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The Wayne Herald

Thursday, April 23, 2020 144th Year - No. 30

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(Photo by Sarah Lentz)

Concessions open

Alison and Tim Bartz at the Majestic Theatre opened for the first time since mid March, to offer fresh popped popcorn, drinks and other movie snacks Friday, Saturday and Sunday. While the theater wasn't showing a movie, customers could drive up and receive curbside service.

Wakefield City Council holds special meeting

By Sarah Lentz
editor@wayneherald.com

On Monday, Wakefield's City Council met outside their regular meeting time for a special meeting covering a number of topics including the filter plant, fiber cable and hiring a manager for the Wakefield Civic Center.

First on the agenda, the council decided to split the roughly \$25,180 cost to tube a ditch from the retention pond on South Main Street to 14th Street. The cost will be split with homeowners Dave and Kim White. The City will pay for engineering costs on the project.

Brian Mattes and Danny Rockhill with BNT Broadband LLC requested permission to use the City's right-of-ways to trench fiber cable throughout the town. BNT would like to trench the cable and provide fiber-to-home service to Wakefield. Mattes told the council that BNT can put hook ups into a home even if they choose to go with a different provider. If they are able to start the work soon, they expected to be able to have the project completed before the first hard freeze next year.

"I would like to do all of Wakefield this year," Mattes said. "That's a million dollars of infrastructure for the town."

BNT wanted to have an agreement in place by April 24 so they could begin work right away. Attorneys Lee and Theresa Miner asked the council to hold off on the agreement for the time being

PMC staff receives donated masks

Last week the Wayne Herald shared the story of several local protective mask makers. This week, we share how the community's hospital, Providence Medical Center has witnessed the community come together to help keep them safe, so they can continue to care for the community.

Individuals and groups, like the Wayne Million Mask Challenge, quickly got to work to make masks to help protect the town's health care staff. While Providence Medical Center Foundation director Melissa Nelsen said the hospital has plenty of official, CDC-approved surgical masks and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), homemade masks can help PMC staff and their families stay healthy while not at work. She also said the hospital has been grateful to the community's response, whether it be the donation of masks, lunches and more.

"It was pretty amazing," Nelsen said. "We got to watch them (mask makers) just get busy and start putting the word out and getting people involved. It was pretty fun to watch them all come together and get those made quickly."

While out-of-state communities, with far

more COVID-19 cases have had to resort to asking for donations for PPE like surgical masks, gowns and respirators, Providence Medical Center has been keeping track of their supplies to try to best manage the situation.

"At this point we feel we've been planning pretty well and we think that we'll have a good amount (of PPE)," Nelsen said. "We're doing a lot of tracking of what we have and what we're using every day so that we can calculate as we go and prepare and hope that what we're doing will help us have enough."

With COVID-19 causing hospital environments across the country to change quickly, PMC is doing their best to ensure that if an increase of cases make it to the hospital, the health care providers and patients alike will be safe, and they're grateful the community is helping them stay safe while staff are out and about while not at the hospital.

"The community really has stepped up. I think they've seen what other areas have done that have had a lot of positive cases, so, they've stepped up and provided a lot of those things for us," Nelsen said.

Commissioners talk courthouse project at meeting

By Sarah Lentz
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The Wayne County Commissioners meeting was dominated by discussions about the courthouse restoration project on Tuesday morning. The commissioners discussed lawn care and repair, which has been impacted by the project, as well as stonework in the project.

Dawn Duffy, Wayne County assessor was first to speak to the commissioners. She updated them about valuations within the county. On average valuations for residential land has slightly increased, especially for rural owners. Ag land on the other hand has slightly decreased.

Toni Hytrek, owner of Hytrek Lawn Service, came before the commissioners to voice concerns over the state of the courthouse lawn, particularly on the west and south sides, where she said deep ruts from

construction equipment is making it hard for her crew to properly mow the area.

"I didn't realize how much damage there was until we mowed it last week," Hytrek told the commissioners.

Hytrek said in some places ruts were over a foot deep and said the lawn would have to be regraded and refilled at the end of the project. Commissioner Jim Rabe told Hytrek to not worry about how the lawn looks until after the repairs can be made.

Work on the courthouse is progressing and soon stonework can begin. Red sandstones were quarried for the project, but because of the size of the stones, around six of them had fissures, which were filled with epoxy. Frank Halsey, with Mid Continental Restoration said he was told red sandstone beds anywhere in the continental U.S. will start to see imperfection in stones between 18-24 inches.

Halsey and Berggren Architects repre-

sentative Doug Elting, suggested cutting out the epoxy and mixing in color-matched patching material to make the imperfections less noticeable and provide some protection to the stones. Another option of cutting below the imperfections and adding another stone on top was discussed. Halsey will gather more information about which option would be best.

County highway superintendent Mark Casey told the commissioners he's still working with representatives of the Sholes wind project to clear up driveway issues that the company has yet to resolve. He said that the Plum Creek wind project road expansions are about to be removed by the company and he's still not comfortable with the road haul agreement with Tradewinds.

The next Wayne County Commissioners meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 5 at 9 a.m.

Council approves plan for additional work on walking trail

By Clara Osten
clara@wayneherald.com

More than a half hour of discussion took place during Tuesday's meeting before Wayne City Council members approved a change order in regard to the Restoration of the Walking Trail Project.

The change order will result in an increase of \$374,117.50 for the project, which involves a portion of the trail west of the area that was originally included in restoring the trail after the 2019 floods.

This additional amount comes after a visual observation of the site and the need for additional steel sheet piling and bank restoration approximately 100 feet in a westerly direction. It will provide mitigation and prevent floodwater intrusion upstream in the event of a similar flood event in the future.

The cost for the additional work and materials would be cost shared at a rate of 75 percent being paid by FEMA, 12.5 percent being paid by NEMA and the city of Wayne paying the remaining 12.5 percent. These

percentages are the same as with the rest of the project.

Council members spent considerable time debating the costs of several items in the change order that were different than those in the bid for the original part of the project.

"We are giving the contractor an open door to change prices. The contractor raised the prices on the same work and it will cost \$89,000 more. It is not worth the cost to go an extra 100 feet," said Council member Chris Woehler.

Council member Jill Brodersen asked whether the agenda item could be tabled until the city could get more information from the contractor.

City Administrator Wes Blecke said the contractors plan to begin work on the project in the near future and if the item were tabled, the work on the other portion of the project would be completed before council had time to act on it.

In conjunction with the change order for the work, a change order was approved for an additional \$12,500 for engineering costs

for Leo A. Day. This will include additional work and on-site inspection of the project.

A change order in the amount of \$7,500 for concrete to be used in the staging area for the restoration and mitigation project was denied. Council members felt this cost should have been included in the original bid.

The concrete would be used to protect the highway as equipment used in the project enters and exits the work area.

During the meeting, a public hearing was held in regard to the Planning Commission's recommendation to amend the Future Land Use Map of the Comprehensive Plan for the city.

The change would allow for changes to the zoning map for land near the Rugby Fields. This would allow for multi-family housing in that area. The changes also include areas that have been annexed into the city recently.

BJ Woehler spoke to the council and said the city "shouldn't be getting rid of land. I

See ????, Page 4A

Second case of COVID-19 in NNPHD district

Northeast Nebraska Public Health Department (NNPHD) reports the second confirmed COVID-19 case within the health district of Cedar, Dixon, Thurston and Wayne Counties. The patient, a female in her 30s and is a resident of Dixon County. Lab results were received by the health department on April 20. NNPHD Nursing Team has begun an investigation to determine how this person became exposed to the virus and identify close contacts who may need to quarantine and monitor for

symptoms.

"Remember that it is important that we all work together to help stop the spread of this virus," Julie Rother, NNPHD Health Director said. "There are many people in our communities who are at a higher risk of severe disease from the virus, such as people over 65 and those with underlying health conditions. Please do your part to slow the spread of the virus by using social distancing, fabric face masks and good hand washing and cleaning practices to

limit any unnecessary exposure to the virus."

Stay up to date with the coronavirus situation on the CDC website at cdc.gov/. Nebraska DHHS has a COVID-19 call-in line where questions can get answered about the virus. The phone line operates from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., seven days per week. Call (402) 552-6645. Follow NNPHD on Facebook to get the latest local testing numbers and results or visit their website for local updates at nnphd.org.

WAED office makes contingency plans for 2020 Chicken Show

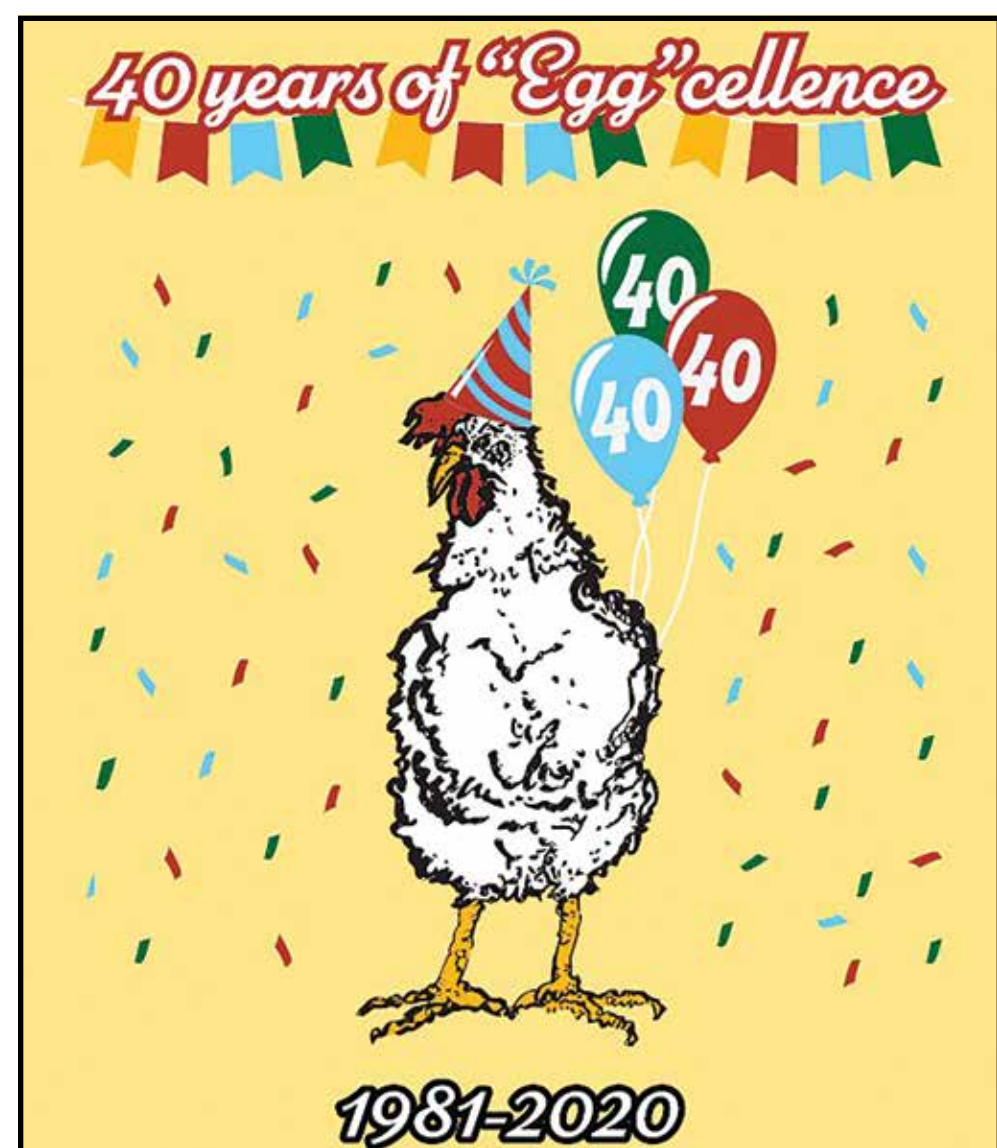
The 2020 Wayne Chicken Show "40 Years of Egg-celence" is scheduled to be held July 10-12 in Wayne. With uncertainties due to COVID-19, the Wayne Chicken Show committee, in consultation with Northeast Nebraska Public Health Department, is making contingency plans.

The committee feels the significance of 40 years merits a celebration of some sort and that the community will want to celebrate as we come out of the other side of the COVID-19 pandemic. With that in mind, the Wayne Chicken Show Committee is continuing to organize the 40th annual Chicken Show to go on as originally scheduled. At this time, the committee is building in some contingencies in case that cannot happen.

As of June 1, if it appears that the traditional event cannot take place as desired, a modified Chicken Show will be scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 12. This one day event will combine many of the signature activities into one big BirdDay Bash. Participating groups and organizations will have an opportunity to integrate their events into the one day schedule as much as possible.

The 2020 Chicken shirts, designed by Katie Wynia, reflect 40 years of hens in a collage on the back of the yolk colored shirt. The front turns an early '80s shirt designed by Wynia's mother, Marla McCue, into a party. The 2020 Chicken Show t-shirts are currently available for sale at the Wayne Area Economic Development office. Orders can be placed by contacting the office and arrangements can be made for curbside pick-up. Shirt orders can also be shipped, however shipping and handling fees will be applied.

The Chicken Show is in its 40th year and was first held in 1981. The Chicken Show was founded by the Wayne Regional Arts



Council and is held annually on the second weekend in July. For more information visit chickenshow.com or contact Wayne Area Economic Development at (402) 375-2240.



(Photo by Clara Osten)

Brad Haglund and Jerry Nordeen work to level a headstone in Greenwood Cemetery.

Work underway at Greenwood Cemetery to restore grave stones

Jerry Nordeen with Monument Solutions is working with the Greenwood Cemetery Board to restore and level a number of monuments in the cemetery.

Nordeen, with assistance from Brad Haglund of Wayne, spent a recent afternoon at the cemetery as the project got underway.

Haglund, a member of Scout Troop #172, is working toward his Eagle Scout award and plans to conduct a similar project in the Wakefield Cemetery in the future. His time with Nordeen provided him with information on how to go about restoring the stones.

Nordeen, who was involved with the monument business for more than 15



(Contributed photo)

This headstone had come off its base before Nordeen began his work this spring.

years, explained that over time, grave-stones settle, lean and often-times, break.

"People were buried in wooden boxes and when the boxes deteriorated, the ground settled and the stones shifted," Nordeen said.

He has worked with a number of communities to provide assistance with the older monuments in the cemetery.

He has special equipment which helps lift the stones, which often weigh several hundred pounds, to a point where pea gravel can be placed under the stone to stabilize the ground before the monument is lowered back into place.

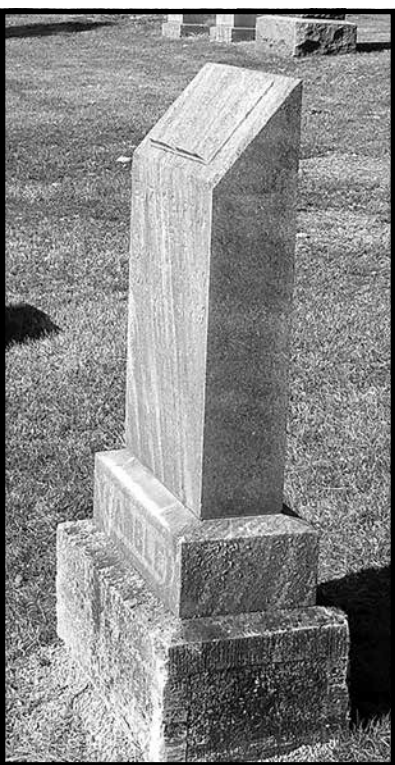
Often the stones Nordeen works with have become broken or loose from the base of the monument.

He uses a setting compound to put the pieces back together before leveling the stone in the ground.

The Greenwood Cemetery Board worked with Nordeen last fall to determine a number of stones that needed attention. A total of nine stones, located mainly in the southeast portion of the cemetery, were marked for restoration.

Several of the stones that Nordeen worked on in Greenwood Cemetery were over 100 years old and needed to be repaired in addition to being leveled.

Among the reasons for this project is the need to protect those who visit cemetery from being injured by falling stone. A total of nine monuments were identified to be preserved at this time.



(Contributed photo)

This is the same headstone pictured above, after repair.

CVA announces purchase of Agrex Inc. facility in Laurel

Central Valley Ag Cooperative (CVA) has announced it is purchasing the Agrex Inc. shuttle loader facility located in Laurel. CVA will take over ownership of this Agrex facility effective Tuesday, May 12, according to a press release from CVA.

"This purchase of this asset will

allow CVA to provide more diverse cropping and marketing opportunities to our patrons in northeast Nebraska," Casey Potter, Senior Vice President of Grain at CVA said. "It will also allow CVA to have more competitive access to rail markets for other CVA assets in the area."

The 110-car BNSF shuttle loader

facility consists of 1.6 million bushels of upright bin space and 1-million-bushel bunker space as well as a loop track for rail loading.

"Bringing this asset into CVA's operation allows patrons access to our full slate of traditional and non-traditional marketing solutions for their grain," Potter said.

Community Action Network celebrates 56 years of service, 54 years in Northeast Nebraska

This year marks the 56th year since the Community Action Network was established to help American families and communities overcome obstacles to poverty. Over 1,000 agencies across the country are working every day to create opportunities and transform the lives of their neighbors making communities stronger and helping families across the U.S. thrive. This year, Northeast Nebraska Community Action Partnership (NENCAP), a proud member of the Community Action Network, will also commemorate 54 years helping families throughout Northeast Nebraska.

"Each May, during Community Action Month, we reflect on the impact NENCAP and our network has had on families," said Executive Director, Robin Snyder. "Last year alone, we served over 10,000 individuals in Northeast Nebraska, and over 15 million as a network across the country with immediately needed services such as shelter and food, and also long-term solutions like education and budgeting."

Community Action Agencies serve 99 percent of all American counties with life-changing services to help



families achieve financial stability. All agencies are locally controlled and represented by the private, public, and low-income sectors of the community.

"We are proud of our community's participation in the development and oversight of our programs," said Snyder. "Their engagement helps us to be more effective in our approach by determining what Northeast Nebraska needs."

NENCAP is a member of the National Community Action Partnership and the Community Action Network, which was born out of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964.

NENCAP serves clients with programs such as: Head Start, Early Head Start, WIC, Immunization, Family Families, Weatherization, Family Services, free tax preparation, car seat programs, Veteran Services, Commodity Supplemental Food Program and food pantries.

NENCAP's mission statement is, "People helping people: empowering individuals, strengthening families and enriching communities in Northeast Nebraska." The agency can be contacted at 1-800-445-2505. Additional information can be found at nencap.org.

USDA Service Centers open for business by phone appointment only

The Wayne County USDA Service Center will continue to be open for business by phone appointment only, and field work will continue with appropriate social distancing. While program delivery staff will continue to come into the office, they will be working with producers by phone and using online tools whenever possible.

USDA Service Centers are encouraging visitors to take precautionary measures to help prevent the spread of coronavirus. All Service Center customers wishing to conduct business with the Farm Service Agency, Natural Resources Conservation Service or any other

Service Center agency are required to call to receive services through a phone appointment.

Farm Service Agency: (402) 375-2453 extension 2

Natural Resources Conservation Service: (402) 375-2453 extension 3

Online services are available to customers with an eAuth account, which provides access to the farmers.gov portal, various FSA online services and the NRCS Conservation Client Gateway. Through the farmers.gov portal, producers can view USDA farm loan information and payments and view and track certain USDA program applications

and payments. On the FSA website, customers with an eAuth account can enroll in certain programs and access maps and farm data through FSAfarm+. Online NRCS services are available to customers through the Conservation Client Gateway where customers can track payments, report completed practices, request conservation assistance, and electronically sign documents. Customers who do not already have an eAuth account can enroll at farmers.gov/sign-in.

For the most current updates on available services and Service Center status visit farmers.gov/coronavirus.



(Contributed photo)

Pac N Save was named this year's 2020 Zero Hero, presented by the Wayne Green Team.

Wayne Green Team recognizes Pac N Save with Zero Hero award

The Wayne Green Team presented Pac N Save, a family-owned grocery store, with its Zero Hero award recognizing outstanding work in reducing, reusing and recycling within the community of Wayne.

Pac N Save rewards the environment and the community with its Bag Credit Donation Program. For every bag a customer reuses, Pac N Save gives back \$0.05 to either take off the bill or donate to a designated community organization for the quarter.

Since Pac N Save started this bag credit donation program in September 2018, the results have been significant: over 44,000 bags have been reused, nearly 35,000

bag credits have been donated back, and more than \$1,700 have been donated to six community organizations and projects, including the Wayne Green Team, Haven House, Wayne Community Theatre, TeamMates, Wayne Elementary Playground, and the Wayne Food Pantry.

Although this program is on hold during the current coronavirus health guidelines, when it returns, the next recipient for the bag credit donation will be the Wayne Public Library's Summer Reading Program.

Pac N Save also supports other zero waste efforts, such as selling milk in reusable glass bottles, providing a public recycling bin for

many kinds of plastic bags, and recycling its own cardboard.

Pac N Save's bag credit donation program makes a difference in reducing waste, encouraging sustainable behavior, and giving back to our community. The Wayne Green Team thanks Pac N Save for being a leader in Zero Waste in Wayne.

Founded in 2009, the Wayne Green Team is a group of community volunteers, city personnel and Wayne State College partners focused on minimizing waste and increasing sustainable behavior. Find more information about the Wayne Green Team on Facebook and at cityofwayne.org/greenteam.

Two vehicle accident in Dixon County claims one life

At approximately 1:30 p.m. on Saturday (April 18) the Dixon County Sheriff's Office received a report of a two-vehicle accident with injuries on Highway 20 near mile marker 404 in rural Allen.

A Ford Mustang with one occupant was traveling east on Highway 20 and collided with a westbound Ford F150 with two occupants. The F150 caught fire as a result of the collision and caused a small grass fire near the accident.

Both occupants of the Ford F150, Benjamin Galvin, 53, and Terrie Galvin, 48, of rural Laurel, were wearing seat belts and were transported to Mercy Medical Center with serious injuries.

The driver of the Ford Mustang, Rodney Bressler, 66, of Winstang, was unrestrained and was pronounced dead at the scene.

The accident is still under in-

vestigation by the Dixon County Sheriff's Office and Nebraska State Patrol.

Allen Fire and Rescue, Wakefield Fire and Rescue, Dixon Fire and Rescue, Martinsburg Fire and First Responders, Wings One Helicopter, Life Net Helicopter, Dixon County Sheriff's Office, and Nebraska State Patrol all responded to the accident and fire.

Wayne woman arrested in Stanton County

According to a press release from the Stanton County Sheriff's office, on the afternoon of April 18, at about 3:30 p.m. the Stanton County Sheriff's office stopped a vehicle on Hwy 57 south of Stanton, for driving left of center after receiving complaints the vehicle was being operated erratically. The driver of the vehicle Patricia Lewis, 62, of Wayne was found to be in possession of methamphetamine, hydrocodone and marijuana and drug paraphernalia.

Lewis was placed under arrest and booked on those charges and is scheduled to appear in court in June.

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Council

From Page 1A

think you are putting the cart before the horse. You don't have a plan for the lagoon area and this area is near the treatment plant. Because it is flat, it would be an ideal area for industrial growth." Council members Brodersen and Matt Eischeid said they did not think the area near the Rugby Fields was a good area for industrial businesses as those using the area would have to go through residential areas.

was approved for Michelle Hammer, dba the Broken Antler for a Class C Liquor License. Hammer told the council she has worked at the Broken Antler for approximately eight years and plans to purchase the business.

Resolution 2020-22 was approved. It involves an addendum to the inter local agreement to share law enforcement resources with the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges (Wayne State College).

Because Wayne State ended in-person classes on March, the

college was requesting a reduction in the payments made to the city for law enforcement services at the college.

Bob Ensz, representing the Wayne Rotary Club, presented information to the council on a plan to install a permanent ping pong table at College View Park near the old swimming pool.

Ensz said the Rotary Club would pay for the ping pong table and cement pad for securing the 350 lb. table and would like the city to install it.

Parks and Recreation Director Lowell Heggemeyer said he felt the College View Park would be a good location as the city needs to get rid of the slide that is currently there. He reviewed the information on the ping pong table and said there should be no problem with the city staff installing it.

Council members approved pay applications and change orders in connection with the Wayne Emergency Lift Station Repair Project.

A payment of \$92,299 to Hawkins Construction Company was approved, as was a payment of \$9,617.69 to Rain for Rent.

A change order for the project resulted in a check for \$694.00 also being written to Rain for Rent. This amount is a deduct from the original amount of \$978 and cost to the city was further reduced by the fact the firm sent a check to the city for \$205 for work the city had done in connection with the project.

Bids have been received for the Community Activity Center Walking Track Repair/Restoration Project.

Discussion included whether the council would rather patch several areas or restore one, larger section of the trail that would include these areas and additional track area.

The bid to Dynamic Sports Construction, Inc. from Leander, Texas was approved for \$50,591.84 for the larger project. Work is expected to begin in May.

City Administrator Blecke gave an update on the COVID-19 pandemic in the city of Wayne. He said a Task Force meets every Wednesday to discuss updates and ensure all local entities are doing the same thing in regard to the pandemic. He also said that at the present time, the city still plans to leave the parks open and open the swimming pool at some point.

Mayor Cale Giese encouraged council members to continue to shop locally and ask business owners what services they are providing. He also asked council members to reach out to others who, during this time of social distancing, may not be able to use their normal systems of support.

In other action, the council approved the appointment of Bob Ensz to the Civil Service Commission. He will replace Galen Wiser on the Commission.

Mayor Giese read a proclamation in regard to Friday, April 24 being designated Arbor Day in the state of Nebraska.

Reappointments to the Planning Commission and the year the term will expire included Breck Giese (2021), Pat Melena (2021), Jessie Piper (2022), Jason Schultz (2022), Matt Jones (2023), Cory Sandoz (2023) and Nick Hochstein (2023).

The council will next meet in regular session on Tuesday, May 5 at 5:30 p.m.



(Photo by Kevin Peterson)

Kinney plays perfect shot

Bill Kinney recorded Wayne Country Club's first hole-in-one this season as he aced the number three hole, a 135-yard par three with a five-iron. It was Kinney's second career hole-in-one but first in Wayne. Witnesses included Dick Hitchcock, Gene Claussen and Joey Baldwin who happened to be playing hole number two when he saw the shot on hole three.



(Photo by Sarah Lentz)

ACE is open for business

ACE Hardware in Wayne finally opened its doors to customers on April 15. While some shelves are yet to be filled, shoppers flocked to the store for shopping opportunities that have been missing in the community.



(Photo by Clara Osten)

Giving their time

Several members of the Wayne Ambassadors, along with volunteers from churches and other organizations, took time out of their day last week to help hand out boxes of food. Wayne was one of 11 locations employees of Michael Foods distributed the boxes, which included several different types of potatoes and egg products to anyone in need.

Wakefield community 'lights up' to recognize seniors, health care workers

The Wakefield community gathered together on April 17 to celebrate the Wakefield Community Schools class of 2020 and the town's health care workers by turning on the lights of the baseball field for 20 minutes and 20 seconds. Cars were encouraged to drive through Graves Park and honk their horns in honor of the two groups.

Wakefield secondary principal Matt Farup said he was inspired

to organize the event after seeing other schools doing similar things around the state. For he and his staff, it helped ease some of the sting from having to end classroom instruction early.

"We're trying to hold things together, academically and give our kids good learning opportunities, but the thing we miss the most is recognizing our kids," Farup said.

While the end of the year usually means fun activities and taking time to recognize students for their many achievements, the informal drive through the park allowed the seniors to see that their teachers and administration are still thinking about them.

"I think it was a t good idea just to let, especially the class of 2020 know, that we haven't forgotten about them," Farup said. "We care for them we miss them immensely. We didn't think we could even miss kids that much but we miss them we also know that this is tough on them."

Farup said prior to school buildings shutting down the senior class was busy planning things like graduation, award ceremonies and the Senior Day Away. Farup said he and his staff feel for the students and all the missed activities and missed time the class of 2020 will have.

"My biggest concern is they're home alone or they're home and thinking that we forgot about them, or we have turned the page and we're looking forward to next year," Farup said. "We are but, we still have some things to wrap up and we want to make sure these kids know how much we care for them."

Wakefield's class of 2020 has 32 students who will have some sort of graduation ceremony, though what

type is still up in the air. There was also an honorary member of the class, an exchange student who had to cut her trip early.

The school is still actively working to ensure that students get to experience some of those end-of-year traditions even if they have to experience them in a new way.

"We're still gonna reward and award some of those great performances and great achievements for our kids," Farup said.

The senior class will also receive yard signs to celebrate the fact that they are graduating even if the last part of the year's classes were held from home. In addition, Wakefield Community Schools is still trying to find a way to celebrate May 17, the original date for set for graduation.

"I don't know exactly the details, but May 17 was graduation and we don't want that day to go by without some kind of special recognition," Farup said. "Obviously we have to abide by the health measures we've been given but we want to do some celebration on the 17th."

The school also hopes to re-schedule some sort of graduation ceremony. All in all, Farup said he's not only proud of his students, he's proud of his staff as well.

"I'm very proud of my staff and very proud of the work they've done. We have some challenging decisions to make ahead, but I really believe my staff has continually provided our kids opportunities to continue to learn," Farup said. "We know this is not an ideal situation so we're trying to make the best of a bad situation and to minimize the damage. We know our kids are going to take a hit academically and emotionally, we just hope and pray that we get an opportunity to get them back soon."

Rolling Hills Supply



Golden Harvest Seed & Chemical

Staunch II
\$36.75 gal

Volley ATZ NXT
\$22.50 gal

Atrazine 4l
\$10.00 gal

Grazon NXTHL
\$41.25

Contact: Sam Blake
402-641-2107 • Carroll, NE
samghseed@yahoo.com

Wayne Area MEMBER SPOTLIGHT 4/20/2020

The Flower Cellar

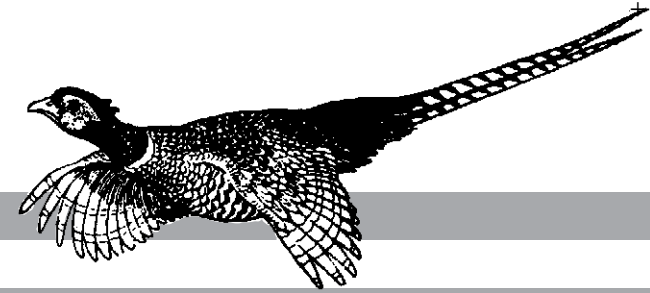


Who are they: Greta Smith, owner
What they offer: Fresh flowers, house plants, gifts and decor for all seasons. Delivery and curbside pick-up are available.
Location: 221 N Main Street

Check out the full videos online
waynenews.org and our social media

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Sports



WSC places 49 student athletes on NSIC Spring All-Academic Team

Wayne State College had 49 student-athletes named to the 2020 Northern Sun Conference All-Spring All-Academic Team announced Tuesday morning by the league office in Burnsville, Minn. For the second year, the NSIC will highlight the All-Academic Team members with a 3.60 grade point average or higher

with the NSIC All-Academic Team of Excellence Award and 30 of the 49 All-Academic selections from Wayne State College had a 3.60 GPA or higher.

To be eligible for the NSIC All-Academic Team of Excellence, a student-athlete must have a 3.60 cumulative GPA or higher, while NSIC All-Academic Team members must have a 3.20 cumulative GPA or higher. Additionally, the student-athlete must be a member of the varsity traveling team, have reached sophomore athletic and academic standing at her/his institution (true freshmen, red-shirt freshmen and ineligible athletic transfers are not eligible) and must have completed at least one full academic year at that institution.

The WSC men's and women's outdoor track and field team each had 15 selections followed by baseball with 12 honorees and softball received seven selections.

The following is a listing of Wayne State student-athletes named to the 2020 NSIC Spring All-Academic Teams:

*All-Academic Team of Excellence members



(Photo by Kevin Peterson)

Eischeid to play basketball at Briar Cliff

Tyrus Eischeid, Wayne High senior, signed to play basketball at Briar Cliff University on Wednesday. Tyrus is the son of Matt and Melissa Eischeid of Wayne and was joined by brother Cale during the event. He also was joined by multiple people watching signing including Briar Cliff mens coach Mark Svagera, Wayne coach Rob Sweetland, teammates and family on Zoom.

Walking - a perfect exercise during COVID-19 and beyond

By Karen Longe
Doctor of Physical Therapy
KEL Physical Therapy & Wellness

Most people know that physical therapists often recommend exercise as part of their treatment and wellness programs. What most people don't realize is how simple that exercise can be. Instead of complicated workouts, heavy weightlifting or running for miles, physical therapists often surprise people when they recommend walking.

While it seems like an easy exercise, walking still has powerful health benefits. Walking 30 minutes a day, three times a week, has been shown to improve cardiovascular endurance and reduce blood pressure and weight. Lots of people are using activity trackers and apps to track steps during their daily activities, and this too has been shown to have benefits. These include reducing disability and pain associated with conditions like knee osteoarthritis.

While many people aim for 10,000 steps per day, research shows that as little as 6,000 steps a day can reduce pain and disability while boosting cardiovascular health.

If you're thinking about starting a regular walking program or just increasing the amount of walking you do throughout the day, it's important that you do it the right

way. The general recommendation for building any physical activity is to take whatever amount of the activity you do in a week and increase it by five percent or less per week. A good general starting place would be 3,000 steps per day, and an example program following the five percent rule might look like this:

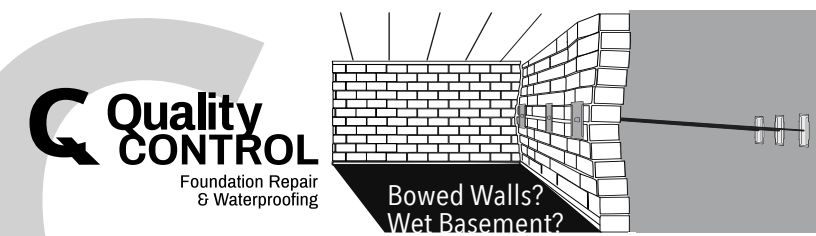
- Week 1: 3,000 steps (1.5 miles)
- Week 2: 3,150 steps
- Week 3: 3,300 steps
- Week 4: 3,500 steps (1.75 miles)
- Week 5: 3,750 steps
- Week 6: 4,000 steps (2 miles)
- Week 7: 4,200 steps
- Week 8: 4,500 steps (2.25 miles)
- Week 9: 4,800 steps
- Week 10: 5,000 steps (2.5 miles)
- Week 11: 5,250 steps
- Week 12: 5,500 steps (2.75 miles)
- Week 13: 5,800 steps
- Week 14: 6,000 steps (3 miles)

If you're not sure if you're ready to walk the recommended 6,000 steps a day, you can always meet with a physical therapist for a review of your medical history and baseline testing to find out what a safe level for you to start at would be. A physical therapist can also help you design a program to safely meet your goals. During the COVID-19 outbreak, virtual online sessions can be scheduled with your physical therapist from the comfort

and safety of your home or office.

One last thing to consider is footwear. Although walking is less stressful than running, it's still important to take care of your feet. Shoes designed for running work well to cushion and support your feet when walking too. If you need help picking the right pair, a physical therapist can help and so can the staff at a good specialty running store.

Karen Longe, Doctor of Physical Therapy, is the founder of KEL Physical Therapy & Wellness in Wayne. She enjoys helping people get back to activities that they love to do NATURALLY using her manual therapy skills, dry needling, powerful education and instruction in corrective exercises. She is passionate about educating and provides monthly workshops open to all. For more information on her services contact her via phone at (402) 999-4564, Karen@KEL-PTwell.com, or visit KEL-PTwell.com or her business Facebook page.



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Softball:

Ashley Hernandez*; Maddie Moser*; Makenna Adkison; Kortney Buresh*; Michaela Smith; Kamryn Sparks; Kim Vidlak

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- No passengers are allowed at any time.
- No more than five people in a playing group.
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- Use the bucket of bleach/water by the rental cart area to wipe down the cart you use before you play and upon completion of play.
- Use your social distancing (6-feet) between you and your playing partners at all times during play.
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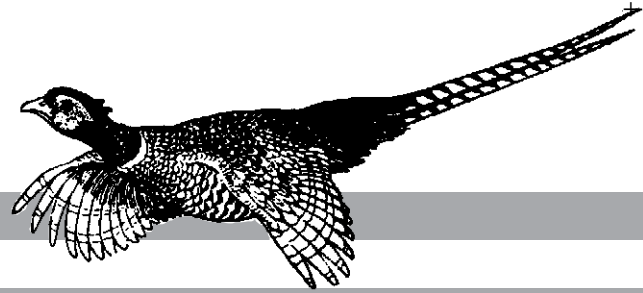
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MORE HELP WANTEDS ON PAGE 3B

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Opinion



Bon Appetite

By MIKE RENNING
mikesportshome@yahoo.com

Looking back over the years I have experienced a lot of different foods.

Some were to see if you could keep them down, some were to win a bet and some were – you didn't want to be the person who didn't try it.

My Father-in-Law, who has since passed away, and I used to find trouble together frequently.

After I married the Darling Wife in Kadoka, South Dakota, we became pretty good buddies.

We would hunt, fish and get in the aforementioned trouble frequently – I guess I said that.

On one occasion, the Darling Wife and my Mother-in-Law were going to a family reunion in Aberdeen, South Dakota.

Get out your map and draw a straight line between Kadoka and Aberdeen – can't do it.

Clifford, my Father-in-Law called me 10 minutes after his wife left and asked me what I was doing for the weekend.

My plans, and evidently his plans, were to avoid the family reunion.

We went fishing in Chamberlain for the weekend and this was before cell phones, so we had no worries... until we went home on Sunday.

We did catch some fish and we certainly caught more than that when we arrived home.

At any rate, back to the food.

I have eaten rattlesnake, alligator, turtle, turtle dove, fish eggs, rabbit, squirrel, eel, octopus, freshwater eel (burbot) – the list could go on and on.

The common response to trying different foods is, "It tastes like chicken."

I'll address the above list one at a time until I run out of space or energy.

Rattlesnake tastes like bone – not a lot of meat and it takes on the taste of whatever you bread it with and don't plan on that for a meal. Does not taste like chicken.

Alligator is like a tough shrimp with a muddy aftertaste.

My Father-in-Law brought some back from Florida and we baked some, breaded some and boiled some – have plenty of potatoes when you make alligator.

Turtle is absolutely nasty.

Cliff and I caught a big snapping turtle once and by the time we had it cleaned it looked as though we had butchered a cow or committed a crime.

We would learn later how to clean a turtle, but it didn't matter – it was still nasty.

We tried turtle soup, fried turtle, breaded and fried turtle – awful.



I was in charge of frying the turtle and I am sure the meat started moving in the pan as it heated up.

Tougher than a boot and tasted like you cleaned a boot on a boot jack and fried the turtle in that... concoction.

Turtle Dove is delightful.

I have a recipe for a casserole and still make it to this day – I have just become a little inept at shooting the little bas...er fast flying morsels.

Fish eggs straight from the fish or "roe" is awful.

Like paste and mud. Muddy paste.

Rabbit and squirrel? Yikes – again, not chicken and I don't like chicken.

We decided to get the smoker out one day and my Daughter-in-Law, Stephanie shot a rabbit because my son Mason was going to show how he learned to skin them on YouTube without the use of a knife.

The skinning was impressive, but we found bugs underneath the skin.

I knew the bugs would cook away, and I didn't want to waste the meat, so we smoked it.

Bugs, no bugs; smoke, no smoke; it tasted like...well it didn't taste like chicken.

Squirrel? Forget it. I suppose if you added a couple of gallons of mushroom soup, 12 onions and 10 pounds of potatoes – you could get past the squirrel.

Octopus was in Hawaii and I'm sure the native Hawaiian who recommended the slug is still laughing.

It was like eating cartilage and snot all at the same time regardless of preparation.

The eel was actually pretty good if you dipped it in butter.

Here's the rub, have fun gathering your food, don't waste it and take a lot of advice on preparing it.

Tolerance is a must...or hunger.

Capitol View

Happy Earth Day America, here in Nebraska we're acting like 'What Pandemic?'

By J.L. SCHMIDT
Statehouse Correspondent
The Nebraska Press Association

At this writing, there is still no mandatory "shelter-in-place" restriction in Nebraska, one of nine states to enjoy such "freedom."

Just as I was about to laud Governor Pete Ricketts for his transparency in doing an afternoon COVID-19 news briefing five days a week to keep Nebraskans informed about the burgeoning pandemic, the Governor gets a letter from 45 doctors in Grand Island begging him to shut down the state.

Yes, these front-line medical professionals want the state's elected Chief Executive to go beyond the "medical directive" which covers all 93 counties and requires restaurants to serve take-out only and other businesses to limit crowds to 10 or fewer and for everyone to practice social distancing. No mention of why the other states, representing most of the nation's population, must be wrong and Nebraska is right.

It's obviously about state's rights and Ricketts is obviously preening to be the poster boy for that movement. But I'm not sure why, given that he's in his second term as governor and doesn't appear to be running for any higher office – yet. Both Nebraska Senators and all three members of Congress are already Republicans, so there's no opening there.

It's been joked about for several years that Rickett's father, Joe, the founder of the recently sold TD Ameritrade, wants his kid to be President of the United States. Who knows, maybe Pete wants that too and figures a presidential appointment – assuming the Republican incumbent wins reelection – would be his best ticket to the top.

Legislative Update

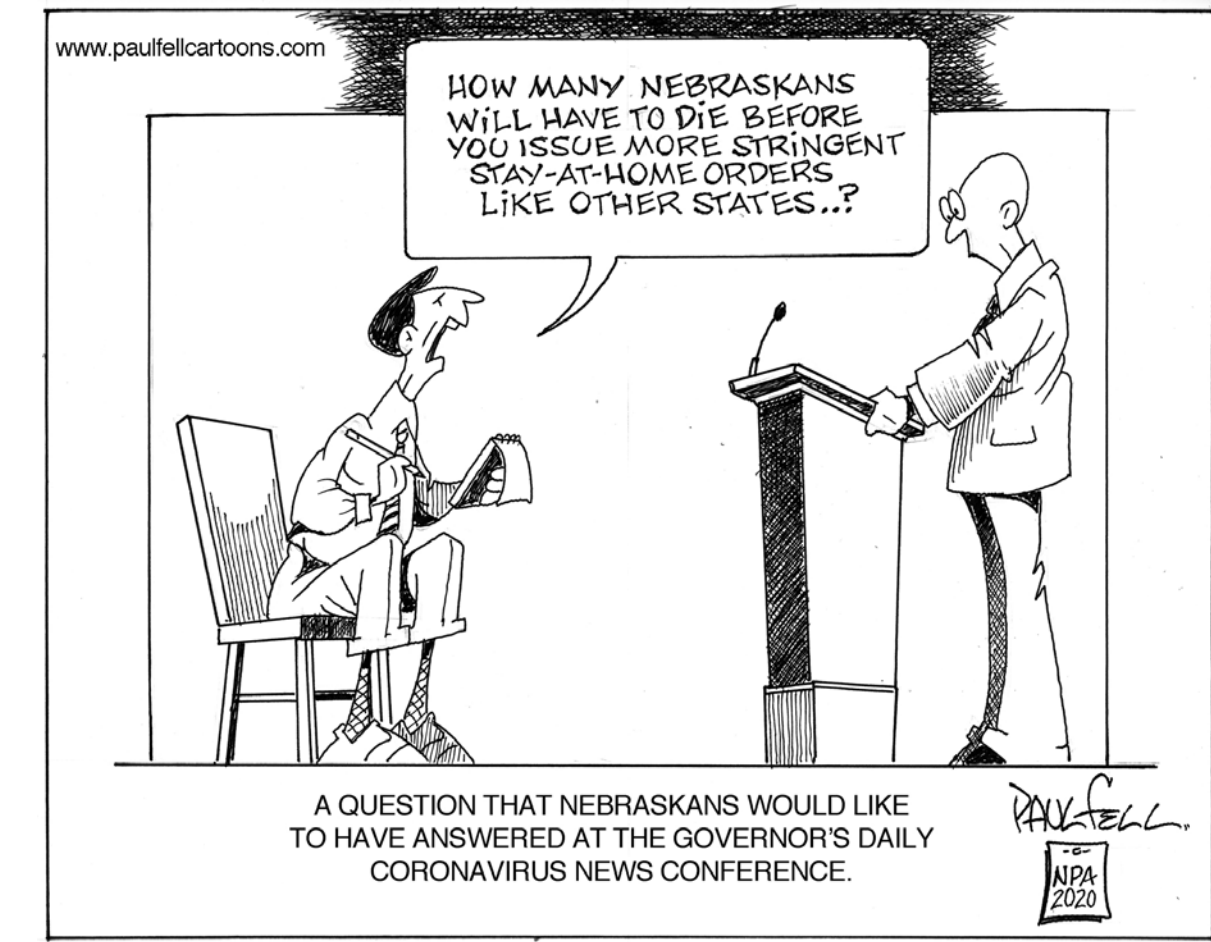
Patience is key to 'Stay Home Stay Healthy'

Patience is key as we wait to hear about re-opening Nebraska and the nation. So many changes to lifestyles throughout Nebraska and across the U.S. have resulted in harm to our economy, our agricultural goals and challenges to daily work and family life. Though the virus is still with us, it appears we have worked together through hopefully the worst of it. On April 16, the President announced his three-part plan for re-opening America. True to the 10th Amendment and common sense, the President provided the outline of a plan while recognizing the importance of placing leadership with the reopening with governors who know their states.

COVID-19 UPDATES: By Friday, April 24, Nebraska will be at Day 15 of the Governor's 21-day Stay Home and Stay Healthy request for Nebraska residents. Over the weekend, my office was notified that there was a total of 66 cases in Dakota County as of April 18. There was a false alarm over the weekend, but my office has confirmed that as of that date there was also one case in Wayne County. No cases have been reported in Thurston County. For update on the national numbers, go to covid.gov/covid19 click on CASES in the US.

WORK IN WASHINGTON and The CARES Act

Our federal delegation in Washington, D.C., continues to



He's being strangely very political in a time of national crisis when people want leadership over partisanship. As I said, I was about to praise the Governor for being a leader and a great communicator. I don't like the fact that he talks too fast and appears a bit too arrogant and condescending behind the podium. But he has been surrounding himself with the right state officials and getting some good information out there.

Sadly, we come back around to the refusal to order a "shelter-in-place" directive while the numbers of new cases and deaths increases exponentially. Questioned on it,

by doctors and reporters, Ricketts clings to what is already in place as working for Nebraska. "One size doesn't fit all," he says.

But, most caskets are the same size, Governor. I would think that having the opportunity to prevent just one Nebraskan from being in one of those caskets would be a laudable goal.

So what does a sunny pandemic Sunday afternoon look like in my neighborhood? People and kids and their pets out in the yard, playing games and visiting and washing their cars in the driveway. Darned few of them wearing masks.

As I drove down the street with

my windows up on my way to pick up curbside carry-out at a local restaurant where I would be greeted by a gloved and masked worker, I didn't bother to count to see if there were no more than 10 people in a group and if they were all six-feet apart. I just saw people acting like everything is all right and there is no big health thing that is killing thousands of Americans. And I saw germs, lots of germs and a clear path to spreading them.

Is that on us? Or the people who lead us? Or both?

Wash your hands, Nebraska. Wear a mask in public and don't touch your face!



Legislative Update
By Joni Albrecht
State Senator, District 17

Senate and the White House are working for additional funding to help businesses stay at the ready for reopening.

Meanwhile, some funding for farmers and ranchers has moved more slowly and it is my understanding that members of the Nebraska federal delegation, along with leadership from the Farm Bureau, the State Chamber and others, have been working to facilitate more funding options and disbursement of aid.

As cattle producers we are aware, the CCC does not have a "cattle" provision included with provisions for crops, dairy and pork. However, the Secretary of Agriculture, Sonny Perdue and the USDA received an additional \$9.5 billion as part of the CARES Act that can be disbursed for specialty crops, farm-to-market programs and livestock. In further support of agricultural producers,

the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) has extended its emergency declaration that provides relief from certain rules or drivers in order to keep the food supply chain moving as smoothly as possible.

Additionally, the secretary has informed us that the federal government will purchase the excess milk and other products about which many are concerned in order to aid producers and struggling food banks, families, and/or food distribution centers. The products will be purchased by the government and distributed to meet community needs through appropriate organizations.

For more information about the USDA authority under the CARES Act, go to USDA.gov and/or farmer.gov. To see the declaration regarding the Motor Carrier Safety Regulations, go online to: fmsca.dot.gov/emergency/expanded-emergency-declaration-under-49-cfr-ss-39023-no-2020-002-relating-covid-19

Remember, the deadline for sending in your request for absentee ballots is May 1.

My husband and I are grateful to count our family among so many in District 17 and other Nebraska farmers and ranchers who work every day to feed the world.

As always, I invite you to let me know your thoughts, ideas, concerns, or suggestions by contacting me at jalbrecht@leg.ne.gov or by calling my office at (402) 471-2716.

Letters Welcome

Letters from readers are welcome. They should be timely, brief (no longer than one type-written page, double spaced) and must contain no libelous statements. We reserve the right to edit or reject any letter.

Letters published must have the author's name, address and telephone number. The author's name will be printed with the letter; the address and the telephone number will be necessary to confirm the author's signature.

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Contact me with concerns from classified ads to editorial

Letters

Dear Editor,

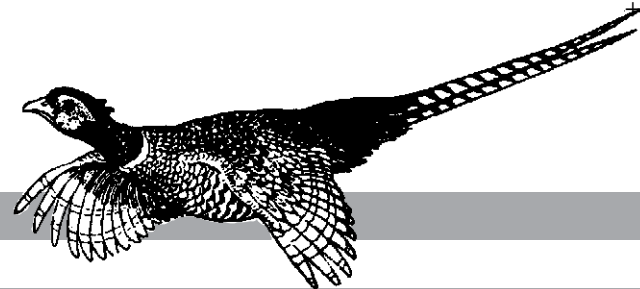
Thank you to the Wayne Herald for publishing "The Easter Story from the King James Bible," beginning with The Last Supper and continuing through the Resurrection and Ascension.

How very appropriate at this time of turmoil and stress in our country.

The headline in the Wayne Herald about three weeks ago "God! Our Only Answer to the Coronavirus" had it so right!

Clara Heinemann

Lifestyle



Finding comfort in a changing world School Lunches

By Dr. Michelle Krehbiel
Nebraska Extension 4-H Youth Development

"I don't like this!" This statement is one that children or youth might use during a heated game, when being asked to correct unwanted behavior or when plans change. For those children and youth who were looking forward to milestones like

field days, end of school year celebrations, prom, or graduation, they have reason to believe that life can be sad, frustrating, and difficult.

The question is how do we, as nurturing adults, help young people cope with these emotions and equip them with the skills they need to be caring, connected, and capable adults?

Any loss for a child or youth,

such as a failing an exam, death of a pet, changes in family structure, or events from a disaster, can lead to a wide variety of feelings such as disappointment, sadness, loneliness, or anger. These feelings are common reactions to such experiences.

As caring adults, we can do the following to help young people cope.

- Acknowledge feelings and allow youth to talk about their feelings and concerns. Let youth know that it is okay to be sad, scared or confused. Identifying and naming a feeling can be very helpful in trying to understand and make meaning of a situation.

- Be a calm and reassuring presence. Remind youth that over time things will get better.

- Help youth form positive coping skills by setting a healthy example of how to manage feelings like grief, anxiety, fear, or sadness. Teach young people that exercising, meditation, writing in a journal, engaging in a favorite hobby like art, cooking, gardening or sewing are healthy ways to work through disappointment, loss, and grief.

- Expressing gratitude for things that make life enjoyable is another way teach positive coping skills.

- Create an environment where youth can interact with their peers. Using video conferencing, having telephone conversations, or writing letters are ways of connecting with peers. These connections can be helpful ways to provide emotional support for youth, especially for adolescents.

- Simply, listen. If ever youth need adults to listen, it is now. Being able to talk about an experience can support making meaning of a situation which is an important part of grieving. Remember you don't have to have all the answers. Silence is okay. Youth just need to know you care.

Sometime life can be difficult, unfair, and painful. While adults cannot prevent or change all of these experiences, they can play a significant role in helping young people cultivate and practice skills that give them the ability to develop

resiliency or the ability to overcome hardship.

The Center on the Developing Child at Harvard University recommends that adults build supportive adult-child relationships as a way to strengthen a young person's resiliency. Taking the time to listen and communicate with young people, being a positive example of healthy coping skills, and simply just being a calming reassuring presence are action steps that adults can implement now. As adults, let's take the time to prepare young people to become caring, connected and capable adults.

For more information and resources about youth social emotional development in difficult times can be found at disaster.unl.edu/families or by contacting your local county Nebraska Extension office.

Senior Center Congregate Meal Menu

(Week of April 27 — May 1)
The Wayne Senior Center is closed to the public for all in-house dining and social activities. Senior Center staff will still be providing Meals on Wheels and curb-side pickup meal service for noon meals. Please call the Senior Center staff at (402) 375-1460 for details or email them at srcenter@cityofwaynecore.org. Staff will be available between 7 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Monday: Turkey tetrazzini, Italian peas, deviled eggs, biscuit, strawberry shortcake.

Tuesday: Chili soup with crackers, honey cornbread, celery & carrot sticks, apricot salad.

Wednesday: Fish sandwich on homemade bun, au gratin potatoes, pea salad with egg & cheese, pears.

Thursday: Creamed chicken over biscuit, broccoli with cheese sauce, cranberry salad, cherry chocolate cake.

ALLEN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS (April 20 — 24)

Contact the school at (402) 635-2484 or send an email to ssullivan1@allenschools.org by 8:30 a.m. for lunch. Lunch will be available to pick up between noon and 12:30 p.m. Drivers that are delivering lunches will leave the school at noon.

LAUREL-CONCORD-COLERIDGE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

(April 27 — May 1)

LCC School is offering a modified school lunch service to all interested families, regardless of income and at no cost, throughout the school closure period.

Those eligible for meal service include all students enrolled at LCC School, as well as any children (ages 18 and younger) living in the household. Lunch ordering procedures: Parent/Guardian must complete and submit the Lunch Order Form for EACH meal delivery service day. The link to the Lunch Order Form is available on the school district website. Phone orders may be made at (402) 256-3113 (Option 4).

Monday, April 27: Breaded chicken sandwich.

Tuesday, April 28: Orange chicken.

Wednesday, April 29: Hot dog.

Thursday, April 30: Breaded pork sandwich.

Friday, May 1: Peanut butter & jelly sandwich.

Meals include main entree, vegetable, fruit and milk.

WAKEFIELD SCHOOLS (April 20 — 24)

The School District will make breakfast and lunch meals available to students under the age of 18 through the school lunch program. There will be no charge for the meals.

School lunch menus for the week will be posted on the school website. Both meal offerings (breakfast and lunch) will be available for pick-up between 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Drive up to the circle drive and a staff member will deliver them to your vehicle. If you are unable to get to the school and need a meal delivered to you, contact Dawn Lubberstedt at

the school (402-287-2012) and meals will be delivered.

In an attempt to contain costs and control waste, families are asked to submit a meal order form for each day of the week that a meal is needed. There will be a link to the School Lunch Program order form posted on the School's webpage. Requests for lunch and breakfast meals should be made before 3 p.m. the day before the meals are to be available. Requests for Monday meals need to be made on Fridays.

Note: There will be no breakfast or lunch service on Monday, April 13 as that was not a scheduled school day.

WAYNE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS and ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY (April 20 — 24)

A free grab and go lunch is available at the Wayne Junior Senior High School (east door to the commons area), the Wayne Early Learning Center (801 Providence Road) and at the Carroll Community Center each school day from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. These will include a breakfast item for the next day.

WINSIDE PUBLIC SCHOOLS (April 20 — 24)

Grab and go lunches are available for any child, up to 18 years of age each school day. The meal will include a breakfast item for the next day. Please have daily orders in to Mrs. Magwire by 9 a.m. that day. Contact her at cmagwire@winsidewildcats.org or by phone at (402) 286-4466. Lunches will be available at the school in Winside from 11 a.m. to 12 and in Hoskins and at Woodland Park from noon to 12:30 p.m.

Monday, April 20: Taco salad and fixings, fruit cup, Churro.

Tuesday, April 21: Chicken nuggets, fresh vegetables, fresh fruit, breadstick.

Wednesday, April 22: Barbecue rib on bun, carrots, fruit cup, chips, cookie.

Thursday, April 23: Beef quesadilla, fresh vegetables, fresh fruit, tortilla chips, cheese sauce.

Friday, Hamburger on bun, fresh vegetables, fruit cup, chips, cookie.

Cruise Main in Wayne is hosting a "Last Day of School Cruise for WHS Seniors" Friday, May 1st at 7:00

May 1st is the last day of school for Seniors. Seniors should meet in the HS parking lot in their vehicles at 6:40. At 7:00 they will drive out of the parking lot and head east on 7th Street, take a right on Main Street, turn around at Victor Park, and head north on Main to complete their Cruise. After the Seniors have all passed, the rest of the community is invited to join in the Cruise Night. This event is to help commemorate their last day. So honk your horns and wave as the Seniors take to the streets. Please remember to follow social distancing guidelines.

National Healthcare Volunteer Appreciation Week

Life's most persistent and urgent question is, What are you doing for others?
-Martin Luther King Jr.

Ann Witkowski 2 years	Mary Ann Wemhoff 29 years
Anne Marie Thies 29 years	Nancy Abts 17 years
Betty Dahlquist 6 years	Nichole Shuthies 8 years
Bev Ruwe 31 years	Paulette Tietz 30 years
Carol Clark 6 years	Phyllis Nelson 17 years
Carol Dunning 7 years	Ray Schutte 8 years
Dorothy Wert 17 years	Roselena Maxson 6 years
Jim Recob 2 years	Sharon Kneifl 10 years
Judy Nemeck 16 years	Sherie Lundahl 2 years
Linda Young 8 years	Sherri Lundahl 2 years
Madge Bruflat 18 years	Twila Wiltse 24 years
Margaret McClelland 33 years	Cynthia Strawn 2 years
Martey Stewart 17 years	Gary Weddel 2 years
Mary Ann Christensen 6 years	Madison Burgard 2 years

PMC wants to thank our Hospice Volunteers for all they do for our patients.

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You're Not Alone

Together, we can stop the spread of COVID-19

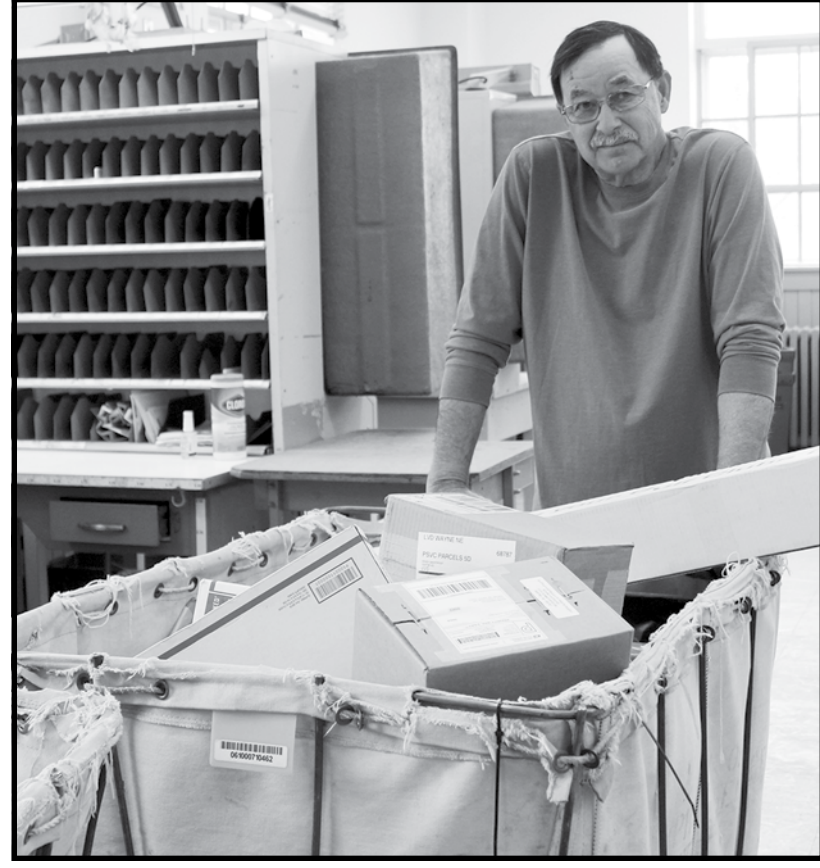
We will overcome this health crisis together, neighbors helping neighbors and caring first for those most in need. It's this spirit that has always defined who we are as a community.

The more you can remain at home, the better chance we have to serve those who need help most. Stay in. Avoid the spread. And we'll be here helping our neighbors who are most vulnerable. As different as life may feel right now, one thing will always remain the same: our commitment to provide this community with the quality care you've always trusted.

(Photo by Clara Osten)

Fifty years and counting

As of April 15, Terry Karel has been employed by the United States Postal Service as a mail carrier in Wayne for 50 years. Karel said that when he started delivering mail, a stamp cost five cents and there were penny post cards. The Wayne native began his postal career after serving two years in the military during the Vietnam era. Co-workers at the post office congratulated Karel on this milestone and celebrated with treats before Karel began his route, just as he has for half a century.



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Rod and Claire Brogren will be celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary on Friday, April 24th.

Since we can't gather on this happy occasion their children, Doree (Craig), Matt (Lori), Ryan (Keri), and Nick (Haley) and grandchildren would like to shower them with cards and make their day special!

No need to go to the store. Handwritten notes and handmade cards are treasured as is your safety. Well wishes can be sent to: 56687 853rd Rd Winside, NE 68790

Pender Community Hospital

402-385-3033

For updates on COVID-19
PenderCommunityHospital.com
or www.cdc.gov

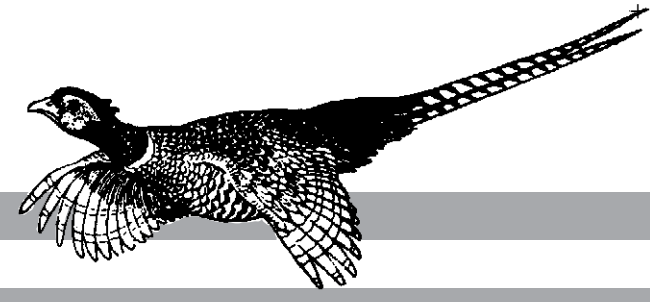
If you are experiencing any of these symptoms you should immediately self-quarantine.

- Fever of 100.4° or more
- Cough
- Shortness of breath

If you have increased respiratory distress or are symptomatic and considered high-risk call your medical provider.

Faith

The Wayne Herald



Church Services

Note: Please contact your church with the latest updates on service times, activities and other worship opportunities available.

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6:30 p.m. **Wednesday:** Newsletter inserting, 9 a.m. **Thursday:** Online Bible Study, 9 a.m.

GRACE LUTHERAN Missouri Synod
904 Logan
grace@gracewayne.com
(402) 375-1905
(Stephen Ministry cong.)
(Pastor Michael Buchhorn)
(Pastor Erik Christensen, associate pastor)
Due to the uncertain circumstances, there are no activities or services schedule. Please visit www.gracewayne.com for updates.

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES
Phone 375-2631 or 375-3427 for information

JOURNEY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
1110 East 7th St.
www.jccwayne.org.
375-4743

(Troy Reynolds, minister)
Sunday: Christians Hour on KTCH, 8:45 a.m.; Sunday School suspended until further notice; Worship, 9 and 10:30 a.m. online until further notice.

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN
421 Pearl St. • 375-2899
oslc@oslcwayne.org
Saturday: Wayne Food Truck, 10 to 11:30 a.m.; Worship service canceled until further notice. **Sunday:** Worship services at 10:30 a.m. canceled until further notice. Service will be broadcast on KTCH and TV and live video streamed on Facebook. **Monday - Friday:** All activities at the church are canceled until further notice.

PRAISE ASSEMBLY OF GOD
1000 East 10th St.
375-3430
Pastor Janel Norton,
Interim pastor
Wednesday: "No Limits Youth Ministry," 7 p.m.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC
412 East 8th St.
(Fr. Jeff Mollner, pastor)
375-2000; fax: 375-5782;
E-mail: parish@stmaryswayne.
Note: All Masses, religious education classes and other public gatherings have been suspended until further notice. The church will be open for prayer from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. **Saturday:** Confessions, 4 p.m. **Sunday:** Third Sunday of Easter; Mass on Facebook at 9 a.m.

Allen
FIRST LUTHERAN
Transitional Pastor Deb Valentine)
(402) 635-2461

In the midst of uncertainty, turn to God

It's incredible how much our lives have changed over the past few months!

"Normal Life", like Christmas, seems an eternity ago. Terms like "Corona Virus" and "Social Distancing" weren't even part of our vocabulary at the start of the year, yet they are now part of our common and collective conversation. Nurses, doctors, and other healthcare professionals serve on the front lines of a new kind of war: A war without borders that attacks indiscriminately. Teachers, professors, administrators, custodial staff, and food service workers in our schools and on college campuses are either figuring out how to teach their subjects online...or find themselves unable to work at all. Students no longer rush to lockers, classrooms, or recess; instead, they walk from the kitchen to the dining room for their daily studies. And tens of thousands of parents have become schoolteachers overnight.

In the midst of all this change is a sense of uncertainty, fear, or anxiety. Before COVID-19 became part of our daily lexicon, much of our comfort came in the form of our day-to-day activities, time spent in the company of others outside the home, and the consistency of our public institutions. But now we find ourselves unable to go to work,

502 S. Highway 9, Allen
Sunday: Worship Service canceled until further notice.

UNITED METHODIST (Pastor Cathy Cole)
Sunday: Worship service and Sunday School canceled until further notice.

Carroll
ST. PAUL LUTHERAN (William Engebretsen, vacancy pastor)
Sunday: Pastor available for communion from 8 to 8:45 a.m.

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
202 Ericson Street, Carroll
Pastor Nick Baker
Sunday: Third Sunday of Easter. Worship on Facebook Live, 11 a.m.

Concord
CONCORDIA LUTHERAN (Transitional Pastor Deb Valentine)
(402) 584-2467
616 Iowa Street, Concord
Sunday: Sunday School and Worship Service suspended until further notice.

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN East of town (Pastor Willie Bertrand)
Sunday: Worship service suspended until further notice.

EVANGELICAL FREE (Pastor Todd Thelen) (Pastor Scott Kahn)
Sunday: Sunday School and worship service suspended until further notice.

Dixon
ST. ANNE'S CATHOLIC (Fr. Jerry Connealy, pastor)
Note: All Masses, religious education classes and other public gatherings have been suspended until further notice.

Hoskins
PEACE EVANGELICAL CHURCH (Pastor Clark Jenkinson)
Sunday: Sunday School and Worship with Communion canceled until further notice.

TRINITY EVANG LUTHERAN (Rodney Rixe, pastor)
Sunday: Trinity Bible Hour and Worship suspended until further notice.

Wakefield
CHRISTIAN CHURCH
3rd & Johnson, P.O. Box 550

email:
WakefieldCC@Outlook.com
Contact - Melvin (Butch) Mortenson, (402) 369-1681
Pastor Kobey Mortenson
Sunday: Christian Hour, KTCH, 8:45 a.m.; Worship Service suspended until further notice.

EVANGELICAL COVENANT
802 Winter St.
e-mail: wakecov@msn.com
Jill Craig, Pastor
Sunday: Sunday School and Morning Worship suspended until further notice. **Wednesday:** Adult Bible Study canceled until further notice.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN
4 North, 3 East of Wayne
(Willie Bertrand, pastor)
Sunday: Divine Worship with Communion and Sunday School canceled until further notice. **Wednesday:** Confirmation canceled until further notice.

PRESBYTERIAN
216 West 3rd
(Rev. Charity Potter, pastor)
Sunday: Fellowship time and Worship suspended until further notice.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN
West 7th & Maple
(Willie Bertrand, pastor)
Sunday: Morning Worship canceled until further notice. **Wednesday:** Confirmation canceled until further notice.

SALEM LUTHERAN
411 Winter Street
(Patti Meyer, Pastor)
Saturday: Worship suspended until further notice. Food Pantry available from 10 to 11 a.m. **Sunday:** Worship service livestreamed, 10:30 a.m. All other activities suspended until further notice. **Wednesday:** No midweek groups until further notice.

Winside
ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN
218 Miner St.
(William Engebretsen, vacancy pastor)
Saturday: Worship sermons available on Facebook. **Sunday:** Pastor available for communion from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

TRINITY LUTHERAN (Parish Minister, Glenn Kietzmann)
Sunday: No Sunday School or worship service until further notice.

UNITED METHODIST
207 Jones Street
(Neil and Bridget Gately, Pastors)
Sunday: Worship on Facebook, 11 a.m.

A Word In Faith

Nick Baker
 Pastor, First United Methodist Church

to school, to church...even to the park. We may feel that we have lost a bit of freedom in it all; restricted in where we can go...when we can go there...and with whom we can spend time once we get there.

As we struggle with the difficulty of our current reality, one thing that never changes is that we find comfort in the hope of God. The Apostle Paul writes in 2 Corinthians 4:8-9 that "we are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed." He is referring to the early missionaries and preachers who began to spread the gospel message to the ends of the earth.

During their travels and teaching, they met with great adversity, danger, and even threat of death. They experienced pain and suffering,

ing, had periods of confusion or uncertainty, and were treated poorly and harassed.

Yet, they were neither defeated, nor lost hope. They continued to find comfort in God because He promised to never abandon them. Like these early disciples, we too can find comfort in the embrace of our Creator. Regardless of where we are, what we are doing, or how our lives change, He does not leave us, nor does He forsake us.

During this uncomfortable season of life where we don't always know what's next, may we find comfort in the arms and the hope of God.

Word in Faith is a collaboration of Wayne Association of Congregations and Ministers (WACAM), an organization partially funded by the Wayne United Way.

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Allen News

Callie Anderson
canderson@allenschools.org

ALLEN COMMUNITY CENTER NEWS

Weekly menu
Friday, April 24- Scrambled Eggs, Sausage Links, and Hash Browns
Monday, April 27- Pork Cutlets, Baked Potato, Carrots, and Pineapple
Tuesday, April 28- Runzas, Baked Beans, and Peaches
Wednesday, April 29- Scalloped Potatoes and Ham, Corn, and Applesauce

Birthdays
April 24- Richard Olesen
Anniversaries
April 24- Dwight and Ronnie Gotch
April 26- Roxie Sievers

ALLEN CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS NEWS

Update on school closure
New updates were added to the

website in the teacher tabs. Continue to support students in the learning opportunities that have been provided by the teachers. For any questions reach out to the students' teachers from 8-4 during normal school days.

Graduation
Graduation dates have been set. Saturday, June 27 will be the first opportunity for graduation. If a minimum of 100 people can attend Allen Consolidated Schools will host a graduation ceremony then. The deadline for determining if the school can hold the June graduation will be Monday, June 15. If they are not able to hold a ceremony with at least 100 people in attendance on June 27, the school will move the graduation ceremony to Saturday, Aug. 1. The deadline for determining if Allen Consolidated Schools can

hold the August graduation will be Monday, July 20. If they are unable to host 100 people in attendance on Aug. 1, they will hold some type of virtual ceremony instead of a traditional ceremony.

2020-21 class registration
Information on registering for classes for 2020-2021 school year will be coming out shortly. Mrs. Oswald will be working with students to get them registered for the proper classes.

Last day of school
At this time, the last day of school for Allen students will be the following:
• Seniors-May 1
• Elementary-May 14
• Secondary- May 15th
End of year check-in
Information regarding check-in for school materials such as books or

band instruments will also be coming out soon. Continue to check the update page on the website for this information.

Senior Spotlight
Check out the Allen Consolidated School Twitter page for special Senior Spotlights every few days. Search @SchoolsAllen There is also a live Twitter feed on the school's website, allenschools.org

School lunch during closure
Allen Consolidated School is continuing to offer free, "grab and go" lunches to students during the closure. Be sure to call the school by 8:30 a.m. each school day in order to reserve lunch. Those interested in lunch can also email the office at ssullivan1@allenschools.org
Diners must call or email the school every day that they request lunch.



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THIS DAY IN... HISTORY



- 837: HALLEY'S COMET MAKES ITS CLOSEST APPROACH TO EARTH.
- 1864: ARCHDUKE MAXIMILIAN OF HABSBURG IS PROCLAIMED EMPEROR OF MEXICO.
- 1912: THE R.M.S. TITANIC SETS SAIL FROM ENGLAND.

New Word

DEBIT

entry referring to a debt owed

Wayne Rotarians stay connected despite COVID-19

By Barbara Engebretsen

It is no small coincidence that the Rotary International Theme for this year is "Rotary Connects the World." As people everywhere are facing unprecedented challenges with this global pandemic, Rotarians in Wayne and beyond are gaining momentum by establishing a 'new normal' for weekly meetings, connecting friends, and community service.

Thanks to the leadership of President Gary Weddel, since March 25, meetings continue to be held by Zoom Conferencing every Wednesday morning from 7-8 a.m. CST, and have been averaging 15-25 members and guests each week. I point out our time zone because an unanticipated bonus of our Zoom meetings has allowed us to include Rotarians Dan and Kyle Rose from Florida, Paula Peterson from Georgia and Morris Anderson from Minnesota. We have also welcomed guest Rotarians from Norfolk and Omaha, as well Buey Tut, with whom Wayne schools and Rotarians have a long and treasured friendship.

Rotary Zoom meetings follow similar agendas as face-to-face, except

See Rotary, Page 4C

PEOPLE FACT:

EXPERTS SAY THAT PEOPLE SHOULD SAVE THIS PERCENTAGE OF THEIR EARNINGS.

ANSWER: 10 TO 20 PERCENT

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Bank
SPANISH: Banco
ITALIAN: Banca
FRENCH: Banque
GERMAN: Bank

Did you know?

ESTABLISHING A BUDGET AND ADHERING TO IT IS A GREAT WAY TO SAVE A LOT OF MONEY.

GET THE PICTURE?

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?
ANSWER: CREDIT CARD

Northeast Community College to hold virtual commencement ceremony this spring

The 47th annual Commencement Ceremony at Northeast Community College is going to look much different this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Leah Barrett, president, announced last week that the Spring 2020 commencement will still be held on Saturday, May 16, but it will be broadcast virtually.

"Northeast, like other colleges in the United States, must change its plans for its 2020 Commencement Ceremony. It must look much different to ensure the health and safety of you and your families and to abide by social distancing expectations during the pandemic," she said in a video message to students.

The virtual ceremony, which will recognize graduates from summer and fall 2019 and spring 2020, will air on Saturday, May 16, at 10 a.m., the same date and time as to

when the original event was to be held in the Cox Activities Center on the Northeast campus in Norfolk.

It will air on Northeast's television channel KHWK - cable channel 20, and livestreamed at team1sports.com/northeastcc/. After that date, the ceremony will be available on demand on the Northeast YouTube Channel.

Barrett said Northeast Community College desires to have the ceremony be special and meaningful for graduates and their family and friends.

"We encourage you to gather with your immediate family and ask your extended family and friends to join all of us virtually for this special occasion."

The virtual commencement ceremony will feature speakers representing the Board of Governors, faculty and students, followed by

recognition of graduates. Instead of walking across the stage as is customarily done during such events, graduates are encouraged to submit photos of themselves so they may be displayed when their names are read during the virtual ceremony.

In addition, Barrett said Northeast would still like to acknowledge this year's graduates in person when the time of social distancing is lifted.

"You are welcome to walk at any future Northeast Community Col-

lege Commencement Ceremony and be recognized - this could be in 2021, or when your sibling graduates, or when your children graduate from Northeast. This is life-long promise from us. We want you to experience this special moment."

"We are so proud of our graduates," Barrett said. Although we will all miss the honor of watching them walk across the stage on May 16, our virtual ceremony will provide them and their families an opportunity to celebrate their accomplishments."

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CITY OF WAYNE PET REGISTRATION & RENEWALS

Due to current events and limited public access to City Hall, the City of Wayne has suspended annual pet registration renewals usually required the month of May.

All pet registrations will now be due during the month of July, 2020 and will be considered delinquent on or after August 1, 2020. This should also allow additional time for pet owners to obtain updated rabies vaccinations, if needed this year, required to license your pets.

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Kathy Mohlfeld, Ed, LCSW

Cardiology
MercyOne - 1st & 3rd Wednesday
Norfolk Cardiovascular Institute - 1st-4th Monday

Dermatology
Dr. Indy Chabra - 4th Tuesday
Emily Kruse PA - 2nd Tuesday

ENT
Dr. Reason Ford - 1st & 3rd Friday

GI / Surgery
Dr. Craig Nemechek - Every Tuesday
Dr. Keith Vollstedt - 2nd & 4th Thursday

Nephrology
Dr. Jonathan Weitzmann - 3rd Friday

Neurologist
Dr. He - 2nd Wednesday

Neurosurgery
Dr. Matthew Johnson - 2nd Friday

OB-GYN
Dr. Raymond Schulte - 1st & 3rd Wednesday
Dr. Paul Eastman - 2nd & 4th Thursday

Oncology
Dr. Fayed - 4th Friday

Ophthalmology
Dr. Gregory Haskins - 2nd Friday

Orthopedics
Dr. Joseph Carreau - 1st-4th Monday
Dr. Michael Woodbury - 4th Friday

Pain
Dr. Peter Piperis

Podiatry
Dr. Steve Meinhold - 3rd Tuesday
Dr. Zackary Gangwer - 1st & 3rd Thursday

Psychiatry
Dr. Jose Nadala - 4th Thursday
Dr. Dan Gillette - 1st & 3rd Wednesday, 1st Thursday

Pulmonology
Camille Kantai PA - 2nd & 4th Wednesday

Urology
Dr. Adam Althaus - Every other Monday

Vascular
Dr. Chad Laurich - 4th Wednesday

Wound Care
Jan Harrison - Tuesday & Thursday

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Dr. Mark McCorkindale
Dr. Samuel J. Recob
Dr. Melissa Dobbins
Dr. Angela McLaughlin
Gary West PA-C
Ross Hansen PA-C
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Rotary



(Contributed photo)

Wayne's Rotary members have been meeting on Zoom since late March.

From Page 3C

singing is out for now. We give 'happy dollars' to Rotary Foundation for the chance to share good news, try to guess some trivia, discuss plans and announcements, and then host a guest speaker to share information relevant to the community.

So far our Zoom guests have included Dr. Tammy Evetovich sharing about the WSC-UNL Rural Law Opportunity Program (RLOP);

Brandon Hall, the manager of ACE Hardware Store, sharing about their plans to serve Wayne, opening April 15; Rotarian and PMC CEO Jim Frank, explaining how PMC has coordinated plans in preparation for COVID-19 responses in Wayne (we are very good shape!); and Dr. Mark Lenihan who has updated us on how Wayne Community Schools are serving students, families, and community. Upcoming programs include Gary Weddel's trip to London-Paris, Amy Munderloh on Haven House-COVID-19 response updates, and Dean Jacobs to update us on his global activities.

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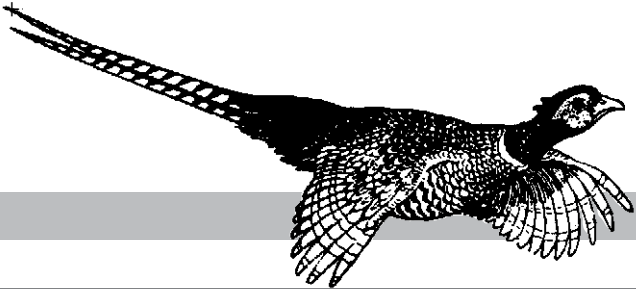
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Being creative more important than ever

You know what?? There is only so much you can say about the present situation.. And I think most of it has been said.
 Today's Lincoln paper had a nice article about how things are going in homes where both parents are working from home, plus, youngsters of different ages are trying to keep up with their school work with Zoom and packets and flash cards, you name it. Some of the education is taking place outside; I can certainly understand the need for that!
 Yesterday afternoon, our church school teachers staged a drive by; they stood on the sidewalk in front of the flag pole and families drove by and waved and shouted, and blew kisses. I knew the kids would miss their teachers; I had not stopped to think how much the teachers would



The Farmer's Wife
By: Pat Meierhenry

miss the kids.
 Yesterday's paper had a picture of a teacher doing a science project on her kitchen table; it will be videotaped and played for her students. You have to be very creative these days; even more than usual.
 The mask making is still going on; the quilt maker in our neighborhood has begun making them from her scraps and handing them out to all who might want them.
 Her room mate has been making them for her daughter who works at Bryan and for her friends. She was making the ones with elastic that goes behind the ears. Well, guess what? After a 12 hour shift, their ears are sore. So, she made a bunch of extenders, with two buttons, that go on the back of the head for the elastic to hook on to the buttons..

Necessity is still the mother of invention.
 Monte grilled steaks this evening and brought them here; he and Sue sat on the patio and we sat at the kitchen table with the window open. I had a salad, and there was ice cream, strawberries, and fresh cookies for dessert. I informed him that he can do that every week, as far as I'm concerned.
 Speaking of every week, the Venue, a very nice local restaurant, is delivering meals ready to heat, 3 meals each, for 2 people, for \$33. I don't know about you, but I consider that a bargain! And any time I can get out of cooking is a good deal for me. Hope you all are getting fed somehow!
 Stay well, stay safe, and God bless us, everyone!

USDA offers temporary payment deferrals for Loan program

USDA Rural Development Deputy Under Secretary Bette Brand has announced that USDA is temporarily deferring payment for borrowers participating in the USDA Community Facilities Direct Loan program due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
 Effective upon publication in the Federal Register through Sept. 30, 2020, the USDA Community Facilities Direct Loan Program will temporarily allow borrowers with direct loans to request payment deferrals to assist those that are experiencing temporary cash flow issues due to the pandemic.
 On a case-by-case basis, USDA will provide the option of principal and interest payment deferrals to borrowers impacted by COVID-19 for up to one year due to hardship. The borrower must request any payment deferrals from the Agency in writing.
 For additional information please see the public inspection preview of the notice at: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/04/21/2020-08429/direct-loan-payment-deferrals-for-the-community-facilities-direct-loan-program>
 Questions regarding this announcement may be directed to the USDA Rural Development (RD) State Office in Lincoln at (402) 437-5551.

Managing milk as a land applied fertilizer

By Mitiku Mamo, Extension Educator



Due to Covid-19 Pandemic, there is a concern that dairy farmers may not be able to ship milk to processors. Consequently, in the event they find themselves in this situation, some local farmers have been making inquiries on agronomic rate of land applying milk as a fertilizer.
 Milk is an organic and the same principals used to manage manure can be used to manage milk when land applying it.
 Land application of milk, at least in some states, is regulated in the same manner as land application of process wastewater. One immediate option is to store milk in an existing manure storage structure. This would be preferable to applying ahead of rain that might generate surface runoff or leaching into groundwater.

trogen, 18 lbs of phosphorus (P2O5), and 15 (K2O) lbs of potassium per 1,000 gallons of (Kulesza, 2020). For perspective, it requires 3,000 gallons of milk per acre to provide about 135 lbs of nitrogen, 54 lbs of phosphorus, and 45 lbs of potassium. Putting milk on fields going to corn instead of soybeans will allow better use of the nutrients.
 To determine the appropriate application rate of milk, it is essential that a realistic yield, based on the average of the past several years of yield data be used for the field selected to have milk applications. There are several UNL tools online to help determine the economic N rate and appropriate nutrient management. Under no conditions should the total N applied as milk be greater than the crop needs for that year.
 Because all of the nitrogen and phosphorous in milk are considered to be immediately plant available,

consider applying only a portion of the crop's N needs with milk and applying the balance through alternative methods.
 Milk produces a very strong odor while it is decomposing, so in the spirit of being a good neighbor try to apply it to fields farthest away from the neighbors. Injecting or incorporating land applied milk, in addition to reducing the risk of surface runoff will also minimize odor. If the field needs lime or other nutrients that would benefit from incorporation, these could be applied before tillage.
 It is unfortunate that milk has to be 'wasted' after all the effort and money was spent to produce it. However, when managed correctly, it can substitute for fertilizer, and be applied in a manner that is not a threat to our neighbors or the environment.
 If you have any question please call your local Extension Office.

Nitrogen recommendations and improving nitrogen use efficiency

When we sit down with a grower to try to build a good recommendation for corn, we need to ask some questions:

- 1) What are your yield goals?
 - 2) What was the previous crop?
 - 3) Do we have a large amount of carryover nitrate we should consider?
 - 4) How much N can mother nature give us through the mineralization of organic matter?
- We can take these answers and formulate a base recommendation for nitrogen. Sometimes that recommendation is appropriate. Sometimes we have unusually high loss rates and should supplement that base recommendation with additional nitrogen. Other times we can see opportunities to limit loss and become even more efficient with the nitrogen we apply. One of the best ways to become more efficient is to spread out nitrogen across multiple applications.



By Tim Mundorf
CVA Nutrient Management Lead, Guest Writer

One of the best visuals to help a grower is a graph showing the amount of nutrients the corn plant takes up during the growing season by growth stage. To see this graph, visit <https://www.cvacoop.com/Blog/April-2020/Nitrogen-Recommendations-and-Efficiency>. For nitrogen, we see rapid uptake taking place from V8 through tassel and even into brown silk. To maximize N use efficiency, we hold back some of the N we normally apply before the growing season and apply it during or just before this period of rapid uptake. Soil texture makes a difference here. Sandy soils do not hold nitrogen as well as soils with more clay in them. In these sandy soils, we should plan on even more applications then we do in medium and heavy texture soils.
 It's difficult to make a good plan for a grower without sitting down with his or hers soil test results and building a fertility plan based on their system. To be most efficient with your application of nitrogen, sit down and visit with your Field Sales Agronomist. Walk them through your current program and system and look for opportunities to maximize both efficiency and yield. It's always better to build a fertility program than to just purchase fertilizer.



Nebraska Extension thanks volunteers for their investment in 4-H

By Megan Hanefeldt, Nebraska Extension Educator

National Volunteer Week is April 19-25. Nebraska Extension would like to thank all of our 4-H Volunteers for investing in our children and our communities. The work you do makes a difference! Incredible things happen when youth find passion and purpose. 4-H volunteers have an incredible opportunity to take part in creating passionate, purposeful youth.
 While agricultural programs are a 4-H tradition, 4-H youth excel in science, engineering, technology, and applied math subjects and become interested in pursuing science careers! In fact, 4-H offers over 150 projects ranging from photography to rocketry and from foods and nutrition to robotics. Outdoor related projects include camping, hiking, sport fishing, shooting sports, and

wildlife conservation.
 Project volunteers lead an activity from once a week for a series of weeks to once a month for a year and everything in between. Club leaders usually hold meetings once per month and assist youth with organizational, communication, service, and teambuilding skills. All it takes is the willingness of an adult to share their time and talents with young people as a mentor and positive influence. A relationship with a caring adult is one of the essential elements of the 4-H program and the rewards are endless.
 4-H alumni tell us that 4-H has a lasting impact on their lives providing them with many of the skills needed to be successful. These skills include public speaking, service to others and how to work as a member of a team. The work that 4-H volunteers perform is important. 4-H volunteers play a significant

role in creating passionate, purposeful youth. Though youths' interests may change, the guidance that 4-H volunteers provide youth will help them pursue their passions for the rest of their lifetime.

THANK YOU for any or all you have done to volunteer as a parent, a club leader, a workshop volunteer, a fair volunteer or as a 4-H supporter. You DO make a difference!

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LENRD closes area campgrounds until further notice

During these times of uncertainty, it's important to stay informed about the COVID-19 pandemic and remain vigilant. The Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District (LENRD) is closing their public campgrounds at their recreation areas near Stanton and Leigh until further notice.
 LENRD General Manager Mike Sousek said, "Social distancing must be enforced to save lives. Therefore, we are closing our campgrounds at Maskenthine Lake near Stanton, and the Maple Creek Recreation Area near Leigh. The health and safety of the citizens across our district is our top priority."
 The recreation areas currently remain open for day use, fishing, and recreation. Sousek said, "Our recreation areas and trails provide adequate room for proper social distancing, offering opportunities for physical activity which can alleviate stress and promote mental health. However, the restrooms, shower houses, and campgrounds are closed, and overnight camping is prohibited. The recreation area playgrounds and play structures are also closed until further notice."
 Sousek added, "We will provide updates as they become available. Please take precautions recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, including social distancing even in outdoor spaces."
 Watch for further updates and stay connected with the LENRD by subscribing to their monthly emails at www.lenrd.org.
The LENRD serves all or parts of 15-counties in northeast Nebraska. Visit the LENRD website to sign up for monthly emails from the district. Like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.

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Decor ideas to give homes a fresh look this spring

Spring is a season of rejuvenation, and that spirit of renewal can take hold inside a home.

Warm weather and longer hours of daylight make spring a perfect time to imagine a home's interior design in a new light. The following are a handful of decor ideas that may inspire homeowners to give their homes an entirely new look this spring.

- Wallpaper: Wallpaper fell out of favor years ago, but new styles that aren't so heavily patterned can make

- for wonderful additions to any room. Large-scale prints can give a room a whole new feel without giving homeowners or their guests the impression that they have stepped back in time. A simple, mural-style floral wallpaper on the walls surrounding a table in a breakfast nook can bring nature inside.
- Pastel colors: Nothing embodies the spring quite like pastel colors. If colorful, bright flowers dot the garden in the backyard, homeowners can

- bring those uplifting pastels inside by painting an accent wall or even adding some brightly colored accent furniture to rooms that could use a lift.
- Declutter: Clutter is often conquered during spring cleaning sessions, but homeowners who want to create more free-flowing interior spaces can downsize their furniture and/or look for multipurpose features that make it hard for clutter to take over a room. Create more open space in entertaining areas by mounting the television and getting rid of a bulky entertainment center. Create even more space by replacing rarely used end tables with a storage ottoman where books and magazines can be stored to give a room a fresh, clean look.

- Accent features: Sometimes the smallest changes to an interior space make the biggest impression. Replace dated accents like vases and table lamps with newer items that reflect the latest styles and trends. Such adjustments won't break the bank, and they can give rooms a whole new feel.

Spring is a great time to reconsider home interiors. This spring homeowners can embrace various strategies, both big and small, to give their homes a whole new feel.



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Five outdoor projects that add value

Exterior renovations can enhance the appearance of a property and make it more enjoyable for homeowners. Certain renovations have the potential to add value to a home, while others may do the opposite. Learning which one have the largest return on investment can help homeowners select features that will have the most positive impact.

Curb appeal goes a long way toward attracting potential buyers. According to the National Association of Realtors, first impressions of a property have a strong influence on buyers. Landscaping and external features can do much to influence such impressions.

- Lawn care program: Investing in a lawn care program that consists of fertilizer and weed control application and can be transferred over to a subsequent home owner is an attractive feature. NAR says such a care program can recover \$1,000 in value of the \$330 average cost, or a 303 percent ROI.

- Low-maintenance lifestyle: When choosing materials for projects, those that offer low-maintenance benefits can be preferential. These include low-maintenance patio materials, composite decking, vinyl fencing, and inorganic mulched beds.

- Fire pit: A fire pit can be used for much of the year. In the spring and summer, the firepit is a great place to congregate to roast marshmallows or sip wine and gaze into the fire. In the fall, the fire pit can make for a cozy retreat. A fire pit that has a gas burner is low-maintenance, and the National Association of Landscape Professionals says that most can recoup about \$4,000 of their \$6,000 average price tag.

- Softscaping: Hardscaping refers to structures like outdoor kitchens or decks. Softscaping involves the living elements of the landscape. Hiring a landscape designer to install trees, shrubs, natural edging, and rock elements can do wonders toward improving the look and value of a home.

- Pool or water feature: In certain markets, particularly hot climates, a pool or another water feature is a must-have. However, in other areas where outdoor time is limited, a pool or water feature can actually lower the value of a home. Speaking with a real estate professional can give homeowners an idea of how a pool will fare in a given neighborhood.

Outdoor improvements can improve the marketability of a home, as well as enhance its appearance and function.



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Spring Home Improvement

Hytrek Lawn Service offers tips for spring lawn prep

Winter can be hard on lawns, especially in areas like Nebraska, so fall and spring clean-up is particularly important. Toni Hytrek, owner of Hytrek Lawn Service in Wayne offers some tips to getting lawns ready to welcome spring and stay healthy during the summer.

A clean yard is a happy yard
Spring lawn clean-up is particularly important, especially if there was no fall clean-up. Hytrek said much of her business in the early spring is

dethatching or power raking. "It gets all the thatch out of the lawn, all of the leaves and gets the sticks picked up," Hytrek said.

While Hytrek Lawn Service offers a crew of workers to handle that task, Hytrek said homeowners can do the job themselves, but need to keep a few things in mind.

"If the homeowners does it themselves, as long as they just get the leaves picked up, get the sticks picked up, then mow it short (their yard will

benefit.) Mowing it short gets all the dead grass from the winter out and that stimulates new growth," Hytrek said.

Hytrek said homeowners' biggest take away is that it's best practice spring cleaning on the lawn as well.

Know your roots
One of the biggest pieces of maintaining a healthy lawn all year round is to make sure grass roots are well taken care of. The spring is the perfect time to do that, as it's the season when root systems begin to establish and grow.

Spring is usually the time homeowners have their lawns aerated. This is an important process in lawn care, especially with the soil around northeast Nebraska.

"We pull plugs out and that loosens the soil and gets oxygen, water, nutrients down in roots and the roots are able to move farther into the ground," Hytrek said. "It helps when we have a drought, the grass is more stable because the root systems more stable."

Hytrek said aeration helps with the clay-rich soil in the area, which is more likely to become compact.

Pre-emergent is a lawn's best friend

Adding pre-emergents to a lawn care

routine is vital to keep away unwanted weeds like crabgrass, foxtail and other weeds. Average consumers usually have access to granular fertilizers and weed killer, but Hytrek said going to a lawn care company for spring spraying is the best choice.

"The homeowner can do its own fertilizer and pre-emergent (but) when we do our spraying with the liquid, that's where we get the weeds, because the liquid really sticks to the weed leaves better than the granular, so I always suggest if some people want to do their own spraying, lawn fertilizing during the summer, let me do the spring fall application," Hytrek said. "I can do the liquid weed killer on there, and we have a really good pre-emergent product that we use. It's got a 90 day residual on that so last for 90 days."

Lawn services like Hytrek Lawn Service can help homeowner have yards they can be proud of, but that starts with appropriate care at the appropriate time of year. Hytrek Lawn Service has an A+ rating with the Better Business Bureau and a dedicated team of licensed and insured professionals. Contact Hytrek for an estimate for services at (402) 375-5180.



Spring Home Improvement

USA invites applications for funding to help rural families, small businesses reduce energy costs, make energy efficiency improvements

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Deputy Under Secretary for Rural Development Bette Brand announced that USDA is seeking applications from utilities and energy efficiency entities to help rural families and small businesses reduce energy costs through energy efficiency improvements.

USDA is making funding available under the Rural Energy Savings Program (RESP). Through this program, qualified utilities and similar intermediaries can provide loans to rural families and small businesses to help them reduce energy costs and make energy efficiency improvements. The funds also may be used to replace manufactured housing units with more energy-efficient ones.

To apply, applicants must submit a letter of intent to RESP@usda.gov. Paper submissions will not be accepted. USDA will notify selected applicants in writing to submit a loan application. For application deadlines and other details, please see page 18549 of the April 2 Federal Register at govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-04-02/pdf/2020-06341.pdf.

USDA also invites comments on a final rule that seeks to make changes to RESP eligibility requirements, the application process, criteria to evaluate creditworthiness, and how to obtain application materials. Electronic and written comments must be received on or before May 18, 2020.

USDA encourages applications that will support recommendations made in the Report to the President of the United States from the Task Force on Agriculture and Rural Prosperity, which can be found by visiting usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/rural-prosperity-report.pdf, to help improve the quality of life in rural America. Applicants are encouraged to consider projects that provide measurable results in helping rural communities build robust and sustainable economies through strategic investments in infrastructure, partnerships and innovation. Key strategies include:

- Achieving e-Connectivity for Rural America
- Developing the rural economy
- Harnessing technological innovation
- Supporting a rural workforce
- Improving quality of life

Top five hottest home building trends

These days, home trends are about more than good design and aesthetics — they're about creating spaces that reflect our values and are more comfortable and enjoyable to live in. From net-zero and net-positive construction to tiny minimalist homes, trends are all about your family's lifestyle.

Whether you're shopping for a new home, renovating your own or creating a new build from scratch, here are some of the biggest trends you need to know for inspiration.

Sustainable design: This one has been popular for a long time, but green design has evolved to be about much more than energy-efficient appliances and LED light bulbs. Now, it's all about making sure everything in your home reduces your carbon footprint and minimizes any impact on the environment.

To try the trend yourself, think big and get creative — install solar panels on your roof, choose building materials that don't require deforestation and upcycle old furniture for decorative elements instead of buying new.

Disaster resiliency: Climate change affects us in so many negative ways, and one of the top concerns is the increase in natural disasters. From wildfires that last for months to major floods that affect entire cities, we now need to prepare for the worst when building our homes.

Switching to disaster-resilient mate-

rials is an important first step. Many builders now prefer to use stronger, more energy-efficient materials like insulated concrete forms (ICFs) instead of more traditional materials like wood. For example, some ICFs can withstand winds of up to 250 miles per hour (equivalent to an F4 tornado) and offer a fire protection rating of up to four hours.

Outdoor living: Many of us are now choosing to forgo getting a cottage or summer home and recreate the experience in our own backyards. This trend helps you make the most of your existing space and take full advantage of your yard or patio during the summer months.

You can design a full living space outside, complete with an outdoor television and comfy couches, as well as a kitchen and refrigerator for entertaining. Consider adding a fireplace or firepit to keep warm during cool summer nights and enjoy the outdoors through spring, fall and even winter if you're brave.

Home automation: This is another longstanding trend that shows no signs of slowing down. It has also evolved to encompass more of the home to make life even more comfortable and convenient. From an oven that can be turned on remotely to preheat, to skylights that can open and close automatically to create the perfect ambient temperature, there are more ways than ever to



These days, home trends are about more than good design and aesthetics — they're about creating spaces that reflect our values and are more comfortable and enjoyable to live in.

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You can start small with voice assistant and smart light bulbs and work your way up to a total smart home system that includes home security, temperature controls and all your electronic devices.

Customization: You don't have to settle for what mass manufacturers decide to build, or what works for everyone else. Creating a home that's

as unique as you are is the latest trend, with custom-built storage and personalized architectural features to make your space stand out.

You can even go as far as building a custom home that's suited to your family. Older home demolitions and purchasing land-only properties is becoming more common, allowing you to work with an architect to create exactly what you want with a new build.



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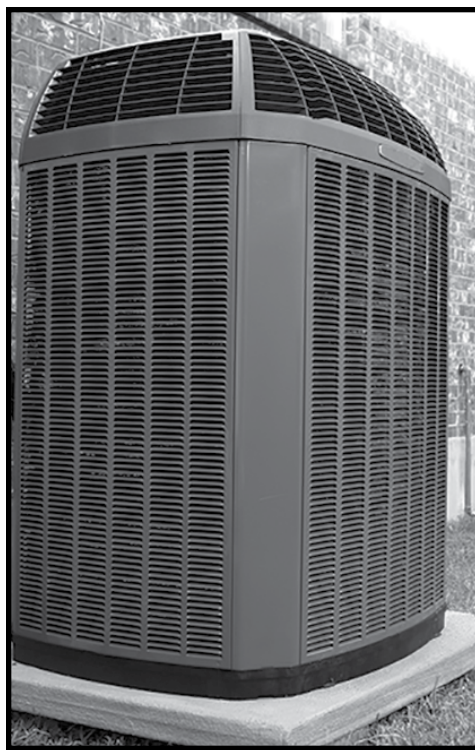
Key to keeping cool is AC maintenance

Few things beat summer heat better than walking into a comfortably chilled air conditioned home. Air conditioning is often taken for granted, but sorely missed when it is not working. The key to keeping cool all summer long is to ensure that air conditioning systems are functioning properly. Maintaining an AC unit can save money and protect homeowners' investments.

Without regular attention, an AC unit will lose its efficiency, needlessly wasting both energy and money as a result. Poor maintenance also can lead to system failure just when it is needed most. According to the U.S. Department of Energy, the average lifespan of an air conditioning unit is about 15 to 20 years. Home Advisor says homeowners can pay between \$500 and \$4,000 for central air conditioning, with the final cost depending on the unit, additional installation items, such as ductwork, and installation charges. With regular maintenance, homeowners can keep their units humming properly and avoid premature replacement costs.

So what can homeowners expect as it pertains to air conditioner maintenance? The following are some oft-needed checks and fixes.

•Keep it clean
Vacuum the fins and coils of the AC unit on the external compressor/condenser fan with a soft-bristled brush, advise the experts at Family Handyman. This may require unscrewing the metal box surrounding the unit to access the fins. Remove any accumulated debris that may be impeding air flow. Afterward, go inside and



Periodic maintenance of an AC unit will keep it in good repair and working efficiently.

change the filter that is installed with the evaporator that's located in a central duct near the furnace. Inspect the filter periodically to see if it is soiled and needs replacement. Timing can vary depending various factors, such as the time of year, the accumulation of dust and whether or not pets live in the home.

•Straighten coil fins
The fins on the condenser are easily bent and that can affect the flow of air through the coils. If you cannot easily straighten them, then consult with an HVAC professional to do so.

•Check the thermostat
Ensure that the thermostat is still working properly. You also may want to upgrade an old thermostat to a programmable or smart thermostat that enables you to remotely set and adjust the temperature.

•Consider an in-line duct booster
HVAC professionals can guide you through the advantages of an in-line duct booster for forced-air cooling. This can increase the flow of cool air into a room that always seems hotter than the rest. Another option is a vent or register booster fan that sits on top or replaces a traditional floor or wall register.

•Deal with condensation
Condensation from air conditioning coils can puddle around the furnace if the condensate drain tube is clogged. Clearing it out will help prevent puddling and the formation of bacteria-laden water in the system.

Periodic maintenance is necessary to ensure uninterrupted service on a home AC unit.

Spring blooms come in all sizes, colors

By Bob Henrickson and Karma Larsen, Nebraska Statewide Arboretum

"Each spring a gardening instinct, sure as the sap rising in the trees, stirs within us. We look about and decide to tame another little bit of ground."
Lewis Gantt

No flower is quite so welcome as the first one to open in spring. And fortunately for gardeners in the midwest, some of them are tough enough to bloom even through a snow drift. Spring bulbs like snowdrops, squill and crocus are some of the earliest flowers to open, with daffodils, hyacinths and tulips soon to follow.

There are some wonderful perennials for blossom and color early in the spring also. Though it will vary according to microclimate, the perennials below begin to bloom in March or April and are listed generally in order of "appearance."

Lenten rose, Hellebore. Large, cup-shaped, rose-like flowers open in March and bloom for 8-10 weeks. Colors range from pale green to white, pink and purple. Prefers rich, organic, well-drained soils in part to full shade and protection from cold winter winds. Clumps establish fairly quickly. Foliage is wide, glossy and semi-evergreen.

Pasque flower, Pulsatilla. Beautiful bell-shaped flowers—in shades of blue, violet, yellow and white—open in March or April and develop plume-like seedheads. Foliage is silvery and covered with hair. Native to prairies, it requires good drainage.

Brunnera, Brunnera. This beautiful perennial is grown mainly for its attractive heart-shaped foliage, but it

also has highly attractive forget-me-not like blue flowers in March or April. The cultivar 'Jack Frost' has beautiful silver leaves with green veins.

Lungwort, Pulmonaria. Though lungwort is more known for its silvery, white-mottled foliage, the attractive spring flowers tend to be a mix of pale pink and blue at the same time. It prefers rich, cool, moist sites and afternoon shade. Grows 8" tall and 12" wide.

Candytuft, Iberis sempervirens. In April, masses of white flowers attract butterflies. Growing to just 10" tall, it's a great addition to a rock garden or border edging. The bright green foliage is semi-evergreen.

Bleeding Heart, Dicentra. Flower displays begin in April and last up to six weeks or more. Flowers are usually pink, red or white and attract hummingbirds. Fine cut foliage accents the dangling heart-shaped flowers carried on long arching stems. Grows 10-30" in full or part shade.

Columbine, Aquilegia. A great spring-blooming perennial for full sun to part shade that will naturalize in optimum conditions. Foliage is delicate and April/May flowers have distinctive spurs.

Bluebells, Mertensia. Pink flower buds open to clusters of pendulous blue flowers. Foliage dies back by mid-summer so they are best massed and left undisturbed in shady woodland areas, possibly interplanted with ferns or hostas to cover fading foliage.

Blue star, Amsonia. Powdery blue flowers open in April-May on feathery green foliage that will turn golden yellow in fall. Cutting back the foliage after flowering will result in a tighter foliage mound. Prefers part shade.

Shrubs and trees also offer an amazing variety of spring bloom, starting with witchhazel in February and continuing on: flowering dogwood, forsythia, cherry, plum, magnolia,

chokeberry, serviceberry, viburnum, redbud, buckeye, weigela and sweet shrub.

Source: Nebraska Statewide Arboretum, plantnebraska.org



Jack Frost Brunnera, with Lenten roses, has a scientific name, Helleborus.



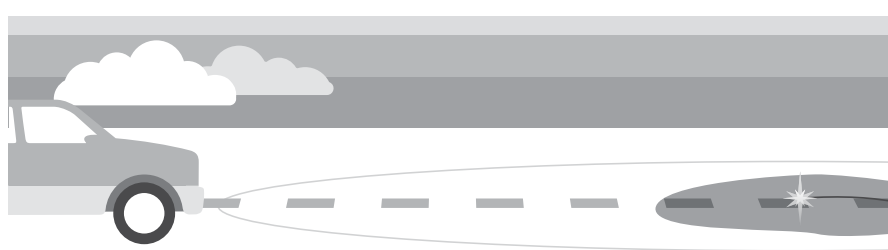
Aquilegia Canadensis, also known as columbine, is native to this area.

Downed and Dangerous

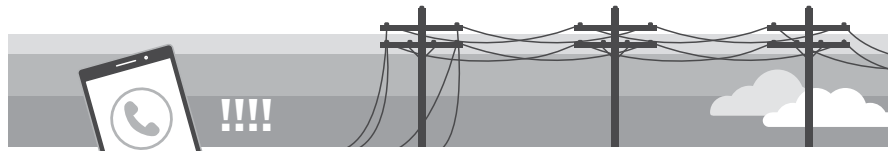
If you see a downed power line, always assume it is energized and dangerous. Avoid going near it or anything in contact with the power line.



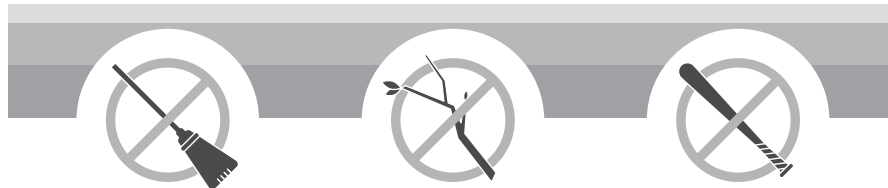
Downed power lines can energize the ground up to **35 ft.** away – so keep your distance.



Never drive over a downed line or through water that is touching the line.



If you see a downed line, notify the local authorities immediately.



Never try to move a downed power line, even if you think the line is deenergized or if you're using a non-conductive item – this will not prevent injury or death!

Source: ESFI.org



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Carhart Lumber Co. now offering free shipping to store

Carhart Lumber Co. is carrying on the tradition of providing their customers with top-notch service by offering several opportunities to save and to shop conveniently.

The company recently rolled out their online shopping experience that allows customers to order from Do It Best's online warehouse and have purchases shipped to the store for free.

"There's over a million different SKUs in our warehouse (website) compared to what we have (in store), so the door is wide open. There's everything you can imagine on that website," Mike Kaup, Wayne's Carhart manager said.

Visitors can go directly to shop.carhartlumber.com to see a huge selection of products. Kaup said it's the best way to shop if you like what you see in Carhart's brick and mortar locations but want to see if there are other options available.

"If you're wanting to know what your options are it's the best way to go look and see what else we're what there is," he said.

For the customers who still like the in-store interaction, Kaup said they can search the website for the products they're after, write down the SKU code and visit Carhart to place

an order as well. Orders can also be placed over the telephone.

Carhart Lumber Co. locations are still open despite COVID-19, but Kaup said if customers are uncomfortable coming in to a store at the moment, they will do curbside pick up. Products can even be delivered within Wayne city limits for free.

"They can go in and order what they want and we will deliver it for them in town for free, or they can call us when they get here, and we'll bring it out to the car," Kaup said.

Free delivery also extends to softer salt orders.

It's hard to beat the service at Carhart Lumber Co. and that's partially in part to the years of experience within the company. Employees at the Wayne store have over 40 years of experience and they highly encourage customers to ask an questions they may have.

"If there's a question that they have, or need help with figuring out how to repair something or upgrade something, come in," Kaup said. "Talk to us. That's why we're here."

For more information about direct shipping to store and for project questions, contact Wayne's Carhart Lumber Co. at (402) 375-2110.

Affordable features to consider when revamping your kitchen

Kitchens are popular gathering spots in many homes. That popularity is reflected in various ways, including how many homeowners choose to remodel their kitchens.

A 2019 report from the home renovation and design resource Houzz found that kitchens were the most popular room to renovate in 2018. Homeowners

considering kitchen remodels should know that the Houzz report also indicated that spending on kitchen remodels increased by 27 percent in 2018.

Homeowners concerned by the cost of remodeling a kitchen should know that there are ways to give kitchens a whole new feel without breaking the bank.

Appliances

Consumer Reports notes that luxury home buyers expect high-end features, including professional ranges and built-in refrigerators that match the surrounding cabinetry. However, many mainstream brands offer "faux pro" features that can equal more expensive alternatives. Consumer Reports even notes that many budget-friendly faux pro appliances outperformed their high-end counterparts in terms of reliability.

Countertops

Countertops tend to capture the eye's attention when walking into a kitchen. Outdated and/or damaged countertops grab that attention for all the wrong reasons, while updated countertops made from today's most popular materials provide that wow factor homeowners seek. If granite is a must-have, Consumer Reports notes that homeowners can save substantial amounts of money by choosing granite from remnants at the stone yard. If marble is your ideal countertop, save money by choosing a domestic product as opposed to one imported from overseas.

Cabinets

Custom-built cabinets may be a dream, but they tend to be a very expensive one. Such cabinets are

designed to adhere to the dimensions of the kitchen, and Consumer Reports notes that they can cost tens of thousands of dollars. If that estimate would bust your budget, examine the current layout of the existing cabinets. If the layout is fine but the cabinets need work, you can give them a whole new look by refinishing them. If the cabinets must go, stock units or semi-custom cabinets can provide a new look without busting the budget.

Kitchen remodels can be expensive. But there are many affordable ways to revamp a kitchen.



Homeowners concerned by the cost of remodeling a kitchen should know that there are ways to give kitchens a whole new feel without breaking the bank.



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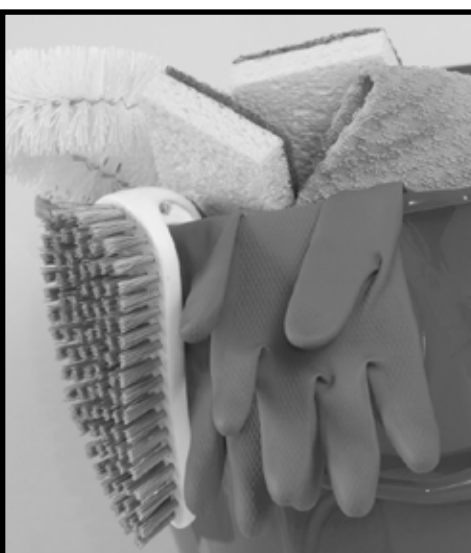
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How to clean when faced with a shortage of supplies

In light of concerns about COVID-19, various health organizations have issued specific instructions on how to maintain personal safety and cleanliness. These recommendations involve using common household products to sanitize homes, offices and public spaces. As people take such precautions, many are stocking up on extra



essentials — resulting in shortages.

Everything from hand sanitizers to paper towels may be hard to find on grocery store shelves, leaving some to wonder what they can do to remain safe without sanitizers?

The Environmental Protection Agency states that coronaviruses are some of the easiest types of viruses to kill because they have an envelope around them that enables them to merge with other cells and infect them. If that protective coating can be disrupted, the virus can't do its job. For those having trouble finding well-known cleaning agents, these alternatives may suffice.

Hot water and soap

The reason hand-washing is at the top of the list of sanitizing methods is because it is so effective at washing away viruses and bacteria. Friction from scrubbing with soap and water can help break the protective envelope, states the EPA. Soap and water can clean all surfaces in a home, especially when applying a little extra elbow grease.

Hydrogen peroxide

As people clear isopropyl (rubbing alcohol) off the shelves, do not discount hydrogen peroxide. The CDC says household hydrogen peroxide at 3 percent concentration can deactivate rhinovirus, the virus that causes the common cold, within six to eight minutes of contact. Coronavirus is easier to destroy than rhinovirus, so hydrogen peroxide may be effective at

combating that virus as well.

Natural items can be used for general cleaning, but have not been endorsed for use on COVID-19 disinfection. In

lieu of shortages, white vinegar, baking soda pastes and citrus oils and juices could fill the void of chemically-based cleansers for other home tasks.



Tips

(continued from page 5A)

to prepare your space. Like with our example above, if you are to have a kitchen renovation, plan with your family as to where to cook and prepare meals. If you are to have an HVAC replaced, prepare a backup heating device, especially during cold seasons. If you are installing new windows throughout the house, you may need to take a day off from work to be there during the replacement.

8. Prepare for the unexpected

Remember that not all renovation projects go smoothly, have a contingency plan ready for any budget constraints or accidents, which may lead to project delays. Stick as much to your timeline, therefore allot extra days also when formulating the schedule. Let your contractor know about any budget constraints or deadlines that are set in stone so that they can help to make sure it's all possible and

that your home improvement project is completely successful.

9. Remember to enjoy it!

A successful home improvement project entails some effort to get in motion and completed, but it will all be worth it when you see the results. Make sure to plan, check all necessary details, and coordinate well with your contractors for a swift and hassle-free project. Enjoy the process and really make sure to get exactly what you want from your home improvement project. Some projects can be completely life changing, it's an exciting journey that should be enjoyed throughout. You worked hard to be able to upgrade your home however you see fit, and whether it be a brand new kitchen, new windows throughout, or finally having a comfortable temperature in your home during season extremities it will all be worth it. Dream about the final outcome and make it happen!

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Home repairs that can sink budgets fast

A home is the most substantial investment many people will ever make. Once down payments have been made and closing costs have been paid, homeowners may still be staring down sizable expenses as they begin to tackle any repairs that need to be made.

Home maintenance and renovations involve a certain measure of trepidation. Even after vetting contractors and establishing budgets, homeowners may worry that repairs will unearth problems that snowball into expensive fixes. Planning ahead for such projects and learning to recognize issues that tend to be costly can help homeowners weather any storms that may arise.

• **Foundation issues:**

A strong foundation is key to any home. If there is a problem with the foundation, it can be unsafe to live in the house. The foundation repair company Foundation Experts advises

that foundation fixes can range from \$4,000 to upward of \$100,000 depending on the scale of the job. Clogged gutters and water pooling around the foundation can contribute to damage, so water issues must be remedied first.

• **Roof damage:**

A roof is a key barrier between the indoors and outdoors. Roofs must remain in tip-top shape. The home improvement resource HomeAdvisor says that a roof repair or replacement can cost between \$3,000 and \$12,000. But homeowners also must budget for the cost of removing the old roofing materials and fixing any damage to the interior of the home. Inspecting the roof and making repairs as you go is key to avoiding a big headache.

• **Siding replacement:**

Another costly project can be replacing the siding. Siding may need to be replaced if there is water/wind dam-

age or penetration from insects. Spot repairs may be relatively inexpensive. However, the home improvement resource Modernize says the average siding installation project can cost between \$5,500 and \$15,000 depending on the materials homeowners choose.

• **HVAC update:**

Keeping a home at a comfortable temperature is also a matter of safety. If a system gives out, homeowners may be scrambling for a solution.

Yearly inspections and upkeep, which includes changing system filters regularly, can help identify potential problems. Neglect is one of the main contributors to the failure of heating and cooling equipment. Based on national averages, a whole-house HVAC system can cost between \$4,000 and \$12,000.

These are some of the more costly repairs homeowners can expect. Keeping on top of the home will help mitigate damage and could extend the life of major home components.

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Todd & Cheryl Luedeke

Safety is a vital component of any home DIY project

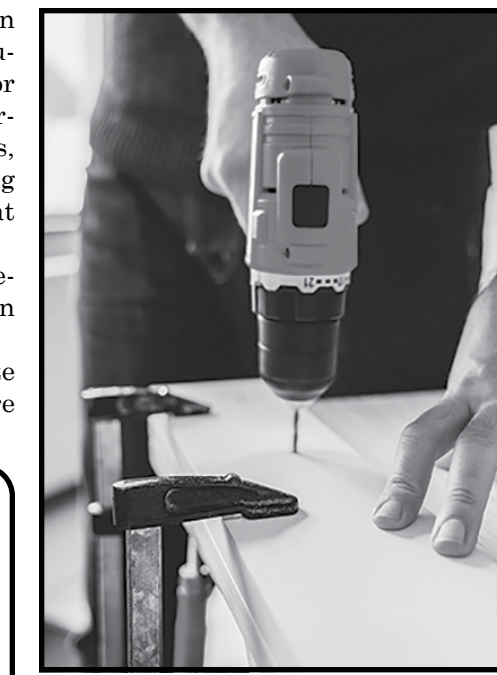
Many homeowners enjoy DIY projects around the house. Weekend warriors should recognize that having the right tools and using them in a correct manner is essential to successful, safe projects.

Tools are vital for projects, but without proper understanding and usage, they can cause grave injuries. Studies published by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Consumer Product

Safety Commission found that certain tools are more likely to cause injuries than others. Power nailers, for example, are among the most dangerous tools DIYers can use. Chain saws, table saws, circular saws, and riding mowers are some additional tools that have very high injury rates.

The following are some safety guidelines all DIYers should heed when using power tools.

• Use tools that are the right size and right type for the job. If you are



• Do not force open a safety on a power tool or modify a tool to override safety features.

• Cut away from yourself when using chisels and other edged tools.

Let common sense prevail when using tools. If it doesn't seem like a good idea, it probably isn't. Safety is important to avoid injuries and help prevent delays on the job.

Mulching

(continued from page 5B)

avoid as lawn and garden season hits full swing.

• Not enough mulch: Mulch is ineffective when spread too thin. The Virginia Cooperative Extension at Virginia Tech and Virginia State University recommends applying mulch no less than two inches in depth. Anything less than that will prove ineffective at preventing weed growth and helping the soil retain moisture, and that means you will need to water more often.

• Poorly located mulch: Mulch should not be placed too close to plant stems or tree trunks. When it is, tissue is so wet that it makes for a perfect environment for disease and insect infestation.

• Failing to mulch to the drip line: The drip line of a tree refers to the outermost circumference of the tree's canopy from which water drips onto the ground. The VCE recommends mulching to the drip line of a plant or tree, which ensures the plant or tree will get the most out of the mulch. Mulching to the drip line also minimizes competition from the grass, leading to stronger plants and trees.

• Failing to weed before mulching: Weeds should be removed prior to mulching. If they're not, the mulch can provide the same growing environment for weeds that you're trying to create for your plants and trees.

• Mulching benefits a landscape in myriad ways, especially when homeowners avoid some common mulching mistakes.

uncertain about which tools to use, watch online tutorials, contact tool manufacturers or seek advice at home supply stores.

• Always wear eye protection and the right safety equipment when manufacturers recommend doing so. Gloves, sturdy work boots, hearing protection, and hard hats can protect DIYers from injury.

• Keep cutting tools sharp and in good condition to reduce kick back and potential injuries.

• Regularly inspect tools to make sure they are in working order.

• Never carry tools up a ladder by hand; use a bucket or bag to hoist tools.

• Never leave tools lying out in any area where they can present a hazard. Unplug power tools when not in use.

• Secure work with a clamp or vice grip when appropriate to keep things from slipping.

• Ensure that the handles of tools like hammers and axes fit tightly into the head of the tool.

• Keep work environments tidy to avoid clutter, as cluttered workspaces can contribute to accidents.

• Read the manual and operate the power tool as instructed.

The COVID-19 pandemic coincides with spring digging projects making utility locate requests more important than ever

Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, it's more important than ever for communities to remain safe and connected to critical utility services, including internet and other communications lines.

owned lines. Nebraska811 encourages homeowners to take the following steps when planning a digging project this spring: •Always call 811 before digging,

beforehand are taking an unnecessary risk—and one that could impact an entire community.

About Nebraska811
Nebraska811 is a free service for anyone who is planning a digging project, including homeowners and professional excavators. Nebraska State law requires anyone who digs to place a locate request before digging. Once your request is submitted, utilities will

respond by clearing or locating and marking their lines.

By placing a call or an online request with Nebraska811, damage to underground utility lines can be prevented as well as costs for repairs, loss of use and injury. It's free. It's easy. It's the law.

Locate requests are placed by calling 811 or 800-331-5666, or online at ne1call.com.



For anyone planning projects that require digging this spring in Nebraska – including homeowners and contractors – Nebraska811 reminds them to utilize the free service. Excavators may access 811 online or by phone to enter requests and notify the affected utility companies so that important underground lines are marked prior to breaking ground.

Anyone who plans to dig should go to their state 811 center's website or call 811 before digging to request that the approximate location of buried utilities be marked. The state 811 center will take the online user or caller's information and communicate it to local utility companies. Professional locators will then either indicate that the excavator is clear to dig or visit the dig site to mark the approximate location of underground utility lines with spray paint, flags or both. Once a site has been accurately marked or the utility company has communicated to the excavator that they are clear, it is safe to begin digging. Excavators should confirm that all utilities listed on their locate request have responded before beginning excavation. For private utility lines, it is the owner's responsibility to determine their location. Utilities will not locate and mark privately

regardless of the depth or familiarity with the property.

•Plan ahead. Call ahead of time if work is planned for an upcoming weekend, providing ample time for the approximate location of lines to be marked.

•Confirm that all lines have been marked and all utilities have responded.

•Consider moving the location of your project if it is near utility line markings.

•If a contractor has been hired, confirm that a call to 811 has been made. Don't allow work to begin if the lines aren't marked.

•Visitne1call.com for complete information.

Digging without knowing the approximate location of underground utilities can result in serious injuries, service disruptions and costly repairs when gas, electric, communications, water and sewer lines are damaged. Cooperation to help ensure continued public safety and sustainable utility service during these difficult times is vital. With so much at stake for public health and safety right now, the millions of Americans who plan to do digging projects this year without taking the important step of calling 811

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JEANEY HARRIS

Nine tips for a successful home improvement project

By Ryan Vincent
Contributed by Carhart Lumber Co.

Starting a home improvement project can be exciting and somewhat challenging, especially if it is your first time to do it. It involves thorough preparation, time, effort and also sufficient budgeting to make sure you can get the job done the way you want. Home improvement upgrades can be minor aesthetic upgrades all the way to full home renovations. The skies

are the limit from kitchen remodeling, a brand new HVAC system, upgrading to big beautiful windows, or even installing solar panels to help save money down the road and be more energy efficient.

(The following are nine) useful tips for a successful home improvement project that can help guide you through the process.

1. Assess your home's current state
Look around your home and determine the areas that need attention or



areas that you've always wished were more useful for you. For example, your kitchen tiles and sink could be misaligned or outdated completely, maybe the plumbing constantly has annoying leaks. In that case you may want to prioritize a kitchen remodel. However, home improvement projects go way deeper than just the surface and what you see daily. Have you recently noticed that it takes quite a long time to cool or heat your house more so than it did in the past? Maybe it's time to get your HVAC system replaced. Does your living room seem small and dark, perhaps install a beautiful picture window to beautify your home and everyday life. It is best to grab a notepad and pen or your phone and go through each room with a keen eye thinking about visual improvements as well as documenting overall home improvements that could benefit your home.

2. Envision your new beautiful space
One of the most important things to consider is what you envision for your home to look like or be improved upon. Let's use kitchen renovation as an example. If you've always wanted a center island or a mirror backsplash

on the counter, write it down. Get on Pinterest, Houzz or other popular websites and google kitchen design trends to get a feel for what you're looking for. You'll want to have a good idea of what exactly you want out of this home improvement project.

Let's say your roof is currently falling apart and is an eye sore every time you pull into the driveway, start researching different roofing styles and decide what would look best with your home. If you have these idea types in place and examples of what you desire beforehand it will be much easier to discuss with a contractor. You'll be able to get more accurate pricing and be able to see what dreams you can make a reality for your home.

3. Calculate your project's budget
If you plan to remodel your home, another vital consideration is your budget and project funding. Your budget should include the design and construction cost, the materials cost, the labor costs, permits and even a minimum and maximum amount you are willing to spend on each project. You may find that a few upgrades to

See TIPS, page 5A

Tips

(continued from page 4A)

your kitchen cabinets and living room windows may be more within budget rather than installing a new solar panel system. You'll want to decide what to prioritize based on your financial capabilities and also what you think will give you the biggest return on investment for the time being.

For example, if you decided that getting a new heating and cooling system would be a top priority. You would need to think about the possible costs for duct replacement, wiring repairs, and if you are wanting to replace both your heating unit as well as your air conditioning system at the same time. Expenses might also come from additional labor and supplies that you wouldn't know about until the installer was performing the job in-house. Information on most home improvement average costs can be found online. For example, HVAC installation costs can be found by using helpful online cost calculators or by simply requesting price quotes from multiple contractors in your area.

Having an idea of what you can comfortably spend on different home improvement projects will allow you to set manageable project constraints and goals.

4. Look for and hire the best contractors

Choosing the right contractor for your home improvement project is one of the most important things you can do. You will want to fully trust that this person is capable of doing your renovation and doing it well. We suggest always getting quotes from at least four home contractors to make sure you are getting a fair price. If you're wanting to renovate your living room and one contractor prices it out at a much higher price, you'll want to understand why the quotes were so vastly different and gut check that you are getting an honest price from that contractor. Here are a few things you'll want to determine about the contractors you request price quotes from:

- How many years of experience with your project type?
- Are they properly licensed and insured?
- Do they have positive references from past jobs?
- 5. Set a specific payment schedule
Discuss and agree with your contractor before hiring for a specific payment schedule, which usually starts before the home project takes place. The schedule should include a timeframe that states what accomplish-



ments should be completed before payment is set again. It should also be in writing if the payment types will be in cash, credit card, financing, etc. This is also a good time to establish the best way to contact them and the expected reply rate. Will you all be needing to communicate through text on a personal line, email, or do you prefer phone calls?

6. Create an expected timeline for completion
In relation to the payment schedule, also develop a timeline. This timeline will show your preferred start date up to the target completion date. Set an appointment with your contractor to discuss the whole length of time needed for the home improvement project. You'll also want to know what kind of

accommodations you'll be needing to make for them to complete the project. Will furniture need to be cleared if they're putting in a new bay window in the kitchen? Will your pets need to be secured to a certain area in order for your contractor to complete the job? These are great questions to ask before the project starts so you can plan around them. The conversation will also let you prepare how to move around your home and continue your activities of daily living during the construction phase timeline.

7. Make arrangements for the construction phase
Once your home improvement project is about to commence, make sure

See TIPS, page 6A

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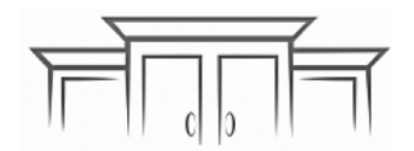
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Tips to successfully grow your own tomatoes

Slicing into the first tomato of the season is a much anticipated moment for gardeners. Tomatoes are among the most popular fruit or vegetable plants grown in home gardens. Much of that popularity may be credited to the fact that red, ripe tomatoes have a delicious, juicy flavor that serves as the basis for all sorts of recipes. And since tomatoes can just as easily be grown in a full backyard garden or in a container on a patio or balcony, tomatoes appeal to gardeners regardless of

their living situations.

While tomatoes are relatively easy to grow, they are prone to certain problems and pests. Knowledge of what to expect when planting tomatoes and how to start off on the right footing can help produce a season's worth of delicious bounty.

• Wait until after the last average frost date. Tomatoes can be grown from seeds outdoors in warm areas, but tomato gardeners often find success starting seeds indoors six to



eight weeks before the last frost date. Gradually introduce seedlings to the elements for a few hours each day, increasing the duration of time outside. Then they can be transplanted outdoors when temperatures are consistently over 60 F.

• Choose a sunny spot. Tomatoes love to soak up sunlight, according to The Home Depot. Place the plants in a sunny spot so they can thrive.

• Space out plants. The experts at Better Homes and Gardens say to leave anywhere from 24 to 48 inches between plants to accommodate for growth and ensure the plants will not get stunted.

• Plant deeply. Tomatoes tend to root along their stems. If transplants are long and lean, dig a trench and lay the stem sideways in the dirt, and then bend the top of the plant upward. Snip off the lower branches and cover with soil up to the first set of leaves. This will produce extra root growth

and stronger, more vital plants.

• Give the plants support. Tomato cages or stakes can help keep the leaves and fruit from touching the ground, which can cause rot and, eventually, death to the tomato plant.

• Lay down a layer of mulch. Tomatoes grow best when the soil is consistently moist. Mulch can help retain moisture from watering and rain. Mulch also will help prevent soil and soilborne diseases from splashing on the leaves and plants when it rains. While you amend the soil, make sure that it drains well and is slightly acidic.

• Prune away suckers. Tomatoes produce "suckers," which are leaves that shoot out from the main stem. Removing these leaves promotes air circulation and keeps the plant's energy focused on growing fruit.

Tomatoes are a rich addition to any garden. A few simple tricks can help even novice gardeners grow delicious tomatoes.

Landscaping mulching mistakes to avoid

Landscape features vary significantly from house to house. Some homeowners may prefer water features on their properties, while others focus on

flowers that would be the envy of a botanical garden. Regardless of those preferences, lawn and garden enthusiasts who want to make their properties

as idyllic as possible may eventually look to mulch to help them accomplish that goal.

Mulch helps soil retain moisture, which promotes strong, healthy flowers, plants, trees, and shrubs. And because soil beneath mulch retains more moisture than soil that's not protected by mulch, homeowners won't have to spend as much time watering mulched landscapes. That saves time and conserves water, which can be a big benefit in areas prone to drought

and/or especially hot summers. Mulch also helps to suppress weed growth, which can ensure all that hard work needed to create an eye-catching garden won't be compromised by the presence of unsightly, thirsty weeds.

Mulching seems like a simple task, and it can be. But that does not mean homeowners cannot make mistakes when mulching. The following are some common mulching mistakes to

See MULCHING, page 6B

Container gardening tips

Gardening is beneficial in various ways. The AARP states that some of the health perks associated with gardening include improved mood, increased vitamin D levels (which benefits bones and immune system) and reduced risk of dementia. In addition, if gardening efforts include growing herbs, fruits and vegetables, it can be a cost-effective way to eat healthy.

For gardeners without sufficient

The following are some other ways container gardening efforts can prove successful.

• Watch water.

Planet Natural Research Center says plants with thin leaves typically need ample water, and plants with thick leaves need less. Use this as a guideline to gauge water needs.

• Size correctly.

Plants should be sized to the container. Consider dwarf varieties of certain plants if your containers are small.

• Choose the right soil. Fill containers with a commercial potting soil rather than soil from the garden. Garden soil can dry into a solid mass, while commercial mixtures have amendments like peat moss, vermiculite, compost, and other ingredients to help with soil texture and moisture retention.

• Mix it up. When planting containers of flowers and other greenery, Good Housekeeping says to include "a thriller, a spiller and a filler" as a good rule of thumb. The thriller is the focal point, the spiller a trailing plant, and a filler has smaller leaves or flowers to add bulk and color.

• Poke holes. Drainage holes are essential so that soil will not become waterlogged. Holes don't need to be large, but there should be enough of them so that excess water can drain out readily.

• Select the right container material. Container materials may be affected by gardeners' budgets, personal taste and other factors. For those who live in hot climates, selecting a light-colored container can help prevent further soil heat absorption.

Container gardening is a healthy and enjoyable activity that can pay dividends in various ways.



space or for those with mobility issues, container gardening can be an ideal way to grow everything from flowers to vegetables. Better Homes & Gardens says most plants are not fussy about the containers in which they grow so long as some of their basic needs are met. This means watering correctly for the type of plant, and ensuring sufficient drainage.

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