



ESU8, schools collaborate to receive literacy grant
See page 6



Wolfpack football final season stats show success
See page 11

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The Elgin Review

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Schmitt: The Journey of a Veteran is marked by sacrifice

By Dennis Morgan
Co-Publisher

A hometown hero, having served eight years in the U.S. Army, came home to give the Veterans Day Address. Students from both of Elgin schools looked on from the bleachers while veterans of past conflicts were seated near the podium for the hour-long program which featured patriotic readings and musical selections performed by the EPS band and a combined choir.

Sgt. Michael Schmitt, a 2000 graduate of Elgin Public, gave a stirring address. “Veterans Day is not just a date on the calendar,” he told the audience. “It is a solemn reminder of the courage and commitment of our service members. These individuals have faced unimaginable challenges and dangers, all in the name of protecting our rights and our liberties. They have left their families and homes to serve in far away lands, and many have returned forever changed by their experiences.

“In the spirit of gratitude, we must also recognize the faith that many of our veterans and their families carry with them. It is a faith that sustains them through the darkest days and gives them hope for a brighter tomorrow. It is a faith that reminds us of the greater purpose behind their sacrifices. “As we honor our veterans, let us also honor the Lord, who guides and protects them on their journey.” In the course of his presentation, he reminded all who listened that each

veteran has a story to tell. “Each story is woven with threads of bravery, resilience and sacrifice. They have faced the unimaginable, traversed hostile terrains and stood against adversity not for personal glory, but for the love of their country and the safety of their loved ones.” Near the end of his remarks, Schmitt made sure to say ‘thank you’ to: • Veterans here today ... Without you, this country simply would not exist. No other occupations holds such

high stakes as the one of a military service member • Parents here today ... For raising these heroes • Families here today ... For standing by them through every challenge. Your strength and sacrifice are the backbone of their courage. • To the students here today ... Carry this message forward. Understand that freedom is not free. It is bought with the blood, sweat and tears of those who have taken up the call to serve.

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In Brief

District #18 School Board to meet tonight

Starts at 7 p.m.

Approval of a new K-12 school guidance counselor is just one of the 'action' items on the agenda when the District #18 Board of Education meets tonight, November 12.

The school board, led by President Lisa Welding, will meet at 7 p.m. in the board meeting room at Elgin High School. Thirty minutes earlier, at 6:30 p.m., the Americanism committee will meet.

As for the 'action' items, the board will consider approval of



Katlyn Miller

a contract for Katlyn Miller to become the new K-12 guidance counselor beginning with the 2026/27 school year. A graduate of Lincoln Southeast High School, she is currently the guidance counselor at Wheeler Central Public School.

If approved, Miller will fill the position created by the resignation of Sonia Rittscher effective at the end of the 2025/26 school year.

Eight other items to be acted on by the school board are:

- Approval the 2024-2025 audit
- Purchase of a Wolfpack wrestling mat
- Approve on second reading Policy 718.01 Travel Costs Related to Federal Grants
- Approve cost of a professional development program
- Approve a bid for door repairs
- Act on a bid to move the bleachers in the gymnasium to replace the flooring underneath
- Approve a bid to remove and replace the flooring under the bleachers
- Approve a bid to inspect and service the bleachers

Later in the meeting, the board is expected to discuss the superintendent evaluation

The meeting is open to the public.

Public Notices

Public notices in this week's newspaper include:

Proceedings — The Antelope County Board of Commissioners

Proceedings — The Elgin City Council

Proceedings — The Bartlett Village Board

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 67 degrees recorded on Sunday, November 2.

The low temperature during the same period was 20 degrees recorded on Saturday, November 8. Altogether, 0.18 of an inch of precipitation was recorded last week.

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

Date	High	Low	Prec
Nov 2	67	34	.00
Nov 3	63	35	.18
Nov 4	52	36	.00
Nov 5	53	36	.00
Nov 6	60	41	.00
Nov 7	62	33	.00
Nov 8	47	20	.04
Total for last week			0.04
Total for November			0.04
Total precip. 2025			25.63

Schmitt presented 'Quilt of Valor' after Veterans Day program

At the conclusion of Tuesday's Veterans Day program a special presentation was made.

Not long after the gymnasium had emptied from the hour-long program, a brief ceremony attended by family took place which brought many to tears.

Mere minutes after the conclusion of the Veterans Day program at EPS, Sgt. Michael Schmitt was presented a 'Quilt of Valor'. Making the presentation was his mother Jan Schmitt as his father, Mike Schmitt, draped the quilt over his shoulders. She then read a letter.

"To my son, Sgt. Michael Schmitt, the war took you far away from home, you've missed birthdays, holidays and tucking your little boy in at night. We all prayed for your safe return.

"Your courage in the face of danger, your resilience in tough times and unwavering patriotism inspires us all. You've shown us what it truly means to put others before yourself.

"During your years of service you've been awarded many medals, we admire you for what you've accomplished - it speaks volumes about your character.

"As your dad drapes this Quilt of Valor across your shoulders, know it was designed and sewn with love by your mother, it's meant to warm and comfort you, also to remind you that your sacrifices and ongoing commitment to country and family will never be forgotten.

"You've shown us what it means to live a life of distinction both in and out of the Army. The United States thanks you for your service. Your family's very proud of you!"



Standing with the quilt are (l-r): Jan Schmitt, Sgt. Michael Schmitt and Mike Schmitt.

New board-certified nurse practitioner joins AMH

Antelope Memorial Hospital welcomes the addition of Kimberly Wiese, APRN, to its medical staff. Originally from Bradshaw, she attended McCool Junction High School, graduating in 2007. She attended college at Central Community College (CCC), graduating in May 2014 with her LPN degree. She then began working at Columbus Community Hospital (CCH) in surgery in June 2014 and in labor and delivery in August 2018.

While working at CCH, Wiese went back to college at CCC in August 2016 to acquire her Associate Degree in Nursing, graduating in May 2017. In December 2017, she began her studies to acquire her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree, graduating in December 2019. In January 2023, she began her studies with Chamberlain University to acquire her Master of Science in Nursing degree, graduating in June 2025. She is certified through the American Association of Nurse Practitioners.

"I am very excited to join

AMH's medical staff and begin practicing here," said Wiese. "I chose Antelope Memorial Hospital because I value the opportunity to provide comprehensive, patient-centered care in a community-focused setting. Practicing in a rural area allows me to build strong relationships with patients and families while making a meaningful impact on their overall health and well-being."

Wiese joins AMH's medical staff which consists of seven other providers. Dr. Roger Rudloff and Dr. Troy Dawson began their careers at AMH in May and July 1997, respectively. Other providers who joined the medical staff more recently are Ashley Niewohner, APRN (July 2016), Angela Sucha, PA-C (September 2017), Dr. Kelli Osborn (November 2018), Dr. Josh Thoendel (June 2021) and Anita Murphy (May 2024). Together, they provide coverage at AMH Family Practice Clinics located in Neligh, Elgin, Tilden, Clearwater and Orchard.

Kim and her husband, Chris-

topher, and family reside in Newman Grove where he grew up.

He is a truck driver for Bud's Sanitary Services. They were married in November 2011 and lived in Columbus. In 2020, they moved to Newman Grove to be closer to his family and raise their family in a small town. Their children include Mackenzie, Liam, Isaac, Lincoln and Harper.

Kim's parents are Mary and Gary Van Ness of Stromsburg. Mary formerly worked at Cornerstone Bank in Bradshaw. Gary is a former Marine and truck driver. They are now both retired. Kim's siblings include a twin sister, Ashley, a half-sister, Sherri Stone, and two



Kimberly Wiese, APRN

See AMH, Page 7 ►

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Courtesy photo

New 'Welcome to Elgin' signs were installed last week and are an asset to the community.

Could Elgin once again have a recycling program?

Most of the activity in Elgin took place outside last week. New doors were installed at the fire hall and, at different locations around town, new 'welcome to Elgin' signs were being installed.

But, on Monday night, November 3, the Elgin City Council made a decision which might affect all residents — starting up a recycling program.

Nothing has been set in stone yet, but the council is considering pursuing a grant which would, if approved, cover the purchase of a new recycling trailer.

City Clerk Kristin Childers, calling it an "opportunity", said she was approached by First Star Recycling about a grant which could be used to obtain a recycling trailer. One of the criteria in seeking a grant would be to get three quotes for the type of trailer Elgin would want to use. Also, the City would have

to submit a writeup on how it would benefit the community.

She said, from the information she has gathered, the City would have the option to choose the types of items they would want to recycle (paper, cardboard, glass, plastic, etc.)

If the grant is approved, city personnel would be responsible for taking the trailer to Neligh where the items would be dropped off.

Councilman Mike Dvorak said the City has had recycling programs in the past, only to have to discontinue them because too much trash was being put in the bins.

Regarding that matter, Councilman Jeremy Young suggested placing the trailer in an area where the city could utilize video surveillance as a means to prevent people from placing unwanted items in the bins.

See CITY, Page 7 ►

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2025 Elgin Turkey Giveaway!

Start signing up to win a turkey from one of these Elgin businesses!

Unlimited entries but limit of 1 turkey per household.

Businesses taking part in the event this year are:

- Bank of Elgin
- Blend & Brew 402
- City Limits
- CVA Agronomy
- CVA Grain & Feed
- Coffeehouse Café
- Dean's Market
- Draper Insurance Agency, Inc.
- Elgin Bargain Box
- Elgin Body & Glass
- Elgin Community Center
- Elgin Hardware & More
- Elgin One Stop/Sleepin Inn
- Elgin Pharmacy & Gifts
- Elgin Review
- Elgin Veterans' Medical Clinic
- Insurance Mart
- 118 Insurance
- Mikon Wood Shop (at Review)
- Deb Warren (at PJCC school)
- Precision Repair
- Total Image Salon
- Town & Country Veterinary Clinic
- Sandhill's Hide-A-Way (at Review)
- Sands Truck Service & Repair

Winners will be drawn on Friday afternoon, **November 21st.**

Turkeys can be picked up at Dean's Market the following week.

Getting ready for holiday stress

The air is a little crisper, harvest décor is out, and pumpkin spice is all around. This is, by far, my favorite time of year. I love having the fireplace lit, curled up on the couch with a

good book, and enjoying the fact that the sun sets a little earlier. However, this time of year can also bring a lot of stress for people.

As much as I love the holiday season, I understand the stress that comes with it. It can be an expensive time of year for many, and things aren't getting any cheaper.

Plus, there's the stress of travel and family visiting. Unfortunately, many of us add stress with undue pressure and expectations that aren't necessarily realistic.

For one, I expect my dining room table to look like something out of the movies. Picture it. I enter the room looking gorgeous, carrying a beautifully roasted turkey on a platter and all the dishes are perfectly coordinated. Plus, the food is all the same temperature.

Has this ever happened? Absolutely not! I usually look like a mess, the turkey is carved before making it to the table, and I'm lucky if anything is warm by the time we actually start to eat.

Plus, nothing matches and it's all a hodge podge of whatever fits or has been handed down to me over the years.

I'm also a sucker for cute décor, and if I'm not careful, I can start trying to "keep up with the Joneses", as the saying goes.

A lot of people in my neighborhood pay to have their Christmas lights professionally done.

That's just not something we have budgeted for and unfortunately, we're both afraid of

heights so we're hanging them ourselves. I must reconcile the fact that our house will never look magazine ready on the outside. The inside probably isn't either. I don't have five Christmas trees throughout the house, all perfectly decorated, or matching stockings with names embroidered on them.

Then there's the pressure to make everything "magical". Online influencers tell us that we must all be wearing matching pajamas, decorating Gingerbread houses, and making dozens of cookies with our children or they may be scarred forever. Not once in my entire childhood did we wear matching pajamas as a family.

I still have excellent memories of Christmas, even though I suffered that trauma.

Yes, there are real stressors that come with this time of year. But we don't have to add to that stress ourselves. We need to set realistic expectations, set boundaries, and take time to unwind. Not everything has to be picture perfect or worthy of a Hallmark movie.

Just watching a Christmas movie with the kids and savoring this season is enough. Snuggle up the couch next to your unmatched pillows and enjoy the gorgeous weather. Pull out the dusty boots, light all the scented candles, and be content with the real-life version of the season.

I didn't grow up in a picture-perfect home and was just as happy.

I'm certain our kids will survive.

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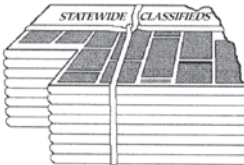
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Looking Back

Sixty Years Ago

November 11, 1965

Sandhills Gateway vocal music festival was held Tuesday at Chambers in the High School auditorium with a concert in the evening. Elgin presented a dance number during the singing of "Hava Nagila" an Israeli folk song. Eight schools, with around 350 students, participated in the festival under the direction of Prof. Jack Learned of Grand Island.

Three young men from this area, two from Elgin, left Wed-busses as draftees into the Army. Going from Antelope County and departing from Neligh were Charles Miller of Elgin, John Albert Sehi of Clearwater, and Bruce Beeson of Elgin.

William R. Johnson, 22, is one of the newer members of the Nebraska Safety Patrol, having joined the Patrol November 15, 1964. A graduate of Nebraska City High School, Trooper Johnson worked as a truck driver before entering patrol work. The Trooper is stationed at Plainview, and he and his wife, Violet, Reside there. They have two children.

Low-income farmers may be affected by the change made in the optional method of reporting of income for Social Security purposes. The gross income amount on which the optional method of reporting is based has been changed from \$1,800 to \$2,400.

The nice weather has enabled the farmers to get most of their fall harvest completed. At this writing, the temperature is dropping. Makes it seem like winter maybe on its way.

Fifty Years Ago

November 6, 1975

The Pope John Crusaders ended up the '75 season on October 21, on the winning side with a victory over the Elkhorn Valley Falcons 23-13. The Crusaders ended the season with 2-6 record.

The Elgin Eaglettes moved into semi-final action against Wheeler Central last Tuesday, Oct. 28 and came out on top in a close contest 9-15, 15-7, and 15-13. This week the Elgin girls are playing at St. Edward in D-4 District action.

Elgin firemen were summoned to a fire 9 miles west and 1/2 south of here at 1:35 p.m. Monday where trees were being burned on Grothe property on the east side of the country road. The fire burned out of control and spread to stacks of hay to the south on the Burt Kinney, Inc. property. Six stacks of alfalfa hay were destroyed.

Word has been received by friends here of the death of Teresa Seeley (Mrs. Frank Redinbaugh) of Louisville, KY. She was born near Elgin to Mr. and Mrs. Chauncy Seeley on Aug. 27, 1882, and passed away Oct. 28, 1975 in Louisville at the age of 93 years and two months. Funeral services and interment were in Louisville, KY.

Mass was held Wednesday, at the St. Boniface Church for all students and anyone who wished to come. The Mass was said by Father Hanneman. Parent, Teacher, and Student conferences were held Wednesday night and will also be held Friday afternoon, Nov. 7. All students and their parents are expected to attend and to pick up the first quarter report cards and talk to the teachers.

Thirty Years Ago

November 8, 1995

Another full week of dry weather would allow most farmers in the Elgin area to finish up the corn harvest. However, an early morning snowfall on Tuesday was expected to slow down the harvest activity. Local elevators estimated the harvest at 80 to 90 percent complete by Tuesday morning.

St. Boniface Catholic Church in Elgin was decorated in a western theme for the wedding celebration of Denise Stuhr and Dave Germann of Steamboat Springs, Co, Friday, Oct. 6, at 5:30 p.m. Parents of the bride are Phillip and Barbara Stuhr of Elgin. Robert and Rose Germann of Seattle, WA, and Elizabeth Germann of Craig, CO, are the groom's parents.

Over the weekend of Oct. 29, St. Boniface Parish in Elgin celebrated another milestone in the march toward a brighter financial picture. Seven years ago, the parish was strapped with a debt of \$211,000. The money was owed to several banks and to the Archdiocesan Deposit and Loan Fund. With a number of debt reduction measures since that time, the parish has reduced its total debt to \$21,000.

The Pope John Crusaders ended their football season 7-3 this year. They lost to Humphrey St. Francis (9-0) 41-0 in the first round of the State High School Football Playoffs. Defensive leaders for Pope John were John Stuhr with 20 tackles, Jeff Moser with 13, and Shawn Cannon and Aaron Hoefer with 11 each.

The Elgin Eagles finished their '95 football season 2-7. They gained 1,457 yards rushing and 1,101 yards passing for total offense of 2,558 yards in nine games.

Twenty Years Ago

November 2, 2005

Nine members of the Elgin FFA Chapter attended the National FFA Convention at Louisville, KY. Members attending were Wes Prater, Zach Schmidt, Steven Bartak, Paige Redding, Brandon Grosserode, Alex Hughes, Jessica Morrison, Nathan Neiwohner, and Charlie Redding. Sponsors for the trip were Phil Simpson, FFA advisor, and Chris Redding.

By Reese Stuhr

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Community Calendar

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

Wednesday, November 12
#18 school board regular meeting • Mid Plains Ag open house.

Friday and Saturday, November 14-15
'Shop The North Pole' at three locations around Elgin.

Thursday, November 20
Antelope County Ag Society Open House & Elections @ the Antelope County Events Center in Neligh.

Sunday, November 23
PJCC Annual Dinner Theatre @ St. Boniface Auditorium.*

Thursday, November 27
St. Boniface Annual Thanksgiving Bazaar @ St. Boniface Auditorium • St. Boniface Turkey Trot 1K & 5K.*

Monday, December 1
Regular meeting of the Elgin City Council.

Tuesday, December 2
Regular meeting of the Antelope County Board of Commissioners.

**Events listing courtesy of ELGIN VETERANS' MEDICAL CLINIC**
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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

Political musical chairs has a resignation, an appointment, and a campaign suspended

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

There's a game of musical chairs going on at the State Capitol, and who gets a chair is in question.

Last week, former State Sen. Tom Briese of Albion announced his resignation as State Treasurer.

It's not often that someone gives up such a politically safe constitutional office to go back to the farm; usually, it's to take a better job.

I think back to 2001 when then-State Treasurer Dave Heineman gave up that job to be appointed lieutenant governor under then Gov. Mike Johanns after Johann's second-in-command, Dave Maurstad, left to take a post in Washington.

There was also former Lt. Gov. Maxine Moul who gave up that mostly ceremonial post in 1993 to be appointed head of the Nebraska Department of Economic Development.

Moul always said she gave up the cushy lieutenant governor's post because of her interest in rural economic development. But there was always speculation that there were other reasons.

Briese's resignation comes as the current occupant of his old legislative seat, State Sen. Dan McKeon of Amherst, is under fire for being too touchy-feely with a female legislative staffer at the Lincoln Country Club.

Pillen called for McKeon to resign after the freshman state senator was cited for misdemeanor public indecency by the State Patrol. McKeon, though, has said he's not quitting.

Briese's exit was also announced a couple hours after a former state senator, Julie Slama, made known her candidacy for State Treasurer.

Cue the musical chairs tunes.

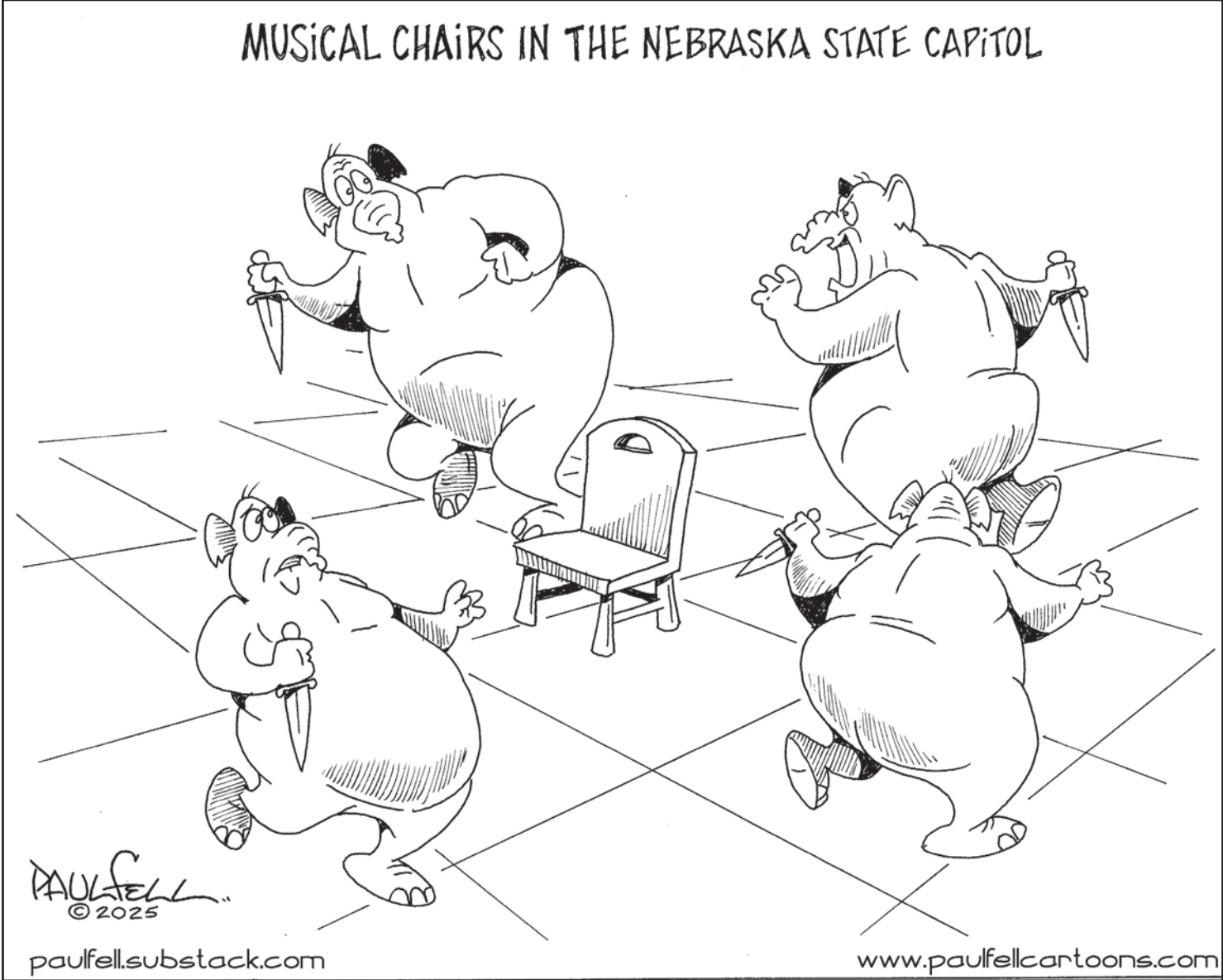
Briese, who is 66 and was a champion of property tax relief during his seven years in the Unicameral, has insisted that he is quitting to return to his farm and his family, who lived in the vicinity, and that he has no desire to return to the Legislature.

He left the Unicameral in 2023 to be appointed State Treasurer when John Murante decided to resign to take a

ALL THINGS NEBRASKA



State Correspondent
Paul Hammel



higher-paying job as head of the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement System (Murante has since quit that post to become a lobbyist).

Meanwhile, Pillen quickly appointed Fremont Mayor Joey Spellerberg to replace Briese and become the next State Treasurer. Because Spellerberg was appointed more than two years prior to the end of the Treasurer's term, he qualifies to be re-elected twice prior to being term limited, meaning he could serve 10 years.

That has led to some speculation within the "Hall of Hot Winds" (the Capitol) that Briese scheduled his resignation so that Pillen could appoint someone who could conceivably serve more than two, four-year terms. Gotta say, the rumor mill at the Capitol never runs short of grist.

Anyway, Slama had been rumored

prior to last week to be interested in running for State Treasurer. But two days after saying she was a candidate (and had \$150,000 in campaign funds to do it) she "suspended" her campaign and, after talking to Spellerberg, endorsed him.

Interesting how politics works. Three years ago, Slama was probably the reason Pillen became governor instead of Charles Herbster.

Slama, unlike at least seven other women who claimed that Herbster had once groped them, was willing to be named in an article, which led to some mighty bad publicity for the Falls City businessman just prior to the 2022 GOP primary (which Pillen won by just over 10,000 votes). Herbster, by the way, denied he groped anyone.

But since then, Pillen has reportedly cooled on Slama, who opposed some

of his property tax relief proposals. Makes you wonder where Slama would find more financial backing.

This all comes as Herbster, who is tight with President Donald Trump, is rumored to be gearing up for a last-second run against Pillen for the GOP nomination for governor next spring.

So get ready for some more musical chairs with Herbster, reportedly, seeking to replace Pillen at the Governor's Residence.

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

Building a grid to power future demand must be our focus

In recent years, the U.S. has shifted to using a wider mix of energy sources located across the country.

These resources help make our electric grid stronger, keep power flowing during disruptions, and create new jobs and business opportunities.

However, a sharp increase in energy demand is on the horizon.

According to the Brattle Group, it is estimated that by 2035, the amount of electricity Americans use each year will increase by about 53% compared to 2024, while the highest levels of electricity needed at any one time will grow by around 36%.

This means continued investment in the electric grid must be a priority.

One of the greatest challenges to meeting growth in both electricity usage and peak demand is the lack of necessary transmission infrastructure to connect generation to the electric grid.

The electric transmission system in the U.S. was originally designed to connect centralized sources of generation to places where demand for energy was high.

A notable example is the growth of renewable energy, such as wind and solar.

Electricity produced from renewable energy resources exceeded those produced by nuclear and coal in 2021 and 2022 respectively, according to the Energy Information Administration. The development of these renewable resources has not only diversified the country's generation mix, but has also brought numerous economic benefits, especially to rural areas where these projects are most often located.

Wind and solar projects can boost local economies by generating new tax revenues that bolster rural county budgets, provide an additional source of income to landowners, and create jobs throughout their development and operation.

Investing in the transmission system is essential to meet growing electricity demand, connect consumers to affordable electric sources like renewables, and make the electric system more resilient.

By Cora Hoffer, senior policy associate, Center for Rural Affairs

Honoring those who served – and delivering for them

On Tuesday, November 11, 2025, our nation will pause to honor the great Americans who have answered the call to serve in the U.S. military — and to recognize their patriotism, service, and sacrifice on behalf of our country. As the daughter of a World War II Army veteran, sister of Air Force and Army veterans, and as a family member of many Army and Navy veterans, this day holds a special place in my heart. And as a U.S. senator, I've made veterans' issues one of my top priorities.

WASHINGTON REPORT



U.S. Senator
Deb Fischer

Earlier this year, I had the privilege of standing alongside so many Nebraskans who worked tirelessly to establish the Grand Island Veterans Cemetery. In the Senate, I'm proud to serve on the Appropriations Committee's Veterans Affairs Subcommittee, which provides funding for the VA program that sup-

ports cemeteries like the one in Grand Island.

My team fought hard to secure the federal funding that made this project possible. It was a day filled with gratitude — for those who served our country with honor, and for a community that refused to give up on giving them the resting place they deserve. Now, because of that effort, our state has a beautiful new place of honor in its heart — a resting place where our heroes will be laid to rest with dignity.

I'm also reminded that honoring our veterans means more than ceremonies. It means action — ensuring that those who served have access to the benefits and opportunities they've earned. That's one of the reasons why the recent federal government shutdown has been so harmful.

While veterans' care and benefits remain priorities, the uncertainty and disruptions caused by Washington gridlock make it harder for agencies and communities to plan, hire, and deliver the services veterans depend on. Our men and women in uniform kept their promises to this country — and they deserve a government that keeps its promises to them. That's why I'll

continue to vote to reopen the government, and my offices will remain open to provide services for our veterans.

Beyond that, I've continued working through the Appropriations Committee to strengthen care and infrastructure for veterans. This year's funding bill includes provisions I secured to ensure the VA purchases essential medical devices from U.S. manufacturers or trusted allies and to improve coordination between VA facilities and community health providers.

We've also made major progress toward replacing the aging Omaha VA hospital. The facility turns 75 this year — and it's time for a modern replacement to meet the needs of today's veterans.

I was pleased to see the VA add the Omaha project to its Five-Year Development Plan, putting it on the path toward design and construction.

Finally, I used my senior role on the Armed Services Committee to expand the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency's authority in this year's National Defense Authorization Act to recover missing American service members, and I secured additional funding to ensure that sacred mission

continues.

This Veterans Day, as we pause to remember the heroes who have worn our nation's uniform, let us also recommit to standing by them — not just in words, but in deeds. From Grand Island to Omaha, and from the halls of

Congress to communities across our state, Nebraskans continue to show what it means to honor and serve those who served us. May God bless our veterans, their families, the great state of Nebraska, and the United States of America.

Choices for seniors

FROM THE HILL



Congressman
Adrian Smith

On October 15, despite the ongoing federal government shutdown, the Medicare open enrollment window began. This important annual opportunity allows seniors to select their Medicare coverage, including Medicare Part D prescription drug plans, for 2026. Next year is the 20th anniversary of Medicare Part D coverage, a landmark achievement which reduced the share of Medicare-aged seniors without prescription drug coverage from 25% in 2005 to 11% while costing taxpayers 35% less than anticipated and offering an average monthly premium of \$34.50 in 2026 — well below what the Congressional Budget Office estimated premiums for the program would be.

The success of Part D is directly attributable to the program's structure. Participating insurers must negotiate drug prices with manufacturers and pharmacies, driven by the need to compete for seniors' business with low premiums and broad formularies. While the federal government pro-

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/writerep/>.

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

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

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

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



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Planting Equipment

Kinze 2000, 8 row-30, com & bean units, squeeze pump with liq-uid fertilizer, double disc

Trailers/ Recreation

1997 Kiefer-Built 20 ft livestock trailer w/ center gate; 2-SeaDoo Bombardier GTS jet skis with trailer

Equipment

John Deere stalk chopper, Blumhardt Equipment 3 pt-60 ft boom sprayer; John Deere 30 ft implement cart; John Deere 400 20 ft rotary hoe; Hinkler 6000, 8 row 30 ft high clearance cultivator w/ ridging wings; Fork lift scaffolding, 8-ft Gruse bucket, 3 pt post hole digger, Cooper Clipper 6 ft, 3 pt shredder

Shop/Misc

1000-gal fuel barrel; Carolina Industrial Equipment metal band saw; West Hydraulic bumper jack; Rockwell 10 in table saw; 2-425/65R 22.5 tires; 4-BF Goodrich 275/70R 18 tires; General

Tractors

1998 Case IH 8920, 5641 hours, MFWD, 18 speed power shift, 4 speed reverse, 3 hyd, 540/1000 PTO, 380-85R/30 front tires, 480-80R/42 tires with duals SN:JA0088457; 1979 International 3588 2+2, 6792 hours, 4 hyd, 4 speed high/low transmission, 540/1000 PTO, 3 pt, 18.4-42 tires; SN:01450; 1972 John Deere 4320, 2 hyd, 540 PTO, 3 pt, sync row, side counsel, hours unknown, SN:7613RD15435R; 18.4-38 tires & rims w/ hubs, 9 bolt 2-quick hitchers

Livestock Equipment

Strong Hold chute; Strong Hold working tub; Bear Cat 950A grinder mixer w/ scale; Henke 160 quick mixer feed wagon, left hand unload; Creighton Post & Pipe continuous fencing; Creighton Post & Pipe gates; Sioux gates-10 ft, 12 ft, 16 ft, 18 ft; Round bale feeder; Werk Weld 20 ft feed bunk; 10ft x 10ft square bale feeder; Hog scale; 7-Hartington Concrete feed bunks w/ post & cable 16x16 feed shed; Pax 2-ton bulk bin; GSI 3-ton bulk bin; Automatic 3 pt mist blower, 540 PTO

Tillage

Case IH 496 disk, 23.6 ft, 3 bar harrow, SN:04700000061340; John Deere 722 field finisher, 19.6 ft, 5 bar harrow, SN unknown; John Deere 712 disk ripper, 12 ft, 11 shank SN:N00712X001654;

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Ag committee holds final interim public hearing

On October 31, the Agriculture Committee held its second and final interim public hearing for the year. This hearing was held for four interim study resolutions: LR153, LR168, LR257, and LR258. Additionally, the committee received a public briefing by Mr. Eugene Kowel, Special Agent in Charge, Omaha Field Office of the FBI, regarding threats to the agriculture sector by domestic and foreign actors from the FBI perspective.

LR153 was introduced by Senator Storer for the purpose of gathering information relating to electronic identification devices utilized as a method of identifying and managing animals for disease, surveillance, and control regulations.

Farms and ranches are increasingly adopting digital technologies in their operations, including electronic identification devices (EIDs).

While such technologies can increase efficiency, they also potentially open the door to new cyber vulnerabilities that could result in disruptions to food production, supply chains, and national security. At the hearing, several experts from industry and academia testified and outlined the need for improved data security practices, such as using encrypted virtual private networks to transmit data collected from EIDs and other agricultural digital technologies.

LR168 was introduced by Senator Ibach for the purpose of examining the purposes, uses, and utility of the Noxious Weed and Invasive Plant Species Assistance Fund. The Noxious Weed and Invasive Plant Species Assistance Fund was created in 2004, and its use expanded to address riparian vegetation in response to lawsuits with neighboring states involving water flows from the Republican River. This study was brought amid concerns that the Nebraska Department of Agriculture was not allocating funding for invasive species control in riparian areas.

The hearing provided an opportunity for the impacted NRD and county officials to outline how they are using the grants awarded from the Fund to manage invasive riparian plants like phragmites in the Republican River water basin. Locally, the Fund has been used to help manage purple loosestrife and other invasives in the Niobrara River and other area waterways.

LR257 was introduced by Senator Bostar for the purpose of examining foreign and domestic threats to Nebraska agriculture. Director Sherry Vinton of the Department of Agriculture outlined how her agency has implemented the Foreign-owned Real Estate National Security Act to investigate suspicious land transactions involving foreign adversarial nations. Meanwhile, two individuals from a national organization known as State Shield also testified before the committee. These two testifiers outlined how the People's Republic of China represents a considerable national security threat to the United States, including in the area of agriculture, through policies such as intellectual property theft and market manipulation.

LR258 was introduced by Senator Armendariz for the purpose of examining a philanthropic endowment and location to host a week-long camp for certain children who live in low-income urban areas to learn about agriculture. Director Sherry Vinton of the Department of Agriculture detailed how her agency currently provides opportunities for Nebraska high school juniors and seniors from across the state to participate in the Nebraska Agricultural Youth Institute, a weeklong experience to learn more about careers in agriculture.

I invite you to let me know your thoughts or concerns. My Capitol office telephone number is (402) 471-2801 while my email is bdekay@leg.ne.gov. My mailing address is: Senator Barry DeKay, District #40, P.O. Box 94604, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE 68509.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



District 40 Senator
Barry DeKay

OBITUARIES

Carolyn M. Beckman, 75

January 11, 1950 - November 10, 2025

Her calm voice and quick thinking brought comfort and support to the law enforcement and citizens of Boone County.



Carolyn M. Beckman of Petersburg, NE, beloved

wife, mother, sister, and friend, passed away peacefully at Faith Regional Medical Center in Norfolk, NE on November 10, 2025, at the age of 75.

Mass of Christian Burial will be 11:00 a.m., Friday, November 14, 2025, at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, Petersburg, NE with Rev. John Norman officiating. Inurnment will be at a later date in the parish cemetery. Visitation will be 5:00-7:00 p.m. Thursday at the church with a 7:00 p.m. wake service.

Levander Funeral Home of Albion is in charge of the arrangements. Condolences may be sent to www.levanderfuneralhome.com.

Born January 11, 1950, in Beverly, MA, Carolyn was the daughter of George and Gladys Rogers. She married the love of her life, Dale Beckman on April 5, 1971, in Jacksonville, NC.

Carolyn was devoted to her family, faith and community. She shared 20 years of dedicated service with the Boone County Sheriff's Department in Albion, NE where she worked as a 911 dispatcher and jailer. Her calm voice and quick thinking

brought comfort and support to the law enforcement and citizens of Boone County. Many also knew Carolyn from her years as a school bus driver for the Pope John Central Catholic Crusaders in Elgin, NE. She took great pride in driving scores of student-athletes to games across Northeast Nebraska and cheering them on to victory. Her encouragement and humor made her a favorite among the students she transported safely over the years.

Carolyn is survived by her husband of 54 years: Dale Beckman of Petersburg, NE; her oldest son: Keith Beckman of Hermitage, TN; her granddaughter: Katelynn Beckman of Osceola, NE; her sisters: Sandra Merritt and Katherine Rowe both of North Carolina; and her brother: George Rogers of North Carolina; along with numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends.

She was preceded in death by her sister: Terry Lynn; and her youngest son: Kevin Beckman.

Carolyn will be remembered for her unwavering patience and kindness, her sense of humor, and lifelong commitment to family and community. Her legacy of kindness and service will be cherished by all who knew her.

The Elgin Review • November 12, 2025

Smith

◀ FROM Page 4

vides benchmarking requirements for pricing and drug coverage, plan structures are negotiated and set by the private insurers.

During open enrollment, seniors also have the opportunity to choose whether to participate in traditional Medicare Parts A and B or in Medicare Advantage, a program which allows private insurers to offer comprehensive Medicare coverage through a competitive structure similar to Part D. Medicare Advantage plans may include drug coverage or require a separate Part D plan. I am always looking for ways to improve access to high quality Medicare Advantage options in rural parts of our country like Nebraska's Third District, where population density can make offering competitive plans challenging.

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Thank God for your abundant blessings this week in church.

I will give thanks to you, O Lord....

Isaiah 12

Isaiah 65:17-25	2 Thessalonians 3:6-13	Luke 21:5-19
Revised Common Lectionary © 1992 by the Consultation on Common Texts for		
Sunday, November 16, 2025		
Twenty Third Sunday After Pentecost		

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

St. Bonaventure Catholic Church

Raeville, NE

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

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

Park Congregational U.C.C. Church

Elgin, NE

Congregational

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

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

Petersburg, NE

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

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

Bartlett Church of Faith

Bartlett, NE

Pastor Mark Hoffman

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

Calvary Bible Church

Neligh, NE

Pastor Peter Sample

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

Trinity Lutheran Church

Elgin, NE

Vacancy Pastor Brian Bucklew

Sunday Worship Service: 8 am.
Sunday school follows service.
Saturday Evening Service: 6 pm on the 2nd Saturday of each month.

Elgin Community Christian Church

Elgin, NE

Pastor Jonathan Braden
605-430-9171

Sunday Worship Service: 9:30 am.
Church Council: 2nd Tuesday of each month.

St. John's Catholic Church

Rural Clearwater, NE

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

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

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Chambers, NE

Pastor Leif 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.
Holy Communion, 1st & 3rd Sundays

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Hebrews 11:1

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From JoAnn Baum's Kitchen

Baked Lasagna



Good day, What's for Supper? Something quick and easy and that everyone likes. Here's a suggestion for you

all. Sometimes I double the recipe and make one for my supper and make one to go in the freezer. I really like this recipe because you can make it without having to cook the

noodles. You can add a couple of eggs to the cottage cheese if you want, but the recipe doesn't call for it. It just helps to set the mixture, and hold together. A great dish to serve for the harvest crew meal.

JoAnn



BAKED LASAGNA

- 1-8 oz. pkg. lasagna noodles uncooked

1/4 cup chopped green peppers

3/4 cup water

1 lb. cottage cheese (small curd)
- 1/2 cup parmesan cheese (grated)

1 lb. hamburger

32 oz. jar spaghetti sauce

1/2 tsp. sugar

4 cups grated mozzarella cheese

Brown the hamburger and green pepper (drain it) Add sauce, water, sugar, bring to a boil for several minutes On a sprayed 9x13 pan, layer 1/3 sauce, 1/2 uncooked lasagna noodles, 1 cup cottage cheese and 1/3 of the shredded cheese. Repeat the layers ending with sauce and cover with the remaining cheese. Bake at 350 ° for 1 hour.

Bartlett News



Wheeler Central 'Trunk or Treat' was held Friday afternoon, October 31 at the Fairgrounds in Bartlett. Ghosts from the 'Brass Bunk House,' passing out treats were Ashley Growcock, Jessica Swick, Betty Kallhoff and Beth Wagner.



Trina Pelster and Bridget Schmidt represented the Wheeler Central Booster Club at the 'Trunk or Treat.'



Photos submitted

Carey Senn and Shelly KleeB represented 'The Village Botique.'

Wheeler County businesses and organizations participated in the Wheeler Central 'Trunk or Treat' at the Bartlett Fairgrounds on October 31.

Treats were donated to Wheeler County youngsters of all ages up to 12th grade.

Participating businesses or organization included the Wheeler Central Booster Club, Cornerstone Bank of Bartlett, Farmers and Merchants Bank of Ericson, Ag Land, 4&4 Farms and DMR Ag, TR Construction,

Jen's Salon, The Brass Bunk House, Plugge's Rod Shop, The Village Boutique, Bartlett Lions Club, Country Partners Co-op, Bibs and Boots, Herdco, Kick It Spraying, MC Veterinary Service, Bartlett Volunteer Fire Department, Sprout Ag, Adoria Plugge's Daycare, Clayton Schlenger Performance Horses, Sydney Schlenger Photography and the Wheeler County Roads Department.

These businesses were generous with their treats and are much appreciated. The kids look forward to this event each year.

After 'Trunk or Treat,' kids went out Trick or Treating on Halloween. We had 40 individuals knock on our door that evening.

We passed out fruit rollups, juice boxes, orange jello popcorn balls and oatmeal chocolate chip cookies (fresh out of the oven) and ran out before the evening was over. Black Cherry Shasta soda was given to those who arrived later.

Our thoughts and prayers are lifted up to the families of Leola McCain of Burwell. Leola died October 30, 2025 at the age of 94. Graveside services were held at the Bartlett cemetery Saturday, November 8.

Leola was a dear lady and a neighbor (for a short time) as I was growing up. She was also a friend of my Mom, Lois Schunk.

Submitted by Sherry Tetschner

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ESU 8 Teaching and Learning Specialist, Stephanie Lundgren, answers area educators questions during an October LETRS workshop. LETRS is Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling, a series of trainings for kindergarten through fifth grade educators.

ESU8, area schools collaborate to receive literacy grant

Eight area schools will see a boost in funding and resources after collaborating with ESU

8 to successfully win a federal grant meant to boost literacy.

In the Fall of 2024, the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) announced it had successfully applied for a \$55 million literacy grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

After collaborating with area administrators and gathering information, ESU 8 submitted an application on June 1st. ESU 8 and the area schools were notified that they won the grant in early August. The awarded grant has a value of \$250,000 per year over five years, totaling \$1.25 million. The grant will be used to provide training in the Science of Reading, a large body of research from multiple fields, including neuroscience and education, which explains how the brain learns to read proficiently and what evidence-based instructional methods are most effective. The funding will also support area schools in adopting classroom materials that align with the Science of Reading.

The grant is separated into three age bands: Birth to Kindergarten Entry, Kindergarten to 5th grade, and 6th to 12th grade. The majority of the funding has been directed to the K-5 age band to align with direction from area districts and to advance existing school district initiatives. Area schools involved in the grant are Elgin, Elkhorn-Valley, Norfolk, O'Neill, Plainview, Stuart, Sumnerland and West Holt.

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Nov. 14

THIS SATURDAY, 9 am-3 pm

Nov. 15

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■ Chili or Hamburger Vegetable soup/Ham & Cheese Sandwich/ Cookie & Drink meal at the Community Center.

SATURDAY:

■ Blend & Brew 402 will be open for shoppers! ■ Christmas Mini Sessions by Kelly Reigle Photography. ■ Coffee & Rolls at the Community Center PLUS Chili or Hamburger Vegetable soup/Ham & Cheese Sandwich/Cookie & Drink lunch at the Community Center.

RAFFLES!

Be'e'zen Creations Blend+Brew 402 Bravenly CryoCreations Damme Good Honey doTERRA Elgin Community Center Elemental Elegance Gel Moment Hooks N Hens JAR Family Crafts Kelly Reigle Photography Ken's Self Defense Knopp's Knots Crochet Leather & Lace Lilla Rose by Megan MB Designs - 2 booths Mikon Woodshop (The Depot - downtown) Norwex Reddix Saddlery & Tack Shine with Cheyenne - Saturday only Slime Time with Amanda T&E Creations Tastefully Simple Triple B at South 23 Watkins Way Out West Bake sale - Saturday only Wolfpack Booster Club Woodshed Vittles Yorkshire Rose Homestead

BRITTANY BERTRAM MSN, APRN, PMHNP

TARA LEETCH APRN

AMY OLNES APRN, FNP-C

CANDICE SCHNOOR DNP, FNP-C

Boone County Health Center

NURSE PRACTITIONER WEEK

NOV 9-15

DANIELLE KROHN DNP, APRN

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Pope John XXIII Central Catholic One-Act Team presents the comedic play "Virgil's Wedding" by Eddie McPherson

Dinner Theatre Performance Sunday, November 23 in the St. Boniface Auditorium

● Dinner served at 6:30 p.m.

● Show at 7:30 p.m.

Deadline for purchasing tickets is THIS FRIDAY, Nov. 14th.

FOR TICKETS, contact any member of the One Act or the high school at 402.843.5325

ADVANCED TICKETS meal & performance \$25 per person

AT THE DOOR show only Adults \$10 K-12th \$5

Celebrate with the Hooper and Sludge families as Margaret and Virgil prepare for the wedding of the year in Lickskillet

2025 PIGSKIN UPICK'EM CONTEST

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1 GIG

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South Florida v. Navy

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

Entry Deadline: Nov. 14 at 5 p.m.

OFFICIAL RULES:

- Select the winner of each game found in the ad & write it on the corresponding line in the official entry form.
- One entry form per person. Must use official form from newspaper.
- Elgin Bucks are redeemable at businesses participating in the football contest. Decision of the judge is final. Winners will be announced the week following each contest.
- In the event of a tie, the person predicting the total number of yards without going over will be named the winner.
- Elgin Bucks must be picked up by January 31, 2026. **Contest is open to everyone** except employees of the Elgin Review.

3 Ways to Enter:

- Mail entries to: PO Box 359 Elgin, Nebraska 68636-0359
- Take a cell phone photo of your entry and email it to elginreview@yahoo.com
- Drop off in our mailbox by the door!

Insurance Mart:	Sands Truck Repair & Service:
Elgin OneStop/Sleepin Inn:	Great Plains State Bank:
Jonny Dodge:	Elgin Hardware & More:
Bank of Elgin:	Levander Funeral Home of Elgin:
TC Vet Clinic:	City Limits:
Blackburn Manufacturing Inc.:	Elgin Body & Glass:
Dean's Market:	Elgin Pharmacy:
Stealth Broadband:	118 Insurance:
Coffeehouse Café:	TIE-BREAKER: Combined total yards USC and Iowa
Elgin Review:	

Name _____

Phone _____

BONUS:
If your tie-breaking guess is within 50 yards of the actual total, you'll get an additional \$20 in Elgin Bucks!

1ST PLACE \$20 in Elgin Bucks

2ND PLACE \$10 in Elgin Bucks

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Arkansas v. LSU

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Texas v. Georgia

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- Glass Replacement

Oregon State v. Tulsa

'Shop The North Pole' begins Friday and continues Saturday

Anticipation is building for the 2025 'Shop The North Pole' extravaganza to be held this weekend in Elgin.

Spread out over two days (November 14 and 15), at locations around Elgin, the event will again bring people from far and wide to Elgin looking to purchase item from an assortment of vendors.

Planning to be in Elgin for the event are:

- Bella Tu Soaps & Apothecary
- Burlap & Bows
- Color Street
- Constance Crochet
- CryoCreations
- Damme Good Honey
- Denim to Diamonds Beauty
- doTerra
- Esto Lux Candles
- Gel Moment
- Jbloom Jewelry & Permanent Jewelry
- Midplains Produce
- Mikon Woodshop (Old Hotel downtown - Saturday only)
- N-Joye
- Norwex
- Redding Saddlery and Tack
- Rose Grace Boutique (Saturday only)
- Spinning Sweetness
- Stampin' Up
- T&E Creations
- Tastefully Simple
- The Craft Shop
- TK Creations (Friday only)
- Triple B at South 23
- Way Out West Bake Sale (Saturday only)
- Woodshed Vittles

Friday activities will get underway at the Elgin Knights of Columbus Hall and the Elgin Community Center, starting at 5 p.m. and going til 8 p.m. There will be Christmas Mini Sessions by Kelly Reigle Photography.

Meals will be served both Friday night and Saturday noon at the Elgin Community Center.

On tap for Saturday, starting at 9 a.m. and going to 3 p.m., is a cocoa bar at the KC Hall; coffee & rolls at the community center.

And, a reminder, there will be a 'Letters to Santa' mailbox set up at the KC Hall.

Federal payments, cattle prices push farm income up

Nebraska net farm income is projected to increase by 42% in 2025, to \$8.42 billion, according to the latest projections from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln and the University of Missouri.

The Nebraska outlook mirrors the national forecast of a 41% rise in U.S. farm income.

The projected increase of \$2.48 billion over 2024 net farm income levels is largely driven by higher livestock receipts and government payments in the state, even as crop receipts continue to decrease, according to the Fall 2025 Nebraska Farm Income Outlook. The report is a collaboration between the Center for Agricultural Profitability at Nebraska and the Rural and Farm Finance Policy Analysis Center at Missouri.

Total farm receipts in the state are expected to increase by \$1.85 billion (5%) as the projected \$3.22 billion (16%) increase in livestock receipts would more than offset the \$576.65 million (5%) decrease in crop receipts.

Nebraska producers are projected to receive more than \$2 billion in government payments in 2025, a dramatic increase over 2024. The increase primarily comes from economic and ag disaster assistance payments from the American Relief Act passed in late 2024. The projected payments are based on the amount of assistance distributed to date and the expected remaining payments, although ongoing signups and delays from the federal government shutdown are expected to push some of the remaining payments into 2026. While there has been talk of potential additional assistance for producers for ag trade losses, the projections do not presume any programs or payments unless and until they are approved.

Brad Lubben, an agricultural policy specialist at Nebraska, said government payments are helping to hold up national and state-level income projections while farmers may be experiencing continued tight margins.

"The aggregate outlook for increased farm income in 2025 really hides a divide between ag sectors," Lubben said. "Beyond higher government payments, livestock receipts are climbing on stronger cattle prices while crop receipts continue to decline with lower corn and soybean prices.

The result is a farm economy that looks stronger on paper than many producers may feel in their day-to-day operations."

The projected 5% decline in 2025 crop receipts to \$11.4 billion is the latest drop in what has been a 29% decline since their \$16 billion peak in 2022. The report indicates lower corn prices and declines in soybean and wheat production as the main drivers.

The report forecasts cattle receipts to rise 17% to \$20.85 billion in 2025, along with modest increases for hog, poultry and egg receipts. Dairy receipts are projected to decline about 5%.

Overall production expenses across Nebraska farms are projected to rise 6% this year to \$30.39 billion, a record high attributed to higher feeder cattle prices that are expected to push livestock expenses up 24%. Fertilizer and soil amendment expenses are expected to rise 5%, while fuel and oil expenses are projected to decline by 5% in 2025.

Net rent to Nebraska landlords is also projected to decrease 3% this year.

City

◀ FROM Page 2

Councilman Craig Nie-wohner expressed support for the idea as long as Elgin can work with Neligh on what the best trailer would be to use (less labor intensive). Mayor Mike Schmitt said Elgin needs to find out from Neligh what they have for unloading so workers aren't spending too much time unloading.

AMH

◀ FROM Page 2

half-brothers, Chris and Brian Lewis. Kimberly's hobbies include spending time with her husband, children and friends and watching baseball.

Kimberly looks forward to providing medical care for patients of all ages at Antelope Memorial Hospital and its clinics.

BLACK FRIDAY SALES EVENT

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Stk# 6S44

MSRP \$60,860

SALE PRICE \$50,814

2025 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE L LAREDO 4x4

Stk# 6S32

MSRP \$45,920

SALE PRICE \$41,000

2025 RAM 2500 TRADESMAN CREW CAB 4x4

Stk# 6S29

MSRP \$69,275

SALE PRICE \$62,500

2025 RAM 2500 TRADESMAN CREW CAB 4x4

Stk# 6S38

MSRP \$69,275

SALE PRICE \$63,900

2026 CHRYSLER PACIFICA SELECT AWD

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MSRP \$49,455

SALE PRICE \$43,500

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Court News

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

David C Micek, Lincoln, NE 9/28/25 Speeding 73/65 MPH, Fined \$75.00 - Ahrendt

Tucker C Hood, Neligh, NE 9/14/25 Violate hunting/fishing regulations, Fined \$100.00 - Stahlecker

Levi S Wuollet, Dassel, MN 59/7/25 Speeding 79/65 MPH, Fined \$125.00 - Ahrendt

Chelsea E Cedillo, Atascadero, CA 9/10/25 Speeding 76/65 MPH, Fined \$125.00 - Ahrendt

Peter Kramberger, Scottsdale, AZ 9/23/25 Speeding 73/65 MPH, Fined \$75.00 - Ahrendt

Roger A Lemke, Creighton, NE 9/24/25 Speeding 75/65 MPH, Fined \$75.00 - Ahrendt

James J Gaspar, Sioux Falls, SD 9/24/25 Speeding 73/65 MPH, Fined \$75.00 - Ahrendt

Esteban Delao, O'Neill, NE 9/28/25 Speeding 73/65 MPH, Fined \$75.00 - Ahrendt

Celesity R Erickson, Sioux City, IA 9/28/25 Speeding 72/65 MPH, Fined \$75.00 - Ahrendt

Thad T Murren, Norfolk, NE 9/30/25 Speeding 72/65 MPH, Fined \$75.00 - Ahrendt

Larry L Larsen, Ponca, NE 10/5/25 Speeding 72/65 MPH, Fined \$75.00 - Ahrendt

Colin M Kramer, Papillion, NE 10/5/25 Speeding 73/65 MPH, Fined \$75.00 - Ahrendt

Brandon E Gottier, Lincoln, NE 10/5/25 Speeding 72/65 MPH, Fined \$75.00 - Ahrendt

Matthew H Griffith, Shawnee, OK 8/28/25 Speeding 80-65 MPH, Fined \$75.00 - Mohr

Lucio J Chicaj, Gordon, NE 9/7/25 No operator's license/non-waiverable/Speeding 71/65 MPH, Fined \$150.00 - Ahrendt

Tyson J Zegers, Neligh, NE 9/7/25 Speeding 73/65 MPH, Fined \$75.00 - Ahrendt

Mark A King, Verdigre, NE 9/10/25 Speeding 69/65 MPH/No valid registration-car/pickup/stepvan, Fined \$75.00 - Ahrendt

Janet M Koinzan, Elgin, NE 9/10/25 Speeding 71/25 MPH, Fined \$75.00 - Ahrendt

Adam M Erb, Omaha, NE 9/28/25 Speeding 73/65 MPH, Fined \$75.00 - Ahrendt

Cassandra M Smith, Parker, CO 9/28/25 Speeding 71/65 MPH, Fined \$75.00 - Ahrendt

Esmeralda Guzman Garcia, Hastings, NE 9/28/65 Speeding 78/65 MPH, Fined \$125.00 - Ahrendt

Sara A Mullins, Elgin, NE 9/29/25 Speeding 72/65 MPH, Fined \$75.00 - Ahrendt

Brock S Young, Texarkana, AR 9/30/25 Speeding 79/65 MPH, Fined \$125.00 - Ahrendt

Jose S Avila Gonzalez, Golden Valley, MN 9/30/25 Use caution-pass stopped emerg. veh.-1st, Fined \$100.00 - Ahrendt

Kenneth R Weiland, Sioux City, IA 10/5/25 Speeding 73/65 MPH, Fined \$75.00 - Ahrendt

Trey E Graf, Lincoln, NE 10/5/25 Speeding 72/65 MPH, Fined \$75.00 - Ahrendt

Lauryn G Hoffman, Spencer, NE 10/8/25 Speeding 74/65 MPH, Fined \$75.00 - Ahrendt

Janet A Buss, Plainview, NE 10/7/25 Speeding 75/65 MPH, Fined \$75.00 - Hartley

Jessica L Lahman, Omaha, NE 10/10/25 Speeding 75/65 MPH, Fined \$75.00 - Hilliard

Edwin T Wahplo, Garland, TX 9/10/25 Speeding 70/65 MPH, Fined \$50.00 - Walker

Donielle D Finnegan, Albion, NE 9 4/25 Speeding 80/65 MPH, Fined \$125.00 - Mohr

Brett E Carter, Stratford, OK 9/18/25 Speeding 80/65 MPH, Fined \$125.00 - Mohr

Greg A Kouri, Yankton, SD 9/14/25 Speeding 75/65 MPH, Fined \$75.00 - Tighe

Clifford J Steinhauser (Clifford Steinhauser), Alma, NE

10/7/25 Overweight on axle or group of axles, Fined \$25.00 - Walter

Dakota J Mitchell, Lufkin, TX 9/21/25 Speeding 80/65 MPH, Fined \$125.00 - Barker

Russell L Meyer, Orchard, NE 12/1/21 Fail to appear when on bail, Sentenced to 10 Days in jail, Reimburse County of \$17.00

Jacob R McKirdy, Oakdale, NE 5/31/25 No proof of insurance/No operator's license, Fined \$175.00 - Howard

Rivera S Tomas, Chaska, MN 9/28/25 Speeding 74/65 MPH, Fined \$75.00 - Ahrendt

Scott M Williams, Oakdale, NE 8/28/25 Speeding 75/65 MPH, Fined \$25.00 - Mohr

David J Anderson, Grand Island, NE 9/30/25 False reporting - misdemeanor, Sentence includes: Jail Sentence Term of 30 Days - Osuna-Salazar

Russell L Meyer, Orchard, NE 8/12/21 Criminal trespass-2nd degree, Bond Forfeiture of \$221.00; Jail Sentence of 30 Days/Disturbing the peace; Jail Sentence Term of 30 Days - Moore

Russell L Meyer, Orchard, NE 5/1/21 Trespass-2nd degree/defy order to leave, Bond Forfeiture of \$86.00; Jail Sentence Term of 10 Days - Moore

Connor W Soles, Springview, NE 8/31/25 Criminal mischief-\$0-500, Sentence includes: State Fine of \$300.00; Restitution of \$323.60 - Ternus

Heath W Snodgrass, Orchard, NE 8/13/25 DUI-15+, Sentence includes: State Fine of \$500.00; Jail Sentence Term of 2 Days; Probation Term of 9 Months; Drug Testing Fee of \$45.00; Probation Administrative Enrollment Fee of \$30.00; Probation Fee - Regular of \$225.00; Revoked License Term of 1 Years; Interlock Device; Breath Test-Other of \$100.00 - Ternus

Virginie W Ikaso, Fargo, ND 9/9/25 Speeding 99-65 MPH, Fined \$300.00 - Barker

Alec M Ferry, Elgin, NE 10/1/25 Disturbing the peace, Fined \$250.00 - Barker

Janaki Nivas R Puvvada, Crystal, MN 10/10/25 Speeding 85/65 MPH, Fined \$200.00 - Barker

Anna L Steinkraus, Plainview, NE 10/5/25 Speeding 75/65 MPH, Fined \$75.00 - Ahrendt

See COURT, Page 12 ►

PUBLIC NOTICES

Stay in the know. Read the Public Notices

PROCEEDINGS FROM NOVEMBER 3, 2025 MEETING

THE ELGIN CITY COUNCIL

Hills Energy, se, 109.76; Prudential, retirement, 360.57; American Funds, retirement, 224.34; US Treasury, tax, 3395.62; NE Dept of Revenue, tax, 518.24; Nebraska UC Fund, tax, 70.12; Payroll, 3077.71

SALES TAX: Pool Fund: 75253.72; To Water CD: 37603.08; To Fire/Rescue CD: 175000.00

STREET: ERPPD, se, 923.77; Verizonwireless, su, 62.75; Elgin One Stop, fuel, 256.30; Bader's Highway & Street, se, 7695.50; Black Hills Energy, se, 49.76; Payroll, 1963.86

WATER: ERPPD, se, 817.12; Great Plains Communications, se, 94.27; Verizonwireless, su, 62.75; Elgin One Stop, su, 19.98; DWEE; Public Water Operators, license, 230.00; US Post Office, postage, 33.80; NE Dept of Revenue, tax, 0.63; Payroll, 3927.74

SEWER: ERPPD, se, 716.20; Great Plains Communications, se, 52.58; Elgin One Stop, su, 70.07; DWEE; Operator Certification Program, license, 150.00; NE Dept of Revenue, tax, 7.27; Payroll, 1466.43

FIRE:ERPPD, se, 175.31; Great Plains Communications, se, 59.77;

Cole Niewohner, misc, 25.00; Mike Brockhaus, misc, 25.00; Kenny Jochum, misc, 25.00; Vicki Miller, misc, 25.00; Randy Mitchell, misc, 25.00

- Bishop Business to scan city files and to use Axcient x360 to backup city files
- Building permits: Antelope County
- Regular Meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

The following agenda items were discussed:

- Public comment: none
- Recycling opportunity in Elgin
- Water and sewer rate studies tabled - scheduled for November 10th
- Overhead doors are being replaced at fire hall
- Section of street at Cedar and 3rd Streets is replaced
- Audit fieldwork complete
- Next regular meeting will be held on Monday, December 1, 2025

Mayor MIKE SCHMITT
City Clerk KRISTIN L. CHILDERS
PUBLISH: November 12, 2025
ZNEZ

PROCEEDINGS FROM OCTOBER 21, 2025 JOINT MEETING

THE VILLAGE OF BARTLETT

publication in the Elgin newspaper. Vice-Chairman Plugge proclaimed the meetings to be a legal meeting and acknowledged that the Open Meetings Act was posted.

Community project presentations were given by Wilkins Architecture, BD Construction and

Northland Securities. The information presented is available for preview on the Wheeler Central School's website under building projects. Many community members made comments.

There being no other business, the meetings were adjourned at

7:24 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be Monday, November 10th, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

Dated this 25th day of October 2025

PUBLISH: November 12, 2025
ZNEZ

PROCEEDINGS FROM NOVEMBER 4, 2025 MEETING

THE ANTELOPE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ANTELOPE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Neligh, Nebraska
November 4th, 2025

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

Approved agenda. Approve minutes of October 14th Board of Commissioner Meeting and Board of Equalization Meeting. Public comments.

Correspondence was reviewed. Zoning Administrator Report.

Approved a Promotional Grant

request.

Approved wage increases for Extension Office employees.

Approved MOU for Department of Veterans Affairs.

2024 Cost Allocation Report was reviewed/accepted.

Year End Certification of Highway Superintendent.

Approved county wide oblique picture assessment contract.

Held public hearing on Road Closing of 512th Avenue. No action taken.

Approved Change Order, Cer-

tificate of Substantial Completion, and Contractor's Application for Pay for Brunswick Northwest and Royal North projects.

Road Superintendent Report: approved 24 oversize permits.

Meeting Adjourned.

Antelope County Board of Commissioners

CHARLIE HENERY
Chairman of County Board

Attest: LISA PAYNE /s/
Antelope County Clerk
PUBLISH: November 12, 2025
ZNEZ

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



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Hartley Burr Alexander

The Elgin Review

CLASSIFIEDS

To place your classified ad, contact us at 402.843.5500 • PO Box 359 • elginreview@yahoo.com

Deadline Tuesday at 10:00 a.m.

WANTED:

WANTED: CORN shucks or bales to put in a blowout. Call 402-843-8133. 6-7p

FOR SALE:

St. Boniface Thanksgiving Sausage pre-orders are being taken until November 15, 2025 for order pick-up on Saturday afternoon, November 22) \$7.50 /pkg of rings or patties (approximately 1# pkgs). To order, please text or call Bonnie Hoefer (402)843-8296 by Nov.15 with your name, phone number, number of packages and if you want rings or patties. Limited sausage available on Thanksgiving Day. Please order now! All pre-sale orders will be at the St. Boniface Gym on Saturday November 22nd from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. and must be picked up then as we do not have freezer space. 5-9c

SERVICES:

PASSPORT PHOTOS: Official U.S. and foreign passport and Visa photos available here. Available in under ten minutes. \$10 plus tax. Appointments highly recommended. The Elgin Review, 116 South 2nd St, Elgin NE. 402-843-5500. tfn

CARD OF THANKS:

Perhaps you sent a lovely card or sat quietly in a chair. Perhaps you sent those beautiful flowers that we saw sitting there. Perhaps you spoke the kindest words, as any friend could say. Perhaps you were not there at all, just thought of us that day. Whatever you did to console our hearts, we thank you so much for whatever part.

Our hearts are so appreciative of all the thoughtfulness and support of Father Norman and Father Baumert and Deacon John Starman and Simon for the beautiful mass and rosary. The Elgin Fire Department and the EME's thank you for the beautiful send off and being there for Randy. The Christian Mother's thank you for the thoughtfulness and the delicious meal after the mass. All the cards, flowers, prayers, monetary gifts, visits, food and masses. Our family is so blessed to have a loving and caring community and family for all the support of everyone. Thank you to my work family, Pope John XIII faculty, staff and students for all the support! I couldn't have done it without you. You have helped me keep sane through our journey since February. We are so blessed! The Randy Henn Family

Tough calls and tight bonds:

Nebraska family carries refereeing legacy across four generations

By Sheryl Schmeckpeper
Flatwater Free Press

When Emma Kwapnioski donned her Nebraska high school volleyball official's shirt in 2021, she wasn't thinking about her mom. Or her grandfather. Or her great-grandfather. Nervousness blocked any thoughts of family legacy.

"I read through the case book and rules book three times (before the match)," she recalled. That first match of her officiating career? A freshman reserve game at Lincoln East High School.

Emma's anxiety heading into that first match illustrated an inherited commitment to the game — dedication that extends back more than 50 years, across four generations. It's a feat one Nebraska School Activities Association leader called "remarkable."

During that time, the job has grown more intense. Players are more athletic, upping the pace of play. Parents are more willing to be vocal when they disagree with a call. Sportsmanship often feels in short supply.

But for members of this Nebraska volleyball family, the desire to serve supersedes the job's headaches.

"Giving back to the game of volleyball is something that brings me great joy and fulfillment," said Kim Kwapnioski, Emma's mother, who is officiat-

ing at the state tournament that started Wednesday.

The family's volleyball roots trace back to the game's inaugural high school season. Mike Zastera, Emma's great-grandfather, had a passion for athletics, having played basketball at Clarkson High School before quitting school to join the Navy during World War II.

After his service, he spent most of his free time playing, coaching and officiating sports. His decades coaching basketball and baseball at Immanuel Lutheran in Columbus led the school to name the gym after him.

When volleyball became a state-sanctioned high school sport in 1972, Zastera jumped at the opportunity. He ended up officiating at the first state tournament that year in Scottsbluff.

"Grandpa loved sports. ... Fall was volleyball, winter was basketball, spring and summer were baseball and track meets," Kim recalled.

By the time Kim earned her officiating credentials in 1994, her father, Don Janssen, had been officiating volleyball games for more than 10 years.

In the early years of high school volleyball, officials worked as teams. When Zastera's partner became ill, he asked Janssen, his son-in-law and Kim's father, to work with him.

It was a logical match. Janssen, a veteran of the Vietnam War, was a swimmer at Columbus High School and later officiated at swim meets. He and Zastera played volleyball in an adult league at the YMCA in Columbus.

"When Mike said, 'I need someone to help officiate,' I raised my hand," Janssen said. "I was so nervous that first night, but I got through it."

The two-man team traveled to nearby towns — York, Albion and Spalding — often working three and four nights a week and some weekends.

"We'd ref Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Then on Saturday, we'd go again to referee a tournament," Janssen said. "On the way home ... we had our own critique sessions. We discussed the rules and questioned each other on different calls and tried to improve."

Kim wanted to carry on the family tradition. She had played volleyball in high school and college, first at Westmar College in Iowa and then Wayne State College in Nebraska.

She got certified as a referee and joined her father and grandfather's team. The trio worked together for nine years. The arrangement allowed two of them to work a match while the third person took a break, Kim said.

On the way home, the three of them critiqued each other's work. Although Zastera was her



Photo by Liz McCue for the Flatwater Free Press

Emma Kwapnioski (left) and her mother, Kim Kwapnioski, pose for a portrait after officiating the semifinals of the Crossroads Conference volleyball tournament, held in the York Auditorium on Oct. 20.

worst critic, Kim said he was also her biggest supporter. He even filled in for her after she gave birth to her children, two of whom were born in the fall during the height of the volleyball season.

Although the routine was tough at times, Janssen persevered for 30 years. Health issues forced him to retire in 2012, he said.

"It was time to hang up the whistle," he said. "It was fun to see the torch passed on."

Zastera was one of the first people Kim called when she learned she had been chosen to officiate at the state tournament in 2007 — an honor in officiating circles. She has worked every state tournament since then.

Like her mother, Emma spent much of her childhood in gymnasiums. Although she played volleyball through the eighth grade, she switched to softball in high school. By then, the family had moved to Norfolk.

Emma went on to earn degrees from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and Iowa State before landing at the University of Nebraska Foundation, where she works as the director of development for the College of Law.

After settling in Lincoln, Emma's mother and grandfather started applying gentle pressure in an effort to persuade her to take up officiating.

"It took a couple of years of convincing," said Emma, now in her fourth year as a volleyball ref. She hopes to one day follow in her mother's footsteps and officiate at the high school state tournament.

Having quality officials working volleyball matches is vitally important, said K.C. Belitz, volleyball coach at Columbus Lakeview High School.

"Officials' eyes have to move, and they have to process

quickly," he said. "There's no question ... the officiating crew is the third part of the competition. If we're not all doing our job, (the athletes) are not having a good experience."

Belitz, who has coached at Lakeview for 28 years, worked with all four generations of officials in the family. He called their officiating lineage "pretty unique" in the world of Nebraska high schools sports officiating.

Nate Neuhaus with the NSAA agrees.

"It's pretty remarkable that a family is involved," said Neuhaus, an assistant director who oversees officials.

Both Belitz and Neuhaus said officiating is more challenging today than it used to be.

Surveys conducted by the NSAA point to the challenges officials face across sports. In a 2024 survey, nearly 84% of respondents said there was a problem with sportsmanship. About 57% of officials said they had been verbally or physically assaulted. Nearly 64% said they had considered not officiating in the future.

"This is a service-oriented position that allows students to participate in sports," Neuhaus said. "They need to have a love of sports ... because they are giving up their personal time."

In spite of the challenges, Kim and Emma love what they do.

"When I get into the gym, it feels like bricks are thrown off my shoulders," Kim said. "It's an awesome opportunity."

The Flatwater Free Press is Nebraska's first independent, nonprofit newsroom focused on investigations and feature stories that matter.

Impacts of grazing on corn stalks

Corn residue is one of the most cost-efficient feed resources available for livestock owners to graze, offering valuable winter feed. Despite its wide use, there can still be hesitation by landowners to allow cattle on crop ground out of a fear they will hurt the subsequent yield. Research from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln demonstrates that with correct stocking rates, residue grazing provides several soil and crop benefits and minimal downsides.

Contrary to concerns, studies show that grazing residue does not significantly harm soil

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Beef Systems
Asst. Ext. Educator
Ben Beckman

properties, especially when done within recommended stocking densities. UNL research evaluated both fall and spring grazing impacts on compaction, showing that while there was a slight increase in soil resistance in certain high-density spring grazing setups, overall soil health metrics such as water infiltration and compaction remained within acceptable levels.

Grazing corn residue can also enhance microbial activity in the soil. Microbes play a vital role in nutrient cycling, breaking down organic matter and

converting it into forms that plants can absorb. Grazing cattle return nutrients to the soil via manure, adding nitrogen, phosphorus, and other essential minerals, enhancing the nutrient profile available for subsequent crops like soybeans or corn. UNL studies have shown that these microbial benefits are seen without adverse effects on soil organic matter, even over multiple years of grazing.

A final key takeaway from the UNL research is that corn residue grazing has a positive or neutral effect on crop yields. In a controlled grazing study, soybeans planted after grazed corn residue fields maintained, or even increased yields compared to non-grazed fields, showing that grazing can serve as a complementary practice for residue management. Compared to mechanical stover removal, grazing reduces leftover residue without nutrient removal.

All 5 studies reviewed showed the importance of stocking rate and grazing timing to maximize residue benefits while minimizing any potential downsides. Using lower stocking densities can help prevent soil compaction issues while taking advantage of available forage, especially during colder months when the soil is frozen. Even studies using spring grazing showed benefits but may require a bit more management regarding density and timing to ensure soil resilience for the following planting season.

For producers, utilizing corn residue as a feed resource aligns well with sustainable practices, provides an economical feed source, and contributes positively to soil health, all with minimal impact. In fact, some studies saw yield increases. By adopting a managed residue grazing practice, producers can make the most of their land resources without compromising crop productivity or long-term soil health.

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

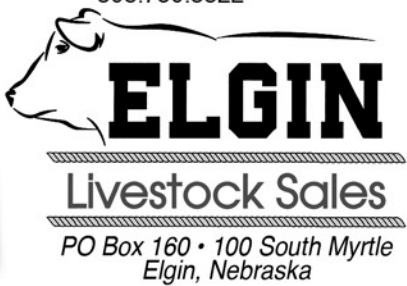
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A quiet threat: Why lung screening matters

By Dr. John Mazour
Boone County Health Center
November is Lung Cancer Awareness Month — a timely reminder to address a silent threat. Lung cancer often devel-

ops with few or no symptoms, making early detection critical. Some people may notice a persistent cough, shortness of breath, or a “short fuse” or increased fatigue — but many

times, warning signs are subtle or absent. According to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), you may be eligible for annual screening with a low-dose computed tomography (LDCT) scan if you meet all of the following criteria:

- Age 50–77 years
- No known signs or symptoms of lung cancer
- A smoking history of at least 20 “pack-years” (for example, one pack per day for 20 years)
- Are a current smoker or quit within the past 15 years

While national lung cancer rates have generally declined due to reduced smoking, several states, including Nebraska, have seen small upticks in recent years. This underscores the impor-

tance of staying vigilant about screening and lung health. Because symptoms can be minimal or mistaken for other conditions — and because the disease remains one of the leading causes of cancer-related death — it is vital to get checked if you have any symptoms or a history of smoking. If you currently smoke or have smoked in the past, contact your primary care provider to discuss whether you qualify for lung cancer screening. Remember, early detection saves lives.



Dr. John Mazour

Commissioners approve purchase of dump truck

Weed superintendent updates board on recent spraying

By Greg Tharnish
Special to The Elgin Review
The Antelope County Commissioners (ACC) met yesterday with all commissioners present. Last week’s public discussion on a possible road closure of 512 Avenue, between 846 and 847 Roads, will likely continue in December if easements from all pertinent landowners are signed. Road Superintendent Leigh Kluthe reported to the ACC of the purchase of a 2012 International dump truck. The truck was purchased, with approval from the commissioners, from Mountain Truck & Equipment (MT&E) from Longmont, CO for just under \$70,000. The truck is outfitted with a plow for snow removal and a salt/sand spreader will be purchased and utilized as well. The ACC decided to purchase two salt/sand spreaders from MT&E for the bargain price of \$450 each. The second spreader will be used on another of the counties’ trucks. Kluthe said the new truck will serve a number of different purposes for the county, saving time and money. Following his report, a lengthy discussion took place on CDL requirements for county employees. At this time, seven employees for the road department need to get a CDL to operate equipment. Issues of training, cost of training, who will pay for training, and when/where training will take place were considered. The ACC directed Kluthe to look into different options and report back at the December meeting. Weed Superintendent Bryan Cornette gave a report on activities in the weed department including:

- 74 miles of weed spraying
- 35 bridge approaches sprayed
- county impound yard sprayed
- Neligh and Oakdale “county barns” sprayed

Cornette also reported that he applied for, and is waiting on, a possible grant that may be coming to the Weed Control Department. The exact amount of the grant isn’t known yet. More information to follow at the December ACC meeting. In another matter, work on the Antelope County Employee Handbook continues, led by County Clerk Lisa Payne and Commissioner Regina Krebs. Several items have been added and/or updated in a rough draft of the handbook. The rest of the ACC members were given a copy and will review it before the next meeting.

BCHC hosts successful diabetes awareness event

Boone County Health Center hosted its first Sweet Balance event on Thursday, November 6, in recognition of Diabetes Awareness Month. The evening drew a strong turnout of approximately 80 guests who came to learn, connect, and find that “sweet balance” in managing and preventing diabetes through healthy habits, support, and practical tips. In addition, about 30 Boone County Health Center staff members helped organize and host the event. Dr. Sean Kohl, Family Practice Physician at Boone County Health Center, opened the evening by defining prediabetes and type 2 diabetes, outlining key risk factors, treatments, and potential complications. Keynote speaker Sam Becker, RN, CDCES, from Bryan Health, shared her personal journey of living with type 1 diabetes since age 11 and gave an inspiring presentation on maintaining lifestyle balance while managing the condition. Kayla Baker, Director of the Behavioral Health Department at Boone County Health Center, concluded the presentations by highlighting the importance of mindfulness and stress management in overall diabetes care. Guests enjoyed complimentary appetizers, a free wine tasting donated by Albion Thrifty Way, and a fun selfie photo booth. Boone County

Health Center staff also provided free blood pressure and glucose checks throughout the evening. Many guests left with giveaway items, and Lily Thieman took home the event’s grand door prize. Attendees visited booths hosted by Boone County Health Center departments—including Behavioral Health, Nutrition, Exercise Therapy, Wound Care, Diabetic Foot Care, Senior Life Solutions, Aesthetics Clinic, Lymphedema Treatment, and Pharmacy—as well as community partners such as Palmer Eye Care, Wells Drug, Prep’d by Cola, and doTERRA Essential Oils. Representatives from Libre, Dexcom, and Tandem were also on hand to share the latest in continuous glucose monitoring technology. The Sweet Balance event was made possible through grant funding for diabetes education and was organized by Stephanie Scott, RD, Diabetic Educator, and Jamie Beister, RN, CFCS, Diabetic Educator with the goal of providing a meaningful and informative educational experience for attendees on managing and preventing diabetes. Staff from BCHC wore teal blue—the color of Diabetes Awareness Month—to show support and unity. The Health Center hopes to make Sweet Balance an annual tradition to continue raising awareness and offering practical support for those affected by diabetes.

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WOLFPACK

Wolfpack Sports

A season to celebrate: EPPJ Football 2025 year in review

ELGIN — The footballs have been put away, so too, the shoulder pads and helmets for the Wolfpack football team.

What began in the heat of August ended with the advent of Autumn temperatures miles away in the first round of the Class D2 State Football Playoffs.

Those who follow the Wolfpack know the Overton Eagles

defeated Elgin Public-Pope John 49 to 42 in one of the best opening round playoff games in recent history. Trailing by 21 points at halftime, the Wolfpack tied the score at 42-all midway through the fourth quarter before seeing a chance at victory slip away in the game's final minutes.

The game epitomized the

Wolfpack's season. Although it was a season-ending loss, the Wolfpack displayed grit and determination, fighting back to give themselves a chance to win the game on their final drive.

According to Co-Head Coaches Nick Heithoff and Matt Euse, the team exceeded the expectations of some at the start of the season and should be proud of what they accomplished during the season.

With the last chapter of the Wolfpack's football season now closed, it's time to look back at the season that was.

After suffering a season-opening loss to Burwell, the Wolfpack didn't lose again till a one-sided loss on an October afternoon at O'Neill St. Mary's.

After that the Wolfpack closed with victories over Neligh and Atkinson (both at Elgin Field).

The Wolfpack averaged nearly 87 yards of offense through the air per game.

Senior Karson Kallhoff completed more than 50 percent of his pass attempts for 768 yards and 10 touchdowns. His top receiver during the season was Jarek Erickson with 25 catches for 425 yards and three touchdowns. Sophomore Max Henn had five touchdown receptions and senior Landyn Veik had three.

The running attack averaged 167 yards per game. Leading the way was senior Grady Druke. He carried the ball 174 times for 821 yards and nine touchdowns. Jarek Erickson had almost 400 yards on 66 carries.

On defense, the Wolfpack were led by Veik who had 61

tackles. Jarek Erickson had 54 and Max Henn added 51.

Here's a breakdown of the season statistics for the Wolfpack:

Passing (Att/Comp/Int - Yds/TDs) — Michael Selting 1/1/0 - 3/0; Karson Kallhoff 45/82/5 - 768/10; Grady Druke 1/2/1 - 1/1; Jarek Erickson 0/2/1 - 0/0. Totals: 47/87/7 - 780/11

Rushing (Att/Yds/TDs) — Michael Selting 7/12/0; Joseph McNally

2/3/0; Karson Kallhoff 40/78/3; Ethan Hansen 1/4/0; Grady Druke 174/821/9; Braedon Hinkle 2/3/1; Jarek Erickson 66/380/6; Gavin Kallhoff 18/87/4; Evin Pelster 18/122/2. Totals: 329/1500/25

Receiving (#/Yds/TDs) — Joseph McNally 1/3/0; Max Henn 15/231/5,

See **PACK**, Page 12 ►

Voborny bests the field to win football contest

He missed just one game to win \$20 Elgin Bucks

David Voborny was the big winners in the latest Elgin Review Football Contest.

Voborny missed just one game to claim the top prize of \$20 in Elgin Bucks. He correctly forecast Texas Tech's upset of BYU, Iowa State defeating TCU, Arizona toppling Kansas and West Virginia defeating "powerful" Colorado.

There was a tie for second place between Jake Eischeid and Al Hagemeister, each missing three games.

Eischeid's guess of 648 yards was closest to the actual figure of 709 yards between Nebraska and UCLA. Hagemeister guessed 566.

Eischeid will receive the \$10 runner-up prize.

Results of the games were: Rutgers over Maryland Ohio State over Purdue

Notre Dame over Navy Miami over Syracuse Iowa State over TCU Texas A&M over Missouri Indiana over Penn State Oregon over Iowa Clemson over Florida State Kentucky over Florida Houston over UCF Wisconsin over Washington West Virginia over Colorado Arizona over Kansas Alabama over LSU Army over Temple Texas Tech over BYU Nebraska over UCLA

Entries for the next contest are due at the newspaper office by 5 p.m. Friday.

Save a stamp by taking a picture of your entry with a camera phone and send it to elginreview@yahoo.com

Good luck!



E-R photos/DMorgan



Evin Pelster led the team in punt and kickoff returns and pulled down a team-high six interceptions.



Grady Druke led the team in rushing with over 800 yards during the nine-game season.

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Defensive leaders, shown here in early action against CWC, were Landyn Veik (24), Justice Blecher (92), Jarek Erickson 21 and Trey Rittscher (55).

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Fans say 'why can't we' join in the celebration?

The high school volleyball season came to an end Saturday in Lincoln.

SPINNING TALES



Publisher
Dennis Morgan

ropractor after seeing the first snow flakes fall from the sky.

No matter the year, one thing

never changes — the celebration after championship point. It hasn't evolved much through the years. The players on the court celebrate by jumping up and down, then falling to the floor, to be joined by their teammates on the bench. Shouts of joy and some tears of happiness began to fall from their eyes.

But I saw something new this year, something that surprised me. It came at the conclusion of the Wynot-Cambridge match. The Blue Devils (Wynot) did what they were supposed to do upon winning the match. Then, to the surprise of many, the team was joined by members of the student body who had been, just moments before, in the

See **TALES**, Page 12 ►



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Samantha R Lebeau, Omaha, NE 7/6/25 Speeding 75/65 MPH, Fined \$25.00 - Wiggins

Pack

◀ FROM Page 11

Jarek Erickson 25/425/3, Landyn Veik 6/121/3. Totals: 47/780/11
Fumbles/Lost — Team 8/2
Kickoff Returns (#/Yds) — Grady Drueke 3/24/0; Evin Pelster 19/448
Punt Returns (Yds) — Evin Pelster 6/150
Tackles (Solo/Ast/Tot.) — Michael Selting 6/11/17; Joseph McNally 7/7/14; Karson Kallhoff 3/2/5; Ethan Hansen 6/3/0; Grady Drueke 23/19/42; Braedon Hinkle 2/3/5; Max Henn 23/28/51; Jarek Erickson 32/22/54; John Zwingman 2/0/2; Landyn Veik 28/33/61; Gavin Kallhoff 22/20/42; Evin Pelster 19/22/41; Trey Rittscher 14/21/35; Christian Preister 2/2/4; Raaf Klein 1/4/5; Brayden Burenheide 1/2/3; Justice Blecher 9/14/23; Jayvin Erickson 1/4/5. Totals: 201/217/418
Tackles For Loss (#) — Joseph McNally 1; Max Henn 9; Jarek Erickson 7; Landyn Veik 6; Christian Preister 1; Justice Blecher 4. Totals: 28
Quarterback Sacks (#) — Max Henn 3; Justice Blecher 4
Interceptions (#) — Max Henn 1; Jarek Erickson 2; Landyn Veik 1; Gavin Kallhoff 2; Evin Pelster 6; Trey Rittscher 1. Team totals: 13
Pass Deflections (#) — Grady Drueke 1; Max Henn 8; Jarek Erickson 1; Gavin Kallhoff 2; Evin Pelster 2; Trey Rittscher 1. Team totals: 15
Fumble Recoveries (#) — Max Henn 1; Gavin Kallhoff 1; Trey Rittscher 2. Team totals: 4

Tales

◀ FROM Page 11

bleachers.
What struck me first was the lack of security to put up any resistance to the sudden rush of students in assorted street clothes.
They didn't leave the floor until the volleyball coach started yelling at them to get back to where they came from.
None of the other schools, in the other matches I watched, dared to dash on the floor.
I suspect the officials with

the Nebraska School Activities Association (NSAA) will make sure it doesn't happen again.

One of the things I like to do on Sunday morning is watch an ESPN hour-long show featuring college football highlights. A segment towards the end of the show is when the hosts hand out dollars to the absurd things caught on cameras broadcasting the games.
This past Sunday, the show recognized what is becoming a growing trend. Male students

find a section were few are sitting and take it over. Not only do they take it over, they take off their shirts and start swinging them above their heads.
I can't say where it started, but it has grown to where now adult men are joining the students in the fad.
To date, no women have been spotted, but can it be long til it happens?
Kids are going to do what kids want to do. It's not hurting anybody and, while it may be drawing attention to something besides the play on the field, it hasn't interfered with the outcome.
Anyway, the announcers made light of the fad, particularly the older adults joining in on the action.
My question is, when do you tell some adult, trying to relive his college days, that rolls of skin looking more like Jello flapping on a spoon, is ugly!
Eventually, you know it's going to happen, some indecent exposure will take place. When that happens, TV cameras will no longer show the students'

bare chests. The fad will go the way of the drunken fan getting on the field and running in la la land until security or a big football player plants that person in the sod.
Fans can do almost anything in the stands, but when they cross the line and step on the field or the court, they become targets who deserve to be taken down.

One final thing. You never know when a story in *The Elgin Review* stirs a memory. In last week's issue journalist Jane Schuchardt wrote a front page story about the late Thomas Scheurich.
The day after the story appeared in the paper, former *Elgin Review* employee Bernice Siems came into the office with a black & white photo of Scheurich that he had sent her long ago. She said she remembered him giving her rides in his car while she was in school.
You just never know what memories will be rekindled by reading your hometown newspaper every week.

Mobile food pantry coming to Neligh on November 18

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 next week.
According to Jeanie Juracek, food items will be made available on Tuesday, November 18, 2025 from 2:00-3:30 p.m. at the American Legion Club in Neligh.

BOYS WRESTLING

Dec. 6@ *Howells-Dodge9:30
Dec. 12...@ Sargent.....11:00

JH BOYS WRESTLING

Nov. 13@ Madison.....4:00
Nov. 18@ EPPJ (EPS)3:00
Nov. 20@ Newman Grove.....4:00

GIRLS WRESTLING

Dec. 6@ O'Neill9:30
Dec. 13@ Wood River10:00

BOYS & GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL

Dec. 4vs Riverside (PJ).....4:00
Dec. 5@ Niobrara-Verdigre4:15
Dec. 9@ Neligh-Oakdale4:00
Dec. 12vs Plainview (PJ)4:00
Dec. 13...vs Wausa (EPS)2:00

BOYS & GIRLS JH BASKETBALL

Nov. 24...Tri vs. Madison & Fullerton (G, EPS) 4:00
Dec. 2vs Humphrey-Lindsay (G, EPS). 4:00
Dec. 11 ..vs Neligh-Oakdale (G, PJ)4:00
Dec. 15 ..@ Niobrara-Verdigre4:00

ELGIN PUBLIC-POPE JOHN WOLFPACK

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Nov. 12On-to-College Pep Rally at Elkhorn Valley • EPS school board meeting
Nov. 13Cyber Patriot Rnd 2
Nov. 18NVC One Act @ Verdigre
Nov. 19PJCC - NO SCHOOL - EPS - 1 pm dismissal • JH FFA Livestock Judging @ Atkinson
Nov. 20-21-22All State Music
Nov. 23PJCC Dinner Theatre
Nov. 26-27-28NO SCHOOL-ALL SCHOOLS
Dec. 1PJCC Book Fair
Dec. 2EPS Art Christmas Window Painting
Dec. 3EPS Prevention Solutions
Dec. 5EPS Muffins with Moms
Dec. 8EPS PreK-12 Christmas Concert
Dec. 10Bloodmobile @ KC Hall, 9 am-3 pm
Dec. 17PJCC Christmas Concert

WELCOME TO THE JUNGLE

Where Only The Strong Tribes Survive.

Elgin Public-Pope John

WOLFPACK

WEEKLY SCHEDULES BROUGHT TO YOU BY THESE ELGIN - POPE JOHN SCHOOL BOOSTERS

The Willows
402-887-9059

TC Vet Clinic
402-843-5756

Jeff Temme - Ag Land Realty LLC
402-843-8440

Switzer Welding/Iron Creations Country Crafts
Tom, Brenda & Brian
402-750--7749, 402-750-7748 & 402-841-8184

Stealth Broadband
402-347-1010

Starman Seed & Supply, Inc.
402-843-8393

Snider Memorial Funeral Home
- Jay Snider www.snidermemorialfh.com
402-843-2468

Schindler Ag Services
Jake Schindler 402-843-8812

Sands Truck Service & Repair
402-843-1010

Ruterbories Construction
Paul Ruterbories 402-649-5827

River Mill Coffee Company
402-929-2425

Precision Repair
402-843-2181

Petersburg Building & Supply
Monty & Teri Reicks 402-386-5207

118 Insurance
Megan, Marla & Jeslynn 402-843-5741

Levander Funeral Home of Elgin
402-843-5400

Koinzan Enterprises Inc.
402-843-5800

Kittelston's Home Repair
Jim Kittelson 402-843-5833

Jonny Dodge CJ
402-887-4182 or 800-510-1303

Invenergy Wind Energy, LLC

Insurance Mart
Janet-Tracey 402-843-2410

Keith Hemmer, CPA, P.C.
Certified Public Accountant 402-843-2380

Heithoff Irrigation
402-843-2307

Great Plains State Bank
402-386-5297

Elgin Veterans' Medical Clinic
an outpatient clinic of Boone Co. Medical Center 402-843-5910

The Elgin Review
402-843-5500

Elgin Pharmacy and Gift
402-843-5555

Elgin One Stop & Sleepin Inn
402-843-2100

Elgin Livestock Sales, Inc.
402-843-2275

Elgin Body & Glass
402-843-2418

Dwyer Manufacturing
402-843-6167

Klein PC, Attny at Law
402-887-4910

Dean's Market
402-843-5300

Central Valley Ag
402-843-2416

Beckman Lumber Inc.
402-843-2131

Baum Seed Service, LLC
402-843-5802 or 402-843-8282

Bar U Farms
402-843-8921

Bank of Elgin
402-843-2228

Antelope Memorial Hospital
402-887-4151 Elgin Clinic 402-843-5444

ELGIN PUBLIC-POPE JOHN WOLFPACK