



**Vetch Days Kick Ball Tournament winners**  
See page 7



**Agenda set for District #18 school board meeting**  
See page 2

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

# The Elgin Review

Wednesday  
June 11, 2025

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## In Brief

### Flag Day program to be this Saturday, June 14

At Elgin City Park Flagpole

Help celebrate America by attending a Flag Day program at the Elgin City Park flagpole (near the swimming pool) this Saturday, June 14, beginning at 1 p.m.

Adults and children alike are invited to meet near the pole for a ceremony that is expected to last no longer than 30 minutes. Those attending are encouraged to bring their own lawn chairs. Also, the public is invited to bring their unserviceable flags which will be collected and disposed of properly. American flags will be available for purchase. Attendees are encouraged to bring a can or regular ground coffee to be donated to the Norfolk Veterans Home. This event is being organized by the local chapters of the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars and their corresponding Auxiliaries.

### Red Cross Bloodmobile stopping in Elgin

This Friday, June 13.

The Red Cross Bloodmobile will be at the KC Hall in Elgin on Friday, June 13.

The bloodmobile will accept donations from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## Public Notices

Public notices in this week's newspaper include:

- Property ratios — Antelope County Assessor
  - Notice of Incorporation — Zwingman Financial Services LLC
  - Notice of Public Hearing — The Antelope County Board of Commissioners
  - Proceedings — The Elgin City Council
  - Proceedings — The Antelope County Board of Commissioners
  - Notice of Sale — City of Elgin
- 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 91 degrees recorded on Monday, June 2. The low temperature during the same period was 48 degrees recorded on Wednesday, June 3.

Altogether, 2.12 inches 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
June 1	85	54	.00
June 2	91	51	2.07
June 3	65	48	.00
June 4	73	51	.00
June 5	67	56	.05
June 6	68	58	.00
June 7	81	57	.00
Total for last week			2.12
Total for June			2.12
Total precipitation 2025			6.56



E-R photos

## Vetch Days underway

**Kids' activities** kicked off Vetch Days Monday. (Above) Parker Borer makes kick ball look easy. (Below) Easton Bode showed off his artistic skills as part of chalk art competition in front of Dean's Market. The celebration wraps up tonight with a Cruise Night.



## Session's over; three victories and one disappointment

By Barry McKay

District #41 State Senator

The 109th Legislature's first session has adjourned sine die. As of the day of adjournment, the Legislature had passed 175 bills, excluding "A" bills and one proposed constitutional amendment.

Here's my own personal assessment of how the Legislature did this session. In my mind, there were three major successes and one disappointment from this session.

In terms of successes, the Legislature completed its first and foremost constitutional duty and passed a balanced budget for the biennium covering fiscal years 2025 to 2027. When the Legislature convened in January, senators initially faced an estimated \$432 million shortfall for the next two

See DeKAY, Page 5 ▶



Photo submitted

Senator Barry DeKay was present at the bill signing ceremony for LB89, the Stand With Women Act. This ceremony took place on June 4th in the Governor's Office of the State Capitol. Pictured (l-r) is Senator Barry DeKay, Senator Rob Clements, former North Carolina high school volleyball player Payton McNabb, Husker softball player Jordy Bahl, Senator Kathleen Kauth, Governor Jim Pillen, former University of Kentucky swimmer Riley Gaines, Husker volleyball player Rebekah Allick, Senator Loren Lippincott, Senator Bob Andersen, and Senator Brian Hardin.

## City approves sales tax funds for 'welcome' signs

Motorists entering Elgin may soon be greeted by new signs and there could be a cost savings too!

Bruce Clark, president of the Elgin Community Club/Chamber of Commerce, updated the Elgin City Council last week, saying he believed the signs could be installed for several thousand dollars by doing most of the work locally.

A project now years in the making, Clark said an out-of-town business nearly doubled an original quote, citing an oversight on installation costs. He said, in recent weeks, he began to do some figuring and talking to local businesses, and now believes thousands can be saved by doing most of the work locally.

All four council members were in agreement that if the work can be done locally, and at a reduced price, then the project should go forward.

To that end, the council approved a motion to allocate just under \$4,000 in sales tax funds to purchase the actual signs. That leaves an additional \$4,000 which the club hopes to raise from other sources (grants, etc.) to cover the remaining costs.

City Clerk Kristin Childers said before the signs can be installed, they will need to be approved by the Nebraska Department of Roads since they will be installed at locations adjacent to Highways 70 and 14.

"I think it's (new signs) something we definitely need," Councilman Mike Dvorak said.

The new signs were designed by rural Elgin resident Anna Meis more than one year ago.

### Other work

Clark told the council that electrical improvements to be made to the Elgin City Park are still on schedule to be completed this summer. "We'll have it done before August, we'll make it happen," he said.

### In other action:

**Responsibility** — While there may be no comprehensive plan addressing who is responsible for curb & gutters, the City will move forward with the opinion that it is the homeowner's responsibility unless the city is developing a whole street. Council President Craig Niewohner said the city will go with that interpretation "until they have something more permanent."

**Auction Time** — The council voted 4-0 to have Auction Time handle the sale of the old ambulance. On a different matter, the council was informed that no bids have been received so far for an ambulance power cot which was

designated last month to be sold. Accounting — Approved was a switch to One Billing Solutions to handle all Elgin Rescue billings.

**Substitute** — The council added an additional substitute lifeguard, Kenzie Wies of Petersburg, to the list of available lifeguards to work at the Elgin Swimming Pool. On another pool related matter, the council approved, for an extra \$30 for a family membership, it can include a babysitter. For more information about the babysitter fee, contact the pool manager or city hall.

**Permits** — Building permits were approved for Greg Henn and Shirley Nissen.

**Sheriff's report** — During April, the Antelope County Sheriff's Department provided just over 64 hours of patrol and responded to nine 911 calls.

## No decision yet on new dispatch radio system

Tuesday, June 10, the Antelope County Commissioners (ACC) met with all commissioners present.

County Sheriff Bob Moore gave an update on bids received for a new Dispatch Radio System for the county jail as the current system is over ten years old. Zetron, the supplier of the radio system currently in use, came in with a bid of \$106,000. Mindshare, a Lincoln, NE-based company, had a bid for \$96,000. Sheriff Moore stated that he has made no decision yet as maintenance/support issues were being discussed with both companies. Moore said a decision will be announced at the June 24 budget meeting. Both bids were within Sheriff Moore's budget.

Road Superintendent Leigh Kluthe reported on the counties' Bridge Match Program. Bids were accepted by the Department of Transportation (DOT) for two projects:

- The Brunswick Northwest Project was awarded to Dixon Construction out of Correctionville, IA. Their bid was \$619,230.88.
- The Royal North Project was awarded to Midwest Infrastructure, based in Lincoln, NE, for \$243,763.31.

A short discussion followed

See RADIO, Page 8 ▶

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From JoAnn Baum's Kitchen

# Rhubarb Muffins and Rhubarb Custard Bake

Good day, "Rhubarb, Rhubarb, Rhubarb" It's Rhubarb season! How many ways can one person use rhubarb? Well, here's a very simple

recipe that's yummy and easy to make. Rhubarb Muffins. It's a perfect breakfast food to go with your morning coffee. Hope this is a recipe you will use for years to come. Rhubarb Custard Bake - has

anyone used this recipe using your fresh rhubarb? This is one of Ted's all time favorites. We love custard anything in our house. Serve it plain or with Cool Whip® or vanilla ice cream.

Keep this recipe handy! You will want to make it more than once. Enjoy!

JoAnn

## RHUBARB MUFFINS

1/2 cup oil  
1-1/2 cups brown sugar  
1 cup buttermilk  
2-3/4 cups flour  
1 tsp baking soda  
1 egg  
2 tsp vanilla

1 tsp baking powder  
1/2 tsp salt  
1 1/2 cups rhubarb, cut very fine  
1/2 cup nuts (optional)

Mix together, oil, brown sugar, egg, vanilla. Mix well. Add buttermilk. Mix well. Sift together, flour, baking soda, baking powder, and salt. Add to the first mixture. Add rhubarb. Mix well! Put in sprayed muffin tins. Makes 22-26 muffins depending on size.  
Mix 1/3 cup sugar and 3/4 tsp cinnamon. Sprinkle some of top of each muffin. Bake 350° for 20-25 minutes. Delicious!

## RHUBARB CUSTARD BAKE

2 cups rhubarb, diced  
1-1/2 cups sugar  
1/2 cup flour  
1 cup milk  
3 large eggs

1 tsp vanilla  
1/4 tsp salt  
1/2 tsp baking powder  
1 Tbls melted butter

Preheat oven to 350°, grease a 9 x 13 pan. In a bowl, toss the rhubarb with 1/4 cup of sugar and set it aside. In a large mixing bowl, whisk together the remaining ingredients (not the butter) until smooth. Pour the batter in the baking dish and evenly. Distribute the rhubarb on the top. Drizzle the melted butter on top. Bake 35-40 minutes or until custard is set and golden brown. Let cool completely, Yummy!

# NECC President's, Dean's lists announced

Northeast Community College in Norfolk has released the President's Honor List and Dean's Honor List for both full- and part-time students for the Spring 2025 semester.

To be named to the President's Honor List, students must earn a grade point average of 4.0 and be enrolled for at least 12 credit hours.

Students named to the President's Part-Time list attained a 4.0 grade point average while taking at least six credit hours.

Students named to the Dean's Honor List earned a graded point average of at least

3.75 while taking at least 12 credit hours.

Students named to the Dean's Part-Time list earned a grade point average of 3.75 or above while taking at least six credit hours.

### PRESIDENT'S HONOR LIST - Full-Time

Albion -- Jose Luna.  
Clearwater -- Aislynn Kester.  
Elgin -- Luke Henn.  
Tilden -- Blane Mollhoff, Whitney Wilkins.

### PRESIDENT'S HONOR LIST - Part-Time

Albion -- Joni Kahlandt, Hannah Krohn.

Clearwater -- Bailey Ahlers, Jenna Funk, Ethan Kester, Logan Kester, Shaylie Kester, Emma King, Raina Krebs, Kenzie Sanne, Caydence Schumacher, Keaton Thiele.

Elgin -- Gemma Miller, Jaidyn Schrad.  
Neligh -- Matthew Dilly, Kate Furstenaue, Hailey Johnson.  
Tilden -- Allison Bromley, Alexis Lind, Rylee Rutjens, Katelynn Warneke.

### DEAN'S HONOR LIST - Full-Time

Albion -- Brooke Brengelman, Jackson Nelson.

Clearwater -- Lenora Kester, Sydni McConnell.  
Neligh -- Samuel Hemenway.  
Tilden -- Lillian Hagemann, Layton Meyer.

### DEAN'S HONOR LIST - Full-Time

Clearwater -- Kelsey Schlecht.  
Elgin -- Ava Rittscher.  
Neligh -- Kyla Donaldson, Mori Lopez.  
Tilden -- Jessica Black.

## District #18 school board meets tonight

The District #18 Board of Education will get an early start to conducting its monthly meeting Wednesday night (tonight).

Due to a board retreat to be held following the conclusion of the regular monthly meeting, the school board will convene in regular session at 6:30 p.m. in their meeting room at Elgin High School.

Among the many items on the 'action' agenda are:

- Approve the first reading of NASB recommended policies 502.01 Resident Students; 502.02 Non-Resident Students/Option Enrollment; 504.06 Student Dress Code and Grooming; 504.12 Cell Phones and Other Electronic Communication Devices; 506.01 Student Activity Eligibility; 506.10 Student Physicals for Athletics; 604.16 Behavioral Intervention and Classroom Management; 604.16R1 NDE Standards for System of Supports; 604.17 Use of Artificial Intelligence in the School; 605.05 Religious-Based Exclusion from a School Program; 1005.03 Parental and Family Involvement in the Schools; 1005.13 Parental Access to Library Materials.

• Approve the second reading of Policy 413.06 Para to Teacher Program

- Approve the Safety Plan
- Approve the purchase of a new reading program
- Approve classroom cabinets bid
- Approve gym building doors bid
- Approve Technology Service Plan
- Set Meal Prices

Items to be discussed with no action planned are a preliminary review of the 2025/26 budget; and review teaching assignments for the new school year set to begin in August.

Following the conclusion of the regular meeting, the board will adjourn for supper, then return later for a board retreat.

## Measles: Not just a rash



Dr. Anthony Kusek

Measles is a highly contagious respiratory virus that spreads through the air when an infected person breathes, talks, coughs, or sneezes. While some think of measles as just a rash, it can cause serious complications—especially in young children—and may require hospitalization.

Symptoms usually begin with a fever (often above 101°F), cough, runny nose, and red, watery eyes. A few days later, a rash develops, typically spreading from the face downward. Koplik spots—tiny bluish-white spots inside the mouth—can

See MEASLES, Page 3 ▶

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## Measles: Not Just a Rash.

**HIGHLY CONTAGIOUS RESPIRATORY VIRUS**

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# Summer is not quite the reprieve we long for

I am fairly certain I write about this every year at this time. School is finally over, and the kids are out for the summer. It's exciting that the daily grind, homework, and school

activities are on hold. Unfortunately, summer is not quite the reprieve we long for and every year we find it difficult to find a good routine. This year looks a bit different. My husband is working full-time at home, and I am working full-time in an office.

He's with the kids during the day and having to take on my former responsibilities of schlepping kids to and from sports camps, Vacation Bible School, and Driver's Ed. Before school let out, he was determined that this summer would not be like before and decided to implement a more "structured" summer.

He didn't want the kids vegging out on electronics, spending too much time indoors, and eating endless snacks. The last thing we want is to get to the end of the summer and realize they haven't really done anything. On the other hand, do they really need to do something? He spent time coming up with a plan. He created a schedule for when the kids could get on electronics, a morning checklist that must be completed each day, and a chore chart for them to be able to earn money. The plan was amazing. The execution? Not so much.

We are a week into summer, and the kids have yet to be

notified of this new plan, and although I'm not home during the day to verify this, I'm going to go out on a limb and say the electronic schedule isn't being followed as he had hoped. He's trying to work and keep on top of this master plan. I think he may have bit off more than he can chew.

I know he means well, and I fully support the idea. It's important that when we set these lofty goals or dream up what the summer or the year may look like, we be realistic about what is actually possible. Routine is important, limited electronics is wise, and having a morning checklist of things is all well and good; however, if it's too complicated then either it won't get enforced or it will never take off the ground.

We often envision things going a certain way and it can feel defeating when it doesn't pan out like we planned. I'm trying to encourage him that this "plan" doesn't have to be a work of art. It doesn't need to be overly complicated to be effective.

It needs to be something the kids can all remember and that he can actually enforce. Otherwise, it's just a waste of time and a cause of frustration.

Besides, I think it's wise to make this a time of rest and relaxation. The kids work hard during the year. Between school and extracurricular activities, they have a jam-packed schedule. This is their one time to have a little autonomy with their time, and we shouldn't be micromanaging every moment of it. God willing, next week will go better.

Everyone can settle into the new schedule and develop a routine that everyone can live with.

Let's try to enjoy the summer ahead, whatever that looks like.

## Tales of a Tired Momma



Elgin Columnist Katherine Cobb

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The Elgin Review

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Online auction to begin at 10:30 AM

DIRECTIONS: In Norfolk, NE go South on 1st Street to E South Airport Rd. Turn East and go 1 1/2 miles. The property is on the south side of the road.

**Vehicles**

1950 Willys Jeep 4WD, Manual Transmission, Inline 4 Cyl Engine, 70,231 Miles (In excellent Condition) VIN:4WD45716; 1927 Ford Model T, 2 Door, Drivable VIN:1466226; 1930 Ford Model A, 4 Door Sedan, 53,847 Miles, Flathead Engine, Drivable, Motor Number 2641280; 1969 Buick Lesabre 400, 2 Door, Hardtop, Automatic, 49,456 Miles, VIN:454379X151959; 1996 Dodge Ram 1500 Truck, Extended, Cab, 2WD, V8, Automatic, 276,792 Miles, VIN:3B7HC13Z7TG109677; 1965 Buick Special, 4 Door Sedan, Automatic, Factory AC, Wildcat 310 Engine, 94,522 Miles, VIN:436695K111667; 1963 Chevrolet Impala, 4 Door Sedan, 350 Engine, 55,522 Miles, VIN:31869K180418; 1949 International KB-2, 3/4 Ton Pickup, 2WD, 4 Speed, Gas Engine, 53,492 Miles, VIN:83625; 1957 Oldsmobile Super 88, Automatic, "Rocket" V8 Engine, 85,600 Miles VIN:578M33077; 1956 Buick Special, 4 Door Sedan, V8 Engine, 69,567 Miles, VIN:4C1156516; 1957 Buick Special, 4 Door Sedan, Automatic, V8 Engine 17,625 Miles, VIN:4D4037937; 1963 International Metro AM122, Delivery Van, VIN:M372786; 1940 Dodge Power Wagon, Model B1PW, Flathead 16 Engine, Dump Truck, VIN:83909498; 1959 Rambler, 4 Door Sedan, 31,180 Miles, Automatic, In-Line 6 Engine VIN:D695676; 1963 Buick Lesabre

Estate Wagon, 4 Door, Wildcat V8 Engine, 7,062 Miles, VIN:4J4007085; 1980 Chevrolet Scottsdale K20 Pickup, 4x4, Automatic, 350 Engine, Front Snowplow, 38,826 Miles, VIN:CKK24AS123911; 1979 Lincoln Continental Towncar, 4 Door, Automatic, V8 Engine, Power Windows/Locks/Seats 80,784 Miles, VIN:9Y825626813; Buick hubcaps; Ford hubcaps; Rambler hubcaps; Numerous car parts; Pontiac mirrors; International end gate; Dodge Ram end gate; Model T owners manual; Buick shop manuals; Power Wagon shop manual & owners manual

**Shop Tools & Misc**

Air compressor; Electrical cords; Log chains; Shovels; Pikes; Spades; Car ramps; Floor jack; Gas cans; Hand tools; Tool boxes

**Trailers**

International pickup box trailer; International pickup box trailer; 3-Utility trailers

**Tractors & Equipment**

Ford 8N with Woods belly mower; International H, narrow front, SN:243054; Terramite T5B tractor/loader/backhoe, diesel engine, 3796 Hrs, SN:561010; Power Grader International M Tractor w/ 12 ft. mow board; Power Grader International M Tractor w/o mow board; International Cub Cadet 72 garden tractor w/ Kohler engine; International Cub Cadet 105 Hydro garden tractor w/ Kohler engine; International Cub Cadet 102 garden tractor w/ Kohler engine; International Cub Cadet 70 garden tractor w/ Kohler engine; International E-Z Vac lawn and garden wagon; Garden 6 wheel estate rake; Electric cement mixer; Harrow section; 250 Gal fuel tank; Portable wrench

**Antiques**

7UP cooler; Coca-Cola cooler; Metal Buick advertising sign; International Harvester deep freezer; Mona Motor Oil Company oil can; Mobil oil cans; Fire Fighter pedal car; Vintage horse drawn road grader; Horse drawn dirt scoop; Horse drawn dump rake; Horse drawn manure spreader; International cream separator; Singer sewing machine; Cast iron pans; Military footlocker

**Lawn & Garden**

Agri Fab fertilizer spreader; Earl May drop spreader; Craftsman walk behind weed eater; Snapper walk behind push mower; Electric log splitter; Garden hose; Wheelbarrow

**Guns**

Eastern Arms 101-15 Sears Roebuck double barrel 12-gauge shotgun, 2 3/4 in SN:5100; Springfield Arms Model 1896, bolt action, .30 cal. sight gauge SN:65564; Japanese WWII Type 99 Rifle, 7.7x58 cal, sight gauge SN:28876; Western Field Model M815, 22 S-LR, bolt action Smith & Wesson 38, 5 shot pistol SN:158910; Smith & Wesson 32, 6 shot pistol SN:113482; Pistol holster

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# Looking Back

Sixty Years Ago

June 10, 1965

Every seat was filled last Wednesday night when Elgin honored its "Health Team" in St. Boniface auditorium—a banquet that may have been a first in the state. St. Boniface ladies prepared and served turkey and the trimmings for the Chamber of Commerce sponsored function. Honored guests were Mrs. W. W. Graham, D. S. Hinman, F. J. Stehly and P. M. Jillson and pharmacists Chas. E. and Mabel Sheets.

Lee Kluthe struck a 400 pound calf Wednesday night north of Neligh while returning to Elgin. The pickup he was driving sustained an estimated \$425 damage.

St. Boniface Church was the scene of the wedding of Miss Arlene C. Kerkman and Harold J. Borer, June 5th, 1965. The Rt. Rev. Msgr. T. H. Buelt officiated at the double-ring ceremony and the 10:30 High Mass.

Arlyn Bruce Selting will graduate Saturday, June 12 from the University of Nebraska with a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering. He is a son of the Ben Seltings and is married to the former Jeanette Schrage, RN, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Claude Schrage of Clearwater.

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Dozler are the parents of a 7 lb., 15 oz. son, Raymond John, born June 1, 1965.

Fifty Years Ago

June 5, 1975

Sandy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Buelt of Elgin recently returned to Omaha after attending a two-week seminar at the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota. The course entitled "The Challenging Choice - Respiratory and Cardiovascular patients" include lectures, study sessions and clinical experience at Rochester Methodist and St. Mary's Hospitals.

An estimated 150 persons partook of the "over 60" pot luck dinner served in the K. of C. Hall Sunday evening. The gathering of these senior citizens was organized and promoted by the Elgin CIP Social Service Committee.

Lee Koinzan was named the fifth member to the Elgin Village Board of Trustees at the group's regular monthly meeting Monday night in the fire hall. John Buffington had served on the board for many years and recently resigned, leaving the vacancy on the board open for appointment.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Miller of Rhode Island are the parents of a son born May 18, 1975, weighing 8 lbs. 4 ozs. Mrs. Miller is the former Doris Schumacher.

Glenn Kreuzscher, Director of the Nebraska Department of Agriculture, has announced the John Miller, Kent Beckman, William Anderson and Steve Heithoff have been awarded scholarships to attend the fourth annual Nebraska Agricultural Youth Institute. The institute, conducted by the Nebraska Department of Agriculture, is being held July 28 through August 1 at the Nebraska Center for Continuing Education in Lincoln.

Thirty Years Ago

June 7, 1995

A total of 78 Antelope County youths were trained in babysitting and child care skills at Elgin and Neligh. One of the babysitting clinics was held June 2 at St. Boniface School in Elgin under sponsorship of Antelope County Cooperative Extension and the University of Nebraska.

Elgin Public Schools class of 1999 (eighth grade class) made a \$50 donation to kick off this year's Elgin Diamond Boosters Fund Drive to support the local baseball and softball programs. The money comes from a fund drive that the class completed in seventh grade.

Harold S. Nielsen, son of Edward and Caroline (Sorensen) Nielsen, was born at Elgin, March 11, 1916, and died at Antelope Memorial Hospital, Neligh, June 2, 1995, at the age of 79 years, two months and 21 days.

A computer course, Introduction to Microsoft Windows, will be offered July 5, 6, and 7 at the Antelope County Resource Center in Neligh, from 1 to 4 p.m. each day.

Twenty Years Ago

June 8, 2005

Elgin area crops need some warm and dry conditions. You won't hear that statement very often with a hot summer approaching, but the recent cool and wet weather has delayed crop development somewhat in Northeast Nebraska.

## Measles

◀ FROM Page 2

appear early and help with diagnosis. It's important to know that a person can spread measles up to four days before and after the rash appears.

The best protection against measles is the MMR vaccine, which guards against measles, mumps, and rubella. Two doses are about 97% effective. If you haven't had measles or the MMR vaccine, speak with your healthcare provider to ensure you're protected.

While Boone County has not reported any measles cases to date, Boone County Health Center is taking proactive steps to be ready should one occur. Our team has established education protocols, strengthened internal communication, and implemented facility-wide precautions to keep both patients and staff safe.

We urge everyone to stay informed and vigilant. Vaccination is not just about individual protection—it's about safeguarding our entire community.

For more information or concerns about measles or the MMR vaccine, contact your primary care provider at Boone County Health Center.

By Dr. Anthony Kusek, Chief of Staff, Boone County Health Center

### Elgin Community Center Menus

**Monday, June 16:** Submarine sandwich, broccoli salad, chips, bread & butter, milk.

**Tuesday, June 17:** Runza casserole, potato wedges, corn, apple slices, bread & butter, milk.

**Wednesday, June 18:** Chicken & stuffing casserole, green beans, mandarin oranges, bread & butter, milk.

**Thursday, June 19:** Liver & onions OR ham, au gratin potatoes, peas, peach crisp, bread & butter, milk.

**Friday, June 20:** Pork

tenderloin sandwich, macaroni salad, broccoli, tropical fruit, bread & butter, 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.

You can purchase Photos from The Elgin Review online.

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# Opinion

READ, REFLECT, RESPOND.

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

Edward R. Murrow

## With no mountains to climb, waves to surf, the state's challenge is a river

With no mountains to climb, waves to surf, the state's challenge is a river. As we're reminded over and over, Nebraska doesn't have mountains like Colorado and Wyoming, and doesn't have the beaches of California or Florida.

That's one of the reasons, we're told, the Cornhusker State is among the least visited of all the states.

I even heard this during a recent distillery tour out in Kentucky: "You're from Nebraska!" the tour guide exclaimed. "Isn't that the least-visited state in the union?"

Geez. But we have an abundance of rivers in our state.

From the "mile wide and an inch deep" Platte and its multitudes of Sandhill cranes, to the quiet solitude of the Niobrara, there's a river for everyone.

Kayakers find great challenges on

the Dismal and Snake, a livestock tank makes for a relaxing and unique ride down one of the Loups, the Cedar or the Republican, and nothing beats a float down the Niobrara or Long Pine.

I'm a big fan of the Missouri myself, having lived near it in eastern Nebraska.

I've camped on its banks, fished the crystal clear waters of Sunshine Bottoms, boated through windswept waves, and written stories about great floods and a Lincoln man's attempt to swim down it from Sioux City to Omaha. (He didn't make it.)

It is a river of many stories. My mom, whose family was from Wakefield, used to tell us that you could drive across the Missouri on the ice during winter at South Sioux City. An uncle's ultimate dream was to clandestinely drive a car (with deflated tires to ride the rails) across the long railroad bridge at Sioux City.

It's one of the world's great rivers and the liquid highway that led explorers, trappers and steamboats into the vast interior of our nation. Watching its ever-flowing waters roll by made you wonder what the river had passed upstream, and what might it encounter down.

Poet and author John Neihardt called the Missouri an "eternal fighting man."

"I think God wished to teach the beauty of a virile soul fighting its way to peace - and his precept was the Missouri," he wrote in his book, "The River and I."

Full disclosure: I'm a member of the Neihardt Foundation Board after, years ago, being urged by my grandma to read "Black Elk Speaks." But I've also read the Missouri River book, which chronicles the often misadventurous trip Neihardt took down the Missouri in 1908 - about a century

after Lewis & Clark explored the area.

He built a large canoe for the trip, which leaked and had a motor that often wouldn't start. They ran out of food and had to shoot a deer to eat. Eventually, they swapped boats and floated through the night to complete a 56-day trip from Fort Benton, Montana to Sioux City, Iowa.

So, somehow it got in my brain that if there were no tall mountains to climb in Nebraska, and no towering waves to surf, I needed to paddle down

### ALL THINGS NEBRASKA



State Correspondent Paul Hammel

See **HAMMEL**, Page 8 ▶

## Fighting for improvements for taxpayers

For many Americans filing taxes can be painstaking and time-consuming. Poor customer service and outdated technology systems at the IRS contribute to a lack of transparency and threaten to turn the process into a dreaded ritual every tax season. Streamlining the process to empower Americans to more easily file their taxes is an important goal.

I have worked diligently on this issue as a member of the Ways and Means Committee. It is the reason I support authorized programs to minimize the complications and cost of tax filing for Americans, such as IRS Free File. Unfortunately, there is a lack of awareness of existing programs to make affordable tax preparation available to taxpayers. Furthermore, many misconceptions surround a new in-house tax preparation program introduced under the previous presidential administration called IRS Direct File.

While Direct File may seem well-intentioned, the program's conflict of interest is glaring. Its preparatory function effectively makes the IRS sole tax preparer, filer, and enforcer all in one when it is used. Taken with a broader trend of federal overreach into the financial privacy of families and small businesses under the last administration, I have serious concerns with granting the IRS the power to predetermine and tell Americans what they owe, then stifle good faith disagreement under threat of burdensome audits.

Just as troubling, the Direct File program was never authorized by law nor through regulation. Democrats gave the IRS \$15 million in 2022 to study and report to Congress on the feasibility, taxpayer interest, and cost of a direct e-file tax return system. However, Congress has never provided for implementation of such a program by law. I repeatedly asked then-IRS Commissioner Danny Werfel in a Ways and Means hearing and in writing to account for the statutory basis for Direct File rollout. He was unable to do so.

The consequences of this unlawful lack of accountability have been serious. In March 2025, the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration reported only about one-third of taxpayers who created a Direct File account submitted a tax return that was accepted by the system. Furthermore, the report found the IRS underestimated the true cost of the program by nearly 36 percent. Recent estimates found the program costs well over \$500 per taxpayer to operate while private sector alternatives offer better services at no cost to the government.

For these reasons, I supported inclusion of language based on my FAIR PREP Act in the legislative package passed by the House last week to end the Direct File program.

There are many existing low and no-cost options for those who may find it difficult to afford preparation services. Many private companies offer free services, and the IRS Free File program is available to Americans with an adjusted gross income of \$84,000 or less. Charitable and volunteer services such as the IRS' Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) are also available. Additionally, a provision in the One Big Beautiful Bill Act passed by the House would instruct the IRS to develop a new public-private partnership to build on Free File and create a free filing program available to a majority of taxpayers.

See **SMITH**, Page 6 ▶

### FROM THE HILL



Congressman Adrian Smith

## Red alert

I participated in the Shangri-La Dialogue Friday and Saturday of last week in Singapore with Democrat Senator Tammy Duckworth. The annual conference is a meeting of world leaders meet to discuss defense policy and national security in the Indo-Pacific.

Why does this matter to Nebraskans?

The Indo-Pacific is critical to our peace and prosperity. Communist China's aggression has threatened that. Some of Nebraska's largest trade partners are Japan and South Korea. Singapore hosts over 6,000 American companies that are doing business in Asia. Included on that list is ADM, which has nine facilities and processing plants in Nebraska.

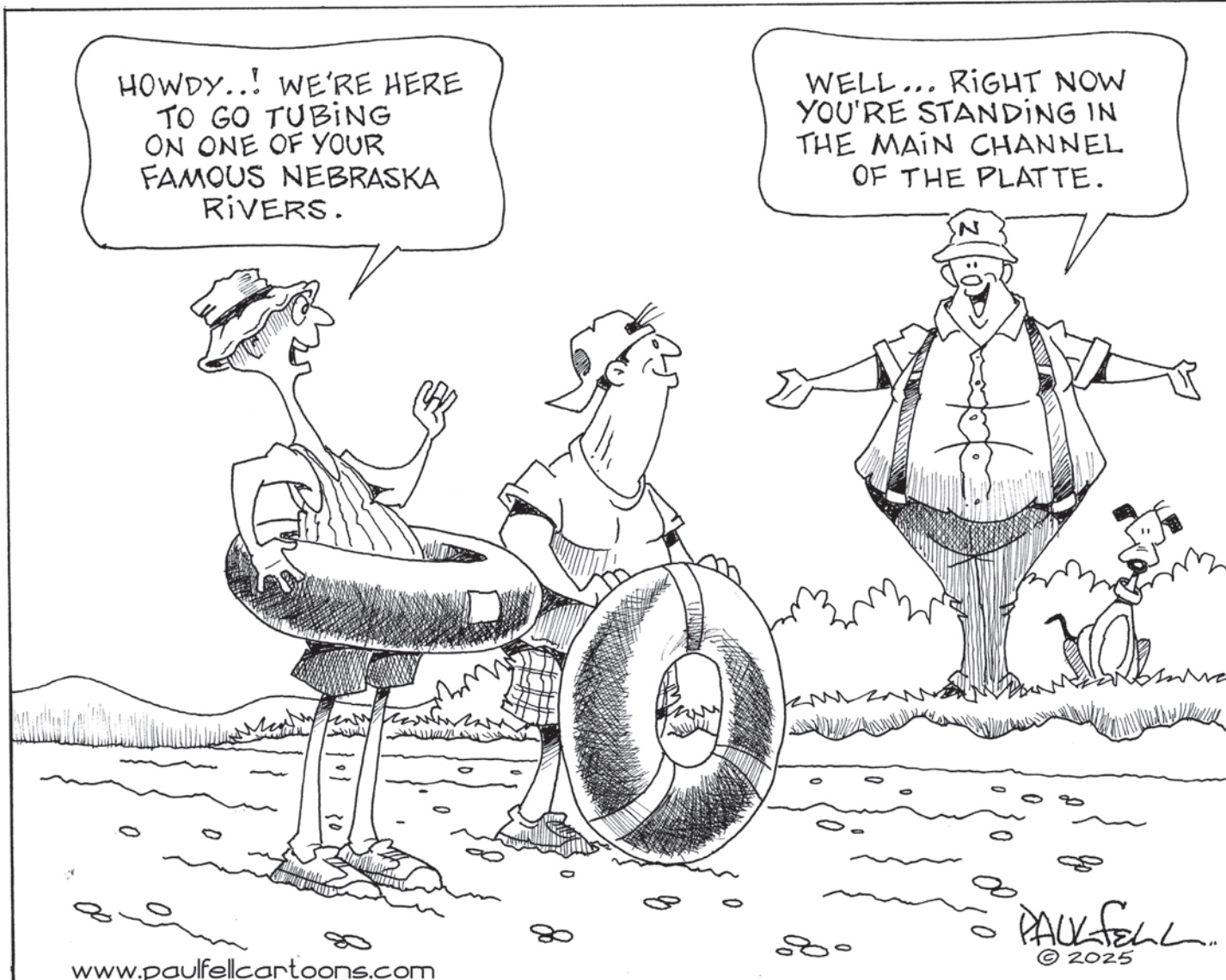
\$5.3 trillion worth of trade that flows through South China Sea. This makes up about 21% of global trade. If global trade in the region is disrupted by Communist China's aggression, Nebraskans would feel it in their pocketbooks. We would be unable to export our agricultural products. We would

### WASHINGTON REPORT



U.S. Senator Pete Ricketts

See **RICKETTS**, Page 7 ▶



www.paulfellcartoons.com

## Supporting health, well-being of our farmers, ranchers, and ag workforce

Throughout my life, I have had many roles—daughter, wife, mother, school board member, and now as the U.S. Senator for Nebraska.

Yet, one of the most challenging roles I have had is that of a cattle rancher on our family ranch.

As any rancher, farmer, or farmworker knows, the agriculture industry is full of uncertainties. All too often, machinery breaks down, feed and grain prices fluctuate, unprecedented weather and disease hits; yet our ag producers push forward.

These daily uncertainties can take a toll. It is why farmers and ranchers face higher levels of stress and anxiety.

Sadly, farmer suicide rates are two to five times higher than the national average. In fact, suicide rates in rural areas are significantly higher as compared to urban areas.

In recent years, a focus on mental health advocacy has increased across the country. Now a common topic of discussion at universities, in corporate environments, or even at dinner

tables, there is a collective push to openly acknowledge and explore the vital role mental health plays in our overall well-being.

But for many, discussing mental health still carries a stigma, which can discourage those in need from seeking help.

In a 2021 survey conducted by the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) alongside Morning Consult, 63% of farmers and workers reported a stigma around stress and mental health in the ag community. In the same study, researchers also found that while 42% of farmers and workers say they are experiencing more mental health challenges now than a year ago, only 21% have personally sought care.

Our producers and farm workers already face a host of unique challenges—feeding and fueling our world is no easy task. Access to mental health resources and assistance shouldn't be among them.

In support of our ag producers, I introduced a resolution, alongside Senator Bennet from Colorado, designating May 29th as Mental Health Awareness in Agriculture Day. Our resolution unanimously passed the U.S. Senate.

Mental Health Awareness in Agriculture Day is a day to promote the mental well-being and raise awareness of the unique challenges our farmers, ranchers, and workers face every day. It is also an opportunity to draw attention to the resources currently available for producers in need of assistance.

Today, I write to share some of those resources for our ag producers. I hope that those who read this will find the below resources helpful. I encourage you to share these with your friends and family members.

• Nebraska Rural Response Hotline is a comprehensive resource for farmers, ranchers, and rural residents across Nebraska. It offers free mental health vouchers and helps connect individuals to financial and legal professionals who understand the unique challenges of rural life.

• North Central Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Center links farmers, ranchers, and those working in other ag-related fields to a wide range of stress assistance programs, helping them navigate the pressures of the industry.

• Farm Foundation provides an anonymous, online peer-to-peer support community along with a library of self-paced mental health resources. It also offers free counseling and consultation services for farm family members aged 16 and older.

• American Farm Bureau Federation's Farm State of Mind Directory has a list of mental health resources linked and available for anyone in the country.

Thank you for participating in the democratic process.

### 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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# DeKay

◀ FROM Page 1

years, a number that soon grew. Over the course of the session, the Appropriations Committee grappled with unexpected additional expenses for the Medicaid program followed by a pessimistic forecasting board review which dropped expected state revenues. In response, senators voted to shift funds or cut spending by over \$600 million to cover the deficit and balance the state's budget.

Second, the Legislature successfully passed LB89, the Stand with Women Act. LB89 was championed by Senator Kauth after her previous effort last year, LB575, failed to receive the necessary votes during debate. The bill's goal was to define the terms "male" and "female" and require school sports to be restricted based on a student's sex assigned at birth. There is an exception if the sport is (1) coed or mixed or (2) there is no female equivalent team, such as football. As a longtime high school and college basketball official of over 40 years, I am very pleased that LB89 passed this year since the measure reaffirms that women have a right to fair competition and opportunities in sports.

Third, the Legislature built upon its efforts from last year to address the national security challenges posed by foreign adversarial countries such as Russia, China, and Iran. This year saw the passage of three bills: LB378, LB644, LB660. LB378 requires Nebraska colleges and universities to disclose funding from foreign adversarial countries to the Attorney General. Until 2020, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln had the Confucius Institute which taught Chinese language, culture, and society. However, Confucius



Senator Barry DeKay presented Husker softball player Jordy Bahl with Legislature Resolution 267 recognizing her accomplishments in earning the Big Ten Player of the Year award and the Pitcher of the Year. This presentation took place on June 3 in the Governor's Office of the State Capitol. Pictured (l-r) are Senator Barry DeKay, Husker softball coach Rhonda Revelle, Husker softball player Jordy Bahl, and Governor Jim Pillen.

Institutes and similar programs across the country have been criticized for both compromising academic freedom and placing the national interests of the People's Republic of China ahead of the United States.

LB660 creates the Secure Drone Purchasing Act and requires state agencies and organizations receiving state tax dollars to only purchase drones that comply with certain federal security standards. The intent of the legislation is to ensure drone technology used or paid for by the State of Nebraska does not become avenues for surveillance by foreign adversarial nations like Russia and China.

LB644 creates the Foreign Adversary and Terrorist Agent

Registration Act and requires people engaging in political activities for, consulting, raising or spending money, or representing those deemed to be foreign adversarial countries to register with the Nebraska Attorney General and describe their activities. Penalties for violations include fines of up to \$50,000, or if a student or employee at a college or university, possible termination.

By far the biggest disappointment this year was the failure of the Legislature to pass any meaningful, significant property tax relief legislation. Several bills and constitutional amendments proposed on this subject, including LB170 by Senator Brandt devoted new tax revenue from eighteen luxury goods and services to property tax relief as well as Senator Hughes' LB303 to drop the maximum property levy for schools from \$1.05 to \$1.02 per \$100 of taxable valuation. LB170 failed to pass while LB303 was stripped down to just creating a School Financing Review Commission to review the TEEOSA state school funding formula. Our inaction as a Legislature is expected to result in an annual statewide property tax increase of another \$300 million this year.

As we end this first session of a two-year cycle, any bills not acted upon this session will be carried over into next year. There were 106 priority bills and resolutions designated this year, and not all of them had an opportunity to be debated by the full Legislature. Based on tradition and prior precedent, it is likely some of this year's priority bills that failed to advance this year will be among the first measures considered when the Legislature reconvenes next January.

I want to thank everyone who contacted me and my office this session. Now that the Legislature is adjourned, I will be spending more time back in Niobrara. Thank you for the opportunity to serve in the Nebraska Unicameral Legislature. During the interim, I will try to get around the district as much as possible. I will still travel to Lincoln periodically for meetings and office work. If I am not in Lincoln, my staff will be able to assist you. Feel free to call my Capitol office anytime at (402) 471-2801 or email me at bdekay@leg.ne.gov. My mailing address is: Senator Barry DeKay, District #40, P.O. Box 94604, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE 68509.

## Boone County Health Center

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**Family Matters**

PHOTO: YUEN

In the Trinity Sunday Gospel passage, Jesus speaks of Himself, Father God, and the Holy Spirit. It's His description of one-and-the-same and the roles of each. Hear those words of Jesus this week in church.

**All that the Father has is mine.** John 16:12-15  
Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31 Romans 5:1-5 Psalm 8  
Revised Common Lectionary © 1992 by the Consultation on Common Texts for  
Sunday, June 15, 2025  
Trinity Sunday

For from him and through him and for him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen.  
Romans 11:36

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Weekend Mass: Sunday, 10 am.  
[cppnebraska.org](http://cppnebraska.org)

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

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

**St. John the Baptist Catholic Church**  
Petersburg, NE  
Fr. John Norman, Pastor  
Fr. Frank Baumert, Associate Pastor  
Weekend Mass: 2nd & 4th Sunday, 8 am.  
[cppnebraska.org](http://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: 1st, 3rd & 5th Saturday, 5:30 am.  
[cppnebraska.org](http://cppnebraska.org)

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

**Immanuel-Zion Lutheran Church**  
ELCA  
Rural Albion, NE  
Pastor Elizabeth Goehring  
Worship Service: 9:30 am.  
Coffee following services  
Sunday School: 10:30 am.  
Holy Communion, 1st & 3rd Sundays  
(facility is handicap accessible plus Facebook Live and broadcasts on cable channel 65, Tuesday at 10:30 am.)

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~ Proverbs 19:11 ~  
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Hebrews 11:1

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## Bartlett Bits

Vacation Bible School was held June 2-6 at the Bartlett Church of Faith. The theme was "Road Trip, On the Go with God."

A program was held for friends, family and the public at 10 a.m. Friday. The program started with a welcome by Shannon Pahl, Bible School Coordinator.

The opening and closing prayers were given by Pastor Mark Hoffman. Songs, with actions, sung by youth attending were: *Road Trip Theme Song, On the Road With God and God's With Us On The Journey With Us On The Journey*. The preschoolers also sang 'Jesus Loves Me.'

Marcia Smith and Chrissie Olson officially retired last year after serving as Bible School coordinators for many, many years. Shannon Pahl offered to fill that position this year. It's a challenging position, but she pulled through mightily with lots of great helpers. These included: Preschool teacher; T.J. Perkins with helpers Denna Skorcz, Hadley Pokorny and Rachel Kovarik. Kindergarten teacher: Makenna Pelster with helpers Jailynn Harrison, Jer-rin Kleeb and Calvin Schlenger. First and Second grade teacher:



Photo submitted

The Bartlett Church of Faith held Vacation Bible School Monday through Friday June 2-6. Approximately 60 children attended each day. A program was held Friday morning. Shown are the children attending Bible School. Coordinator Shannon Pahl can be seen on the far right.

Paige Schlenger with helpers; Trey Smith, Corbin Kasselder and Molly Hying. Third and 4th grades: Teacher; Braelynn Schlenger with helpers; Casey Freouf, Anslee Wright and Nate Kovarik. 5th and 6th grades teacher: Caroline White with helper; Dawson Kluver. Music: Sherry Tetschner with helper; Alyshia Perkins. Crafts: Clay Patrick with helpers Sierra

Pluge and Cayli Spencer. Kitchen Crew included Alexis Sprout, Shelby Kovarik, Lisa McCain and Tyler Perkins. Participants and attendees enjoyed a cookie reception following the program.

Today Ben and I officially got my garden cleaned off and ready for my brother Steven Schrunk to till. I can't get any

gardening started till I am officially out of school. By then the weeds were crazy thick and already tall. So about a week ago Ben and I started shoveling out weeds, pulling out weeds and weed whacking the smaller weeds. We hauled out a heaping full heavy pickup load of weeds. My garden is not your average size, much bigger. Somehow it needs to be downsized or some black landscape barrier put down.

The weeds are my summer's worst enemy and I lose every time. Ben reminded me that as a kid I offered to pay him a penny for each weed he pulled.

We would have been millionaires weeding the garden this time had someone offered to pay us.

Submitted by Sherry Tetschner

## Pillen accepts responsibility for mishandled line-item vetoes

LINCOLN — Nebraska Gov. Jim Pillen has accepted responsibility for mishandled line-item vetoes to the state's next two-year budget while reiterating that many of the suggested cuts will be reconsidered in 2026.

Pillen, speaking with the Nebraska Examiner after the Legislature adjourned for the year, said the veto process includes "human beings" in his office, the Clerk of the Legislature's Office and the Secretary of State's Office.

On May 21, his office delivered Legislative Bill 261 and LB 264 with line-item vetoes to the Secretary of State's Office, which is the right place for the bills to go when the Legislature is out of session, but not to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office on the other side of the Capitol, which is where bills must be returned when senators are in session. The Governor's Office says LB 261 was line-item vetoed at 1:08 p.m. on May 21 and LB 264 at 1:10 p.m. A spokesperson for the Secretary of State's Office said the bills were delivered to that office around 5 p.m. the same day.

The Legislature did receive a separate letter from Pillen the night of May 21 detailing the line-item vetoes, as well as a copy of the bills with the inscribed vetoes, but lawmakers contended the next day that a line-item veto is constitutional only with the inscribed vetoes on the actual bills. Those bills remained at the Secretary of State's Office until morning.

The Nebraska Constitution requires vetoes to be returned within five days of being presented to the governor, excluding Sundays. The bills passed May 15 and went to Pillen's office at 1:12 p.m., so the deadline was by the end-of-day May 21.

Pillen said the mistake on the night of May 21 was "a miscommunication on where it was supposed to go." Pillen was in Washington, D.C., the following day, for a "Make America Healthy Again" event at the

White House.

"Bottom line: We made a mistake. I'd have thought, because we all work together, that a flag would have been thrown and said, 'Hey, let's do X,' but there wasn't, and then the glass of milk was spilled the next morning," Pillen told the Examiner.

The intended vetoes targeted \$14.5 million to the state's general fund and \$18 million in repurposed cash funds for improvements at Lake McConaughy. He sought to save \$14.5 million that the Legislature's budget aimed to use from the state's "rainy day" cash reserve by trimming spending — \$152 million from the rainy day fund went to help balance the budget.

The Nebraska Supreme Court, which faced about \$12 million of Pillen's proposed general fund reductions (83%), has said the loss of those funds could close vital court services.

This was Pillen's second two-year budget — he vetoed \$38.5 million in general fund spending in 2023 for the 2023-24 and 2024-25 fiscal years. Lawmakers restored about \$850,000 of the trims.

Pillen, Secretary of State Bob Evnen and Speaker of the Legislature John Arch have pledged to clarify the line-item veto process for the budget ahead of 2026, and they've agreed that the suggested reductions should be considered when the budget is adjusted next year. Pillen, whose office now insists the matter is resolved, said, "As I told our team, we look in the mirror, we accept responsibilities. I've not met a human that doesn't make a mistake yet."

### Missing timeline of events

Pillen and his staff have declined to detail exactly what happened the night of May 21.

Rani Taborek-Potter, a spokesperson for Evnen, said no one from the Secretary of State's Office delivered the actual LB 261 and LB 264 with the line-item vetoes to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office, "nor is it our office's responsibility to

do so."

"When bills are vetoed by the Governor, the vetoed bills are delivered directly to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office by the Governor's office, as was the case for LB 319 and LB 287 to the best of our knowledge," Taborek-Potter told the Examiner, referring to the two other bills vetoed this session related to expanding SNAP benefit eligibility and fighting bedbugs in Omaha.

Taborek-Potter confirmed the Governor's Office delivered the budget bills to the administrative assistant in the Secretary of State's Office just before 5 p.m. on May 21.

The Examiner on May 23 requested all records and communications regarding the line-item vetoes from when the budget bills passed May 15 to the date of the records request. The request sought texts, emails and digital messages. It also asked for communications within the executive branch and between Pillen's office and the legislative branch, including staff and state senators.

Documents provided in response indicated that Pillen's veto letter detailing his objections was ready by 6:05 p.m., when the state budget administrator, Neil Sullivan, sent it to Pillen's staff. Around 6:27 p.m., Kenny Zoeller, director of the governor's Policy Research Office, the main research and lobbying arm for Pillen, confirmed the letter among gubernatorial staff. "We are handing this off back to the Legislature POST adjournment," Zoeller wrote of next steps. "I will text when it's handed off."

Laura Strimple, the governor's primary spokesperson, sent a draft news release regarding the vetoes at 8:21 p.m. to Sullivan. It was sent to reporters around 11:23 p.m.

The Legislature adjourned at 9:20 p.m., and a reporter could see legislative staff discussing the veto letter.

## Ricketts

◀ FROM Page 4

also not be able to import products, which would drive up prices for everyday consumers.

At the conference, the topic that was top-of-mind for most was increasing aggression from Communist China. Communist China has been infringing on the economic zones of countries and launching cyber attacks on allies and partners. Dictator Xi Jinping has told his military to be ready to seize Taiwan by 2027. These actions threaten peace and stability across the Indo-Pacific. Both the Trump and Biden administrations have declared Communist China our foremost geopolitical threat.

Communist China is the greatest threat to our very way of life, and they actively threaten the post-World War II system that has kept peace and fostered prosperity.

Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth's speech at the conference was heralded as one of the most-detailed accounts of our Indo-Pacific strategy by a Secretary of Defense in years. He said that America is proud to be back in the Indo-Pacific. America and our interests are here to stay.

I was happy to see the extent of America's presence at the conference. Unlike Communist China, we sent our top security and defense officials.

In addition to Secretary Hegseth, Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard attended. So did Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Dan Caine. Admiral Sam Paparo, the INDOPACOM commander in charge of the region, also spoke to the importance of the Indo-Pacific. The U.S. Congress was represented by a bipartisan, bicameral delegation from the Senate and House.

Countries throughout the region know that Communist China is an inconsistent trading

partner and a bad neighbor. While Beijing focuses on coercing its neighbors, we are working with our regional partners to deepen relationships. What we heard from America's friends in the Indo-Pacific is that they want America there. They also have a renewed emphasis on strengthening their defense capabilities.

In the Senate, I am working with my colleagues to make sure we are ready for Xi Jinping's aggression. We are making all aspects of our government ready to respond to Beijing's malign influence and their illegal, coercive, deceptive, and aggressive behavior. We are playing a decisive role in supporting our Indo-Pacific allies and partners. At the same time, we are complicating Xi Jinping's plans to take Taiwan through either force or coercion. This trip with Senator Duckworth follows an April trip I took to Taiwan and the Philippines with Senators Chris Coons and Ted Budd. I also met with Japanese leaders in Tokyo this March. These trips further highlight the threat posed by Communist China. To deter Xi Jinping, we must work with regional allies and partners.

What we see on our trips are not weak partners asking for our shelter or protection. They are force multipliers.

That's why I've been leading legislation like the PORCUPINE Act. This bill would make it easier for Taiwan to buy American supplies and weapons faster. I'm also a co-sponsor of the COUNTER Act, which addresses the threat of new Chinese Communist military bases across the globe.

I am leading action to make sure America is ready to counter the Communist threat to our way of life.

## Smith

◀ FROM Page 4

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Americans what they owe in taxes. Most Americans work hard to make an honest living.

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## Community Calendar

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

### Wednesday, June 11

Regular meeting of the District #18 Board of Education at 6:30 p.m. ■ Vetch Days Petting Zoo near Elgin Public Library ■ Cruise Night to wrap up Vetch Days ■ Carnival - FREE RIDES\*

### Friday, June 13

Northeast Nebraska All-Star Volleyball and Football games to be played in Norfolk ■ Red Cross Bloodmobile @ Elgin KC Hall.

### Saturday, June 14

Petersburg VFD Cruise Night & Dance featuring Poker Run and BBQ Supper.\* ■ Flag Day observance at flag pole adjacent to Elgin Swimming Pool (1 p.m.)

### Tuesday, June 17

Mobile Food Pantry @ Neligh American Legion Hall.\*

### Thursday, July 3

First Day of Antelope County Tax Protest hearings at the courthouse (9 a.m.)

### Monday, July 7

Elgin City Council meeting (7:30 p.m.)

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## CARD OF THANKS

What an outpouring of love and friendship from family and friends. THANK YOU for helping me celebrate my 80th Birthday! The party, wow!, the calls, cards and gifts - each gently tugged on my heart. Thank you.

Bev Alderson

## CARD OF THANKS

We are so very lucky to live in a community with such great doctors and EMTs - your quick response saved my life. Thank you so very much! Thanks for all the visits here and in Lincoln, for everyone who drove to Lincoln with Red. I couldn't have made it without all of your prayers! Thanks to the great doctors and nurses in Lincoln and Albion. Love always!

"Red" and Linda Eischeid



Junior high/high school "big" field winners - Last Minute



3rd - 6th grade winners - the Kick Magnets

In the 3-6 group, champs were the Kick Magnets. (Lower left) Pictured, l-r: Bentley Kittelson, James Moser, Hunter Zawacky, Leo Spieker, Reid Kiely and Harrison Lodge.

In the junior high/high school division winners on the "small" field were the 8 Amigos. (Below) Pictured, front (on the ground, l-r): Liam Pelster and Cecil Shavlik. Standing, l-r: Wyatt Koinzan, John Zwingman, James Lodge, Bode Koinzan, Garrett Busteded, Evan Pelster and Sawyer Veik.

Champions for the 7-12 "big" field were the Last Minute team. (Top left) Pictured, l-r: Henry Knuth, Jael Lammers, Braedon Hinkle, Gentry Zwingman, Lily Moser, Harmon Borer, Brogan Billings and Carter Selting.



K-4th grade winners - the Thunderbolts



Junior high/high school "small" field winners - the 8 Amigos

Look for Vetch Days photos in next week's issue of The Elgin Review

## Post-harvest alfalfa management

With first cutting alfalfa complete, now is a good time to review management guidelines for fields heading into summer. Here are a few management principles to keep in mind:

**Water Management:** Alfalfa is a relatively drought-tolerant forage, and as such, does not have specific growth stages when it is less sensitive to water stress. If water is unavailable, the plant will slow or stop growing and go dormant. Then, when water becomes available, growth resumes.

While alfalfa's long growing season means it uses more water annually than other crops, it can be over-watered resulting in alfalfa plant injury and possi-

### IT'S ALL ABOUT BEEF



Beef Systems Asst. Ext. Educator Ben Beckman

bly weed invasion. Maintaining water use efficiency can be complicated due to multiple harvests preventing irrigation for about 7 to 10 days per growth cycle and frequent heavy equipment traffic compacting soils. To reduce compaction, stop irrigating 2-3 days before cutting the alfalfa and begin irrigating again after hay has been removed and plants have initiated regrowth.

Generally, the most yield impacting irrigation occurs just before the second cutting followed by the third and fourth growth periods typically requiring 6 to 7 inches of irrigation. Peak water needs are typically in July and August at

1/3 inch per day. However, hot, windy and dry days can move the maximum water demand up to 1/2 inch per day; so ET scheduling can provide economic benefits.

**Pest Management:** You may have seen alfalfa weevil damage during this first growing period. Typically, alfalfa weevils are cool-weather insects. During this time of year adult insects would be exiting alfalfa fields seeking cooler spots for over-summering in nearby shady areas or under leaf litter.

A second flush of these 3/16" green caterpillar larvae with a white back stripe may be feeding under windrows. So, what management strategies are recommended for late spring alfalfa weevil infestation?

In heavy infestations, chopping alfalfa for silage can reduce field cover for the insects. Usually, weevil development is controlled by hotter temperatures, so those who have already harvested may want to maintain an active scouting regime to decide if follow up treatments are required. Remember that these cool-weather insects seek shelter during the

heat of the day, so scouting can be a challenge when they move into the alfalfa crowns seeking shade.

After scouting, insecticide treatments with pyrethroids (active ingredient ending in "thrins") may be needed following harvest to aid alfalfa regrowth. Remember pyrethroid insecticides can also have detrimental effects on any beneficial insects present, so field scouting is still encouraged before making final treatment decisions. You can find economic threshold recommendations in our Nebraska Extension Guide for Weeds, Insecticide and Fungicide Management (EC130).

Proper post-harvest management for first cutting alfalfa can put us in a position for success throughout the rest of the growing season, while mismanagement can easily set us back. After this year's first harvest, make sure your field is in the best position possible for a great year.

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



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# OBITUARIES

## James M. Blackburn, 78

September 30, 1946 - May 31, 2025

A pillar of the Neligh community, he became President of Blackburn Manufacturing upon his father's retirement in 1980.

A Celebration of Life Visitation for James M.

Blackburn age 78 of Neligh, Nebraska was held Monday, June 9, 2025 at the Neligh American Legion in Neligh, Nebraska. Beyer Snider Memorial Funeral Home of Neligh handling the arrangements.

Jim passed away on May 31, 2025 at the University Medical Center in Omaha, Nebraska. Condolences may be directed to the family at [www.beyersnider-memorialfh.com](http://www.beyersnider-memorialfh.com)

Family has requested No Flowers - In lieu of flowers or plants a memorial in Jim's name to Grace Lutheran Church, Pope John School, Tunnel to Towers, Antelope Memorial Hospital, St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, and or your favorite charity.

\*\*\*\*\*

James Martin Blackburn was born in Orchard, Nebraska on September 30, 1946 to Everard (Bud) and Ada (Storm) Blackburn. The family moved to Mont, Missouri until spring of 1949. They then moved to the family farm 2 1/2 miles south of Royal. He attended Royal school at the age of 4. He belonged to the 4-H Club starting with two Hereford calves. He took care of all the orphan lambs by bottle-feeding them.

His dad started Blackburn Mfg. Company while still on the farm. The machines were in the basement of the farmhouse until they moved to Neligh, Nebraska in 1957. He started 6th grade in Neligh and graduated in 1964 from Neligh High School.

His love of flying started in June of 1963 in a Cessna 150 aircraft in Norfolk, Nebraska at Younghiem Flying School. His first solo was in August of 1963, then he transitioned to his dad's 1946 J-3 Cub to build time. He proudly earned his Private Pilot Certificate on August 6, 1964 in a Cessna 150. He then transitioned to his dad's Piper Cherokee 180 hp.

His first year of college was at Northeastern Jr. College in Sterling, Colorado. He then transferred to the University of Nebraska at Lincoln his sophomore year in 1965/1967. He enlisted in the United States Navy April 1966 under the AV-ROC (Aviation Reserve Officer Cadet) Program. He attended his first summer of Officer Candidate School in Pensacola Florida the summer of 1966 and the second summer finished the program to return to college. In August of 1968, he was united in marriage to Susan Wolverton. Jim transferred to Hastings College in 1968 and graduated from Hastings College with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration. He was commissioned into the Navy in the College President's Office on that same day. Jim began active duty in August of 1969 and flight training at NAS Saufley field on November 26, 1969 flying the T-34 Beechcraft trainer.

He advanced to the North American T-28 in April 1970 at NAS Field Squadron 3 Whiting Field Milton Florida. On May 31, 1970 Jennifer Ann was born in Pensacola, Florida. He then transferred to Ellison Field in Pensacola for helicopter training flying T-57 Jet Ranger at Helicopter Squadron 8. He completed flight training and received the Navy Wings of Gold on February 26, 1971. He was then transferred to San Diego, California for UH-2C training upon completion of a short course and then was transferred to Adak Alaska in May 1971.

Because housing was in short supply on the island he was in Adak alone for the first 6 months. Susan and Jennifer returned to Nebraska to live with his parents. They joined him in Adak in October 1971. He was assigned to the duty of Per-

sonnel Officer and as co-pilot in the UH-2C for search and rescue operations. He advanced to Lt. Junior Grade in May of 1971 then advanced to Lieutenant on April 13, 1972.

On February 15, 1973 Krista was born at NAS Adak Alaska. He advanced to Helicopter Commander of UH-2cin in March of 1973. He went to Whidbey Island Washington for cross training to UH-46D in June of 1973. Upon completion he was designated UH-46D Helicopter Commander and Maintenance check pilot; returning to Adak for another 6 months.

The last day of active duty was November 1, 1973; he earned the Armed Forces Service Medal of Expert Pistol.

Jim joined Blackburn Manufacturing in December of 1973 as a shipping clerk and machine maintenance. He slowly learned to build the flag machines from then on.

Jim's dad Bud, Bill Lawson, and Jim started Blackburn Printing Company to silkscreen marking flags in summer of 1975. He became President of Blackburn Manufacturing and Vice President and Secretary of Blackburn Printing when his father retired in 1980. Susan and Jim divorced in 1985. On July 14, 1987 he was united in marriage to Patricia Taylor at St. Thomas Virgin Islands.

He was honored by the small Business Administration as The Small Business Person of the Year for Nebraska in 1994. John Glandt and Randy Helgren of Pinnacle Bank in Neligh nominated him.

In 2003 he was recommended by John Sehi CPA to the College of Business Administration, University of Nebraska as the Nebraska Distinguished Entrepreneur Award.

He enjoyed reading, flying, hunting, and his motorcycle. Jim was a member of Neligh Chamber of Commerce for 45 years; Neligh American Legion Post 172 for 40 years; Neligh Fire Department for 15 years - fire chief for 5 years; Neligh Oakdale Education Foundation member, Antelope Memorial Hospital Board of Directors and the Neligh Economic Development Board.

Jim is survived by a loving large family including his loving wife of almost 38 years, Pat Blackburn of Neligh, NE. Daughters, Jennifer Blackburn-Nielsen, husband Dane of Neligh, NE, son Cameron Nielsen of Neligh, NE and Krista Schindler, husband Matt, of Neligh, NE, son Adan and partner Colten and daughter Alexandria, wife Morgan all of Omaha. Three stepchildren: Tammy Rakow, husband Tom, of Milford, NE their children: Kyle (Ashton) Rakow and their children, Brenleigh, Raelyn, Emery, and unborn baby; Brook (Danny) Vasquez and their children Enzo, Myla, and unborn baby; Dylan Rakow; Jamie (Brandon) Covert son Crue; Orlando, Adan, Lilibiana, Syllas, Catalaya Rakow; Scott Taylor, wife Deb of Lincoln, NE and their children Lauren Taylor and Peyton Taylor; and Traci Jacobsen, husband Dave of Neligh, NE and their children: Garrett (Mariah) Jacobsen, their children Beau and Brooks; Luke Jacobsen; and Andrew and fiancé Bre Bartak. Brother Bob Blackburn and wife Patricia of Georgetown Tx and sister, Deb Gartner of Omaha, NE

Preceded in death by his parents Everard (Bud) and Ada and in-laws Russell and LaNora Taylor. Granddaughter Charley Grace Nielsen. His first wife Susan, three Aunts on the Blackburn side and two aunts and an uncle on the Storm side, many cousins and dear friends.

Jim was most of all a loving husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather. He was humble, generous, and faithful to his Lord. He will be missed by his family, and dear friends. "Fly High Jim"

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ZWINGMAN FINANCIAL SERVICES, L.L.C.

### NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION

The name of the limited liability company: ZWINGMAN FINANCIAL SERVICES, L.L.C. The address of the designated office is: 1065 240th Avenue, Petersburg, Nebraska 68652.

The name and mailing address of the initial agent for service of process of the company is Martin

V. Klein, 101 W. 4th Street, P.O. Box 166, Neligh, NE 68756. It is organized to transact any lawful acts concerning any and all lawful business, other than banking or insurance, for which a limited liability company may be organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska. This company commenced

upon filing the Certificate of Organization with the Secretary of State on May 22, 2025, and its existence shall be perpetual. The affairs of the limited liability company are to be conducted by the members under an operation agreement duly approved by its members.

ZWINGMAN FINANCIAL

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

PUBLISH: May 28, June 4 & 11, 2025  
ZNEZ

## 2025 REAL PROPERTY RATIOS

ANTELOPE COUNTY ASSESSOR

were mailed June 1, 2025 to all Antelope County property owners. If you disagree with value, please come in and review your real estate records with the County Assessor. You may file a protest with the Antelope County Clerk, on or

before June 30th. All protests must contain a name, address, legal description, parcel number, current value, requested value, and a statement of explanation for requesting a change in the valuation. 2025 Ratios:

Residential-98%  
Commercial-94%  
Agricultural-71%  
Kelly Mueller-Oltjenbruns  
Antelope County Assessor  
PUBLISH: June 4 & 11, 2025  
ZNEZ

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE JUNE 2, 2025 MEETING

THE ELGIN CITY COUNCIL

### ELGIN CITY COUNCIL

#### Proceedings

June 2, 2025

The Elgin City Council met in regular session on Monday, June 2, 2025, at 7:30 p.m., pursuant to posted notice.

Council President Niewohner called the meeting to order, and announced the location of the Open Meeting Act.

Council members present were Craig Niewohner, John "Mike" Dvorak, Leigh Kluthe, and Jeremy Young. Mayor Schmitt was absent.

A complete and accurate copy of the minutes is available for public inspection during normal business hours at the City Clerk's office.

The following agenda items were approved:

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

**GENERAL:** ERPPD, se, 94.43; Great Plains Communications, se, 55.47; APPEARA, su, 60.32; The Elgin Review, print, 64.80; Elgin One Stop, su, 10.99; Amazon, su, 129.95; Johnson Controls Security Solutions, se, 1352.72; 118 Insurance, ins, 12683.94; Bank of Elgin, se, 20.00; Black Hills Energy, se, 152.51; Prudential, retirement, 376.56; American Funds, retirement, 203.22; US Treasury, tax, 3334.52; NE Dept of Revenue, tax, 460.23; Payroll, 2690.56

Transfers: 20000.00  
SALES TAX: Pool Fund: 2279.49; Youth Fund: 1500.00

**STREET:** ERPPD, se, 924.62; Verizonwireless, su, 79.25; Elgin One Stop, fuel, 553.89; Bomgaars, su, 339.95; Pollock Redi Mix, su, 4272.71; Black Hills Energy, se, 78.31; Payroll, 1904.84

**WATER:** ERPPD, se, 1026.65; Great Plains Communications, se, 83.97; Verizonwireless, su, 79.24; NE Health Lab, se, 33.00; Municipal Supply, Inc of Omaha, su, 4732.38; BJ Bode, su, 75.00; NE Dept of Environment & Energy, loan, 52720.37; NE Dept of Revenue, tax, 293.10; US Post Office, postage, 148.80; Payroll, 3809.66

**SEWER:** ERPPD, se, 854.00; Great Plains Communications, se, 52.38; Sapp Bros, fuel, 71.48; BJ Bode, su, 75.00; NE Dept of Environment & Energy, loan, 3230.87; NE Dept of Revenue, tax, 1119.41; Payroll, 1465.14

**FIRE:** ERPPD, se, 200.79; Great Plains Communications, se, 59.57; APPEARA, su, 60.31; Danko Emergency Equipment, su, 1930.00; Elgin One Stop, su, 65.48; 118 Insurance, ins, 6278.00; Black Hills Energy, se, 220.81

**POLICE:** Antelope Co Sheriff, se, 2,800.00

**TRASH PICKUP/RECYCLING:** Bud's Sanitary Service, se, 6634.25; Schacht Abstract & Title Co, capital, 34956.22; Bank of Elgin, se, 25.00; Albracht Disposal, se, 492.90

**POOL:** ERPPD, se, 64.98; Great Plains Communications, se, 10.00; The Elgin Review, print, 280.00; Kristin Childers, su, 186.07; Black Hills Energy, se, 45.37; Bank of Elgin, loan, 2227.79; starting cash, 150.00

**PARK:** ERPPD, se, 276.87; Elgin One Stop, su, 32.98; NE Dept of Revenue, tax, 131.40; Payroll, 710.12

**LIBRARY:** ERPPD, se, 65.30; Great Plains Communications, se, 59.58; Eakes Office Solution, su, 111.99; Black Hills Energy, se, 106.32; Payroll, 1333.32

**YOUTH:** ERPPD, se, 73.56; Elgin Baseball Boosters, su, 1500.00; St. Bon Baseball Diamond Assn, rent, 3000.00

**RESCUE:** Kimberly Young, su, 160.00; Elgin Pharmacy, su, 20.19; Elgin One Stop, fuel, 81.00; Quick Med Claims, su, 294.35

- Use sales tax funds to purchase the new Welcome to Elgin signs for \$3,984.92

- Repeal Resolution 2025-2 and introduced Resolution 2025-5, a resolution of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Elgin, Nebraska directing the sale of certain personal property (2002 Ford BLS Ambulance), providing the manner, terms, and conditions of such sale, and further actions

- Switch accounting program to PowerManager for \$11,928.00

- Switch Elgin Rescue's billing service to One Billing Solutions

- Send a cease-and-desist let-

ter to Quick Med Claims for rescue billing services

- Kenzie Wies as a substitute lifeguard

- Option to add a babysitter to a pool family ticket for an extra \$30.00

- Building permits: Greg Henn, Shirley Nissen

The following agenda items were discussed:

- Public comment: update power at the park

- Update on new well

- Update on sewer plant preliminary engineering report

- Curb and gutter responsibility of homeowner unless the city is developing the whole street

- No bids received for power cot

- Street sweeper is down for re-

pairs

- Sheriff report: April-64 hours 10 minutes and nine 911 calls

- Approximately 20 unlicensed dogs

- Lifeguards all trained and Red Cross lessons to be set for July

- Budgeting annual park projects

- Mosquito spraying beginning June 1st

- Hosting a PurpleAir Monitor

Next regular meeting will be held on Monday, July 7, 2025

Regular Meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Council President

Craig Niewohner

City Clerk Kristin L. Childers

PUBLISH: June 11, 2025

ZNEZ

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE JUNE 3, 2025 MEETING

THE ANTELOPE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

### ANTELOPE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Neligh, Nebraska

June 3rd, 2025

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

Approved agenda. Approved May 6th, 2025, and May 13th, 2025, BOC meeting minutes and May 13th, 2025, BOE meeting. Called for public comments.

Correspondence was reviewed.

Zoning Administrator Report. Set date/times for 2025 protest hearings.

Road Superintendent Report: approved three (3) underground permits, and eight (8) oversized permits.

Bid opening Bridge Match Program: Royal North, Brunswick Northwest.

Surplus material bid opening approved bid for lot 7 and lot 8, authorized Road Superintendent to

sell remaining surplus material at his discretion.

Heard legislative and other updates from NACO - Beth Ferrell. Meeting Adjourned.

Antelope County Board of Commissioners

CHARLIE HENERY

Chairman of County Board

Attest: LISA PAYNE /s/

Antelope County Clerk

PUBLISH: June 11, 2025

ZNEZ

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

THE ANTELOPE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING-ANTELOPE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

The Antelope County Board of Commissioners will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, June 24th, 2025, in the County Board of Commissioner's Meeting Room in the

Antelope County Courthouse Annex at 9:30 AM.

The public hearing will be regarding Conditional Use Permit 2401-Verizon Wireless, for a telecommunications tower on a tract in the N2 of 1-28-6W.

The agenda is kept continuously current and is available for public inspection at the Zoning Office.

/s/ Lisa Payne

Antelope County

PUBLISH: June 11, 2025

ZNEZ

## NOTICE OF SALE OF 2002 FORD BLS AMBULANCE

THE CITY OF ELGIN

### NOTICE OF SALE

City of Elgin, Nebraska

Notice is hereby given by the City of Elgin, Nebraska of its intent to convey certain personal property owned by the City of Elgin, Nebraska as follows:

1. A Resolution was passed by the City Council of the City of Elgin, Nebraska, on or about June 2, 2025, directing the sale of certain

personal property owned by the City of Elgin, Nebraska.

2. The personal property directed to be sold is a 2002 Ford BLS Ambulance.

3. The personal property shall be sold through AuctionTime according to the terms, conditions, and timeline provided by AuctionTime and shall be sold to the high-

est bidder.

4. The sale of the personal property shall occur after notice of the sale is given as required by Nebraska law.

CITY OF ELGIN, NEBRASKA

Craig Niewohner, Council

President

PUBLISH: June 11, 2025

ZNEZ

## Radio

◀ FROM Page 1

on getting local construction companies and the start dates of both projects. The DOT awards contracts based solely on the

lowest bid with no regard as to where the company is from or the start date.

The ACC approved the bids and work is scheduled to begin

## Minnesota man to pay fine

A 30-year-old Minnesota man pleaded guilty by waiver to one count of possession of marijuana - 1 ounce or less - 1st offense, an infraction. Damien J. Rose of Monticello, Minnesota, will pay a \$300 fine, plus \$49 court costs, ordered by the Judge Donna Taylor.

## Hammel

◀ FROM Page 4

the Missouri and maybe trace Neihardt's steps.

So, as you read this I should be in a canoe, somewhere on the Missouri east of Fort Benton, probably baking in the sun and wondering where I left my mosquito repellent.

It's good for the soul to have an adventure once in a while, I figure, and I'd bet that we all have some bucket list trip to do. For me, it will be the Missouri. Mosquitoes be ready.

\*\*\*\*\*

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.

sometime in early fall.

They also approved payment of \$21,800 to North Construction for bridge removal. This payment falls under the Bridge Match Program as well.

Kluthe also reported that micro surfacing is progressing slowly. Equipment breakdowns have been the biggest issue.

Two zoning permits were approved, one being for a new Verizon tower on the Antelope/Knox County line in the Creighton area.

The ACC approved all payment claims. Vendor claims were approved except for one with questions about billing needed to be addressed on a cooling system in the court-house.

Weed Superintendent Bryan Cornett approached the board asking for permission to seek a \$5,000 reimbursement grant from the Nebraska Department of Agriculture. The ACC gave him the go ahead.





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## Henn chosen for volleyball all-star game at Norfolk

NORFOLK — “Volleyball Day in Norfolk” will take place on Friday, June 13, and feature a pair of familiar faces.

Wolfpack record-setting middle hitter Chloe Henn and her Coach Jordynn Luettel will be together again at the all-star game to be played outside at Norfolk Veterans Memorial Baseball Field in Norfolk. The all star game will begin at 4 p.m.

Joining Luettel and Henn on the ‘Dark’ team will be: Izzy Hollatz - Clarkson-Leigh Brandi Helzer - Oakland-Craig Sophie Humphrey - Battle Creek Brynn Settje - Clarkson-Leigh Lydia Robertson - Summerland Bailey Hochstein - Hartington Cedar Catholic Jessica Black - Elkhorn Valley Annabelle Barlow - O’Neill St. Marys; and Assistant Coach - Kay Raabe of Wisner-Pilger.

Members of the ‘light’ team, coached by Madeline Gideon of Guardian Angels CC & Julie Kvols of Laurel Concord Coleridge, are: Claudia Riggert - Pierce Skylar Scholting - Pierce Olivia Hupp - Stanton Sami Wemhoff - Battle Creek Baylee Settje - Clarkson-Leigh Jade Bayer - Howells-Dodge Melayna McGregor - Hartington Cedar Catholic Alli Brown - Wakefield Addison Stewart - Ponca Admission will be collected at the entrance with adults costing \$7, children \$5 and anyone age five and under will be admitted free.

The Northeast Little Hawks Clinic (Grades K-3) will take



E-R photo/DMorgan

**Chloe Henn** will take her volleyball skills outdoors Friday, competing in an all star volleyball game outdoors at Norfolk Veterans Memorial Baseball Field in Norfolk. The match will begin at 4 p.m. Serving as head coach for the ‘Dark’ team will be EPPJ’s Jordynn Luettel.

places from 9 AM – 11 AM. A link to sign-up can be found at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/northeast-volleyball-camp-grades-k-3-tickets-1389563565029?aff=od-dtdcreator>. The Nebraska D-League scrimmage will follow from 1 – 3 p.m. and then the Northeast Nebraska All-Star Volleyball Match will occur at 4 p.m.

## Beckman to play for the ‘white’ team Friday night

NORFOLK, Neb. — The Northeast Nebraska All Star Football Classic will be played this Friday night, June 13.

The game will be on Friday, June 13 starting at 7:00 p.m. The Friday night kickoff time is a change from previous year’s games, which were played on Saturday afternoons. The 2025 edition will still be played at Veterans Memorial Field in Norfolk. Wolfpack senior standout Taylor Beckman will don the pads one last time as a member of the ‘White’ team.

David Stoddard of Stanton will coach the White Team and Cory Volk of Pender will coach the Red Team. Joining Stoddard on the White side will be Greg Wegner and Matthew Peter of Stanton, Joe Anderson of Oakland Craig, Kodiak French of Norfolk Public, and Kobe Lade of Battle Creek. Joining Volk on the Red sideline will be Dan Swinton and Amp Ferg from Pender, Mike Naeve from Winside, Jason Konicek from Norfolk Catholic, and Mitch Hyde from Lutheran Northeast.

Joining Beckman on the White team are Barrett Wilke, Stanton; Becker Pohlman, Stanton; Jordan Garrett Hansen, Stanton; Jordan Claussen, Stanton; Braylon Anderson, Oakland-Craig; Isaac Maxwell, Oakland-Craig; Corbin Guill, Oakland-Craig; Jeremiah Drukenmiller, Oakland-Craig; Korbin Lumburg, Clarkson-Leigh; Landon Ferris, Norfolk; Cole Fundus, Norfolk; Lane Mead, Norfolk; Jaedon Thompson, Norfolk; Harrison Thor, Plainview; Xander Albin,



E-R photo/DMorgan

**Taylor Beckman** (shown here ripping off a big gain last season against Chambers/Wheeler Central) will be a member of the ‘white’ team Friday night at the Northeast Nebraska All Star Football Classic.

Plainview; Sam Cheatum, Summerland; Keaton Thiele, Summerland; Alex Schindler, Summerland; Garrett Vavra, Lyons Decatur Northeast; Talon Mock, Lyons Decatur Northeast; Preston Scott, North Bend Central; Jack Molt, Riverside; Dane Schalk, Riverside; Walker Ott, Wisner-Pilger; Conner Troyer, West Point-Beemer; Christian Rodgers, Neligh-Oakdale; Grayson Briggs, Bancroft-Rosalie; Garrett Alexander, Twin River; Chase Smith, Guardian Angels Central Catholic; Mason Geilenkirchen, Humphrey Archangels; Wyatt Nierodzick, Battle Creek; Brek Thompson, Battle Creek; Jaxon Mettler, Battle Creek; Aden Po-

See BECKMAN, Page 10 ►

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**June 13, 14 & 15**

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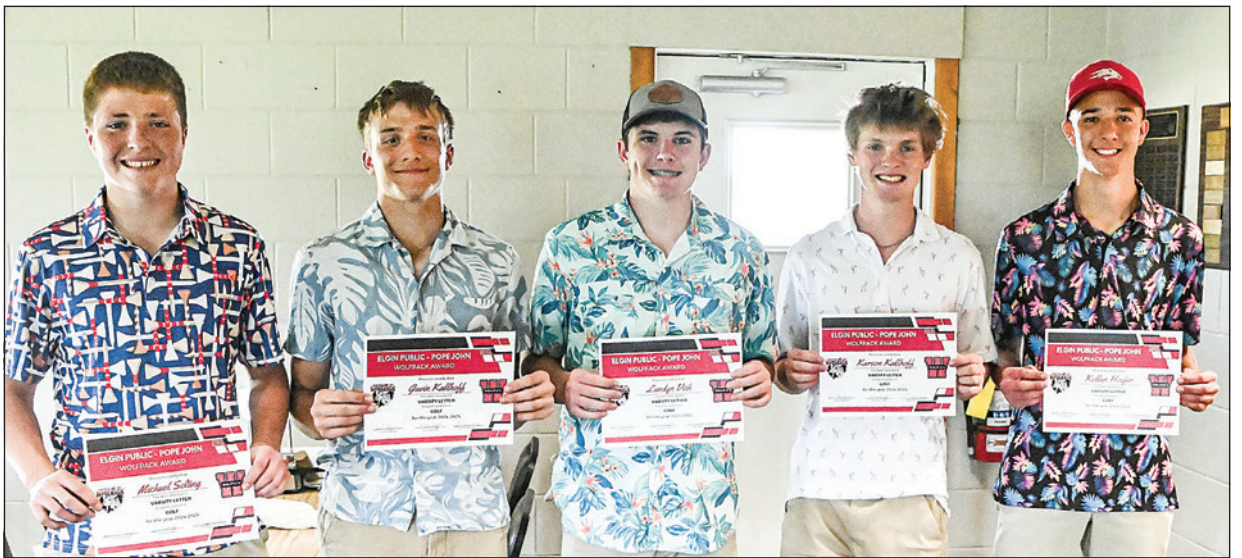
Free Dance on Saturday after the rodeo featuring **The Outback Band**  
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Adults: \$8 Advance - \$10 Gate  
Children: \$3 Advance - \$5 Gate  
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Mid-States Rodeo Assn. Approved

## Wolfpack golf awards announced last month

Wolfpack end-of-the-season golf awards were recently handed out at the Antelope Country Club. (Right) Aiden Klein (l) was recognized as the most improved golfer during the season. Named the golf team’s MVP was senior Kellan Hoefler. (Below) Five members of the golf team were named letter winners for their play during the 2025 season. They were (l-r): Michael Selting, Gavin Kallhoff, Landyn Veik, Karson Kallhoff and Kellan Hoefler.

E-R photos/DMorgan



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## Elgin youth attended Boys, Girls State in Lincoln

Seven students with ties to two Elgin high schools spent last week attending Cornhusker Boys and Girls State held on the campus of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Attending were (l-r): Jarek Erickson, Trey Rittscher, Reese Stuhr, Jovie Borer, Kayton Zwingman, Landyn Veik and Aiden Klein.



Photo submitted

## Spinning Tales

Making fence and a conversation which still rings true today

ULYSSES — Father's Day is just a little over a week away. For some, it's little more than just another day. There are fields to work, animals to care for.

But for some, the day means a whole lot more. Sons and daughters pay homage to the man who's worked to provide them the opportunities before them.

Sons and daughters who have a great dad are truly blessed. A great dad will get up early to get his work done so, more often than not, he can be there to sit on bleachers that make his back sore all the while cheering and supporting their kin. Doesn't matter whether it's summer ball, junior or senior high sports, Dad always finds a way to be there.

Moms are always there, at least that's what I see when I'm out and about with a camera around my neck.

Lynell and I are approaching 20 years ownership of the newspaper (we've got a couple of years to go yet) so most of you know we don't have any children. But we had dads, two great dads.

Lynell's dad farmed south of Randolph. Before that, he was part of the peace-keeping forces stationed in Germany after World War II. He did a little boxing in the Army and taught her how to protect herself if ever the situation arose. He was most proud of her, the first in the family to earn a college degree.

Like most dads, he didn't say

a whole lot, just enough to pass on a life's most important lessons.

My father dropped out of school after eighth grade and went to work during The Great Depression on his uncle's dairy farm, then enlisted in army to serve during World War II and was part of the troops who saw first hand the horrors of the Holocaust.

Like many soldiers, he never spoke about it. Two weeks before he passed, he told me what he witnessed, some of which I shared years ago at a Veterans Day address in Elgin.

Returning home from the war, Dad worked here in Antelope County for a short time (Ellis and Lois Schrunck remembered my parents) before returning home to Seward County where a man named Eberspacher asked him if he would be interested in farming some land west of Ulysses? Dad said 'yes' and for almost 40 years he rented the land, no paperwork was necessary, the agreement was sealed with a handshake.

Most days he wore bib overalls and got up before the sun rose and worked past sunset. By example he showed me what a strong work ethic was and that still remains today.

That's where I grew up, where the land was flat and rows were half-mile long. We had some cattle and some pasture south of the house. It was there, fixing fence on a cold spring day in 1982, where my dad spoke words of encouragement I have never forgotten.

I had graduated from Kearney State in December 1981 and was looking for a place to begin my journalism career. At the time there weren't many newsrooms looking for reporters, quite different than today at some newspapers where, if you have a heartbeat you can get a job.

To make a long story short, along that fence line, he said the things a son needed to hear, to not give up because opportunity would present itself.

He was there when I needed him. I didn't realize it then, but that conversation would shape all that was to follow.

It didn't happen right away, but it did happen. I took a job at The Gothenburg Times and began a career that continues to this day. I've been blessed to work for five publishers who have received the Nebraska Press Association's highest recognition, Master Editor/Publisher award. I guess they were 'old school' publishers who understood what community journalism is all about. They helped shape the future of their communities. Back then, there were newspapers in every coun-

ty, that's not the case any more.

Then as well as today, a good newspaper was synonymous with a great community.

All that I came to learn about being a publisher might not have happened without my father's speech while fixing fence.

I share this because I see way too many one families missing a father figure. The percentages are higher now than when I was a kid.

Dads are supposed to be there and NEED to be there. It doesn't matter if you are happily married or happily divorced. Be there with your presence, be there to share the highs and be there to lift them back up when necessary. Give your children what they need, now more than ever. Be there!

### SPINNING TALES



Publisher

Dennis Morgan

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## Mobile food pantry to be at Legion Club June 17

The mobile food pantry, sponsored by the Neligh Faith Community Church as well as various other churches, individuals, and businesses in the area, will be dispersing food on Tuesday, June 17, 2025 from 2-3:30 p.m. at the American Legion Club in Neligh.

## Beckman

◀ FROM Page 9

chop, Battle Creek; and Melvin Delgado, Howells Dodge.

RED Team players are Jacob Smith, Bloomfield High School; Alex Roth, Pender; Ben Roost, Homer; Hunter Tubbs, Stuart; Bryce Pokorny, Ponca; Sam Johnson, Norfolk Catholic; Jacob Steffen, Cedar Catholic; Brayden McCorkindale, Tri-County Northeast; Tucker McGill, Ponca; Jazee Ames, Lutheran High Northeast; Josue Munoz, Homer; Jaxon Vinson, Osmond; Owen Kneifl, Pender; Haeden Paeper, Pender; Ayden Rosener, Hartington-Newcastle; Brenden Flood, Norfolk Catholic; Jonathan Glaser, Lutheran High Northeast; Isaac Pavlik, Niobrara-Verdigre; Ryan Pick, Cedar Catholic; Braeden Reif-enrath, Cedar Catholic; Lincoln Konrad, West Holt; Hudson Hoffman, Boyd County; Wyatt Tramp, Crofton; Tony Palmer, South Sioux City; Brady Eichelberger, O'Neill; Ben Jorgensen, Tri-County Northeast; Hayden Kelley, Norfolk Catholic; Drake Nemetz, West Holt; Braxton Foxhoven, Crofton; Trent Hansen, Pender; Cole Heimes, Hartington-Newcastle; Alex Rodriguez, Wayne; Andrew Haberman, Wynot; Jaymison

Cattau, Cedar Catholic; Cole Rosener, Hartington-Newcastle; and Trevin Sukup, Norfolk Catholic.

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Hosted by Elgin's American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, VFW and VFW Auxiliary

## FLAG DAY

This Saturday,  
**June 14, 2025**  
1:00 pm, Elgin City Park Flagpole (near the swimming pool)

Bring your **LAWN CHAIRS**  
The ceremony is expected to last 30 minutes.

The Legion and VFW posts will have **3' BY 5' FLAGS** available that may be purchased for **\$33**

- Flag Raising
- Veteran **COFFEE DRIVE** Please bring cans of coffee (they prefer regular - not decaffeinated) to be given to the Norfolk Veterans Home.
- **OLD FLAGS** If you have a flag that needs to be properly disposed of, contact any Legion or Auxiliary member or bring it to the ceremony. They will be properly burned at a later date.

### Petersburg Volunteer Fire Department

# CRUISE

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9:30 p.m. - 1:30 a.m.

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Poker Run  
Check in at 386 1st (west of the Market along Hwy 14)  
10 a.m.  
Rick Stands up at 11 a.m.

Refreshments during the Dance

**THIS SATURDAY, June 14, 2025**

1-4 p.m. Ballfield In Park (along Hwy. 14), Petersburg

**1432 CRUISERS Show and Shine**

Funded in part by the Boone County Visitors Promotion Fund

**THIS SATURDAY, June 14, 2025**

1-4 p.m. Ballfield In Park (along Hwy. 14) Petersburg, Nebraska  
**NO ENTRY FEE**  
People's Choice & Club Choice Awards

**Cruise the Burg**  
5-8 p.m.

**BBQ Supper**  
5-7 p.m.

**Raffle Drawing**  
9 p.m.

**Crusing Music**  
starts at 5 p.m., provided by Alan Temme

For More Information, Call Corey Stokes at 402-699-0992 or Brad Thierman at 402-643-0563

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