Megan Wright both earned medals in the shot put and discus events. Mady Kurpgeweit placed in both the high jump and 100 meter dash while teammate Kayton Zwingman claimed gold in the 400 meter dash, making it an EPPJ sweep of gold in the dash events.

On the boys side, winning gold in their events were Evin Pelster (long jump), Trey Rittscher (shot put) and Jarek Erickson (discus).

Humphrey-Lindsay won the girls title with 161 points followed by EPPJ 87, Lakeview 86 and Newman Grove/St. Edward (NGST) 77.

Humphrey-Lindsay also won the boys title with 180 points followed by Lakeview 97, NGST 73 and EPPJ 71.

- Girls**
- 100 meter dash — 1. Braelyn Martinsen, EPPJ, 13.20 seconds; 2. Mady Kurpgeweit, EPPJ, 14.20; 8. Megan Wright, EPPJ, 16.60
 - 200 meter dash — 1. Braelyn Martinsen, EPPJ, 27.90 seconds; 7. Ruby Durre, EPPJ, 37.60
 - 400 meter dash — 1. Kayton Zwingman, EPPJ, 1:07.30; 3. Kinley Drueke, EPPJ, 1:22.50
 - 800 meter run — 1. Briley Dohmen, HL, 2:41.20
 - 1600 meter run — 1. Grace Enriquez, Lakeview, 6:31.80



Kayton Zwingman won the 400 meter dash, making it a Wolfpack sweep of sprint races.



Matthew Kerkman (l) takes the baton from Joseph McNally to begin the final leg of the 4x800 relay. They, along with Max Henn and Evin Pelster, posted a time of 10:11.60.

- 3200 meter run — 1. Kora Killham, Lakeview, 15:03.80
 - 100 meter hurdles — 1. Lakin Prososki, NGSE, 18.60 seconds
 - 300 meter hurdles — 1. Alexis Korth, HL, 55.60 seconds; 3. Kayton Zwingman, EPPJ, 1:02.70
 - 400 meter relay — 1. Humphrey-Lindsay, 55.50 seconds; 2. EPPJ (Kinley Drueke, Mady Kurpgeweit, Braelyn Martinsen, Kayton Zwingman), 56.10
 - 1600 meter relay — 1. Humphrey-Lindsay, 4:57.20
 - 3200 meter relay — 1. Lakeview, 12:11.60
 - High jump — 1. Payton Fehringer, NGST, 4'6"; 2. Mady Kurpgeweit, EPPJ, 4'6"
 - Long jump — 1. Nyla Beller, HL, 14'11"; 2. Braelyn Martinsen, EPPJ, 14'7.5"
 - Triple jump — 1. Kailey Patzel, NGST, 32'0.5"
 - Shot put — 1. Hallie Reichmuth, HL, 34'7.5"; 5. Gemma Miller, EPPJ, 30'9.5"; 6. Megan Wright, EPPJ, 30'9"
 - Discus — 1. Emma Preister, HL, 97'8"; 3. Gemma Miller, EPPJ, 91'2"; 4. Megan Wright, EPPJ, 89'11"
- Boys**
- 100 yard dash — 1. Garrett Durkop, HL, 11.40 seconds
 - 200 yard dash — 1. Garrett Durkop, HL, 23.40 seconds; 8. Trey Rittscher, EPPJ, 28.60
 - 400 meter dash — 1. Garrett


- Durkop, HL, 53.70 seconds; 6. Joseph McNally, EPPJ, 1:06.40; 7. Jarek Erickson, EPPJ, 1:07.40
- 800 meter run — 1. Micah Cuevas, NGST, 2:06.70; 6. Joseph McNally, EPPJ, 2:53.30
- 1600 meter run — 1. Micah Cuevas, NGST, 4:46.53; 3. Evin Pelster, EPPJ, 5:24.50; 6. Matthew Kerkman, EPPJ, 5:59.00
- 3200 meter run — 1. Micah Cuevas, NGST, 11:32.60; 7. Matthew Kerkman, EPPJ, 13:56.40
- 300 hurdles — 1. Gavin Clark, Lakeview, 47.50 seconds
- 400 meter relay — 1. Humphrey-Lindsay, 48.70 seconds; 4. EPPJ (Justice Blecher, Max Henn, Jarek Erickson, Trey Rittscher), 55.80
- 1600 meter relay — 1. Humphrey-Lindsay, 3:48.20
- 3200 meter relay — 1. Humphrey-Lindsay, 9:15.70; 4. EPPJ (Max Henn, Joseph McNally, Matthew Kerkman, Evin Pelster), 10:11.60
- High jump — 1. Nolan Werts, NGST, 5'6"
- Long jump — 1. Evin Pelster, EPPJ, 18'4.75"
- Triple jump — 1. Gavin Grotelschen, HL, 38'
- Shot put — 1. Trey Rittscher, 40'1.5"; 2. Jarek Erickson, EPPJ, 39'3.5"; 3. Max Henn, EPPJ, 39'2.5"
- Discus — 1. Jarek Erickson, EPPJ, 133'11"; 2. Justice Blecher, EPPJ, 113'8"

Spinning Tales

Aren't memories made from moments like this?

Some things are better late than never. Some things are better said than unsaid. Okay, it may sound like gibberish or noise to some, but to others who were present Sunday night, they understand. The site was the school gymnasium up on the hill. The doors were unlocked just before supertime. One side of bleachers had been pulled out and a podium had been stationed at midcourt. What began in November and ended in March was to be celebrated on this night. Brothers and sisters, parents

SPINNING TALES



Publisher
Dennis Morgan

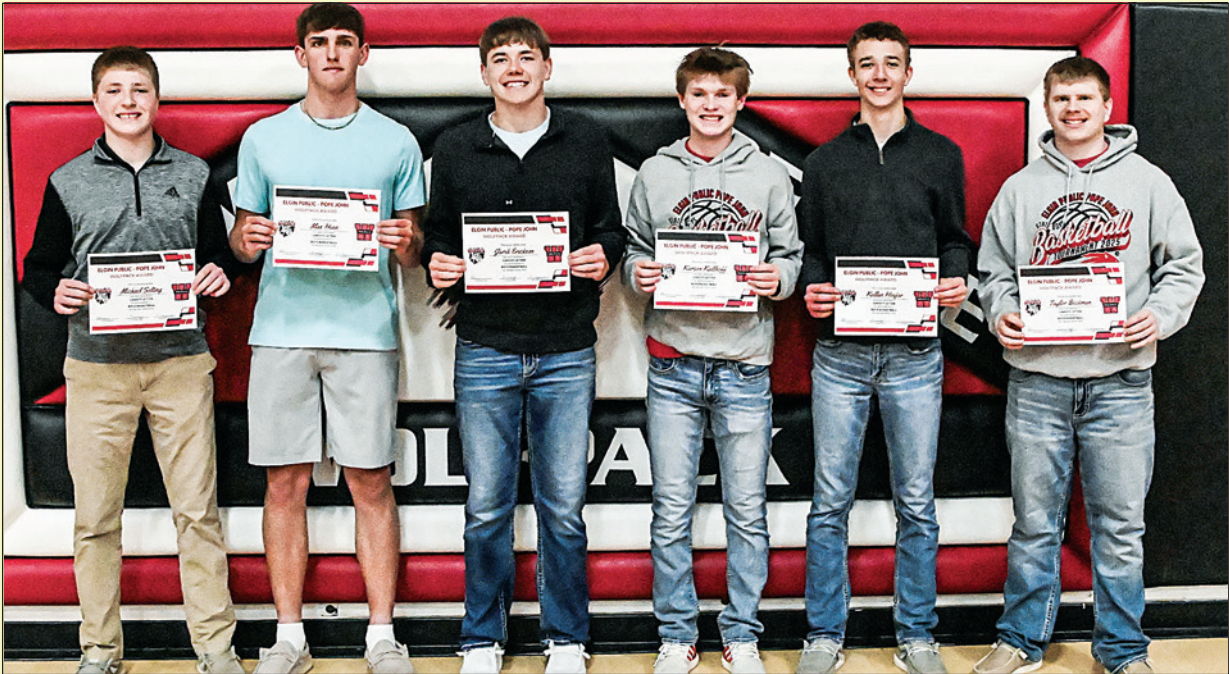
too, some sitting side by side, others scattered from one end to the other. It was postseason awards night. If we all had our way, we'd have these kind of events one, maybe two weeks after the end of the season. But, if you're going to pass out awards, you had better have all of them in hand. I try to go to as many of these as I can make, providing I have adequate notice. They don't last forever. If there's no food being served, they are generally over in 30 minutes. But, it's a special 30 minutes. It may be held in a gym, but no balls are bouncing and, except for the coach speaking, the only sound is applause. On this night, the Wolfpack boys gathered to celebrate a most improbable season. Midway through the campaign, the Wolfpack endured a five-game losing streak. It looked like the season might end before February turned to March. Then something happened. Coach Matt Euse said the team found itself and began playing for each other. Thus began a run where they found the road map to Lincoln and the state tournament. On that route was a game here in town where they took down top-rated St. Mary's. We all know what happened from there. The team, you and I, found our way to a large barn

called Devaney and a spot in the D2 State Tournament. Like a lot of Broadway shows, it ended on opening night, a bitter loss. I think that loss left a bitter taste in the team's mouth, from what I could tell Sunday night. Remember those awards earlier in this essay? Junior Jarek Erickson, the boy turning into a man, the one who teams had to put 2-3 players on in a failed effort to stop him, became a first-team all-stater as declared by three statewide publications. Four of his teammates received honorable mention. Coach Euse had more to say, Erickson broke the record for most points in a season, and most free throws made in a season. Teammate Karson Kallhoff broke the season record for made 3s in the season. Folks, they and others are all coming back next season. Do the math? Next year has the makings for some magic. But, perhaps the best words spoken on this night were about a senior, Taylor Beckman. Starting for most of the season, Beckman became the team's first player off the bench as tall, lanky Max Henn became a starter. Euse poured on, rightfully so, praise for how Beckman handled everything. He, and the team, could have gone south. Instead, Beckman's attitude, putting the team first, made this season one to remember. Years from now, Euse may look back on this year's team and say it was one of his best. Time will tell, but for now, I think the best has yet to come. These types of events end

with certificates and medals, but do these stories ever really end? Aren't memories made of this ... to be continued. ***** And then there's this ... What was the biggest story in the country this past week? Tariffs? DOGE? Pope Francis' death? Good choices, but no. The answer was the rise and fall of Saint Sanders (Shedeur). If you happened to be locked into ESPN or the NFL Network it was a constant babble about (early in the week) where he would go at the top of the draft. Then, the tune changed, when no team took him in round one; it got louder after each ensuing round until early in Round 5 when the Cleveland Browns were seemingly shamed into doing it and took Sanders off the board. All the while, the talking heads chose to make race the issue. A proud black man being put down by racist white team owners giving him a life lesson that daddy Prime Time wouldn't or couldn't do. Someone once said you reap what you sow. Farmers sow seeds to raise crops. Proud papas like Prime Time want their sons to cash in. Now that the draft is over, Saint Sanders will have to do something he hasn't done in a long time - earn a spot on the team, not a place in the Ring of Fame at Boulder. Daddy may hold all the cards in CU Land, but in Cle Town 'Saint' is just a number at the end of a depth chart. That's a wrap!



Earning MVP medals for their play during the season were (l-r): Michael Seltling (JV), Jarek Erickson (Offense) and Taylor Beckman (Teammate of the Year). Not pictured: Dylan Kolm (Defense).



Wolfpack boys basketball letter winners were (l-r): Michael Seltling, Max Henn, Jarek Erickson, Karson Kallhoff, Kellan Hoefer and Taylor Beckman. Not pictured: Dylan Kolm.

‘Gold’ eludes EPPJ at St. Mary’s

O’NEILL — Competing in their second track meet in two days, Elgin Public-Pope John found points hard to come by at the St. Mary’s Invite. The girls team finished seventh out of eight teams. Riverside won the title with 117.5 points. Their main competition was Niobrara-Verdigre who finished second with 113 points. Other team scores were Plainview 98, St. Mary’s 66, Boyd County 65, CWC 31, EPPJ 24.5 and Stuart 3. Wolfpack sophomore Braelyn Martinsen accounted for the majority of EPPJ’s team points as she medaled in the 100, 200, long jump and 4x100

relay. Teammate Gemma Miller medaled in both the shot put and discus events. Kayton Zwingman and Mady Kurpgeweit were also multiple medal winners. In the boys team competition, Riverside again prevailed, dominating the field by scoring 145 points. Plainview was second with 89, followed by Boyd County 83, St. Mary’s 77, Stuart 47, CWC 43, Niobrara-Verdigre 26, EPPJ 14 and Santee 2. Evin Pelster led the Wolfpack boys, medaling in the 1600, long jump and the 3200 meter relay. Jarek Erickson medaled in the discus and shot put. Results: **Girls**

- 100 meter dash — 1. Anna-belle Barlow, St. Mary’s, 13.14 seconds; 4. Braelyn Martinsen, EPPJ, 13.85
- 200 meter dash — 1. Michelle Esch, Riverside, 28.22 seconds; 4. Braelyn Martinsen, EPPJ, 29.40
- 400 meter dash — 1. Delani Runnels, N-V, 1:03.02
- 800 meter run — 1. Delani Runnels, N_V, 2:26.46
- 1600 meter run — 1. Delani Runnels, N-V, 5:55.08
- 3200 meter run — 1. Morgan Nincehelter, Plainview, 14:21.38
- 100 meter hurdles — 1. Emerson Mlnarik, St. Mary’s, 16.46

Hoefer, Kallhoff lead EPPJ golfers at LHNE Invite Friday

NORFOLK — For the first time in weeks, the Wolfpack golf team was at full strength competing at the LHNE Invite Friday.

Junior Karson Kallhoff and senior Kellan Hoefer broke 100 in the 18-hole tournament to lead EPPJ. Hoefer again led the way for

the Wolfpack, shooting an 18-hole score of 92. The tournament marked Kallhoff's first meet in a while and he showed the promise of

late season heroics. He went out in 42, then finished the back nine in 52 for a round of 94. Gavin Kallhoff came in with a score of 113, Michael Selting was one stroke back with a round of 113. Landyn Veik shot a round of 125. Norfolk Catholic proved to be the team to beat on this day which could best be described as cool and damp. The Knights finished with a team score of 336 to win the team competition, six strokes better than Creighton at 342. Other team scores were Norfolk JV 359, Summerland 366, Ponca 373, LHNE 387, Neligh-Oakdale 398, GACC 411, EPPJ 411, LHNE JV 473. Other schools competing were Wakefield, NC JV, Madison and Tri County. Cole Lawless of LHNE had the low round of the day, finishing with a 77 (+5). Calvin Wilmes of Creighton was two shots back at 79 (+7). Taking third was Will Brockhaus of Norfolk Catholic with an 81 (+9). Hoefer finished 23rd while Kallhoff was 29th.



Photo submitted Junior Landyn Veik readies to hit a fairway wood during action Friday at the LHNE Invite.

Pride of the

TREY RITTSCHER
BOYS TRACK

A sophomore, Trey had an awesome toss in the shot put competition at Humphrey. He won gold with a top toss of 40'1.5"

BRAELYN MARTINSEN
GIRLS TRACK

A sophomore, Braelyn brought home the gold in two events at Humphrey last week. She won the 100 & 200 meter dashes.

KELLAN HOEFER
GOLF

A senior, Kellan led his teammates at the Lutheran High Northeast tourney last Friday. He shot 92 over the 18-hole event.

PACK

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TRACK

BOYS & GIRLS VARSITY

May 1 @ Norfolk Classic..... TBA
May 3 @ NVC (Bassett)..... 9:30
May 5 Triangular @ Albion 4:00
May 7 @ Humphrey 9:00

BOYS & GIRLS JUNIOR HIGH

May 3 @ NVC (Bassett)..... 9:30
May 5 @ Randolph..... 2:30
May 8 @ Plainview..... 12:30

GOLF

VARSITY

May 3 @ West Holt 9:00
May 5 Triangular @ Albion 4:00
May 7 @ Niobrara 9:30
May 12 @ Bassett 9:00
May 13 @ Fullerton 10:00

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

April 30 EPS Dual Credit/NECC rep visit • PJCC Spring Concert
May 1 EPS JH/HS Science Fair
May 2 PJ 5th grade trip to Stuhr Museum • EPS Grandparents Day with the Elementary Spring Concert to follow
May 3 Neligh-Oakdale Honor Band
May 5 TeamMates Pizza Party
May 6 PJCC J.A.M. interviews • Wolfpack girls basketball awards/EHS National Honor Society/Academic Awards
May 7 EPS senior's last day
May 8 PJCC senior's last day/Awards
May 14 EPS K-1st field trip to Norfolk • School Board
May 16 & 18 PJCC Musical

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THE BACK PAGE

Schumacher selected for 'Siouxland's Best'

Pope John senior Kaitey Schumacher was recognized as one of 'Siouxland's Best' academic achievers last week. KCAU 9 saluted the area's top academic achievers at the 42nd annual "Best of the Class" program held on Thursday, April 24.



Kaitey Schumacher

The program, initiated in 1983, recognizes and encourages academic excellence. The event brought together 105 valedictorians or top academically ranked students from schools in Nebraska, Iowa and South Dakota. The event was held at the historic Orpheum Theatre in Sioux City. Students were recorded individually and as a group. These announcements will begin airing in May 2025 and run through the month of June.

Gold

seconds
300 meter hurdles — 1. Grace Mahony, Riverside, 49.27 seconds; 6. Kayton Zwingman, EPPJ, 52.19
400 meter relay — 1. Boyd County A, 55.14 seconds; 4. EPPJ (Kinley Drueke, Mady Kurp-geweit, Braelyn Martinsen,



Aidan McGuan

Bartlett Legion Post #107 to send Aidan McGuan to Boys State

The Bartlett American Legion Post #107 has selected Aidan Maddux as their 2025 Cornhusker Boys State representative. Aidan, the son of Traci and Bob McGuan of Farwell, Nebraska is a junior at Wheeler Central High School and is active in a number of activities including: Band, FFA, FCS, One Act Play and Journalism. Aidan's future plans are to attend Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture in Curtis, Nebraska studying 'Ranch Management.' Cornhusker Boys State will be held in Lincoln at the University of Nebraska Campus June 1-7. During this time he will experience the American Government by role-playing, campaigning for offices, holding elections and hearing many guest speakers. He will also have the opportunity to tour the Nebraska state capitol and participate in band exercises. Boys State is a nationally recognized and highly acclaimed organization that only the most qualified high school juniors are selected to participate in. It offers many opportunities which include scholarships and community recognition. Those who participate will have the opportunity to grow as individuals and to become strong functioning citizens of our nations. Aidan has a strong desire to take part in the Boys State Program and is looking forward to being a member of the Cornhusker Boys State Band during that time. Photo and story submitted by Sherry Tetschner



EPPJ junior high track
The Elgin Public-Pope John Jr High track teams competed well last Tuesday in Burwell. Eight schools competed alongside the Wolfpack. The boys team (above) ended up champions by a comfortable margin. The girls team (below) placed fourth. They will compete this Saturday in Bassett.



Kayton Zwingman), 56.79
1600 meter relay — 1. Niobara-Verdigre A, 4:26.15
3200 meter relay — 1. St. Mary's A, 10:49.59
High jump — 1. Ella Molt, Riverside, 4'10"; 5. Mady Kurp-geweit, EPPJ, 4'4"
Pole vault — 1. Annabelle Barlow, St. Mary's, 9'
Long jump — 1. Nevaeh, Mathis, Riverside, 14'9.5"; 4. Braelyn Martinsen, EPPJ, 14'4"
Triple jump — 1. Michelle Esch, Riverside, 34'1.5"
Discus — 1. Jaylee Lechtenberg, BC, 111'9"; 5. Gemma Miller, EPPJ, 94'2.5"
Shot put — 1. Taylor Pavlik, N-V, 33'4.75"; 4. Gemma Miller, EPPJ, 31'3.5"
Boys
100 meter dash — 1. Jack Molt, Riverside, 11.43 seconds
200 meter dash — 1. Jack Molt, Riverside, 23.02 seconds
400 meter dash — 1. Jack Molt, Riverside, 52.48 seconds
800 meter run — 1. Will Nelson, BC, 2:01.81
1600 meter run — 1. Max Berg, St. Mary's, 5:00.49; 3. Evin Pelster, EPPJ, 5:19.95
3200 meter run — 1. Max Berg, St. Mary's, 10:41.42
110 meter hurdles — 1. Nicholas Berger, Riverside, 16.12 seconds
300 meter hurdles — 1. Ben Barlow, St. Mary's, 42.70 seconds
400 meter relay — 1. Riverside A, 45.42 seconds
1600 meter relay — 1. Boyd County A, 3:44.24
3200 meter relay — 1. Stuart A, 8:46.87; 6. EPPJ (Max Henn, Joseph McNally, Jarek Erickson, Evin Pelster), 10:37.69
High jump — 1. Hunter Rutten, Riverside, 6'
Pole vault — 1. Trevor Carraher, Riverside, 12'
Long jump — 1. Ben Barlow,

St. Mary's, 19'6"; 6. Evin Pelster, EPPJ, 17'7"
Triple jump — 1. Gage Hedstrom, St. Mary's, 40'2"
Discus — 1. Dane Schalk, Riverside, 155'3"; 4. Jarek Erickson, EPPJ, 130'5"
Shot put — 1. Cameron Kaup, Stuart, 44'; 5. Jarek Erickson, EPPJ, 39'8"

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BCHC

◀ FROM Page 3
sistant from Clarkson College in 2005 and holds certification in kinesiotaping. Over the years, she's taken on many therapy roles—including serving as a regional rehab director. Amber takes a patient-first

NPAS

◀ FROM Page 1
Morgan, who along with her husband Dennis, has been active in journalism for more than 40 years. The Morgans purchased *The Elgin Review* from Jim & Julie Dickerson in April 2007. This month marks 18 years as publishers of *The Review*. She began her career in radio in the mid-80s after receiving a Bachelor of Science Degree in Broadcast Journalism from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Schindlers receive Harpst Award
As part of the convention, a number of awards were handed out. On Friday night, during the evening session, Scott and LuAnn Schindler, publishers of the Summerland Advocate Messenger, were presented the Don Harpst Senior Leadership Award. The award recognizes leadership and leadership potential in Nebraska newspaper professionals. They were honored for their work in the community, especially for helping youth to see their hometowns as places where leadership is meaningful – and possible. The highest honor of the convention was the induction of two esteemed journalists into the Nebraska Journalism Hall of Fame. This recognition honors individuals who have made significant, lasting contributions to journalism. This year's inductees were Victoria Ayotte Brown and Mark Rhoades.

approach, prioritizing education, motivation, and meaningful progress. "It's not about 'no pain, no gain,'" she says. "It's about figuring out what patients want to achieve and helping them get there—step by step." She focuses on equipping individuals with the knowledge and tools they need to stay active and improve their quality of life

beyond the therapy sessions. Now working full-time Monday through Friday at BCHC, Amber says she's excited to be part of a team that feels like family and shares her passion for delivering excellent patient care. "It's the people and the community that brought me here. I love being able to care for the folks I grew up with."

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Norfolk Cardiology -- Dr. Hartzell/Dr. Rome.....**May 6th, 20th**
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Orthopedics -- Dr. Ochs/Kendra Thiem**May 6th, 7th, 13th, 14th, 20th, 21st, 27th, 28th**
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