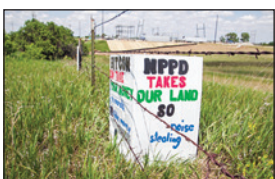




BCHC offers mental health plan for seniors
See page 6



Landowners decry NPPD's use of eminent domain
See pages 5 & 6

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

The Elgin Review

Wednesday
July 2, 2025

Volume 142, Number 41 1 Section, 10 Pages USPS Number 172-8220 \$1.00

In Brief

Governor Pillen coming to Neligh on July 3

Program to begin at 11 a.m.
At 11 a.m. this Thursday, July 3 at the Neligh Legion Post 172, there will be a ceremony in which Governor Jim Pillen and distinguished guests from Ft. Benning, Georgia will be attending. They will be honoring the re-naming of Ft. Benning whose namesake is Fred G. Benning of Neligh. A World War I veteran, Benning received the Distinguished Service Cross for “Extraordinary Heroism” during combat operations in France on Oct 3, 1918.
The event is open to the public.

UNL Extension to host summer pasture walk

On July 14 near Verdigre
Nebraska Extension, in collaboration with Nebraska Game & Parks, Lewis and Clark NRD, and USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service, invites livestock producers and land managers to attend a Summer Pasture Walk on Monday, July 14, 2025, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Trent Arens Farm, located at 88184 528 Ave, Verdigre.
This free event provides a hands-on opportunity to observe and discuss pasture management strategies in a working livestock system.
Attendees will engage with Extension educators, partner representatives, and fellow producers on topics including forage production, grazing management, and pasture improvement.
No registration is required.
For more information, contact your local Nebraska Extension 402-254-6821.

Public Notices

Public notices in this week's newspaper include:
Notice of Organization — Schiltmeyer Farms, L.L.C.
Proceedings (2) — Antelope County Board of Commissioners

Weather

The high temperature last week was 94 degrees recorded on Sunday, June 22.
The low temperature during the same period was 59 degrees recorded on Thursday, June 26.
Altogether, 3.85 inches 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 22 | 94 | 61 | .00 |
| June 23 | 70 | 62 | .08 |
| June 24 | 71 | 63 | .98 |
| June 25 | 81 | 66 | 2.35 |
| June 26 | 81 | 59 | .00 |
| June 27 | 81 | 67 | .00 |
| June 28 | 88 | 65 | .44 |
| Total for last week | | | 3.85 |
| Total for June | | | 6.62 |
| Total precipitation 2025 | | | 11.06 |



E-R photo/LMorgan

‘Tall’ comes in all shapes
Corn fields keep reaching to the sky as Kayton Zwingman can attest to. A 5'8" senior this fall at EPS, Zwingman is shown in a field just south of Elgin waving a flag in preparation for Independence Day on Friday.

County approves permit for Verizon tower

The Antelope County Board of Commissioners held a rare Thursday meeting last week.
The meeting, in part, was for the purpose of a public hearing regarding a conditional use permit being sought by Verizon Wireless.
The permit was being sought for construction of a telecommunications tower on a tract in the N2 of 1-28-6W. The commissioners approved the permit.
Several other matters before the board did not result in action. No action was taken on a new dispatch radio system for the Antelope County Law Enforcement Center. Also, no action was taken on post card printers to be utilized later this summer for the postcard meeting where tax subdivisions are asked to appear before the public to explain tax askings in excess of established criteria.
One item which was approved was a bid for new courthouse sidewalks.
Before the meeting adjourned, the commissioners set the date of Tuesday, July 22, beginning at 8 a.m. for the purpose of additional tax protest hearings.

Pelster inducted into Golden Gloves HOF



Photos submitted

Earlier this year, Petersburg boxing legend Steve Pelster received the rare honor of being inducted into the Golden Gloves Hall of Fame.

Road projects making progress

The Antelope County Commissioners (ACC) met Tuesday, July 1 with all five commissioners present.
County Clerk Lisa Payne confirmed property valuation protests were scheduled starting at 9 a.m. this Thursday, July 3. Payne said around a dozen protests were on the agenda and hoped that all could be completed the same day.

See **ROADS**, Page 3 ►

By Dennis Morgan

co-publisher

When one thinks of the sports history of Petersburg, the Pelster family immediately comes to mind.
The Pelster family has a rich history in Golden Gloves competition.
Once again, earlier this year, their success in the ring was recognized.
Steve Pelster was inducted into the Golden Gloves Hall of Fame (HOF) earlier this year, a testament to his extensive and impactful involvement with the organization.
At a ceremony held in Tulsa, Oklahoma on May 11 of this year, he was inducted into the HOF along with Sean O'Grady, a professional boxer from Oklahoma; Randy Shields, top amateur boxer from Texas in the 1970s; and the late Tommy Morrison, professional heavyweight champion.
“This is a tremendous honor to be recognized on a national level,” Pelster said, “just to be recognized for the many years of involvement in the Golden Gloves with others around the country.”
The requirements to be inducted

See **PELSTER**, Page 8 ►



Three others were inducted into the Golden Gloves Hall of Fame along with Steve Pelster. They were (l-r): the late Tommy Morrison, professional heavyweight champion (represented by his son Sean Morrison), Randy Shields top amateur boxer from Texas, HOF, Sean O'Grady a professional boxer from Oklahoma, and Pelster.

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REMINDER:
We are **CLOSED** this Friday for the 4th.

From JoAnn Baum's Kitchen

Frozen S'Mores



Good day, I have a special treat for you this week. Frozen S'Mores! It is fun to make a treat that your whole family will enjoy.

Such a cold treat to eat in the summertime. It would be a lot like an ice cream cookie.

You could cut in pieces and wrap them individual and keep them in the freezer for when ever you need sweet treat.

So kid friendly! Give this a try! Delicious.

JoAnn

FROZEN S'MORES

1 large box instant chocolate pudding
3 cups cold milk
1 tub (8 oz) Cool Whip® divided
1 8 oz block softened cream cheese

1 7 oz container marshmallow cream
Graham crackers
Parchment paper

Line a 9x13 pan with parchment paper. Lay down graham crackers to cover the bottom.

In a bowl, whisk pudding mix and milk until smooth. Fold in half of the Cool Whip®. Chill in the fridge!

In another bowl, beat together the softened cream cheese and the marshmallows cream. Fold in the remaining Cool Whip®.

Spread the pudding mixture over the graham crackers, then the marshmallow layer over that.

Add one more layer graham crackers. Freeze for at least 6 hours or overnight.

Serve it cold. Yummy.

Implementation of final provision of LB34 began July 1

July 4th is Independence Day in America. This day commemorates the ratification of the Declaration of Independence by the Second Continental Congress on July 4, 1776. I hope that you are able to enjoy time with your friends and family. As we take the day to celebrate our country's independence, we should remember the many brave men and women who have fought and sacrificed so that we may enjoy the gift of freedom.

I also want to make known that July 1, 2025 is the implementation date for one final provision of LB34, a bill that was passed in last year's special session. LB34 included three main components: (1) frontloading the

Bartlett News

Those who had rain gauges in Wheeler County reported a large amount of rain this past week. One morning my rain gauge showed between 4 ½ and 5 inches. I didn't think it had rained that much till I saw the lake of water in my neighbor's back yard. He had two pumps running and thankfully had his pond drained by early afternoon. Our houses sit in an area which was probably a dry river bed many years ago. Or it's the lowest spot in town and collects

See NEWS, Page 3 ►



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July 4, 5 & 6

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Another price increase to use the mail

"USPS Postage Rates Increasing on July 13, 2025"

The USPS's "Delivering for America Plan" is routinely delivering postage rate increases coupled with longer mail delivery delays.

Doesn't seem like a smart business plan, does it?

Effective July 13, 2025

First-Class Mail Forever Stamp: **5¢ Increase**
Increasing from 73¢ to 78¢.

Metered Letters (1 oz): **5¢ Increase**
Increasing from 69¢ to 74¢.

Domestic Postcards: **6¢ Increase**
Increasing from 56¢ to 62¢.

International Postcards: **5¢ Increase**
Increasing from \$1.65 to \$1.70.

Additional Ounce (single-piece letters): **1¢ Increase**
Increasing from 28 cents to 29 cents.

Newspapers and other periodicals have rates that vary by zones so there is no simple "5¢ Increase". On average, our mailing rates will increase by **9.3% OUCH!!!**

After July 11th, our annual rates will need to increase.

CURRENT SUBSCRIBERS renew by July 11th and save!!!

Local: \$45 just 86¢ an issue (Elgin & immediate area)

Non-Local, In State: \$48 just 92¢ an issue

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Connecting the many avenues of Antelope County

A heartfelt, handwritten note thanked us for Pastor Tom’s memorial contribution to Lutheran



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World Relief, and then his wife, Carol, from Fredericksburg, VA added:

“I have to say that I have never before addressed something to 523rd Avenue! Are there really 522 other Avenues?”

Well, good question. Husband Rick and I live on 523rd Avenue, rural Elgin. With the gravel surface, the seasonal flow of semi-trucks and other colossal vehicles all about the business of farming, the swirls of dust and sometimes muddy tracks, with a few raccoons and possums scurrying across in the night, this doesn’t feel like a ‘classic’ avenue.

My frame of reference is the famous, upscale Fifth Avenue

in Midtown Manhattan, New York City. This avenue is lined with shops, such as Saks Fifth Avenue, where ‘just browsing’ tourists are obvious to watchful employees who await “real shoppers’. Been there, done that.

And think 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, the address of the White House where the U.S. president lives in Washington, DC. Walked that route many times working in DC more than 30 years.

Is our 523rd Avenue fancy? Not. Though, with thanks to Antelope County’s road crew, the thoroughfare past our place is well maintained and generally easily navigated. On occasion, high winds push drifting snow into impassable parts for a bit.

In Antelope County, north-south roads are labeled as avenues, numbered from 510th to 531st Avenue. There are some half-mile variants, resulting in roads such as 516½ Avenue. Our place used to be addressed RR#1. Addresses were changed to a number and street name for faster access by emergency vehicles.

Towns are connected by state highways, such as Nebraska Highway 70 running west out of Elgin. Each entity -- towns/cities, counties, and the state -- does its own naming and road maintenance. There are lots of choices – boulevard, drive, lane, court, circle, place, terrace, way, trail, parkway, expressway, freeway, turnpike, and the humble alley, to name a few.

Back before GPS, navigating the roads could be tough when we lived in northern Virginia. Verbal instructions often resulted in “turn right where the giant oak tree used to be, travel a bit, then hang a left where the colonial church burned down in the 1800s”. Getting around meant you had to know when a roadway named Main Street in Fairfax City changes to Little River Turnpike in Fairfax County and then Duke Street in Alexandria. Even with a paper map, getting around was confusing.

Speaking of GPS, one thing we’ve found handy is to put a Google Maps pin out there

during the school year with FULL TIME during the summer. Pay is negotiable.

Comments welcome at jane.schuchardt@gmail.com

As health concerns pop up, this saying can be aptly applied to the medical profession where one can get referred to one specialist after another to find a solution. Getting a diagnosis is half the battle. Then, hopefully there’s the treatment plan that puts one on the road to recovery.

The word road, on the other hand, is used every which way. On a road trip, do we take the Interstate, a nationwide system, or a road less traveled?

There’s the yellow brick road in the movie Wizard of Oz, and the command to hit the road after tipping a last one for the road. Often in life, when we finally get the show on the road, there’s a bump in the road. Hopefully, that bump is not experiencing road rage while stuck in traffic.

So, Carol, the answer to your sincere question is “no, there are not 523 continuous avenues in Nebraska”. Some of our avenues in Antelope County do connect to other counties that have chosen to continue the numbering system. No matter what avenue/street/trail you find yourself following this summer, take the high road. Best to not get stuck in low places.

Comments welcome at jane.schuchardt@gmail.com

News

◀ FROM Page 2

all the town’s extra rainfall. Ericson’s 4th of July Parade will begin at 11 a.m. with the parade lineup by the grade school at 10 a.m. The Junior Rodeo begins at 1:30 p.m.

Fireworks over Lake Ericson will begin at dusk on Saturday, July 5.

“Knee High at 4th of July,” is not happening to my sweet corn this year.

At this point it is about two inches high. The garden was planted late, due to many reasons and possible excuses. The seeds have sprouted quite quickly though because of the warm soil.

The garden consists of several types of roma and slicing tomatoes, onions, green peppers, jalapenos, one habanero, potatoes, sweet potatoes, sweet corn, pumpkins, broccoli, cabbage, zinnias, wild flowers, zucchini as well as green beans.

Take a moment on July 4th to be thankful for the freedoms we take for granted in

this country. To be thankful for each individual who bravely signed the Declaration of Independence, knowing that he was putting his life in danger. To be grateful for those who gave their lives for our great country, the United States of America.

Roads

◀ FROM Page 1

County Assessor Kelly Mueller-Oltjenbruns reported that a new “property lookup” website was up and running starting today.

The website is reliable and will save money, Mrs. Mueller-Oltjenbruns said, and will allow county residents to look up a variety of information concerning their property. The new site is schneidergis.co/antelopecone.

The ACC authorized County Commissioner Chairman Charlie Henery to sign Agreement forms for the Brunswick Northwest and Royal North Projects. Royal North is slated to begin next week and Brunswick Northwest is scheduled for this fall. The voting was unanimous.

Road Superintendent Leigh Kluthe reported that the Elgin East Culvert project should be completed next week, weather permitting, as well as micro surfacing in the Tilden area. Road maintenance is going as planned with delays caused by excessive, but much needed, rain.

In other matters, the ACC will perform a quarterly jail inspection, possible water leakage in the old courthouse will be investigated and budget requests are still being processed.

Finally, dust control on county roads was discussed. Road Superintendent Kluthe will have more information on this matter coming soon.

By Greg Tharnish

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Looking Back

Sixty Years Ago

July 1, 1965

Floyd Kallhoff was elected commander of American Legion Post 229 Monday night at their regular monthly meeting. He fills the office left by the resignation of Wm. Wirges, Jr., who is employed in Omaha.

A daughter, Kristine Kay, was born Saturday morning, June 26, 1965 to Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Kallhoff in Antelope Memorial Hospital. She weighed 7 pounds, 6 ounces.

Clara Jane Donner, daughter of Gildon and Betsy Fraser Donner, was born on the family farm near here Feb. 14, 1877, and departed this life at Antelope Memorial Hospital, Neligh, June 22, 1965, at the age of 88 years, four months and seven days.

Elgin’s Jr. American Legion team won its fourth straight game after an opening setback by beating Spencer 9-1 Monday night on the Spencer diamond. Elgin got 17 hits in the contest and had good defensive support plus another fine pitching performance.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Schultz had their personal belongings trucked here from Lincoln Monday. Until their new home is completed at their farm on the north edge of Elgin they will reside in their old farm home.

Fifty Years Ago

June 26, 1975

There were approximately 380 in attendance at the two high school alumni banquets here Saturday night — 120 at St. Boniface and 260 at St. Boniface and 260 at the Elgin High School auditorium. A combined social hour was held in the Legion hall from 6 to 7:30 p.m. with the separate banquets starting around 8 p.m.

Official weather observer, Clarence Johns, has recorded a total of 15.39 inches of precipitation for 1975 as of Saturday morning, June 21. This was 3.57 inches above the normal moisture to-date (June 21).

A Wayne State College Junior, Leigh Jean Koinzan, has been named alternate recipient of a Board of Trustees scholarship. The Nebraska State College Board of Trustees scholarships are full-tuition awards, granted on the basis of high school academic achievement to Nebraska high school graduates and renewable annually for four years.

A small twister hit the Roger Currie farm at 8:50 p.m. Thursday doing considerable damage to small buildings and their car. The intensity of the storm caused Roger to go outside of their home to check on the storm’s progress. It wasn’t until the tornado settled southwest of their buildings that he noticed dirt and debris flying and he rushed madly for the shelter of his home.

Robert Scannell of Iquitos, Peru arrived in Elgin on Friday. He is spending his vacation at the homes of his mother, Mrs. Evelyn Scannell, and his brother, Mr. and Mrs. Terry Scannell of Norfolk.

Thirty Years Ago

June 28, 1995

More than 100 alumni and guests attended the 52nd annual St. Boniface Alumni Banquet last Saturday evening, June 24, at the Veterans Club. The alumni events began with mass at 5:30 p.m. in St. Boniface Church, followed by tours of the school.

About 150 alumni and guest attended Elgin High School’s 1995 Alumni Banquet last Saturday evening, June 24, at the EHS Gym. The day’s events included an open house on Saturday afternoon at the school, hosted by Dorothy Newton.

Members of St. Boniface Parish in Elgin continue to make good progress toward installation of a hardwood floor and other renovations at St. Boniface Auditorium. The work began on June 5, when 113 parish members helped remove the flooring from the Neligh-Oakdale High School Gym.

Earthmoving work was done last week at the future site of a new convenience store in Elgin, at the corner of Highway 14 and North Street. Norm Groth, owner, said he expects construction of the new store to be finished within 120 days.

Elgin received .94 of an inch of rainfall overnight Thursday, June 22, boosting the year’s total precipitation to 17.28 inches.

Twenty Years Ago

June 29, 2005

Most Elgin Vetch Days events attracted good participation last week, despite some hot afternoon temperatures and high humidity. A total of 420 people were served at the free barbecue meal on Tuesday evening, June 21, in the Elgin KC Hall.

Bessie Hawks of Elgin received the second annual Honored Alumnus Award during the Elgin High School Alumni Banquet last Saturday, June 25, in the EHS Gym. Mrs. Hawks, 93, is a 1929 graduate of Elgin High and taught for 28 years at Elgin Public School.

Elgin Knights of Columbus Hall addition fund drive gained \$1,000 in donations during the past week, and the fund drive total now stands at \$215,000. With the additional donations, there is \$35,000 left to be raised to meet the \$250,000 goal.

Property inside St. Boniface Church in Elgin was damaged by vandalism last Thursday afternoon, June 23. Police Chief Bob Moore said a person or persons entered the church and stuffed matches in an offering box. The matches were then ignited, damaging the box and its contents.

Sandra Kerkman of Elgin has been named the new Elgin postmaster effective Saturday, July 9, 2005. Mrs. Kerkman has been serving as officer in charge of the Elgin office since April 30, when the former postmaster, Gary Hawkins of Norfolk, was named postmaster at Battle Creek.

By Olivia Klein

Elgin Community Center Menus

Monday, July 7: Pork tenderloin sandwich, tator tots, cauliflower, apricots, bread & butter, milk.

Tuesday, July 8: Taco salad with all the fixings, Spanish rice, refried beans, watermelon, bread & butter, milk.

Wednesday, July 9: Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes & gravy, cheesy broccoli, pears, bread & butter, milk.

Thursday, July 10: Cream chicken over biscuits, mixed vegetables, lettuce salad w/ tomatoes, mandarin oranges, bread/butter, milk

Friday, July 11: Tator tot casserole w/green beans, let-

tuce salad w/tomatoes, 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 approximately 11:45 a.m. and ends around 12:15 p.m. Meals are served Monday thru Friday.

Takeout starts at 11:30 a.m. Please call 843-5757 by 9:30 a.m. to reserve a meal for that day.

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

Edward R. Murrow

Immigration raids sweep up people who just want to work

These days, besides seeing American bombers attacking Iran, we’re confronted with almost daily news about immigration raids and with court rulings about what ICE can, and cannot, do.

We’ve been treated to the arrest of man whose three sons are U.S. Marines, and of sobbing mothers, wondering who will take care of their kids.

One recent ruling allowed the U.S. to deport undocumented people to “third countries,” meaning that someone who came from Guatemala might be deported to South Sudan, a continent away from their home of origin.

Many people will disagree with me, but my opinion is this – the vast, vast majority of immigrants coming to our country just want to work and want to escape poverty, violence and gangs in their former homes.

ALL THINGS NEBRASKA



State Correspondent Paul Hammel

We have plenty of jobs available here – the kind of hard jobs that not everyone wants to do, such as meatpacking, construction and roofing – so it just makes common sense to come up with a way to let these people work.

But in our sharply divided country, we haven’t been able to do that. So what happens? These newcomers obtain a false ID so they can go to work, feed their families and pay the rent.

Are these people criminals? You could make that argument since many entered the country without authorization, but that is a civil violation, punishable by a fine or deportation, not technically a crime.

The recent raid on an Omaha

meatpacking operation, Glenn Valley Foods, got a lot of attention (a national news crew was embedded with ICE agents to make sure) and spread fear of more raids among immigrant communities across the state.

But when the Omaha World-Herald looked into the criminal backgrounds of 76 people arrested in Omaha, there wasn’t much to report.

Of that group, fewer than 20 had been charged with any crime in Nebraska, the paper reported. And those who had been charged faced minor crimes, like failure to provide proof of car insurance or not wearing a motorcycle helmet (a requirement since revoked in the state).

This isn’t exactly getting rid of the “worst of the worst,” a phrase used by President Trump often to describe the top goal of his promised wave of ICE raids.

A member of the Douglas County Board, Roger Garcia, said that his wife’s aunt was among those detained in the Omaha raid. She had lived in the community for years, raised a family and paid her taxes, he said.

People, Garcia said, often say that such immigrants ought to “get in line” and apply for citizenship. But his response to Nebraska Public Media was “there often is no line.”

It makes you wonder, is slapping handcuffs on granny and hauling her off to jail making our country safer? Give me a break.

Right now, ICE is trying to meet a presidentially imposed quota of making 3,000 immigration-related arrests a day. The quota has led to criticism that many people who aren’t the “worst of the worst” are being detained to meet the 3,000 figure.

(I don’t know about you, but when I get pulled over by a cop for speeding, I want to be treated fairly – if I deserve a ticket, so be it, but I don’t want to be cited just because there might be some

INNOCENT MEN, WOMEN, AND CHILDREN ARE BEING KIDNAPPED BY ARMED THUGS POSING AS FEDERAL AGENTS...

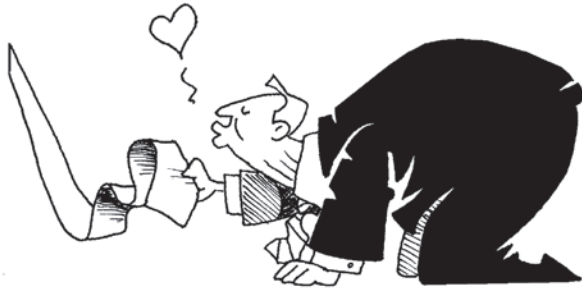
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“quota” for an officer to meet.)

I’m with most people in saying that if you’re a murderer, a gang member or a violent offender – the actual “worst of the worst” – you should be held accountable and should be deported, if a court determines that is appropriate.

But if you only want to work, live in

a safe country and are a law-abiding citizen, we should find a way to allow that.

Most of our immigration laws date back 40 years, but Congress has been unable to update them. Now would be a good time to finally do that.

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.

Editorial Celebrating 249 years of Independence

It’s our time to celebrate. Friday marks the 249th birthday of our country, the United States of America.

From Maine to Hawaii, from Alaska to Florida and all points in between, freedom and independence unites us all. You don’t have to go far to find a celebration. Parades will be held down Main Streets, the summer sky at dark will light up with fireworks to celebrate the moment. Hot dogs and apple pie, burgers and brats and beverages of all kinds will be consumed all in the name of liberty.

Whether you take part in one of these celebrations, or choose to go to a river or lake to be with friends, on this day Americans will celebrate like no other day of the year.

We encourage all to show their patriotism on not just Friday, but throughout the year.

In this endeavour, please be safe AND be mindful of neighbors, pets and others. After all, celebrations shouldn’t end in hard feelings. Happy Fourth of July!

Dennis Morgan, Publisher

Standing up to the Iranian regime

This week, I want to address what most Nebraskans and Americans have been watching on national television: the United States’ recent action against the Iranian regime’s nuclear weapons program. I also want to detail the grave and growing threat Iran poses to Americans.

WASHINGTON REPORT



U.S. Senator Deb Fischer

As chair of the Senate Armed Services Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, I oversee our military’s nuclear and strategic forces, arms control and non-proliferation programs, and ballistic missile defense. This portfolio gives me a deep understanding of the danger Tehran’s nuclear ambitions pose to our national security.

Iran has repeatedly called for “Death to America” – this has been chanted by the nation’s leaders and their proxies in the streets, written into the nation’s doctrine, and etched into its strategy since 1979.

Furthermore, the Iranian regime’s hatred for America has been enforced with bloodshed. Iran’s fingerprints are all over some of the deadliest attacks on U.S. forces. In 1983, Iranian-backed Hezbollah killed 241 American service members in the Beirut barracks bombing.

In 1996, 19 more Americans were killed in the Khobar Towers bombing. During the Global War on Terror, Iran’s Quds Force supplied advanced improvised explosive devices that maimed and killed American troops in Iraq. And today, U.S. servicemembers are still under fire from Iranian proxies in Syria, Iraq, and Yemen.

This is not history. These attacks are part of a long, coordinated strategy to weaken America, and undermine our allies.

We know that Iran has stockpiled uranium enriched to 60 percent. For comparison, nuclear fuel for civilian power plants is enriched to just 3.67 percent. Most medical isotopes use 20 percent. The only use

for uranium enriched to 60 percent is to get closer to weapons-grade material.

And Iran was doing this in fortified, underground bunkers using advanced centrifuges. That’s not a civilian power program; that’s a weapons program. No country in the world enriches uranium to 60 percent without the intent to build a bomb. Iran’s actions were not benign. They were a red line. And that line was about to be crossed.

That’s why the Trump administration took decisive action and launched an operation to target and severely degrade three of Iran’s critical nuclear sites. I am grateful to the brave service members who carried out this mission with extraordinary professionalism and precision. Their efforts sent a message not just to Iran, but to the world: the United States will not allow this regime to obtain a nuclear weapon. Not

FROM THE HILL



Congressman Adrian Smith

As American families make travel plans and assess energy costs for their farms and businesses during the summer, it is as important as ever to champion domestic production of affordable fuels. While gasoline prices in Nebraska are down 5.6 percent from this time a year ago, and diesel prices are down 5.8 percent, tensions around the world put supply chains and energy security at risk. In light of this, policies which embrace the capacity of American biofuels producers to meet demand, such as year-round availability of ethanol blends of 15 percent (E15), are crucial for an all-of-the-above, winning strategy for American energy affordability.

According to Growth Energy analysis, E15 has the potential to save American drivers \$20.6 billion in annual fuel costs and generate \$66.3 billion for U.S. gross domestic product.

now. Not ever.

Iran must come to the negotiating table. A nuclear-armed Iran would permanently destabilize the region, threaten Israel’s existence, and spark an arms race. We’ve come dangerously close to that nightmare scenario.

This past week’s military operation bought time, but now we must work toward a real and lasting agreement where Iran ends its enrichment program, ceases its proxy attacks, and recognizes that the world will no longer tolerate its aggression. Until then, we must remain clear-eyed and ready to act.

Terrorist regimes cannot be appeased. They must be deterred, disrupted, and when necessary, defeated. Iran poses a real danger to American lives, and I will continue to ensure that our armed forces have every tool they need to stop it.

Reviving energy affordability

My bill with Senator Deb Fischer, the Nationwide Consumer and Fuel Retailer Choice Act, would end the unnecessary cycle of dependence on summertime waivers from the EPA and permanently allow year-round, nationwide sale of E15. Our legislation does not have the effect of a mandate. It simply removes existing unscientific restrictions on E15 sales.

I am grateful last week the Trump administration rightfully recognized the key role biofuels play in American energy security when the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced its proposed Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) volume requirements for 2026 and 2027. In May, I wrote to President Trump with 25 colleagues calling for timely and robust renewable volume obligation (RVO) requirements, and I look forward to working with EPA Administrator Lee Zeldin and the president to ensure these proposed RVO levels have the intended effect of promoting American energy production. If finalized, these RFS volumes will support our agriculture producers, provide much needed certainty to the industry, and ensure consumers have greater access to affordable

See SMITH, Page 5 ►

Numbers to Know

President Donald J. Trump, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D.C. 20510; phone (202) 456-1111.

U.S. Senate Website: www.senate.gov

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

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

U.S. House Website: www.house.gov

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

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

Nebr. Unicameral Website www.unicam.state.ne.us

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

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

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Volume 142, Wednesday, July 2, 2025 Number 41

Published weekly on Wednesday at Elgin, NE 68636 Entered at the Elgin Post Office and Periodicals Postage Paid at Elgin, NE 68636 Telephone: (402) 843-5500



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Smith

◀ FROM Page 4

liquid fuels. Remarkably, the overall economic impact of the ethanol industry for our state is \$8.18 billion—more than 50 times the total impact of the 2024 College World Series, which itself is wonderful for our economy. Because of the importance of biofuels to Nebraska's



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economy and energy abundance, I supported inclusion of a provision in the House-passed reconciliation package to extend and improve the 45Z biofuels production tax credit til 2031.

This measure directly supports farmers in the Third District and equips producers with the certainty to invest and power the future of sustainable aviation fuel and other clean transportation fuel.

In addition, last week the Trump administration took action to halt production at the EPA's red tape factory and restore energy abundance.

The waiver permitted the State of California's electric vehicle mandate which functionally banned the sale of vehicles powered by internal combustion. These Biden-era rules were unworkable, out of touch, and a step backward for American energy. As co-chair of the bipartisan Congressional Biofuels Caucus, I am committed to maximizing accessibility of renewable fuels and flexibility for American producers, consumers, and retailers. It is vital we advance policies which increase flexibility for the market to meet demand while opening the door to American energy affordability.

A Nebraska crypto company wants to get bigger
Landowners decry NPPD's use of eminent domain that will help it grow

By Jeremy Turley
Flatwater Free Press

Justin Kennedy had long envisioned more than a cornfield when he gazed at the plot of family land a half-mile from where he grew up.

It was "the perfect setup" for building his dream retirement house in rural Stanton County.

He long ago planted a shelter-belt across the dirt road, hoping the trees would one day block prairie gusts from reaching his porch.

Then the Nebraska Public Power District announced its intention to run a high-voltage transmission line through the view from his dream doorstep. The Kennedys objected. The utility responded by filing a petition to use eminent domain on six acres of the land.

"It feels like a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity is being taken away from me," Kennedy said.

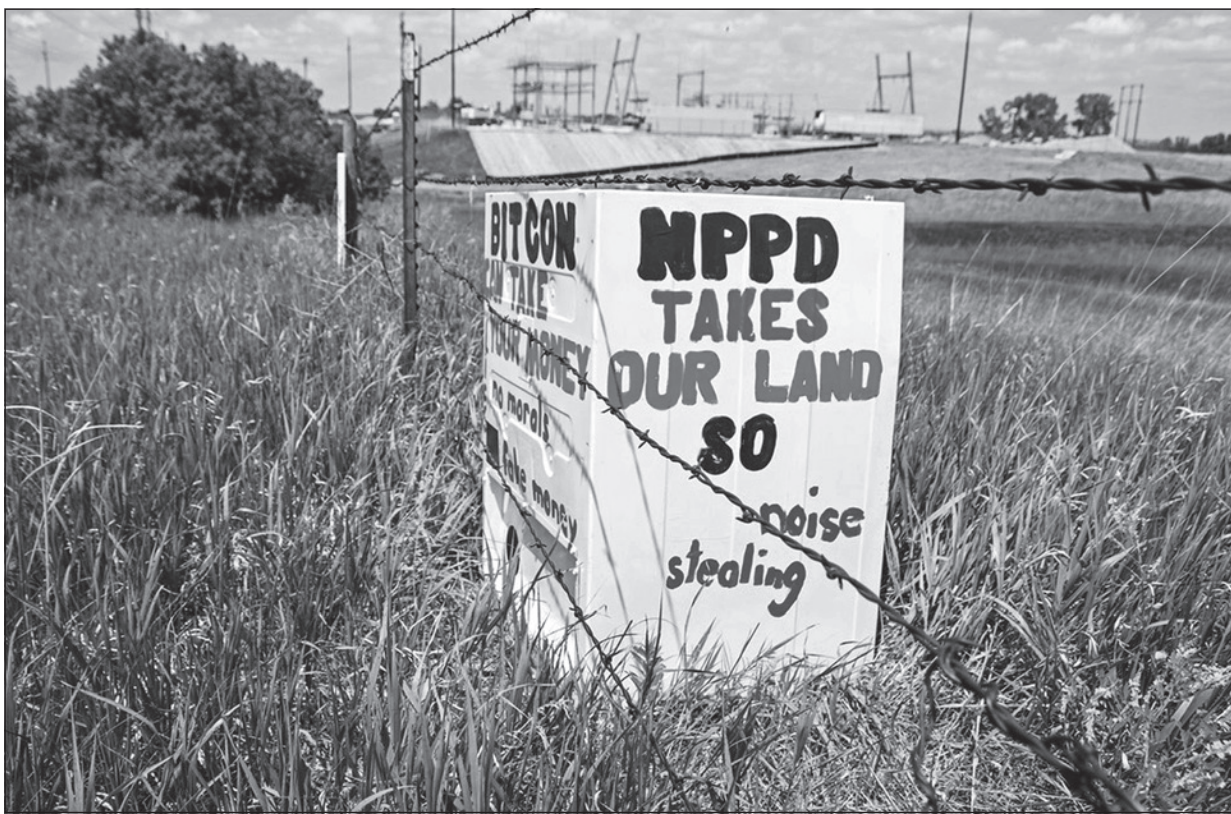
NPPD, which says it uses eminent domain only as a last resort to complete essential projects, recently used the tactic to condemn slivers of land owned by the Kennedys and three other families along the planned transmission line route its pairing with electrical substation upgrades.

The \$20 million project, mostly paid for by Nebraska ratepayers, will feed one giant customer's growing appetite for electricity: a bitcoin mining company called Jigowatt.

Jigowatt already demands by far the most electricity of any customer in the county. But the company's long-standing request for more power would allow it to triple the amount of energy it can use.

NPPD leaders argue the project is important because the new 7.5-mile line will make local power more reliable to all local customers — not just Jigowatt — and more resilient to bad weather. The utility treats landowners fairly, said NPPD General Counsel John McClure. More than two-thirds of landowners voluntarily signed easements for this project, allowing them to keep ownership of their property while NPPD runs the line through it.

The crypto miner's energy usage during seasons and times



Signs painted by Stanton County resident Mary Wortmann sit across the road from Jigowatt's crypto mining facility and south of the power substation that will soon feed it more energy. Photo by Jeremy Turley/Flatwater Free Press

when others aren't consuming electricity will smooth demand and actually reduce costs for all ratepayers, McClure said.

"I don't think there's any doubt that Jigowatt's load is contributing to (demand) growth up there, but everybody benefits from this transmission facility," McClure said.

But some landowners decried NPPD's approach to land acquisition as predatory and questioned their use of eminent domain for the project.

"If it's for one private company, I think eminent domain should be absolutely off the table," Kennedy said.

Jigowatt CEO Michael Westhoff said his company had nothing to do with routing or land acquisition for the transmission line. As a landowner, he said he sympathizes with some of the neighbors' complaints.

"I 100% understand where they're coming from and do not like eminent domain either," Westhoff said. "But the flip side of that is how would we ever build anything anywhere? There would be no railroads,

there would be no highways, there would be no utilities, there would be nothing."

NPPD's use of eminent domain in Stanton County came shortly after a Flatwater Free Press investigation found that the utility bought land in rural Lancaster County from two of its own executives, Ron and Donna Starzec, for \$25,000 an acre, more than twice the land's appraised value.

Stanton County landowners said it's a double standard that they're now being forced to sell easements on their land for much less than the Starzecs got.

NPPD's purchase from the Starzecs was justified because of the land's prime location, McClure said.

"Different locations, different uses, different values," he said.

Potential energy

The poster boards presented by two visiting businesswomen promised a splashy community investment rarely made in Stanton County: an attractive modern building, 20-25 local jobs, millions of dollars in revenue for the local utility.

Northern Data wanted a huge amount of electricity — 70 megawatts — routed to its cloud-computing hub. The utilities were open to that request.

The Kennedy family liked the idea enough that in 2021 it sold the German firm 40 acres of farmland to build its flagship American facility.

"Little did we know what it would turn into," Justin Kennedy said.

Six months after buying the land, Northern Data paused the project. Nine months after that, the company sold the plot.

The property's new owners had a different kind of computer-based business in mind: crypto mining.

In 2023, Lincoln-based Jigowatt began installing cargo containers housing computers and high-powered fans to cool them.


Stanton County Public Power District, which sells NPPD-generated power to local customers, created a new "interruptible" electric rate for Jigowatt's

See Crypto, Pag 6 ▶

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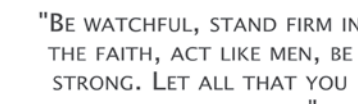
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1 CORINTHIANS 16:13-14

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We Are Not The Center Of The Universe

Contrary to society's focus on our self-importance, Christianity calls for focusing on others.

Everyone matters. No one is unworthy.

It's a new mindset that must be learned.

You can work on that learning this week in church.

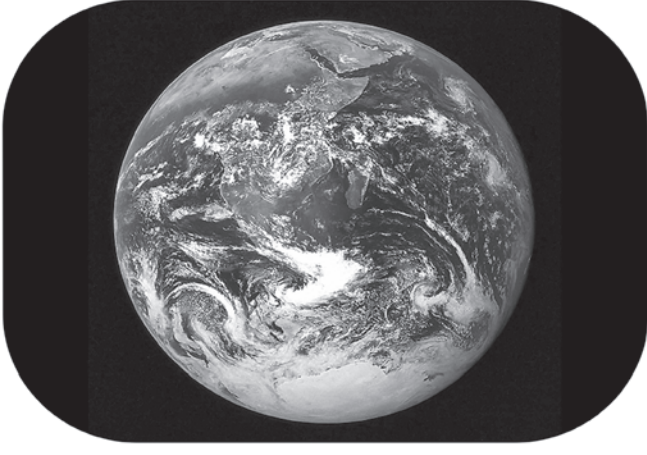
...let us work for the good of all.... Galatians 6:(1-6) 7-16

2 Kings 5:1-14 Luke 10:1-11, 16-20 Psalm 30

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

Sunday, July 6, 2025


Fourth Sunday after Pentecost



St. Boniface Catholic Church
Elgin, NE

Fr. John Norman, Pastor
Fr. Frank Baumert, Associate Pastor

Confessions: 5-5:30 on Wednesdays.
Weekend Mass: Sunday, 10 am.
cppnebraska.org



St. Bonaventure Catholic Church
Raeville, NE

Fr. John Norman, Pastor
Fr. Frank Baumert, Associate Pastor

Weekend Mass: 1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday, 8 am.
cppnebraska.org



Park Congregational U.C.C. Church
Elgin, NE

Congregational

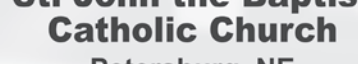
Sunday Worship Service: 9:15 am.
Sunday School: 10:15 am.
Communion Sunday: 1st Sunday of each month. Park Women's Fellowship: 2 pm on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the church. Parish Council: 7:30 pm on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the church.



St. John the Baptist Catholic Church
Petersburg, NE

Fr. John Norman, Pastor
Fr. Frank Baumert, Associate Pastor

Weekend Mass: 2nd & 4th Sunday, 8 am.
cppnebraska.org



Bartlett Church of Faith
Bartlett, NE

Pastor Mark Hoffman

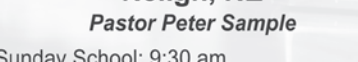
Sunday Worship Service: 9 am.
Sunday School: 10-10:45 am.



Calvary Bible Church
Neligh, NE

Pastor Peter Sample

Sunday School: 9:30 am.
Worship Service: 10:45 am.



Trinity Lutheran Church
Elgin, NE

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

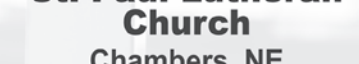
Weekend Mass: 1st, 3rd & 5th Saturday, 5:30 am.
cppnebraska.org



St. Paul Lutheran Church
Chambers, NE

Pastor Leif Hasskari

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



Immanuel-Zion Lutheran Church
ELCA

Rural Albion, NE
Pastor Elizabeth Goehring

Worship Service: 9:30 am.
Coffee following services
Sunday School: 10:30 am.
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~ Proverbs 19:11 ~

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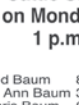
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Faith

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Hebrews 11:1



Crypto

◀ FROM Page 5

operation that would charge the company a lower per-unit cost than residents and other businesses.

SCPPD officials didn't go looking for Jigowatt, said Board President Doug Oertwich, but it was good fortune that the company approached the utility with a plan to take on the electric load planned for Northern Data.

But the crypto miner didn't build a nice facility or hire many locals, Justin Kennedy said. And the fans cooling the computers produced a mechanical noise that disturbed some neighbors.

"We felt deceived," Kennedy said. "It just felt miserable because we thought we were doing something good for the people around there."

As Jigowatt began to mine for crypto, SCPPD's total electric load skyrocketed, nearly tripling from 2023 to this year.

Jigowatt's current load in Stanton County is 20 megawatts, but the company has sought to bump that to 70 megawatts, said CEO Westhoff.

That much power requires a new transmission line running from a Norfolk substation to another substation across the road from Jigowatt, McClure said.

NPPD held open houses where Project Manager Paul Brune told locals the project was needed to meet increasing

demand and enhance reliability and resiliency in Stanton, Cumming and Burt counties.

After announcing the transmission line's route last year, NPPD right-of-way agents began offering payment to residents if they'd allow the new line to run through their properties.

Fifteen landowners took the offer. Five, including two separate Kennedy family trusts, refused.

The unwilling sellers, who collectively own a dozen acres along the route, each received a letter this spring with a final offer and a warning: NPPD will pursue eminent domain if you don't accept within 10 days.

The letters were signed by Ron Starzec, NPPD's land management chief who had sold his land to the utility for above-assessed value.

"That's kind of ironic, isn't it?" said Leuthold, one of the landowners who refused to sign.

Four families vs. NPPD

Tony and Mary Wortmann's frustrations with the bitcoin mine started when a powerful low hum penetrated their farmhouse.

The 73-year-olds say the sound of the computer-cooling fans a half-mile away has caused them headaches, achy joints and psychological distress.

"I never complained about noise until Jigowatt came," Tony Wortmann said. "It keeps

us up at night. It wears on our brains."

When NPPD approached the couple about using their land for the transmission line that would supply more power to Jigowatt, it added insult to injury, they said.

McClure said NPPD strives to treat landowners with respect and approaches them in good faith. Land prices are determined by a contracted appraiser, he added.

After NPPD filed to condemn the land belonging to the four holdout families, a county judge appointed real estate agents and bankers to serve as independent appraisers.

One by one, the families appealed for higher valuations as they faced off with NPPD's hired lawyer in informal hearings.

For three families, including the Leutholds and the Wortmanns, the appointed appraisers came back with figures that differed from NPPD's original appraisals by less than \$1,000 per acre. All three families have appealed the decision.

The Kennedys, last to go to court, came prepared with custom-made poster boards featuring their own calculations of land value. Their final appraisal would pay them about \$13,000 per acre, nearly 35% more than NPPD offered but far less than what the family asked for.

Early legal interpretations

of eminent domain meant it could be used only for projects that clearly serve the public. But government entities have increasingly tried to use eminent domain to bring in private companies, said Severin Borenstein, a University of California-Berkeley economics professor.

Even so, NPPD's use of eminent domain is "pretty controversial" given that the transmission line seems to primarily serve the demands of one customer, Borenstein said.

NPPD has a duty to serve all customers, including crypto miners, McClure said.

For SCPPD, meeting Jigowatt's demand grows the utility's profits, which it can pass along to all of its customers by keeping rates low, said Oertwich, the board president.

Westhoff, the Jigowatt CEO, said his company provides value by paying hefty taxes, including sales tax on the energy it buys.

The company and its tenants have a 2024 personal property tax bill of nearly \$98,000, plus real estate taxes of about \$18,000 for their Stanton County locations.

Jigowatt also pledged \$100,000 toward a planned veterans memorial park in Stanton County.

Nebraska ratepayers will cover two-thirds of the transmission line's \$11 million price tag. High-volume energy consumers

in Nebraska including Jigowatt will pay for most of the \$9.5 million in related substation enhancements.

Jigowatt won't be directly charged for any of the infrastructure upgrades, but it has put up about \$5 million in letters of credit that NPPD would keep if the company doesn't end up using the energy it requested, according to Westhoff's legislative testimony.

Nebraska lawmakers began regulating crypto mining this year when they passed a bill allowing utilities to interrupt the operations' electric service and to demand payment or letters of credit before making infrastructure upgrades.

Starting this fall, utilities will be required to publish a list of crypto miners they serve and

their energy consumption.

Mary Wortmann worries Jigowatt's expansion will create more noise and make living in their home "totally unbearable."

The sound has decreased since Jigowatt changed a few of its air-cooled systems to liquid immersion cooling, which is quieter, Westhoff said. Tenant miners operating on the site still use fans, but Westhoff said his company will build only immersion-cooled systems.

Mary Wortmann doesn't buy that the crypto mine will grow quietly. She and her husband have talked about leaving the house they've lived in for three decades.

"They're going to be driving us out of our home," she said.

OBITUARIES

Dorothy Dwyer, 94

November 10, 1930 - June 29, 2025

Living in northeast Nebraska, she enjoyed camping, dancing and keeping busy with her children and grandchildren.



Memorial services for Dorothy Dwyer, age 94,

of Bloomfield, Nebraska will be 10:30 a.m. Monday, July 7, 2025, at the Bloomfield Community Auditorium.

Reverend Judy Carlson will officiate, with burial at a later date.

Visitation will be Sunday from 4:00 to 7 p.m. at the auditorium, with a 6:30 p.m. prayer service

Brockhaus Funeral Home in Bloomfield is in charge of arrangements.

Dorothy Ann (Jackson) Anderson Dwyer, passed away on Sunday, June 29, 2025, at Osmond General Hospital in Osmond, Nebraska surrounded by her family at the age of 94. Dorothy was born on November 10, 1930, in the Devil's Nest near Crofton, Nebraska. She was the eighth of nine children born to Thomas and Ruth (Zurcher) Jackson.

When Dorothy was young, the family moved to Crofton where she attended school, graduating from Crofton High School in 1949.

Dorothy met her husband, Alvin Anderson, while working at Ross's Confectionary, the local ice cream shop. They were married on June 2, 1949, and together they farmed and raised three daughters and lost one at birth.

Dorothy always said that they were not blessed with sons but waited for them to come knocking at the door to date their daughters.

Dorothy and Alvin farmed east of Bloomfield and had a milking operation. She had a special love/hate relationship with their Holstein cows. Dorothy worked hard beside Alvin to build their farming operation. You could find her doing chores, usually with a pocket full of bite-sized Snickers candy bars.

They moved from the farm into Bloomfield in 1986. Alvin passed away on July 24, 1991. Over the years, Dorothy worked at Farmers Coop, Terra Western, and BJ's Variety.

While at Farmer's Coop, Dorothy began a "Women's Discovery" group to help local farm wives understand the Coop and how it served local farmers. She

BCHC opens mental health program for seniors



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Spinning Tales

It was only 107 degrees, what's the big deal?

CAMBRIDGE — It's hot out here!

That's how former NU Heisman Trophy winner Mike Rozier once described summer in Nebraska, not that many years ago when he, teammate Ricky Simmons, Elgin banker Gary Arehart and I played 18 holes of golf in Lincoln on a sweltering summer day.

Rozier, from New Jersey, has never forgotten his Nebraska ties and often plays golf with Simmons. When they get together, they're known as 'Frick & Frack'. Gary and I were fortunate to play 18 holes that day. I don't remember what score we posted, it was all about the experience.

The focus of this essay is not Rozier or Simmons, but rather 100-degree heat and its impact on having a good time.

We all, for several days last month, experienced what it's like to live, work and play underneath a heat dome.

For Lynell and I, June 20-22 was a weekend circled on the calendar months ago to go see our good friends who have a cabin at Shrunk Lake east of McCook. They are nearing retirement, he as a CPA, she as a newspaper publisher.

We left Elgin shortly after noon on Friday for the 4.5 hour trip. The heat, which was close to 100 degrees here, was so intense that it could be felt near the windshield while the rest of the car stayed cool due to the AC.

We grabbed lunch mid-afternoon at Culver's in Kearney. The heat outside made Culvers' inside the place to be as frozen custard was being served at nearly every table, the majority of occupants being youths armed with plastic spoons.

Leaving, the minute we stepped towards the car we were hit by a 30-mph gust which felt like a blast furnace. Heat combined with forceful winds makes every step one to be questioned - do we really need to go there?

When we got to the cabin, my friend Doug told me we had a 9:30 a.m. tee time at Heritage

Hills in McCook. It is one of the best golf courses in southwest Nebraska. Nearly every other golf course in a 60-mile radius had a tournament that day.

So, Saturday morning came and the heat was already starting to be oppressive by 9 a.m. Having breakfast outside on the patio, shade was fading fast as the sun rose and the winds were still blowing.

Winds were again averaging 30 mph and it wasn't long before the decision was made to forego golf. The heat is one thing, but the wind was the real problem. I don't have to play golf, I enjoy playing golf. But I don't enjoying winds messing with my laser, pin point golf shots. I can slice perfectly fine on my own without the aid of winds out of the south.

Anyway, halfway around the world, the terrorist country Iran's nuclear weapons facilities were being bombed into oblivion, courtesy of Midnight Hammer. President Trump took on Iran in a way no American president had ever done before. A military mission like no other, in size and scope, seemingly executed to perfection by American troops. That was heat of another kind, the kind which only happens when governments are at odds over the future of mankind. An act of war? Depends on where you stand, on the right or left.

With the heat at 107 degrees, the heat was stifling. Still, the four of us went to Holdrege and, for an hour, explored one of Nebraska's lesser known ties to World War II. The Phelps County Museum is just miles away from what once was a German prisoner-of-war camp at Atlanta.

It was there and also at Indianapolis, POW camps with guard towers, barbed wire and rifles, barracks and other buildings too, dotted the landscape. Now, all that remains is a chimney tower on the land. The museum, on the other hand, tells the story of the POW camps. Escape was out of the question because, if you were able to get outside the camps, you had thousands

of miles to go to reach the ocean then thousands of miles of water to navigate before reaching Europe. There are more stories than this space can tell. But the one thing which tells a unique story. There were accounts of German POWs who, after the war went home, then came back to Nebraska to live the rest of their lives.

The summers they spent there I'm sure had plenty of heat. Though the sun would beat down, it couldn't suppress just how well they were treated by these Nebraskans.

If you ever get a chance to be in Holdrege, visit the museum on the north edge of town. It's one of the best museums we have visited, and we've visited quite a few through the years here and across the country.

Another form of heat came that night in the grilling of steaks on a fire grill. We took out ribeye steaks from Dean's Market. Marinated just right, the thawed steaks cooked up quickly on the grill and, served with cheesy potatoes, were the best I have tasted in quite some time. I love my Traeger grill, but my steak cooked on a gas or charcoal grill, was a welcome change.

Coming home Sunday, the temperature was in the mid-90s when we pulled into the driveway. It was a cool 94 degrees here in Elgin. Never did 94 feel 'cool' before, but after 107 it certainly was.

Feel the heat? After this experience, we would just as soon not. But, July beckons and August won't be far behind.

Summer has a funny way of warming things up. You just never know what you're going to get.

SPINNING TALES



Publisher
Dennis Morgan

See BCHC, Page 8 ▶

Community Calendar

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

Thursday, July 3

First Day of Antelope County Tax Protest hearings at the courthouse (9 a.m.) ■ Fort Benning re-dedication ceremony @ Neligh American Legion Hall (11 a.m.) ■ Antelope County Museum concert fundraiser.

Friday, July 4

Independence Day (most Elgin businesses are closed)

Monday, July 7

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

Tuesday, July 8

Antelope County Board of Commissioners regular meeting

Wednesday, July 9

District #18 Board of Education regular meeting (7:00 p.m.)

Monday, July 14

Nebraska Extension Summer Pasture Walk near Verdigre*

Wednesday, July 22

Antelope County Tax Protest hearings at the Neligh courthouse (8 a.m.)



Events listing courtesy of
ELGIN VETERANS' MEDICAL CLINIC
an outpatient department of Boone County Health Center

116 N 2nd Street, Elgin

402.843.5910



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Deadline Tuesday at 10:00 a.m.

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CARD OF THANKS

Thanks for all the thoughts, prayers and cards for my recent surgery. Getting better every day. Thanks again.

Mike Schmitt

Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who texted, called or stopped by to "surprise" me on my retirement day. It has been a pleasure to work with and help you these past 8 years. I shall end as I always do....

"Stay Safe"

Verona

Scan this code to view our photo galleries:

UPCOMING AREA FAIRS:

Boone County Fair, July 12-16
Antelope County Fair, July 28-Aug. 3
Wheeler County Fair, July 28-Aug. 3

Adventures in babysitting

By Olivia Klein
Elgin Review student intern

Throughout my time in middle school and high school I have babysat for about ten different families. Each family that I have babysat for has had a different number of kids, different age groups and different parenting styles.

While talking with my friends, we came up with some similar stories that happened while we were babysitting, and some stories that were unique experiences. We have all learned something new from every babysitting job that we have had.

For instance, we have all had to babysit for picky eaters and for the accident prone kids. It can be very stressful when you first start babysitting and your babysitting kids will not

eat what you made for lunch, or when you walk away for one second and when you look back there is a big mess for you to clean up. However, when you start to babysit for more families and you talk to some of your friends, you will find out that these situations will happen for almost any family that you babysit for. Over the years I have learned to be calm and to not stress out about things like this that are easy to fix.

There are also some experiences that you have while babysitting that you do not expect. For example, a couple of summers ago when my babysitting kids and I were spending time outside, the family cat climbed a tree in their front yard and got stuck there all day. We all tried to coax him down throughout the day, but he wouldn't budge. Another example is when my friend was

As we near the end of June, many spring calving herds are wrapping up their breeding season. If bulls were turned out in late April or early May, now is the time to think about pulling them to keep your calving window tight and manageable.

A defined breeding season — ideally 60 days or less — pays dividends in multiple ways. A shorter season leads to a more uniform and often heavier calf crop, tighter calving and weaning windows, and a more attractive group for buyers. It can also improve breed-back rates by giving cows more time to cycle before the next breeding season.

On the other hand, longer breeding seasons can increase the total number of cows bred, which may reduce the number of open culls during the fall — traditionally a low market period.

IT'S ALL ABOUT BEEF

Beef Systems
Asst. Ext. Educator
Ben Beckman

od. There is opportunity to hold open cows, feed them up, or rebreed and sell them in the spring when prices tend to be stronger.

One way to find middle ground is to extend the breeding season by 30 days, then preg-check later this year. This gives cows one more estrus cycle to conceive, but still allows you to sort them into early, late, or open when you check. Late-bred cows can then be marketed separately without taking the same price hit as open culls.

For producers who used artificial insemination followed by natural service, this is a key moment. Leaving bulls out too long can erase the benefits of a front-loaded AI program. Pulling bulls now helps you preserve a defined calving window and maintain the genetic and

management gains of your breeding strategy.

It's also a good time to take notes. Record turnout dates, flag cows that showed late heats or issues, and plan for pregnancy checks. If feed or pasture is short, evaluate whether late-bred or open cows are worth carrying into fall.

And don't forget about bull management. Once they're pulled, bulls need attention just like the rest of the herd. Check their body condition — many will have lost weight during the breeding season. Provide access to high-quality forage or a balanced ration to help them recover. Address internal and external parasites, update vaccinations if needed, and treat any hoof or injury issues. Separating young and older bulls can also reduce fighting and injury risk during rest periods. Bulls are a valuable investment — taking care of them now ensures they're ready when next year rolls around.

Wrapping up the breeding season on time helps set the stage for a more uniform, more profitable calving season next spring.

- 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



Elgin Review joins new statewide branded content network

'Every business has a story to tell.'

The Elgin Review is proud to announce its participation in the newly launched OnePress Branded Content Marketing Network, a statewide initiative designed to connect businesses with Nebraska readers through trusted local journalism.

The OnePress Branded Content Network includes more than 90 Nebraska newspapers, making it one of the first statewide efforts of its kind in the country. The goal: to help businesses tell their stories in a meaningful, engaging way across print, digital, and social platforms.

Unlike traditional advertising, branded content is a form of marketing that focuses on storytelling. These articles are written in a journalistic voice, designed to inform and inspire — not just sell. And that approach works. According to national research, branded content generates up to 22 times more engagement than standard display ads and is more likely to be remembered and acted on by readers.

What makes this network

unique is its partnership with local newspapers like ours — outlets that are deeply rooted in the communities they serve and among the most trusted sources of news and information in the state. In fact, a recent Nebraska readership study found that 70% of adults in the state read a local newspaper media — print, digital and/or social — each week, and nearly 80% say they trust their local newspaper for news and advertising content alike.

"This is real proof that Nebraska newspapers are evolving to meet the needs of modern advertisers and readers," said Jerry Raehal, Chief Growth Officer of OnePress. "We're combining what makes our local newspapers so valuable — trust, reach, and community connection — with the storytelling strategies today's marketers are looking for."

By participating in this program, *The Elgin Review* is helping ensure that Nebraska businesses — from small-town shops to statewide organizations — have access to a modern, effective way to reach audiences that matter most, all while supporting strong local journalism.

If your business is interested in learning more about branded content opportunities through this new network or in the *The Elgin Review*, contact Lynell Morgan @ elginreview@yahoo.com, 402-843-5500 or stop by at 116 S 2nd OR contact Jerry at jerry@onepressne.com

"Because every business has a story to tell — and we're here to help tell it," Raehal said.

Please join in an **End-of-an-Era Retirement Open House**

Bethrice "Bethie" Siems

Wednesday, **July 16** 2:00-4:00 at the Elgin Community Center

With the very recent retirement of Bernie, a one-time essential job in the Elgin newspaper office has come to an end. For 25+ years, she and a group of various ladies (including Dona Elliott and Lois Bettendorf) spent Wednesday mornings stuffing newspapers with inserts and helping get the papers to the post office.

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THE CITY of Hooper, Nebraska is seeking a Chief of Police. Applications may be obtained from the City Office, 124 N Main Street, calling (402) 654-3649 or emailing hoopercityclerk@hooper.ne.gov. EOE

THE SUN-TELEGRAPH in Sidney, NE seeks FT general assignment reporter. Great opportunity to hone skills covering local news, government, and sports. Experience helpful. Send resume, & 3 of your work to: wood.saratogasun@gmail.com.

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ELGIN LIVESTOCK SALES INC.

NO SALE MONDAY, JULY 7

Some results from Monday's (June 30) auction:

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| 9 BLK & Red Baby Calves..... | 975 ⁰⁰ |
| 3 BLK & Red Calves..... | 1600 ⁰⁰ |
| 3 BLK & Red Calves..... | 1760 ⁰⁰ |
| 10 BLK Steers..... | 412 ⁵⁰ |
| 66 BLK Heifers..... | 384 ⁰⁰ |
| 31 BLK Heifers..... | 299 ⁰⁰ |
| 118 BLK Heifers..... | 261 ⁰⁰ |
| 60 BLK Steers..... | 297 ⁰⁰ |

UPCOMING AUCTIONS:

JULY 14 - Weigh Cows & Bulls
JULY 21 - Special Feeder Auction

Call us and get your cattle listed on our upcoming July auctions.

ELGIN Livestock Sales

PO Box 160 • 100 South Myrtle Elgin, Nebraska

To consign your cattle, call Ted Baum 402.843.8370
Field Rep. Trey Baum 402.843.6683
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PROCEEDINGS OF THE JUNE 24 MEETING
ANTELOPE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
ANTELOPE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Neligh, Nebraska
June 24th, 2025

Chairman opened the meeting. Notice of meeting published as required by statute.
Approved agenda.
Approved vendor claims.
General: AMAZON ex 204.51; ANTELOPE CO SHRF ex 566.05; APPLIED CONN TECH ex 4,252.25; AXON ENT ex 4,210.45; BEAR GRAPHICS ex 1,704.88; BLACK HILLS ENERGY ut 127.00; BLACKBURN MFG ex 45.10; BOMGAARS ex 875.45; DEB BRANSTITER ex 112.92; BULLER FIXTURE ex 5,150.00; CASH-WA DISTR ex 5,905.48; CHARM-TEX ex 1,003.84; COLDTYPE PUB ex 10.00; CORNHUSKER STATE IND ex 1,250.00; COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT ex 417.00; DAS STATE ACCTG ex 557.75; DOUGLAS CO SHRF ex 22.61; EAKES OFC SOL ex 225.91; ELITE COURT REPORTING ex 399.15; ELITE OFC PRODS ex 287.98; FIRST CONCORD BENEFITS ins 1,877.02; GT DISTR ex 9.99; HEARTLAND FIRE PROTECTION ex 66.00; IOWA PRISON IND ex 194.69; JONNY DODGE ex 980.28; KIESLER POLICE SUPPLY ex 1,906.90; KOINZAN ENT ex 388.91; BROOKE KUMM ex 6.10; LA QUINTA INNS ex 316.00; MERIT MECHANICAL ex 1,328.00; MIDWEST AUTOMATED FIRE SPRINKLER ex 390.00; BETH MILLER ex 689.43; MIPS ex 427.25; NEBR FIRE SPRINKLER CORP ex 565.00; NEBR HEALTH & HUMAN SVCS ex 87.00; NEBR SVC PLUS ex 231.12; NORTHEAST NEBR HEATING & AIR ex 3,740.00; O'NEILL SHOPPER ex 90.63; OLD MILL SALES ex 3,463.80; LISA PAYNE ex 1,128.39; PITZER DIGITAL ex 286.58; QUILL CORP ex 608.48; SANNE REPAIR ex 2,312.95; SCHROEDER LAND SURVEYING ex 295.00; SEC OF STATE ex 50.00; STEALTH BROADBAND ut 1,137.38; ULINE ex 2,604.81; UNIV OF NEBR-LINCOLN ut 45.02; WESTERN OIL II ex 2,716.01; MEGAN WINGATE ex 316.82; 319 GRAPHICS ex 824.25; ANTELOPE CO TREAS ex 900,000.00; APPEARA ex 34.22; PAM SLAYMAKER ex 2,768.88; NORTHEAST NEBR RC&D ex 1,500.00;

Road/Bridge: AKRS ex 124.03; APPEARA ex 100.00; BLACK HILLS ENERGY ut 367.74; BOMGAARS ex 1,178.52; CONSTELLATION ut 207.33; FARMERS PRIDE ex 12,252.60; FIRST CONCORD BENEFITS ins 1,380.19; LAWSON PRODS ex 234.15; LAZY T TIRE ex 1,000.75; LICHTENBERG TIRE ex 1,180.25; MEDICAL ENT ex 36.00; MIDWEST COATINGS ex 315,431.36; NPPD ut 53.29; NMC EXCHANGE ex 393.96; NORTH CONSTRUCTION ex 59,700.24; QUALITY IRON & METAL ex 718.59; RDO TRUCK CENTERS ex 5,163.99; SAPP BROTHER PETRO ex 1,573.71; STEALTH BROADBAND ut 95.59; THRIFTWAY ex 2.49; TRUCK CENTER ex 19,375.06; TWO RIVERS AUTO PARTS OF NELIGH ex 87.27; ASPHALT SURFACING CO ex 317,297.08; ATCO INTERNATL ex 295.41; FRONTIER COMM ut 637.32; JOHN DEERE CREDIT ex 711,958.23; CATERPILLAR FINANCIAL SVCS ex 40,836.22; CINTAS ex 25.10;

Law Enforcement: AMH FAMILY PRACTICE ex 93.00; AMH ex 1,955.00; BLACK HILLS ENERGY ut 333.76; DEANS MARKET ex 798.40; FAITH REGIONAL HEALTH SVCS ex 270.00; THRIFTWAY ex 3,503.22; U-SAVE PHARMACY ex 2,611.27;

Commissary: APPLIED CONN TECH ex 2,170.14; KEEFE SUPPLY ex 114.72;

Disaster: ANTELOPE CO TREAS ex 2,618,197.08.

Approved minutes of the June 10th Board of Commissioner and Board of Equalization Meetings.
Public comments. Correspondence was reviewed.

PROCEEDINGS
ANTELOPE COUNTY BOARD OF EQUALIZATION
Neligh, Nebraska
June 24th, 2025

Chairman opened the meeting. Notice of meeting published as required by statute.
Accepted 2025 over-under report.
Meeting Adjourned.
Antelope County Board of Commissioners

CHARLIE HENERY
Chairman of County Board
Attest: LISA PAYNE /s/
Antelope County Clerk
PUBLISH: July 2, 2025
ZNEZ

Zoning Administrator.
Public Hearing - Verizon Wireless Tower. Approved Conditional Use Permit.
No action on dispatch radio system. Set date for late arriving protests. Met with Antelope County Librarians. No action on post card printers. Discussion on Public Defender contract. Approved bid for courthouse sidewalks. Approved participation in the GAN reimbursement grant.
Road Superintendent Report. Approved one oversize permit. Approved one access permit. Approved two (2) pay applications.
Budget discussion. Approved adjustment to budget authority and resolution.
Meeting Adjourned.
Antelope County Board of Commissioners

CHARLIE HENERY
Chairman of County Board
Attest: LISA PAYNE /s/
Antelope County Clerk
PUBLISH: July 2, 2025
ZNEZ

Pelster

He made his name in the ring, starting his career at age 11. He won five Norfolk Golden Gloves titles, two Omaha Golden Gloves titles, three Midwest Golden Gloves titles and a Panama Army Championship.

When he finally hung up the gloves he had a record of 96-15.

His biggest moment in the ring came in 1971 when he won the Midwest Golden Gloves Regionals held in Omaha. There he beat Jim Hearn from Omaha. "That win advanced myself and brothers Roger and Junior to the National Golden Gloves Tournament at Fort Worth, Texas."

He said boxing has been a part of his life since he was 10 years old. "I have been all over the USA because of boxing. I went from having my first boxing match at Tilden in 1964 against Harold Jacobs from Neligh, to becoming vice president of the Golden Gloves of America. I've met many good people and many lifelong friends," Pelster told *The Elgin Review*.

The best thing about being involved in Golden Gloves? "I met my wife Jeanette at a Golden Gloves Tournament in Omaha in 1977," he said. "We've been married now almost 44 years, one son, one daughter and four grandkids."

The Pelster family has a rich history in Golden Gloves, with seven sons (including Steve) capturing a total of 13 Midwest Golden Gloves championships between 1970 and 1981. That's a record that may never be broken.

Steve's brothers, Roger and Ralph Pelster, were previously inducted into the HOF.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Stay in the know. Read the Public Notices

NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION
SCHILTMAYER FARMS, L.L.C.

This company commenced upon filing the Certificate of Organization with the Secretary of State on June 12, 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.
Schiltmeyer Farms, L.L.C.
Martin V. Klein
Klein Law Office, P.C.

P.O. Box 166
Neligh, NE 68756-0166
(402)887-4190
PUBLISH: June 18, 25 & July 2, 2025
ZNEZ

Senate bill continues to undermine health care in Nebraska

This week the U.S. Senate released updated legislative text for the "big, beautiful bill," a tax and spending package that continues to restrict Medicaid funding to Nebraska hospitals through reductions to State Directed Payments (SDP).

The Nebraska Hospital Association (NHA) warns that when fully implemented, the bill would result in an annual loss of \$755 million in Medicaid funding for Nebraska hospitals, financially destabilizing rural hospitals and jeopardizing patient access to essential services across the state.

"Nebraska hospitals have sent out an urgent alarm on these drastic Medicaid cuts," said Jeremy Nordquist, President of the Nebraska Hospital Association.

"They will inevitably lead to the closure of rural hospitals and the end of critical services like labor and delivery and behavioral health care, yet the U.S. Senate presses forward with this perilous path."

Today, 44 percent of Nebraska's rural hospitals are operating at a loss. According to the Chartis Center for Rural Health, 21 percent of Nebraska's rural hospitals are vulnerable to closure.

Between 2022 and 2024, 20 percent of Nebraska hospitals were forced to eliminate services including labor and delivery units, behavioral health services, hospice care, EMS services, and hospital-owned nursing homes. These losses impact access to care for all Nebraskans, not just the Medicaid population.

"When clinical services are cut or rural hospitals close, it affects each one of us, regardless of health care coverage," said Nordquist.

"Once these services are lost in rural Nebraska, they don't come back. What good are even the best health care benefits if the hospital doors are closed?"

Federal and state governments have fallen short in adequately reimbursing for care provided under government programs for decades.

In 2024 alone, Nebraska hospitals lost a combined \$1.2 billion on Medicaid and Medicare patients. That is why Nebraska's State Directed Payment program is so critical. Enacted through LB1087 in 2024 and awaiting full implementation, it will allow our Medicaid program to pay hospitals more adequate rates without increasing state expenditures. It helps close, though does not eliminate, the gap between the cost of care and reimbursement.

"We appreciate the ongoing work of the Nebraska delegation on Capitol Hill and the acknowledgement of serious challenges with rural hospital sustainability with the proposed

Rural Health Transformation Program. However, this is only short-term funding," said Nordquist.

"We urgently call upon the U.S. Senate to oppose deep cuts to Medicaid and protect State Directed Payments, a lifeline for Nebraska's rural hospitals and patients."

Caleb Poore, President and CEO of Boone County Health Center, echoed these concerns, saying:

"This legislation threatens the very existence of community hospitals like ours. Cuts to Medicaid and the dismantling of State Directed Payments will

force local hospitals to make devastating decisions that affect our fellow Nebraskans—our neighbors, our families, and our most vulnerable patients. Rural health care isn't just a policy discussion—it's a lifeline. Once it's gone, it's gone. For all Nebraska hospitals, Medicaid is the payor source for about 1 in every 4 babies born. This legislation put OB programs across the state in a very vulnerable situation, possibly creating even more OB deserts than there currently are."

Nebraskans can continue to make their voices heard at ProtectRuralHealthCare.com.

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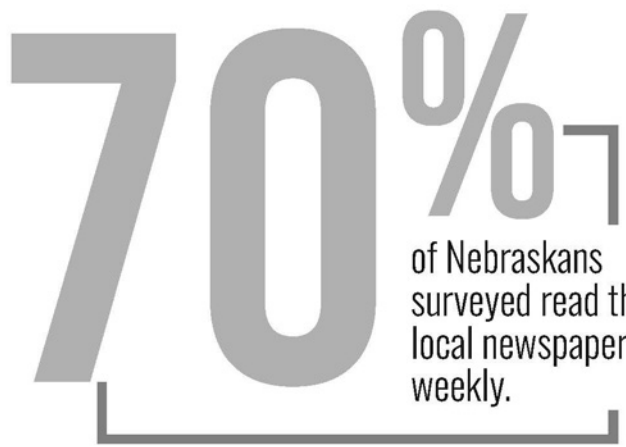
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Source: Nebraska Statewide Study 2025, Coda Ventures

Courthouse News

All fines in addition to \$49 court costs. *Denotes an amendment of original charge(s).

Michael A. Linn , Lake Andes, SD, 5/15/25, speeding 83/65 mph, fined \$125 - Detlefsen

Michael A. Mathews (Wishbone Transport), Live Oak, FL, 5/29/25, CMV-HOS log none 395.8(a)(1), fined \$100 - Detlefsen

Tenley Rasmussen, Thedford, NE, 5/9/25, speeding 75/65 mph, fined \$25 - Valverde

Aaron W. Hoke (H&T Seed & Technology LLC), Orchard, NE, 6/2/25, CMV-Brake general 396.3(a)(1), fined \$50 - Asche

Michael See Sr., Oakdale, NE, 4/20/25, Theft-unlawful taking \$0-500, term of 90 days, fined \$100 - Moore

Abbigayle L. Couch, Elgin, NE, 4/24/25, Dogs Running at Large + Confinement to owner's premise, fined \$160 - Ternus

Kaytee J. Freiberg, Randolph, NE, 5/16/25, No valid registration-car/pickup/stepvan, fined \$25 - Barker

Linda R. Caulder, Oakdale, NE, 4/4/25, No proof of insurance, fined \$100 - Juracek

Alejandro C. Perez, Oakdale, NE, 4/4/25, Careless driving, fined \$50 - Juracek + Barker

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Dr. Douglas Welsh/Lisa Mlnarik, APRN
CARDIOLOGY SPECIALISTS

Dr. Douglas Welsh, interventional cardiologist, and Lisa Mlnarik, APRN, offer an outpatient cardiology clinic at Antelope Memorial Hospital each month. Beginning in August, they will offer clinics more frequently on the **first, second, fourth and fifth Thursdays** of each month.

Dr. Welsh is board certified in Internal Medicine and acquired his fellowship in Cardiovascular Disease from UNMC. He specializes in performing ECHOS, stress tests and EKGs to diagnose and manage heart disease, such as congenital heart defects, coronary artery disease, heart failure and heart rhythm disorders.

For an appointment, call 402.887.6264.

 **Antelope Memorial Hospital**
402.887.4151 • amhne.org • 



Elgin 7th grade D-League Basketball Champions

Over the weekend Elgin's seventh grade entry in the Nebraska D Basketball League won the championship. Pictured are (l-r): Coach Brian Selting, Charles Miller, Garrett Busteed, Braxtyn Eisenhauer, Jacob Niewohner, Carter Selting, Harmon Borer, Cael Bottorf and Coach Keith Borer.

Courtesy photo

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Randy Eisenhauer gets hole-in-one

Last week, Elgin's Randy Eisenhauer achieve the rare feat of recording a hole-in-one. Playing a round at the Niobrara golf course with his son, Braxtyn, he recorded his first ever hole-in-one on Hole #7 from 187 yards out. While the feat was special, he said it was even more special because his son was there to witness the moment.

Courtesy photo



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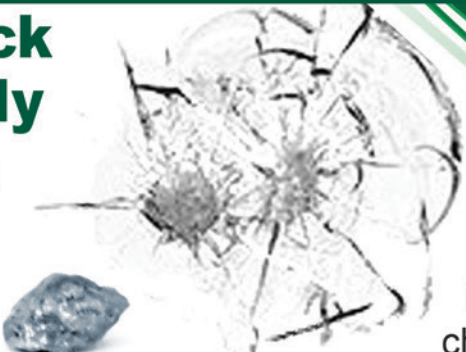
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Celebrating the

4TH OF JULY

Every American citizen should know these words:

“We hold these **TRUTHS** to be self-evident: that all men are created **EQUAL**, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain **INALIENABLE RIGHTS**, that among these are **LIFE, LIBERTY, and the PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS.**”

from the Declaration of Independence, ratified by the Congressional Congress on July 4, 1776

Take an extra moment this Friday and think about the freedoms you enjoy

EVERY SINGLE DAY

as an American and what your life would be like without them.

Have a Safe and Happy Holiday.

THIS PATRIOTIC MESSAGE IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY THESE FINE BUSINESSES:

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