

Wednesday  
May 7, 2025

# The Elgin Review

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## In Brief

### ‘Heroism on the Plains’ to be held at Neligh Mill

Saturday afternoon, May 17.

‘Heroism on the Plains’ will be the theme for an event to kickoff the 2025 tourism season at the Neligh Mill.

Songs of courage and determination will be performed as part of the event to be held Saturday afternoon, May 17, starting at 2 p.m.

Muffins and music will be served at the mill, catered by Sly’s Family Bar & Grill of Neligh throughout the afternoon.

Dan Holtz will be performing his new program. He is the husband of former Elgin resident Alice (Schindler) Holtz. He has performed at the mill in past years and is eager to do so again.

The program is funded by support from the Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation and is being presented in partnership with Humanities Nebraska.

Also, the event is being supported by the Antelope County Visitors Grant, according to organizer Harv Ofe.

The muffins are free, Ofe said, and will be available to visitors at the program.

In case of inclement weather, the program will be moved inside the mill.

### District #18 School Board to meet on May 14

To start at 7 p.m.

The District #18 Board of Education will meet in regular session next week.

The meeting, open to the public, will be held Wednesday, May 14, in the board meeting room in the high school building.

Scheduled to begin at 7 p.m., the meeting is open to the public.

## Public Notices

Public notices in this week’s newspaper include:

Notice of Personal Representative – Estate of Phyllis Kinney

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. 27	69	52	.00
Apr. 28	83	37	.00
Apr. 29	65	42	.00
Apr. 30	68	42	.00
May 1	69	45	.09
May 2	63	34	.00
May 3	70	46	.00
Total for last week			0.09
Total for May			0.09
Total precipitation 2025			2.38

## Seventeen to be awarded diplomas Saturday at EPS



Valedictorian  
Sara Bode

Seniors at Elgin Public and Pope John XXIII Central Catholic high schools have been looking forward to this coming weekend for months now.

Graduation exercises will be held Saturday and Sunday at the schools.

Seventeen seniors at Elgin Public School will march across the stage to receive their diplomas during commencement exercises Saturday afternoon, May 10.

‘Pomp and Circumstance’ will begin at 4 p.m. for the seniors at the school.

Valedictorian of the 2024 class will be Sara Bode. She is the daughter of Ron and Liane Bode.

Salutatorian will be Callie Heithoff. She is the daughter of Todd and Melissa Heithoff.

Giving the ‘charge to the class’ this year will be EHS

alumni Chris Sullivan. He is a 26-year veteran of the financial services industry, all with Ameriprise Financial. He is an Ameriprise Platinum Financial Services® Advisor, and holds the Chartered Retirement Planning Counselor® designation from the College for Financial Planning.

Sullivan is a 1995 graduate of Elgin High School and 1999 graduate of Midland University, with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration.

Other members of the senior class are Taylor Beckman, Samantha Durre, Kate Furstenuau, Chloe Henn, Austin Hinkle, Kellan Hoefer, Landon Kallhoff, Emma Kinney, Dylan Kolm, Isabella Martinez, Kaeden Schwarting, Lauren Vitamvas, Trissa Russell, Riddick Graham and Jaidyn Schrad.



Salutatorian  
Callie Heithoff



## Spring concerts held last week at EPS, PJCC schools

Opportunities are few and far between to enjoy music performed by our youth. Such wasn’t the case as concerts were performed at both EPS and PJCC schools last week. One thing is for certain, seating was at a premium for both concerts as the gyms were filled to near capacity on the bleachers and chairs placed on the floor. (Above) The annual PJCC K-12 spring concert was held Wednesday night, April 30, at St. Boniface Auditorium. Students in all grades had their moment in the spotlight. Some were seen donning cowboy hats while performing to the music. (Left) The eyes of band students were focused on music instructor Eric Heithoff during a break between songs. They and their classmates entertained parents and grandparents Friday afternoon in the EPS gymnasium as the school wrapped up ‘Grandparents Day.’

E-R photos/DMorgan

## Kinney to manage swimming pool

A search which began in February came to a successful conclusion Monday night.

The Elgin City Council filled the last vacancy for the swimming pool staff by hiring Karen Kinney to manage the pool this season. The council approved the hire on a 3-0 vote (councilman Leigh Kluthe was absent from the meeting).

Serving as assistant pool manager will be Kerri Drueke who was hired for the position earlier this year. On a side note, long-time manager Sue Vanis said she would be avail-

able, when needed, to assist with managing duties.

The pool will open in late May, sometime after Memorial Day. City Clerk Kristin Childers said ticket prices and season passes will remain the same as one year ago.

In other action: City Park/Centennial Gardens — The council approved recommendations for repairs and updates.

Sales tax funds — Altogether, \$1,500 in sales tax funds were allotted to the Elgin Diamond Boosters for equipment.

## Suni Moone appears for arraignment

*Defendant says jail does not have adequate law library to represent himself*

Suni R. Moone, Pierce County Jail, appeared for further arraignment in two cases.

In the first case, Moone is charged with one count of burglary-habitual criminal, a Class IIA felony. He pleaded not guilty. In the second case, theft by unlawful taking - habitual criminal, a Class IIA felony, Moone entered a not guilty plea.

According to court documents, Moone is charged with breaking into two storage units in Antelope County, between Aug. 1 and Aug. 31, 2024.

Antelope County Attorney Joe Smith told the Honorable James G. Kube that a motion to consolidate cases had been filed and requested this case be scheduled for the same jury term as a 2024 cases, “to keep all matters on the same schedule.” Kube agreed.

Pretrial conference was set for May 28. Bond, in the amount of \$25,000-10%, with previous conditions, was continued.

In a case from 2024, Moone requested a hearing on a motion to endorse. Antelope County Attorney Joe Smith said the motion was unnecessary but did not object. Kube sustained the motion and the named witnesses may be called to testify by Moone.

Moone faces two amended charges of burglary, Class IIA felonies, and one count of theft by unlawful taking, \$5,000+, a Class IIA felony.

Moone also told Kube the Pierce County Jail, where he is currently being held, does not have an adequate law library, making it difficult to represent himself.

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

Story courtesy of SAM

## Commencement exercises at Pope John XXIII to be Sunday

*“Take pride in how far you’ve come. Have faith in how far you can go. But don’t forget to enjoy the journey.” - Michael Josephson.*

Fitting words for the occasion as one chapter in the lives of five seniors will close and the beginning of a new one will take place Sunday afternoon, May 11.

The 58th graduating class of Pope John XXIII Central Catholic will receive their diplomas near the conclusion of commencement exercises on that day.

The program is set to begin at 1:30 p.m. at St. Boniface Gymnasium.

Special music, fitting for the occasion, will be performed by Tessa Barlow, Aiden Klein and Reese Stuhr.

Speaking on behalf of the class will be Kaitey Schumacher, daughter of Lisa and Kevin Schumacher. Other members of the senior class are Natalie Burenheide, Darby Carstens, Olivia Klein and Juliana McNally.

Following the presentation of graduates, diplomas will be conferred by Father John Norman.

The event is open to the public.

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Pope John XXIII Central Catholic School's

## Spring Concert

High school, junior high and elementary students entertained the masses last week as they performed vocal and band selections at their end-of-year concert.



E-R photos/  
DMorgan



## How a psychiatric nurse practitioner can support your mental health

When life feels overwhelming, having the right support can make all the difference. That's where psychiatric mental health nurse practitioners—PMHNPs—come in. These



Brittany Bertram

specialized providers care for people facing mental health struggles, substance use issues, and other challenges that impact their psychological well-being. PMHNPs work with patients of all ages, in all kinds of settings, offering support, treatment, and hope. As mental health needs continue to rise, they play a crucial role in making care more accessible, breaking down stigma, and helping people get the help they need—sooner rather than later.

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- Depression
- Eating disorders
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- Personality disorders
- Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)
- Schizophrenia

See **BCHC**, Page 10 ►

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## Bartlett Bits

Wheeler Central graduation ceremonies were held Sunday, May 4 at 2 p.m. Graduates were Jayna Guggenmos, Elijah Heinz, Makayla McCain, Zachary Miner, Cooper Pokorny and Clancey Seamann.

Valedictorian for the Class of 2025 was Jayna Guggenmos. Salutatorian honors went to Cooper Pokorny. The processional and recessional 'Pomp and Circumstance,' was performed by a portion of the Wheeler Central Band. Those performing were Jerrin Kleeb, Jailynn Harrison, Aidan Maddux, Casey Freouf, Denna Skorcz and Anslee Wright. We wish these graduates well. They are all great all around students and will do well in whatever they choose. They certainly will be missed at Wheeler Central.

A birthday party was held at Lois Schunk's house, May 1 in honor of her 94th birthday. Those attending were Dave and Janet Mignery, Denny and Sharon Derner, Kenny and Carol Pelster, Bev Becker, Sherry Tetschner, Shirley Thorberg and Judy Hestekind. Those attending enjoyed fellowship and German apple cake, ice cream, coffee and water.

Wheeler Central School is rapidly coming to the end of the spring term. Students who reached their accelerated reading goals celebrated on Friday with a morning movie at school and bowling at Burwell in the afternoon.

Submitted by Sherry Tetschner

## Antelope Family Practice Clinics



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## Congratulations Class of 2025

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# GRADUATION 2025 CONGRATS

to the Wheeler Central graduates!

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Zachary Miner

Jayna Guggenmos

Cooper Pokorny

Elijah Heinz

Clancey Seamann

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# Commissioners approve work to begin soon on Elgin East—North construction project

**By Greg Tharnish**  
*The Elgin Review*

The Antelope County Commissioners met Tuesday, May 6 at 9 a.m. in the Antelope County Courthouse. This public meeting is held where the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) is located.

Three of the five commissioners (Neil Williby, Regina Krebs and Casey Dittrich) were in attendance, Charlie Henery and Eli Jacob were absent.

During the meeting which lasted over two hours, a motion was approved for the Elgin East – North Construction project. Work is slated to begin in the coming months.

The board approved advertising to complete bridge projects on the Antelope/Knox County line.

Also, the board received confirmation that one of the projects for the 2019 flood is moving forward. There were no specifics as to what project or how much money is involved at this time.

Representatives of the Elkhorn Rural Public Power District (ERPPD) were present and discussion revolved around construction/movement of a power line on a county right-of-way.

The board requested a specific plan from ERPPD as to where the line would be placed and will likely act on it at the next board

meeting.

In other action, the board approved the following grants:

- \$1750 Improvement Grant to the Royal Roping Club.
- \$227.27 Promotional Grant to Elgin’s Young and Lively for “Treasures in the Park.”
- \$350 Promotional Grant to Neligh American Legion Post 172.

Also approved was a request from the Neligh Chamber of Commerce for a \$350 grant for their annual barbeque.

The Neligh Area Community Foundation’s “One Step at a Time” program received \$350.

Final action taken by the board was approval of all permits submitted.

There was one “oversize permit” request for crane rigging, an “access permit” between land owners, and six “underground permits” for Mid-State Transport.

## It’s tassel time again

A tassel is a bunch of loose threads or cords bound at one end. Not that exciting really unless you’re a graduate or a corn grower.

Let’s take each in turn. First, the graduate. To Elgin’s high school seniors, a special day in May means putting on your best dress or shirt and then covering it up with a gown and messing up the perfect hairdo with a mortar board (cap).

Where did the cap and gown tradition start and what does moving a tassel from one side of the cap to the other mean anyway? And now, especially in massive college graduation ceremonies where mom, dad, and your other fans sit above you in stadium seats, the big thing is to decorate the top of the cap. ‘N is for knowledge’ is a popular cap-topper for University of Nebraska graduates.

The gown and cap, plus tassel, all go back to 11th century Medieval holy days to distinguish newly ordained clergy. There were several renditions of caps though the one that stuck, the square that’s sometimes hard to keep flat atop the head, is called a mortarboard since it looks like the boards masons use to carry mortar.

Graduates generally rent the cap and gown though that precious tassel with gold numbers signifying the year of graduation goes in the keepsake box. During the graduation ceremony, the tassel is to the right, and when prompted, the graduating class in unison turns the tassel to the left. This signifies that the high school diploma has been earned. College graduates do the same thing, except those with master’s and doctorate degrees leave the tassel on the left side throughout the ceremony since they have already graduated.

English composer Sir Edward Elgar wrote Pomp and Circumstance, the common graduation walking march, in 1902 for the coronation of King Edward VII. The lyrics go like this –

*Land of hope and glory  
Mother of the free  
How shall we extol thee  
Who are born of thee  
Wider still and wider  
Shall the bounds be set  
God who made thee mighty  
Make thee mightier yet*

Even in my tiny Douglas High School in southeast Nebraska (I graduated in a class of seven students), all these traditions were precisely followed. It’s also traditional to get acres and acres of corn planted mostly by graduation time in May. My dad always said not to bother a farmer during planting season except if there is a death in the family, or maybe a son or daughter graduating.

### Say What?



Elgin Columnist  
**Jane Schuchardt**

# Looking Back

The Elgin Review

Sixty Years Ago May 6, 1965

Richard Huffman, local mortician, this week purchased the Walter Snider Chapel at Clearwater and took over its operation immediately. Mr. Huffman stated he will retain Stanley Hemenway as resident attendant.

An Arabian Knights theme was the setting for the annual Junior-Senior banquet and prom held at the Elgin High School auditorium Saturday night. Mrs. Connick and Mrs. Heckert made costumes for the underclassmen waiters and waitresses.

Ray Heithoff was recently elected as commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5816 for the ensuing year. Sylvester Schrage is the sr. vice commander.

Local Boy Scouts were awarded 26 merit badges at a court of honor held in the Veterans of Foreign Wars club rooms last week. Three advancements were made as follows: Star, Eddie Johnson; and Life, Kenneth Connick and Duane Pierce.

Local blood donors and those from nearby communities last Friday just lacked one pint of attaining Elgin’s Red Cross Blood Mobile quota of 79 pints Mrs. Wm. Wirges , Sr., announced. Eighty-five donors registered with seven being rejected and 78 pints were received.

Fifty Years Ago May 1, 1975

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Jessen of Plainview announced the engagement of their daughter, Sally, to Alvin Hoefer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Hoefer. A June 28 wedding is being planned.

A new building for the Sugar Shack on the north edge of town is progressing and cement blocks have been laid for the four walls. Work on the new structure began last fall.

The Red Cross bloodmobile received 98 pints with 103 donors when the unit was in Elgin last Thursday at the Legion club. The Elgin FFA boys unloaded, loaded and cleaned the hall for the ladies.

Doris Josten, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester Josten, who is a second year student in the Veterinary Technology program at the University of Nebraska School of Technical Agriculture, was selected as an Honor Student for the sixth quarter. Selection is based on grades and a personal adjustment rating.

Mr. and Mrs. Allen Beckman of Elgin are the parents of an adopted son, Shawn Christopher. He was born March 12, 1975. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Russ Flenniken of Neligh and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Beckman of Elgin.

Thirty Years Ago May 3, 1995

Dedication ceremonies for the new C. L. Werner St. John’s Center were held Sunday afternoon, April 30, at Petersburg. The hour-long program attracted a capacity crowd to Werner Hall, the building’s large auditorium section. The program included speeches by various dignitaries, and an outdoor ribbon-cutting and

See BACK, Page 8 ►

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Pope John XXIII Central Catholic School presents the musical in

## Two Performances:

Friday **May 16** 7:00 PM      Sunday **May 18** 4:00 PM

at the St. Boniface Auditorium

Doors open 1/2 hour before the performances.

**Tickets:**  
Adults - \$15  
Students K-12 - \$7

See SCHUCHARDT, Page 10 ►

## SNOOPY!!! The Musical

See BACK, Page 8 ►

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## MOVIE NIGHT

MAY 16

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BRING YOUR OWN BEVERAGES. AND SNACKS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR SALE. ON THE SIDE OF THE PAVILION IN NELIGH'S RIVERSIDE PARK.



## State GOP hit with \$500,000 judgment over defamatory hit piece

Jack Benny used to say that “kids say the darndest things.” But every time there’s an election, we can honestly say that “political ads say the darndest things.”

A seemingly innocuous vote or comment by a campaign becomes a negative TV ad or campaign mailer.

Forget about the issues and whether a controversial vote was cast for a good reason. It’s all about whether a candidate is a scoundrel or not.

### ALL THINGS NEBRASKA



State Correspondent  
**Paul Hammel**

You might remember a few years ago when a group of state senators were targeted for re-election defeat for supporting an increase in the state’s gas tax? They overrode a veto of the hike by then Gov. Pete Ricketts to raise the tax by 6 cents over four years, reasoning that some delayed highway construction projects would never get done without more revenue.

I think they were right. Nebraska ranks high for the condition of its highways, which, you gotta think, is because we invest in good roads. But the attack ads screamed that senators “raised your taxes.”

Negative ads work, political consultants will tell you, and they worked to defeat some of those legislators who committed the sin of raising taxes so we could have good roads.

This all brings me to a recent jury trial in Lincoln, in which \$500,000 in damages were awarded to a Nebraska City woman who maintained that she was defamed by campaign ads during the 2020 election.

Janet Palmtag, who owns a Nebraska City real estate firm, was challenging the incumbent state senator, Julie Slama, in a race to represent the southeast corner of the state in the Nebraska Legislature. Both candidates were Republican — Palmtag, a long-time GOP contributor and volunteer, and Slama, a law student who had worked on a campaign of Ricketts, who appointed her to her seat in the Unicameral.

Palmtag objected when the State Republican Party (which endorsed Slama) sent out mailers that claimed the realtor had “broke the law” and “lost her license” to sell real estate.

Those claims, it turned out, were untrue. An agent employed by Palmtag had violated an Iowa real estate rule concerning transfer of an earnest deposit. So Palmtag, as his manager and because her agent was gravely ill, paid a \$500 fine to settle the matter. She didn’t break the law, nor did she lose her real estate license (she voluntarily didn’t renew it a couple of years later).

It should be noted that when the negative ads first came out, Palmtag

asked the then State GOP Executive Director Ryan Hamilton for a retraction, telling him the claims were false and malicious.

But he reportedly laughed at the request, and stated that a second mailer, with similar attacks, was at the printers and was soon to be mailed.

These kind of hit pieces are what makes people hate politicians and politics. It makes reporters hate to cover campaigns because you have to wade through all the claims and counter claims.

In today’s world, a half-truth becomes a slimy political talking point. By the time a candidate tries to tell people “it’s not true,” it’s too late, the damage has been done — not only to a candidate’s reputation, but to the reputation of a business they might own.

What’s lost in a mudslinging contest is a discussion of the issues, and how each candidate might deal with an issue important to you.

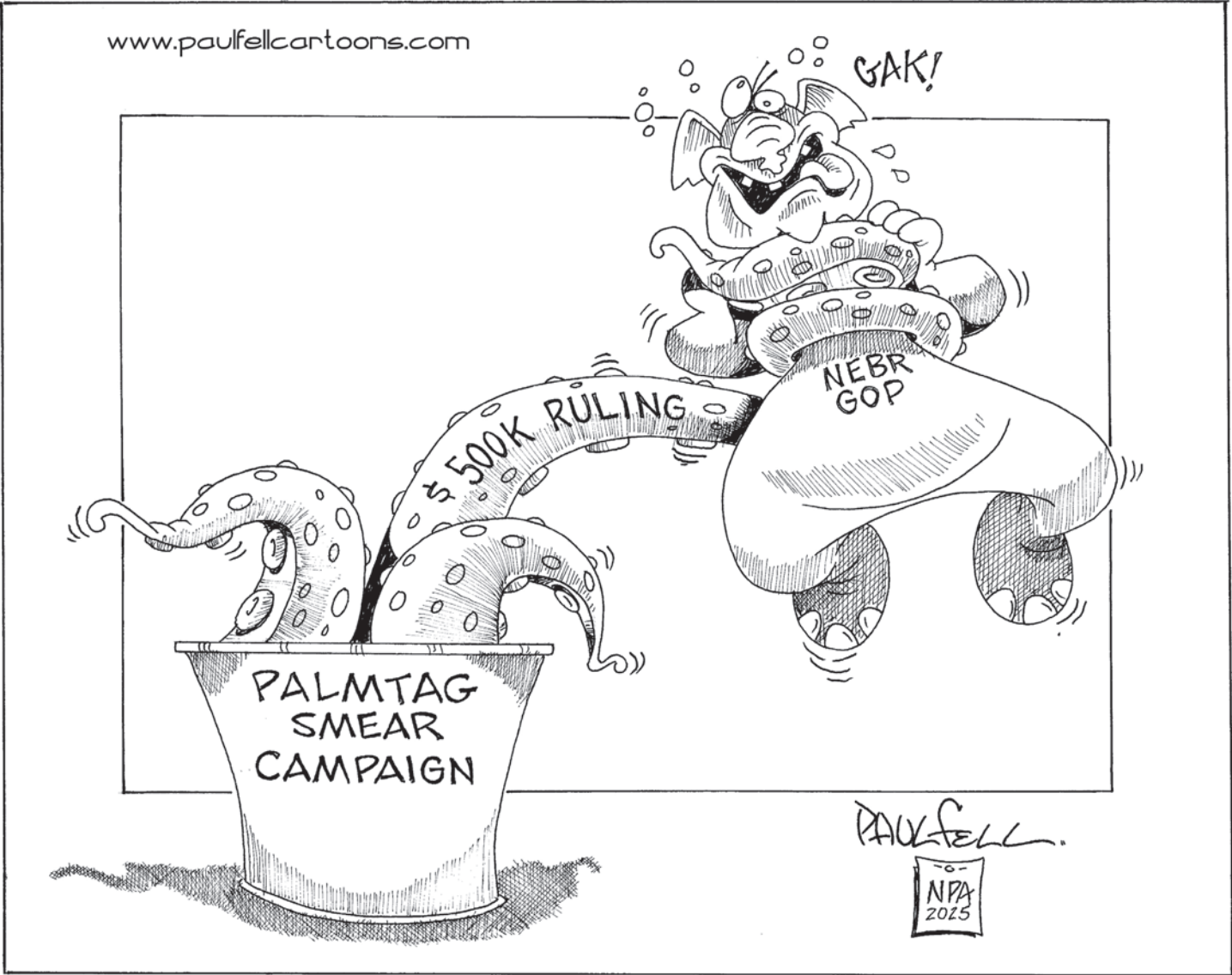
What’s to be done?

Increased spending on political campaigns is partly to blame. Legislative candidates raised more than \$9 million by Election Day 2024 to spend on their races, and that doesn’t count independent expenditures by political parties and the “dark money” spent by anonymous donors. Less spending would translate into less of a chance to go negative.

In Europe, campaigning is limited to a few weeks before an election. Maybe shorter elections would help. We’re all worn out by the onslaught of TV ads by the time election day rolls around.

More debates would also help. Too many candidates skip debates, fearing they might say something stupid or otherwise help an opponent. Voters deserve to hear, in person, from candidates to see how they respond to questions (remember President Biden’s abysmal performance in a debate).

But some of this comes down to us. As long as negative campaigning and name calling works to tear down



one candidate and elevate another, political consultants will keep pushing that button. Some voters are already rejecting mudslinging. A good example was the last race for mayor in Lincoln. One candidate kept insisting that the Capital City was crime ridden hell hole that required new leadership. The incumbent won handily because most voters rejected the smear.

One thing that might also help clean up campaigns is legal awards like the recent one.

Reportedly, the State GOP has some kind of insurance that will help pay for the half-million it owes Palmtag. Let’s hope awards like that also make campaigns think twice before going negative.

\*\*\*\*\*

*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.*

## New facilities for a deserving Nebraska National Guard

Nebraska is steeped in military tradition. It is home to Offutt Air Force Base, Camp Ashland, and our Nebraska National Guard. The Guard’s roots run deep. In 1854, 13 years before Nebraska achieved statehood, Territory Governor Thomas B. Cumings called for Nebraska settlers to form two militia regiments which laid the foundation for the Nebraska National Guard.

Time and time again, the Nebraska National Guard has stood shoulder to shoulder with first responders and local police departments to save lives and support recovery efforts here at home. When historic flooding hit the Midwest in 2019, they were there. When wildfires raged

in 2021, they were there. And when tornadoes tore through our communities just last year, they were there.

But their willingness to serve doesn’t just stop in Nebraska. When disaster struck Florida, over 100 guardsmen volunteered to help. Many deployed to Texas, assisting the Border Patrol in securing the southern border. Whether crisis occurs close to home or states away, our Guard is prepared to come to the aid of Americans in need.

In April, I had the privilege to attend the ribbon-cutting ceremony for two outstanding new facilities: the Mead Barracks and the Bellevue Readiness Center. These state-of-the-art buildings provide modern living quarters and workspaces that our Nebraska National Guard has long needed and deserved.

The new Mead Barracks will accommodate around 180 soldiers, allowing them to train on-site rather than commuting from elsewhere. Uniquely, the barracks also offer the capability of co-ed

housing of troops in all bays—if the command team allows—giving them the flexibility they need.

Just down the road, the new Bellevue Readiness Center marks another major step forward. Located near Offutt Air Force Base, its proximity strengthens coordination between the active duty and Guard functions at Offutt and the surrounding communities.

The Bellevue Readiness Center is the foundation for the future. Supporting nearly 400 National Guard personnel, it’s more than just a building. It means better readiness, quicker response times, and a Guard that continues to lead the way—not just in Nebraska, but across the nation.

I am incredibly proud of our National Guard for their hard work in safeguarding both our nation and our state. These new, modern facilities mark a significant step forward for Nebraska and the National Guard, symbolizing a bright and promising future ahead.

### WASHINGTON REPORT



U.S. Senator  
**Deb Fischer**

## A historic turnaround for border security

As President Trump’s second term eclipsed the 100-day mark this week, his swift actions to keep Americans safe and address the crisis on our southern border stand out in stark contrast with the failed policies of the previous administration. Executive actions to restore the Remain in Mexico policy, end the practice of catch-and-release, and appropriately classify the terror perpetrated by cartels on our southern border were long overdue.

Under the Biden-Harris administration, unprecedented criminal activity, fentanyl trafficking, and illegal crossings plagued Americans living near the border and inflicted consequences on communities across the country. What I witnessed on my visit to Eagle Pass, TX in January 2024 made it clear, the previous administration had been criminally negligent in its failure to stop to the crisis, protect Americans, or assert sovereignty over our nation’s border.

Instead, President Biden chose not to enforce our nation’s laws, going so far as to file a lawsuit against the state of Texas for taking action to secure its own border with Mexico. In Decem-

ber 2024, Joe Biden’s final month in office, U.S. Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) recorded 47,000 migrant apprehensions. At the height of the surge in illegal crossings during his term, CBP recorded an average of 15,000 encounters per day.

The Biden administration could not even keep its message on the border consistent. In 2024, Democrats in control of the White House and Senate claimed comprehensive legislation was necessary to address the border crisis while then-Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro Mayorkas simultaneously testified before Congress the border “is as secure as it can be.”

Under President Trump, commonsense policy and empowered law enforcement have reduced illegal border activity to a fraction of what we saw under the Biden administration. This week, White House border czar Tom Homan reported the number of border encounters in one 24-hour period was just 178. Daily border encounters are down by 93 percent, and known “gotaways” recorded by CBP, which present a particular threat to public safety and law enforcement personnel,

have been reduced by 95 percent.

This historic and rapid turnaround unmistakably demonstrates the difference it makes when a president enforces the rule of law. With the restoration of proven policies, it is no surprise to see such a decrease in illegal crossings. President Trump himself said it best in his March 4 joint address to Congress, “It turned out that all we really needed was a new president.”

I’m glad to see President Trump also recognizes the need to maintain appropriate pathways for individuals ready contribute to our society to come to this country legally. The United States has a rich legacy of immigrants finding success in our land, and many industries, including agriculture rely on migrants to fill job openings.

In Congress I have consistently advocated for policies to strengthen border security and protect Americans. In January, I supported passage of the Laken Riley Act, the first bill President Trump signed into law during this term. This bill was named in honor of the nursing student from Georgia who was tragically murdered in February 2024 by an illegal alien who had previ-

ously been arrested and released by American law enforcement multiple times. The legislation ensures dangerous criminals who are in the United States illegally are properly detained by the Department of Homeland Security.

I also support the inclusion of measures to enhance border security in the “big, beautiful bill” House Republicans are working to enact as soon as this summer. This package will help us defeat violent drug cartels and border gangs and end the scourge of fentanyl. We must take this opportunity to invest in upgraded technologies to equip border agents to fulfill their mission to keep Americans safe.

President Trump and his team have exceeded expectations and already made America more secure. Likewise, we must be resolute on behalf of the American people.

### 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](http://www.senate.gov)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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## George D. Childers, 76

April 29, 1948 - April 28, 2025

A 1966 graduate of St. Boniface High School, he became a farmer and was proud to work the land, raise crops and milk cows. He was very civic-minded throughout his life.

George D. Childers, 76, of Elgin, NE passed away Monday, April 28, 2025, at University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, NE.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at St. Boniface Church in Elgin, NE with Rev. Frank Baumert officiating. Inurnment followed in the parish cemetery. Visitation was Monday from 5-7 p.m. at the church followed by a 7:00 p.m. wake service.

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

\*\*\*\*\*

George Donald Childers, son of Ernest and Mae (Stokes) Childers, was born April 29, 1948, in Elgin, NE. He was baptized and later received the sacrament of confirmation at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Elgin, NE. George attended St. Boniface Catholic School where he graduated with the class of 1966.

Following graduation he went to refrigeration school in Omaha, NE briefly before returning to the family farm.

George lived on the family farm west of Elgin, NE. George was proud of being a farmer and he enjoyed working the land, raising crops and milking dairy

cows.

George was a lifelong member of St. Boniface Catholic Church. George's love for the community was evident from the organizations he was involved with. He was the president of the Park Center (District #52) School Board, Elgin Historical Society, Knights of Columbus, and was a certified first responder. Before George's health began to decline, he enjoyed boating, bowling, playing golf and pool, going to the coffee shop and bar, mowing around the farm, and channel surfing.

George is survived by his daughter: Suzie Scholl of Norfolk, NE; son: Eric Childers of Elgin, NE; five grandchildren: Ryan Scholl of Liberty, MO; Brendan and Allie Scholl both of Norfolk, NE; Mason and Rylee Childers both of St. Paul, NE; two sisters: Connie Thiele of Omaha, NE; Carol Funk of Elgin, NE; two brothers: Neil (Doris) Childers of Elgin, NE; Jim Childers of Elgin, NE; along with numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; son-in-law: Jeff Scholl; brothers: Wayne and Gary Childers; sister: Doris London; brothers-in-law: Louis Thiele, Mike London and Jack Funk; sisters-in-law: Jeri Childers and Joan Childers.

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ARROWHEAD

# OBITUARIES

## Arlene (Ollendick) Jensen, 90

November 26, 1934 - April 26, 2025

An Elgin native, her ardent love for cooking, baking and canning was known throughout the neighborhood.



Arlene Elizabeth (Ollendick) Jensen, age

90, formerly of McIntire Iowa, passed away on April 26, 2025 after a long, courageous battle with Alzheimer's disease. She was born on November 26th, 1934 in Elgin, Nebraska to Anna and Frank Ollendick.

She met the love of her life, Harold, at a country dance, and they later married in November of 1951.

To this marriage they were blessed with 6 children, Harry, Robert, Patty, Jolene, Donna, and Barbara. In 1960, they moved to Riceville, Iowa to raise their family.

Arlene was passionate about tending her vegetable and flower gardens. She also enjoyed many years working as a cashier at Austinson's Variety Store, selling Avon, and even helped out with Dad's road crew driving heavy equipment.

When she had a free moment, she was also known to partake in a friendly baseball game with her children and the neighborhood kids.

In 1973, Harold and Arlene embarked on a life long dream of theirs.

They sold their Riceville home and moved to an acreage near McIntire, Iowa. Bailey, the name fondly given to their acreage, would become a labor of love.

They planted trees, flowers, gardens, and crops and turned what once was an overgrown, unrecognizable plot into a showcase acreage that brought them so much pride and joy.

Arlene's hobbies included card games, jigsaw puzzles, board games, checkers, and our favorite; a spirited game of ping pong.

Her ardent love for cook-

ing, baking, and canning was known throughout the neighborhood.

She will fondly be remembered for her pies, cookies, homemade bread, and the very best cinnamon rolls. We all cherished her amazing cooking and baking.

Due to progressing health challenges, in 2010, Arlene and Harold moved to assisted living at The Cedars in Austin MN. After Harold's passing in 2014, Arlene moved to St. Mark's Lutheran Home, where she resided for the next 10 years.

Arlene was preceded in death by her loving husband of 62 years, Harold; her son, Robert; her daughter, Donna; and her granddaughter, Amanda, 2 brothers, Jack and Leonard, and 2 sisters, Jane and Roseann. She is survived by four children, Harry(Deb) Jensen of Riceville, IA; Patty Jones of Mountain Home, ID; Jolene(Cliff) Knowles of Urbandale, IA; Barbara(Darrell) Kraft of Austin, MN; 8 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren. We will dearly miss the unconditional love she shared as a wife, mother, Grandma, and Great Grandma. Blessed be her memory.

We would like to invite family and friends to join us for a celebration of Arlene's life, at the Chapel of St Mark's Lutheran Home, on May 17th at 11am.

We would also like to give a special thank you for the medical care and friendship Arlene received from The Cedars, St. Mark's, and St. Croix Hospice. The kindness and compassion she received was simply amazing.

We will always be so grateful for all the happy days Mom enjoyed because of your care.

In lieu of flowers or memorials, donations to a charity are preferred.

The Elgin Review • May 7, 2025

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## ~ Proverbs 19:11 ~

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## There'll Be No Cryin' There



THIAGO CERQUEIRA

The hymn sings of the Book of Revelation's promise of God's goodness and loving care in heaven.

There will be no more hunger, thirst or danger.

Earth's reasons for sorrow will not exist.

Celebrate that awesome difference this week in church.

## ...God will wipe away every tear from your eyes.

Revelation 7:9-17

Acts 9:36-43 John 10:22-30 Psalm 23  
Revised Common Lectionary © 1992 by the Consultation on Common Texts for  
cpm P.O. Box 301 Siren, WI 54872  
Sunday, May 11, 2025  
Second 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: 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> 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: 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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

Rural Clearwater, NE  
Fr. John Norman, Pastor  
Fr. Frank Baumert, Associate Pastor  
Weekend Mass: 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday, 5:30 am.  
cppnebraska.org

## St. Paul Lutheran Church

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Pastor Leif Hasskari  
Sunday Worship: 8:30 am.  
Sunday School/Bible Study: 9:30 am.

## Immanuel-Zion Lutheran Church

ELCA  
Rural Albion, NE  
Pastor Elizabeth Goehring

Worship Service: 9:30 am.  
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Hebrews 11:1



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- Michael Josephson



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This Sunday

May 11,  
2025

1:30 PM

St. Boniface  
Auditorium



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JULIANA CATHERINE MCNALLY



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KAITEY JANE SCHUMACHER

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# ELGIN PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL

## Graduation Ceremony

This Saturday

May 10,  
2025

4:00 PM

Elgin Public  
Gymnasium

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*Salutitorian*  
Callie Heithoff

*Class Charge*  
Chris Sullivan



TAYLOR BECKMAN



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KATE MICHELLE FURSTENAU



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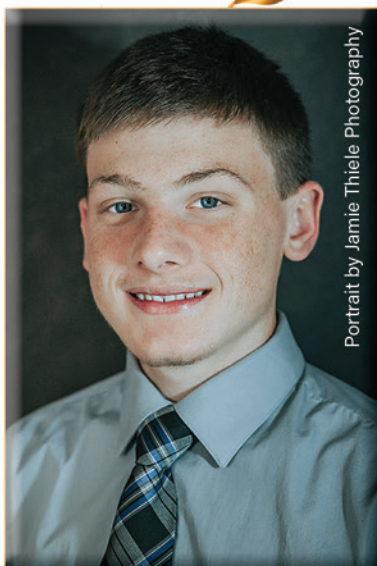
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KAEDEN LEE SCHWARTING



LAUREN FAITH VITAMVAS



Bond set, revoked, reset in case involving alleged theft from Neligh business

Antwan J. Deleon, of Neligh, appeared for arraignment, April 30, in Antelope County District court. Deleon is charged with one count of unauthorized use of a financial transaction device/\$5,000+, a Class IIA felony; and one count of theft by deception \$5,000+, a Class IIA felony.

Deleon, who worked in the accounting department at Reinke's Farm and City Service, in Neligh, is alleged to have used a company credit card for approximately \$10,000 in non-approved charges and charges not customary to the business, according to the probable cause affidavit.

Deleon also allegedly physically manipulated time cards for his sister, his girlfriend and himself.

The alleged manipulation led to approximately \$13,644.90 in paid to the employees.

Additionally, the business's petty cash fund was short approximately \$58, according to the affidavit.

Kube issued a bench warrant for Deleon's arrest, April 4, and set bond at \$25,000-10%, on April 8. Bond conditions included not using or possessing controlled substances, voluntarily submitting to blood, breath or urine testing, submitting to reasonable search and seizure of Deleon's person, place or vehicle and not to leave the State of Nebraska.

On April 30, Antelope County Attorney Joe Smith reported that Deleon tested positive for THC prior to the court session.

Kube revoked the defendant's bond and ordered him to be remanded to the Antelope County Jail for 24 hours.

Arraignment was continued May 1, in the Cumming County District Court. Kube said Deleon could appear via Zoom video conference.

He appeared without counsel. Kube queried if Deleon wanted a court-appointed attorney prior to proceeding. Deleon made the request, and with no objection from Smith, Kube appointed Patrick Carney.

Deleon will appear in Antelope County District Court on

May 28.

A bond hearing was held. Previous bond was revoked following the positive drug test on April 30.

Kube reinstated bond and conditions.

Following the Zoom conference, Deleon was released from custody of the Antelope County Sheriff.

Story courtesy of SAM

PUBLIC NOTICES

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NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE ESTATE OF PHYLLIS MARIE KINNEY, DECEASED

NOTICE Estate of PHYLLIS MARIE KINNEY, Deceased Notice is hereby given that on April 21, 2025, in the County Court of Antelope County Nebraska,

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

Continuance granted for Norfolk man arrested on drug charges

A motion for absolute discharge, in Antelope County District Court, for a 27-year-old Norfolk man will be continued.

During an April 30 evidentiary hearing, Patrick Carney, defense counsel for Arnulfo Adame-Salas, informed the Honorable James Kube he was working on a stipulation of facts and requested a continuance. Antelope County Attorney Joe Smith did not object.

Kube set a new date for the hearing for June 25.

Bond, in the amount of \$20,000-10%, with previous conditions, was continued.

Adame-Salas is charged with three counts of deliver/dispense/distribute/manufacture/possess controlled substance-Schedule 1,2,3, all Class IIA felonies.

Story courtesy of SAM

Judge terminates drug court sentence after agreement violated

The Honorable Michael Long presided over several show cause and termination hearings during Antelope County District Court sessions on April 30, in Neligh.

Blake M. Couch, 19, of Inman, requested a hearing prior to termination from the Northeast Nebraska Adult Felony Drug Court. The Honorable Michel Long officiated.

Antelope County Attorney Joe Smith and defense counsel, Joel Carlson, provided evidence.

Long ruled that the Couch received proper notice of the hearing and had violated terms and conditions of the drug court's participation agreement.

Couch was terminated from participated and will appear for further hearing, May 28, in the Antelope County District Court.

.....

Trinity Graham, 21, of Neligh, appeared for a show cause-restitution hearing. He

was represented by Nate Stratton.

Kube learned Graham has been making regular payments since October 2024. He was advised \$1,000 restitution remains unpaid.

Stratton requested a continuance to allow Graham to continue to make payments.

Graham will appear again Oct. 29, for a show cause-restitution hearing.

.....

Jessica T. Mace, 44, of Sioux City, Iowa, appeared for a show cause hearing for failure to pay restitution, related to a 2018 case.

Mace told Kube she is the primary caregiver for her daughter, who is disabled, and subsequently, has been unable to work.

Kube asked Mace if she would be able to make monthly payments. Mace responded that she discussed the matter with

family and would be able to pay \$50 per month.

Following comments from Smith, Kube ordered Mace to pay a minimum of \$50 per month toward restitution.

She will appear Oct. 29, for a show cause hearing.

.....

Harley J. Snyder, 22, of Norfolk, appeared for a revocation of probation hearing. Snyder was originally convicted of attempted burglary, a Class IIIA felony. Snyder's attorney, Brad Ewalt, told Kube Snyder would enter a plea of denial and request an evidentiary hearing, to coincide with a show cause hearing on restitution scheduled for that date. Ewalt said the defendant would like an opportunity to make payments toward restitution because it is connected to the probation revocation.

Smith said he preferred the case be heard before June. Snyder's probation term is scheduled to end June 21 and he did not foresee a conflict since the probation revocation was filed prior to completion.

Snyder will appear June 25 for a show cause and evidentiary hearings. Bond, in the amount of \$20,000-personal recognizance, is continued with conditions previously ordered.

Kube ordered Snyder to contact his probation office and continue to comply with probation terms and conditions.

Story courtesy of SAM

Aurora man disagrees with restitution ordered in theft case

Dustin M. Sargent, 30, of Aurora, appeared for sentencing before the Honorable James G. Kube, April 30, in Antelope County District Court.

Sargent was found guilty of theft by unlawful taking, a Class IV felony, stemming from a Dec. 30 incident when Sargent broke into a building owned by Jamie Curtis and a home and shop owned by Doug Reynolds and stole a 2006 Dodge pickup owned by Reynolds. The vehicle was located later in Knox County after the defendant told officers where it would be found.

Defense counsel Patrick Carney noted a correction in the presentence investigation report, regarding a criminal matter in Hamilton County. Carney offered a second page of the defendant's statement as an addendum. Antelope County Attorney Joe Smith did not object.

Smith told Kube he was seeking restitution in three amounts: \$50 to Douglas Reynolds; \$190 to FMNE Insurance; and \$701.78 to Jamie Curtis.

Sargent objected to the amount requested by the insurance company.

Kube sentenced Sargent to a one-year term in a Nebraska Department of Corrections institution, with credit for 121 days served in county jail. He also order restitution to Reynolds in the amount of \$50 and Curtis, \$701.78, in addition to court costs totaling \$138 dollars.

Sargent's bond was exonerated and applied toward fines and costs. He was remanded to the Antelope County Sheriff.

Story courtesy of SAM



How Sweet Is Was! Elgin Public Elementary Spring Concert



Grandparents Day at Elgin Public Elementary last Friday ended with the annual Spring Concert. It was "delicious"

E-R photos/ D & LMorgan

Back

FROM Page 2

cornerstone ceremony.

Elgin Public Schools Junior High academic team earned second place among eight finalist schools in the ESU #8 Junior High/Middle School Academic Quiz Bowl last Wednesday, April 26, at Neligh. The Elgin team was second to the East Regional Champion, Norfolk Christ Is King School.

Ann Moser, a senior at Pope John Central Catholic, has been named an All-American Scholar by the United States Achievement Academy. She was nominated for the award by Rev. Owen Korte.

Betty Getzfred, principal of St. Boniface School, accepted the Omaha Archdiocesan Rural Elementary Teacher of the Year Award from Sister Patricia Mulcahey, Archdiocesan superintendent of schools.

Twenty Years Ago

April 27, 2005

Elgin City Council received an offer Monday night to purchase the building that houses city hall. Alan Reicks, owner of the building that has housed city hall since 1987, asked if the council would be interested in purchasing the building at a cost of \$65,000.

Krystine N. Hoefer, a junior at Elgin High School, has been inducted into the 2004-05 National Honor Roll, which recognizes students who have achieved exceptional academic success. She is the daughter of Robert and Jaci Hoefer of Elgin.

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# Community Calendar

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

**Saturday, May 10**  
Elgin Public School graduation program.

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

**Sunday, May 12**  
EVFD regular meeting.

**Tuesday, May 13**  
Antelope County Board of Commissioners regular meeting @ the Antelope County Courthouse.

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

**Friday & Sunday, May 16 & 18**  
Pope John XXIII High School Spring Musical.

**Saturday, May 17**  
'Heroism on the Plains' music program at the Neligh Mill.\*

**Friday & Saturday, May 23 & 24**  
NSAA State Track Meet in Omaha.

Events listing courtesy of  
**ELGIN VETERANS' MEDICAL CLINIC**  
an outpatient department of Boone County Health Center  
116 N 2nd Street, Elgin  
**402.843.5910**

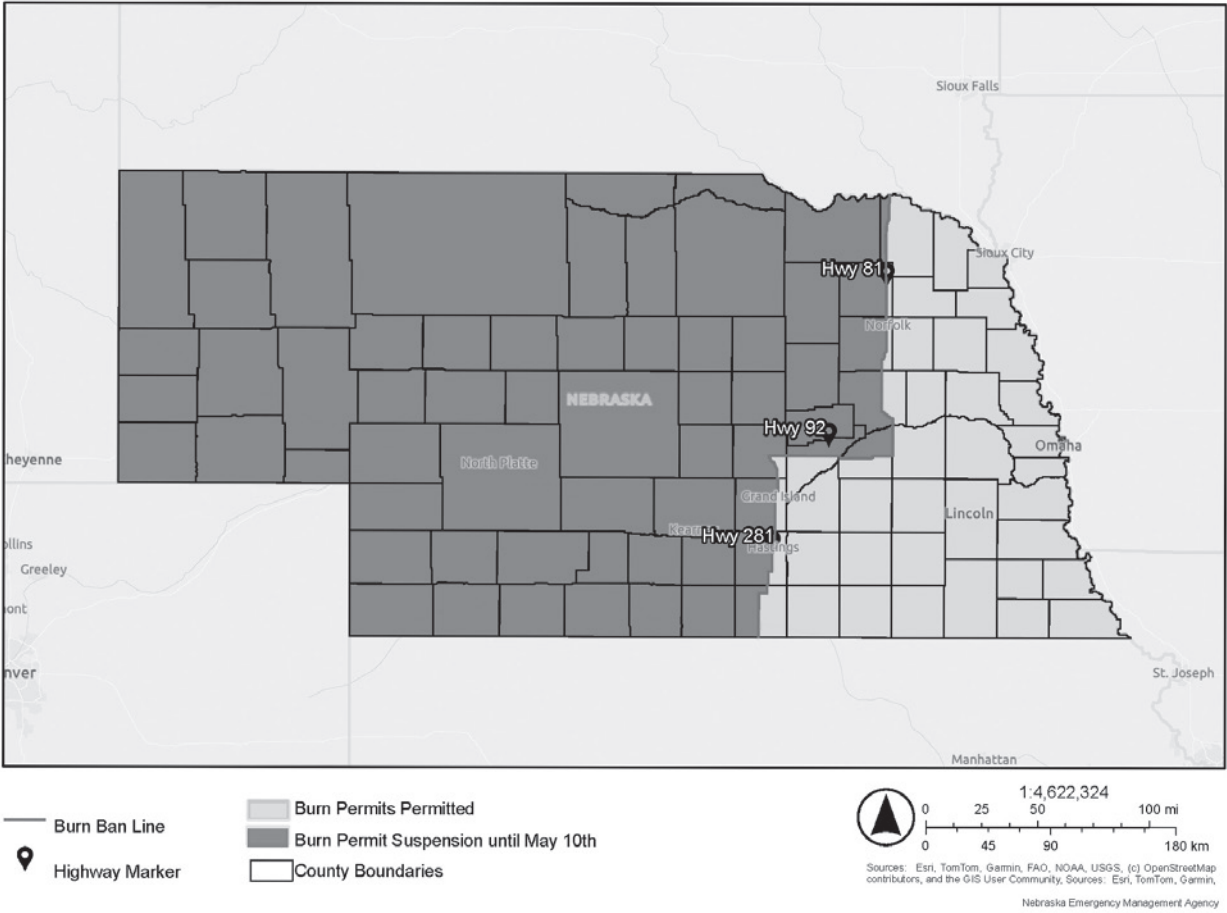
## Revised burn ban provides exception to irrigation districts

Governor Jim Pillen has revised a burn ban to allow fire chiefs discretion in granting burn permits to irrigation districts so that they can continue to clear vegetation from ditches. Other than that exception, burning remains off limits in central and western Nebraska until midnight on May 10.

Under the requirements of the new executive order, burning is only permitted:

- Within the boundaries of a surface water irrigation canal owned, titled to or operated by an irrigation district, and
- The permitted burn must be supervised on-site by the permitting authority

Burning is still prohibited across a wide swath of the state to help mitigate risks associated with potential grassland fires. The border runs south along U.S. Highway 81 from the South Dakota border to Highway 92. The line then goes west to U.S. Highway 281 and runs south to the Kansas border. Under no circumstances are burns to be authorized when the National Weather Service (NWS) issues a red flag warning.



## Marijuana LB316 advances to Select File

The question of whether Delta-8 and similar hemp-derived products are to remain legal in Nebraska was the topic of debate this past week. The federal 2018 Farm Bill legalized hemp production with 0.3% or less Delta-9 THC, but other compounds like Delta-8 THC and Delta-10 THC were not limited. The result has been the rapid rise of vape and smoke shops offering for sale Delta-8, Delta-10, and similar hemp-derived products across the state. While some establishments comply with the federal law, others use the Delta-8 or Delta-10 label to bypass Nebraska law to sell marijuana or other controlled substances.

This year saw two competing proposals for how to deal with hemp-derived products. LB16 by Senator John Cavanaugh would create a regulatory framework for the sale and marketing of consumable hemp-derived products. LB316 by Senator Kauth would ban certain derivatives of the hemp plant, such as Delta-8 that exceed the 0.3% threshold established by federal law. The Judiciary Committee heard both bills at a public hearing and ultimately decided to advance LB316 for floor debate.

### LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



District 40 Senator  
**Barry DeKay**

Those opposing LB316 argued that the bill would result in more people being arrested for the crime of possessing marijuana, resulting in misdemeanor or felony charges. Supporters of LB316 pointed out that 21 states, including every neighboring state, have banned the synthesis of Delta 8 from hemp. States have done so largely due to concerns that hemp-derived THC undermines both legal medical and recreational marijuana programs. Nebraska voters passed a medical marijuana law via the ballot initiative process last November which is set to take full effect later this year. After 8 hours of debate, LB316 was advanced to Select File by a 33 to 13 vote.

The Legislature also considered a bill by Senator Clements which would make further cuts to Nebraska's inheritance tax. LB468, as advanced by the Revenue Committee, would increase the exemption for children from \$100,000 to \$150,000 while keeping the inheritance tax rate at 1%. Extended family and non-related people would see their inheritance tax rates drop from 11% and 15% respectively to 3%. To make up for the lost revenue for counties, a number of fees and taxes collected by the counties would be increased to reflect the actual cost of providing services. LB468 was advanced to Select File by a 27 to 10 vote following a lengthy debate. I voted in support because Nebraska needs to get closer to being in line with the 45 states that do not have an inheritance tax.

Senators also debated LB530 contain multiple bills, including:

LB395, my bill, which closes a loophole which allows prohibited juveniles with sealed records from being able to purchase firearms or firearm-related

See **DeKAY**, Page xxx ►

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## From JoAnn Baum's Kitchen Caramel Pecan Delight



Good morning, Thank you for the rain Lord! This week's recipe is one I got from the internet, so

I can't take credit for it. I have had so many people ask about it and some of you don't have the internet, so I decided to just add it to the column.

My family loved it! I am sure I will be making it again soon.

I highly recommend it to anyone! Yummy!

JoAnn

### CARAMEL PECAN DELIGHT

1 stick butter  
2 cups coconut  
2 cups coarse chopped pecans  
8 oz cream cheese  
1 14 oz can sweetened condensed milk

16 oz Cool Whip®  
1 jar caramel topping  
2 graham cracker pie crusts (from store)

In a skillet, melt butter and add pecans and coconut (stir constantly) until golden brown. Remove from pan and let them completely cool.

With a mixer, beat cream cheese, milk and Cool Whip®. Mix it well. Divide the filling between the 2 pie crusts. (There may be a little extra.) Cover the filling with the cooled pecan coconut topping. Drizzle the caramel topping over the top.

Put in the freezer. You don't have to freeze it, but it slices up really nice frozen.  
You can top it with Cool Whip®!

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Hartley Burr Alexander

# The Elgin Review



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# International startups find fertile ground for growth in Nebraska; bolster ED

**By Ben Goesser**  
*Silicon Prairie News*

Increasing the number of new startups in Nebraska is one way to spur economic development in the state. New companies mean new innovations, new ideas and new career paths to attract and retain talent. Appealing to founders from outside Nebraska to locate their operations here has the potential to accelerate growth and impact.

Leaders in Nebraska's entrepreneurial ecosystem, from university heads to investors, tout the economic gains that result from encouraging startups with origins abroad to build domestically within the state.

University of Nebraska President Dr. Jeffrey Gold said new companies add new jobs to the market. He continued that these businesses bring in talent, but they can also tap into existing workforce and talent pools fostered through the university system.

Grit Road Partners Managing Partner Mike Jung said it's worthwhile for domestic companies to look at global innovations.

He said entrepreneurs outside the Midwest are finding solutions to problems similarly impacting Midwestern farmers.

"We want to leverage and take advantage of this agricultural infrastructure and ecosystem that we inherently have here in Nebraska to attract these AgTech entrepreneurs (and) AgTech companies ... to come here, establish roots, bring in talent, hire our talent and grow their businesses," Jung said.

Invest Nebraska CEO Dan Hoffman said core industries in the state, like health and agriculture, are beacons for companies looking for expert partners, skilled employees and potential customers.

Still, he said Nebraska is "small in the eyes of the world", so the state needs to incorporate global views and the latest industry trends in order to stay relevant.

For instance, Hoffman said the state's recent investments in robotics highlight the importance of local talent adapting to economic trends and fostering necessary skills to stand out among competing regions.

"Do we want to be the ones to develop (robotic) solutions here in Nebraska?" Hoffman asked. "Because otherwise, we're just going to be adopting somebody else's solutions that have been developed in another state or another country."

What Nebraska has to offer Jung said the presence of large agribusinesses, as well as institutional, multigenerational producers, dealers and distributors position Nebraska as a heavy hitter in the agriculture industry.

Beyond examples like Behlen Manufacturing and Scoular, he highlighted Nebraska's prominence in beef production, row crop production and center pivot irrigation.

Hoffman said additional opportunities exist related to established research institutions and companies in the state.

He mentioned health-tech opportunities with Creighton University, UNMC and Boys Town; construction-tech with Kiewit, HDR and DLR Group; and sports-tech with Hudl and OpenDorse.

## BCHC

◀ FROM Page 2

PMHNPs play a crucial role in bridging the gap in mental health services by offering a holistic approach to care by:

- Diagnosing, treating, and managing acute and chronic mental illnesses
  - Educating patients and families
  - Providing psychotherapy
  - Prescribing medication
  - Coordinating care and making referrals
  - Ordering, performing, and interpreting lab tests or diagnostic studies
  - Advocating for patients
  - Providing preventative care, including screenings and assessments
  - Monitoring progress and offering routine follow-up
- In addition to these core responsibilities, PMHNPs often incorporate practical and supportive strategies such as:
- Promoting sleep hygiene
  - Encouraging healthy nutrition
  - Offering supportive care
  - Teaching relaxation and coping strategies

Psychiatric nurse practitioners team up with a variety of other healthcare providers to support people on their journey toward recovery. They work alongside individuals to help them build—or rebuild—important life skills and coping strategies. Their goal is to manage symptoms, highlight each person's strengths, and help prevent further setbacks, all while keeping the focus on what matters most to the individual.

If you or someone you love could benefit from mental health support, call 402-395-3247 to schedule an appointment. Help is here.

by Brittany Bertram, MSN, APRN, PMHNP-BC



A customer using the Cattler app build for the cattle industry. Photo provided by Cattler

"A lot of the entrepreneurs will think about the coast because that's what they're going to be familiar with when they enter the United States," said Hoffman.

"But when you come to Nebraska, you have a lot of benefits. Whether it's the school system, the university system, the business climate, the cost of doing business — there's just a lot of benefits," Hoffman said.

These types of opportunities are what attracted startups Cattler and Teucer Biotech to Nebraska, from the West Coast and East Coast respectively. **Finding a support network in Nebraska**

Cattler is developing a software platform for the cattle industry. The tool, available on mobile and desktop, serves as a comprehensive solution to streamline cattle farm operations. The company's team is originally from Argentina. Earlier this year, Cattler relocated from California to The Combine in Lincoln.

Cattler co-founder and CEO Ignacio Albornoz said he initially moved to California because of his wife's job, and he planned to tap into Silicon Valley investors.

However, Albornoz said the West Coast investors he encountered lacked cattle industry experience and appeared more interested in the rise of alternative proteins and avoiding perceived sources of pollution. He and his team decided to shift focus to the Midwest where they had existing customers.

Debating between Colorado and Nebraska, Albornoz said their mission seemed to resonate with Nebraska investors. Furthermore, ecosystem ambassadors highlighted local startups, industry leaders and economic support networks in Nebraska.

Albornoz said Cattler plans to recruit local talent via the Engler Agribusiness Entrepreneurship Program at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

"Everything is about relationships," said Albornoz. "It feels like more of a smaller community, and you're always one to two steps from getting to the people that you need."

Teucer is a startup originating from research conducted at the American University of Beirut in Lebanon.

The study led to a patented test for predicting vascular disease early, which can be a warning for heart attacks and

strokes.

Teucer co-founder and President Dr. Kamal Badr, said they started out in Florida at the University of Miami to be close to a principal researcher doing postdoctoral work in the state. Badr said the team moved operations to Nebraska after conversations with NU President Gold during their time serving together on the board for the Accreditation Council Graduate Medical Education.

"Nebraska was not originally on our map, but now it has become (where) we're going to move the company," said Badr.

In need of a place to conduct validation studies for the FDA approval process, Badr said he listened to Gold's suggestion of UNMC. Gold also helped Badr network within the state. Badr said Teucer is now headquartered at CQuence Health in Omaha and recently hired Connie Ryan, former president of Streck, as the startup's CEO.

Badr said the company is exploring funding options through the state, such as the Small Business Innovation Research/Small Business Tech Transfer Matching Grants as they pursue FDA approval. He added that conversations between university leaders at both institutions could result in future collaborations on entrepreneurial efforts between UNMC and AUB.

**Weighing the options**

Albornoz of Cattler shared some of the considerations companies — both domestically and abroad — take into account when moving. These included navigating paperwork, visas and state funding programs to figuring out the best methods for achieving efficiency with cultural factors like language proficiency.

For example, Albornoz said Cattler's dev team is still based in Argentina because it's quicker for them to develop in Spanish, their first language, than English.

Founders and startup advocates alike recognize the role personal relationships play in the decision-making process.

"This business is all done by developing relationships," said Hoffman.

"We have to be present. Whether it's trade shows in other countries, or whether it's leading trade delegations to those countries or welcoming their trade delegations to Nebraska."

By directly forming these more personal relationships, Hoffman said the state can cut through the potential "noise" surrounding government policies and foreign relations at a higher level to emphasize collaboration and opportunities at a local level.

Gold agreed with the importance of one-on-one conversations. He said his talks with the Teucer founder began over coffee.

"All of us need to wear the hat of an ambassador," said Gold.

## Schuchardt

◀ FROM Page 3

About the corn tassel, it's male, and the ear shoots are female flowers.

When corn silks are fertilized by the tassels at the top of the stalk, about three weeks later, the tassels shrivel up and the silks turn brown. The corn kernels start the maturation process.

Seed companies detassel corn by hand or machine to be sure the plant cross-pollinates the ear.

Corn grown for seed is often detasseled with one row left with tassels to pollinate the four or more female rows.

While in high school, my parents never let me be on the detassel crew, claiming it was too dangerous.

Often I thought slinging fries in a deep fryer at Pete's Café in Syracuse and driving home at Oh-Dark-30 was equally perilous for a teenager.

Aside from graduation caps and corn pollination, tassels are used as a decorative attachment to curtains, throw pillows, and other fabric items. In ancient

times, the tassels were status symbols showing off wealth and grand style.

In Egypt, tassels were worn on headaddresses as a protection from evil spirits.

By now, the caps, gowns, and tassels are ordered for graduation.

So, too, is the corn seed, and most might already be planted. Both represent a life passage

in a way, an accomplishment, a symbol of hope for the future. The graduate transitions to a new life as an emerging adult.

The corn plant emerges with a tassel to assure food and feed for people and animals, and an income, hopefully enough to cover costs, for the farmer. Congrats to both!

Send comments to jane.schuchardt@gmail.com.

## Elgin Community Center Menus

**Monday, May 12:** Smothered steak, mashed potatoes & gravy, corn, peaches, milk.

**Tuesday, May 13:** Spaghetti with meatsauce, lettuce salad, green beans, apricots, garlic sticks, milk.

**Wednesday, May 14:** Chicken & stuffing casserole, broccoli/cauliflower mix, apple crisp, milk.

**Thursday, May 15:** Liver & onions OR ham, scalloped potatoes, cream peas, mandarin oranges, milk.

**Friday, May 16:** Sloppy joes on bun, potato wedges, baked beans, tropical fruit, 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.** 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!

# Court hearing, trial dates set following presentence conferences

Three pretrial conferences were held during the April 30 session of Antelope County District Court.

Nate Stratton, counsel for defendant Hunter E. Ashburn Taylor, informed the Honorable James G. Kube that negotiations continue and discovery is incomplete.

Stratton requested a continuance of the pretrial hearing and jury trial.

Ashburn Taylor, 30, of Tilden, is charged with one count of use a firearm to commit a felony, a Class IC felony; and one count of terroristic threats, a Class IIIA felony.

Antelope County Attorney Joe Smith did not object.

Kube set a pretrial conference for May 38 and ordered the defendant to appear at that time.

A jury trial is continued to Aug. 18. Bond, in the amount of \$50,000-10%, with previous conditions, remains in effect.

Jasmine M. Maughan, 21, of Neligh, appeared for a pretrial conference, and tested positive for THC, according to Smith.

Defense counsel Patrick Carney told Kube that Maughan had been living at House of Hope since April 21 and is on probation in Platte county.

Maughan denied using the substance.

Smith argued that the defendant has tested positive before and made a recommendation to revoke her bond.

Kube revoked Maughan's bond until she appears for a May 28 hearing and set bond at \$50,000-10%, with previous conditions intact.

Maughan was remanded for a minimum of 24 hours to the Antelope County Sheriff before she would be able to post bond.

A jury trial is scheduled for June 16.

Maughan is charged with one count of DUI-cause serious bodily injury a Class IIIA felony; one count of procure/sell

alcohol to minor/incompetent, a Class I misdemeanor; criminal mischief \$0-500, a Class III misdemeanor; and one count of possess or use drug paraphernalia, an infraction.

Marie A. Sands, 42, of Petersburg, appeared for pretrial hearing.

She is charged with one count of unauthorized use of a financial transaction device/under \$500, a Class II misdemeanor.

Defense counsel Frederick Bartell told Kube a plea agreement was reached.

Sands agreed to plead guilty to an amended charge of unauthorized use of a financial transaction device, a Class II misdemeanor.

Antelope County attorney agreed to recommend probation

at sentencing.

Bartell requested a restitution hearing be held at sentencing.

According to Smith, the amount of restitution would be more than the statutory amount for a misdemeanor, due to the plea agreement.

After reviewing the agreement, Kube told Sands the court was not bound by the plea and sentencing could be within the range of possible penalties.

Sands pleaded guilty to an amended charge. Kube ordered a presentence investigation and order Sands to meet with a probation officer.

Sands will appear June 25 for restitution and sentencing hearings.

Story courtesy of SAM

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## UPPER ELKHORN NRD -- WATER RESOURCES TECHNICIAN

The Upper Elkhorn NRD will be taking resumés for **WATER RESOURCES TECHNICIAN.**

This position is responsible for assisting the District in the implementation of their Groundwater Quality/Quantity Programs and other district objectives. Work experience will be considered in lieu of Post-Secondary Education in natural resources or other agricultural related fields. Familiarity with Microsoft office, GPS and ArcGIS programs beneficial. This position is full-time. The district provides paid holidays, vacation & sick leave; offers medical, vision, dental insurance and retirement.

Starting Salary Range: \$32,000-\$40,000 based on experience.

Please send resumé and three references to: Upper Elkhorn NRD 301 North Harrison, O'Neill NE 68763.

For full job description go to: [www.uenrd.org](http://www.uenrd.org) or contact the office at **402-336-3867.**

Applications will be taken until May 28, 2025 or until suitable candidate is found. Your application to this position may make you eligible for any other job openings within the district.



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## End-of-Year Pizza Party

Mentors and mentees of the TeamMates of Elgin chapter gathered Monday night for some pizza and desserts. As the school season winds down, matched students and adults will go their own way for the summer months. The party gave many a chance to say their goodbye's until next fall when school resumes. For more information on becoming a mentor, contact Sonia or Krista at 402-843-2455.

E-R photo by L Morgan

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# Consider these factors with your spring turn-out

**IT'S ALL ABOUT BEEF**  
  
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**Ben Beckman**

Spring feels like it's finally here and, pastures are greening up. As we let animals out to summer pasture, deciding which pastures should be first and when to pull the trigger are important questions to consider. While the plants we utilize in a pasture developed to withstand grazing, it still puts a certain amount of stress on them when it happens. As leaf material is removed, the plant has to pull upon reserves in the stems and roots to restart growth and build back the area for photosynthesis that was lost. For all grasses, the period where they first begin initiating growth after being dormant for the winter is a critical time. Their reserves are already low from winter maintenance, and they are counting on the first flush of growth to replenish those energy stores. When an animal comes along and nips this new growth off, the plant is put at a real disadvantage. This stress can push back development and growth for the upcoming growing season. If done repeatedly, the plant becomes weak and can be pushed out of the pasture by more vigorous species around it. With this in mind, answering the questions of when and where to turn-out for summer grazing can have a bigger impact than we often realize. Let's look first at the question of when. Basing turn-out on a specific date is a practice I really encourage folks to avoid. Because temperatures and precipitation vary from year to year, the amount of growth available at a specific date fluctuates quite a bit annually. A better measure is to allow grasses to reach at least 3 full leaves of growth before initiating grazing. This allows time for the plant to store up some reserves for a faster recovery after grazing. This stage of growth will be different for different species, so identify one or two as your primary focus to guide decisions. For pastures with species we want to control, this same principle can be used in reverse. Native pastures with aggressive species like smooth brome or crested wheatgrass intermixed can be grazed early as they often green up before our native range. Once the target species has been utilized, pull the animals and allow the desired native species to grow. This early stress on the introduced

grasses can limit their spread and actually shrink patches over time. When we look at the where portion of our turn-out question, rotating that stress of grazing over time becomes important. When there are multiple pastures in our rotation, it may be tempting to turn out onto the same pasture that's close and convenient year after year. But as we mentioned before, that prolonged stress at the same time annually can have a negative impact on plants. Even hardy species like smooth brome can see a slow but steady decline in vigor and production if grazed hard at the beginning of the growing season year after year. Not only does this mean less forage for our animals, but it also opens up the door for weedy species to establish and become a nuisance. To prevent this, change the sequence of grazing each year. A pasture that was grazed early last year might not be grazed until fall this year. The last pasture grazed last year during the growing season may be given a rest and not grazed until summer. Once again, knowing what species are in your pasture and when they mature will play a role in this decision. Cool season dominated pastures slump in the summer heat, so should be grazed in the spring annually, but the order in which they are grazed can change. Mixed warm and cool species pasture grazing may be driven by a desire to increase the proportion of either species and adjusted over time as that shift becomes evident. Spring turn-out is a looked forward to event each year, but takes a bit of planning to ensure that our grazing doesn't cause unwanted harm. Time turn-out to plant growth, not a set date, shooting for the 3 leaf stage of target grasses. Rotate grazing sequence of pastures throughout the season to prevent stressing specific species annually. Utilize targeted grazing on unwanted species to set them back and give the rest of your pasture a chance to fill in. -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](mailto:ben.beckman@unl.edu)

## Purchasing a child's bicycle

Bike's weight, height among factors to think about

When buying a child's first bike, shoppers should prioritize a bike that is lightweight, which will be easier for the child to maneuver while learning. The general rule of thumb is to find a bike that weighs less than one-third of the child's overall weight. Choose a bike that has minimal features, and opt for models that have a single gear and no complex braking systems. The child should be able to comfortably straddle the bike with their feet flat on the ground, and the seat height should be set where the child's legs are slightly bent at the bottom of the pedal stroke. According to BikeExchange.com, the first bike a child owns likely will feature 12-inch tires and will often come with option-



al training wheels. Children between the ages of two and five may progress to 14-inch tires and then increase that size as they grow and gain experience. Although it can be less expensive to purchase a child's bike at a big box retailer, more personalized service is often available at local retailers that specialize in bikes.

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WOLFPACK

# Wolfpack Sports

## Miller new EPPJ record holder in shot put

*Girls fifth, boys finish seventh at Niobrara Valley Conference Track & Field Championships*

BASSETT — A new school record highlighted the Wolfpack’s performance at the Niobrara Valley Conference Track & Field Championships held Saturday.

Wolfpack sophomore Gemma Miller broke the Wolfpack shot put record. It was previously held by Hayley Stamp and set in 2014.



Gemma Miller

Miller threw the shot 32’11.5” to finish fifth in the event.

The girls team was led by sophomore Braelyn Martinsen who continues to perform well in the sprints. She finished second in the 100 meter dash. Then, later in the day she competed in the finals of the 200 meter dash where she again came in second. In field events, she took third in the long jump.

Also, she was part of the 400 meter relay team (Mady Kurpgeweit, Kinley Druke and Kayton Zwingman) who finished third.

Zwingman brought home medals in both the 400 meter dash (second) and 300 meter hurdles (third)

Kurpgeweit cleared 4’8” to finish third in the high jump.

On the boys side, Evin Pelster placed sixth in both the 800 and 1600 meter runs as well as the long jump.

Jarek Erickson finished fourth in both the discus and shot put.

Boyd County was the class of the field in the boys division, winning the conference title with 129 points. St. Mary’s was second at 123 followed by North Central 109, CWC 92, Niobrara/Verdigre 85, Stuart 82 and EPPJ 27.

In the girls division, Niobrara/Verdigre won the team title with 162 points followed by North Central 145, St. Mary’s 107, Boyd County 76, EPPJ 57, CWC 41 and Stuart 25.

Boys results were:  
100 meter dash — 1. Hudson Hoffman, BC, 11.35 seconds  
200 meter dash — 1. Hudson Hoffman, BC, 23.18 seconds  
400 meter dash — 1. Will Nelson, BC, 53.24 seconds  
800 meter run — 1. Will Nel-



Photo submitted

Karson Kallhoff (l) placed eighth and Kellan Hoefer (r) took ninth last week at the NVC Golf Tournament played in Bassett.

## Kallhoff, Hoefer finish in top 10 at NVC Meet

BASSETT — Conference bragging rights were on the line Tuesday when the Wolfpack golf team journeyed here for the Niobrara Valley Conference Golf Tournament. Sunshine and mild temperatures made for some great golf on this day.

Two members of the Wolfpack, Karson Kallhoff and Kellan Hoefer, finished in the top 10 in the individual competition. Kallhoff finished eighth with an 18-hole score of 86, Hoefer placed ninth with an 87.

CWC’s William Jesse was medalist, carding a 71, one



E-R photos/DMorgan

Jarek Erickson placed fourth in both the shot put and discus Saturday at Bassett.

son, BC, 1:58.67; 6. Evin Pelster, EPPJ, 2:23.63

1600 meter run — 1. Will Nelson, BC, 4:59.60; 6. Evin Pelster, EPPJ, 6:30.23

3200 meter run — 1. Max Berg, St. Mary’s, 10:31.90; 6. Matthew Kerkman, EPPJ, 12:27.16

110 meter hurdles — 1. Trey Anthony, NC, 15.78 seconds

300 meter hurdles — 1. Ben Barlow, St. Mary’s, 42.42 seconds

400 meter relay — 1. Boyd County, 46.34 seconds; 7. EPPJ (Jarek Erickson, Max Henn, Joseph McNally, Trey Rittscher), 1:00.60

1600 meter relay — 1. Stuart, 3:37.28

3200 meter relay — 1. Stuart, 9:35.31

Shot put — 1. Cameron Kaup, Stuart, 47’0.5”; 4. Jarek Erickson, EPPJ, 41’9.5”; 6. Trey Rittscher, EPPJ, 40’3.5”

Discus — 1. Cameron Kaup, Stuart, 142’1”; 4. Jarek Erickson, EPPJ, 124’5”

High jump — 1. Ben Barlow, St. Mary’s, 5’10”

Pole vault — 1. Reese Smith, CWC, 10’

Long jump — 1. Trey Anthony, NC, 21’1”; 6. Evin Pelster, EPPJ, 18’8.5”

Triple jump — 1. Noah Seberger, NC, 42’6”

### Girls

100 meter dash — 1. Annabelle Barlow, St. Mary’s, 12.91 seconds; 2. Braelyn Martinsen, EPPJ, 13.40

200 meter dash — 1. Annabelle Barlow, St. Mary’s, 27.35 seconds; 2. Braelyn Martinsen, EPPJ, 27.95

400 meter dash — 1. Taylen Stark, NV, 1:02.44;

2. Kayton Zwingman, EPPJ, 1:05.10

800 meter run — 1. Taylen Stark, NV, 2:39.34

1600 meter run — 1. Delani Runnels, NV, 5:50.17

3200 meter run — 1. Delani Runnels, NV, 12:57.68

100 meter hurdles — 1. Emerson Mlnarik, St. Mary’s, 16.43 seconds

See TRACK, Page 14 ▶

## EPPJ golfers competed Saturday at Atkinson

ATKINSON — Elgin Public-Pope John was one of 12 teams competing Saturday at the West Holt Golf Invite.

Some of the best golfers in this part of the state were on the links Saturday, competing in the best conditions so far this spring.

With a faint breeze and warm sunshine, golfers found the course in top condition for the 18-hole tournament.

On this day the Wolfpack were led by senior Kellan Hoefer. He went out in 46 and came in with a 41 to finish with an 87. He finished 20th in the individual standings.

Teammate Karson Kallhoff was just one stroke behind Hoefer. He went out in 43 and came back in with a 45 for a score of 88.

Michael Selting finished with a (51-54) 105 followed by Landyn Veik (60-57) 117 and Gavin Kallhoff (65-64) 129.

Teegan Burns of Creighton won medalist honors in a playoff over Kelan Fischer of North Central. Each shot a 74.

In the team standings, Creighton won with a score of 312, 15 strokes better than second place O’Neill.

Other team scores were North Centyral 338, Summerland 343, West Holt 345, Neligh-Oakdale 360, West Holt JV 361, Stuart 377, Ainsworth 382, Niobrara-Verdigre 390, EPPJ 397 and Boyd County 404.



Multiple medal winners in individual events were Braelyn Martinsen (above) and Kayton Zwingman (below).



E-R photo/DMorgan

Kellan Hoefer squints as he looks into the sun following the arc of his ball during action on the front nine Saturday at Atkinson. He shot an 87 to finish 20th.

## Spinning Tales

Closing one chapter and starting a new one, that’s graduation day

Here, it’s always the second weekend in May.

Yes, it’s Mother’s Day and let me be the first to thank all the mothers who read this space, thanks for bringing children into the world, thanks for raising them and, now, thanks for being ready to give your son or daughter one more moment to remember on this ride we call life.

Graduation weekend is upon us, at least here at Elgin’s two high schools. Wheeler Central held their graduation ceremony on May 4, their seniors are now alumni.

Our seniors are soon to be ascending to alumni status. But, not before they do what their predecessors have done through the years.

There the walk. No silly walks here, the ministry of silly walks was disbanded years ago (pre DOGE). Everybody walks tall. Once they get lined up and get their spacing right, they walk ‘the walk.’ For guys it’s not a big deal, but for girls, depending on the shoes they wear, it can be an adventure. Sandals or flats work best, but there’s always an adventuresome lady willing to brave wearing heels. I’ve yet to see a crash and burn, but a misstep here and there happens all the time.

Then there are those hats they wear. They’re called mortar boards. Again, not much of

a problem for the guys (they’re use to wearing hats, helmets, you name it). Again, the ladies rise to the top of the charts. Those mortar boards are worn a variety of ways, all designed to not have an adverse effect on their hair. I swear some of those mortar boards coming down the aisle remind me of a Boeing 747 on final approach to land at a nearby airport.

Once they get to their assigned seats, there’s not much more that can go wrong.

There are some who seem so uncomfortable in this setting, with all eyes on them. Others are able to take everything in stride. The special music, the speeches then didn’t seem to be too personal. In fact, I don’t remember a single word that was spoken that day, other than the saying of my name, the cue for walking across the stage shaking the board of education president’s hand, then clutching the diploma.

Everybody always had to open up and look inside. Back then they were already signed. Now, in the case of some

schools, they aren’t signed until after the ceremony. It works either way.

Then there are the tears. These aren’t ‘tears for fears’ (that band faded into pop culture close to 35 years ago), but tears of celebration.

The water works when its time to give Mom & Dad flow-ers. Sometimes the tears start before Mom gets the flower and Dad gets the hug.

Some parents handle it better than others. Each has their own way to handle the moment, it’s a very big moment, a rite of passage.

Some seniors handle it better than others, but no one gets out of the gym unscathed.

The tugging of heart strings only lasts so long. Then, diplomas in hand, they march out to a brave new world.

The flipping of a tassel, from one side of the mortar board to the other, makes the transition complete. From senior to alumni. It all happens in a breath, maybe two, but it happens. And when it happens, you can’t go back. That chapter has been closed.

Most graduation parties are held afterwards, a few before graduation day.

Each is unique, some things are common everywhere. The main entree seems to vary, depending on where you go. That makes the receptions unique.

What makes them all the same is the cake. Different varieties, but cake and punch must be served.

Depending on the number of receptions you’ve been invited to, you have to pace yourselves. If you’re going to only one or two, that’s not much of a problem. But, if you’re going to six or eight parties, you better know how to pace yourself or be prepared to loosen your belt a notch before the end of the night.

When the sun rises the day after graduation, life begins anew. College beckons for some, others forego furthering their education and immediately enter the work force. What works for one graduate doesn’t necessarily work for another.

So, soon-to-be graduates, savor every moment of graduation weekend. Life offers very few opportunities when your achievements are celebrated by many.

Make some memories and never forget where you came

### SPINNING TALES



Publisher

Dennis Morgan



# Martinsen, Pelster lead Wolfpack at Creighton Invite last week

CREIGHTON — The weather was nearly perfect last week and the Wolfpack track team turned in a strong performance at the Bulldog Invite.

Battling foes from schools they don't regularly see on the track schedule, EPPJ more than held their own.

Braelyn Martinsen continued her strong spring. She finished third in both the 100 and 200 meter dash events and ran a strong leg in the 400 meter relay. Earlier in the day she placed second in the long jump.

Kayton Zwingman finished near the top in both the 400 meter dash and 300 meter hurdles.

Gemma Miller (shot put), Megan Wright (discus) and Mady Kurpgeweit (high jump) all medaled in their specialty events.

On the boys side, Evin Pelster again medaled multiple times (long jump, 800 meter run). Trey Rittscher and Max Henn showed well in the shot put while Jarek Erickson again medaled in the discus.

Wausa won the women's team title with 129 points, one better than Bloomfield at 128. Other

team scores were North Central 92, Creighton 74, EPPJ 48, Randolph 38 and Osmond 9.

Creighton won the boys team championship with 141 points followed by Bloomfield 102, Wausa 99, North Central 184, Osmond 43, Randolph 27 and EPPJ 25.

Individual results were:

**Girls**

100 meter dash — 1. Claire Meyer, Creighton, 12.81 seconds; 3. Braelyn Martinsen, EPPJ, 13.25

200 meter dash — 1. Claire Meyer, Creighton, 27.35 seconds; 3. Braelyn Martinsen, EPPJ, 28.14

400 meter dash — 1. Reagan Gillilan, Wausa, 59.50 seconds; 4. Kayton Zwingman, EPPJ, 1:05.69

800 meter run — 1. Angela Frick, North Central, 2:31.00

1600 meter run — 1. Madyson Mlady, Bloomfield, 6:09.78

3200 meter run — 1. Fallon Wietzki, North Central, 14:07.63

100 meter hurdles — 1. Makinna Lovell, Bloomfield, 16.31 seconds

300 meter hurdles — 1. Makinna Lovell, Bloomfield, 47.56

seconds; 3. Kayton Zwingman, EPPJ, 53.24

400 relay — 1. Wausa, 51.53 seconds; 3. EPPJ (Kinley Druke, Braelyn Martinsen, Mady Kurpgeweit, Kayton Zwingman), 55.00

1600 relay — 1. North Central, 10:59.82

3200 meter relay — 1. North Central, 10:59.82

High jump — 1. Mackenzie Suhr, Wausa, 5'; 4. Mady Kurpgeweit, EPPJ, 4'4"

Pole vault — 1. Aspen Fulton, Creighton, 7'

Long jump — 1. Reagan Gillilan, Wausa, 15'6"; 2. Braelyn Martinsen, EPPJ, 15'1.75"

Triple jump — 1. Madyson Mlady, Bloomfield, 31'4"

Shot put — 1. Karlene Kepler, North Central, 40'7"; 4. Gemma Miller, EPPJ, 32'2"

Discus — 1. Karlene Kepler, North Central, 125'7"; 4. Megan Wright, EPPJ, 96'1"

**Boys**

100 meter dash — 1. Hayden Loseke, Bloomfield, 11.62 seconds

200 meter dash — 1. Beau Eisenhauer, Bloomfield, 23.88 seconds

400 meter dash — 1. Mason True, Osmond, 55.13 seconds

800 meter run — 1. Landon Stephen, North Central, 2:14.59; 5. Evin Pelster, EPPJ, 2:20.54

1600 meter run — 1. Conner Rohrer, Creighton, 4:56.56

3200 meter run — 1. Nate Frick, North Central, 11:13.00; 6. Matthew Kerkman, EPPJ, 13:05.78

110 meter hurdles — 1. Trey Anthony, North Central, 15.62 seconds

300 meter hurdles — 1. Taylor Nilson, Creighton, 42.00 seconds

400 meter relay — 1. Bloomfield, 45.38 seconds; 6. EPPJ (Joseph McNally, Max Henn, Jarek Erickson, Trey Rittscher), 53.37

1600 meter relay — 1. Bloomfield, 3:49.19

3200 meter relay — 1. Bloomfield, 8:47.03; 4. EPPJ (Max Henn, Joseph McNally, Matthew Kerkman, Evin Pelster), 9:54.64

High jump — 1. Ryan Kleinschmitt, Wausa, 6'3"

Pole vault — 1. Colton Baue, Wausa, 11'

Long jump — 1. Trey Anthony, North Central, 20'6.5"; 4. Evin

Pelster, EPPJ, 18'9.25"

Triple jump — 1. Noah Seberger, North Central, 40'

Shot put — 1. Owen Doerr, Creighton, 47'9"; 4. Trey

Rittscher, EPPJ, 43'10.25"; 6. Max Henn, EPPJ, 41'0.25"

Discus — 1. Owen Doerr, Creighton, 152'10"; 2. Jarek Erickson, 131'9"



Trey Rittscher placed fourth in the shot put at Creighton with a best toss of 43'10.5".

TRACK

BOYS & GIRLS VARSITY

May 7 @ Humphrey .....9:00

May 14 Districts @ Plainview .....10:00

May 23 State @ Burke Stadium.....TBA

BOYS & GIRLS JUNIOR HIGH

May 8 @ Plainview .....12:30

GOLF

VARSITY

May 7 @ Niobrara .....9:30

May 12 @ Bassett .....9:00

May 13 @ Fullerton .....10:00

May 15 Dual @ Neligh.....2:00

ELGIN PUBLIC-POPE JOHN

WOLFPACK

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

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 10 EHS senior graduation

May 11 HAPPY MOTHERS DAY! • PJCC senior graduation

May 14 EPS K-1st field trip to Norfolk • School Board

May 16 EPS 2nd & 6th grades field trip • PJCC Pre-K graduation

May 16 & 18 PJCC Musical

May 18 EPS music students to Orpheum

May 20 Pre-K & Kindergarten graduations

May 22 Last day of school -- all Elgin schools

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WOLFPACK



THE BACK PAGE

Track

◀ FROM Page 12

300 meter hurdles — 1. Emerson Mlnarik, St. Mary's, 48.21 seconds; 3. Kayton Zwingman, EPPJ, 52.90  
400 meter relay — 1. St. Mary's, 54.62 seconds; 3. EPPJ (Kinley Drueke, Mady Kurpgewit, Braelyn Martinsen, Kayton Zwingman), 56.04  
1600 meter relay — 1. St. Mary's, 4:24.46  
3200 meter relay — 1. North Central, 10:56.33  
Shot put — 1. Karlene Kepler, North Central, 39'11"; 5. Gemma Miller, EPPJ, 32'11.5"  
Discus — 1. Karlene Kepler, NC, 128'7"  
High jump — 1. Nora Kucera, NV, 4'8"; 3. Mady Kurpgewit, EPPJ, 4'8"; 5. Kinley Drueke, EPPJ, 4'  
Pole vault — 1. Annabelle Barlow, St. Mary's, 10'  
Long jump — 1. Allison Sucha, NV, 15'5.5"; 3. Braelyn Martin-sen, EPPJ, 14'5.5"  
Triple jump — 1. Gracie Williamson, St. Mary's, 30'1"



**Wheeler Central 2025 graduates**  
Six seniors received their diplomas at Wheeler Central High School Sunday afternoon. Congratulations!  
Courtesy photo

DeKAY

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permits; and  
LB556 by Senator Riepe which lowers the age juveniles can be detained at a secure youth confinement facility from 13 years old to 11 years old.  
The portions of LB556 contained in LB530 was the center of considerable debate over the course of three days. Supporters of the measure pointed to cases in Omaha where there has been a significant uptick in repeat juvenile offenders and 11- and 12-year-olds being arrested for violent crimes like robbery and murder, LB530 was ultimately advanced to the second stage of consideration by a 33 to 0 vote.  
You can call my Capitol office telephone number at (402) 471-2801 or send email to bdekay@leg.ne.gov.

**New Address**  
Anyone wishing to contact Leo Starman can do so at his new address:  
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**Pride of the ELGIN PUBLIC-POPE JOHN WOLFPACK**  
**JAREK ERICKSON** BOYS TRACK  
A junior, Jarek continues to medal in meets. At the NVC Meet in Bassett last week, he placed 4th in both the discus and shot put.  
**GEMMA MILLER** GIRLS TRACK  
A sophomore, Gemma set a new Wolfpack record in shot put. Her throw of 32'11.5" broke the 2014 Hayley Stamp record.  
**MICHAEL SELTING** GOLF  
A sophomore, Michael continues to show improvement on the course. At West Holt he shot a 105 over 18 holes.  
This week's sponsor: **ELGIN BODY & GLASS OF ELGIN**

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