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# The Wayne Herald

Thursday, April 15, 2021 145th Year - No. 29

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## Winside voters to decide on bond issue

A laundry list of items, from outdated electric panels to settling of buildings, to cracks in the walls and buildings that are more than a block from the main building, members of the Winside Community Task Force have been working to inform voters in the Winside Public School District of the need to support a bond issue.

A group of community members called the Wildcat Community Task Force has been meeting weekly to pull together accurate information regarding the needs, project design, and financial impact of the bond issue to share with district patrons.

The goal of the group is to make sure that every person has accurate information before voting on the bond issue. This group is scheduling several small group outreach meetings throughout the month of April, has sent out an informational brochure to households, and will be holding public information meetings on Sunday, April 18 and Tuesday, April 20 beginning with tours at 6:15 p.m. with meeting to follow at 7 p.m.

Winside Public Schools District voters will be asked to authorize a bond issuance not to exceed \$14.67 million on May 11, 2021. The election will be by mail-in ballot

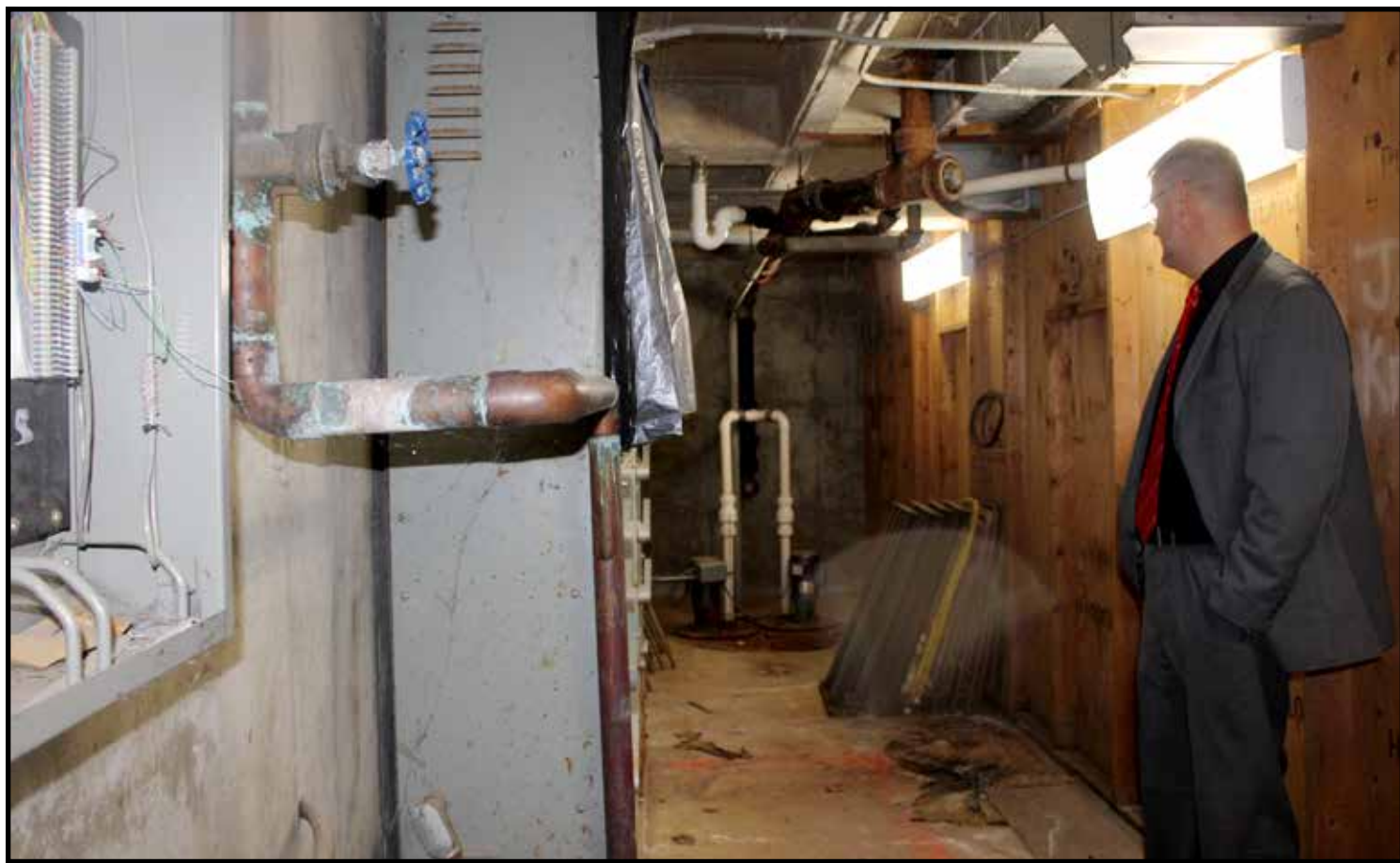
with the mailing to registered voters anticipated the week of April 19, 2021.

The school board is faced with urgent facility needs that have grown beyond the current district budget.

A portion of the high school building's foundation is cracked and failing, several of the school building's mechanical systems are aging out, and as with many facilities its age, there are many handicap and fire safety code issues. Security upgrades also need to be addressed.

The board engaged the architectural firm DRL to provide a professional study of the facility needs as well as present additional options that would provide for security upgrades and additional classroom space. This additional space is needed for Career Technical Education and Agriculture. Spaces slated to be used by both the district and community include a multi-purpose area and fitness room.

The board and school personnel worked with the professional design team to pare down original ideas for addressing the needs that came in at over \$18 million dollars. The board then invited several community members from across the district



(Photo by Clara Osten)

Winside Superintendent Andrew Offner explains some of the mechanical issues facing the school. These and a variety of other issues would be addressed with the passage of a bond issue on Tuesday, May 11.

to participate in visioning sessions with the architect to determine priorities and provide feedback on project costs. The final results of these meetings were that a nearly unanimous majority of participants believed the board should move forward with a bond issue to address these facility and program needs.

The project has been broken into several parts.

Renovation, which includes structural repair and mechanical system upgrades, electrical/lighting upgrades and ADA accessibility (elevator, restrooms, etc) is estimated to cost \$4.8 million.

A Career Technical Addition, which would be new construction and provide room for ag, auto mechanics, metals and

woods labs. Two additional classrooms and storage would also be construction. The cost of this portion of the project is estimated at \$3.6 million.

Additionally, a school/community fitness addition would include a weight room, multi-purpose room, two additional locker rooms that would also serve as a certified community storm shelter and support spaces are estimated to cost \$3.2 million.

The final portion of the project is \$3.0 million which would be spent on a commons, media center and secure entrance to the school. It would create one secure entrance to the school facility.

The overall net levy increase for district patrons is expected to be around 7 cents per \$100 of assessed taxable valuation for the

first two years and then will be reduced in following years to a lesser net tax impact. The projection takes into account net option dollars sent to the district by the State of Nebraska due to an increase in option enrollment students as well as significant wind tower dollars that will begin flowing into the district's general fund account starting this next fiscal year. The bond levy itself will be around 20 cents, but the actual net tax impact of district patrons will be greatly reduced by the previously mentioned economic factors.

Current bond rates are also historically low at below two percent which means district tax payers will be paying over \$3 million less in interest than if the same issue were done two years ago.



(Photo by Clara Osten)

An old locker room, that is not easily accessible, serves as a tornado shelter at Winside Public Schools.

## Strategic plan, renovation project on board agenda

By Clara Osten,  
[clara@wayneherald.com](mailto:clara@wayneherald.com)

The Wayne Community Schools Board of Education took steps on Monday to develop a strategic plan to help determine the future of the district.

Superintendent Dr. Mark Lenihan said the district has not had a strategic plan put together since the 2009-2010 school year.

The district will work with the Nebraska Association of School Boards (NASB) for the process. This will include surveys of various groups of stakeholders in the district, including the board, staff, students and community members.

The cost for the work is estimated to be between \$9,500 and \$11,000, which has been budgeted for.

In regard to the restroom renovation project, an agreement was signed with OCC Builders, Inc., Construction Manager at Risk, for the project.

The guaranteed maximum price for the project, including a 10 percent contingency

fee, is \$353,700. This amount does include three alternates added to the project and will not be higher than agreed upon unless the district chooses to add something to the work being done.

Keith Moje with OCC Builders explained to the board what the project will entail and said he felt comfortable with the process that the school has taken to get to this point.

Moje said his firm will work with the school on when the project will begin.

During the communication from the public period, the board listened to concerns from speakers.

Mindy Heithold talked to the board about her feelings on the wearing of masks by the students.

"It is high time for the kids to be unmasked. Masks are not good for you and kids are not socializing. There is a lot of anxiety. Area schools are doing away with masks," Heithold said.

Sonya Tompkins, who has been the High Ability Learner (HAL) Coordinator and el-

ementary art teacher, spoke to the board on the value of the programs.

Tompkins is stepping away from the position after eight years. The board has chosen not to fill her position at this time.

Tompkins told the board, "I took this job because of the kids. I understand that it is difficult because of the budget, but art is not a class to lose. It provides a break from structured learning. Also, HAL is a right for these students. Please don't make it an after school program."

The hiring of Sara Oltjenbruns for the Library/Media Specialist position at the Elementary School and Samantha Novak for an elementary teacher position were approved.

Board members also received an update from Superintendent Dr. Lenihan on the COVID-19 situation in the district.

Dr. Lenihan said that staff members

have had the opportunity to receive the second dose of the vaccine. In addition, the district is still under the quarantine/isolation mandate for anyone who has been exposed to the virus.

There have been a total of 234 staff absences this school year because of COVID-19. This includes the entire staff.

Dr. Lenihan said that mask wearing is still mandated, but if the health department's risk dial would move downward into the green category (least likely to have community spread of the virus) the district could move to a mask-recommended phase.

Board approval was given to allow Dr. Lenihan to do so if that happens.

In other action, board members set the last day of school for seniors as Tuesday, May 11. Students in K-11 will have a full day on Thursday, May 20 as the last day of the 2020-2021 school year. Pre-school grad-

uation will be held Wednesday, May 12.

First reading approval was given for the 7-12 grade student handbook and 2021-2022 Kids Club Handbook. Only minor changes were made to these documents.

Dr. Lenihan also updated the board on the lunch fund cash coverage and listed a number of items that could be purchased with these funds.

One of the reasons for the excess funds is the fact that the district has been reimbursed differently for lunches due to COVID-19.

The district is required to submit documentation acknowledging the excess funds and state that lunch prices will not be raised.

The Wayne Community Schools Board of Education will next meet in regular session on Monday, May 10 at 5 p.m. at the junior-senior high school.

## Nebraska to Pause Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 Vaccine

The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is pausing administration of the Johnson & Johnson/Janssen COVID-19 vaccine, following CDC and FDA recommendations.

On Thursday, April 8, DHHS, the Douglas County Health Department, and Nebraska Medicine consulted with CDC and FDA about a rare and severe type of blood clot diagnosed in a Nebraska resident. On Tuesday, April 13, CDC and FDA released a joint statement recommending a pause on Johnson & Johnson/Janssen vaccinations nationwide while more investigation is completed.

Vaccine safety is closely monitored by healthcare providers and local, state, and federal partners. While only six instances of this severe clotting event have been identified among approximately 6.8 million who have received the J&J/Janssen vaccine

across the US, the pause is a transparent and deliberate decision to allow time for a thorough review and investigation.

DHHS is communicating the pause to local health departments, healthcare providers, and pharmacies across the state. Any potential adverse reactions to vaccines should be reported into the CDC's vaccine adverse events reporting system (VAERS, <https://vaers.hhs.gov/>).

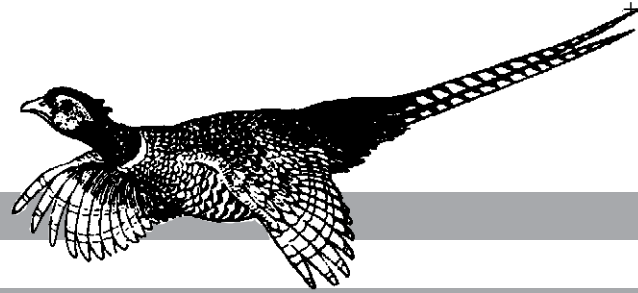
Please note that at this time there are no recommendations to pause the use of the other two vaccines, Pfizer and Moderna. These two vaccines should be provided in place of the Johnson and Johnson/Janssen vaccine until further notice.

For more information, see the official FDA-CDC release: <https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/joint-cdc-and-fda-statement-johnson-johnson-covid-19-vaccine>



(Photo by Clara Osten)

Keith Moje with OCC Builders, LLC (right) explains the work to be done with the restroom renovation project at Wayne High School.



# Record

## Obituaries

### Daniel Lee Tunink

Daniel Lee Tunink, 65, of Randolph, died suddenly on Sunday April 11, 2021 at Faith Regional Health Services in Norfolk.



Services will be held Monday, April 19 at 10:30 a.m. at Saint Jane Frances de Chantal Catholic Church in Randolph. The Rev. Father Timothy Forget and Deacon Doug Tunink will officiate. Visitation will be from 5 - 7 p.m. Sunday, April 18 with a 7 p.m. vigil service at the church under the direction of Johnson Funeral Home in Randolph. Burial will be St. Frances Catholic Cemetery in Randolph.

Visitation and services will be LIVE streamed at [www.johnson-funeralhomes.net](http://www.johnson-funeralhomes.net) or on Johnson Funeral Homes Facebook page

Donations be made to the American Diabetes Association or Cardinal Kids Learning Center in Randolph.

Daniel Lee Tunink was born May 23, 1955 to Theodore (Ted) and Phyllis (Lippold) Tunink in Osmond, the third of twelve children. He grew up and lived in Randolph his entire life. A 1973 graduate of Randolph High School he also attended UN-L and Doane College. On June 17, 1978 Dan married Nikki Stueckrath at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Plainview. They resided in Randolph, where he owned and operated Diversified Insurance Services from 1980 - 2016. Dan was an honest forthright businessman and made many steadfast friends throughout the insurance industry. He always treasured his loyal office staff, and considered them not just employees, but family. His many clients were of his utmost concern; always doing his best to keep their insurance needs met.

He was a member of Saint Jane Frances de Chantal Catholic Church in Randolph and Knights of Columbus. He served on the board of directors of Madison County Bank, as a member and past president of the Randolph Area Foundation and also the Randolph Community Club. He was instrumental in developing the Cardinal Kids Learning Center and was on the original board of directors. Dan enjoyed golfing and hunting for pheasants, turkey and deer. Any activity with his family and friends was special to him.

The most important thing in Dan's life was his family. He spent countless hours playing sports in the yard with his sons as they grew up; and being a pretty good golfer himself, he made sure they knew the fundamentals of golf. His grandchildren were the apple of his eye. He loved them unconditionally.

Survivors include his wife, Nikki, of Randolph; two sons and their families, Mitchell and Andrea Tunink; grandchildren Evey and Fitz all of Lincoln; Tyler and Kaylen Tunink; grandchildren Nessa, baby boy due in August; Addyson and Corbin all of Randolph; seven siblings Karen and Lynn Dowling of Randolph; Cindy and Craig Quick of Ithaca; Doug and Joyce Tunink of Randolph; Marcia and Mark Gubbels of Randolph; Roger and Mary Rose Tunink of Randolph; Don and Stacy Tunink of Omaha; Karla and Phil Burris of Omaha; mother-in-law Dorean Stueckrath of Plainview; sisters-in-law Jann and Jerry Drahota of Sabetha, Kansas; and Jill Stueckrath of Omaha; brother-in-law Dean and Stephanie Stueckrath of Osmond; several nieces, nephews, great nieces, great nephews, and many dear friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Ted and Phyllis Tunink; brothers, Brian and Terry; sisters, Janet and Joyce; and his father-in-law John (Jack) Stueckrath.

Pallbearers will be Dan's nephews, Tony Dowling, Jim Dowling, Justin Gubbels, Clayton Quick, Cameron Quick, Nathan Tunink, Jonas Tunink, James Stueckrath and Jason Drahota.

Honorary pallbearers will be Dan's nieces, Jen Vrbka, Candice Quick, Chelsea Gannon, Corinne Hundley, Crystal Quick, Colette Quick, Jordan Willer, Kim Burritt, Bethany Tunink, Alicia Drahota, Brandi Stueckrath and Krista Stueckrath.

### Doris Backstrom

Doris Eileen (Mahoney) Backstrom, 89, of Norfolk, formerly of Wakefield, died on Monday, April 5, 2021 at Faith Regional Hospital in Norfolk.



1949. Doris married Alden John Alfred Backstrom on Feb. 25, 1951 in Wakefield. To this union the couple had two children, Douglas and Lynn.

Doris worked at the State Nebraska Bank & Trust for 29 1/2 years before becoming a product demonstrator for Hy-Vee for 15 years. Doris enjoyed crocheting and quilting, she made many quilts for gifts. She belonged to the Bridge card club and liked playing Rummikub. Doris was kind to many people and liked to help anyway she could. She was awarded and recognized for the quantity of blood she had donated over the years. Doris loved her family; she drove to Colorado twice a year to spend time with her family.

Survivors include her son, Douglas A. (JoAnn) Backstrom of Littleton, Colorado; daughter, Lynn Marie Backstrom-Funk of Centennial, Colorado; eight grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Alden Backstrom; and sister, Margret Nimrod.

Visitation will be one hour prior to the funeral at the church. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, April 17 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Wakefield. Burial will be in the Wakefield Cemetery in Wakefield.

Memorials are suggested to St. John's Lutheran Church in Wakefield. Arrangements are under the direction of Bressler-Munderloh-Smith Funeral Home in Wakefield.

Doris Eileen (Mahoney) Backstrom was born Oct. 12, 1931 in Plainview to Harry and Clara (Bugenhagen) Mahoney. She was baptized Dec. 20, 1931 in Plainview, and confirmed in March of 1945 in Boomfield. She attended and graduated from Wakefield High School in May of



### Spring Sprints donation

Ron Gentrup, Tootsie Roll Drive Chair for the Fr. Kearnes Council of Knights of Columbus (right) presents a check to Kayla Varley, one of the organizers of the annual Spring Sprints held at the Kern Track in Wayne. The check represents 50 percent of the net proceeds from the Fall 2020 Tootsie Roll Drive. The money will be used during this year's Spring Sprints event, set for Friday, May 8.

### Evening of traditional music planned at WSC

The community is being invited to enjoy an evening of traditional Mexican music and standard mariachi repertoire during the Wayne State College Mariachi Negro y Oro concert Wednesday, April 28 at 7:30 p.m.

Weather permitting, the group will entertain from the Peterson Fine Arts Patio.

The concert is free and open to the public and will also be livestreamed. To view the livestream, find the Wayne State College Department of Music page on Facebook, or visit [www.wsc.edu/music](http://www.wsc.edu/music), select the event, and select the Watch Live button. The program is accessible by selecting the event from the Music Events list at [www.wsc.edu/music](http://www.wsc.edu/music).

If patrons are exhibiting any symptoms of COVID-19, they should remain at home and watch the livestreamed performance.

For more information, contact the WSC Department of Music at (402) 375-7359.



### Junior high speakers

The Wayne Junior High Speech team earned a fifth place finish at the Fremont-Bergen Speech Meet on April 10. All ten events earned medals. Brayden Woehler and Jake Barner received first place in Duet Acting; Sophia Spieker was second in Entertainment; Aleigha Hale was fourth in Entertainment; Sienna Klinetobe was sixth in Declamation; Nyla Bolles was third in Poetry; and Abi Hawthorne was sixth in Poetry and fifth in Extemporaneous. Team members include (left) Brayden Woehler, Jake Barner, Aleigha Hale, Nyla Bolles, Sienna Klinetobe, Sophia Spieker and Abi Hawthorne. Coach for the team is Kristine Muir.

### National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day scheduled for April 24

Although Americans are becoming more aware of the prescription drug abuse epidemic, drug overdoses are killing more people than ever before. According to the 2019 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 9.7 million people misused prescription pain relievers, 4.9 million

people misused prescription stimulants, and 5.9 million people misused prescription tranquilizers or sedatives in 2019. A recent public health study found that more than half of individuals who are prescribed an opioid pain medication never finish the prescription.

Attacking the problem of prescription drug abuse takes a multi-faceted effort. Here is what you can do to help.

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) has announced that the 20th National Prescription Take-Back Day will be

Saturday, April 24 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Take-Back Day provides a safe, convenient, and responsible means for drug disposal, while also educating the public about the potential for abuse of medications. Since the DEA began hosting the National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day in 2010, over 6.3 million pounds of medications have been collected for safe disposal.

On the National Prescription Take-Back Day, communities will be sponsoring take back sites. Call 1-800-222-1222 and poison center nurses and pharmacists will be able to answer your questions and help you quickly locate the nearest take-back site.

Many pharmacies will take back unused medication every day of the year. If you aren't able to take medication back on the April 24th date, you can call the Poison Center for pharmacy take back sites year round. The Poison Center is available to take your call 24/7/365!

### Wayne County Heroes

Is there a hero in your life? If so, we are searching for nominations for Wayne County Heroes.

Mr. Daum's English class wants to celebrate the people who live and work in Wayne County. This is your opportunity to thank your everyday heroes that have impacted your life.

Nominate your hero by mailing your letter to Jacob Daum at Wayne High School or email him at [jadaum1@waynebluedevils.org](mailto:jadaum1@waynebluedevils.org) by April 23.

For more information call 402-375-3150

### A Quick Look

Date	High	Low	Precip	Snow
Apr. 8	—	—	—	—
Apr. 9	—	—	—	—
Apr. 10	—	—	—	—
Apr. 11	—	—	—	—
Apr. 12	—	—	—	—
Apr. 13	—	—	—	—
Apr. 14	—	—	—	—

Recorded 7 a.m. for previous 24 hour period  
Precip./mo. — ? / Monthly snow — 0 Yr./  
Date — ?" / Seasonal snow — 30"



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### Chamber Coffee

WAYNE — This week's Chamber Coffee will be held Friday, April 16 in the Fine Arts Atrium on the campus of Wayne State College. It will be hosted by the Wayne State College Foundation. The coffee begins at 10 a.m. and announcements at 10:15 a.m.

### Spring Trail cleaning event

AREA — The Wayne Exercise is Medicine Club is hosting a Spring Trail Event: Trash Pick Up event on Sunday, April 18. Those wishing to volunteer are asked to meet at the ping pong tables in the picnic area across the street from the Wayne Bowling Alley at 2 p.m. Those taking part will be divided into four groups and assigned an area of the trail. Pizza will be served following the cleanup.

### Paper pick-up, Scouting for Food

AREA — The Wayne Boy Scouts will be conducting the monthly paper drive on Saturday, April 17. In conjunction with this month's event, the Scouts will be collecting food for the Wayne Food Pantry and Backpack program. Nonperishable canned or boxed food should be put in a sack and set out by the curb or in front of the home by 8 a.m. that day. Paper and aluminum beverage cans should be placed in paper grocery bags or boxes and set at the curb by 8 a.m. No plastic, no cardboard, no items with a spiral binding (plastic or metal) can be mixed with the paper. Recyclables can also be dropped off at the Scout trailer at the Transfer Station Monday, Friday or Saturday mornings.

### Shredding event

AREA — A free community shredding event is being planned for Thursday, April 22 in the F&M Bank parking lot. It will run from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Items that can be shredded include old bank statements, credit card statements, old tax returns and any documents with personal information. Magazines, newspapers, cardboard and styrofoam will NOT be accepted. Shredding will take place on-site.

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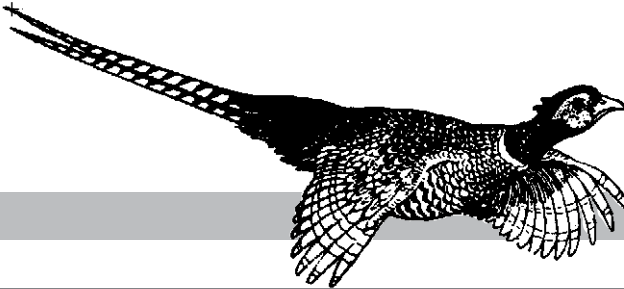
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## MIKE'S MIMIC

### Welcome to the family, Bob

By Mike Renning,  
mikesportshome@yahoo.com

I am almost positive I have mentioned in this space once or twice the fact the Darling Wife likes to shop.

If you have forgotten...the Darling Wife likes to shop.

The little Sweetie can spend three hours looking for the same item to try to save a dime, then usually goes back to the first store where she found the item and purchases it there, including her 10-cent savings.

Good heavens, she flat wore out our mailman when online shopping took off.

Al was the best mailman ever, but grew weary of stopping at my house daily to deliver my mail along with whatever item my Better Half had ordered.

Al retired. I miss Al, our daily chats. Come to think of it maybe Al was tired of our daily chats? I digress.

My neighbor "Sonny", you remember "Sonny", I call him "Sonny" but this real...never mind.

"Sonny" complains incessantly (thank you spell-check) about the lack of gravel at the top end of our road to the neighborhood which consists of his house, an unoccupied house, the Darling Wife's house and our neighbor - which "Sonny" owns that house and rents it out to a very nice deputy sheriff.

By the time FedEx, UPS, Speedee Delivery, Al and everyone else delivering packages comes down our gravel road - the rock does get spread out and I suppose with "Sonny" monopolizing half of the neighborhood, he has the right to bit...er, complain incessantly.

Man, I got off track, or should I say, person, I got off track.

The Darling Wife ordered "Bob". Not protecting anyone here with the quotation marks, "Bob" is a vacuum cleaner.

One of those little round robot-looking discs scurrying along the floor sucking up our dust whenever he is scheduled for duty.

I saw the empty box in the kitchen when I arrived home one evening after a brutal day in the salt mines - all right, I was at a baseball game, and it actually said "Bob" on the box.

Now, I like a good surprise as much as the next guy, or person. I like to eventually figure out exactly what it was my wonderful Darling Wife has purchased.

I don't ask to avoid the 20-minute explanation pertaining to why I "needed" the purchase, I'd rather figure it out on my own.

I was enjoying a basketball game on my television, when all of the



sudden, I heard a noise erupting from the den/Darling Wife's office.

Jake, the Darling Wife's beagle noticed it first as he came flying into the living room and jumped on the couch beside me.

This was quite a leap for Jake as he knows he's not allowed on the couch when I'm on the premises, but evidently this was a dire situation.

The look of terror in Jake's eyes prevented me from booting him off the couch and I put an arm around the little fellow to try to give him some comfort.

Evidently, I gave him too much comfort as he relieved all of his fear in my lap.

I discovered "Bob".

With lights flashing and the noise of a vacuum cleaner, this disc was invading the living room after his, er, its deployment. (Notice how politically correct I'm being - there's hope for everyone.)

After a quick rinse in the shower and a change of clothes, I returned to the living room as "Bob" was finishing his, er, its tour on the floor.

I noticed "Bob" seemed to be chasing Yippee.

Yippee is 16 now, he can drive if he could pass an eye test. (I can call him because he is a he.)

"Bob" ran into Yippee as Yippee can also not hear along with his short-sightedness.

Because of his, er its, internal makeup, "Bob" would head in a different direction and subsequently run into Yippee again.

This went on for at least 15 minutes until the end of "Bob's" deployment.

I'm not sure which team won the basketball game that night, but I am sure I will try to be home at 8:05 p.m. every night to watch "Bob's" nightly rodeo with Yippee and Jake.

It's the little things in life we need to smile about and enjoy... man, er, I mean person, I'm bored.

## Letters

Dear Editor,

I am writing as a point of needed clarification.

Over the preceding months, there have been repeated stories and letters to editors with incorrect understanding. Nebraska did not join the Texas election lawsuit last December.

Nebraska joined an amicus brief highlighting important separation-of-powers issues under Article II of the U.S. Constitution for the Court to consider.

The Supreme Court voted 7-2 in choosing not to hear the matter, and the issue is closed.

**Douglas J. Peterson**  
Nebraska Attorney General

## Capitol View

### Caregivers and property tax payers likely big winners in budget outcome

Commentary by J.L. Schmidt  
Statehouse Correspondent  
The Nebraska Press Association

The state's cash reserve fund, caregivers, people who pay property tax and job training programs will apparently be the big winners in the \$9.7 billion two-year state budget being debated by the Nebraska Legislature.

That's the word from the Legislature's Appropriations Committee Vice Chair Sen. Anna Wishart of Lincoln. She said those "winners" follow the priorities of the committee whose sole job is to craft a state budget using guidelines from the Legislature's Fiscal Office and recommendations from the Governor.

Senators head into the budget debate buoyed by a much more positive picture than when they left the pandemic-interrupted contentious session last year, Wishart said. The state's Economic Forecasting Advisory Board said earlier this year they projected revenue of \$349.5 million. That board meets again April 29 and could revise those projections.

As a result, the committee was able to fund its priorities and still have \$211 million left for other senator's priority bills. Of course, they don't have to spend all of that cash, but the requests already exceed the availability. The best news, the Cash Reserve Fund will go from \$412 million up to \$763 million. Wishart says that's an increase of 14.2 percent, still short of the committee's 16 percent goal.

The Cash Reserve Fund, set-aside for emergency needs, was the brainchild of the late longtime former state Senator and Appropriations Committee Chairman Jerome Warner of Waverly. As a farmer he emphasized the importance of having the money available for those rainy days. History has proven it was a wise choice as it has kept the state solvent at times when others struggled.

While the committee recommendations allow the Governor to keep his promised property tax relief, they do differ with him on providing an increase in funding caregivers who work with the disabled.

## Legislative Update

### Senator presents update on Legislative session

I greatly appreciate Chairman John Sinner and the Appropriations Committee for creating a biennium budget that I, and many of my colleagues, believe will help us to steward Nebraska well over the next two years.

I am proud of how the State of Nebraska has always placed a high value on maintaining a Rainy Day Fund that is sufficiently funded. This has given Nebraska the financial strength to be able to handle unforeseen situations like the flooding in recent years, until the Federal funding reached our communities.

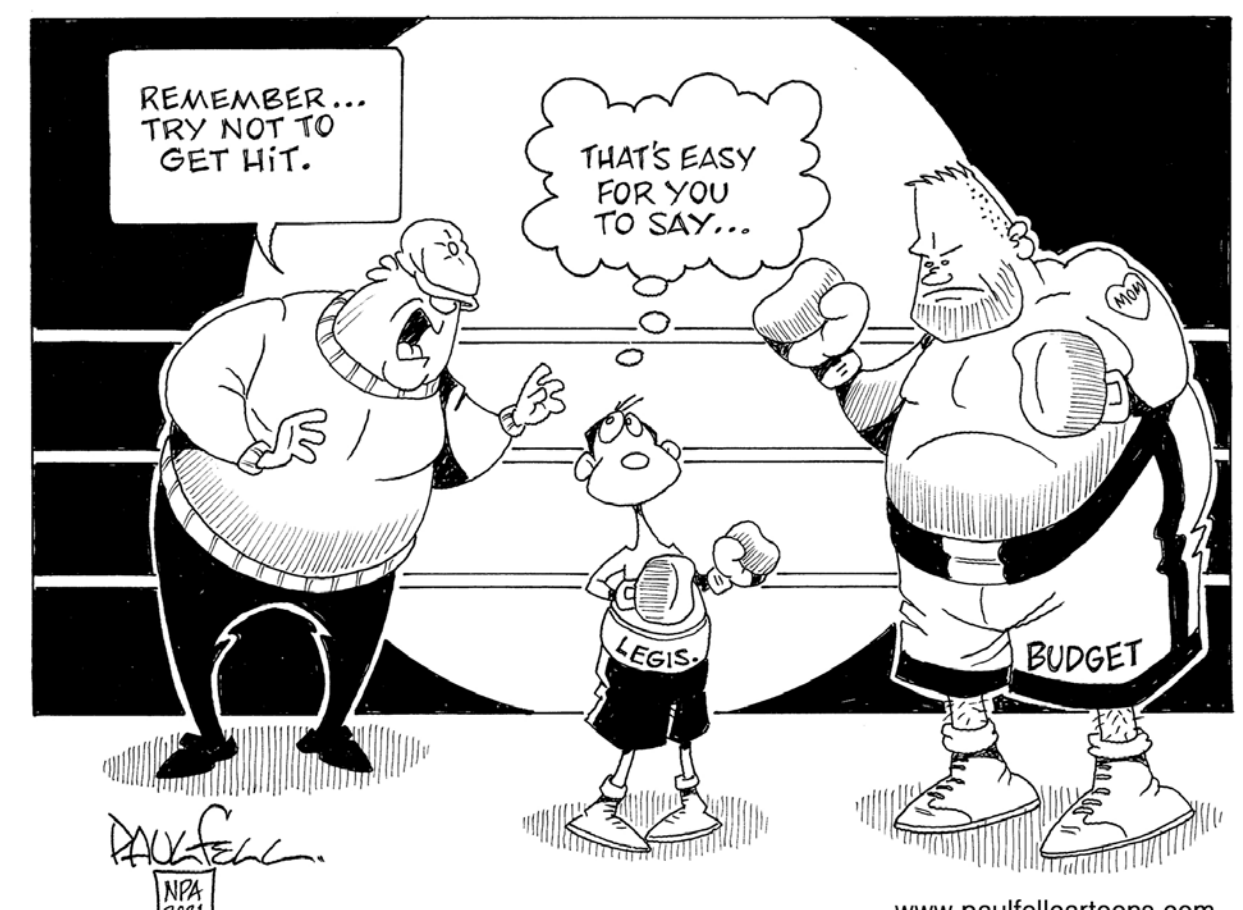
#### Budget Focus On The Floor

Over the past three months the Appropriations Committee has held numerous hearings, briefings and executive sessions to develop their proposed budget. The main focus of the proposal is:

**Replenish the Cash Reserve Fund** - In the committee proposal the Cash Reserve Fund (CRF) balance would increase from \$412 million to \$763 million, a total of \$351 million. Automatic transfers per current law accounts for \$301 million of this increase but the committee proposal allows for this to replenish the balance by only using the CRF for reserving funds as an incentive to attract the US Spacecom project (\$50 million) offset by a \$100 million transfer from the General Fund.

**Service Provider rate increases** - The single largest increase in the budget was to provide a 2% per year increase in Department of Health and Human Services and juvenile service providers amounting to an \$83.5 million increase over the two years.

**Property tax relief** - With a very small increase in TEEOSA funding under the current law formula, the committee included an increase in the Property Tax Credit amounting to \$63 million over the two year period. Although not accounted for as a General Fund expenditure,



Wishart said the committee amount would at least allow caregivers to break-even, something that previously hasn't been possible.

Another departure with the Governor was on a request for so-called replacement funding to allow construction of a new prison facility. Originally seen as a response to prison overcrowding, the Department of Corrections now says a new building is necessary to replace the aging Nebraska State Penitentiary at Lincoln.

Wishart said the committee set aside \$115 million for the request. More due diligence is necessary before the prison is in emergency status because of infrastructure. Instead of authorizing money for a new prison, it's set aside in the Capital Construction area while lawmakers await yet another report on alternatives to brick and mortar for easing things at the nation's second most-overcrowded prison system. She said she expects extensive floor debate on the replacement

prison construction measure.

She said she's proud of the sustainable health care cash fund made possible by settlement funds from a tobacco lawsuit. That is allowing the increase in provider rates to one of the most dedicated group of workers who care for children and seniors with disabilities.

In addition to covering the basic requests, Wishart said the committee was also impressed with funding requests for bills dealing with: the creation of arts and cultural districts; law enforcement education in response to racial justice issues and alternatives to use of force; weatherization for low-income housing; seed money for start-ups (micro enterprise loans); funding for public health programs - and this whole pandemic has shown us how important they are; wildlife management issues; agribility which works with the University to develop and provide tools for disabled farmers; funding of a tribal health center; and increasing the number of audi-

tors to allow for agency audits every three years.

As with all bills, the budget bills face three rounds of debate by the full legislature. The first two should go smoothly. The final reading will be delayed and shaped by the Forecasting Board's April 29 meeting and the approval of funding bills from senator's priorities.

Still to be determined is the impact of federal dollars on the state. Several pandemic - caused revenue streams will be available and lawmakers need to follow the federal guidelines on their use when they become available.

Nebraska's budget is in good hands with a very thoughtful nine-member committee setting the pace. Let's hope their colleagues and the Governor respect that.

*J.L. Schmidt has been covering Nebraska government and politics since 1979. He has been a registered Independent for 21 years.*



**Legislative Update**  
By Joni Albrecht  
State Senator, District 17

ponents who are concerned about the content of the new Health Standard Standards that the Nebraska Department of Education introduced last month.

That is why I spearheaded a letter from the Nebraska Legislature to the Department of Education Commissioner Matt Blomstedt and the State Board of Education asking that all sex education and other ideologically motivated content be removed from the Nebraska Health Standards.

My colleagues who joined me in signing the letter included Senator Julia Slama (LD 1), Senator Robert Clements (LD 2), Senator Robert Hilkemann (LD 4), Senator Mike McDonnell (LD 5) Senator John Arch (LO 14), Senator Ben Hansen (LD 16), Senator Brett Lindstrom (LD 18), Speaker Mike Hilgers (LD 21), Senator Mike Moser (LD 22), Senator Bruce Bostelman (LD 23), Senator Suzanne Geist (LO 25), Senator Myron Dorn (LD 30), Senator Tom Brandt (LD 32), Senator Steve Halloran (LD 33),

Senator Curt Friesen (LD 34), Senator Ray Aguilar (LD 35), Senator John Lowe (LD 37), Senator Dave Murman (LO 38), Senator Lou Ann Linehan (LD 39), Senator Tim Gragert (LD 40), Senator Tom Briese (LD 41), Senator Mike Groene (LD 42), Senator Tom Brewer (LD 43), Senator Dan Hughes (LD 44), Senator Rita Sanders (LD 45), Senator Steve Erdman (LD 47), and Senator John Stinner (LD 48).

#### Nebraska Department of Education health standards

Recently the Nebraska Department of Education released a draft of the Nebraska Health Education Standards. I strongly encourage you to read the standards and inform yourself about new content that is being considered.

Take some time to review the entire document for yourself and let the State Department of Education know what you think.

A draft Health Education Standards are available for review at: <https://www.education.ne.gov/healthed/health-education-standards-development/>

You can contribute your feedback at: [https://nde.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_8d11y2pRSfXIG8R](https://nde.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8d11y2pRSfXIG8R)

Or members of the public can submit a formal comment by emailing [nde.standardsinput@nebraska.gov](mailto:nde.standardsinput@nebraska.gov).

#### District 17 COVID-19

The number of positive tests reported for the periods April 2, 2021, and April 9, 2021 in District 17 are as follow:

Dakota County +19 (4017)  
Thurston County: +5 (1157)  
Wayne County: +12 (1115)

As always, it is of great importance that I hear from my constituents to effectively do my job as your voice in the Legislature. I encourage you to contact me and I look forward to hearing from you. You can reach me at 402-471-2716 or [jalbrecht@leg.ne.gov](mailto:jalbrecht@leg.ne.gov).

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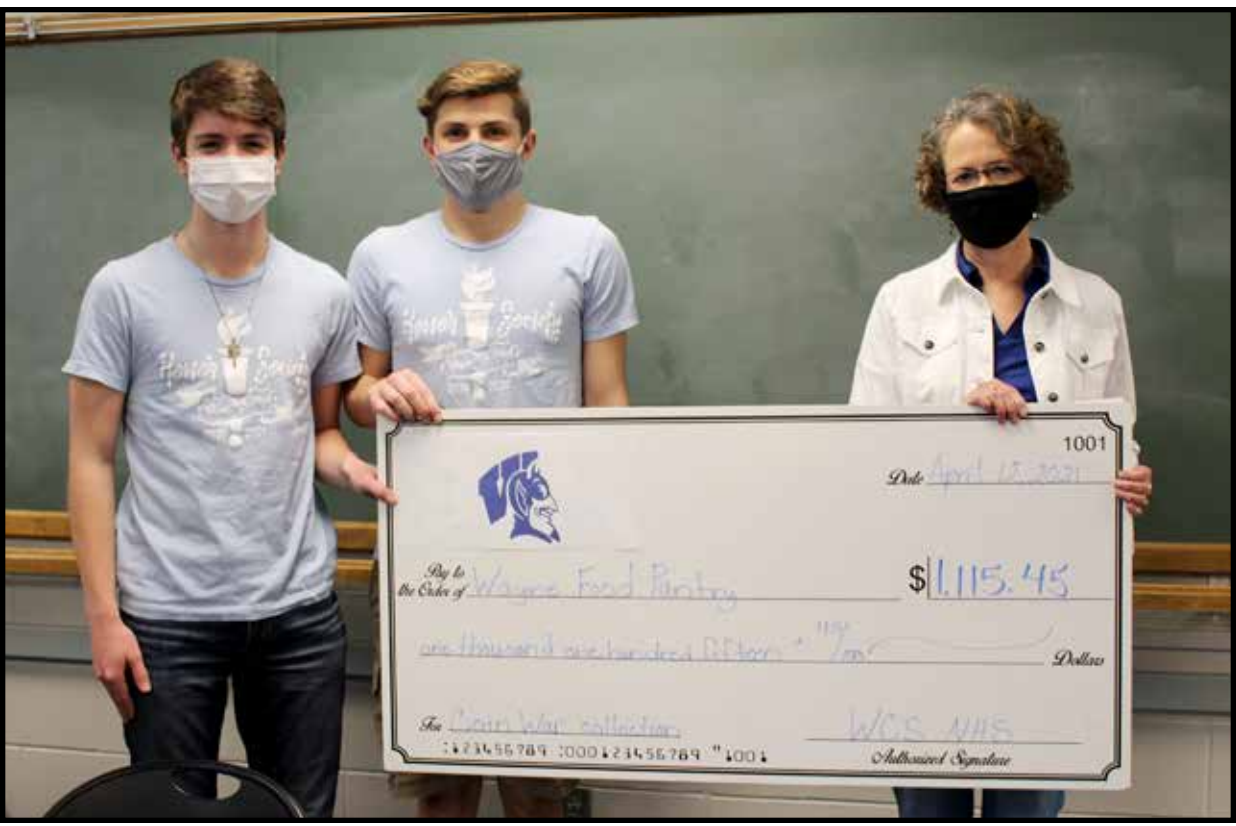
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(Photo by Clara Osten)

## Penny War proceeds

Christopher Woerdemann (left) and Dylan Anderson presented a check to the Wayne Food Pantry/Backpack Program during Monday's Wayne School Board meeting. The money represents the proceeds from a recently completed Penny War event at Wayne High School, organized by the National Honor Society. Accepting the donation is Jodi Pulfer, one of the coordinators of the Backpack Program.

# Input sought on trail name

A group of area citizens is asking the public to provide input on the naming of the Wayne Trail System. The group, Voices for Vision Coalition (VVC) of Wayne, would like citizens to contact elected city officials (the mayor or council representatives) with their thoughts on a trail name.

VVC was formed last summer when a group of citizens gathered to determine how they could promote the trail as a resource for building the community.

Information was gathered by the group on the history of the trail system in the community. It was determined that there was no "official" name or procedure for proposing a

name. Earlier this year the group brought forth a proposal to the Wayne City council to name the trail "The Freedom Trail." At that time, no decision was made on the proposal.

"This is not something we want to force on the community. At this time we feel it is imperative to promote community conversation and ask ourselves, 'Are we as a community, doing everything we can to promote the ideals of our Constitution, to promote Freedom and Justice for all? What if a trail, and a name, can connect more than the town, but also people, and inspire us to think about our responsibili-

ties as citizens of Wayne, Nebraska, the USA, and the world?" said Barbara Engebretsen, on behalf of VVC.

Other members of VVC are Carolyn Albracht, Bonnie Andersen, Sherry Dorman and Gordan and Karen Granberg.

"Yes, I'm a dreamer, but I think Wayne has potential to make a mark as a model of healthy activities and community conversations, toward "Freedom and Justice for All," Engebretsen said.

Citizens are encouraged to contact the mayor or council members at [www.cityofwayne.org/121/City-Council](http://www.cityofwayne.org/121/City-Council) to express their opinions on naming the trail.

# Nebraska Craft Brewery Board seeks grant proposals by April 30

The Nebraska Craft Brewery Board is seeking proposals to fund projects designed to enhance the state's hop and craft brewery industry.

This year, the Board has approximately \$100,000 available to fund innovative research, development and marketing projects from growers, industry organizations, state and local agencies, educational groups, and other eligible stakeholders. The deadline to submit pro-

posals is April 30.

"Craft beer continues to be a popular option because consumers are looking for high quality drinks with unique taste profiles and local ties," said Nebraska Craft Brewery Board Chair Zac Triemert. "These grants represent a big opportunity for those interested in Nebraska's craft beer industry while helping to keep the businesses in Nebraska successful and competitive."

According to the national Brewers Association based in Colorado, the United States had more than 6,200 breweries in 2017. Ten years before that, the nation had approximately 1,500 breweries. Currently there are about 67 licensed breweries in Nebraska.

In Nebraska, craft breweries are defined as small, independent breweries producing less than 20,000 barrels of beer per year.

"Craft beers are made by brewers who work hard to create rich and unique flavors that brewers rarely achieve in large breweries," Triemert said. "The demand for small-batch brews is driving the hop and craft brewery industry forward. Please consider sharing the Boards' request for project proposals with anyone you think would be interested in applying."



(Photo by Clara Osten)

## Promoting a flying event

Travis Meyer (left) and Collin Caneva, two of those involved with organizing the MayDay STOL event at the Wayne Municipal Airport, talk about what spectators can expect to see during the four-day event. Organizers hope to have more than 300 planes at the airport for the first-of-its-kind event in this part of the country.

## Wayne County Heroes sought for recognition

Students in Mr. Daum's English class at Wayne High School are seeking nominations for Wayne County Heroes.

The class wants to celebrate the people who live and work in Wayne

County and encourage the public to take this opportunity to thank the heroes who have impacted their lives.

In past years, recipients have included individuals who have helped

students through difficult times, members of local volunteer fire departments and relatives, just to name a few.

Nominations may be made by mailing a letter to Jacob Daum at Wayne High School or by email to [jadaum1@waynebluedevils.org](mailto:jadaum1@waynebluedevils.org) by Friday, April 23.

For more information, contact Daum at (402) 375-3150.



(Photo by Angie Steffen)

## Help for Haven House

Haven House Director Maureen Carrigg (top left) talks with Wayne State College students Lisa Davonne of Elgin and Otis Hopkins of Omaha during a Wayne State College Service-Learning project on April 8 at Wayne East. The remote campus radio station (91.9 The Cat) service-learning project was raising awareness for Haven House. The remote took place April 8 and April 9. Students started at Wayne East and concluded the remote at the radio station on campus. Davonne and other students completed this event as a class project, however Davonne also made the remote her senior project. Haven House helps victims of domestic violence and abuse in the Wayne area.

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

4/12/2021

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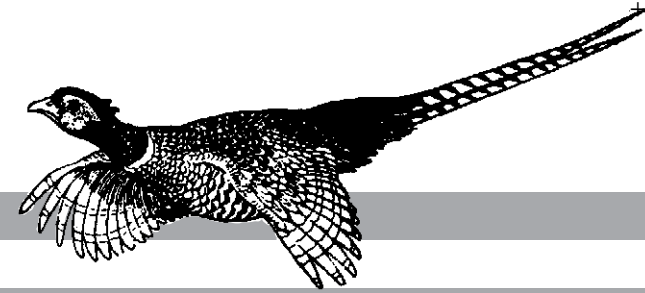
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# Sports

## Area athletes compete at Blue Devil Invitational

Wayne High hosted the Blue Devil Invitational Tuesday at the Kern Complex, with Wakefield among the six teams competing in the day-long meet.

Layne Evans was a double winner for the Wayne High boys, taking top honors in the 400-meter dash

and the 300-meter hurdles. In girls action, Wakefield had a pair of winners. Jordan Metzler won the 400-meter dash as part of a four-medal effort, and Anna Lundahl claimed first in the girls discus.

**Blue Devil Invitational Girls Team Standings**  
Boone Central/Newman Grove 135, Columbus Scotus 124, Pierce 107.5, Columbus Lakeview 77.5, Wayne 67, Wakefield 47.

**Area Medalists**  
400: 1. Jordan Metzler, Wakefield, 1:01.24; 4. Kiara Krusemark, Wayne, 1:07.32. 800: 3. Krusemark, 2:39.94; 4. Faith Powicki, Wayne, 2:44.10. 1,600: 3. Laura Hase-mann, Wayne, 6:08.80. 3,200: 2. Hase-mann, 13:55.84. 300 Hurdles: Metzler, 49.63. 400 Relay: 4. Wakefield (Arenas, Brudigam, Valenzuela, K. Borg), 56.04. 1,600 Relay: 4. Wayne (Krusemark, B Kruse, Kniesche, Belt), 4:41.82. 3,200 Relay: 2. Wayne (Belt, Krusemark, Hase-mann, Powicki), 10:56.17. High Jump: 5. Katy Jones, Wayne, 4-6. Long Jump: 5. Metzler, 16-1 3/4. Triple Jump: 2. Metzler, 33-8; 6. Belt, 32-4 1/2. Discus: 1. Anna Lundahl, Wakefield, 111-9; 3. Brooklyn Kruse, Wayne, 106-4. Shot Put: 2. Kruse, 34-9 1/2. Freshman Sprint Medley: 1. Wayne (Barner, Jones, Maas, Powicki), 4:56.70; 6. Wakefield (K. Borg, Munter-McAfee, Al-Khafaji, Boeckenhaeur), 5:30.24.

**Boys Team Standings**  
Pierce 134, Boys Town 108, Boone Central/Newman Grove 105, Columbus Lakeview 81, Wakefield 56, Wayne 48, Columbus Scotus 26.

**Area Medalists**  
200: 5. Blake Brown, Wakefield, 22.92; 6. Justin Erb, Wakefield, 23.01. 400: 1. Layne Evans, Wayne,

52.43; 2. Erb, 52.87; 4. Sedjro Agoumba, 53.53; 5. Logan Bokemper, Wakefield, 53.77. 800: 3. Cade Johnson, Wakefield, 2:15.01; 6. Hunter Schultz, 2:18.97. 1,600: 6. Ryan Anderson, Wakefield, 5:14.37. 3,200: 3. Anderson, 11:09.24; 4. Jesus Zavala, Wayne, 11:13.88. 300 Hurdles: 1. Evans, 41.33; 4. Alex

Phelps, Wayne, 43.58; 6. Nick Arenas, Wakefield, 44.48. 400 Relay: 3. Wakefield (names NA), 45.10; 6. Wayne (Phelps, Nelson, Evans, Agoumba), 46.37. 1,600 Relay: 5. Wayne (Phelps, Nelson, Evans, Agoumba), 3:45.26. 3,200 Relay: 6. Wayne (Muhs, Aschoff, Ley Zavala), 9:56.77. High Jump: 3. Treyton

Blecke, Wayne, 5-10. Pole Vault: 4. Reece Jaqua, Wayne, 11-0; 6. Eli Barner, Wayne, 10-6. Long Jump: 3. Brown, 21-3 1/2. Triple Jump: 3. Brown, 42-6. Freshman Sprint Medley: 3. Wakefield (Reimers, Vargas, Valenzuela, Chase), 4:23.65; 5. Wayne (Junck, Kesting, Ley, Zavala) 4:36.53.



(Photo by Mary Vanderbeek)

Wakefield's Blake Brown takes flight in the boys long jump during the Blue Devil Invitational. He finished third in the event.



(Photo by Mary Vanderbeek)

Wayne's Katy Jones leaps her way to a fifth-place finish in the girls high jump at the Blue Devil Invitational.



(Photo by Mary Vanderbeek)

Wakefield's Jordan Metzler leads the pack on the backstretch of the 400-meter dash at the Blue Devil Invitational.



(Photo by Mary Vanderbeek)

Wayne's Layne Evans leads the way to the finish line in the 400-meter dash at the Blue Devil Invitational with Justin Erb of Wakefield close behind.

## Wildcat track competes in S.D. Challenge

The Wayne State track and field team came away with some solid finishes in the South Dakota Challenge, held at the University of South Dakota in Vermillion.

In women's action, Allie Rosener took third place in the 3,000 meter steeplechase and Mckenzie Scheil added a third place finish in the hammer throw to lead the Wildcats.

Scheil was third in the hammer throw at 183 feet, 3 1/4 inches and added a sixth-place finish in the shot put at 47-5, while Rosener collected a third-place finish in the 3,000 meter steeplechase with a time of 12:10.45.

Jordyn Pester added a strong fourth-place finish in the 400-meter dash at 58.24 seconds.

Other Wildcat finishers included Jadin Wagner ninth in the hammer throw (171-6), Emily Smollen took ninth in the triple jump at 34-9 1/2, Keyla Sambo took 10th in the triple jump and Hanna Lazure tied for 10th in the high jump, clearing 5-1.

In men's action, Cade Kalkowski took fifth place in the hammer throw while senior Preston Davis posted a pair of top-eight finishes in the javelin throw and 400 hurdles for the top Wildcat finishes.

Kalkowski had the top Wildcat finish, taking fifth in the hammer throw at 193-1 3/4, followed by Wildcat teammates Dylan Kaup in sixth (192-2 3/4) and Cole Christofersen in seventh at 187-3 1/4.

Davis collected a sixth-place finish in the javelin throw (156-10) and was eighth in the 400 hurdles in 57.03 seconds.

Noah Lilly was seventh in the javelin throw (154-2), Ben Allen eighth in the shot put (52-10), Colin Kotz eighth in the 3,000-meter steeplechase (9:57.96) and Brock Hegarty ninth in the 800-meter run at 1:58.75.

The 400-meter relay quartet of Jediah Davis, Justin Rohloff, Jacob Ladage and Noah Carr took seventh place with a time of 42.88 seconds.

Wayne State competes Friday and Saturday in the Sioux City Relays.

## Public urged to leave wildlife babies alone

Seeing young wild animals, such as deer, possums, ducks, rabbits and song birds, alone is common this time of year. Though the inclination may be to intervene, the best choice is to leave the animal alone.

Here are some rules of thumb from the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission regarding wildlife babies:

**BIRDS:** Young non-feathered birds and nests with eggs discovered on the ground should be placed back in the tree. Baby birds covered in feathers found on the ground are being tended to by their parents;

leave them alone.

**DEER:** A lone fawn may appear to be abandoned or injured, but the mother frequently is off feeding or drinking. Do not move it. The longer the fawn is separated from its mother, the slimmer the chance it will be reunited with her. Know it is normal for a doe to leave its fawn to keep it from being detected by predators. Predators can see the doe as it feeds, so she leaves the fawn hidden and leaves the area to draw attention away from the fawn's location.

**RABBITS:** Baby rabbits are left

unattended through much of the day and night. Mother cottontails do this to prevent drawing predators to the nest. If you see the rabbits, leave them alone.

Do not try to raise wildlife babies as pets. As animals mature, they become more independent and follow natural instincts to leave and establish their own territories. Rescued animals are poorly prepared for life in the wild.

Keep in mind: Most wildlife babies are protected by state or federal law, and it is illegal to possess them.

# BOWLING RESULTS

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### Tuesday City League

#### Week #31 of 32

Wildcat Lanes	39.5	20.5
One Office	36.5	23.5
Klein Electric	34	26
Grossenburg Impl.	32.5	27.5
The Odd Balls	31.5	28.5
Pin Pals	31.5	28.5
Wildcat Cubs	30	30
Half/Ton Club	28.5	31.5
Harder & Ankeny	28	32
Wayne Country Club	28	32
The White Dog Is back	26	34
Bye	14	46

**High Games and Series:** Jessi Jensen, 269; Dustin Bargholz, 698; Wildcat Lanes, 919; The White Dog is back, 2,425.

**High Scores:** Dustin Bargholz, 255, 222, 221; Colin Clausen, 250, 209; Brian Kemp, 249; Michael Denklau, 247, 236; Ronnie Forney, 247; Tre Guill, 239, 235; Darin Jensen, 233; Harrison Lane, 231; Dylan Sokol, 225; Kyle Kempf, 224, 216, 215; Jeremy Sebade, 223; Brodie Ronspies, 221, 217, 212; Rich Rethwisch, 220, 214; Darin Bargholz, 218, 217; Brady Ping, 212; Jessi Jensen, 211, 200; Doug Rose, 210; Tony Lawyer, 209; Kelyn Roberts, 207; Joel Ankeny, 202;

Sam Wesely, 202; Amanda Rusch, 180.

**High Series:** Jessi Jensen, 680; Tre Guill, 666; Kyle Kempf, 657; Michael Denklau, 655; Brodie Ronspies, 650; Colin Clausen, 649; Darin Bargholz, 617; Rich Rethwisch, 611; Darin Jensen, 610; Ronnie Forney, 609; Kayleen Roberts, 487; Amanda Rusch, 481.

### Hits N Misses

#### Week #30 of 31

Cruise & Associates	44	16
Wildcat Lanes	44	16
Sterling Computers	38	22
Ruwe Farms	38	22
White Dog Pub	32	28
State Nebr. Bank & Trust	28	32
Gary's Food Town	0	60
Ghost Team	0	60

**High Games and Series:** Lisa Lindsay, 209; Renee Saunders, 207; Dawn Navrkal, 191; Heather Reinhardt, 191; Deb Moore, 190; Candy Guill, 187; Renee Saunders, 587; Heather Einhardt, 523; Lisa Lindsay, 513; Dawn Navrkal, 510; Deb Moore, 504; Elizabeth Haschke, 496; Candy Guill, 496; Nikki McLagan, 491.



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# Wayne State baseball wins series at Duluth

The Wayne State baseball team split a doubleheader at Bemidji State and won two out of three in a road weekend series at Minnesota Duluth.

On Sunday, Andrew Hanson went 2-for-3 with a homer, three runs scored and four stolen bases while starter Ryan Obrecht fired seven strong innings to lead the Wayne State College baseball team in a 4-2 Northern Sun Conference victory over the Bulldogs.

The host Bulldogs grabbed an early 1-0 lead with one run in the first, but the Wildcats evened the score at 1-1 in the fourth as Hanson singled with two outs, stole second and third base and scored on a Bulldog throwing error.

Hanson's solo homer over the left field fence in the top of the seventh gave WSC a 2-1 lead, but UMD came back and tied the score with one run in the bottom of the seventh.

Wayne State took the lead for good in the top of the eighth at 3-2 when Connor Fiene doubled down the left field line and scored on a Kaleb Holm single.

The 'Cats added an insurance run in the top of the ninth as Hanson walked, stole second and third base and scored on a Noah Roberts RBI single for the 4-2 final score.

Wayne State made the most of their five hits in the game. Hanson was 2-for-3 with a solo homer and three runs scored. Fiene doubled while Roberts and Holm each singled.

Obrecht worked seven strong innings to earn the pitching win, now 3-0 on the season. He allowed just five hits and two runs with six strikeouts. Grant Carl fired two innings of scoreless relief, giving up two hits with four strikeouts and one walk.

Bryce Bisenius went 6-for-8 at the plate with two homers and eight

RBI while Aidan Breedlove fired five strong innings in the opener to help Wayne State College split a Northern Sun Conference baseball doubleheader Saturday at Minnesota Duluth. The Wildcats won the opener 12-3 but suffered a 10-9 loss to the Bulldogs in the second game.

The opener saw Bisenius go 4-for-4 at the plate to fuel a 16-hit attack while Breedlove worked five strong innings and overcame a slow start giving up three runs in the first inning followed by four straight shut-out innings to power the Wildcats to victory.

WSC opened with a five-run first inning. CJ Neumann had a two-run single while Bisenius and Connor Fiene each had RBI singles.

Bisenius had an RBI double in the second inning, giving WSC a 6-3 lead after UMD scored three runs in the bottom of the first.

A leadoff homer by Peyton Barnes and a double by Neumann were key

hits for WSC in the third for a 8-3 WSC lead.

A two-run single by Bisenius and RBI single from Neumann put WSC in front 11-3 and the 'Cats closed the scoring in the sixth on a Barnes sacrifice fly that scored Bisenius (single) for the 12-3 win.

Hanson went 3-for-4 with three runs scored while Neumann finished 3-for-4 with a double and three RBI and Barnes 3-for-3 with a homer and two RBI.

Breedlove (1-2) pitched five innings for the win, allowing three runs on six hits. Freshman Kean Allen closed the game with two strong innings of relief, fanning three while allowing just one hit.

The second game saw WSC rally from an early 8-1 deficit to tie the game at 8-8, but UMD scored two runs in the bottom of the eighth inning to gain a split with a 10-9 win.

UMD opened with a seven-run first inning. Both teams scored in

the second to make the score 8-1 after two.

WSC scored twice in the fourth and had a five-run fifth inning to rally for a 8-8 tie. Bisenius belted a three-run homer in the fifth to go with RBI singles from Fiene and Barnes.

But UMD regained the lead with two runs in the eighth to take a 10-8 advantage.

WSC got the first two runners on in the ninth and Noah Roberts later scored on an RBI single from Fiene to reduce the Bulldog lead to 10-9, but the 'Cats could not come up with another run to forge a tie.

Wayne State had 17 hits in the game with eight players having multi-hit games. Roberts was 3-for-4 with three runs scored followed by Bisenius with a pair of homer going 2-for-4 with four RBI. Fiene went 2-for-4 with a pair of RBI.

Starter Hunter Wienhoff lasted three innings, charged with eight runs. Reliever Logan Walters worked three scoreless innings of relief with two strikeouts. Lefthander Andrew Staebell (0-2) suffered the loss in 1 1/3 innings of work, charged with two runs and two hits while Lawson Zenner worked the remaining 2/3 of an inning.

Redshirt freshman starting pitcher Brody Sintek fired a complete game, five-hit shutout to carry Wayne State in a 1-0 win over Bemidji State Tuesday afternoon followed by an 11-9 Beaver victory in the second game of an NSIC baseball doubleheader played in Bemidji, Minn.

The opener saw redshirt freshman Brody Sintek toss a complete game, five-hit shutout to lead the Wildcats in a 1-0 victory over the Beavers.

Wayne State scored what proved to be the lone run of the ball game in the top of the first inning as Brendan Madsen opened the game with a single and came home on a two-out single through the right side by CJ Neumann giving the Wildcats a 1-0 lead.

Bemidji State had a pair of innings with two hits each against Sintek in the fourth and sixth innings, but both times the Wildcat right hander got out of the innings to preserve the shutout.

WSC outhit BSU in the opener

8-5 as Madsen went 2-for-4 and scored the only run of the game. Bryce Bisenius was 2 for 2 with a pair of singles while freshman outfielder Kaleb Holm was 2-for-3 with a pair of singles. Neumann and Andrew Hanson each added singles in the win.

Sintek improved to 1-1 with the complete game win, allowing just five hits with four strikeouts.

The second game saw five errors hamper the Wildcats as Bemidji State gained a split in the doubleheader with an 11-9 win over the Wildcats.

WSC held a 3-0 lead after two innings as the Wildcats used an RBI single from Eric Standish in the first inning to take a 1-0 lead followed by a pair of runs in the second without a hit using a pair of walks and a Beaver throwing error to score two runs.

After BSU scored took a 4-3 lead with four runs in the third, the 'Cats regained the lead with a pair of runs in the fourth at 5-4 as Standish delivered an RBI single followed by an RBI fielders' choice from Andrew Hanson.

Bemidji State took the lead for good with a five-run fourth inning, taking a 9-5 lead. The Beavers added two more runs in the sixth for an 11-5 lead.

WSC bounced back with three runs in the seventh, highlighted by a two-run double from Brendan Madsen and an RBI single by Kaleb Holm, to cut the BSU lead to 11-8.

The 'Cats closed the scoring with one run in the ninth inning as Connor Fiene walked and scored on a passed ball to make the final score 11-9.

Wayne State outhit BSU in the game 12-9. Standish was 4-for-6 with two RBI to lead the Wildcats. Madsen finished 2-for-5 with a double and two RBI while Chris Cornish was 2-for-4 with two runs scored. Peyton Barnes also had two hits with a double.

Starter Trenton Frerichs worked the first three innings on the hill. Reliever Josh Renken (0-1) suffered the loss allowing five runs on four hits in 1/3 inning of relief. Grant Carl and Lawson Zenner each pitched 2 1/3 innings of relief to close out the contest.

## Wildcats see conference action at home

Jenna Etmans drove home Ashley Hernandez in the bottom of the ninth inning with the game-winning run, giving Wayne State a thrilling 7-6 extra inning win over Concordia-St. Paul in the first game of a Northern Sun Conference softball doubleheader Sunday at the Pete Chapman Softball Complex in Wayne.

Concordia-St. Paul came back to win the second game 7-3 to earn a split, making the Golden Bears 13-11 and 7-3 in the NSIC while WSC is now 4-20 and 1-11 in league play. WSC trailed 2-0 early in the opener, but a solo homer from Kamryn Sparks in the second and another run in the third inning tied the score at 2-2.

The 'Cats took a 4-3 lead in the bottom of the sixth when Etmans homered to left center field scoring Sparks, who was hit by a pitch.

Concordia-St. Paul responded with two runs in the top of the seventh and took a 5-4 lead, but WSC sent the game to extra innings in the bottom of the seventh on an RBI single from Hernandez.

The Golden Bears took a 6-5 lead in the top of the ninth, but WSC came up with big hits in the bottom of the ninth to secure their first league win of the season.

Kortney Buresh led off the inning with a single and scored on a Kim Vidlak double. Hernandez walked and came around to score on the third hit of the game from Etmans, a single to left field, giving WSC the thrilling win.

WSC had 13 hits in the win, led by Etmans going 3-for-5 with three RBI including a homer. Buresh went 3 for 4 with two runs scored while Vidlak was 2-for-4 with an RBI. Sparks homered and scored twice.

Sloan Cooksey pitched all nine innings for WSC to get the win, striking out seven.

The second game saw Concordia-St. Paul scored one run in five of the seven innings to gain a split.

CSP scored two runs in the first followed by single runs in the second and third for a 4-0 advantage.

The Golden Bears added one run in the fifth and two in the sixth for a 7-0 lead.

WSC avoided the shutout with three runs in the bottom of the sixth as Mary Krystofiak and Vidlak each had RBI singles.

Krystofiak was 2 for 3 at the plate with an RBI and run scored for WSC while Vidlak went 2 for 4. Buresh, Emily Hale and Etmans each had singles.

Maddie Moser suffered the pitching loss in five innings of work while Callie Carragher worked two innings of relief.

On Saturday, No. 20-ranked Minnesota State defeated Wayne State College 20-3 and 11-5 in action at the Chapman Complex.

A 12-run sixth inning sealed the win for the Mavericks in the first game.

After MSU scored three in the first and five in the second for an 8-0 early advantage, Wayne State gained some momentum in the bottom of the fourth as Ashley Hernandez led off the inning with a solo homer followed by an RBI single from freshman Mary Krystofiak to get the Wildcats on the board and trailed 8-2 entering the fifth.

But Minnesota State erupted for 12 runs in the sixth inning on nine hits and three Wildcat errors to take a 20-2 lead. WSC added a run in the bottom of the sixth on an RBI groundout from Dylan Sweeney that scored Jenna Etmans, who singled earlier, to close out the scoring. WSC had eight hits in the contest, led by Etmans going 2-for-3 with two runs scored. Krystofiak also had two hits and an RBI while Hernandez homered. Sweeney, Kortney Buresh and Katie Humburg also had hits for the Wildcats.

Cooksey suffered the pitching loss with 3 2/3 innings of relief from Carragher.

The second game saw the Mavericks use a six-run fourth inning to erase a 4-2 deficit to the Wildcats as Minnesota State completed the sweep.

The 'Cats scored in the first three innings of the game. In the first,

Kim Vidlak singled and scored on a MSU fielding error. Emily Hale's RBI double in the second scored Riley Holmberg (single) for the second Wildcat run of the game.

WSC took a 4-2 lead in the third on a two-run single from Sparks, bringing home Buresh (error) and Hernandez (single), but Minnesota State wasted no time in regaining the lead, scoring six runs in the fourth on six hits for an 8-4 lead.

MSU added two runs in the sixth and one in the seventh for a 11-4 lead and WSC capped the scoring in the bottom of the seventh on a Vidlak RBI single that brought home pinch runner Abby Husing to make the final score 11-5.

Wayne State had 10 hits in the game, led by Vidlak going 3-for-4 with an RBI and run scored. Hale doubled while six other Wildcats had one single each.

Maddie Moser was the losing pitcher in four innings of work while sophomore Cooksey worked three innings of relief and had six strikeouts.

Sioux Falls swept Wayne State 8-6 and 5-2 in action Wednesday at the Chapman Complex.

In the opener, WSC opened the scoring with an RBI single from Kortney Buresh that scored Riley Holmberg (single) for a 1-0 lead after three innings.

USF came up with four unearned runs in the fourth to take a 4-1 lead, but WSC responded with two runs in the bottom of the fourth to trim the Cougar advantage to 4-3. Holmberg's two-run single to left field brought home Kamryn Sparks (walk) and Jenna Etmans (single).

The 'Cats took a 6-4 lead in the bottom of the fifth with three runs thanks to a two-run single by Michaella Smith and an RBI single by Tornberg.

But the Cougars struck for another four-run inning, coming up with three hits and taking advantage of one Wildcat error to bring home four runs giving Sioux Falls an 8-6 win.

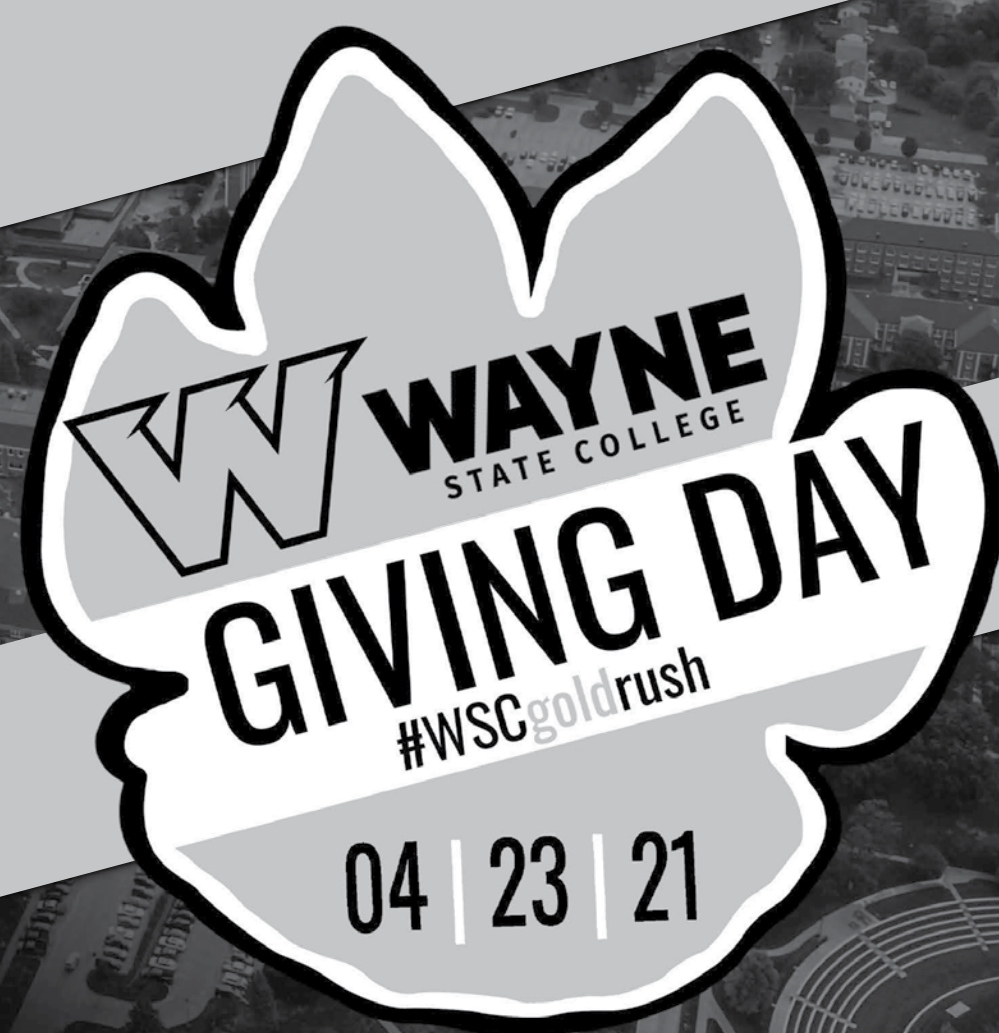
WSC outhit USF in the game 11-7 thanks to Buresh going 4-for-

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# Take 'em Fishing to share love of the sport

Catching fish is fun and addicting. The more fish you catch, the more you want to keep fishing.

The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission encourages experienced anglers to share that feeling and introduce people to fishing in the third year of Take 'em Fishing.

Experienced anglers who participate will know they've introduced someone to an activity they can enjoy for a lifetime, while also sharing their love of the sport.

"Most everyone who loves to fish learned with the help of someone else. It is important to help more people know that fishing is a fun, convenient activity that is good for your health and well-being and

helps you get in touch with nature," said Dean Rosenthal, fisheries administrator. "There are plenty of opportunities to take a beginner fishing in Nebraska and we have resources on our website for people looking for places to go."

As an incentive, participants who submit a photo of their trip with a beginner angler between April 15 and Sept. 15 will be eligible for prizes, including a Bass Tracker boat, state park stay, kayak, fishing rod, gift cards and more.

Take 'em Fishing has annually grown. There were 4,700 entries in the first year and 6,195 last year.

Visit [outdoornebraska.gov/taekemfishing](http://outdoornebraska.gov/taekemfishing) for more information.

# Wildcat golfers fourth at home invitational

The Wayne State College women's golf team placed fourth with a two-day score of 665 at the Wildcat Classic that concluded Monday in windy, cold conditions at the Wayne Country Club.

After enjoying near perfect conditions on Sunday where the Wildcats set a new school record shooting a 323, WSC and all other teams in the tournament braved windy, chilly conditions at the Wayne Country Club where the feels like temperature to start the round was in the upper 30's.

Nebraska-Kearney edged Augustana 624-632 for the team title with Concordia-St. Paul third at 655. Wayne State was 10 shots back in fourth at 665 followed by Concordia (Neb.) with 670, Bemidji State shot 695, York College 697 and Mount Marty 734.

The individual medalist for the meet was Faviola Gonzalez of Nebraska-Kearney with a six-over par 150 after shooting rounds of 70 and 80. Augustana's Molly Stevens was

second at +11 with scores of 72 and 83 for a 155.

Wayne State's top finishers were freshman Abbey Kurlmel and sophomore Paige Peters, who both tied for 11th overall at 163. Kurlmel posted scores of 79 and 84 while Peters shot 78 and 85.

Freshman Jazmine Taylor tied for 17th place with a 165 (81-84) while freshman Tricia Hemann was 26th overall with a 174 shooting rounds of 85 and 89.

The Wildcats shot a two-day total of 695 (324-371) to finish 12th at the Newman Spring Invitational, held Wednesday in Newton, Kan.

Kurlmel tied the individual school record with a 78 on Wednesday and was the top Wildcat finisher at tied for 39th with a two-day total of 167 (89-78).

Taylor followed with a 171 shooting rounds of 89 and 82. Hemann fired a final-round 79 and ended with a 177 (98-79) while Peters posted rounds of 95 and 85 for a 180.

Wayne State will play next at

the Augustana Spring Invitational Falls, S.D., Saturday and Sunday at Elmwood Golf Course in Sioux



(Photo by Bob Berry) Tricia Hemann focuses on putting the ball on the green in regulation. The Minnesota freshman was one of four Wildcat golfers competing in the first Wayne State golf tournament since 2013.



(Photo by Bob Berry) Paige Peters of Bancroft watches her putt roll towards the hole for a birdie. Peters fired a team-best 78 during first round action of the Wildcat Classic on Sunday.



(Photo by Bob Berry) Jazmine Taylor eyes the ball as it rolls toward a potential birdie. Taylor, a native of Omaha was the first inked recruit to the new Wildcats golf program after an eight-year absence.



(Photo by Bob Berry) Abbey Kurlmel follows through on her approach during action at Wayne Country Club on Saturday on her way to a score of 79.



(Photo by Bob Berry) Wayne State women's golf coach Joey Baldwin discusses strategy with Abbey Kurlmel. The freshman from Michigan tied for first on the Wildcats team with a two-day total of 163.

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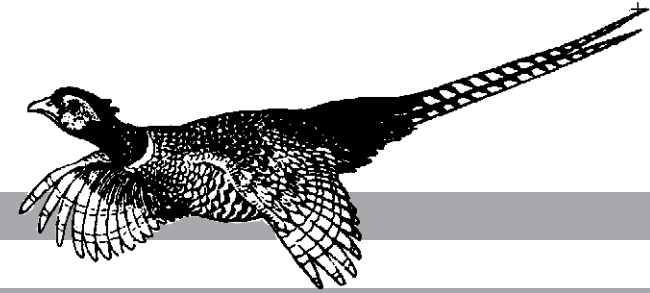
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# Lifestyle



## Sesame Street in Communities virtual workshop planned

Caregivers play an essential role in young children's emotional development in addition to helping them cope. We know that children's literature, when used in an interactive manner, can help children personally connect with the experiences of the characters in the books.

Nebraska Extension is excited to partner with NET-TV, Nebraska's PBS & NPR Station, for a FREE Sesame Street in Communities Virtual Workshop. This workshop is for ALL early childhood professionals to learn how to interactively use

children's literature using an engaging program known as Read for Resilience (R4R).


By attending, early childhood professionals will earn a certificate with 1.5 in-service hours, learn how to use children's literature in an interactive way to help children heal, explore how to engage children to help them improve their coping skills, and hear about Sesame Street in Communities as a resource.

Participants will receive Sesame Street in Communities resources to

**Cedar County**

**Jackie Steffen**

Extension Educator



**UNL Extension**

use in the classroom or home to help children from birth to age eight. Topics include reading, writing, and resilience.

Professionals will also be introduced to 22 newly developed storybook guides that accompany featured books. These guides provide adults with suggested activities and probing questions to help children personally connect.

The Sesame Street in Communities Virtual Workshop is being offered several different times ensuring multiple opportunities for early childhood professionals to participate.

- Thursday, April 15 from 1-2:30 pm
- Thursday, April 15 from 7-8:30 pm

These dates were specifically scheduled during the Week of the Young Child (April 10-16). This is a week of fun celebrating early learning, young children, their teachers, families, and communities.

To register for the Sesame Street in Communities Virtual Workshop, visit: [www.netNebraska.org/SSIC](http://www.netNebraska.org/SSIC)

To learn more about Nebraska Extension's Read for Resilience program visit: <https://child.unl.edu/read4resilience>.

### Merlin Brondum Memorial Scholarship to be awarded

Applications are now being accepted until May 15 for the Merlin Brondum Memorial Scholarship.

The scholarship was established in memory of Merlin Brondum's dedication to rural healthcare. This \$2500 scholarship is available to anyone residing in Thurston, Wayne, Cuming, Dixon, Burt and Dakota Counties and currently enrolled in an Allied Healthcare course of study.

Criteria for selection include academic performance, health care experience, financial need, career objective in rural health and college and community involvement. Merlin Brondum passed away on March 15, 2003, at age of 49, after a brief illness.

Merlin worked at Pender Community Hospital for 27 years, most of which were as the Director of the Laboratory. Merlin was a dedicated professional who will best be remembered by the PCH staff as a friend and family member.

The application form is available on the Pender Community Hospital website: [www.pendercommunityhospital.com](http://www.pendercommunityhospital.com). The recipient will be announced in June.

Anyone with questions is asked to contact Kelly Kaup at [kelly.kaup@pchne.org](mailto:kelly.kaup@pchne.org).



(Contributed Photo)

### Food, fun and reading

Ms. Eliene Loetscher's Winside first grade class participated in a four week Nebraska Extension School Enrichment program called Food, Fun, and Reading. Each week Amy Topp, Extension Educator, focused on a food group associated with MyPlate. The food groups include grains, fruits, vegetables, dairy, and protein. During each session, foods from each of the five food groups were identified and a corresponding children's book was read. The students were also able to have a healthy snack that related to that week's theme.

### School Lunches

#### ALLEN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS (April 19 - 23)

**Monday:** Breakfast — Omelet. Lunch — Mashed potatoes, gravy, vegetable, fruit, tea roll.

**Tuesday:** Breakfast — Apple turnover. Lunch — Hamburger on bun, tater tots, vegetables, fruit.

**Wednesday:** Breakfast — Cinnamon roll. Lunch — Italian Dunks, marinara sauce, vegetable, fruit.

**Thursday:** Breakfast — Apple loaf. Lunch — Crispito with cheese, vegetable, fruit, tea roll.

**Friday:** Breakfast — Pancakes. Lunch — Egg roll, Asian rice, vegetable, fruit, fortune cookie.

Most breakfast meals include a variety of cereal, 8 oz. of milk, fruit or fruit juice. All lunch meals include 8 oz. of milk. Salad bar will not be available this school year.

#### LAUREL-CONCORD-COLERIDGE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS (April 19 - 23)

**Monday:** Breakfast — Cornbread, sausage. Lunch — Pizza burger.

**Tuesday:** Breakfast — Cinnamon twist. Lunch — Orange chicken.

**Wednesday:** Breakfast — Omelet & toast. Lunch — Tater tot casserole.

**Thursday:** Breakfast — Coffee cake. Lunch — Lasagna.

**Friday:** Breakfast — Mini pancakes. Lunch — Sub sandwich.

Menu subject to change. Cereal offered for breakfast everyday.

#### WAKEFIELD SCHOOLS (April 19 - 23)

**Monday:** Breakfast — Waffles, sausage, oranges. Lunch — Pizza, broccoli, peaches.

**Tuesday:** Breakfast — Biscuits & gravy, apples. Lunch — Chicken sandwich, green beans, applesauce.

**Wednesday:** Breakfast — Blueberry muffins, oranges. Lunch — KFC casserole, dinner roll, strawberries.



**Thursday:** Breakfast — Cheesy pretzels, peaches. Lunch — Sloppy Joes, carrots, pears.

**Friday:** Breakfast — Long Johns, applesauce. Lunch — Quesadilla, corn, juice.

Milk and juice are served every day with breakfast. Milk is served with lunch. Menus are subject to change.

#### WAYNE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS and ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY (April 19 - 23)

**Monday:** Breakfast — Mini pancakes. Lunch — Taco, Romaine lettuce, refried beans, pears.

**Tuesday:** Breakfast — Biscuits & gravy. Lunch — Stromboli, green beans, broccoli, mixed fruit.

**Wednesday:** Breakfast — Donuts. Lunch — Popcorn chicken, dinner roll, potatoes, carrots, apricots.

**Thursday:** Breakfast — Pancake on a stick. Lunch — Spaghetti, meat sauce, French bread, cauliflower, strawberries.

**Friday:** Breakfast — Breakfast pizza. Lunch — Cheese boat, tomato, corn, peaches.

Chef salad is optional for K-12. Milk served with every meal. Menus subject to change.

#### WINSIDE PUBLIC SCHOOLS (April 19 - 23)

**Monday:** Breakfast — Breakfast pizza. Lunch — Mini corn dogs, baked beans, fruit, bread stick.

**Tuesday:** Breakfast — Egg taco. Lunch — Mandarin chicken, rice, cooked carrots, fruit, roll.

**Wednesday:** Breakfast — Pancake, sausage bites. Lunch — Meatball sub, vegetable, fruit.

**Thursday:** Breakfast — Cereal. Lunch — Hamburger, macaroni & cheese, vegetable, fruit, roll.

**Friday:** Breakfast — Waffle. Lunch — Chicken patty, bun, fries, fruit.

Milk served with all meals. Menu subject to change. Late starts - no breakfast or K-2 salad plates.

### Senior Center Congregate Meal Menu

(Week of April 19 - 23)

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 [dberrtrand@cityofwayne.org](mailto:dberrtrand@cityofwayne.org)

Staff will be available between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m.

**Monday:** Vegetable beef soup, crackers, Grandma's lime green gelatin salad with pears, sliced white bread, cranberry juice.

**Tuesday:** Barbecue chicken hindquarter, baked potato, dilled carrots, dinner roll, fresh fruit with grapes, apples and strawberries.

**Wednesday:** Sliced pork roast, mashed potatoes, gravy, Bavarian kraut, three-bean salad, rye bread, applesauce raspberry gelatin salad.

**Thursday:** Earth Day. Meatballs with mushroom sauce, au gratin potatoes, scalloped corn, pumpkin muffin, mandarin oranges.

**Friday:** Breaded chicken sandwich, home made bun, creamed potatoes, broccoli, mayo, lettuce leaf, tapioca fruit salad.

**Free Community Shred Day**


Thursday, April 22, from 10:30AM - 1:00PM

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 Or apply on-line @ [www.northstarservices.net](http://www.northstarservices.net)

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 Inquiries may be directed to:  
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 Email - [jeremy.christiansen@lccschool.org](mailto:jeremy.christiansen@lccschool.org)  
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- Maintenance Repair Worker III—HVAC & Plumbing**  
**Nature of Work:** This is a skilled classification level to perform work that involves activities in any one or more of the following craft areas: energy operations, HVAC, plumbing or related disciplines.

For a complete listing of job requirements and application procedures, visit our Website at [www.wsc.edu/hr](http://www.wsc.edu/hr), call 402-375-7403 or email [hr@wsc.edu](mailto:hr@wsc.edu). WSC is an EOE.

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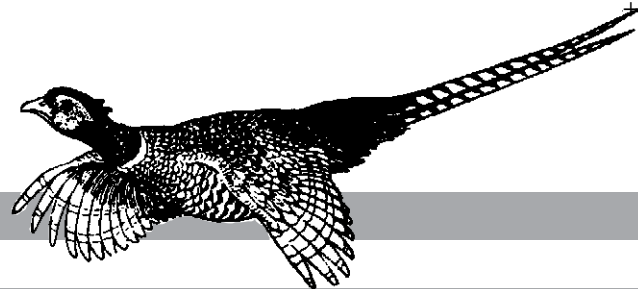
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# Agriculture

## Naturally occurring elements in groundwater — iron and manganese

By Becky Schuerman, Extension Associate, Domestic Water & Wastewater

There are naturally occurring elements and minerals within Nebraska's geology, and with that, it is not uncommon to find them in Nebraska's groundwater. Calcium, magnesium, iron, manganese, fluoride, arsenic, and uranium are among the elements found in Nebraska. This month, the spotlight series continues with iron and manganese.

**Iron and Manganese**  
Iron and manganese can be a nuisance in a private well system. They are similar metals that cause taste, appearance, and staining problems at concentrations as low as 300 micrograms per liter (µg/L) or parts per billion (ppb) to plumbing fixtures, porcelain, dishes, glassware, and laundry.

The minerals can give water a metallic and/or bitter taste and can have an undesirable effect on the taste/color of food prepared with it. They may react with the tannins in coffee, tea, and some alcoholic beverages affecting both appearance and taste. They are also known for scale layer build-up and clogging issues within water pipes and plumbing fixtures, e.g. hot water heaters, pressure tanks, and water softeners.

Of the two, iron is found more frequently in ground-water, though manganese is often found with iron. Iron in drinking water is not considered a health hazard. Iron and manganese bacteria are found in the soil and shallow aquifers. The bacteria are not known to present a health risk, but they do form a reddish-brown (iron) or brownish-black (manganese) slime-like residue as they feed on the iron and manganese in the water. This slime is often found in plumbing fixtures, toilet tanks, wash machines, and other water-using appliances.

Another common indicator that the iron and manganese bacteria exist, is a foul odor (similar to a rotten egg smell). The odor is a by-product of the bacteria feeding on the iron and/or manganese. If either the slime or odor are noticed, water tests should be conducted. The

use of chlorine or alkaline builders (such as sodium and carbonate) to kill bacteria may intensify staining because it causes the dissolved minerals to precipitate out of solution.

**Health Effects**  
At high concentrations, manganese can be a health hazard. Infant formula containing soy and rice cereal should not be made with water above 300µg/L or ppb in manganese due to the content of manganese already present in the formula or ce-

### N EXTENSION

real. Older children and adults who drink water that is above 1,000µg/L or ppb in manganese for many years may experience adverse health effects to their nervous system. These effects may include behavioral changes, slow and/or clumsy movements, or learning problems.

**Treatment**  
As with any filtration system, one should know their water quality analysis results and research the manufacturer's specifications of the treatment units being considered. For providing safe drinking water, point of use (POU) devices such as reverse osmosis (RO), distillation, and carbon filtration are all good options to remove dissolved manganese, and often iron. To service the whole house, a point of entry (POE) device is a better choice. Common POE devices for private water sup-

plies include ion exchange water softener, oxidizing filters, and aeration (pressure type) followed by filtration.

All of these treatment options have their advantages and limitations, thus making treatment sometimes challenging. Knowing the form and concentration of iron and manganese in your raw water, the nuisance issues, and researching the effectiveness of treatment units and frequency/cost of maintenance are all consideration factors in making a better treatment decision.

For further information about iron and manganese and the types of treatment, see Nebraska Extension's NebGuides at <https://water.unl.edu/article/drinking-water/neb-guides>.

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## Enjoying learning about birds

We've had more good rain, and this morning, more sunshine. I need to walk more! I tell my neighbors it's been too cold, too hot, too windy, too rainy, and now, I have a pain in an ankle! Darned arthritis. It does give me another excuse.

When you read the sports pages, you are hard pressed to realize which one you are reading about: football, Nebraska Wesleyan's league is playing now; basketball, NBA type; hockey; bowling (UNL women won another championship); baseball; softball; and volleyball, which has not typically been a spring sport.

When in Florida, I was treated to a volleyball game at the University of Central Florida, which is just ten minutes away from their home. One of the stars is from Lincoln's Southeast High, and their team won their conference, giving them a chance to play in the NSAA tournament, which begins tomorrow; Wednesday, in Omaha.

I've never got into bird watching. I mean, I like them, unless they build a nest above my deck, and I can tell a robin from a sparrow. But to actually pay attention to



**The Farmer's Wife**  
By: Pat Meierhenry

their feeding habits, I left that to Mike. Kay gave him a long, narrow feeder and hung it outside the kitchen window. It has squirrel preventers on top and bottom. Mike got a lot of pleasure watching them at the feeder and using the bird book to acquaint him with the species.

ent finches, some easier to identify than others. There is also a Cardinal pair, we have noticed them for years. They have a distinctive call, even when they are hard to spot in the high part of the trees. Once in awhile, we see one or the other at that feeder. The robins are "bottom feeders", they eat what is dropped to the ground below the feeder, IF they can get there before the squirrels.

The feeder is the reason I bought the bird bath a few years ago; but I refuse to buy a warmer for winter. I don't want to be responsible for it.

At the home of my friends in Orlando, there is a patio surrounded by plants, including peace lilies and orchids, and in the shared space, some large trees. They spotted a huge covey of birds flying in and out of some of the trees. Jerry has an app on his phone whereby he can tape the bird sounds and send it to somewhere in Germany, where an AI will tell him what he is hearing. Well, Marlyce and I didn't stop talking as he did that, and his answer came back: homo sapiens!! (The birds were cedar wax wings.)

We found we have a lot of differ-

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