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The Wayne Herald

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Daily updates on the Web at www.thewayneherald.com



(Photo by Clara Osten)

Participants in this year's MLK Day activities walked from the WSC campus to the Majestic Theatre on Monday.

'March to the Majestic' features movie 'Just Mercy' for MLK Day

In recognition of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Wayne State College Multicultural and International Programs hosted "March to the Majestic" on Monday, Jan. 16.

The event included a walk from the WSC campus to the Majestic Theatre in Wayne, where the movie "Just Mercy" was shown.

Attendees began their walk at the Carhart Science Building on the WSC campus and walked down Main Street to the theatre.

The movie was followed by discussion facilitated by Endia Casey-Agoumba and assistant professor of criminal justice Dr. Rachel Kunz.

For more information on the event, contact: C.D. Douglas, Vice President for Student Affairs, at cddoug1@wsc.edu or Amy White, Director of Student Activities, at amfran01@wsc.edu



(Photo by Aubreanna Miller)

Dean Burbach (left) will serve as the Chairman of the Wayne County Commissioners for the coming year.

Commissioners discuss cost of living increase for county employees

By Aubreanna Miller
For the Herald

The Wayne County Commissioners discussed pay increases, appointed a new chairman and met with Highway Superintendent, Mark Casey, and a member from the Wayne County Ag Society during their Jan. 17 meeting.

Previously, employees' annual pay would increase by \$1,500, to work alongside the yearly increase in the cost of living. However, since some employees worked 40 hours a week and others 37.5, that increase was not even for everyone.

Commissioner Terry Sievers recommended the motion to change to a 75 cent increase per hour for everyone. The motion passed 2-1 with Dean Burbach dissenting.

The next motion transitioned the duty of Chairman of the Board to Burbach which Jim Raabe held this past year. Raabe moved to Chairman of the Board of Equalization and Sievers as vice-chair for both committees.

For the 2023 year, all other board representatives and members will remain the same. Danielle Gearhart, the new CEO of PMC, was elected to the Board of Health.

County employee Kyle Huff will take a four-day workshop class and the Highway Superintendent test within the next few months. His mentor, Mark Casey, introduced Huff to the Board, detailing his hard work over the past three years.

According to Casey, a bridge inspector needs at least five years of training under a team lead to become fully certified.

"Kyle has really put in the work over the past three years," Casey said. "He has been under about 240 bridges in the time he has trained. Some of those who finish their five years have only been under about 100."

Casey recommended the Board pay for Huff's hotel, mileage and meals while undergoing this part of his training, to which they agreed.

He also presented the board with quotes for grader blades, with proposals from CAT and Midwest. The commissioners approved Midwest's quote for \$48,806.12.

In the County Bridge Match Program Round Seven, Wayne County had two projects accepted.

The Wayne County Ag Society hopes to improve the fairgrounds through the addition of new grandstands and better accommodations for handicapped persons.

Portable bleachers have acted as the focus due to their better price point. They also would offer more suitable handicap seating. A brand-new grandstand would cost around \$500,000, according to a representative of the group, not including certain labors and other costs.

The meeting ended with Pat Brentlinger discussing maintenance and updates for the courthouse.

The Commissioners will meet next in regular session on Tuesday, Feb. 7 at the Wayne County Courthouse.



(Photo by Clara Osten)

Matthew Smith with Olsson, the engineer for the Prairie Park Project described the plan for the area during Tuesday's City Council meeting.

Prairie Park Project update is presented to council

By Clara Osten,
clara@wayneherald.com

Steps were taken during Tuesday's meeting of the Wayne City Council to move forward with the Prairie Park Project in the southeast portion of Wayne.

Matthew Smith with Olsson, the engineer for the project, shared information on his work with the Stool to Cool Committee, which he said "were awesome to work with."

He talked about the grading that will be done in the area and showed designs for the area. The location of camper pads, restrooms and a Parks & Recreation building were also discussed.

Information was also presented on the water flow through the area

Smith also gave a time for the project, moving forward. He said the project will be bid out in coming weeks, with a bid opening date of Feb. 16. The council could then approve the bids at the Feb. 21 meeting and work could begin in late March or early April. It is anticipated that this portion of the project would be completed in late November.

Cost estimate for the project, which includes grading of the site, graveling of the roads, all the parking lots and the storm sewer pipes, is \$2 million. This does not include work on the lake itself.

Following Smith's presentation and council input, Resolution 2023-3 was approved.

Resolution 2023-4 was approved. It deals with the plans and specifications for the West Third Street Sewer Line Replacement Project.

The engineer's cost estimate for this project is \$135,000.

Roger Protzman with JEO told the council the area involved affects six homes that are serviced by one private sewer line. This project would involve work in an alley in the area and connect these homes to the city's existing line.

Protzman outlined the work that needs to be done and specific costs of the materials needed.

Discussion was held on whether or not the city should pay for the project and City Administrator Wes Blecke said the city is working to "be pro-active and get rid of private lines."

Council members approved Resolution 2023-5 which awards a bid for the Wastewater Treatment Facility Ultraviolet Light Improvements Project to Philip Carkoski Construction and Trenching, Inc. of Loup City. The firm's bid of \$334,496 was the lowest and less than the engineer's estimate of \$350,000.

Protzman told the council the city has worked with the contractor on previous projects and pleased with the work the firm did.

In other action, council members approved the membership of Riley Prokop to the Wayne Volunteer Fire Department.

Prokop has five years of experience on the Thurston Volunteer Fire Department and moved to Wayne for employment approximately one year ago.

Pay application No. 4 in the amount of \$10,773 to OCC Builders, LLC was approved. It is for work completed on the Freedom Park Trailhead Project.

Council member Jill Brodersen, who serves as architect for the project, gave an update on the work that has been completed and plans for coming weeks. She noted that there have been some delays in

taining materials.

Bids were accepted for the purchase of a Bobcat Compact Track Loader and Skid Steer Grader for the city's Street Department.

Joel Hansen explained the work his department has done in trying to obtain a piece of equipment to replace a 1975 Fiat Allis maintainer. He said there are no similar maintainers in the area, and should the city attempt to purchase one, they would have to travel to Florida or Texas.

Hansen shared the benefits of purchasing the Bobcat piece of equipment, including the fact that several of the attachments already owned by the city could be used.

"We feel like this is a better option and gives us more flexibility. There is lots of potential for uses for this piece of equipment," Hansen said.

It is estimated that delivery of the machine will take four to six months.

Council members approved a bid from Bobcat in Sioux City, Iowa for \$65,575.66 and for \$10,666.75 from Skid Steer Nation for a CH Grader attachment.

An update was given on the Ameritas Life Insurance property.

City Attorney Amy Miller told the council that the city is set to close on the purchase at the end of this month.

Council members talked about the city's responsibility in regard to the parking lot located on Logan Street. Several options were discussed and additional discussion will be held in the future.

Blecke told the council he will be meeting informally with two architects to determine possible options for the renovation of the building.

A public hearing was held in regard to the acquisition of 79.113 acres of real estate currently owned by Pick, Brendon L. and Karla K. Otte-Pick, Steven B. and Cynthia J. Meyer and Mark and Lona Meyer.

The acquisition is contingent upon the city receiving a Community Development Block Grant.

The city will be submitting the \$1 million grant application this week to assist with the development of the area northwest of the Western Ridge development areas.

Wayne Area Economic Development Executive Director Luke Virgil told the council that housing was discussed at the council's last retreat and "there is an urgent need for housing in Wayne."

A portion of the area has already been designated as eligible for Tax Increment Financing to assist with the development.

Following the public hearing, the council, with the exception of Council member Brent Pick, went into executive session to discuss the purchase of the property.

The Wayne City Council will next meet in regular session on Tuesday, Feb. 7 at 5:30 p.m. in council chambers. In addition, the council will hold a retreat on Tuesday, Jan. 31 at 5:30 p.m. at the Wayne Fire Hall.



(Photo by Clara Osten)

Riley Prokop (left) was introduced by Department President Austin Frideres as a new member Wayne Volunteer Fire Department.



(Contributed photo)

The 2022-2023 Wayne High School Speech team gathered for a group photo prior to the start of this year speech season.

Wayne speakers take part in Pierce Invitational

Members of the Wayne Junior Varsity and Varsity Speech team took part in the Pierce Invitational on Jan. 14.

Results from the JV portion included: Carli Canham, sixth in JV Serious Prose; Brayden Wheeler, fifth in JV Entertainment; Abi Hawthorne, fifth in JV Extemporaneous and third in JV Entertainment; Olivia Hanson, fourth in JV Persuasive; Kennasyn Blecke and Grace Junck, third in JV Duet; Sophia Spieker, second in JV Entertainment; the Duet of Alec Schaffer and Aidan Bohnert, second; and

the Oral Interpretation of Drama team of Colby Raulston, Aidan Bohnert, Johen Piper, and Gavin Anderson, second.

Earning top honors in their respective JV events were: Colby Raulston in Program Oral Interpretation; Sophia Spieker and Nyamalo Kantai in Duet Acting; and the OID of Adrienne Anderson, Norah Armstrong, Kennasyn Blecke, Grace Junck and Josie Ley.

As a team, the Wayne JV squad tied with Columbus Scotus for first place.

Members of the Varsity squad who placed at Pierce on Saturday included:

Easton Blecke, sixth in Serious Prose, and Maiah Davis, fifth in Persuasive.

Wayne had two varsity champions on the day: Maiah Davis in Extemporaneous and the OID group of Madalyn Franta, Easton Blecke, Ashton Brandow, and Orion Spieker.

The Wayne Varsity placed fourth in the Varsity division.

Next up for the Blue Devils is the Boone Central Invitational on Saturday, Jan. 21.



(Photos by Clara Osten)

Chamber coffee host

Carhart Lumber hosted last week's Chamber Coffee. Brenda Carhart (above, right) talked about the business and thanked the community for its support before recognizing two long time employees (below). Mike Kaup and Joan Schmoltdt have been with the company for 30 years.



DHHS to launch the iServe Nebraska Explore Benefits tool

The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) will soon launch a new feature of the iServe Nebraska portal - Explore Benefits, an anonymous, mobile-friendly, pre-screening tool to help Nebraskans identify benefits for which they may qualify.

The iServe Nebraska Portal is a key project under the iServe Nebraska program initiative. The new Portal will be a modernized, easy-to-use system for Nebraskans with enhanced self-service capabilities.

The new Explore Benefits tool

will launch on Jan. 27, 2023, and has exciting features:

-Quick and easy questionnaire that takes less than 3 minutes to complete.

-Provides a mobile-friendly interface, giving Nebraskans the option to use their mobile phone, tablet or computer.

-Completely anonymous and can be completed in English or Spanish.

-Nebraskans do not need to create an account or login to use the Explore Benefits tool.

After completing the question-

naire, Nebraskans who wish to apply for benefits will be directed to ACCESSNebraska to complete the full benefit application.

"The new iServe portal will serve as an intuitive and user friendly one stop shop for Nebraskans to easily determine what benefits they qualify for," CEO Dannette R. Smith, said. "DHHS continues to explore new ways to better serve our clients and iServe is a big step forward towards this goal."

The iServe Nebraska project team continues to work diligently on the integrated application,

which will provide Nebraskans with the functionality to apply for benefits via the new iServe Nebraska portal. This new integrated application is scheduled to launch late 2023.

Be on the lookout for more information regarding future phases and additional functionality.

You can access the iServe Nebraska portal via the DHHS homepage or directly through <https://iserve.nebraska.gov>.

For questions or general inquiries, please send an email to iServeNebraskaOCM@Nebraska.gov.

American Legion Auxiliary National President to visit the Department of Nebraska

Third District President Beverly Neel of the Nebraska American Legion Auxiliary has announced that The American Legion Family, Cownie-Church Post/Unit 0307, South Sioux City, Department of Nebraska, will host ALA National President Vickie Koutz, on Wednesday, Jan. 25 for the evening meal (5:30 PM) during a stopover in her year-long nationwide tour to call on community members.

The event is open to all Legion Family members, community leaders and the general public. All attendees for the evening must RSVP to Third District President Beverly Neel at (402) 369-0152 or d3alaprez2224@gmail.com on or before Friday, Jan. 20. No exceptions to this timeline, please.

National President Koutz and Department President Vicki Ozenbaugh of Ohiova Neb, will travel from North Platte in District Five up through Kearney, Grand Island and St. Paul in District Six, continuing into District Seven at Columbus, up through District Two to Norfolk and into District Three with various stops along the way.

Highlight of the trip will be traveling the Nebraska Medal of Honor Highway (formerly Highway 20) into South Sioux City and visiting two gravesites of Nebraska Medal of Honor recipients. Legion Family members and community leaders as well as the general public are welcome to meet the National President along her travels. This is a great opportunity for the National President to learn about Veteran Support efforts across Nebraska.

Planned stops during the travel, weather permitting, include Jan. 23 - North Platte - supper at The Canteen or Penny's Diner; Jan. 24 - North Platte - 20th Century Veterans Memorial and Bailey's Yard & Golden Spike tours; lunch at North Platte Legion Post 163; Maxwell - Fort McPherson National Cemetery; Kearney - Great Platte River Road Archway Monument; Central Nebraska VA Home; supper at Kearney Legion Post 52; Jan. 25 - Grand Island - Nebraska Creative Arts at GI VA Medical Center; Stuhr Museum of the Prairie Pioneer; St. Paul - lunch at St. Paul Legion Post 0119, gravesite of MOH Leander Herron, Nebraska's First MOH Recipient; Columbus - Andrew Jackson Higgins WWII Memorial at West Pawnee Park; Norfolk - Norfolk Veterans Home Flag Memorial Park; Wisner - MOH gravesite Dale Merlin Hansen; Wayne - Wayne County Veterans Memorial at the Courthouse; Laurel - gravesite of Past Department Commander (PDC) Gene Twiford; World War II Crash site; Jackson - Veterans Memorial; South Sioux City - supper South Sioux City Legion Post 0307 and nighttime visit through Siouxland Freedom Park. Jan. 26 - South Sioux City - Siouxland Freedom Park - John Douangdara Dog Park - Freedom Rock; Wakefield - POW/MIA Chair - Eagle Scout project; Pender - Veterans Memo-

rial; West Point - American Veterans Memorial; North Bend - North Bend/Morse Bluff Veterans Memorial; Bellevue/Omaha - experience a great Nebraska Runza; DPAA at Offutt AFB; Eastern Nebraska Veterans Home; Omaha National Cemetery; Gretna - supper Gretna Legion Post 0216; Jan. 27 - Department of Nebraska tour completed; enroute to Department of North Dakota - Minot, North Dakota.

The Medal of Honor (MOH) Highway across Nebraska was accomplished by the efforts of Past Department Commander (PDC) Gene Twiford of Laurel. As a result of his efforts and determination, members of the Nebraska American Legion Family completed a Walk-the-Walk event to bring awareness to the name change of Highway 20 to Nebraska Medal of Honor Highway. Along the route, a MOH sign is placed in honor of Nebraska's MOH recipients and the Laurel stretch of MOH Highway has two signs to honor PDC Gene Twiford. PDC Twiford passed away on Aug. 4, 2022.

Koutz, of Boonville, Indiana, was elected National President of the ALA during the 101st ALA National Convention in August 2022. Koutz's National President project is to help every companion who is medically needed by a National Veterans Creative Arts Festival (NVCAF) Veteran. This help could come in the form of paying for a meal plan, paying for travel to the festival, or paying for a separate hotel room (depending on the relationship of the companion and veteran), or all three needs. In addition to her focus on companions at NVCAF, Koutz wants to raise awareness on an issue close to her heart - our country's Prisoners of War and Missing in Action (POW/MIA).

A Paid Up for Life (PUFL) member of ALA Unit 200 in Boonville, Koutz is eligible for membership through her husband, Jim, who served in the U.S. Army, with service in-country Vietnam. In 2012-2013, Jim served as The American Legion National Commander. Their son, Michael, is a Charter member of Sons of The American Legion Squadron 200 in Boonville.

The American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) is a community of volunteers serving veterans, military, and their families. Our members also support the mission of The American Legion in improving the quality of life for our Nation's Veterans. Proud sponsor of ALA Girls Nation, National Poppy Day® and recognized for advocating for Veterans on Capitol Hill, the more than 550,000 ALA members across the country volunteer millions of hours annually and raise millions of dollars in service to Veterans, military, and their families. Founded in 1919, the ALA is one of the oldest patriotic membership organizations in the U.S.A. To learn more and to volunteer, join, and donate, visit www.ALAforVeterans.org.



Wendi Schutte

Schutte receives company's top real estate award

Farmers National Company, the nation's leading farm and ranch management and brokerage company, has announced that Wendi Schutte was recently presented with the Farmers National Company President's Circle Award for her outstanding efforts in real estate sales.

Schutte, a Real Estate Broker & Branch Manager with Farmers National Company, received the company's top award for real estate sales in 2022. She began working with Farmers National Company in 2015.

Schutte can be contacted at (402) 256-9320 or by email at WSchutte@FarmersNational.com.

Farmers National Company is the nation's leading landowner services company. Farmers National Company manages more than 5,000 farms and ranches in 30 states comprising more than 2 million acres. Over the last five years, Farmers National Company has sold 4,796 properties (1,740 at auction) and more than \$6.03 billion of real estate during the last 10 years. Additional services provided by the company include energy management, appraisals, insurance, Hunting Lease Network, forest management, FNC Ag Stock, consultations, and collateral inspections. For more information on our company and the services provided, visit www.FarmersNational.com.

Help stop wildlife crime with new reporting tool

Helping law enforcement eliminate poaching in Nebraska just got a little easier, thanks to a new program by Nebraska Game and Parks.

The new online reporting tool allows people to anonymously report suspected wildlife violations through a form at OutdoorNebraska.gov/WildlifeCrimestoppers. People can submit photos and even indicate if they are interested in a reward if charges are filed because of their tip.

Once submitted, the report goes directly to the conservation officer in the county where the incident is suspected.

"With this form, we'll be able to utilize technology in new ways to collect and forward more accurate

and timely information to our conservation officers to assist with their investigations," said Travis Shepler, Law Enforcement assistant division administrator, who created the new tool.

While the digital form is the preferred method to report, people may still report game or fish violations via the toll-free Nebraska Wildlife Crimestoppers hotline at 800-742-7627 or by contacting their nearest conservation officer. Find yours at OutdoorNebraska.gov/ConservationOfficers.

Nebraska Wildlife Crimestoppers is a cooperative wildlife law enforcement program sponsored by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission and the Nebraska Wildlife Protectors Association.

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Early college will be at no cost to high school students at Northeast Community College

The Board of Governors at Northeast Community College has approved a plan to offer free dual enrollment classes to high school students enrolled in early college beginning in the 2023-24 academic year.

Dual enrollment includes dual credit courses, which are most often taken in area high schools and taught by instructors who meet Northeast's qualifications outlined by the College's accrediting body, the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). (HLC is the accrediting body for all public institutions in the state of Nebraska and establishes the required credentials for all instructors teaching college level courses.)

Additionally, dual enrollment courses include high school students who choose to take a college-level course, not necessarily for high school credit. More and more students are choosing to take college-level classes online, virtually and at any Northeast location. In Fall 2022, 48 high schools in the 20-county service area offered Northeast dual credit classes at their locations with 1,867 students enrolled in early college.

In the Spring of 2021, the Nebraska Legislature began to provide funds directed to support dual enrollment offered by the state's six community colleges. In Spring 2022, the Unicameral then provided the community colleges with \$15 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to accelerate their efforts to offer free dual enrollment. Metro Community College led the way by offering free college courses to all high school students beginning in Fall of 2022. Likewise, the ARPA funds will allow Northeast to make free dual enrollment a reality in Fall of 2023.

"Experiencing success in college level work for high school students can be the catalyst for choosing to attend college," said Dr. Leah Barrett, Northeast president. "Eighty-six percent of the students in our service area who are successful with an early college class go on to college. Dual enrollment is a tool for us to improve the college-going culture in northeast Nebraska."

Dr. Jami Jo Thompson, superintendent of Norfolk Public Schools,

said early college courses have always been a great opportunity for students to earn college credit during high school, but many of the district's families could not afford



to take advantage of the opportunity.

"Making dual credit courses free is a game changer for those students! I am looking forward to seeing the positive impact that this will have on our lower-income students, and I anticipate that it will lead to a higher number of those students choosing to attend post-secondary education," she said.

Makala Williams, director of early college at Northeast, said the College offers many different subjects as dual credit classes, including academic transfer, as well as career and technical education (CTE) courses.

"Many of our area high schools have their own instructors who have obtained the appropriate credentials to teach college level courses in addition to high school courses. This gives high school students a wonderful opportunity to earn both high school and college credit simultaneously. Students can work with their school counselors to learn what dual credit courses are offered in their respective schools."

Williams said the credits students earn through the early college program may be used toward a degree at Northeast or transfer to another college or university.

"It allows students to become familiar with the college environment before their first day as a college freshman."

Additional ways credits may be earned is through the College's Fridays @ Northeast program and Pathways to Tomorrow (P2T). The Fridays program allows high school seniors to spend the final day of the school week on a Northeast campus in CTE classrooms and labs that meet college program requirements.

The P2T consortium offers CTE classes that are facilitated through

Educational Service Unit (ESU) #2 and includes seven-member schools: Bancroft-Rosalie, Emerson-Hubbard, Guardian Angels Central Catholic (West Point), Howells-Dodge, Lyons Decatur Northeast, Oakland-Craig, and West Point-Beemer. Classes are held at the Northeast Community College extended campus and Donald E. Nielsen Career and Technical Education Center in West Point.

"Free dual enrollment classes for early college students ensures equitable access to the students and families we serve," said Gina Holtz, P2T executive director and director of Northeast's extended campus in West Point. "The change to free dual enrollment classes will impact over one-hundred students at Pathways 2 Tomorrow. P2T students can get a jump start on their college or career goals without financial barriers with this opportunity. I am excited to see our early college program grow through the success of our students."

"South Sioux City Community Schools is thrilled with the news of free dual credit courses for our high school students. This unique opportunity will open doors for our students that didn't previously exist," said Ashley O'Dell, assistant superintendent.

O'Dell said all 3,800 students South Sioux City Public Schools' serve will be positively impacted by Northeast's action.

"South Sioux City Community Schools has prioritized college and career readiness and Northeast Community College has been a vital partner in our endeavors. We look forward to continuing to expand this partnership to meet the needs of our students and our community."

While early college at Northeast Community College will be at no cost to high school students, they will be responsible for any books, tools or fees associated with a course.

To learn more about early college at Northeast Community College, visit northeast.edu/Admissions/Early-College or contact Williams at (402) 844-7118 or makalaw@northeast.edu.



(Photos by Clara Osten)

Learning about dinosaurs

Books about dinosaurs were part of the day's events when members of the Wayne Kiwanis Club visited the Early Learning Center last week. Kiwanis members Megan Muller (above) and Jeane Harris (below) read to the students. The Kiwanis Club also presented each student with a book to take home as part of the group's 100th anniversary celebration.



Ten \$1,000 scholarships now open to midwest high school seniors

High school seniors from Illinois, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, South Dakota and Wisconsin now have a chance to receive one of 10 college scholarships worth \$1,000.

Registration is open now through April 28, 2023. Parents are also now able to register their student.

High school seniors or their parents may register for the ISL Midwest Senior Scholarship at www.IowaStudentLoan.org/Midwest.

ISL Education Lending will award \$1,000 scholarships to 10 students whose names are randomly drawn after the registration period. There are no financial need, grade point average or class rank requirements. The ISL Midwest Senior Scholarship can be used at any eligible institution in the United States.

Registered participants also receive emails highlighting financial literacy tips, such as the importance of early career and college

planning and ways to reduce student loan indebtedness.

"Student loan debt is a huge concern for new college students," Steve McCullough, president and CEO of ISL Education Lending, said. "As a nonprofit, we provide tools and resources to help high school seniors plan so they can reduce the amount of debt they need to take on while achieving their education goals. Students sign up for a chance at a \$1,000 scholarship, and we take that opportunity to share information with them about our free resources."

The ISL Midwest Senior Scholarship is open to legal U.S. citizens who are seniors at a high school in one of the qualifying states during the 2022-2023 school year and who intend to attend college, either virtually or physically, in fall 2023.

It is a no-purchase-required program, and full rules and details are available at www.IowaStudentLoan.org/Midwest.

IowaStudentLoan.org/Midwest.

In addition to offering student loans, ISL Education Lending has other resources for families planning for college and for students who intend to pursue advanced degrees.

The Parent Handbook consists of valuable tips to help families of students in sixth through 12th grades prepare for success in college and other postsecondary options.

Parents of students in eighth through 12th grades can also sign up to receive twice-monthly emailed tips on academic, college and career planning through the Student Planning Pointers for Parents program.

The College Funding Forecaster helps families understand the total cost of four years of college based on a freshman-year financial aid offer.

Information about these resources is available at www.IowaStudentLoan.org/SmartBorrowing.

January brings winter sports awareness

When the temperature drops and snow begins to fall, many people can't wait to hit the slopes or ice rink. Winter fun is on their minds, not any potential injury. Yet if thoughtful preparation for any favored activity is not made, it's easy to have a mishap.

January has long been recognized as the National Winter Sports Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Awareness Month. Harsh winter days offer thrill-seekers a playground of opportunity to participate in extreme sports such as snowboarding, skiing, and snowmobiling. The high velocity along with the living-on-the-edge sense of adventure makes these sports appealing to many.

Nearly 200,000 people were injured in 2018 while participating in winter sports, according to the US Consumer Product Safety Commission. Head injuries make up about 20% of these accidents (according to a study published in The Journal of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery), largely from snow skiing, snowboarding, ice skating, sledding and tobogganing. Sprains, strains, dislocations and fractures were common but also concussions and other head injuries.

A study published in The Orthopedic Journal of Sports Medicine examined the rates of head and neck injuries in three extreme winter sports (snowboarding, snow skiing, snowmobiling) and four extreme summer sports (surfing, skateboarding, mountain biking, and motocross). The study discovered some alarming statistics:

More than 4 million injuries were reported in the seven sports between 2000 and 2011, 11% of which involved injuries to the head and neck.

Skateboarding, snowboarding, skiing, and motocross had the highest number of head and neck injuries.

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When the temperature drops and snow begins to fall, many people can't wait to hit the slopes or ice rink. Winter fun is on their minds, not any potential injury. Yet if thoughtful preparation for any favored activity is not made, it's easy to have a mishap.

January has long been recognized as the National Winter Sports Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Awareness Month. Harsh winter days offer thrill-seekers a playground of opportunity to participate in extreme sports such as snowboarding, skiing, and snowmobiling. The high velocity along with the living-on-the-edge sense of adventure makes these sports appealing to many.

Nearly 200,000 people were injured in 2018 while participating in winter sports, according to the US Consumer Product Safety Commission. Head injuries make up about 20% of these accidents (according to a study published in The Journal of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery), largely from snow skiing, snowboarding, ice skating, sledding and tobogganing. Sprains, strains, dislocations and fractures were common but also concussions and other head injuries.

A study published in The Orthopedic Journal of Sports Medicine examined the rates of head and neck injuries in three extreme winter sports (snowboarding, snow skiing, snowmobiling) and four extreme summer sports (surfing, skateboarding, mountain biking, and motocross). The study discovered some alarming statistics:

More than 4 million injuries were reported in the seven sports between 2000 and 2011, 11% of which involved injuries to the head and neck.

Skateboarding, snowboarding, skiing, and motocross had the highest number of head and neck injuries.



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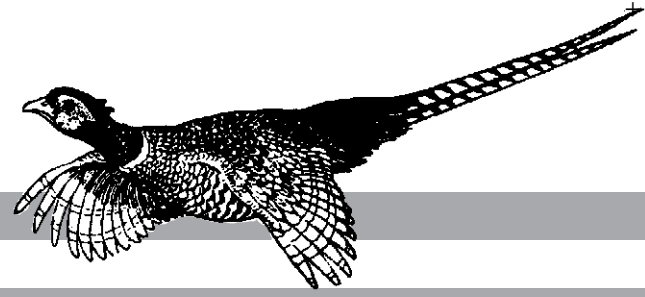
- extreme anxiety
- depression
- grief
- trauma

Learn more about how we can help at pchne.org/services/behavioral-health



Sports

The Wayne
Herald



(Photo by Michael Carnes)

Carter Olson of Quad County Northeast tries to take down Jaxson Hassler of Battle Creek in action at the Battle Creek Invitational.

Blaze earn medals at Battle Creek

BATTLE CREEK — Quad County Northeast picked up a total of five medals during action at Saturday's Battle Creek Invitational.

Kolby Casey led the Blaze medal effort with a first-place finish in the 220-pound weight class, posting a 5-0 decision over Dominick Richter of Oakland-Craig.

Aiden Gubbels was the consolation champion at heavyweight, getting a medical forfeit in his final match at 285 pounds.

Ethan Gregory finished fourth at 106, Ajay Gubbels was fifth at 182

and Carter Olson placed sixth at 126.

Wakefield competed in the 20-team tournament and came away with no medalists on the day.

Battle Creek Invitational Team Standings
Battle Creek 184.5, Crofton/Bloomfield 176.5, Yutan 133, Elkhorn Valley 123, Tekamah-Herman 119.5, Howells-Dodge 103, Oakland-Craig 93, Madison 79.5, Hartington CC 78, Quad County NE 77.5, Riverside 55, Osmond 46, Summerland 42, Stanton 41, Battle

Creek JV 26, Lutheran High NE 25, Winnebago 14, Wakefield 10, Niobrara/Verdigre 2, Ponca 2.

Area Medal Results
106: 3. Blayne Williams, T-H, tech. fall Ethan Gregory, QCNE, 15-0. 126: 5. Jaxson Hassler, BC, pinned Carter Olson, QCNE, 2:10. 182: 5. Ajay Gubbels, QCNE, dec. Tristan Tobin, T-H, 6-2. 220: 1. Kolby Casey, QCNE, dec. Dominick Richter, O-C, 5-0. 285: 3. Aiden Gubbels, QCNE, def. Mason Planer, BC JV, medical forfeit.

Wakefield boys pick up victories

The Wakefield boys used a pair of solid defensive efforts to pick up wins in two games this past week.

On Tuesday, the Trojans came away with a 60-48 win at Ponca, overcoming an 11-0 Ponca run in the third quarter to take the win.

Cade Johnson had a game-high 25 points to lead three Wakefield players in double figures. Cael Johnson added 13 points and Hunter Schultz had 11. Eliseo Sarmiento chipped in with seven and Ryan Anderson had four.

Cade Johnson finished the night with 12 rebounds and Schultz had eight. Anderson had four assists.

On Thursday, Wakefield got out to a big lead early and went on to post a 62-52 home win over Lawton-Bronson.

Cade Johnson had 25 points and Sarmiento hit five 3-pointers on his way to a 21-point night to lead the Trojans. Schultz added 15 points and Cael Johnson and Jacob Borg each had three.

Cade Johnson had another double-double with 14 rebounds and also had four assists and three steals. Schultz grabbed eight rebounds.



(Photo by Michael Carnes)

Wakefield's Cael Johnson block a shot from behind a Ponca player during action at Ponca High School. The Wakefield boys picked up two wins this past week.



(Photo by Michael Carnes)

Drives the ball

Alex Arenas tries to drive by a Ponca defender during action Tuesday at Ponca High School. The Wakefield girls fell to Ponca 72-24 but came back to post a 49-43 win over Lawton-Bronson on Thursday. Statistics were not turned in at press time.

Blue Devils stumble at Boys Town

After picking up a pair of quality road wins earlier in the week, the Wayne High boys basketball team stumbled in a loss at Boys Town.

On Tuesday, the Blue Devils came home with a 53-42 win over LCC in action at Laurel, building a 10-point lead at the half and holding off a second-half comeback by the Bears.

Colson Nelsen led three Blue Devils in double figures with 18 points, while Sedro Agoumba and Carter Juncck each added 10 points. Devin Anderson scored nine points while Alex Phelps and Gavin Redden each had three points.

Phelps and Anderson both had four rebounds, and Agoumba had four assists and five steals for Wayne in the win.

On Thursday, a 29-15 run in the middle two periods accounted for the margin of victory in a 53-41 win at North Bend Central.

Daniel Judd came back from a recent injury to pour in a game-high 18 points for the winners, while Juncck added 11 and Agoumba had 10. Drue Davis put in seven points, Anderson added three and Phelps and Nelsen each had two.

Agoumba had a double-double with 10 rebounds and Phelps grabbed six along with three as-

sists. Saturday, the Blue Devils played Boys Town well for one period, then let things get away in a 62-39 loss to the Cowboys.

Wayne girls win two, lose one

The Wayne High girls basketball team sandwiched a pair of victories around a loss to one of the top teams in the state.

On Tuesday, the Lady Blue Devils took care of business on the road with a 49-34 win over LCC in Laurel. Wayne used a 30-12 run in the middle two periods to take control of the game and go on to the win.

Brooklyn Kruse had a double-double with 16 points and 10 rebounds, to go with four assists and three blocked shots.

Frantzie Barner added 11 points in the win, followed by Kierah Haase with seven, Reagan McGuire and Kyla Krusemark each had four, Faith Powicki scored three and Haley Kramer and Gabbi Judd had two apiece.

Wayne's offense was stymied by a tough North Bend Central defense on Thursday as the Tigers claimed a 39-27 win over the Blue Devils.

Kruse was the only Blue Devil in double figures, finishing with

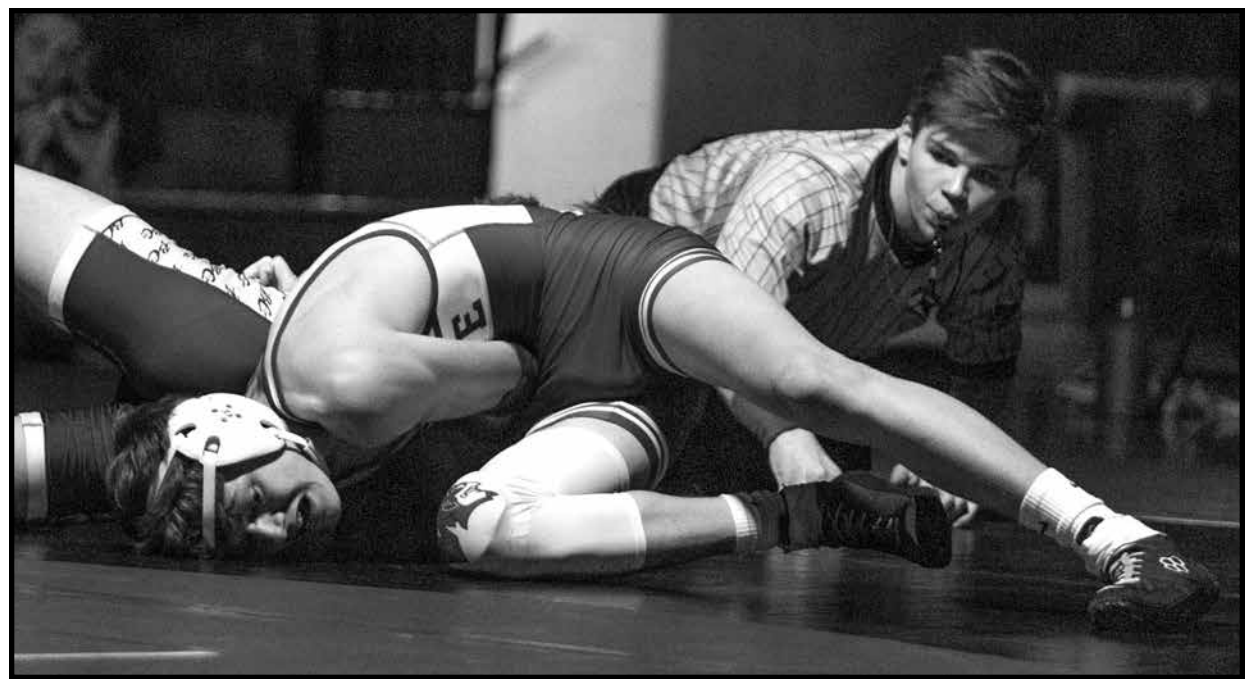
Judd led a balanced Wayne attack with 10 points, followed by Juncck and Phelps with eight apiece, Redden had seven, Nelsen had five and Caiden Backer put in three.

Kruse had seven rebounds while Barner and Judd both had four. Kyla Krusemark had two steals and Kruse had two blocks.

The Blue Devils bounce back with a quality road win on Friday night, handling Norfolk Catholic in a 46-36 Mid State Conference matchup.

The Blue Devils trailed at the half, but used a solid fourth-quarter effort and outscored the Knights 17-8 to claim the win on the road. Kruse just missed on a double-double, finishing with 14 points and nine rebounds. Jala Krusemark added 12 points, Kyla Krusemark had seven, Barner scored six, Haase had three and Kramer and Judd each had two.

Kruse led the team with three assists and also had two blocks, while Kramer had two steals.



(Photo by Michael Carnes)

Wayne High 132-pounder Alex Frank works for a pin against Haiden Hurlbert during Thursday's home dual with Battle Creek. Frank got the fall, but the visiting Braves won the dual 48-36.

Blue Devil matsters see action

After a 48-36 dual loss to Battle Creek on Thursday, the Wayne boys wrestling team came back and picked up three medals from an always-tough Schuyler Invitational.

In Thursday's dual, the Blue Devils won for matches by pin, getting falls from Aiden Liston (170), Zach McManigal (126), Alex Frank (9132) and Grant Maas (138). Garrett Schultz (120) and Ashton Munsell (145) won by forfeit.

On Saturday, the Blue Devils came home with three medals from a tough Schuyler Invitational tournament.

Schultz led the Wayne medal haul with a runner-up finish at 120 pounds. Munsell placed third at 145 pounds and Aiden Liston was sixth at 170 pounds.

In girls action, Wayne finished eighth out of 24 teams in Friday night competition at the Schuyler Invitational.

Wayne finished the day with five

medalists, led by a first-place finish by Jaycee Bruns, who pinned Kiana Wingender of Bennington in the finals at 125 pounds.

Macy Wilson was a runner-up in her bracket, placing second at 120 pounds. Nyla Bolles was third at 130 pounds and Serenity Heil-Ellis placed third at 135, while Kadence Rees finished fourth at 155 pounds.

The Blue Devils will compete in the Mid State Conference meet on Saturday at Norfolk Catholic High School.

Battle Creek 48, Wayne 36
152: Conner Neuhalten, BC, pinned Zander Liston, :16. 160: Casey Schnebel, BC, pinned Eli Barner, 1:30. 170: Aiden Liston, Wayne, pinned Wyatt Nierodzick, 3:15. 182: Brek Thompson, BC, pinned Colton Shepperd, 5:42. 195: Dakkota Zlomke, BC, pinned Lakin Stange, 1:47. 220: Connor Heide-mann, BC, pinned Trujillo Vasquez, 1:20. 285: Elijah Hintz, BC, pinned

Carter Wiese, 1:51. 106: Wayne open. 113: Ayden Wintz, BC, pinned Will Leseberg, 3:27. 120: BC open. 126: Zach McManigal, Wayne, pinned Zion Baier, 3:58. 132: Alex Frank, Wayne, pinned Haiden Hurlbert, 3:27. 138: Grant Maas, Wayne, pinned Devin Hassler, 1:36. 145: BC open.

Schuyler Invitational Boys Team Standings
Blair 190.5, Omaha Skutt 189, Scottsbluff 171, Bennington 164.5, Aquinas 151, Lexington 118.5, Columbus Lakeview 106.5, Aurora 83, Shelby-Rising City 75, Schuyler 68, Fairbury 59, Norris 54.5, Wayne 48, Columbus Scotus 20, Malcolm 17, Ralston 11.

Wayne Medalists
120: 1. Chance Houser, Scotts-bluff, dec. Garrett Schultz, Wayne, 1-0. 145: 3. Ashton Munsell, Wayne, pinned Tyler Harrill, Skutt, 4:20. 170: 5. Konrad Kuzelka, Fairbury, pinned Aiden Liston, Wayne, 4:44.

Wakefield wrestlers split triangular

The Wakefield wrestlers split their two matches in a home triangular Thursday, losing to Madison 34-27 and beating Ponca 60-6.

In the Madison dual, Kolton Fischer was the only winner on the mat for the Trojans, claiming a 13-7 decision over Cameron Hanson. Wakefield picked up four forfeits in the dual.

Wakefield won two of three matches in the Ponca dual, getting pins from Franco Topia at 126 and Isaac Walsh at 145 pounds. Both were first-period falls.

Wakefield will wrestle in the Lewis & Clark Conference meet Thursday at Creighton and the Madison Invitational on Friday.

JH boys hoopsters get wins

The Wayne Junior High boys basketball teams opened their season with wins over Battle Creek last week.

In the seventh-grade game, Wayne won 40-27. Jaheim Hamik had the hot hand with a game-high 22 points, followed by Theo Claussen with eight, Easton Endicott with seven, Carter Mostek with two and Spencer Moormeier with one.

The eighth graders had no prob-

lems in a 43-10 win over the Junior Braves. Jaxson Kneif led a balanced attack with nine points, followed by Waylon Huff with seven and Wanso Barner and Jaxon Chase with six apiece. Chase Nelson and Aiden Peterson both had four, Chase Storm scored three and Dylan Jensen and Maddux Heithold had two apiece.

On Saturday, the eighth graders handled Pierce 39-32. Kneif led with 15 points, Nelson added 12,

Barner had nine, Peterson scored two and Chase hit for one.

In the seventh grade game, Wayne was a 41-12 winner over Pierce. Hamik's 16 points led the way, followed by Claussen with six, Moormeier and Mostek with four each, Hunter Nolte with three and Easton Endicott, Angel Vargas, Hudson Rubendall and Evan Greve with two apiece.

Wildcat men rally, split home tilts

After losing a last-second heart-breaker on Friday, the Wayne State men's basketball team bounced back to split their home games for the weekend.

On Friday, Minot State came back from a seven-point deficit in the last two minutes and escaped with an 80-79 win over the Wildcats at Rice Auditorium.

The first half was a close one throughout. Wayne State scored the first four points of the game, but Minot State would be led by as many as six in the first half before taking a 37-36 lead into the locker room at halftime.

The game remained tight through the second half, but Wayne State used a scoring run to build a nine-point lead with 5:17 to go, thanks to two Cody McCullough free throws that made it 73-64.

The Beavers got within three at 73-70, but two more charity tosses by McCullough and a layup by Jay Saunders made it 77-70, and Wayne State scored their final points with 2:08 left on a Nate Mohr basket to make it 79-72.

Wayne State turned the ball over three times in the final two minutes, and the Beavers took the lead with :27 left on a 3-pointer by Jalen Cook. Wayne State had a chance to

win at the end, but a shot by Mohr missed the mark and Saunders lost possession of the ball after an offensive rebound as time ran out, giving the visitors the win.

Jordan Janssen scored a game-high 24 points on 9-of-16 shooting from the floor. He also had a season-high seven assists. Other Wildcats reaching double figures were Justin Eagins with 13 while Mohr and Saunders each scored 11.

On Saturday, the Wildcats led from start to finish and dominated University of Mary 72-52 to improve to 12-6 overall and 7-5 in conference play.

Wayne State scored the first six points of the game and used an 8-2 run to take a 22-11 lead midway through the first half. Mary couldn't get any closer than eight in the final eight minutes as the Wildcats built a 34-22 lead at intermission.

Wayne State continued to play well in the second half and never let the Marauders get within single digits. Wayne State led 52-39 midway through the second half and built on that advantage to claim the easy win.

Janssen led the way once again with 20 points and nine rebounds. Mohr added 17 points with Eagins scoring 12.

McCullough grabbed 11 boards for WSC with Janssen adding nine. Saunders had eight assists while Janssen had three blocked shots.

Wayne State is home once again

this weekend, hosting Bemidji State at 5:30 p.m. followed by a Saturday matchup against Minnesota Crookston at 3:30 p.m.



(Photo courtesy WSC Sports Information)
David Harmon goes up for a slam during Wayne State's 72-52 win over Mary on Saturday.



(Photo courtesy WSC Sports Information)
Rachel Dahlen goes up for two points for the Wayne State women's basketball team during action last week at Rice Auditorium.

Wildcat women drop two at home

The Wayne State women's basketball team's struggles continued at home over the weekend as the Wildcats dropped games to Minot State and University of Mary.

On Friday, the visiting Beavers came away with a 70-57 win over the Wildcats, overcoming an early nine-point deficit to pick up the road win.

Lauren Zacharias and Logan Hughes hit 3-pointers to help the Wildcats out to a quick 11-2 lead, but Minot State scored seven in a row to get back in the game and trailed 20-15 after one period.

The Beavers picked up the pace in the second period, breaking a 27-27 tie with a 10-2 run that helped them take a 40-33 lead into the locker room at halftime.

That momentum carried over into the start of the second half, as Minot State scored the first four times they had the ball to take a 49-33 advantage. Wayne State would never get closer than seven after that as the visiting Beavers came away with the win.

Zacharias led Wayne State with 16 points, followed by Kassidy Pingel with nine and Hughes with eight. Pingel followed by Zacharias with seven and Abby Kopecky with five. Pingel and Hughes each had four assists.

On Saturday, University of Mary scored 21 fourth-quarter points to come away with a 56-49 win over

the Wildcats, dropping Wayne State to 9-7 overall and 5-7 in NSIC play.

The first quarter was a tight one, as Wayne State came back from an early 7-2 deficit on a Rachel Dahlen basket and a trey by Zacharias to tie the game at 7-7.

Mary led 11-10 after one and went on a 5-0 run to start the second quarter, building a 24-18 lead at intermission.

Wayne State came out strong in the third quarter, using a 9-0 run highlighted by four points from Hughes and a triple by Pingel to get within one at 26-25, and took the lead late in the third at 34-32 before Mary beat the third-quarter buzzer with a 3-pointer to take a 35-34 lead into the final period.

Mary went on a 10-1 run to start the fourth and Wayne State was never able to get closer than seven after that, dropping their second home game of the weekend and fourth in a row overall.

Hughes was the leading scorer for the Wildcats with 11 points. She also added four rebounds, three assists, and a pair of steals. Pingel followed Hughes with nine points, four rebounds and three blocks. Fitzpatrick had a season-high six steals.

The Wildcats are back home this weekend, hosting Bemidji State Friday at 7:30 p.m. and Minnesota Crookston Saturday at 5:30 p.m. at Rice Auditorium.

LCC girls win two of three

The LCC girls basketball team won two of three games last week, losing at home to Wayne and winning on the road at Walthill and Plainview.

On Tuesday, the Lady Bears dropped a 49-34 decision to Wayne at LCC High School.

In action Thursday, the Lady Bears ran away with a 70-45 win at Walthill.

In Monday road action, the Lady Bears beat Plainview 49-33. Statistics on both games were not turned in by coaches at press time.

Youth wrestlers see action over weekend

The Wayne Wrestling Club were in action at a number of events last week, with most participating in the Battle Creek Elite Classic on Sunday.

- Medalists are as follows:
Battle Creek Elite Classic Boys Results
7-8 Grade
75-82: Grady Maas, 3rd
84-92: Noah Magnuson, 2nd
139-152: Josh Miller, 3rd
186-269: Maddox Ziska, 1st
5-6 Grade
127-136: Jesus Ozuna, 3rd
3-4 Grade
61-65: Cohen Woehler, 2nd
61-67: Mason Nelson, 3rd
62-67: Caysen Gamble, 2nd
76-81: Gabriel Garcia, 4th
112-117: Kirby Gubbels, 4th
1-2 Grade
54-58: Bryson Varley, 4th
53-57: Adrian Zarate, 1st
59-63: Weston Nelson, 2nd
60-62: Lincoln Nelson, 3rd
62-67: Wyatt Holz, 3rd
63-70: Ryan Magnuson, 2nd
66-76: Isaac McPhillips, 3rd
77-81: Brock Hansen, 1st; Thom- as Plager, 2nd
82-89: Barrett Hanson, 2nd
93-102: Pedro Zavala Jr., 4th
Pre-K-K

- 39-41: Knox Koch, 2nd
41-42: Jack Engbretsen, 3rd
45-58: Tanner Heithold, 3rdd
51-54: Kamdyn Rager, 2nd
52-56: Kaiser Woehler, 3rd
62-68: Nolan Plager, 1st
70-80: Hayze Hewitt, 3rd
Girls Results
PreK-K
43-47: Lydia Stange, 1st
Grade 1-2
53-56: Maggie Sorenson, 2nd
55-65: Nathalie Garcia, 4th
55-65: Harper Rockhill, 3rd
Grade 3-4
50-64: Konstynce Owens-Webb,
4th
74-80: Kimbree Rees, 2nd
Grade 5-6
101-103: Lucille Ocampo, 3rd;
Reagan McManigal, 4th
120-141: Alexandria Ziska, 2nd
Grade 7-8
69-84: Essynce Owens-Webb, 1st
86-92: Gracelynn Daniels, 2nd
117-124: Ivette Ozuna, 2nd; Kay- lei McIntosh, 3rd
125-135: Lillian Stange, 4th
Dakota Valley Youth Tourna- ment
Bantam-US
53-54: Adrian Zarate, 1st
Perry Junior High Tournament
140: Cohen Olson, 17th

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City League		
Week #19 of 32 — 1/10/22		
Wayne Country Club	43.5	16.5
#Rookies	42.5	17.5
Klein Electric	35.5	24.5
White Dog	34	26
Half-Ton Club	34	26
ONE Office Solution	33	27
Pigg Farms	30	30
Wildcat Cubs	29	31
Pin Pals	28.5	31.5
Harder & Ankeny	28	32
PMC Werubs	24	36
Wildcat Lanes	21.5	38.5
Grossenburg Impl.	14.5	45.5

Week #16 of 30 — 1/4/23		
Sterling Computer	3.5	0.5
Ruwe Farms	3	1
Dixon Elevator	2	2
Snokin' Diesel Repair	2	2
State Nebr. Bank & Trust	1	3
Wildcat Lanes	0.5	3.5

Women: Jamie Janke, 248; Jenna McCleary, 221, 192 - 587; Jessi Jensen, 217, 194 - 584.
Men: Zane Shearman, 268 - 623; Dustin Bargholz, 257, 256, 235 - 748; Harrison Lane, 256; Kent Roberts, 244, 209 - 632; Mike Grosz, 237, 236 - 634; Trent Beza, 235; Caleb Lammers, 233, 200; Isreal Rodriguez, 229, 208, 204 - 641; Darin Jensen, 229, 213; Colin Clausen, 228, 223 - 626; Doug Rose, 225; Michael Denklauf, 224, 216, 203 - 643; Brad Jones, 224 - 613; Dave Dramse, 224, 201 - 602; Lukas Clark, 222, 216, 212 - 650; Tony Lawyer, 217; Dylan Sokol, 216, 215 - 616; Kyle Kempf, 214 - 601; Patrick Riesberg, 214; Rich Rethwisch, 207; Darin Bargholz, 207; Tay Guill, 205, 200; Kelly Hansen, 203; Mick Kemp, 201.

High Game: Andi Belt, 226; Renee Saunders, 194; Candy Guill, 193; Sara B Ruse, 193; Michele Karlberg, 189; Jamie Janke, 184.
High Series: Andi Belt, 541; Renee Saunders, 526; Jamie Janke, 505; Brianna Nissen, 491; Michelle Karlberg, 4801.

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Bears win one, lose one

After a loss at home on Tuesday, the LCC boys basketball team bounced back with a win over a Lewis & Clark Conference foe.

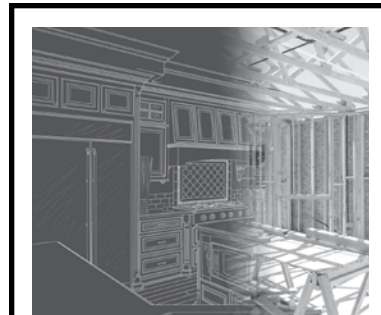
The Bears dropped a 53-42 decision at home to Wayne on Tuesday despite a game-high 20 points from Jake Rath, who recorded a double-double with a team-best 12 rebounds in the losing effort.

Gibson Roberts added nine points for the LCC boys, followed by Tyler Olson with seven and Eli Haisch and Carter Kvolts with three apiece.

The LCC boys turned it around three days later on the road, rolling to a 65-44 win at Walthill. A 25-8 second-quarter run gave the Bears the momentum heading into the second half as they came away with the victory.

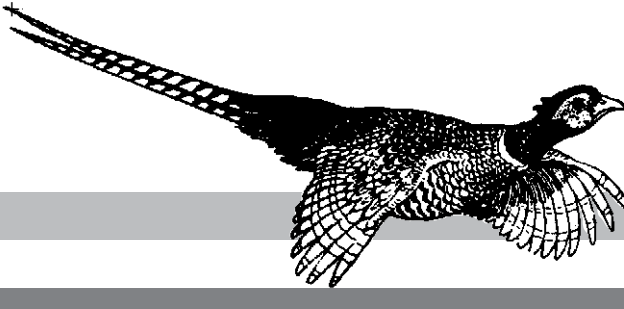
Rath had an other huge night with a game-high 30 points, going 10-of-13 from the field and 10-of-10 from the free throw line. He had a double-double in the win, grabbing 14 rebounds.

Kvolts added 18 points and Olson had 11 for the winners. Roberts scored four and Dylan Taylor put in two. Kvolts had seven rebounds and Olson grabbed six.



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MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE WINSIDE PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION

Meeting Date: Monday, January 9, 2023, at 6:30 PM Location: Elementary: Multi-Purpose Room

Present Members: Jon Jaeger, Carmie Marotz, Josh Kruse, Tarrin Quinn, Kate Falk and Landon Grothe; Superintendent: Mr. Offner; Principal: Mr. Friedrich.

Superintendent, Andrew Offner called the meeting to order. He pointed out the Open Meetings Act posted in the meeting room and led the room with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Offner gave notification to all that this was the reorganization of the Board. Administered by Superintendent Offner, members of the Board were sworn in by reciting the Oath of Public Office.

Marotz nominated Jon Jaeger for President. Grothe made a motion that nominations cease, and Kruse seconded.

Quinn made a motion to approve Jon Jaeger as President, Grothe seconded.

Ayes- Jaeger, Marotz, Kruse, Quinn, Falk, and Grothe. Nays-None. Tarrin Quinn is the Secretary of the 2023 School Board.

President Jaeger conducted the remainder of the meeting. President Jaeger asked for nominations for Vice-President.

President Jaeger nominated Carmie Marotz for Vice-President. Falk made a motion that nominations cease, and Quinn seconded.

Ayes- Marotz, Kruse, Quinn, Falk, Grothe and Jaeger. Nays-None. No vote was taken.

Jaeger made a motion to approve Carmie Marotz as Vice-President, Quinn seconded.

Ayes- Kruse, Quinn, Falk, Grothe, Jaeger and Marotz. Nays-None. Carmie Marotz is the Vice-President of the 2023 School Board.

President Jaeger asked for nominations for Secretary. Quinn nominated Kate Falk for Secretary.

Kruse made a motion that nominations cease, and Marotz seconded.

Ayes- Grothe, Jaeger, Marotz, Kruse, Quinn and Falk. Nays-None. No vote was taken.

Falk made a motion to approve Tarrin Quinn as Treasurer. Falk made a motion that nominations cease, and Marotz seconded.

Ayes- Grothe, Jaeger, Marotz, Kruse, Quinn and Falk. Nays-None. Tarrin Quinn is the Treasurer of the 2023 School Board.

After the review of the committees, President Jaeger asked members if anyone wanted to change their positions on the following committees. No one requested any changes.

Building Committee - Jaeger, Grothe and Kruse

Transportation Committee - Falk, Kruse, and Quinn

Americanism Committee - Jaeger, Marotz, Kruse, Quinn, Falk and Grothe

Curriculum Committee - Marotz, Quinn and Grothe

Negotiations Committee - Jaeger, Marotz and Grothe

Safety Committee - Falk and Quinn

Recognitions Committee - Marotz and Falk

School Improvement Committee - Jaeger, Marotz and Kruse

Community Committee - Marotz, Quinn and Falk

President Jaeger, for the Board, appointed Superintendent, Mr. Andrew Offner as the Local Education Agency (LEA) representative and the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Compliance Coordinator for the District.

President Jaeger welcomed the visitors and asked if anyone would like to address the Board. No one signed in to address the Board.

Tobin Buchanan of First National Capital Markets handed out an information sheet regarding the QCPUF Bond option and the Lease Purchase Agreement option.

These handouts showed debt service projections and tax levy impacts for each. Buchanan provided the differences between the QCPUF Bond and the Lease Purchase Agreement.

Motion by Kruse, second by Marotz to approve the Consent Agenda that consisted of the following: the Agenda; the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on December 12, 2022; and no Option Enrollments.

Ayes- Marotz, Kruse, Quinn, Falk, Grothe and Jaeger. Nays-None. Mr. Offner presented the Financial Report followed by the Activity Balance Report and the Activity Check Report.

Next, he reviewed the Budget Report. Mr. Offner praised the Board that there has not been a need to borrow the last couple years.

Mr. Offner reviewed claims for the General Fund, the Special Building Fund, and the Lunch Fund.

Mr. Friedrich gave his Principal Report. Mr. Friedrich indicated that at the last in-service the Continuous Improvement Process focused on small groups working on the Marzano strategies and defining differentiation.

He reviewed the Activity scheduled and highlighted that the Junior High girls and boys basketball games have started.

Also during the Winside High School Wrestling Invitational, girls wrestling took place for the first time.

Mr. Friedrich announced that on January 30th there will be math training for teachers PK-6.

On January 30th, elementary classes will not take place, however, 7-12 classes will be held.

Mr. Friedrich reported on building improvements. He informed the board that in the chemistry room, new gas and water faucets have been replaced.

A new eyewash station has been added. He also indicated that the windows between the math room and science room have been removed and replaced with an insulated wall.

Mr. Friedrich stated that a summer project list is currently being compiled. He provided the Board with the enrollment numbers.

Mr. Offner presented his Superintendent's report. Mr. Offner stated that the negotiations process continues to take place.

He would like the Board's input for summer projects to him by the March meeting.

He received a bid to paint the gym and the multipurpose room. Mr. Offner gave an update on the renovation process.

A pre bid gathering will take place on January 13th at 2pm for contractors to come in with any questions.

All bids will need to be in by January 24th at 2pm. Mr. Offner talked with DLR and they seem to be receiving more interest from contractors.

Mr. Offner reminded the Board of the Strategic Planning Meeting being held on February 6th at 6pm in the library.

He asked the Board to what amount they would like to maintain the cash reserve. Mr. Offner thanked everyone who contributed towards the Pancake Feed in making it a success.

Mr. Offner updated the Board on the number of applicants he has received for next year's 5th grade position.

Discussion began with President Jaeger asking Mr. Offner if he would like to discuss his Superintendent's contract in open or closed session.

Mr. Offner replied, "closed session". Mr. Offner brought to the Board the poll result of changing graduation time.

Each Board member gave their opinions. Mr. Offner presented a bid from Metcalf Paint to paint the gym and the multipurpose room.

The Board gave concerns and felt that it would be best to wait until after renovations have taken place.

Mr. Offner asked the Board if they had any questions regarding the earlier presentation by Tobin Buchanan.

There were no questions. Mr. Offner would like the Board to have their 5, 7, and 10year ideas to him by Friday, February 3rd.

These ideas can be discussed at the February 6th Strategic Planning meeting. Mr. Offner presented a bid from Trafera for 40 teacher computers.

He gave details on the warranties on these computers. The strategic planning was discussed earlier.

Mr. Offner indicated this was a duplicate item. Actions began with a Motion by Falk, second, by Kruse to approve the Budget Report.

The Financial Report and the following claims: General Fund of \$340,696.65, Special Building Fund of \$15,840.97, and Lunch Fund of \$16,893.24.

Ayes-Kruse, Quinn, Falk, Grothe, Jaeger and Marotz. Nays-None.

General Fund, \$388.70; Andrew Offner, \$75.00; Appears, \$212.91; BLACK HILLS ENERGY, \$6,529.29; BOMGAARS, \$17.99; Carmen Andreasen, \$700.00; CORNHUSKER INTERNATIONAL TRUCKS INC, \$314.86; Cory Friedrich, \$75.00; D & L Towing, \$552.50; Dirk Jaeger, \$411.00; Eakes Office Plus, \$698.69; Echo Group, Inc., \$157.80; Ellis Home Services, \$272.82; Farmers Coop, \$3,757.28; Frederick Construction, \$2,304.68; HOMETOWN LEASING, \$1,502.72; HRdirect l gNeil, \$169.98; Johnson Controls Security Solutions, \$693.72; Matheson Tri-Gas Inc, \$205.60; Menards, \$12.58; NEVCO, \$5,880.18; NORTHEAST NEBR TELEPHONE CO, \$188.46; Pac'n'save, \$75.84; Shaw, Hull & Navarrette, \$2,073.50; Sparq Data Solutions, \$3,920.00; Tim Lurz, \$193.00; U S Bank, \$934.81; U S Cellular, \$138.88; Village Of Winside, \$3,607.16; Waste Connections Of Nebraska, \$488.40; Wayne County Clerk, \$630.52; Wayne Herald, \$450.92; Winside Public School (REIMBURS), \$1,343.74; Winside Store, \$29.61; WPS Athletics, \$20,000.00

Special Building Project Leader, \$705.00; Prof, \$14,107.50; FEMA work, \$705.00; May Travel Exp, \$323.47; DLR, \$15,840.97

Lunch Appears, \$108.18; Bimbo Bakeries USA, \$176.65; HILAND DAIRY, \$1,011.37; Sysco Lincoln, \$1,456.22; U S Foods, \$2,660.86

Payroll \$5,413.28 \$11,479.96 \$16,893.24

Mr. Offner read the resignation letter of Mrs. Emma Schulz. This followed with a motion by Marotz seconded by Grothe to approve the resignation of Mrs. Emma Schulz, as a preschool teacher, at the end

of the 2022-2023 school year. Ayes-Quinn, Falk, Grothe, Jaeger, Marotz and Kruse. Nays-None.

President Jaeger and the Board thanked her for her services to Winside Public School and wish her the best in her new endeavors.

Motion by Falk, second by Quinn to approve the Trafera quote to purchase 40 teacher computers in the amount of \$39,600.00.

Ayes-Falk, Grothe, Jaeger, Marotz, Kruse and Quinn. Nays-None. Superintendent Contract will be reviewed in Executive Session.

Action for the Metcalf Paint quote died due to lack of motion. President Jaeger asked to take action to adopt a resolution authorizing the creation of the Winside Educational Facilities Leasing Corporation and authorizing the District to enter into one or more lease purchase financings with said Corporation in an aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$3,800,000.

for the purpose of leasing certain educational facilities and equipment from the Corporation. Grothe made a motion stating the following:

A RESOLUTION RATIFYING, CONFIRMING AND APPROVING THE FORMATION OF THE WINSIDE EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES LEASING CORPORATION AND THE ASSISTANCE OF SUCH CORPORATION IN PROVIDING FOR THE FINANCING OF EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES FOR USE BY THE DISTRICT;

AUTHORIZING THE DISTRICT TO UNDERTAKE ONE OR MORE LEASE OR LEASE-PURCHASE FINANCINGS FOR THE ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION, IMPROVEMENT AND EQUIPPING OF CERTAIN EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES FOR USE BY WAYNE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 0595 (WINSIDE PUBLIC SCHOOLS) IN THE STATE OF NEBRASKA;

AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY BY THE DISTRICT AND THE CORPORATION OF DOCUMENTS RELATING TO SUCH FINANCINGS;

AUTHORIZING DISTRICT OFFICERS AND CORPORATION OFFICERS TO DETERMINE THE AMOUNT, PAYMENTS AND DATES, EFFECTIVE INTEREST RATES, PREPAYMENT PROVISIONS AND OTHER TERMS AND DETAILS OF SUCH FINANCINGS, ALL SUBJECT TO THE PARAMETERS SET FORTH HEREIN;

DESIGNATING THE FINANCINGS AS QUALIFIED TAX-EXEMPT OBLIGATIONS; ADOPTING CERTAIN POST-ISSUANCE TAX COMPLIANCE PROCEDURES WITH RESPECT TO THE FINANCINGS; AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN ACTIONS AND DOCUMENTS AND PRESCRIBING OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO.

Quinn seconded this motion. Ayes-Grothe, Jaeger, Marotz, Kruse, Quinn and Falk. Nays-None. Motion by Quinn, seconded by Marotz to go into Executive Session 8:18 pm to discuss the Superintendent Contract.

Ayes-Jaeger, Marotz, Kruse, Quinn, Falk and Grothe. Nays-None.

Deadline for all legal notices to be published by The Wayne Herald is Mondays at 5 pm

Advertisement for Northeast Nebraska Insurance Agency. Text: "it's not special treatment, if you treat everyone special. simple human sense". Logo: Auto-Owners Insurance.

Advertisement for Edward Jones. Text: "Compare our CD Rates". Logo: Edward Jones.

Table with CD Rates: 6-month 4.30% APY, 9-month 4.35% APY, 1-year 4.65% APY.

Advertisement for Mike Varley, Financial Advisor. Photo of Mike Varley. Text: "Call or visit your local financial advisor today."

MORE LEGALS ON PAGE 4B

COUNTY TREASURER'S SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

WAYNE COUNTY, NEBRASKA

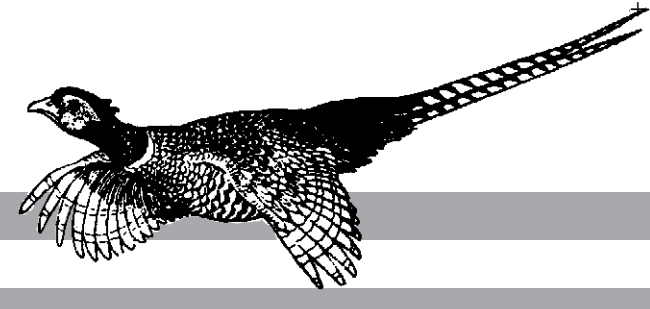
Receipts and Disbursement from July 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022

Table with columns: Balances 7/1/2022, Receipts, Disbursements, Transfers, Balances 12/31/2022. Includes rows for County General, County Road & Bridge, Highway Bridge Buyback, etc.

I, Lisa Lindsay, County Treasurer of Wayne County, Nebraska, being duly sworn, do say that to the best of my knowledge, the foregoing is a true and complete report of all funds on hand, collected and paid out by me, from July 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022.

Signature of Lisa Lindsay, County Treasurer. Signature of Susan Finn, County Clerk.

Large advertisement for Wayne Auto Parts, Inc. Text: "We are OPEN!". Logo: The Wayne Herald & Morning Shopper.



Opinion



"T'was the season

By Mike Renning
mikesportshome@yahoo.com

I hope you both had a great holiday season!

I'm assuming someone else in your household is reading this mess, but Happy New Year!

I know we have discussed in the past the fact I don't do resolutions. Well, technically, that's an untruth, I do resolve to not make a resolution. This year being no exception, I got nothing.

Thirty-two years ago, I resolved to love the Darling Wife more than I did the year before.

Three additional kids later, I succeeded in my resolution and to some degree have been paying for it ever since...not always in a bad way, but a different way to succeed in a silly annual ritual.



out. See if they fit and did the thing all of our kids did with a new pair of shoes - went sprinting around the house to see if they made me faster - acted appreciative for the new purchase.

They did fit and I was faster, but I also noticed she was wearing some new shoes.

And I noticed another shoe box in one of the 15 bags I helped carry in when she arrived.

The next day, Amazon brought a pair of running shoes for her.

What I discovered is the fact never look a gift horse in the mouth, but there is an agenda behind some "gifts".

Sometimes, a gift is a down payment towards easing guilt and sometimes it's just a gift.

I'm just glad she didn't bring me a new car.

Or another dog. Count my blessings I guess.

At any rate, we had a wonderful Christmas. Saw all of the Grandkids, all of the kids, the in-laws, the outlaws, everyone.

Oh, and by the way, I know we have discussed how much fun I used to have with our kids when the Darling Wife would go shopping?

Breaking things, injuring kids, losing important items.

Well, in that spirit, I made football goal posts for each family of our children with children.

I also got each family a football and tee - small enough for a Grandkid to kick but big enough for the ball to go somewhere when kicked.

The goal posts were big enough to put in the yard, but small enough to fit in the living room and light enough even a Grandkid could make it mobile to place it outside... or in the living room.

Oh yes, a gift that truly keeps giving.

Capitol View

The fix is in, legislature off to rocky start

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

My observation from the opening days of the 108th Nebraska Legislature:

"The fix is in!"

Google it, information worth having as this highly partisan influenced session stumbles on. In the 20's, when the term first surfaced, it meant the deal was done - probably in advance. There is also mention made of bribes or pay-offs. I'm not suggesting that's in play right now, or is it?

Chairmanship races this year were cut and dried, not unlike five years ago when the majority party in the officially non-partisan Legislature met before the session convened and decided who was going to do what. This year was similar with the 32 Republicans exercising their power in numbers over the 17 Democrats. Most seats went to Republicans.

In a contested race for the Education Committee Chairmanship between Republican Dave Murman and Democrat Lynn Walz, the vote was 32-17 in Murman's favor. Imagine that. I predict we'll see a lot of 32-17 votes this session. We'll see a lot of filibusters from the 17 to stop or slow down the wants of the 32.

The Committee on Committees - tasked with assigning senators to various standing and special committees - issued its report. At first glance, some of the committees appeared to have been stacked with Republicans to allegedly ensure easier passage of bills favored by that party.

The Committee consists of three caucuses representing Nebraska's three congressional districts with four senators elected from each caucus by its members. According to the rules of the Legislature, it is charged with submitting a preliminary report on committee membership immediately following chairmanship and Committee on Committees membership elections and then a final report for legislative approval.

Legislative Update

New legislative session now underway

Happy New Year from Lincoln. Last week the 108th session began with voting for committee chairs where I was selected to be the chair of committee on committees.

This is a position where I oversee standing committees and the members from the three caucuses to fill those committees. There was much discussion and debate over these committee assignments, but the final report was approved by the Legislature.

I will be serving on the Revenue, Education and State-Tribal Relations Committees and am Vice Chair on the Education Committee.

I would like to congratulate Taylor Nelson from Jackson, Nebraska for being recognized as one of America's Best Young Farmers and Ranchers.

He is seeking solutions that will lead to greater farming efficiency with technology to get work done faster, better and with fewer workers.

I watched a video of him demonstrating on a John Deere Autonomous tractor which, through GPS and other technology, operates remotely without a driver. Congratulations again, Taylor.



In subsequent floor debate on sending the report back to the committee for a do-over, Omaha Senator Meghan Hunt, a Democrat, called the Committee on Committees action "bald faced partisan steam-rolling."

Democrat colleague Danielle Conrad of Lincoln characterized the process as "throwing custom, tradition and precedence out the window."

Republicans staunchly denied wrongdoing and smugly said they were simply following the process outlined in the rules of the Legislature. They rejected allegations that the process was infused with partisan politics and denied they had ignored several precedents used to decide committee membership in previous legislative sessions.

"This institution only works because we adhere to rules and norms, and we have respect for each other and the value of the institu-

tion," said Hunt. That respect has clearly eroded.

Omaha Sen. Tony Vargas, another member of the committee, said the 2023 process ignored precedent and "wasn't as fair as it should be or was in the past." That includes keeping incumbents on committees on which they have served and protecting seniority. "I just want to make sure the process is not political," he said.

Committee Chair Sen. Joni Albrecht of Thurston said the outrage originated from senators - all Democrats - with talk that "I want to railroad them because there's more of (Republicans) than there are of (Democrats). That's not it at all."

Sorry senator. My Capitol View sees nothing but the end of the non-partisan Legislature, as we know it. Please remember and remind your 31 party-line toting colleagues that this is still a nonpartisan body. Imagine the work that could be

done if everyone acknowledged that.

I will grant you that Republicans have the edge in registered voters, elected officials statewide and members of the officially nonpartisan Legislature. But don't let that go to your head.

Remember the people you were elected to serve and do something meaningful for all Nebraskans, not just the administrative branch or for the sake of the Grand Old Party.

Remember my favorite Charles Kuralt line from "On the Road" on CBS TV back in the 70s. "It's not likely that tolerance will soon break out in Nebraska."

Prove him wrong senators. Just do the next right thing.

J.L. Schmidt has been covering Nebraska government and politics since 1979. He has been a registered Independent for more than 20 years.

Editorials

Why I appointed Senate delegate Pete Ricketts

By Governor Jim Pillen

I had the opportunity this week to appoint Nebraska's next U.S. Senator, former Governor Pete Ricketts. Only five times in our state's history has a Governor had this privilege. The process was not one that I took lightly. More than 110 applications were received, and nine candidates interviewed - all individuals who are accomplished and respected by Nebraskans across our state.

I appointed Senator-designate Ricketts because he is a hard-working, positive leader who advocates for the Christian conservative values of Nebraskans. At the federal level, he will fight for the things Nebraskans value most - reduced spending, opportunities for our children, less government, agricultural growth and keeping our nation safe. Additionally, I wanted someone who could hit the ground running and win the seat in 2024 and again, in 2026. Senator-designate Ricketts has a track record of support from Nebraskans that will enable him to quickly fit into his new role, while also running for reelection. He has personally promised me

that he will commit to at least 10 years. That was important in my decision as I believe seniority in the Senate means our state is better represented.

I look forward to working with Senator-designate Ricketts and bettering the lives of Nebraskans, day by day.

that he will commit to at least 10 years. That was important in my decision as I believe seniority in the Senate means our state is better represented.



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Contact me with concerns from classified ads to editorial

Website: www.thewayneherald.com
Advertising: sales@wayneherald.com

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.

Wayne City Council Members

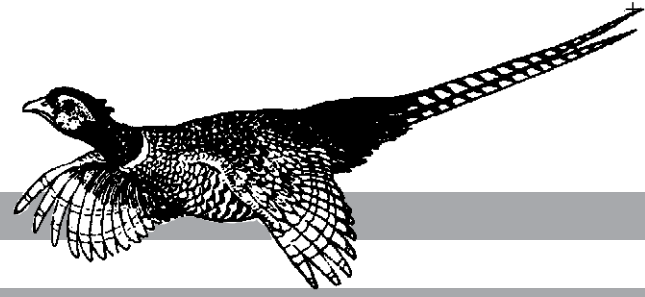
First Ward Terri Buck 402-369-1740 Clayton Bratcher 402-518-1511	Third Ward Jason Karsky 402-369-3877 Brittney Webber 402-841-2787
Second Ward Matt Eischeid 402-375-1944 Brent Pick 402-369-0233	Fourth Ward Nick Muir 402-369-0795 Jill Brodersen 402-369-1304

Mayor
Cale Giese
402-369-2145

The Wayne City Council meets the first and third Tuesdays of the month. Meeting times are at 5:30 p.m. at the City Council chambers, located in the Wayne City Offices at 306 N. Pearl Street.

Lifestyle

The Wayne
Herald



Celebrating Nebraska 4-H Strong

Nebraska will be celebrating a strong 4-H and Youth Development program in February.

Counties across the state will be celebrating and promoting the program to communities each week during Nebraska 4-H Month. 4-H offers many strengths for youth, volunteers, and communities such as building life skills through hands-on learning; growing confidence, resilience, and compassion while adults provide a positive strong environment.

The theme for this year's Nebraska 4-H celebration is I BELONG. There will be several opportuni-

Dakota County

Angela Abts

Extension Educator



UNL Extension

supporting the youth in our state with hands-on learning. Whether it be in a school classroom, a cafeteria, a gym, a living room, an outside space, or online, learning can happen anywhere. There are several educational resources online for families to download along with curriculum available at local county extension offices.

[More information can be found at: <https://4h.unl.edu/virtual-home-learning>]

We pledge our hearts to greater loyalty.

It is important for youth to know they are cared about by others and feel a sense of connection to others in a group. Feeling nurtured in a safe emotional and physical environment is essential to their development. It is also important for youth to see themselves as an active participant in the future.

Nebraska 4-H is committed to providing learning environments for youth that contain the elements which are essential to effective youth development programs. Belonging, Mastery, Independence, and Generosity, are integral to designing high-quality activities for hands-on learning.

[More information can be found at: <https://4h.unl.edu/essential-elements>]

We pledge our hands to larger service.

4-H civic engagement programs

empower young people to be well-informed citizens who are actively engaged in their communities and the world. Youth learn about civic affairs, build decision-making skills, and develop a sense of understanding and confidence in relating and connecting to other people.

[More information can be found at: <https://4h.unl.edu/civic-engagement>]

We pledge our health to better living.

4-H healthy living programs empower youth to be health – body and mind – with the skills to make healthy decisions and lead healthy lifestyles. To assist caring adults who help young people cope, a series of articles focused upon "Supporting Young People Through Change". Topics focus upon contributing in a changing world; creating routine, coping, and connecting in changing times; finding comfort in a changing world; and identifying grief. All who work with and/or care for youth can provide assistance in helping young people cope with the challenges and develop into caring, connected, and capable adults.

[More information can be found at: <https://4h.unl.edu/supporting-young-people-through-change>]

How do you get involved with this strong program in Nebraska? Please contact a Nebraska Extension Office or visit the website at <https://4h.unl.edu>.



Tammy Meier (left) presented information on her card-making hobby at a recent Acme Club meeting. Pictures with her are Bonnadell Koch (center) and Ruth Victor.

ACME Club holds January meeting

President Bonnadell Koch called the Jan. 9 ACME Club meeting to order with all members in attendance.

Pennies were collected and the roll call question was "how many Christmas cards do you think you got this year?" Betty Wittig presented the Thought for the Day as follows: "Never be afraid to try something new – an amateur built the Ark that lasted forty days and forty nights; professionals built the Titanic and it sank."

Reports were given and Secretary Virginia Backstrom added that in spite of the weather, most of the club members were able to attend the holiday luncheon held at The Table in downtown Wayne in December. Those who were unable to attend were in the club's thoughts and prayers. Correspondence was read, business discussed, and the meeting adjourned in due time.

Correspondence included a

thank you from the Nebraska Children's Home Society. Joann Temme sent a thank you for the poinsettia plant, cards, notes, etc., that she and Fritz received; and a thank you was received from Betty Wittig and her family for the flowers and sincere sympathies she received from our club members. The club also received a newsy holiday letter from our absent member, Pat Straight who included her photo and current address.

Hostess Virginia Backstrom introduced Tammy Meier, who gave the members a short background with examples of her interesting hobby of card making. She explained how she gradually got involved in something that was becoming enormously popular and still loves practicing this craft whenever she can find time. Each club member enjoyed making a card and learning of some of the possibilities and gadgets involved in card making.

As everyone possible was in attendance, a photo of the group was taken for the record book, and another one for the news article.

The next meeting will be Monday, Jan. 23.

Senior Center Calendar

(Week of Jan. 23— 27)

The Wayne Senior Center will be open from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Meals are being served at the Senior Center at 11:45 a.m. Staff will still be providing Meals on Wheels and curbside pickup meal service from 11:15 to 11:30 a.m. for noon meals. Please call the Senior Center staff at (402) 375-1460 for details or email them at dberrand@cityofwayne.org for information. Staff will be available between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Monday: Breaded chicken sandwich, creamed potatoes, buttered peas, homemade bun, tapioca fruit salad.

Tuesday: Meatballs with mushroom sauce, au gratin potatoes, green beans with bacon, homemade pumpkin muffin.

Wednesday: Caregivers' group; We Serve Wednesday. Sliced pork roast, kraut, mashed potatoes & gravy, scalloped corn, homemade rye bread, Hawaiian dinner roll, apricot salad.

Thursday: Turkey vegetable rice soup, crackers, oatmeal muffin, strawberry short cake, tomato juice.

Friday: Music by Deb Dickey. Fine Dining Friday. Ham balls, stewed tomatoes, baked potato, homemade dinner roll, lime gelatin with pears.

Monday: Morning Walking; Quilting; FROGS; Pitch and pool.

Tuesday: Morning Walking; Quilting; Afternoon Bridge Club; Pitch.

Wednesday: Caregivers' meeting, 10 a.m.; We Serve Wednesday with Countryview; Morning Walking; Quilting & FROGS; Hand & Foot; Pitch; Pool.

Thursday: Morning Walking; Quilting; Afternoon Bridge Club; Pitch; Skip Bo.

Friday: Fine Dining Friday by Kinship Pointe. Music by Deb Dickey. Morning Walking; Quilting; FROGS; Pitch; Pool; Bingo.

Coffee time each day from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. Snack and coffee time at 2:30 p.m.

Winside Legion Roy Reed Post #252

Winside, NE
SOUP LUNCHEON
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Sunday, Jan. 22
Winside Legion Hall

Serving Chili, Chicken Noodle or Ham-Bean Soup
Assorted Desserts
DRIVE-THRU & TO-GO AVAILABLE

PROCEEDS GO TO SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Winside Public PreSchool Get Acquainted Night

Wednesday, February 15, 2023 • 6:00 - 7:30 PM

1. Winside Public Preschool has many things to offer!
2. NEW THIS YEAR! NO WEEKLY FEE!
3. Breakfast and lunch daily
4. Separate playground area and a gym!
5. Pick up a registration packet this night!
6. Meet the teachers and see the classrooms

3-5 year old mixed classrooms with the choice of 2, 3, or 5 days a week all day.

Please call ahead and let us know if you will be attending!

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375-2088

Extending the 'Golden Hour'

By Debra Johnston, MD

When I was a young physician, we talked with almost religious zeal about the "Golden Hour."

Early on, this principally focused on the idea that within the first hour after an injury, a patient needed to receive definitive treatment in order to maximize the chances of survival, and recovery. We usually interpreted this to mean that the patient needed to be in the hands of the trauma surgeon before this hour was up. We took ATLS classes so we could make sure that the patient in our emergency room got the best treatment we non-surgeons could provide, until the surgeon could take over.

Of course, in the rural upper Midwest, the nearest surgeon, and even the nearest emergency room, might be more than an hour away.

Fortunately for those of us living in more sparsely populated areas, time to the surgeon isn't the only factor that impacts our chances in an emergency. The care we receive before we get to the hospital matters. In fact, it matters a lot.

Gone are the days of "scoop and run" when the only goal of the first responders was to get the patient to the hospital as fast as possible. As with so many roles in modern society, a first responder today has a more complicated job. They need the training and flexibility to address what they see when they meet their patient.

A person who has overdosed on fentanyl needs naloxone, to reverse the opioid and get them breathing. A person in cardiac arrest needs a shock delivered, to restart their heart. A person who has lost a limb in a car accident needs

the bleeding stopped. These things need to be done well before the patient could arrive in an emergency room, even if they were delivered there by helicopter.

Certainly some emergencies require care that is still well beyond what could be provided outside of a hospital. If they can receive it in time, approximately 25% of stroke victims could benefit from clot busting medications. Another 10-15% have strokes that are actually caused by bleeding. It's a distinction that can't be made in an ambulance, and the wrong call could be catastrophic.

We all know that the pandemic has radically changed the workforce. Employers around the country are facing a shortage of workers, from fast food to finance.

Health care is no different. This includes ambulance services, where the situation is further complicated by the reality that many rural EMS providers rely on volunteer labor. Those volunteers need to know more than just how to drive the ambulance. They need to know how to provide effective interventions, to extend that "Golden Hour." This particular labor shortage has grave consequences. It is quite literally a matter of life and death.

Debra Johnston, M.D. is part of The Prairie Doc® team of physicians and currently practices family medicine in Brookings, South Dakota. Follow The Prairie Doc® based on science, built on trust, at www.prairiedoc.org and on Facebook featuring On Call with the Prairie Doc® a medical Q&A show, streaming live on Facebook most Thursdays at 7 p.m. central.

Herman

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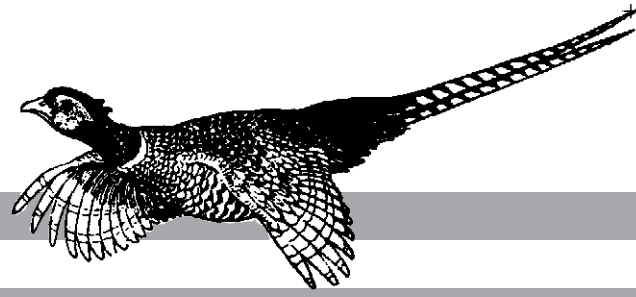
COMING SOON!

FREE SHOWS 1/20/23 - 1/21/23 8:00 PM

Kate Boytek

Singer/songwriter Kate Boytek hit the stage for the first time at the tender age of five at her local country fair talent show. Singing opportunities were few and far between in Kate's tiny hometown of Logan, West Virginia, nestled deep in the Appalachian coalfields. Kate sang at dozens of local charity events, directed her church choir, and eventually attracted the attention of West Virginia native and legendary Grand Ole Opry and Bradley's Barn audio engineer Vic Gabany.

FORT RANDALL CASINO • HOTEL



Faith

Church Services

Note: Please contact your church for the latest updates on service times, activities and other worship opportunities available. Also, anyone with updated information about services is asked to contact the Wayne Herald (402) 375-2600.

Wayne

BAHA'I FAITH
1002 West 2nd Ave.
(402) 369-4227 or (402) 922-0314
Contact: Chris Tee Weixelman or Gary Weddel
Every Sunday: Devotions, 10:30 a.m. - Open to all religions and spiritual convictions. Prayers from all faiths welcome. Investigate spiritual concepts and the relation of life and death.

CALVARY BIBLE
EVANGELICAL FREE
502 Lincoln Street
(402) 375-4946
website: www.cbefc.org
email: officeassistant@cbefc.org
Sunday: Pre-service fellowship, 9:30 a.m.; Worship service, 10:30 a.m.; "Equipped" for college students and adults, 5:30 p.m. Sun-

day morning services also available through the church's website. Wednesday: FIRE UP, 6:30 p.m.

FAITH BAPTIST
Independent - Fundamental
208 E. Fourth St. -
(402) 661-0026
(Pastor Rev. Thomas G. Naimie)
Sunday: Sunday school, 10 a.m.; Sunday morning Worship, 11 a.m.; Sunday Evening Services, 6 p.m. Wednesday: Midweek Bible Study and Prayer, 7 p.m.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
216 West 3rd St.
375-2669
www.fpcwayne.org
(Rev. Teresa Bartlett, pastor)
Sunday: Worship, (at First Presbyterian Church and on Zoom), 10 a.m.; Fellowship, 11 a.m.; Pastor leads Countryview Chapel, 1:30 p.m.; Cub Scout Den meeting, 4 p.m. Saturday: Session Retreat at First Presbyterian Church, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

FIRST TRINITY LUTHERAN
Altona, LC-MS
57741 847th Road, Wayne
Sunday: Worship Services at Faith

Lutheran in Stanton, 8 a.m.; Worship Services at St. John's Lutheran in Pilger, 9:30 a.m.; Divine Worship Services with Holy Communion at First Trinity of Altona, 11 a.m.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST
6th & Main St.
Pastor Nick Baker,
(402) 375-2231
Thursday: Bible Study with Communion, 9:30 a.m. Sunday: Third Sunday after the Epiphany. Worship Service, 9 a.m.; Sunday School for Pre-K through fifth grade, 10:15 a.m.; Adult Sunday School, 10:15 a.m. Monday: Newsletter deadline. WIC & Immunization Clinic, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Wednesday: Bell Choir practice; Bible Study, 6:30 p.m.; Chancel Choir Practice, 6:30 p.m. Thursday: Bible Study with Communion, 9:30 a.m. Saturday: Wayne Food Truck at Journey Christian Church, 9:30 a.m.

GRACE LUTHERAN
Missouri Synod
904 Logan
grace@gracewayne.com
(402) 375-1905
(Pastor Michael Buchhorn)
(Pastor Erik Christensen, associate pastor)
Sunday: Worship with Communion, 8 and 10:30 a.m.; Sunday School & Bible Class, 9:15 a.m.; Sunday Night Dinner, 7:30 p.m. Monday: Choir, 6 p.m. Wednesday: Bible Study, 9 a.m.; Bell Choir, 5 p.m.; Midweek, 6:30 p.m. Thursday: Altar Guild, 7 p.m. Saturday: Family Communion, 4 p.m. Sunday: Worship, 8 and 10:30 a.m.; Sunday School & Bible Class, 9:15 a.m.; Sunday Night Dinner, 7:30 p.m.

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

JOURNEY
CHRISTIAN CHURCH
1110 East 7th St.
www.jccwayne.org.
375-4743
Dave Fremstad, Lead Pastor
Adam Wright, Associate Pastor

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN
421 Pearl St. • 375-2899
oslc@oslcwayne.org
Transitional Pastor Jim Splitt
Associate Transitional Pastor, Debra Valentine
Friday: Newsletter Deadline. Saturday: Worship, 5:30 p.m. Sunday: Fellowship Hour, 9 a.m.; Sunday School, 9 a.m.; Worship, 10 a.m. The service will also be broadcast on KTCH and TV and live video streamed on Facebook. Monday: Radio Devotions, 5:45 a.m. (through Friday). Tuesday: Cluster Text Study, 10 a.m.; Staff Meeting, 2 p.m. Wednesday: Meditation Bible Study, 11 a.m.; Confirmation, 6 p.m.; Joyful Noise, 6 p.m.; Charity Circle, 2 p.m. Friday: Newsletter Deadline. Saturday: Wayne Food Truck at Journey Christian Church, 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 5:30 p.m. Sunday: Fellowship Hour, 9 a.m.; Sunday School, 9 a.m.; Worship, 10 a.m. The service will also be broadcast on KTCH and TV and live video streamed on Facebook.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC
412 East 8th St.
(Fr. Matthew Capadano, pastor)
(Fr. Jerry Connealy, associate

pastor)
375-2000; fax: 375-5782;
E-mail:
parish@stmaryswayne.
Thursday: Rosary at Kinship Pointe, 1 p.m.; College Night, Mass, 8 p.m. Friday: Mass, 8:15 a.m.; Northeast Nebraska March For Life, Norfolk, 1 p.m. Saturday: One Rose, One Life, Mass, 5 p.m. Sunday: Mass, 8 and 10 a.m.; Devotions at Countryview, 1:30 p.m.; Mass at 7 p.m. Monday: Women's Monday Group 1 p.m.; Ecumenical Prayer Group, 3:30 p.m.; Santa Maria Prayer Group, 6 p.m. Tuesday: Mass, 5:15 p.m.; English Class, Wayne State College, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday: Mass, 5:15 p.m.; Confirmation Class, Holy Family Hall, 5:45 p.m.; WINGS at Holy Family Hall, 7:15 p.m. Thursday: Rosary at Kinship Pointe, 1 p.m.; College Night, Mass, 8 p.m. Friday: Mass at 8:15 a.m. Saturday: Mass, 5 p.m. Sunday: Mass, 8 and 10 a.m.; Devotions at Countryview, 1:30 p.m.; Mass at 7 p.m.

Word of Life,
Independent Bible Church
(formerly First Baptist Church)
1000 East 10th Street
(402) 375-3608
(Douglas Shelton, pastor)
Sunday: Sunday School, Adult and children's classes, 9 a.m.; Prayer and Fellowship, 10:15 a.m.; Worship, 10:30 a.m. Wednesday: Prayer, 6:30 p.m.; Bible Study, 7 p.m.

Allen

FIRST LUTHERAN
(Vicar Deb Hammer)
(402) 635-2461
502 S. Highway 9, Allen
www.firstlutheranallen.com
Sunday: Worship service, 8:30 a.m.; GIGP at Cone Park, 2:30 to 5 p.m. Monday: Newsletter deadline. Wednesday: Confirmation class, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
UNITED METHODIST
(Pastor Debra Tompsett-Welch)
allenunitedmethodistchurch@gmail.com
Sunday: Adult Study, 8 a.m. Book: Reading the Old Testament through Jewish Eyes. A study of the scriptures Jesus read. Worship service, 9 a.m. Wednesday: Office hours 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Confirmation, 3:30 p.m.

Carroll

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN
(Alexander Blanken, pastor)
Sunday: Pastor available for communion at 7:30 a.m.; Divine Service with Communion, 8 a.m.; Sunday School in Carroll, 4 p.m.
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH
202 Ericson Street, Carroll
(Pastor Nick Baker)
Sunday: Third Sunday after the Epiphany. Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship service, 11 a.m.

Concord

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN
(Vicar Deb Hammer)
(402) 584-2467
616 Iowa Street, Concord
www.concordialutheranelca.com
Sunday: Worship service, 10:15 a.m.; Concordia Lutheran Church Ministry celebration following worship; GIGP at Cone Park, 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. Monday: Newsletter deadline. Wednesday: Concordia Lutheran Church Children's ministry, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.; Confirmation Class, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
ST. PAUL LUTHERAN
East of town

(Pastor Willie Bertrand)
Sunday: Worship service, 8 a.m.

CONCORD
EVANGELICAL FREE Church
(402) 584-2396
617 Broadway, Concord
www.concordfreechurch.org
Sunday: Coffee fellowship, 9 a.m.; Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Morning Worship service, 10:30 am.; The service will also be streamed live on Facebook. Evening Bible Study, Youth Group and Praying Kids, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday: Awana, 7 to 8:15 p.m.

Dixon

ST. ANNE'S CATHOLIC
(Fr. Matthew Capadano, pastor)
(Fr. Jerry Connealy, associate pastor)
Sunday: Mass at St. Anne's in Dixon, 8 a.m.; Mass at Mary's in Laurel, 10 a.m.

Hoskins

PEACE EVANGELICAL
CHURCH
(Pastor Clark Jenkinson)
Sunday: Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 10:30 a.m.

TRINITY EVANG LUTHERAN
(Rodney Rixe, pastor)
Sunday: Worship service, 10 a.m.

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, 10:30 a.m.
EVANGELICAL COVENANT
802 Winter St.
e-mail: wakecov@msn.com
Jill Craig, Pastor
Sunday: Morning Worship, 10 a.m.; Service also broadcast live on Facebook. Wednesday: Confirmation, 2 p.m.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN
57885 860th Road
4 North, 3 East of Wayne
(Willie Bertrand, pastor)
Sunday: Worship, 9:30 a.m.

PRESBYTERIAN
216 West 3rd

Grace Lutheran Ladies Aid installs officers

Grace Lutheran Ladies Aid met Jan. 11 with 15 members and Pastor Buchhorn present. Pastor Buchhorn led the Bible study taken from the LWML Quarterly entitled "Covered with God's Grace". An ice storm can be hazardous while being beautiful from a distance. Our lives can have many storms but God covers every seemingly insignificant aspect with His shining glory and amazing beauty. Pastor Buchhorn conducted the installation of officers. Installed were Ellen Heinemann as president; Rhonda Sebade as vice president; and Mary Lou Erxleben as Christian Growth Chairman. Secretary Jan Casey and treasurer Verna Mae Baier will serve a second term. Christian Growth Chairman Mary Lou Erxleben, shared a Mustard Seed devotion entitled "Begin With God-He Gives Comfort." Present Ellen Heinemann led the group in reading the LWML Pledge. Roll Call was taken. Membership booklets for 2023 were handed out. The minutes were read and approved. The Treasurer's report was given and filed for audit. Members were remind to pay the 2023 dues of \$11.00. Correspondence consisted of newsletters from various organizations and thank you notes from congregational shut-in members. Committee Reports included the following: Betty Wittig continues to send greeting cards to Grace members for various occasions. This card

(Rev. Charity Potter, pastor)
Sunday: Worship service, 11 a.m.; Available via Zoom also; Sunday School.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN
West 7th & Maple
(Willie Bertrand, pastor)
Sunday: Educational Hour, 10 a.m.; Worship with Communion, 11 a.m. Wednesday: Church Council, 7 p.m.

SALEM LUTHERAN
411 Winter Street
Ernesto Medina,
Pastor for Transition
Saturday: Worship service, 5:30 a.m. Sunday: Learning Hour, 9:15-9:30 a.m.; Worship service, 10:30 a.m.; Potluck following the service; Annual meeting, 12:15 p.m. Monday, Jan. 23 through - Monday, Jan. 30: Pastor gone. Tuesday: Quilters, 9 a.m. Wednesday: Study of the Bible, 10:30 a.m.; Confirmation, 2:15 to 3:30 p.m.; SLY, 5:45 p.m.; SLY, 7 p.m.; Bell Choir, 7 p.m.; Study of the Bible, 7 p.m. Saturday: Worship service, 5:30 p.m. Sunday: Learning Hour, 9:15 - 9:30 a.m.; Worship service, 10:30 a.m. The Food Pantry is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday through Friday. Please call in advance (402) 287-2681.

Winside

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN
218 Miner St.
(Alexander Blanken, pastor)
Sunday: Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.; Divine Service, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday School in Carroll, 4 p.m. The service will also be live on Facebook at 10:30 a.m. and available any time after that. Tuesday: Newsletter deadline. Wednesday: Divine Service, 6:30 p.m. Thursday: Theology on Tap Men's Group, 6:30 p.m.

TRINITY LUTHERAN
206 Miner Street
(PMA Glenn Kietzmann)
Sunday: Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Commentary Service, 10:30 a.m.; Annual meeting

UNITED METHODIST
207 Jones Street
(Neil and Bridget Gately, Pastors)
Sunday: Worship service on-site, 9 a.m.; Live Stream of Worship on Facebook, 10:55 a.m. Thursday: Bible Study, 10 a.m.

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GOD is in the NOW!


Jesus came into Galilee saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel. The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent ye, and believe the gospel." Mark 1:15 (ESV, KJV).

The words and proclamation of JESUS, the Kingdom of God is NOW, is at hand were radical words. These words transformed the very basic belief and tradition of faith in His time.

People were waiting. People wanted the Messiah. People were living in the time of hope and expectation. It was in the very nature of people in his time to be in want and yearning for God's intervention and deliverance.

Jesus tells everyone, I'm here. This is the time. The waiting is over! The Kingdom of GOD is NOW! To the guilty he announced the forgiveness of sins, to the anx-

A Word
In Faith



By Jim Splitt
Pastor, Our Savior Lutheran Church

ious he announced the trustworthiness of God. To the bored he proclaimed that God was at work in their midst and to get involved and make a difference, to those at war with one another he let us know if we want to live by the sword, violent death happens.

Instead, he taught us to love one another, even our enemies. To those hoping for a glorious messi-

anic event, he said, "I'm here." To the lonely he said, "I am with You always."

In essence, Jesus was announcing the event of final deliverance was here! Jesus said, I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly. (John 10:10).

The expression followers of Christ use is fulfillment. Jesus

came to the Synagogue and read from the prophet Isaiah (ref Isaiah 61:1-2). Following the reading he announced to all, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." (Luke 4:21).

This message is true today for all believers and those who might come to believe.

This message compels us to live in the present and not to be held to the past by guilt and shame, or to be afraid of the future with fear and anxiety. But to live forgiven of the past, hopeful of the future, and actively engaged in the here and now as servants of God's kingdom here on earth. It's a matter of being fully present in the light of Christ, living with the full knowledge of God transforming lives now, each and every second to live holy and acceptable lives, loved and blessed by God for who we are, each of us living out the Genesis Blessing,

created in the very image of God. (ref Gen. 1:27).

GOD is the NOW.


Word in Faith is a collaboration

of Wayne Association of Congregations and Ministers (WACAM), an organization partially funded by the Wayne Community Chest.


SAVE THE DATE!

Tuesday, February 21
Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast
City Auditorium

Celebrating the local club's 100th Anniversary!



Special Guest - The Pancake Man!
Check him out here





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January 17, 1963

Wayne's switch to dial phones nears completion

As the switch over to dial phones nears completion, Wayne Northwestern Bell Telephone Co. manager Bernie Eiting shows part of one of the rooms of equipment necessary for the change over. The dial change-over is to go into effect in February with a possible direct dial system later in the year.

January 15, 1973

Benthack Hall is name of new WSC building

A new building to be erected at Wayne State College will be named the Walter Benthack Hall of Applied Science. It honors Dr. Benthack, who has practiced medicine in Wayne since 1930 and swerved on the state college governing board from 1939 to 1945. Dr. Benthack built a hospital in 1937 and directed its operation until the city of Wayne purchased it as a municipal hospital about 1 year ago. The new applied science hall will house classes in industrial education, home economics and safety education. Construction will start when weather permits.

January 20, 1983

Christmas car given away

Bev Hitchcock of Carroll, daughter of Ernest and Viola Junck, Carroll, accepted the keys to a new Mercury Lynx from Stan Hansen, a salesman at Arnie's Ford-Mercury, Wayne, Saturday. Viola won the Wayne Christmas car giveaway for her husband, who was home milking on Dec. 23, the night Junck's key opened the \$5,500 treasure chest at the City Auditorium. The Junck's presented the car to their daughter.

January 19, 1993

Outstanding college students are honored

Fifty-six Wayne State College students were recently named to the 1993 edition of Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges. Wayne area students honored included Gwen Jensen, Wakefield; Heidi Wriedt, Susan Sorensen, Rebecca Barner and Brett Fuelberth of Wayne. The students were given certificates by the college's president, Donald Marsh.

January 16, 2003

Turning a set-back into a come-back

Ron "Gus" Gustafson spoke to a full house at Our Savior Lutheran Church. The Lyons native, who lost an arm and shoulder and sustained a crushed leg in a farming accident at age nine, focused on three main points. The first is to process the garbage in your life. Next, never give up. And finally, always have the courage to face the next challenge. Gustafson has also suffered a stroke several years ago but told his audience that his faith has sustained him throughout all the setbacks in his life.



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School Lunches

ALLEN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS (Jan. 23 - 27)

Monday: Breakfast — Omelet. Lunch — Biscuit & gravy, corn, tri tater.

Tuesday: Breakfast — Long John. Lunch — Chicken fajita on flat bread, peas.

Wednesday: Breakfast — French toast. Lunch — Country fried steak, mashed potatoes with gravy, tea roll.

Thursday: Breakfast — Breakfast cookie. Lunch — Chili with crackers, cinnamon roll, cheese stick.

Friday: Breakfast — Chocolate donut. Lunch — Calzones, green beans, orange fluff.

All breakfast meals include a variety of cereal or oatmeal, 8 oz. of milk, fruit or fruit juice. All lunch meals include 8 oz. of milk. Salad bar will include the following options: fresh lettuce, fresh spinach, carrots/celery, tomatoes, diced eggs, bean variety, cucumbers and fruit variety.

LAUREL-CONCORD-COLERIDGE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS (Jan. 23 - 27)

Monday: Breakfast — Dutch waffle. Lunch — Chicken strips.

Tuesday: Breakfast — Scrambled eggs, toast. Lunch — Mini corn dog.

Wednesday: Breakfast — Pancakes. Lunch — Goulash.

Thursday: Breakfast — Egg basket. Lunch — Hamburger gravy over potatoes.

Friday: Breakfast — Scone. Lunch — Breaded pork sandwich.

WAKEFIELD SCHOOLS (Jan. 23 - 27)

Monday: Breakfast — Blueberry muffin, egg patty, fruit cocktail, cereal, juice, milk. Lunch — Pepperoni pizza, strawberry kiwi juice, broccoli, milk.


Tuesday: Breakfast — Biscuits

Monday: Breakfast — Blueberry muffin, egg patty, fruit cocktail, cereal, juice, milk. Lunch — Pepperoni pizza, strawberry kiwi juice, broccoli, milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast — Biscuits

WAYNE VETS CLUB BREAKFAST

Sunday, Jan. 29
9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Serving Pancakes, Eggs, Sausage or Biscuits & Gravy, Adults \$9
Children under 12 \$5
Dine-In or Curbside Pick Up
Call 402-375-9944



Wayne Vets Club
220 Main
Wayne, NE

WINSIDE PUBLIC SCHOOLS (Jan. 23 - 27)

Monday: Breakfast — Pancake. Lunch — Chicken patty, bun, green beans, fruit.

Tuesday: Breakfast — Sausage. Lunch — Meatballs, cheesy bread, winter blend vegetables, fruit.


Wednesday: Breakfast — Waffle. Lunch — Hot ham & cheese, baked beans, fruit.

Thursday: Breakfast — Omelet. Lunch — Potato bake, toppings (ham, cheese, broccoli, chili), fruit, roll.

Friday: Breakfast — French toast. Lunch — Hot dog, bun, Smiley fries, fruit.

Chef salad, fruit and vegetable bar served daily. Milk served with all meals. Menu subject to change. Late starts - no breakfast or K-2 salad plates.

Annual Bull & Heifer Sale
Feb 2, 1 pm (cst), at the ranch



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OPEN HOUSE: Saturday, January 14 & Saturday, January 28, 1-3 p.m.
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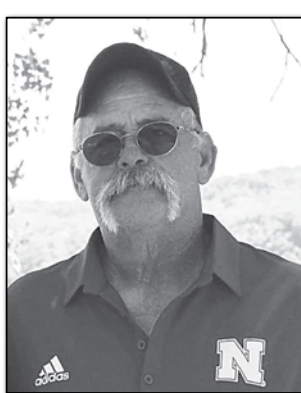
NOTE: This ranch style home sits on 2+/- acres and features 3 bedrooms, 1 & 1/2 baths, full unfinished basement and is located close to all major cities. Also included is a 3 bay unattached garage and a garden shed. This property will need some work and updating but has plenty of room for entertaining and room to grow. The property will be sold "AS IS".
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BENEFIT for Mark "Bud" Daniels

Saturday January 21
Wayne Country Club
302 E 21st Street Wayne, NE
Meal served 4-7pm

- Silent Auction
- Free Will Donation



Mark was diagnosed with Esophageal cancer on August 10, 2022. All proceeds will go to Mark "Bud" and Lisa Daniels to cover medical expenses.

Donations may be sent to:
Elkhorn Valley Bank, PO Box 10, Wayne, NE 68787
Make check payable to: Mark and Lisa Daniels

Allen News

Callie Anderson
canderson@allenschools.org

Allen Community News
Dixon County Squadron for Sons of the American Legion

We are in the process of establishing a Dixon County Squadron for Sons of the American Legion.

If you are a son (or step) of a father or grandfather who is/was a military veteran, you are eligible with no age limits. We are having a meeting at the Ponca Legion Hall on Monday, Jan. 23, at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend.

If you are interested or have questions, please contact Nick Tramp at (402) 660-4686 or Randy Lukken at (402) 755-2294.



Celestin Martell



Ellise Niemann



Leah Johnson



Eduardo Lulo-Galdamez



James Kneifl.

Allen Senior Center
Thursday, Jan. 19: BBQ spare ribs, mac & cheese, baked beans, grapes.
Friday, Jan. 20: Tater tot casserole, applesauce, cranberry juice.
Monday, Jan. 23: Baked fish, sweet potatoes, peas, applesauce.
Tuesday, Jan. 24: Chili soup, cinnamon roll, margarine, peaches.
Wednesday, Jan. 25: Sweet & sour meatballs, rice, green beans, cranberries.
Thursday, Jan. 19: FROGS, Exercise.
Friday, Jan. 20: Health screening.
Tuesday, Jan. 24: FROGS, Exercise

Allen Consolidated Schools
Dixon County Spelling Bee Qualifiers

The Dixon County Spelling Bee will take place on Tuesday, Jan. 24 in the Allen Consolidated Schools gymnasium. The public is invited to attend.

The Allen Consolidated Schools fifth-eighth grade Dixon County Spelling Bee qualifiers are:

Eduardo Lulo-Galdamez - eighth grade; Celestin Martell - eighth grade; James Kneifl - seventh grade; Leah Johnson - sixth grade and Ellise Niemann - sixth grade.

Weekly Events
Thursday, Jan. 19: Varsity Boys and GIRLS L&C Conference Wrestling at Creighton, 11 a.m.; JVG (2, 8 min. Quarters), JVB (3, 8 min. Quarters), VG and VB Basketball at Wausa, 4:15 p.m.; Youth Girls grades third and fourth basketball Practice at Allen, 5:30 to 7 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 20: Youth Basketball Practice at Allen for grades third - sixth boys and fifth - sixth girls, 3:30 to 5 p.m.; NO JV girls game, JVB, VG and VB Basketball @ Emerson vs Wakefield, 4:45 p.m. Senior Night - *** Note Time Change ***
Saturday, Jan. 21: L&C Honor Band at Allen - Details TBA at a later date. JH Girls and Boys (B,A) Basketball at Emerson-Hubbard vs Plainview, 9 a.m. ** Note location change **; Varsity Boys Wrestling at Oakland-Craig, 9 a.m.
Monday, Jan. 23: VG and VB Basketball at Walthill, 6 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 24: Dixon County Spelling Bee at Allen in gym, 1:30 p.m.; Youth Basketball Practice in Allen for grades third - sixth boys and fifth - sixth girls, 3:30 to 5 p.m.; JVG (2 quarters), JVB (2 quarters), VG and VB Basketball at Pender, 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 25: First Grade Field Trip to Planetarium at WSC - Depart at 12:30pm **rescheduled from Jan 18th**

Allen Community Churches
First Lutheran Church
Sunday, Jan. 2: GIGP Winter Tubing Adventure- 2:30-5:30 p.m. at Cone Park in Sioux City, Iowa.
Birthdays
Tuesday, Jan. 24: Richie Monteith

Grain bin safety course to be offered

A no cost training opportunity (and meal) will be offered to area producers, grain elevators, and first responders on grain bin safety.

The event will be held Wednesday, Feb. 8, from 5:30-9:30 p.m. at the UNL-Haskell Ag Lab Farm Shop, located at 57905 866 Road near Concord.


This hands-on session will cover safe bin entry, hazard identification, entrapment and engulfment prevention, and first response if entrapment/engulfment occurs.

Those planning to attend are asked to register at <https://tinyurl.com/3hdurtk6>.

The training is sponsored by the Central States Center for Agricultural Health and Safety, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension and the Grain Handling Safety Council - Building a Safer Community Together!

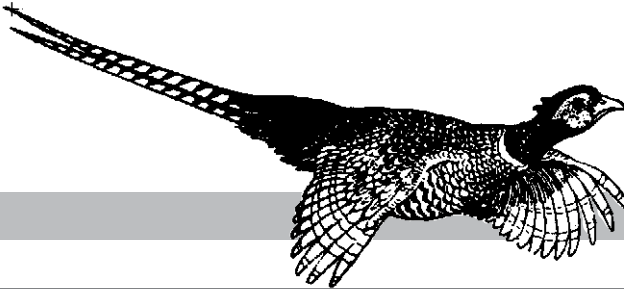
Anyone with questions is asked to call the UNL Haskell Ag Lab at (402) 584-2261.

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Agriculture

Reminiscing about life on the farm

I read a story a couple of weeks ago about the owner of an old farm. This farm had been in the family for generations, but the house was in need of major repair, the taxes on the property kept going up, and that present owner didn't even live nearby; thus, causing a need for a local manager.

Finally, the owner contacted a realtor about selling the land. The realtor was a true professional, and set about getting a lot of good photos, some taken overhead by a drone, and listing all the desirable things about this place. He then put it on his website, and told the fellow to check it out.

He had an almost immediate reply; you can't sell this place! I've been looking for one like this my whole life.

I smiled when I read that, and glanced at an aerial view of Apex farm that hangs on the office wall. It was presented to us by the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District, in note of the conservation practices Mike had practiced for a number of years. It's an aerial view and covers several acres, all laid out in contours on those hills, with lots



The Farmer's Wife
By: Pat Meierhenry

of trees and a couple dams. Anyone would be impressed.

What you don't see when it's so elevated, is the manure, the flies, the mosquitoes, the mice, and so on. It's so picturesque like that; no mud, no snow drifts, and definitely no extreme temperatures.

There were lots of days on the farm (usually in the spring) when

the sky was blue, the grass was green, the birds were singing, and "all was right with the world". Most of the time, there were enough of those to make up for the days "of the other kind." However! Sometimes, I could not recall those days as quickly as I should have!

A bunch of Tabitha retirees get together for brunch once a month and we were reminiscing about those days last week. Almost all of us could remember when dogs and cats belonged outdoors! Several of us laughed about milking cows by hand and squirting the cats with their morning drink. One does not eat eggs to this day because she hated gathering them so much!

Recently, I read an article about the price of farmland in Nebraska. There was a photo of a farmer in the cab of his combine. There were THREE monitors! I don't even know what they would all be for.

But I can tell you two things about them; they make farming more comfortable, and more precise.

AND they make farming more expensive. So, the cost of that equipment, on top of the cost of the land,

make for some pretty pricey living. I'm guessing even a wife working off the farm would not be able to keep up. But, if nothing else, she is, hopefully, providing the health insurance for the family.

It's still a great place to raise kids. The farms are the reason for the "Midwest work ethic" we still hear about. It's a good way of living to be nostalgic about. There is a reason local high schools that have never had FFA have it now; and that local colleges that were all pre-professional now have Ag departments. There are many Ag related jobs. It continues to be a challenge for beginning farmers.

Today's farms are feeding 155 people; when I married the Big Farmer, that number was 16. Farmers are producing this with less land, less energy, less water, and fewer emissions.

Something you can do to learn about today's farmer is check out The Millennial Farmer and his blog.

I think you will enjoy this guy and his family in Minnesota. He speaks for a lot of us!

Wittler receives real estate award

Farmers National Company, the nation's leading farm and ranch management and brokerage company, has announced that Kurt Wittler of Norfolk was recently presented with the Farmers National Company Gold Eagle Award for his outstanding efforts in real estate sales.

Wittler, a real estate sales agent with Farmers National Company, received the company's top award for real estate sales in 2022. He began working for Farmers National Company in 2018.

Wittler can be contacted at (402) 371-0110 or by email at KWittler@FarmersNational.com.



Kurt Wittler

Farmers National Company is the nation's leading landowner services company. Farmers National Company manages more than 5,000 farms and ranches in 30 states comprising more than 2 million acres. Over the last five years, Farmers National Company has sold 4,796 properties (1,740 at auction) and more than \$6.03 billion of real estate during the last 10 years. Additional services provided by the company include energy management, appraisals, insurance, Hunting Lease Network, forest management, FNC Ag Stock, consultations, and collateral inspections. For more information on our company and the services provided, visit www.FarmersNational.com.

Several hay topics discussed

Deciphering A Hay Test - Protein And Energy

By Ben Beckman

All hay is not created equal. Two major values we often judge hay quality on are protein and energy, both of which vary from year to year and between crops. So how do we use these values when deciding what and how much hay to feed?

Protein values in hay tests are typically reported as percent Crude Protein (CP). This measures the nitrogen portion of the hay. Not only is this protein important for rumen microbes, it is also important for animal maintenance and growth.

When looking at hay energy values, one common measure often used is TDN or Total Digestible Nutrients. TDN is the sum of the digestible fiber, protein, lipid, and carbohydrate components of a feed-stuff.

Knowing TDN is useful especially for diets that are primarily forage. Without consideration, diets may be lacking energy as much or more than crude protein. Low energy diet can be as impactful to animal condition and performance as those lacking in protein.

Being familiar with how animal requirements for protein and energy change between animal class and with demands like pregnancy or lactation can help with decisions about how hay is fed. Keep in mind that in addition to these base demands, environmental conditions like temperature can impact animal needs in the short term as well. With this knowledge, we can feed lower quality hay to dry cows and save high quality hay for pairs at peak lactation or growing animals. This not only ensures animals are properly fed but can also help control feed costs.

Reducing Fed Hay Losses

By Brad Schick

Making, transporting, and feeding hay is a large investment in time, equipment, and money. How can you reduce loss of hay during

feeding to make that investment go further?

There are many ways to feed hay, with each method impacting waste differently. If hay is fed unrestricted, cattle can waste 45 percent of the hay they are provided. Limit feeding hay so only what is required is fed, will significantly reduce waste right away. Studies show that cattle fed daily versus fed every four days, needed 25% less hay. That's a huge amount, but labor and equipment cost slightly increased.

A common and usually labor efficient method of feeding is to feed hay directly onto the ground by unrolling bales, distributing ground hay or loose hay, and bale pod grazing. With any of these methods, there should only be enough feed distributed or available for one day.

Bale pod grazing is when bales are spread out across a field or pasture and temporary fence is used to confine animal access to one or several bales. When it's time for more hay, the producer moves a fence instead of moving a bale. The losses will depend on herd size, however, because this relates to limiting feeding or limiting access.

Proposals for 2023 specialty crop projects due Jan. 31

Specialty crops like potatoes, dry edible beans and apples, add value and variety to Nebraska agriculture. To strengthen the specialty crop industry in the state, the Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA) is seeking proposals for innovative research, development, and marketing projects through the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program (SCBGP). The program is administered by NDA and funded through the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The deadline for submitting SCBGP proposals is Jan. 31, 2023.

"Specialty crops are a vital part of Nebraska agriculture," said SCBGP Program Manager Casey Foster. "SCBGP projects that receive grant funding will benefit Nebraska's specialty crop industry for years to come, so we're encouraging people to apply by the Jan. 31st deadline."

NDA anticipates approximately \$820,000 will be available to fund new projects for the 2023 SCBGP program. Producers, organizations, and associations, as well as state and local agencies, educational

groups and other specialty crops stakeholders are eligible to apply. Last fall, several organizations in Nebraska received more than \$831,000 in USDA grants.

AmpliFund is the grant application software NDA is using. A recorded webinar training is available on NDA's website at <https://nda.nebraska.gov/promotion/scbgrp/index.html> along with proposal instructions, grant performance measures and program guidelines.

As in years past, this year's proposals will be reviewed and scored using select criteria and the AmpliFund software. Applicants who make it through the first round will be asked to submit additional information. NDA and USDA will announce the projects receiving funding in the fall.

To view a comprehensive list of eligible specialty crops and examples of projects funded, visit USDA's website at <https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants/scbgrp>. For additional information, contact Casey Foster at 402-471-6857, or by email at casey.foster@nebraska.gov.

Nebraska Cattlemen Foundation now accepting scholarship applications

The Nebraska Cattlemen Research and Education Foundation (NCF) announced they are now accepting scholarship applications for the 2023-2024 academic year from qualified youth in Nebraska with an interest in the beef industry.

NCF President Ryan Loseke said, "Each year, we are privileged to provide select students with the necessary tools and resources to continue pursuing their interest in the beef industry. NCF scholarships would not be possible without our generous donors who believe in setting up the future of the beef cattle community for success. We look forward to seeing this year's talented pool of applicants."

The prestigious Nebraska Cattlemen Beef State Scholarship awards a \$10,000 scholarship to an outstanding college junior, senior or graduate-level student.

Eligible students must be residents of Nebraska and be enrolled in a Nebraska college or university pursuing a beef industry-related degree. The scholarship will be awarded based on student need, Nebraska beef industry involvement including past achievements and future plans, and academics.

Completed applications are due in the Nebraska Cattlemen Foundation office by close of business on Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2023. Incomplete applications and applications received after the due date will be disqualified.

Complete applications and applications received after the due date will be disqualified. Finalists will be invited to a personal interview with the selection committee.

NCF offers numerous other \$1,000 minimum scholarships, awarded on the basis of academic achievement, beef industry involvement and goals/quality of application. Completed applications are due in the Nebraska Cattlemen Foundation office by close of business on Wednesday, March 15, 2023. Incomplete applications and applications received after the due date will be disqualified.

Scholarship recipients must be a high school senior or college student, have a "C" or higher grade point average, and be enrolled or intending to enroll full time in a college or university that offers a bachelor degree, an approved vocation or trade school, or a state accredited junior college.

Refer to the Nebraska Beef State Scholarship application and the general scholarship application for complete selection requirements. Applications are available on the Nebraska Cattlemen website or can be obtained by calling the NCF office at (402) 475-2333.

All scholarship winners will be announced during the Nebraska Cattlemen Annual Midyear Meeting in June 2023.

LEAD Fellowship applications available for group 42

By Terry Hejny, Nebraska LEAD

Fellowship applications for Nebraska LEAD (Leadership Education/Action Development) Group 42 are now available for men and women involved in production agriculture or agribusiness.

"Up to 30 motivated men and women with demonstrated leadership potential will be selected from five geographic districts across our state," said Terry Hejny, Nebraska LEAD Program director.

In addition to monthly three-day seminars throughout Nebraska from mid-September through early April each year, Nebraska LEAD Fellows also participate in a 10-day national study/travel seminar and a two-week international study/travel seminar.

Seminar themes include leadership assessment and potential, natural resources and energy, agricultural policy, leadership through communication, Nebraska's political process, global perspectives, nuclear energy, social issues, understanding and developing leadership

skills, agribusiness and marketing, advances in health care and the resources and people of Nebraska's Panhandle, says Hejny.

The Nebraska LEAD Program is designed to prepare the spokespersons, problem-solvers and decision-makers for Nebraska and its agricultural industry.

Applications are due no later than June 15 and are available via e-mail from the Nebraska LEAD Program. Please contact the Nebraska LEAD Program office at leadprogram@unl.edu. You may also request an application by writing to 104 ACB, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 68583-0940 or by calling (402) 472-6810. You can visit www.lead.unl.edu for information about the selection process.

In its 42nd year, the program is operated by the Nebraska Agricultural Leadership Council, a non-profit organization, in collaboration with the University of Nebraska's Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources and in cooperation with Nebraska colleges and universities, business and industry, and individuals throughout the state.

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 This farm has great access to state highway and minutes from local grain markets. 2 Olson Center pivots. This would be a great investment property! **Contact Listing Agent: Travis Dougherty (402) 336-7612 mobile.**

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WANTED — FULL TIME FEEDLOT EMPLOYMENT AVAILABLE
 Someone that is family oriented.
 Good communication skills.
\$17.00 starting pay with time and half overtime, if you have good experience.
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Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School is seeking an outstanding candidate for the following position:
BOOKKEEPER
 Competitive Wage and Benefits. Position open until filled.
 Interested candidates should apply online at <https://www.lccschool.org/>
 [Menu - LCC District - Employment]
 Inquiries may be directed to:
 Jeremy Christiansen, Superintendent
 Email - jeremy.christiansen@lccschool.org
 EOE/ADA EMPLOYER

Employment Opportunity 
 WSC is accepting applications for the following positions. WSC offers a competitive salary and an excellent benefits package including health/dental/vision insurance, retirement, tuition assistance (employee/family), paid leave time, and paid holidays.
Hourly wage starting from \$16.83-\$20.74
•Facility Operations Assistant
 For a complete listing of job requirements and application procedures, visit our Website at www.wsc.edu/hr, call 402-375-7403 or email hr@wsc.edu. WSC is an EOE.

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ROUTE DRIVER IN WAYNE, NORFOLK AND CROFTON
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 Sign-on bonus \$7,500. Driving experience and Class B CDL preferred. Will provide assistance acquiring CDL. Benefits include health, dental, vision, 401K, uniforms, paid holidays and paid time off.

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www.NorfolkWasteConnections.com
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Wayne Community Schools Kitchen Position
 Wayne Community Schools is currently seeking interested candidates to join our team in the kitchen for the 2022-2023 school year. Selected individuals will work in the kitchen doing a variety of jobs as needed. Experience is preferred but not required and ability to lift up to 30 pounds is required. Applications will be accepted until position is filled. Interested applicants may pick up applications at the High School.
Judy Poehlman
611 7th Street, Wayne, NE 68787
 WCS is an Equal Opportunity and Veteran's Preference employer.

Laurel-Concord-Coleridge School is seeking an outstanding candidate for the following position:
HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL GRADES 9 - 12
 Competitive Salary and Benefits. Position open until filled.
 Interested candidates should apply online at <https://www.lccschool.org/>
 [Menu - LCC District - Employment]
 Inquiries may be directed to:
 Jeremy Christiansen, Superintendent
 Email - jeremy.christiansen@lccschool.org
 EOE/ADA EMPLOYER

ALLEN CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS has the following position open:
Custodian
 Full-Time position with maintenance skills a plus
 Benefits offered: 6 sick days, 7 holidays, 1 personal day, vacation days, health/dental insurance, and life insurance
 Please submit your application and references to:
Michael Pattee, Superintendent
Allen Consolidated Schools
PO Box 190, Allen, NE 68710
(402) 635-2484 ext 400
email: mpattee@allenschools.org

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 Applicants are **REQUIRED** to attend job training, and pass background checks. All required training is paid for by NorthStar.
NorthStar does not hire temporary or seasonal help.
 Interested parties can pick up an application and apply at:

NorthStar Services
 209 South Main Street,
 Wayne, NE 68787
 Or apply on-line at: www.northstarservices.net

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Emerson-Hubbard Community Schools

Applications are currently being accepted for

Full Time Route Bus Driver

We will provide you with the training needed, pay for your DOT physical, reimburse the cost of the license and pay you through the process. Immediate start date (January 4, 2023) or as soon as possible.

Emerson-Hubbard Community Schools

Dale Martin, Superintendent
109 West 3rd St, Emerson, NE 68733
Phone: 402-695-2621 Email: dmartin@ehpirates.org

Full-Time Bakery Manager needed

Benefits package is offered.
Must be able to work weekends.
Pay is negotiable.

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Employment Opportunities



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•Custodial positions:

5:00 A.M. – 1:30 P.M. Monday – Friday. Starting pay \$15.24 per hour!

•Custodial Leader:

Performs duties of a Custodian and act as a lead in cleaning, performing preventative/routine maintenance, minor repairs and grounds keeping tasks. Leadership is exercised over a small crew of Custodians. Performs varied tasks such as scheduling, distributing supplies, and inspecting work performed by Custodians in addition to being a working member of the custodial crew. Starting pay is \$16.26 per hour!

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

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Wayne, NE



Part-Time Kitchen Opening

Wakefield Community School has an immediate opening for a part-time kitchen team member.

This is a ten-month position while school is in session. Hours would be 10:00am – 2:00pm. If you have any questions please contact Superintendent Matt Farup at 402-287-2012 or pick up an application at the high school office. Subject to veterans preference. Position will remain open until filled.

EOE

Employment Opportunities



WSC is accepting applications for the following positions. WSC offers a competitive salary and an excellent benefits package including health/dental/vision insurance, retirement, tuition assistance (employee/family), paid leave time, and paid holidays.

Hourly wage
starting from \$16.26 to \$19.93

- Maintenance Repair Worker II - Carpentry
- Maintenance Repair Worker II - Grounds

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

Full or Part Time Clerical Position

The Wayne County Assessor's Office has an opening for a full or part time clerical position. Qualified applicants must be good with numbers, should have excellent attention to detail, have experience using Microsoft Word and Excel, have basic computer and math knowledge, and good people and communication skills. Primary responsibilities include data entry, interacting with the public, on-site property reviews, pricing, record keeping, and additional duties as needed. A detailed job description will be made available upon request. Benefits include paid vacation, sick leave, holidays, health insurance, and a retirement plan. Must be full time to qualify for health insurance and paid sick leave. The position will remain open until a qualified applicant is found.

Resumes, with cover letters and references may be mailed to the Wayne County Assessor, 510 Pearl St, Wayne, NE 68787 or emailed to assessor@waynecountynet.gov. No phone calls please.

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Apply in Person (Mon-Fri 8am-5pm) EOE
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Please call Brian or Daniel with any questions 402-287-9176

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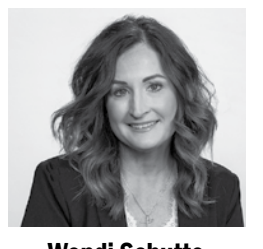


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Look what the stork brought 2022 Area Babies

Providence Medical Center's New Year baby arrives



Glendy Marleny Pu Lux is being held by her father, Damian Pu Tomas as her mother, Marta Lux Perez De Pu looks on. With them is Dr. Melissa Dobbins, who delivered the New Year's baby at Providence Medical Center.

What expecting parents can do to make their homes safer

New parents face a host of new and unique challenges when they bring their babies home for the first time. Lack of sleep and dirty diapers are two well-known challenges parents must confront when caring for newborns. While those hurdles must be cleared after babies are born, other potential issues can be dealt with while parents are awaiting the arrival of their children.

Prior to getting pregnant, parents expecting for the first time may not have given much thought to how safe their home is for children. But with a baby on the way, safety must be the utmost priority at home. Home injuries pose a bigger threat than expecting parents may realize, as Stanford Children's Health reports that roughly 2,000 children ages 14 and under die each year as a result of injuries sustained at home. Thankfully, many home injuries can be prevented. Expecting parents can get a head-start on being moms and dads by taking various steps to make their homes safer before their babies are born.

- Conceal cables and cords. Cables and cords pique kids' curiosity. Pulling on cables and cords can put young children in the path of falling objects or increase their risk for injuries involving electrical wires and outlets. Cable and cord concealers are inexpensive and easily installed. Often used to cover cords hanging down from mounted televisions, concealers also can be used to hide cords coming from computers, lamps and other items that can pose a threat to young children.
- Avoid hand-me-down kids' furniture. When furnishing a children's nursery, it's best for parents to avoid hand-me-down furniture. The older a piece of furniture is, the less likely it is that the item will meet current safety guidelines. Some parents may be tempted to let their children sleep in the same crib they slept in as kids decades ago, but it's safer to eschew nostalgia in favor of products that meet the latest safety standards.
- Get rid of potential choking hazards. The National Safety Council and the National Center for Injury Prevention indicate that airway obstruction injuries are the leading cause of unintentional injury-related deaths among infants less than 12 months old. Prior to bringing their babies home, expecting parents can remove all small trinkets and other items that curious children may want to put in their mouths. When buying toys for kids, read the packaging to make sure each item is safe for babies and avoid buying or accepting any gifts with small pieces.
- Store all medicines on high shelves behind cabinet doors. Vitamins and medicines should be stored on high shelves behind cabinet doors. If kids can see them, they'll likely try to grab them. In fact, the NSC reports that children ages 19 and under account for roughly 8,000 fall-related emergency room visits every day. Hiding medicines on high shelves behind closed cabinet doors reduces the risk that kids will be poisoned and suffer a fall-related injury.

Health tips for expecting parents

Being a parent requires an ability to adapt to change. Newborns require around-the-clock care that often translates into little free time for their parents. When parents get opportunities to step away, exercise may be the furthest thing from their minds. But it could be in new mothers' and fathers' best interests to consider exercise even when their schedules are hectic.

• Health experts at the Mayo Clinic advise exercise helps to tame stress, keep the mind sharp and boost the immune system. Staying fit and healthy with a new baby in the house may be easier when parents embrace certain strategies.

- Flexibility is key. New parents strive to maintain schedules, but newborns and infants don't always comply. Therefore, committing to a workout at a specific time each day or even a specific duration can be foolish. It's better to take what you can get when you can get it. Don't get hung up on following a specific regimen right now.
- Exercise in bursts. Rather than devoting a set amount of time to a workout, fit in exercise when you have a minute. Run up and down the stairs while the baby is napping. Or do some bicep curls while preparing a bottle.
- Take a "baby-and-me" class. Gyms and fitness organizations often offer classes for new parents that build workouts around movements that can be done with baby in hand or in tow.
- Ask for time off. Spouses can divide baby duties so that each gets equal time away to devote to personal needs. Factor exercise into some of the plan, even if you can carve out only a few minutes. Another tip is to multitask.
- Prioritize sleep. Do not compromise sleep for exercise, which can adversely affect your overall health. Sleep is essential for human development, says The Sleep Foundation. During sleep, the brain experiences intense activity, building the foundations for how people learn and grow, including the development of our behavior, emotions and immune systems. Adequate sleep is vital for new parents to maintain their health and the health of their babies.

Ways to form a bond with your newborn

A parent's job begins the moment a woman learns she is pregnant. Upon receiving such news, women typically make important changes to ensure the well-being of the fetuses growing inside them. Once a child is born, the first few weeks with baby certainly can be a whirlwind. During this period, pediatricians note how important bonding with parents is for a baby's development. Parents may be unaware that the touches, cuddles and feelings of safety and security provided by them help set a foundation for emotional well-being, which can last throughout their child's life.

• According to Jeff Simpson, Ph.D., adjunct professor of psychology at the University of Minnesota and an author of a study about childhood attachment, babies who were securely attached to their mothers by 12 months old (turning to her for comfort when exploring an unfamiliar place) were more likely to come out of an argument in their early 20s still feeling connected to their partners. Simpson surmises that the ability to trust, love and resolve conflict develops in part from how people are treated as infants.

• The Australian parenting website Raising Children Network says repeated human contact like singing, cuddling, talking, touching, and gazing into each other's eyes enables a newborn's brain to release hormones that help his or her brain to grow. This, in turn, helps to develop memory, thought and language.

• New parents may wonder what they can do to foster strong bonds with their babies. The following are some strategies to build those bonds.

- Breastfeed baby. Breastfeeding provides more than nutrition. The close contact during nursing helps the child to hear Mom's heartbeat and gets skin-to-skin contact.
- Make eye contact. Parents should keep eye contact with baby when engaging in feedings and other care. This helps the baby remember who their parents are and reassures them that their parents can be trusted.
- Read baby's messages. A child who wants to engage will make little noises, such as cooing or laughing sounds. He or she also may look relaxed and interested, while some may seek out their parents. React to these messages promptly.
- Respond to cries. Parents can do their best to always respond to cries for attention as it helps the baby to feel safe. This is key during the first three months of the baby's life. As the baby ages and has already developed a bond, parents can encourage more self-soothing.

Bonding is important for babies and parents. Developing a connection early on can provide a safe and nurturing environment that can set the course for the child to feel loved and supported throughout his or her lifetime.

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Childbirth Classes

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2023 Class Schedule
Classes take place from 6-9pm at Providence Medical Center

- February 20th & 27th
- May 15th & 22nd
- August 21st & 28th
- November 20th & 27th

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Keeping babies safe from infection during pregnancy

Pregnancy is a happy time for women and their partners. While the physical challenges of pregnancy can be difficult, many women overcome such challenges by working with their physicians and reminding themselves that they will soon have a newborn baby to hold and love.

No woman wants to imagine complications during a pregnancy. However, preparing in advance for certain issues, including prenatal infections, can make them easier to confront should they arise.

Group B Strep International, a nonprofit organization that promotes awareness and prevention of Group B Strep disease in babies from before birth through early infancy, notes that adhering to the acronym HYGIENE can be an effective way to prevent infections during pregnancy.

•H: Handwashing Helps
Routine handwashing is a simple and effective way to reduce the risk of prenatal infection. Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds after gardening or coming into contact with soil or sand. Once a child is born, wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds after changing a diaper, feeding a child and/or wiping a young child's nose or drool.

•Y: Yes to prenatal care
Prioritizing prenatal care is another effective way to prevent prenatal infection. Women should request that their urine be cultured for bacteria at their first prenatal visit and should see their physician immediately if any symptoms

of vaginitis appear. Physicians will discuss and may recommend various tests during a pregnancy, and women should not hesitate to ask any questions they have regarding these tests.

•G: Good food prepared safely
The right foods can nourish growing babies and reduce the risk for prenatal infections. Heed physicians' recommendations on foods to avoid during a pregnancy, which will likely include, but is not limited to, unpasteurized milk and cheese made from unpasteurized milk. Make sure all meat and poultry is thoroughly cooked. When handling food, make sure to peel or wash fruits and vegetables and store raw meat separately from other foods. Thoroughly wash all surfaces, including countertops and

cutting boards, after contact with raw meat, poultry, seafood, and unwashed fruits and vegetables.

•I: Immunizations
Women also can reduce prenatal infection risk by making sure they are current with their immunizations. Ask your physician if you are immune to rubella and chickenpox, each of which can cause stillbirth or serious birth defects. The vaccinations for these conditions cannot be administered during pregnancy, so if you are not immune, avoid contact with anyone infected with either virus.

•E: Evade others' bodily fluids
Steer clear of others' bodily fluids, including saliva, urine, blood, and semen, which may contain germs that can compromise the health of your baby. Avoid sharing drinks,

utensils and toothbrushes with young children, as women are most commonly exposed to certain prenatal infections through the saliva and urine of young children.

•N: No to unnecessary invasive procedures

Some germs can cross intact membranes, so avoid unnecessary, frequent or forceful internal exams that can push germs closer to the fetus. Women are advised to discuss stripping membranes with their physicians early in pregnancy so they can make the most informed decisions possible.

•E: Environmental precautions

Certain environmental precautions, such as walking in the center of trails to avoid ticks and wearing gloves while gardening, can re-

duce the risk of prenatal infections. Women also should avoid changing cat litter and make sure there are no areas of standing water, which attracts mosquitoes, around their homes.

Ways to keep newborns safe in the sun

Spending time outdoors is a summertime tradition for people of all ages. Sunny summer afternoons may be especially cherished in 2020, when people across the globe have been forced to spend more time indoors as they adhere to social distancing guidelines implemented to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

Parents of infants may be extra excited to get outdoors this summer. Chances to get out and about don't come around very often for parents of infants, and those chances may be even more rare as social distancing guidelines remain in place. But before parents rush out the door to soak up some summer sun, it's imperative that they take steps to protect their tiny tots from UV rays.


Avoid exposing infants to the sun. The Skin Cancer Foundation notes that infants' skin is especially sensitive to the sun, so the organization advises parents to shield children six months and younger from the sun rather than using sunscreen. Instead of applying sunscreen to their infants, parents should keep them out of the sun entirely. Seek shade between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., when the sun's rays are especially intense. When taking infants out in their strollers, make sure they are shaded at all times and avoid walking on the sunny side of the street.

Dress babies for the sun. The SCF advises parents to dress their babies in brimmed hats and lightweight clothing that fully covers their arms and legs. Dressing babies for the sun may seem like common sense, but the SCF notes that researchers at the University of Miami found that only 43 percent of parents consistently cover their babies with hats, and even fewer (40 percent) cover babies with long-sleeved shirts and pants when going out in the sun.

Consider sunglasses. Sunglasses are another way parents can protect their children from the sun's harmful ultraviolet rays. Sunglasses can be an alternative for parents whose infants keep taking off their hats, as many baby-sized sunglasses are equipped with elastic straps to keep the glasses on. Sunglasses may be vital because the melanin in infants' eyes is still forming, and that development can be adversely affected if infants' eyes are exposed to UV rays.

Introduce sunscreen at six months. The SCF advises parents to begin applying sunscreen to their infants when their children reach six months of age. Choose a broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen with a minimum sun protection factor (SPF) of 15. The SCF notes that sunscreens that contain zinc oxide and titanium dioxide are good choices because these physical filters do not rely on absorption of chemicals and are therefore less likely to cause a skin reaction. The SCF also advises testing the sunscreen on your baby's wrist before applying it all over the body. This can indicate if the product irritates the child's skin and needs to be replaced, or if it's safe to use.

In the rush to get outside, parents should make sure they don't forget to take every step necessary to protect their infants from UV exposure.




Sean Charles Wageman
March 3, 2022
Wakefield, NE
Parents: Scott & Jenna Wageman
Grandparents: Chuck & Connie Wageman, Craig & Rhonda Hanneman.



Maklyn Justice Sturm
August 14, 2022
Bellevue, NE
Grandma: Jeanie Sturm



Oliver Bradley Kohl
September 22, 2022
Lincoln, NE
Parents: Kelsie & Josh
Great Grandma: Jeanie Sturm



Nellie Jo Nixon
May 14, 2022
Norfolk, NE
Parents: Joel & Lexi Nixon
Grandparents: Rod & Ginger Nixon, Blaine & Donna Nelson



Dottie Sue Nelson
July 6, 2022
Wakefield, NE
Parents: Jacob & Katelyn Nelson. Grandparents: Lynn & Kathy Petersen, Blaine & Donna Nelson



Elias Arthur Schardt
September 12, 2022
Omaha, NE
Parents: Carly & Derek Schardt. Grandparents: Lowell & Karen Schardt, Maureen & Paul Theobald, Kirk Wacker.



Kalix Paul McKenzie
April 12, 2022
Wayne, NE
Parents: Brittni & Ross McKenzie. Grandparents: VerNeal & Carmie Marotz



Brighton Brynn Owens
April 2, 2022
Wayne, NE
Parents: Bryce & Nicole Owens. Grandparents: Randy & Lori Owens, Randy & Doris Ortmeier.



Beckham Dale Rohde
January 21, 2022
McLean, NE
Parents: Chris & Kayla Rohde. Sister: Emrey. Grandparents: Eric & Kelly Grone, Jeff & Barb Rohde.



Avery Mae Kester
Neligh, NE
Parents: Caitlyn & Scott Kester. Grandparents: Ron & Kathy Prince, Don & Vicki Kester.

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Ankeny, Iowa
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The Wayne Herald
January 19, 2023



Ag Outlook Seminar provides insight into carbon topics

Attendees at the 2022 Ag Outlook Seminar/Appreciation Luncheon held last month at the Wayne Fire Hall had the opportunity to learn about several topics related to handling carbon created through the production of ethanol and other areas of agriculture.

Brent Niese, Summit Carbon Solutions Project Manager, shared information on the proposed project that would run through Wayne County before ending up in North Dakota.

Niese told those in attendance at the seminar that one-half of the corn produced in Nebraska is used in the eth-

anol industry and talked about how much carbon is produced during the production of ethanol.

"For every three pounds of corn used, one pound becomes ethanol, one pound is distillers' grain and one pound of carbon is produced," Niese said.

Niese said 80% of the ethanol produced in Nebraska is exported out of the state.

He also discussed safety in the transportation of the carbon through the pipeline and noted "this is not new technology." He also explained the geological benefits of storing the carbon

in North Dakota and the fact the state has adequate space available for storage.

At the present time Summit Carbon Solutions intends to install 318 miles of pipeline through Nebraska as the firm is working with six ethanol plants. Additional plants could be added in the future.

Niese answered a number of questions from those in attendance at the seminar in regard to tax advantages and challenges of developing the pipeline.

"This is 'a' solution to dealing with the carbon created during ethanol production. It may not be the only solution," Niese said.

John Hay, University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension presented an overview of agriculture and voluntary carbon markets.

Hay told his audience that "farmers must do their homework before signing any contracts" and said his goal during the seminar to "share information to allow farmers to make better decisions."

He talked about ways to earn carbon credits including reducing tillage intensity, planting cover crops, reducing fertilizer rates, planting trees and reducing stocking rates on pastures.

Other topics during the 2022 event included Business-Minded Marketing with Hurley & Associates, U.S. Drought Monitor, Impact Reporting and Drought Outlooks from the Na-

tional Drought Mitigation Center and a lunch-time presentation from Doug Temme on his recent International Trade Destination visit to Columbia.

The seminar and lunch are coordinated annually by the Ag Task of the Wayne Area Economic Development.

Current members include Bill Claybaugh, Alan Finn, Ron Gentrup, Matt Haschke, Matt Jones, Brandon Mainquist, Irene Mock, Doug Temme, Amy Topp and Luke Virgil.



Brent Niese with Summit Carbon Solutions shared information and answered questions regarding a pipeline scheduled to go through Wayne County.



John Hay with UN-L Extension discussed the different aspects of carbon credits in the ag industry.

Cover crops can improve your corn harvest

People unfamiliar with farming might assume that fertilizer is the only way to improve the growth and overall health of crops like corn. While fertilizer can be a useful tool, farmers are resourceful and often implement a wide range of strategies to improve the health of their crops and yields. One method involves planting additional crops, known as companion crops or cover crops. Companion crops are planted and raised at the same time as corn while cover crops provide benefits over the winter between plantings.

For Nebraska corn to receive the most benefit from companion crops and cover crops, you need options that work with the local climate and soil composition. And since Nebraska corn is regularly grown in rotation with soybeans, your companion/cover crops should also benefit this rotational planting schedule. Fortunately, Nebraska corn farmers have several options to choose from.

Remember – Cover Crops Need Their Own Management

It's important to remember that cover crops aren't something you can just toss over the soil and expect to see benefits from. Cover crops might

offer multiple advantages for corn and soybeans, but they may also create new challenges, requiring farmers to implement additional management strategies. Having a firm understanding of the needs of the cover crop being planted is essential to the final result yielding a good harvest.

Benefits Of Using Cover Crops

What exactly are the benefits of growing cover crops in your cornfield? While they may be specific to the plant, most cover crops offer multiple benefits:

Discourage pests and weeds from settling down – Insects and invasive weeds can wreak havoc on a field. Planting cover crops can limit their ability to spread, especially if the added crops encourage beneficial insects like parasitic wasps.

Improve and retain soil nutrients through multiple plantings – Ensuring there is enough nitrogen in the soil is one of the most important aspects of an effective corn and soybean rotation. Cover crops keep your soil loaded with nitrogen by pulling it from the atmosphere.

Prevent soil erosion or compaction during harsh weather – Cover crops

like winter wheat and similar grasses can help keep a wide area of soil in place. This can protect still-growing corn from strong winds or floodwater draining away soil into waterways.

Conserve moisture and biomass for future corn crops – Cover crops can help increase soil health and future crops by fixing nitrogen and sequestering carbon into the soil.

Cover Crops For Nebraska Corn – Grasses And Legumes

Nebraska can be bitterly cold, windy and blustery in the winter. For cover crops to succeed, they must be well-adapted to these potentially harsh conditions. Because of this, the effective cover crops in Nebraska are often cereal grain or legumes. Not only are these cover crops hardy and reliable, but they also fit nicely into the popular corn and soybean rotation.

Remember that cover crops have their own set of obstacles. Nebraska corn farmers use different strategies to ensure a successful crop. For example, they can time the planting of cover crops to allow winterkill (where excessive winter conditions kill back the crop) to naturally remove cover crops in time for the next planting of corn.

Clovers (Such As Red, White And Berseem Clover)

Clovers are a broad family of herbs in both annual and perennial varieties. They fix nitrogen, reduce erosion and regularly attract beneficial insects. Make sure to choose the right species for your corn-planting schedule. Berseem clover is ideal for Nebraska corn rotations because it will be winter-killed before spring, leaving all the

nitrogen for the corn.

Cereal Grains (Such as Winter Wheat, Rye, Barley and Sorghum)

Grasses are some of the hardiest plants around. That makes cereal grains a great fit for winter cover crops in Nebraska. Rye is a low-cost and vigorous cover crop for corn, ideal for helping water and nutrients infiltrate deeper in even the poorest quality soil. It also smothers weeds, benefiting the corn and soybean rotation.

Mixing cereal grains and legume cover crops may offer the best results for growing corn than cereal grains alone. Such versatile cover will offer the most benefits from each while helping to minimize possible drawbacks.

Medics (Such as Black, Burr and Barrel Medics)

Also known as medick or burclover, these legumes are closely related to alfalfa. Many species are tolerant of conditions across Nebraska, especially hardy cultivars like black medic. As legumes, they support corn by fixing nitrogen into the soil. Medics also prevent soil erosion and the growth of weeds around corn.

Try These Companion And Cover Crops To Boost Your Corn Yield

From restoring as many nutrients into the soil as possible, to capitalizing on mutually beneficial growth patterns, companion and cover crops are versatile tools in a farmer or gardener's arsenal. They can help corn crops grow bigger, faster and healthier.

While they still present their own challenges, adding a companion crop or cover crop to your corn can yield exciting results.



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What happens to corn after it is harvested?

Corn is a staple crop across the world, used for food ingredients, animal feed, ethanol and a wide range of other uses. But field corn, especially the field corn grown across Nebraska, typically goes through a few additional steps. For human use, there are several important processes during and after harvesting that help decide where the corn may end up. It could be on your plate, in your cereal bowl or even in your car!

Some Steps Are Handled Right After Harvest

During the harvest, the first step that happens is large machines called combines move down the rows of corn, cutting plants down at the base and pulling them towards the center of the combine. A grinding component known as a threshing drum separates the kernels from the husk and cob. While the kernels are sent to the hopper towards the rear of the combine, the husk and cob are chopped into smaller pieces before being expelled back onto the ground.

Leaving these materials in the field helps provide organic matter and extra nutrients for the soil. In some cases, farmers and ranchers put their livestock such as cattle in the field to eat the remaining plants throughout the winter months because of their nutritional value.

So, What Happens Next?

Well, it depends on where the corn is going! There are several places corn will be sent:

If it's intended for human consumption, it will likely be sent to a processing plant where it will be turned into any number of useful products like corn oil, cornstarch and corn syrup. In fact, some corn products like Frito's and corn chips come from corn grown right here in Nebraska!

If it's headed for animal feed, the corn will be sent to a feed mill where it will be ground into a fine powder. It's then mixed with other ingredients to create a nutrition-dense feed for cattle, pigs, chickens and other farm animals.

Some ranchers prefer to keep the kernels, giving them directly to cattle in a feed ration.

If it's going to be used in ethanol, the corn will be milled and fermented to produce the type of alcohol that can be blended into gasoline. Nebraska is the number two producer of ethanol, with much of the ethanol being shipped domestically to California.

How Is It Decided Where Corn Ends Up?

There are different factors that play a role in where corn ends up after it is harvested. One of the most important is the type of corn that is being harvested. Field corn, the bulk of the corn grown in the U.S., is a hardy species ideal for feeding livestock and ethanol production. Field corn can also be added to a staggering array of food products like cornstarch or corn syrup.

The current market price may also influence where corn ends up after harvest. Some farmers choose to store their corn until the price rises and then sell it. Once ready to be sold, corn is usually shipped in large trucks or in containers on trains as it heads to its final destination. The corn is then either used right away or stored again until it is needed. A third factor is moisture content. Corn with high moisture content may need to be stored in an air-tight silo to prevent spoilage. Cooler weather and lower moisture extend the time it can be safely stored.

Food-Grade Corn Needs a Few More Steps

When field corn meets specific quality standards, it may be considered food-grade and fit for human consumption, which are often white corn. These kernels need a high starch content and test weight as well as low moisture and minimal stress cracks.

The kernels are cleaned and sorted by size using another process called "scalping." First, a large machine shakes the corn to remove any dirt or debris. Then, a series of screens sorts the corn by kernel size. Kernels that are too small or damaged are removed

and set aside for animal feed while the larger, healthier kernels move on to the next step in the process, grit removal.

During grit removal, the corn kernels are cleaned and sorted again to remove any small pieces of cob or other debris that may have been missed during scalping. The corn is passed through a series of screens and air blowers that remove the smaller pieces. What's left is a corn kernel that is clean, whole and ready to be used in a variety of

food products.

Nebraska Corn Farmers Help Get Corn Ready For Use

The next time you're enjoying a delicious recipe with corn or filling up your gas tank with an ethanol blend, take a moment to think about all the steps that had to happen to get that corn from the field to your plate or car! It's an amazing process happening right here in Nebraska, and farmers have a vital part to play.

SOURCE: Nebraska Corn Board.

America's Farms Keep Us Going STRONG!

We salute the dedicated men and women of the agriculture industry, who play such an important role in keeping our nation's economy strong. Their commitment to producing a thriving variety of crops and livestock requires long hours, risk and hard work. For all of their contributions and for all the fruits of their labor, we thank America's farmers for bringing so much to the table.

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Did you know these 10 products were made with corn?

Few crops are as versatile as corn. This humble grain can be used to make everything from tortillas to cornbread. In fact, corn is a key ingredient in many of your favorite foods. It can be found in products like cereal, salad dressings, ice cream and even candy. But food is just the beginning when it comes to corn!

The truth is that corn grown in states like Nebraska plays a critical role in a wide range of finished products. When you look around your home, you may be amazed to learn

about the items that are made with corn. That's why continued research into new uses for crops like corn is so important! To help you understand just how versatile corn is, here are 10 surprising products that use corn.

1. Toilet Paper

To much surprise, corn is a soft and absorbent material. When used in products like toilet paper, it can keep sheets softer and more comfortable to use. The corn kernels are ground up and mixed into the paper. Cornstarch can also be used to bind the materials

together.

2. Drywall

Cornstarch's binding properties are also used in construction-grade materials like drywall. Its adhesive strength is tough enough to keep everything together and produce a smooth texture.

3. Toothpaste

Corn is used in toothpaste as a gentle abrasive to help clean your teeth. Cornstarch acts as a polishing agent and helps to remove any buildup on your teeth. It's also a natural source of fluoride, which can help to prevent cavities and ensure a brilliant smile!



4. Crayons

The next few products get a little more interesting. In 2021, a Japanese company pioneered the use of vegetable materials like corn in the production of crayons. The wax is made from rice while corn is mixed in for its brilliant yellow hue. Other colors use vegetables like carrots and cabbages. And with traditional crayons, corn is used in the glue underneath the wrapper as well as in the molds for easy removal.

5. Diapers

The absorbent properties of corn come in handy for even the youngest generation when used to make diapers. Cornstarch is used as a binding agent to keep the diaper held together. A corn-based gel is also often used due to its ability to absorb many times its own weight.

6. Spark Plugs

Wait, what? Corn can even be found in your car? Certain materials, like corn, feature a high melting point, which can withstand extreme temperatures.

Corn can be fashioned into a ceramic-like material that insulates the spark plug and prevents it from overheating.

7. Hand Soap And Sanitizer

Both soap and hand sanitizer use different compounds from corn including ethanol or citric acid. Depending on how it is used, corn can serve as an emollient (softening the skin), as a gentle abrasive, a thickening agent and even for fragrances.

8. Aspirin

Are all these technical terms giving you a headache? Common and helpful medications like aspirin come with a special coating that helps release the medicine in steady amounts while minimizing any unpleasant flavor. This coating, which is designed to resist stomach acid and break down in the intestines, is often made from... you guessed it! Corn.

9. Rubber Tires

Two of the most important aspects of quality tires are the pliability and grip. And luckily, both can be accomplished with corn. Cornstarch is added to the rubber for flexibility, making it easier to work with. Then, corn oil can be applied to keep the rubber from drying out. It also improves the tires grip the road, ensuring safer driving. The next time someone eats your dust, they'll also enjoy a little corn too.

10. Fireworks

And to finish this list with a bang, corn is also a key ingredient in fireworks. They need to combust at the right moment and burn evenly. The dextrin in cornstarch aids in this process by keeping the materials bound together until it's time for the big finale.

New Research Will Continue To Expand Corn's Versatility

Whether you're enjoying an afternoon snack or taking care of chores around the house, corn plays a big part in creating a useful product. Nebraska Corn strives to seek out research opportunities discovering new uses for this crop. From biofuels to fireworks, the importance of corn in each product is inevitable.

Do You Have the Right Coverage for Your Crops?

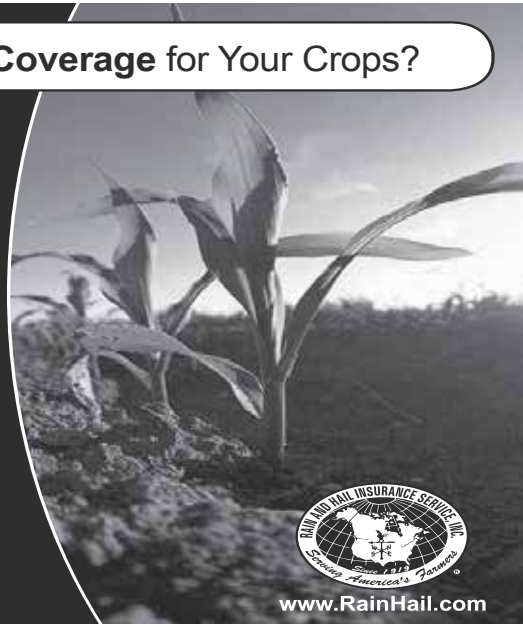
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You asked, we answered: Where all the corn in Nebraska goes

Nebraska is the third largest corn-producing state in the United States. But what happens to all the corn our farmers grow?

While some of it is exported internationally, much of Nebraska's corn actu-

ally stays within the country through domestic corn exports. The exact amount of corn we export varies from year to year, but typically it's around 200 million bushels.

Whether domestically or internationally, the demand for Nebraska corn is necessary support our farmers and keeps local economies strong. As the national and global demand for Nebraska corn continues to grow, our farmers will continue working hard to meet that demand.

Here are some of the industries and states that benefit most from corn grown in Nebraska, as well as the food and fuel products it's used in.



Ethanol
Nebraska is the second-largest producer of ethanol in the United States, behind only Iowa. We have 25 ethanol plants that produce a combined 2.18 billion gallons of ethanol each year. Our plants consume 750 billion bushels of corn each year.

Nebraska ethanol is heavily exported to Texas, as well as other markets in the southwestern and western U.S. Ethanol production offers many benefits to our state and country:

- It's a renewable, clean-burning fuel source.
- It reduces our dependence on foreign oil.
- It creates jobs in rural communities.

Beef and Dairy Operations
While Nebraska livestock producers are major consumers of the state's corn, Nebraska corn is also in high

demand in beef and dairy operations in Texas, Colorado, California and the Pacific Northwest. California is our largest market, taking in more than 145 million bushels of corn each year for livestock and poultry.

These operations rely on corn-based animal feed because of its high nutrition. After harvest, field corn is transported to a feed mill, where it's ground up and mixed with other ingredients. There's a couple of important reasons why beef and dairy farmers feed their animals corn-based feed:

- It's an excellent source of energy and fiber.
- It's relatively inexpensive, which helps operations keep their overall costs down.
- It's easy to digest and extract nutrients from.

Distillers Grains and Corn Gluten Feed
Distillers grains and corn gluten feed are a by-product of the ethanol production process. They're high in protein and fiber and can be used as animal feed. In Nebraska, our ethanol plants produce 6.4 million tons annually.

Nebraska exports distillers grains to Texas and other Midwestern states to use in livestock operations, including cattle, swine and poultry farms. These grains are a nutritious, high-protein

source of feed and they're also relatively inexpensive.

International Exports
With more than 95% of the world's population living outside the United States, international corn exports are crucial for our state, as it drives demand and price.

As a whole, U.S. corn producers supply one-third of the world's corn and corn products. For Nebraska, international sales make up about 6% of our corn usage, with Mexico being one of our top markets.

Top International Markets for Nebraska Corn Exports
While Mexico is the main market for Nebraska's corn exports, other countries like Japan, South Korea, Taiwan and China are also important export markets. In fact, together these four countries make up about 25% of our state's international corn exports, according to the Nebraska Department of Agriculture.

Diversity in international markets is important in case one country's demand drops or another factor changes.

In addition to whole kernels, there are a number of different corn products that are in demand in these countries,

See CORN, page 8



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Four ways drones are used in agriculture

As the agricultural landscape continues to evolve, producers are looking for new and exciting ways to increase their yields while also conserving resources and limiting their impact on the environment. One of the ways they are doing this is through the use of agricultural drones to evaluate and care for their crops.

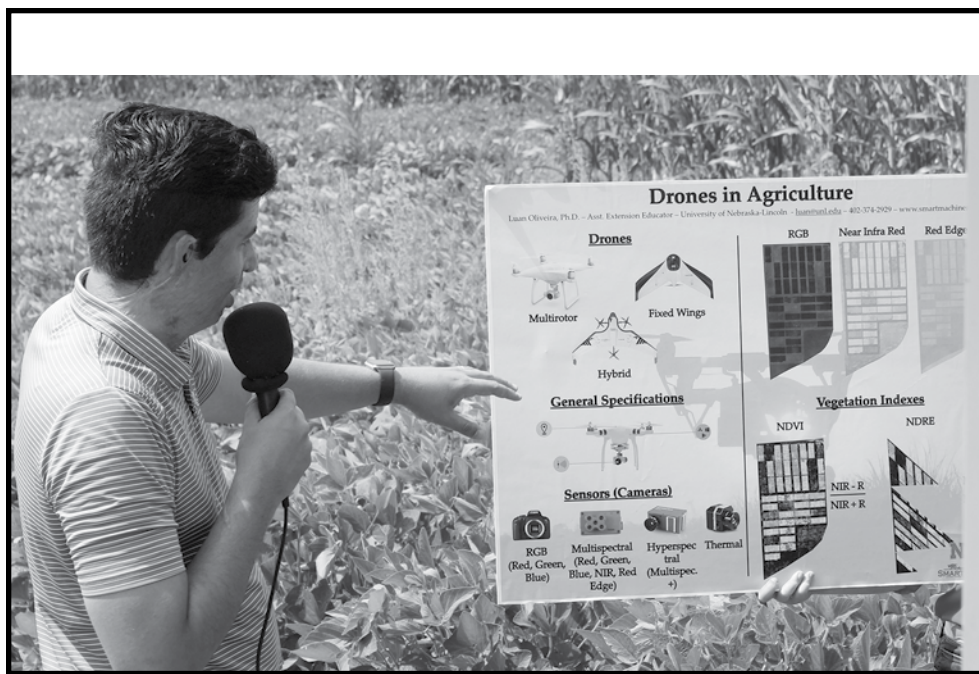
Drones are the newest wave of precision agriculture and smart farming, which is the use of technology to collect and analyze a wealth of data farmers can use to grow more with less.

How Are Drones Used In Agriculture

Just as Global Positioning Systems (GPS), Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and specialized software programs are used in conjunction with a tractor or combine on the ground, programs have been developed to guide drones as they fly over the field.

Types of Drones

There are several types of drones on the market. Drones with rotors — which are the most common agriculture drones—can include single-rotor aircraft, which have one set of spinning rotors on top like a typical helicopter or feature multiple rotors on the same drone, which are sometimes called



Luan Oliveira, Ph.D. Assistant Extension Educator with the University of Nebraska - Lincoln discussed the use of drones in crop production during last year's Family Field Day at the Haskell Ag Lab near Concord.

quadcopters or quadrotors.

The size of drones also varies. Smaller drones used for photography or personal use are smaller and lighter, while drones strong enough to carry liquid to apply to fields can be several

feet across in width.

Requirements to Fly

Flying a drone requires obtaining a certificate from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). The type of certification needed is based on how the drone is being used, where it is being flown and other factors, such as if it will be used to carry any pesticides or herbicides to apply to the crops.

Regardless of the permitting required, it's essential that all drone operators know and follow regulations, fly their drones at a safe height and take care to avoid all potential obstructions in the flight path.

What Is Agriculture Drone Spraying

Agricultural drone spraying is using a drone to dispense fertilizer to provide crops with necessary nutrients or to apply herbicide to control weeds or pesticide to treat insect infestations.

What Is Drone Mapping in Agriculture

One of the major uses of drones in

agriculture is to create detail-rich maps of fields, providing producers with a three-dimensional view of the growing area, including elevation changes and field boundaries.

These maps are used in conjunction with other programs to help farmers evaluate and analyze crop conditions and, if necessary, take targeted actions.

Benefits And Advantages Of Using Drones In Agriculture

The advantages of using an agriculture drone to collect data are in its speed, ease of use and lower cost to operate. Producers can quickly zero in on smaller problem areas, take steps to rectify any problems and then move on to the next field without having to bring in tractors, sprayers or other heavy equipment.

Drones are also designed to be extremely precise and because they are in the air, do not damage the plants or disturb soil in the field.

Four Ways Drones Are Used In Agriculture

There are several ways drones are currently being used in agriculture, including in Nebraska, and they range from mapping fields and assessing plant condition to precise application of chemicals.

1. Assessing Performance

Today's precision agriculture drones can be outfitted with sophisticated programming that detects and records variations in plant numbers, health, height and other statistics. It also can provide data that shows producers where their fields have areas of poor drainage or less-than-ideal soil conditions. By knowing exactly what's going on in the field and where it's happening, producers can quickly identify trouble spots where they need to focus their time and resources.

While producers can guide the controls of the drones themselves, software exists that can guide the drones on a pre-programmed flight over the

See DRONES, page 7

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Drones

(continued from page 5)

field. The inputs result in drones that maintain a preset height over the plants, compensating as necessary for changes in terrain, while scanning the

plants as they fly overhead.

2. Pest Control

One of the ways drones can put precision agriculture to use is through herbicide or pesticide applications.

Farmers typically use sprayers to apply chemicals to crops or depending on conditions and plant height, may hire a crop duster airplane to dispense product.

By using programs to analyze the health of the crop to pinpoint areas of sickened crops or infestation, producers using drones can apply product only to areas of the field that need it. This allows them to use less product, which is better for the environment and also better for the producer's pocketbook.

3. Delivering Essential Nutrients

Using the same analytical approach, producers can use agricultural drones to apply fertilizer in a specific and limited manner that gets nutrients to the plants that need them and doesn't waste product on the plants that do not need the extra help.

Precise application of fertilizer using agricultural drones is another way for producers to limit their input costs while caring for the health of their crops and their land.

4. An Eye in The Sky

Even without sophisticated programming or sensors, drones with regular cameras can still help farmers get their eyes on crops quickly to evaluate damage after a storm. Farmers with


livestock also use drones to check on their cattle herd or inspect fences for damage.

Using a drone to do this can save a lot of time, because they can quickly zoom over fields or down a fence line faster than a person could walk or drive the same distance. Drone technology benefits not only crops by livestock as well

SOURCE: Nebraska Corn Board.



Logan Dana, Farm Operations Manager at the Haskell Ag Lab at Concord, assisted Luan Oliveira with his presentation on the use of drones in agriculture.



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Nebraska Corn Board to meet Jan. 31 - Feb. 1

The Nebraska Corn Board will hold its next meeting Jan. 31 – Feb. 1, 2023, at Nebraska Innovation Campus, 2021 Transformation Drive in Lincoln.

The Nebraska Corn Board will undertake strategic planning with the Nebraska Corn Growers Association on Jan. 31. The board will then address regular board business on Feb. 1.

The meeting is open to the public and will provide an opportunity for public discussion. A copy of the agenda is available by writing to the Nebraska Corn Board, 245 Fallbrook Blvd. Suite 204, Lincoln, Neb. 68521, sending an email to renee.tichota@nebraska.gov or by calling 402-471-2676.

The Nebraska Corn Board is funded through a producer checkoff investment of 1/2 cent-per-bushel checkoff on all corn marketed in the state and is managed by nine farmer directors. The mission of the Nebraska Corn Board is to promote the value of corn by creating opportunities.

Corn

(continued from page 5)

such as:

- Dry milling products like starch and sweeteners
- Wet milling products like corn oil, corn gluten meal and corn gluten feed
- Ethanol
- Beef and pork, which is raised on corn-based animal feed

Mexico

As the largest importer of U.S. corn, Mexico plays an important role in setting the price of corn on the international market. More than 60% of Nebraska's corn goes there each year.

While dried kernels make up the majority of Nebraska's exports to Mexico, other products like corn oil, starch and sweeteners are also in demand. Like the U.S., corn is a major part of Mexico's diet. It's used in torti-

llas and tamales, as well as in feed for poultry and beef livestock.

Mexico is also one of the top markets for U.S. ethanol, as they are working to increase their use of renewable energy.

It's also important to note that Mexico is among the top three markets for pork imports from the U.S.

Japan

Japan is the second-largest market for Nebraska's corn exports, accounting for about 15% of our state's international sales, according to the Nebraska Department of Agriculture.

While whole kernels make up the majority of Nebraska's exports to Japan, other products like corn oil, starch, sweeteners and livestock feed are also in demand. Corn is used in a variety of food products in Japan, including sushi, tempura, soba noodles

and soy sauce.

Japan is the third-largest market for U.S. ethanol exports, according to the Renewable Fuels Association. According to the latest available USDA data from 2019, the country used more than 127 million gallons of this fuel additive, which helps reduce emissions from vehicles.

Additionally, Japan is a major importer of U.S. beef and pork.

South Korea

South Korea is the third-largest market for Nebraska's corn exports, accounting for about 10% of our state's international sales, according to the Nebraska Department of Agriculture.

Like Japan, corn oil, starch and sweeteners remain in demand. Corn is used in a variety of food products in South Korea, including rice cakes, noodles, snacks and alcohol.

South Korea is the fourth-largest market for U.S. ethanol exports, according to the Renewable Fuels Association. And like Japan, South Korea is a top importer of U.S. beef and pork products.

Taiwan

Taiwan is the fourth-largest market for Nebraska's corn exports, accounting for about 5% of our state's international sales, according to the Nebraska Department of Agriculture.

Like Japan and South Korea, Taiwan also uses corn-based oil, starch and sweeteners. Corn is used in a variety of food products in Taiwan, including noodles, snacks, baby food and alcohol.

Taiwan is also a major market for U.S. ethanol exports, as they are working to increase their use of renewable energy.

In 2021, Taiwan eased its rules on U.S. beef and pork imports, which paves the way to increase imports in the country.

China

While China is not one of Nebraska's biggest markets for corn exports, it's a major player in the international corn market. In fact, China is the world's largest producer and consumer of corn.

Although China produces corn, it doesn't produce enough to meet the demands of its growing population. As a result, China has become a major importer of corn in recent years.

While most of Nebraska's corn exports to China are whole kernels, the country is also a major market for U.S. ethanol exports. The country began importing ethanol in 2015 and has rapidly increased its imports since then. In 2021, Reuters reported the country bought 200 million gallons of U.S. ethanol, matching a previous record.

When it comes to beef and pork, China is the largest importer of U.S. meat products.

What's Next For Corn Exports?

The future looks bright for Nebraska's domestic and international corn exports.

The demand for meat and corn-based products, especially in Asia, is expected to continue to grow in the coming years. And as more countries look to reduce their dependence on fossil fuels, the demand for ethanol is also expected to increase.

SOURCE: The Nebraska Corn Board. Nebraska Corn Board works to promote the value of corn by creating opportunities.



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Granular vs. liquid fertilizer: What's best for corn farmers

Corn is a versatile plant that feeds the world, supplying the food that consumers across the globe know and need.

However, people aren't the only ones who need nourishment to be healthy. Corn needs it too.

Just like a lawn in a front yard, corn needs essential nutrients and minerals to grow — nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium chief among them. While some of the elements a corn plant needs to grow may already be found in the soil, additional fertilizers sometimes necessary to help the plants grow faster or make up for nutritional deficiencies in the ground.

Homeowners have plenty of products to choose from to make their lawn grow lush and thick, and farmers also can choose from numerous types of fertilizers to increase growth rates and bump up yields in their fields of corn. Two of the main kinds of products available are granular fertilizers and liquid fertilizers.

Is granular or liquid fertilizer better for corn? In short, the science says neither one is chemically superior. However, while each type of fertilizer is available in products that provide the necessary elements corn needs, the advantages and disadvantages of granular fertilizer versus liquid fertilizer exist in how they deliver nutrients to corn, according to an analysis by Michigan State University.

What Is Liquid Fertilizer For Corn

Liquid fertilizer, as its name gives away, is product that comes in liquid form. It is often applied by spraying over the ground or, depending on the substance being used, may be injected directly into the ground using special equipment attached to a plow towed behind a tractor. Some liquid fertilizers, called foliar fertilizers, also can be sprayed directly onto the leaves of the corn plants, which is designed to provide a quick uptake of nutrients by the plants.

The goal for farmers is not only to

use the right product for the plants, but also use as little as possible in order to promote sustainability and protect the environment.

Advantages of Liquid Fertilizer

1. Precision. Modern farming techniques enable liquid fertilizer to be precisely applied — in some cases injected, or “knifed,” directly into the ground right where plants will use it.

2. Availability. Nutrients from liquid fertilizers penetrate directly into the ground or onto the leaves of the plant, where it can readily be absorbed by the plant.

What Is Granular Fertilizer For Corn

Granular fertilizer, also sometimes referred to as “dry fertilizer,” is product that is in solid form — typically broken down into very small grains or granules. It is applied by scattering it over the ground.

Advantages of Granular Fertilizer

1. Slower Release Option. Granular fertilizer allows for a slower release of nutrients over a longer period of time than their liquid counterparts.

2. Price. In some areas, granular fertilizer may be less expensive to buy than liquid fertilizer.

3. Storage. Granular fertilizer can be easier to store than its liquid counterpart.

Which Is Better: Granular Fertilizer Or Liquid Fertilizer

The bottom line is that both types of fertilizer can provide the nutrients that corn needs to grow. The question of whether granular fertilizer or liquid fertilizer works best for growing corn depends on a variety of factors such as the growth stage of the plants and what equipment an individual producer already has at hand.

Because of the different strengths of liquid and granular fertilizers, some farmers may choose to use one or both — but apply each one at a different time of the year. For example, a producer may apply a type of liquid fertilizer on the corn at planting or during the growing season to provide

necessary nutrition to the growing plants, and then after harvest apply a different kind of granular fertilizer to

the field to replenish nutrients in the soil.

SOURCE: Nebraska Corn Board

IANR, CASNR seeking items for anniversary time capsule

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources and College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources are seeking items for inclusion in a time capsule to commemorate two landmark anniversaries.

In 2022, CASNR marked its 150th anniversary, and next year will mark the 50th anniversary of the passage of the legislation that formed IANR. CASNR and IANR are jointly celebrating these milestones during the Celebration of Innovation, which spans the 2022-23 academic year.

IANR and CASNR faculty, staff, students, alumni and stakeholders are invited to submit items for consideration for inclusion in the time capsule. Approximately 10 items will be selected for inclusion, with winning entries announced throughout the spring semester. Submissions will be accepted through March 1, 2023. The entry form and contest rules are available online at <https://celebrateinnovation.unl.edu/time-capsule-contest>.

“We're excited to collect objects that represent the past, present and future of IANR,” said Jessie Brophy, IANR director of external relations. “This is a great chance for students, faculty, staff, alumni and stakeholders to share examples of what they think make IANR and CASNR innovative and special.”

The time capsule will be sealed on June 9, 2023. It is scheduled to be opened in 2073, in honor of the 200th anniversary of CASNR and the 100th anniversary of IANR.

For more about the Celebration of Innovation, visit celebrateinnovation.unl.edu.

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History of corn: From ancient grain to modern maize

Corn is part of the everyday lives of people around the world. It's in the food we eat, is often found in the fuel of the cars we drive and is a component in many of the products we use each day.

Some might be surprised to learn that corn didn't always look like it does now, but in fact is the product of thousands of years of selective breeding. It has been a constant companion of the people of North America, who first brought it with them as they moved around the continent in ancient times and today cultivate vast fields that

feed the world.

Who Grew The First Corn

A wild ancestor of the first corn plant, a grass called teosinte, was first selectively bred by indigenous farmers in southeastern Mexico between 8,000 to 10,000 years ago. While teosinte didn't look much like modern corn — it was described as a spikey grass with very small cobs — according to the University of Utah, the genetic difference between it and modern corn is only about five genes.

Just as crop scientists do now, the

indigenous farmers selectively bred teosinte for favorable traits, and over the years changed that edible wild grass into something that would become the corn we know today.

Corn also played an important role in the beginnings of the United States as a food source to early colonists. It is said to have been consumed at the first Thanksgiving in 1621 by residents of the Plymouth Colony.

Three Main Types Of Corn In Nebraska Today

There are many types of corn grown around the world today for a wide variety of uses, but the three most common corn varieties in Nebraska are:

Dent Corn. Better known as "field corn," dent corn is commonly grown in Nebraska and is used for livestock feed and corn products such as ethanol.

Sweet Corn. Known to many as delicious corn on the cob — sweet corn is the kind of corn you buy in grocery stores to eat. If you're lucky, you are able to raise your own sweet corn and walk it straight from the field to your kitchen.

White Corn. Nebraska is the number one producer of white corn, which is used in food products such as potato chips, tortilla chips and tortillas.

Today's Corn Hybrids

Humans have continued to refine the corn plant over the years and today's corn comes in an array of specialized hybrids. Bred for specific performance traits, some varieties are developed to mature faster, others use less water or are able to better tolerate less-than-ideal soil conditions, insect predation or diseases that commonly affect corn and hurt yields.

Nebraska: A Modern Corn Powerhouse

Today, Nebraska is among the top corn-producing states in the nation — in 2021, producers in the Cornhusker State harvested 1.85 BILLION bushels of corn. That ranked third in the nation, behind only Iowa and Illinois.

Thanks in no small part to the efforts of Nebraska farmers, the United States is the top producer of corn in the world. As such, corn is an important part of U.S. agricultural trade policy with the country's largest corn exports in 2021 going to China, Mexico and Japan.




How Did Corn Get To North America

As indigenous people migrated north and south from Mexico, they brought their selectively bred corn seeds with them into North America and South America. Corn was an important part of the life of many indigenous tribes, providing them with food, fuel for fires and many other uses.

Historians believe corn is a true (Central) American original, saying corn did not exist in Europe until Italian explorer Christopher Columbus encountered it in 1493 during his excursion in the Caribbean and brought it back to Spain.

History Of Corn In Early America

Indigenous people continued to raise corn for specific traits in early America, bringing different varieties with them while they moved to new areas and through trade. Along the way, they continued to improve it through selective breeding.



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Imaging tool rapidly assesses seed quality

Improving agriculture in a world that's heating up and drying out isn't solely about increasing yields. Nutritional quality is also crucial.

While measuring yield is as easy as weighing grain, what's inside seeds is harder to discern.

To help improve the nutritional value of crops undergoing heat stress, Nebraska agronomist Harkamal Walia teamed with computer scientist Hongfeng Yu and his team.

Together, they developed HyperSeed, an imaging system that uses light wavelengths to rapidly create a nutritional fingerprint of each seed.

"We had a bunch of seed for which we had measured yield, but it wasn't feasible to ascertain the quality of those grains," said Walia, Heuermann Chair of Agronomy. "The cool thing was they came up with an engineering solution."

The hyperspectral camera beams infrared electromagnetic waves onto seeds to measure reflection and absorption patterns. The results identify an individual seed's nutritional characteristics such as moisture content, nitrogen levels and starch content.

Normally, testing multiple varieties would require months of growing large numbers of plants to assay seeds that are destroyed in the process. With just a handful of seeds, HyperSeed cuts



Graduate student Tian Gao (left), Harkamal Walia and Hongfeng Yu work on their project.

the procedure down to seconds. Intact seeds can then be planted or further investigated.

Scientists can link variations in seed traits found by HyperSeed with changes in gene sequences. The technique can also be used to study the effect specific genes have on grain quality in gene-edited crop lines.

Yu, associate professor in the School of Computing and director of Nebraska's Holland Computing Center, and his team developed open-source software using affordable hardware, allowing

others to customize the system for their research.

HyperSeed's approach is similar to the hyperspectral camera at the Greenhouse Innovation Center on Nebraska Innovation Campus that measures plant traits. HyperSeed, however, is able to focus at the level of seeds and other tiny objects with high resolution.

"Hopefully, this will help make agriculture and food more resilient to a changing climate and increasing populations," Walia said.

The team detailed its system in the journal *Sensors*. The National Science Foundation funds this research.

Stories on this research and more were featured in the 2021-2022 University of Nebraska-Lincoln Research Report, now available online.

Nebraska - The Golden Triangle

Nebraska is better situated in terms of corn, livestock and ethanol than any other state in the nation.

Together, these three components form "Nebraska's Golden Triangle," which serves as a powerful economic engine for our state.

Nebraska is the third-largest producer of corn in the country, second in ethanol production and distillers grains (the feed ingredient produced by ethanol plants), second in cow-calf production and first in cattle on feed. It's also an important location for the production of renewable corn-based polymers (bioplastics).

This means corn farmers have solid markets for corn – ethanol and livestock – while the two dozen ethanol plants across state then provide renewable fuel and a feed ingredient for the livestock industry.





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Why snow is so important for farmers during drought

For yet another year, much of the country faced hot and dry conditions during the summer. While these extended dry conditions were a hindrance or inconvenience to some, they are extremely challenging and potentially devastating for farmers and ranchers.

Historically, the average annual precipitation in Nebraska ranges from about 34 inches in the southeast to around 17 inches in the northwestern portion of the state. As of mid-December 2022, some areas of the state had barely received half of the normal precipitation.

As the country embraces the winter season, many who make their living off the land will be looking to the sky once again. Only this time they will be looking for snow, not rain.

What Is A Drought?

A drought is more than an unusually hot and dry week. According to the Glossary of Meteorology and the National Weather Service, a drought is, "a period of abnormally dry weather sufficiently prolonged for the lack of water to cause serious hydrologic imbalance in the affected area."

What Is a Snow Drought

Although drought is usually thought of as a problem in the warm months, an area also can experience a winter

drought during the cold months. A lack of snow for an extended period of time is called a snow drought.

How Do Droughts Affect Farming

Water is the lifeblood of farming. Without adequate water, corn and all other crops wither in the fields, grass dries up in the pasture and hay doesn't grow.

If there isn't enough rain, farmers with irrigation systems can supplement water to their crops if water is available and they have access to it. Fields that aren't irrigated are at the mercy of the weather. If there isn't enough water, the corn crop will suffer and yields will go down.

Although advances in seed technology have resulted in corn varieties that are more resistant to drought than corn varieties in the past, the bottom line is that all corn needs water to live. If the plant doesn't receive enough water to sustain life, the corn will not grow and the crop will be lost.

Is There a Drought in Nebraska

Like much of the U.S., the state of Nebraska experienced drought during 2022. This didn't change during winter, with the entire state in at least some form of drought in late December 2022.

Nearly 60 percent of the state was in a severe drought and 17 percent of the state was in an exceptional

drought, also as of late December, 2022. According to drought.gov, the drought conditions in Nebraska are expected to persist through the winter months until at least mid-February.

How Does Snow Affect Drought In Nebraska

Crops like corn get moisture from rain that falls during the growing season, but snow can play an important factor in how producers are able to cope with drought. The snow received now will impact the quality of corn that is grown the next year.

The two biggest ways snow helps with drought is that it puts moisture back into the soil and also replenishes the rivers, reservoirs, massive Ogallala Aquifer and other groundwater reserves farmers in Nebraska use to irrigate their crops. Both of those functions are especially critical after a drought, because the prolonged dry period depletes soil moisture and requires more irrigation to keep the crops alive.

Other ways snow helps farmers:

- Insulates cover crops. A blanket of snow on top of a field acts as an insulating blanket between cover crops planted in the soil and the cold winter air, preventing the ground from killing the crop.

- Reduces erosion. Just as it protects

cover crops, snow covering a field protects the soil below from being blown away by strong wind while also preserving what moisture and nutrients there are in the soil.

- Enables barge traffic. Snow assists farmers in getting corn and other crops to market by helping keep the water levels of major waterways like the Missouri and the Mississippi high enough to allow barge traffic to transport the crops to ports for international shipment. With 32 percent of Nebraska's corn exported internationally, this is an important step in success for farmers and corn.

How Snow in other states can Affect Nebraska Farmers

Snow can have a major impact on farmers even if it falls in another state. The headwaters, or source, of one of the key rivers used for crop irrigation in Nebraska — the North Platte River — is found in Colorado.

Just as less snow on a Nebraska farm field means less water melts and drains into nearby streams, lakes and rivers, weather conditions around the headwaters and upper reaches of a river — whether it be significant amounts of snow and rain, or extreme lack thereof — can have an impact on water levels when the river gets to Nebraska.



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