

# COZAD LOCAL



VOL 4 ISSUE 42

12.11.25

20 PG \$2



## Mia Jackson Leads Cozad Kick Off to Christmas

LIZ ROMERO

Cozad welcomed the holiday season on a chilly Dec. 1 when the community gathered to watch the town Christmas tree glow to life. Cozad Chamber Director Jordan Starman led the effort, continuing the work she began in 2023 with Jack's Welding to create the giant community tree. The green space now shines with bright lights that draw families downtown.

The Chamber selected Miss Mia Jackson as the 2025 Honorary Christmas Tree Lighter. Starman introduced Mia before the ceremony and shared why the Chamber chose her. Mia attends CEC, where she is recognized for her kindness. Principal Justin Dowdy shared her character, "Mia was nominated for her selflessness and willingness to help teachers and students. She displays such a positive mental attitude all the time. Overall, she is a person of high character."

The Winter Wonderland parade, hosted by the Cozad Community Leaders, followed the tree lighting brought more excitement to the night. The Cozad Middle School Band performed with help from volunteers in the Cozad High School Band. The dance and cheer teams added spirit, and local businesses and organizations filled the route with holiday displays.

The celebration continued on Saturday, Dec. 6. where Cozad stayed busy with family activities and plenty of community pride. The 100th Meridian Museum hosted their annual Pancakes with Santa, TLDC's little dancers performed their Christmas Showcase after breakfast. The Wilson Public Library hosted the Pony Express Christmas Card Re-Ride and the Holiday Shoppe at the Grand Generation Center was a huge success again this year. Live reindeer drew steady crowds for the third year as families stopped to meet Wednesday and Everdeen. Blue Star Christmas Tree and Reindeer Farm owned by Bryan and Terika Corn from Wood River.

For the second year in a row, Will Bilsland dressed as Santa and spent many hours talking with children in the Santa House, WPL, and other businesses. He



Mia Jackson received the 2025 Honorary Christmas Tree Lighter certificate from Chamber Director Jordan Starman on Monday, Dec. 1 after Mia lit up the night from the community Christmas Tree on the Green Space. (LOCAL Photos)



**FARM BUREAU  
FINANCIAL SERVICES**  
Jared Crick  
Cozad NE 308-784-4346

## Weather Forecast

Dec. 12: 27/15	
Dec. 13: 33/11	
Dec. 14: 33/21	
Dec. 15: 45/21	
Dec. 16: 48/28	
Dec. 17: 47/21	
Dec. 18: 39/21	

cont. PAGE 10 - Christmas

PAGE 5 - Caring Kind Award

PAGE 12 - High School Sports

# Helping Him Heal with Silent Eye Rolls

Anyone who knows my husband knows that he is a chatty Cathy. I swear, the guy knows something about everything. It's slightly annoying but also endearing. Like, I'll ask him the most random questions, and he'll give me that look, like I'm completely out of my mind, but half the time, he has the answer. Why is bird poo white? Did anyone else know that it's because of the acid in their stomachs and how they digest things? Why does he know that stuff? It's weird.

But here's the thing, for the first 12 years of our relationship, he was, and in most areas, still is, headstrong and confident. Now, when it comes to anything regarding our youngest son? Total panic. He can't make a decision about anything.

Now, here's where things get deep. I'm 99% sure my husband still carries some unnecessary, self-appointed guilt from the night our worlds changed. Guilt that no one but him placed on his shoulders. I had that mom's intuition that something wasn't right, even though the tests were all negative. But my husband, along with every single other person, kept saying it was just a bug. That night, though? It broke something in him. My always self-assured, know-it-all, has-an-answer-for-everything husband was suddenly paralyzed with doubt. And I hate that for him.

I watch it eat away at him as he watches our son's every move with a deep-rooted caution, I've never seen him have before. If you see him at a game creeping the student section, don't be alarmed, we couldn't handle another kid anyway, ha. He doubts himself while I try to build his confidence back up, one sarcastic comment at a time.

## LOCAL Weekly Deadlines:

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**Friday at 4:00 pm**

### Content

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### Letters to the Editor

Letters must be signed and contain writer's contact information for verification. Phone numbers are not published. Letters may be sent via email.

Cozad Local is published weekly by Syndicate Publishing, LLC, 201 West 8th, Cozad NE 69130.  
Postage paid at Cozad, NE 69130 and at additional mailing offices. USPS Publication Number 25713. Copyright Cozad Local © 2025  
Postmaster: Send change of address to: Cozad Local - P.O Box 188 - Cozad NE 69130



Liz Romero



Now, during the weeks our son was in the coma, you couldn't squeeze a tear out of me. I was numb. Detached. But my husband? He was a different story. He was every parent you'd imagine. Attentive, asking questions, Googling like his life depended on it. He woke up for every single machine beep. Me? Not so much.

Then we moved on to the neurology wing and rehab. My husband didn't miss a single round that the doctors made. He was the sponge, absorbing every single detail. I was the rock it slid off of.

To this day, I can tell you every medication our son is on, but only because I gave them all nicknames. My husband? He can tell you the name, the generic name, and the dosage. I wouldn't be surprised if he could still recite all the past medications as well.

I've come to (mostly) accept my son's seizures as just a part of life now. But one day, I didn't call my husband to tell him that our son had a seizure. I saw the hurt in his eyes, and it made me realize something important: he needs to know. Not because he is being controlling, but because he feels deep in his bones that if he misses some kind of sign or symptom, something horrific will happen. He doesn't want to be blindsided again.

Yes, I'm going to tease him anyway I can and for the rest of our lives. But let's be real, his stupid need to be precise has caught more mistakes on medication dosages than I can count. And I'm including myself and the hospital nurses on that list. But he never says, 'I told you so'. He'll give me a smirk, and I roll my eyes, and we move on.

So, I'll tease him until I'm blue in the face. But deep down, I know that his healing process requires all those details. He needs them, and I need to support that. Even if it's in a way that I don't understand. And boy howdy, someone better hold on if I feel like our voices are not being heard, because that man will shut down a room so that I can speak our concerns.

And there we have it, this week's column is about how you can help others heal while you're still healing yourself. Next week? Maybe I'll write about how I can never see out my sliding glass door because of dog smooches. Who knows? Stick around, and we'll find out together. Just stick around. I want you here.

*A loving, annoying, healing wife,  
Liz*

**cozadlocal.com**



# AGRICULTURE



## Aaron Watson Announced as Entertainment Headliner

KRYSTLE RHOADES, CORRESPONDENT

Excitement is building as the Cattlemen's Ball of Nebraska gears up for its 2026 event, set to take place on the Benjamin Ranch north of Cozad. Last week, organizers revealed that country music star Aaron Watson will headline the Saturday, June 6 live entertainment.

Aaron Watson is a nationally acclaimed country music artist known for his traditional sound, heartfelt songwriting, and independent rise in the industry. With hit songs like "Outta Style", "Bluebonnets", and "July in Cheyenne", Watson has built a loyal fan base and earned a reputation for high-energy live performances. He made history as the first independent male artist to debut an album at No. 1 on the Billboard Country Albums chart, and he continues to be recognized for his authenticity, work ethic, and connection with fans.

Other entertainment will include Gunner Latham, a rising Texas-born country artist and former rodeo cowboy whose mix of real-life ranching roots and heartfelt songwriting have earned him attention. Latham will perform on Friday evening. On Saturday night, Borderline will follow Watson. Borderline is a party band from the Callaway area.

The Cattlemen's Ball, known for bringing people together to celebrate Nebraska's agricultural roots while supporting cancer research, is expected to draw more than 4,000 attendees to the Cozad area. Hosts Howard and Linda Benjamin, along with Levi and Bobbie Jo Messersmith and their families, are preparing to welcome guests from across the region for the two-day event, June 5-6.

Tickets are on sale now and can be purchased through May 1 at [cattlemen'sball.com](http://cattlemen'sball.com). "If you have someone on your list who's hard to shop for, a Cattlemen's Ball ticket might be a great idea, and it supports an important cause right here in Cozad. It's also a great option for businesses looking to give their employees something special for the holidays," shared Messersmith.

Two ticket levels are offered:

- Trail Boss – \$400 plus fees: Includes full access Friday evening and all-day Saturday.

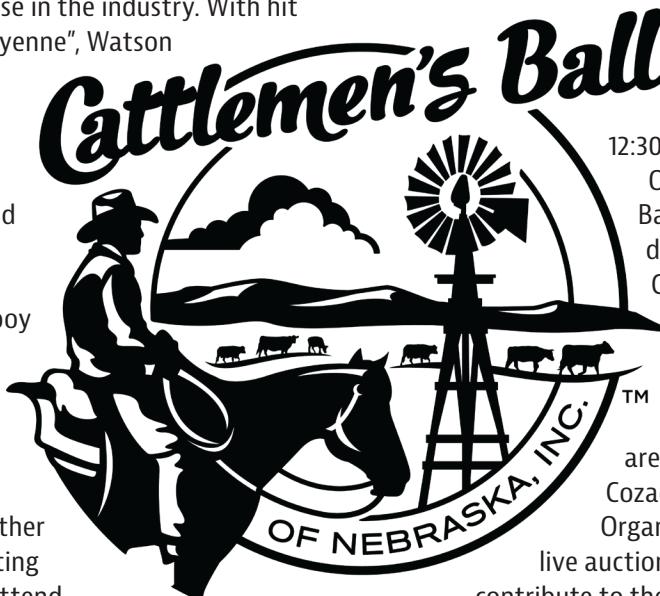
- Top Hand – \$150 plus fees: Provides entry from 12:30 p.m. Saturday through the end of the night's festivities.

Organizers encourage the public to watch the Cattlemen's Ball website and social media channels for ongoing updates, and event details as plans continue to unfold. The Cozad LOCAL will continue to provide updates as well.

For those who would like to get more involved, volunteer opportunities are available and more information is available at [cattlemen'sball.com](http://cattlemen'sball.com). Individuals or businesses interested in sponsoring the event are encouraged to contact Tim Sladek at Waypoint Bank in Cozad.

Organizers also welcome donations to both the silent and live auctions, providing another impactful way for supporters to contribute to the cause.

With a nationally recognized headliner, a dedicated team of hosts, and a mission that touches nearly every Nebraska family, the Cattlemen's Ball is shaping up to be one of the most anticipated events in the region for 2026.



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**MARKET REPORT**  
For the Week Ending Dec. 8, 2025

Nebraska Weekly Grain Prices, Central Region

US NO 2 YELLOW CORN: \$3.83-4.09  
US NO 1 SOYBEANS: \$9.89-10.09

**PIONEER**  
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**Livestock Weighted Average Report for Dec. 8, 2025**

**STEERS** - Medium and Large 1 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)  
Wt. Range - 550-599; Avg Wt - 571; Price Range - \$411.00-497.50; Avg Price - \$463.85

**HEIFERS** - Medium and Large 1 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)  
Wt. Range - 500-548; Avg Wt - 526; Price Range - \$389.00-445.00; Avg Price - \$419.06

# Disabled Veteran Vehicle Exemption Starts Jan. 1

## COZAD LOCAL

Disabled veterans in Nebraska can soon have the Motor Vehicle Tax and Motor Vehicle Fee (outlined in red in the example) exempted from their vehicle registration for one vehicle. Starting Jan. 1, 2026, disabled veterans in Nebraska can receive a motor vehicle tax and fee exemption for one vehicle owned and used for their personal transportation. The new exemption is part of LB650, which passed and was signed into law in 2025.

The law provides two definitions of a "disabled veteran", which are:

1. an individual who served on active duty in the armed forces, has separated under honorable conditions, and has established the present existence of a service-connected disability (including those rated at 0%); or

2. an individual who is receiving compensation, disability retirement benefits, or pension because of a

State of Nebraska - Vehicle Registration		State of Nebraska - Registration Receipt	
RACHEL M. GARVER, COUNTY TREASURER LANCASTER CO. - LINCOLN NE 68503		Renew online at: <a href="http://dmv.nebraska.gov/services">dmv.nebraska.gov/services</a>	
Plate # AAA145	Reg # RS0000020394	Vehicle Details 3N1CN7APXKL877526 2019 Hyundai SANTA FE 4 DOOR   BLUE   GASOLINE	2019 MV Tax \$ 260.00
Type PASSENGER (2017)	Type NEW REGISTRATION	MSRP 18,000.00	Motor Vehicle Tax 260.00
Use PASSENGER	Weight	Owners JANE DOE JOHN SMITH	Motor Vehicle Fee 5.00
Vehicle Details 3N1CN7APXKL877526 2019 Hyundai SANTA FE 4 DOOR   BLUE   GASOLINE	Expires May 2020	Situs Address 200 A ST LINCOLN NE 68502-1018	Reg Issuance 5.50
1	Reg Date 29-May-2019	2018 Tax District 1 - TD 1	Registration 15.00
JANE DOE JOHN SMITH 200 A ST LINCOLN NE 68502-1018	Title Number N0000037877	Reg Date 29-May-2019	Plate Fee 6.60
Total Paid \$ 1,323.10	Exp Date May 2020	Exp Date 29-May-2019	Wheel Tax 74.00
		State Sales Tax 935.00	
		Tire Fee 5.00	
		Title Fee 10.00	
		Lien Fee 7.00	
		Total Paid 1,323.10	

**Barcode:** A QR code is located on the left side of the registration receipt.

**Request for refunds or credits of fees upon loss of possession or transfer of ownership of the registered motor vehicle must be made within sixty days from the date of the loss or transfer.**

public statute administered by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) or a military department.

Veterans must apply to the Nebraska Department of Veterans' Affairs (NDVA) Military & Veterans' Registry, which can be found at [veterans.nebraska.gov/registry](http://veterans.nebraska.gov/registry), so their eligibility can be verified. Qualifying veterans who are already in the registry will need to have their reg-

istry information updated by an NDVA state service officer (402-420-4021 or [ndva.sso@nebraska.gov](mailto:ndva.sso@nebraska.gov)) or their county veterans service officer, whose contact information can be found at [veterans.nebraska.gov/cvso](http://veterans.nebraska.gov/cvso).

Veterans are encouraged to apply in advance of their registration or renewal as it may take up to 48 hours for information to be available to the Depart-

ment of Motor Vehicles (DMV) after a registry application is approved.

When registering or renewing a vehicle in person, a qualifying veteran will need to inform the county treasurer's staff they qualify for the exemption. When renewing online, they will need to select the "Disabled Veteran Tax Exemption" option on the online application.

The request for the tax exemption must occur within 30 days after purchase of a vehicle. For registration renewal, the request must occur prior to the final day of the expiration month. If the request is made outside the required timeframe, the veteran will not qualify for the exemption until the next renewal period.

Full details on the exemption, eligibility, application process, and more can be found at [veterans.nebraska.gov/vehicletax](http://veterans.nebraska.gov/vehicletax).



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## Pastor Litzenberger Honored with Caring Kind Award

MEL NUTT, CORRESPONDENT

Pastor Robert Litzenberger, Central Plains Home Health and Hospice chaplain with Cozad Community Health Systems, received the 2025 Caring Kind Award at the annual Awards Luncheon held at the Embassy Suites Conference Center in LaVista on Oct. 24.

For 46 years, the Nebraska Hospital Association has paid tribute to more than 2,600 of Nebraska's most dedicated and caring health care employees by presenting the Caring Kind Award. Member hospitals and health systems across the state select recipients from within their institutions to be recognized at the Caring Kind Awards Luncheon during the NHA Annual Convention. Recipients of this award go above and beyond the call of duty, demonstrate compassion for patients, and show dedication to service excellence in their work.

Many of his peers nominated him for this year's Caring Kind Award. According to Thea Cole, LMHP, Bereavement and Volunteer Coordinator at Central Plains Home Health and Hospice, "Pastor Robert is so deserving of the Caring Kind Award. His gentle ways and empathetic words provide comfort for our hospice patients and staff at Central Plains Hospice. Robert is a busy man but always takes time to be with those needing consolation. He is just what our team needs, and we are so thankful for him."

According to his nomination submitted, "Pastor Robert's dedication to our hospice patients is phenomenal. He is a constant source of strength for our team, praying with staff for work matters or personal struggles, and blessing others with his 'blessing of the hands' tradition. Nonjudgmental and compassionate, he connects deeply with people from all walks of life. Pastor Robert is interactive with every department, consistently showing love, kindness, and encouragement. He puts others before himself, offering comfort to those in need and inspiring hope in difficult times. His caring nature, fresh ideas, and commitment to his calling show in all he does. Pastor Robert is not only a valued team member but also the heart of our mission."

Pastor Robert graduated from Christian Schools of Springfield, MO, in 1979. After graduating from Calvary Bible College in Kansas City, MO, in 1983, he served as



Pastor Robert Litzenberger serves as the chaplain for Central Plains Home Health and Hospice. In October, he was nominated and awarded the Nebraska Hospital Association Caring Kind Award. (Courtesy Photo)

an assistant pastor at Wilton Bible Church in Wilton, CA, where he worked with his father as a worship leader, college and career teacher, and helped operate a Christian school for three years.

"I was influenced to become a pastor by my father, who was a pastor. I gave my life to the Lord for missions when I was in high school, and that led to becoming a pastor. The Lord called me to pastoral ministry in 1986," Pastor Robert said. He was licensed in 1986 by Wilton Bible Church and ordained in 2000 by New Hope Evangelical Free Church in rural Gothenburg.

Pastor Robert and his wife, Beth, moved from California to Nebraska in 1986 and currently live in Brady.

He has pastored four churches over 36 years and served as an administrator at a Christian school for six years, including Tallin Church in rural Gothenburg for three and one-half years, Liberty Heights Christian School in Gothenburg for six years, New Hope Evangelical Free Church for more than 20 years, Brady Community Church for more than 20 years, and Cozad Bible Church for the past two and one-half years.

In April 1984, Pastor Robert earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Calvary University in Kansas City, MO, where he received a Christian Character Award. In August 2023, he earned his Master of Divinity with a concentration in chaplaincy from Regent University in Virginia Beach, VA.

Pastor Robert remains active in the community. Many Gothenburg and area residents know him from his work as an assistant store manager at Peterson's Supermarket, where he began in 1987. "With the exception of 10 years that I took time away to do ministry things, I have worked at the store and continue to do so, and currently work at their new location, the Fresh Seasons Market," he said.

Pastor Robert began serving at Central Plains Home Health and Hospice in January 2023 as a Hospice Chaplain Intern, volunteering his services. In June 2023, he joined the staff as Hospice Chaplain.

Those attending the awards ceremony included his wife, Beth; along with leadership from CCHS including Robert Dyer, Julie Skala, Heather Brennan, Chandra Anderson, Erin Chytka, Lisa Hunke, Karlie Osborne, Dranoel Fleharty, and Miranda Pickenbaugh.

"The Caring Kind Award is one that I always wanted to receive because of its significance. When I won the award, I felt surprised and thankful that my peers thought so highly of me. One of my goals as a hospice chaplain is to show love at the highest level, and the Caring Kind Award acknowledges that others notice that I love our patients and their families, as well as our staff. I want to give all of the glory for this award to my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. It is through Him that I was called to serve as a hospice chaplain, and He guides me each day in my ministry. He brings joy to my life so that I can share that joy with others," Pastor Robert said.

Congratulations to Pastor Robert, his wife, and his family on this award. In addition to his ministry at CPHHH and the Cozad Bible Church, he is serving his second term as president of the Cozad Association of Churches. He is a steady leader who shows dedication and compassion, which strengthen health care across Nebraska, including the Cozad Community Health System.



## Hospice Memorial Tree at Wilson Public Library

Thea Cole, LMHP Bereavement and Volunteer Coordinator and her fellow staff members at Central Plains Home Health and Hospice put up the hospice tree at the Wilson Public Library on Tuesday, Dec. 2. The hospice tree tradition started over 20 years ago and has 71 memorial ornaments displayed on it this year in honor of their hospice patients. (LOCAL Photo by Bob Nutt)

## Spradlin Prepares for National Finals

Greta Rickertsen of Lexington in the Junior Division, Dakota Vrbas of Stratton in the Senior Division, and Amanda Spradlin of Cozad in the Adult Division will be Nebraska's delegates to the National Finals of the Make It with Wool Contest. They were chosen Nov. 22 by judges at the state contest conducted by Make It with Wool State Director Andrea Nisley of Elwood.

Contestants participated at the Lexington Middle School in Lexington.

The National Make It with Wool Contest is scheduled for Jan. 29–31, 2026, in Reno, NV.

In the Junior Division, first place went to Greta Rickertsen of Lexington. Second place went to Lorelai Rickertsen of Lexington, who received a Bernina sewing machine. Other contestants earning honors were third-place winner Wesley Thompson, Lexington; fourth-place winner Elena McFarland, Lexington; fifth-place winner Mollie Spradlin, Cozad; sixth-place winner Ella Brennemann, Valentine; and seventh-place winner Maya Soria, Kearney. Other junior participants were Hunter Creech, Mitchell; Maggie Duryea, Lexington; Dayton Jons, Lincoln; Bristol McConville, Lexington; Julia Nicholson, Chadron; Millie Peplitsch, Lexington; Mollie Spradlin, Cozad; and Tristan Taylor, Broken Bow.

First place in the Senior Division went to Dakota Vrbas, Stratton.

In the Preteen Division, first place went

to Eden Ochsner, Aurora, who received a sewing basket with sewing notions. Second place went to Augustine Hanson, Aurora; third place to Cassidy Goertzen, Hampton; fourth place to Eva De La Cruz, Hampton; fifth place to Claire Hunke, Lexington; sixth place to Barrett Hunke, Lexington; seventh place to Keziah Galster, Funk; eighth place to Melissa Montano, Kearney; ninth place to Scarlett Andrews, York; and tenth place to Harlow Rickertsen, Lexington.

Other preteen contestants were Corbin Anderson, Mitchell; Silas Andrews, York; Josue Casanova, Lexington; Milenzy Casanova, Lexington; Evelyn Conejo, Lexington; Brooklyn Creech, Mitchell; Gage Creech, Mitchell; Kimberly Duryea, Lexington; Lysa Duryea, Lexington; Kanaan Galster, Funk; Zoey Gimpel, Aurora; Augustine Hanson, Aurora; Leah Ochsner, Aurora; Zipporah Ochsner, Aurora; Asher Regier, Aurora; Alex Rickertsen, Lexington; Arista Scott, Thedford; Emery Scott, Aurora; RyDell Scott, Thedford; Charlee Vrbas, Stratton; and Jaspen Vrbas, Stratton.

In the Adult Division, first place went to Amanda Spradlin, Cozad; second place to Rachelle Anderson, Mitchell; and third place to Melissa Nicholson, Chadron.

In the Made for Others Division, the winner was Krystal Galster, Funk, who constructed a jumper for her daughter, Kaia Galster. Second place also went to Krystal Galster, Funk, for a pair of overalls she constructed for her son, Kaleb Galster.

## UPCOMING EVENTS: THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11<sup>th</sup> - WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17<sup>th</sup>

11 THUR	12 FRI	13 SAT	14 SUN	15 MON	16 TUES	17 WED
10 a.m. - Santa @ WPL 1-3 p.m. - Santa @ Green Space 6 p.m. - G&BW @ Home	1 p.m. - BWR @ Colby, KS 4-7 p.m. - G&BBB @ Home	Cozad Speech Invite 9:30 a.m. - BWR @ Colby, KS 10 a.m. - GWR @ Sandhills Valley 10 a.m. - Santa @ WPL 1-3 p.m. - Santa @ Green Space 2-5 p.m. - G&BBB @ Home 6 p.m. - Ugly Christmas Sweater Bar Crawl @ Big E's		6 p.m. - CEEC Winter Program 7 p.m. - School Board Meeting	6:30 p.m. - GBB @ Home 6 p.m. - BWR @ Holdrege 7 p.m. - Middle School Fine Arts	Early Dismissal 5 p.m. - Santa @ Green Space
						

# Obituaries

**Mary Beth Ingram** of Cozad passed away on Saturday, Nov. 22, 2025, at Lexington Regional Hospital at the age of 73. Mary was born on Jan. 9, 1952, near Scribner to Charles and Florence (Brandenburg) Benner and spent her early years in Scribner before moving to Venango, where she graduated from high school with the class of 1970. After high school, Mary moved to Lincoln to attend Ben Your Hairdresser Academy, graduating with her cosmetology license in 1971.

She also attended the University of Nebraska-Lincoln for a year in the nursing program.

Mary fell in love with Doug Ingram while at UNL, and the couple married on Aug. 11, 1972. They settled in Cozad where they started their family in 1976. Together, they raised three children: Lindsay, Patrick, and Courtney.

For many years, Mary was a devoted stay-at-home mom. Once her children were older, she returned to work, doing secretary work at various feedlots throughout the county. Later, she joined the NDR – Soil Conser-



vation Service office, where she worked for many years until her early retirement.

Mary had a passion for helping people and found joy in simple acts of kindness. She was an excellent baker and often made Christmas cookie trays for neighbors and friends. Her homemade caramel popcorn became a beloved treat in Cozad. Mary was known for her generous heart, always inviting friends and family to share meals, no matter how many extra people showed up at the dinner table.

She also had a love of being outside, creating her dream yard landscape. It took many years, but the hard work paid off, and she enjoyed sitting outside in the nice weather and just taking it all in. One of her favorite things was to sit on her deck in the morning having coffee and enjoying the sunrise.

Despite facing challenges after suffering a stroke, Mary remained a beacon of positivity. She asked loved ones, "Tell me the best thing that happened to you today?" during conversations, making everyone feel

**Beau D. Robertson** of Cozad passed away Tuesday, Dec. 2, 2025, at Nebraska Medicine in Omaha at the age of 45. Beau was born on June 12, 1980, in Lexington to Kent and Linda (Bennett) Robertson. He attended elementary school at District 29 south of Cozad and graduated from Cozad High School with the class of 1999. Later, he graduated from Southeast Community College in Milford in 2001 with a degree in auto body technology.

He was a dedicated employee at Eustis Body Shop in Eustis where he started working as a painter in June of 2001. Beau was known for his perfectionism in auto body work and paint jobs, bringing both skill and commitment to his craft.

Beau was not only dedicated to his work but also to his family. He married Jennifer Lindeman on June 13, 2014. Through this union, he welcomed her daughters Ally and Kelsey into the family. Together, they brought joy into their lives through the birth of their daughter, Maisey and son, Mack.

Beau had a great sense of humor and was known for his distinguished and infectious laugh, making him a beloved figure to those around him. He enjoyed many hobbies that brought him happiness, including vacationing in the Black Hills of South Dakota and camping at the KOA in Seward. He had a passion for cars and found joy in assembling models and shooting BB guns with the kids. He was always in pursuit of fun, especially when it came to go-kart racing, where he often found himself at the winning end.

Throughout his life, Beau cherished his pets, especially his current English Bulldog, Willy. They spent countless hours together in the garage bonding.

Beau will be remembered for his loving spirit, vibrant personality, and the joy he brought to his family and friends. His legacy will live on in the hearts of those who knew him.

Beau was preceded in death by his father, Kent Robertson; grandparents, Myron and Margaret Bennett and Lola Robertson and Norm Robertson; and his father and



mother-in-law, Rich and Nancy Lindeman.

He is lovingly survived by his wife, Jennifer Robertson of Cozad; mother, Linda Robertson (Todd) of Cozad; sister, Jamie Rock (Yly) of Aurora, CO; children, Maisey and Mack Robertson of Cozad, Allyson Shotkoski of Kearney and Kelsey Shotkoski of Lincoln; brother and sister in law, Matt and Jacque Yocom of Cozad, brother and sister in law, Steve and Lori Lindeman of Bennett; nephews and nieces, Briggs Rock, Lukas and Lauren Lindeman, and Jorja and Jax Yocom; and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

Memorials are suggested to the family for later designation. Online condolences may be shared at berrymanfuneralhome.com. A funeral service was held on Monday, Dec. 8 at Eustis Methodist Church in Eustis, with Pastor Elmo Herman officiating. Everyone was invited to drive their favorite car, the louder the better. Burial followed at Cozad Cemetery.

**CSI Cozad Services Inc.**

315 East 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
Cozad, NE 69130

308-784-3477

# Cozad Cub Scout Wraps Up 2025 With a Whimsical “Elf Scout” Celebration

## COZAD LOCAL

Cozad's Pack 187 Cub Scouts brought their final meeting of the year to life on Dec. 4 with holiday spirit, creativity, and a memorable dose of silliness. Dressed in cheerful elf hats and outfits, local Cub Scouts gathered for an evening that blended laughter, teamwork, and a unique treat-making experience known as armpit fudge, a playful activity that proved to be the perfect way to end 2025.

The meeting opened with a festive challenge for each Cub Scout to become an “Elf Scout for the night.” Elves are known for being creative, cheerful, and unafraid to try new things, even silly ones, because they understand that joy is part of the magic. That message set the tone as bags of ingredients were passed out and the Scouts began preparing for their culinary adventure.

As part of the evening's program, each ingredient used in the armpit fudge recipe represented a core Cub Scout value:

- Butter stood for kindness and helping others, a reminder that Scouts smooth the way for one another just as butter smooths the mix.
- Cocoa symbolized adventure and trying something new, capturing the spirit of Scouts who take on new challenges, even if they're messy.
- Powdered sugar represented cheerfulness and positivity, encouraging Scouts to spread joy the same way elves brighten Santa's workshop.
- Vanilla highlighted the importance of doing your best, a small ingredient that delivers big flavor, just as small acts of effort and helpfulness shape great outcomes.

Once the ingredients were added, Scouts sealed their bags and began mixing, yes, under their arms, to transform the blend into fudge. Laughter filled the room as Scouts learned that perseverance, teamwork, and a good attitude can make even the silliest activity rewarding.

After the fudge was made, Pack leaders paused to reflect on the year. Pack 187 spent 2025 camping, learning skills, serving the community, and growing together as a team. Families joined the celebration as Scouts recognized that the sweetness of the evening



Cozad's Cub Scout Pack 187 dressed up to be Elf Scouts are back to front, from left, Hunter Taylor, Esmerelda Huisenga, Lilly Morris, Drake Hoffman, Sage Porter, Arlin Morris, Pack Leader Karen Morris, Cole Lauer, Colt Roseberry, and Behren Richie on Dec. 4 at their end of the year celebration. (Courtesy Photo)

came not just from chocolate but from cooperation, connection, and finding the fun in learning.

The meeting wrapped up with cheers and smiles as Scouts enjoyed the treats they created, closing out 2025 with teamwork, laughter, and a spirit of holiday adventure.

Cozad's Pack 187 offers Cub Scouting for boys and

girls throughout the community, providing hands-on learning, outdoor skills, community service, and opportunities for youth to grow into confident, capable leaders. Pack 187 welcomes new families throughout the year. Please contact Karen Morris at 308-529-1891 with any questions or interest in joining Scouts (grades K-12).

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HEALTH

# The Biggest Dream Was Never on My List

When I was a little girl, I dreamed of being a Dallas Cowboy's cheerleader. I thought they were the prettiest women in the world, and their routines mesmerized me. I spent countless hours in the living room practicing dance routines with my sister and rotating cast of friends.

As a young adult, I dreamed of being a Bible teacher and speaker like Beth Moore or Priscilla Shirer. I pictured myself speaking to thousands. When opportunities came to speak at local women's conferences, I jumped at them. I even wrote and led my own multi-week Bible study on the women of the Scripture.

In my forties, I dreamed of helping authors get published and discovered. I started a micro-publishing company and imagined guiding authors straight onto the New York Times Bestseller list. This dream even included purchasing property in Costa Rica for a writing retreat where we could escape and write.

I have dreamed some big dreams in my lifetime, but none of them came true. And, I am grateful.

Along the way, I held quieter dreams too. When I was a teenager, I wanted to become a youth pastor. When I was a young mom, I imagined approaching the local newspaper to write a column filled with life lessons and inspirational anecdotes. In my forties, I wanted to move to the city and start a new career for the second act of my life.



These mid-sized dreams did unfold, each in their own way. Recently, after more than two years of study and preparation, I was commissioned as a lay pastor.

About eight years ago, my newspaper editor let me try writing a few columns to see if I was a good fit, and I've been writing a weekly reflection ever since. And even without moving to the city, I still found a new career. It's funny how life works out exactly as it should.

But here's what surprised me: none of these dreams compare to the week I just spent with my adult children, grandchildren, and family. We simply spent time together under one roof.

We laughed, talked, played, created, and debated: all of it weaving connection through every shared moment.

All I wanted was to stay fully present and enjoy every moment, because deep in my heart I knew those moments are truly what dreams are made of.

When the week ended, I climbed into my car alone while everyone else jumped into vehicles with parents, partners, siblings, children, and family. In that quiet drive home, I realized I've imagined a hundred different lives. I spent years chasing big dreams, but the life I love the most grew quietly out of love, family, and small, sacred moments of connection and gratitude.



## Cozad Grand Generation Center

### Weekly MENU

- Thur., 12/11** Scalloped Potatoes & Ham, Mixed Vegetables, Pears  
EVENING MEAL (5-7PM): Ham Ball Dinner, Cheesy Potatoes, Peas, Jello, Dessert
- Fri., 12/12** Sausage, Scrambled Eggs, Veggie Sticks, Hot Fruit, Cake
- Mon., 12/15** Chicken Fritters, Cheesy Potatoes, Baked Spinach, Pears, Chocolate Pudding
- Tues., 12/16** Holiday Dinner - Turkey & Dressing, Mashed Potatoes, Green Bean Casserole, Strawberry Pretzel Salad, Cranberry Sauce, Ice Cream
- Wed., 12/17** Lasagna, Green Beans, Mandarin Oranges, Garlic Bread, Ice Cream

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## Lexington Grand Generation Center

### WEEKLY MENU

- Thur., 12/11** Pork Fritter w/ Gravy, Potato Casserole, 3 Bean Casserole, Mixed Fruit
- Fri., 12/12** Birthday Dinner - Roast Beef, Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy, Corn, Applesauce, Dinner Roll, Dessert
- Mon., 12/15** Italian Chicken over Spaghetti, Italian Green Beans, Buttered Carrots, Peaches
- Tues., 12/16** Sweet & Sour Pork Chops, Baby Bakers, Peas, Tropical Fruit
- Wed., 12/17** Turkey Noodle in Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Cream Corn, Apple Slices

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**ABOVE:** CMS band member Jacob Harvey enjoyed lighting up his bass drum and himself as the band marched through the Winter Wonderland Parade last week. **RIGHT:** The 100th Meridian Museum's annual "Breakfast with Santa" was a popular place for children to meet with Santa and share their Christmas lists. Shown enjoying their time with Santa are Mabel Schuster (left), and Rose Valenzuela. **BETWEEN:** The TLDC dancers performed at the 100th Meridian Museum on Saturday, Dec. 6. Several classes performed holiday selections to delight the audience. Eastyn Green, a member of the competitive TLDC dance team, is pictured doing one of the high kicks during a routine. (LOCAL Photos by Mel Nutt)



## from FRONT - Christmas

listened to Christmas wishes and updated his lists. "I get just as much joy as the kids do by doing this," Bilsland shared.

The Fox Theater also had a great turnout with their free admission to the movie *The Grinch*.

Starman expressed deep gratitude to everyone who helped make the week run smoothly.

She thanked the City Street Department for storing the tree, hanging decorations at the Santa House, and helping move the bench. She credited Josh Morse, Zach Priel and Jimmy Weinmaster for their work. She thanked the City Electric Department for moving the tree each year and helping with lights, including Chris White, Eli Bennett, A.J. Stiver, Mike McMann, Zeb Smith and Dustin Smith. She recognized Pat Worthman for repairing light wires and thanked the Cozad Police Department, Nick Reynolds and Kelly Peterson for helping her stop a mischievous bunny from chewing through more wiring.

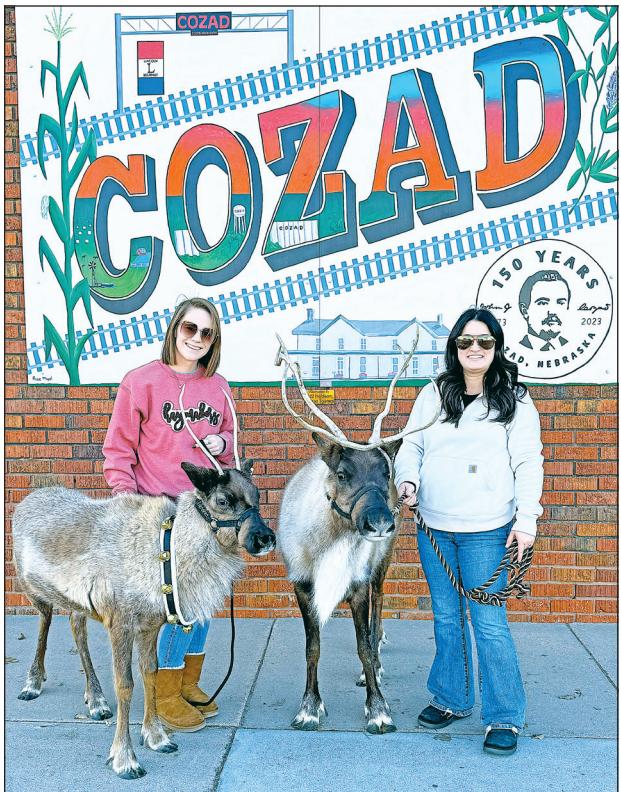
Starman also thanked Jack's Welding again for donating the tree, and Teammates mentor Marcie Kostrunek for lending the bench used in the Santa House photo area. Teammates continues to seek men-

tors for students who need consistent support.

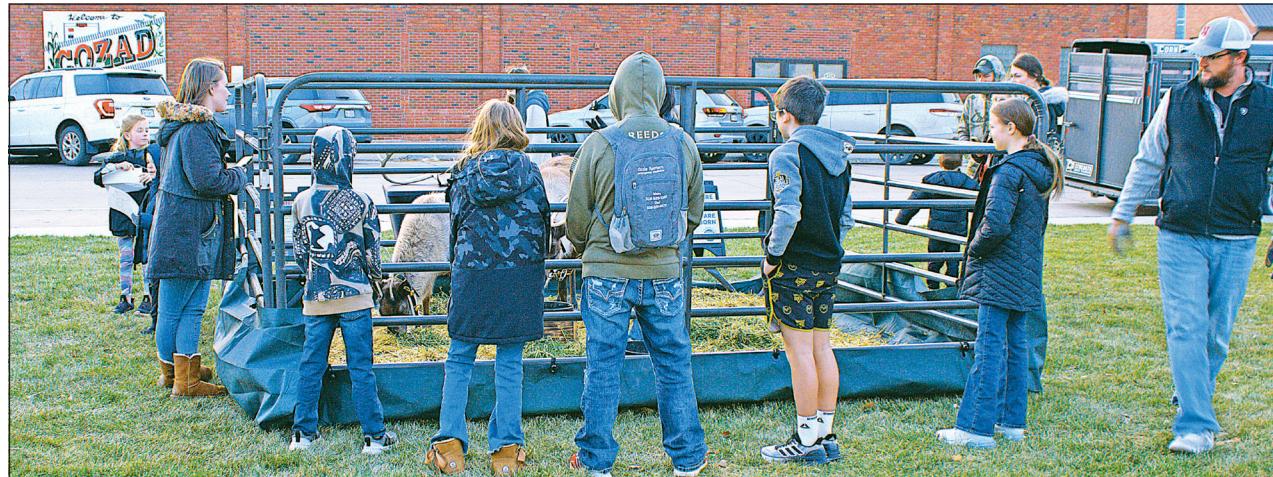
She thanked the Cozad Chamber Retail Committee, Tammy Paulsen, Cathy Pflaster, Robyn and Scott Geiser and Jeanie Haskell for helping plan and set up the south side of the Santa House. SkillsUSA members built the Santa House and continue to maintain and decorate it each year. SkillsUSA students helped as Santa's elves on Saturday. Starman also noted support from 222 Hardware for supplying needed hardware.



Santa has greeted many children this Christmas season. Santa gave out miniature chocolate candy bars he donated in addition to candy canes to those who visited him in the Santa House. (LOCAL Photo by Mel Nutt)



Chamber Director Jordan Starman and Blue Star Reindeer Farm owner Terika Corn took their annual photo in front of the Cozad sign. (Photo Courtesy Cozad Chamber)



Reindeers Wednesday and Everdeen drew a consistently large crowd to the Green Space on Saturday, Dec. 6 with their cozy cuteness. **BELOW LEFT:** Baby Everdeen who is eight months old is considered a Velcro-baby and always glued to her mom, Wednesday's side and always nudging for a hug. **BELOW RIGHT:** Wednesday and Everdeen were calm and welcoming on Saturday when many kids were asking about Rudolph. Owner Terika Corn gave the answer of 'working hard at the North Pole' and explained the personalities of the reindeer. (LOCAL Photos)



**ABOVE:** Over 150 people patronized the annual "Breakfast with Santa" at the 100th Meridian Museum on Saturday, Dec. 6. **RIGHT:** The Wilson Public Library partnered once again with the Pony Express to "brand" Christmas cards with their logo. Pony Express riders Terry Grasz of Brady and Cathy Stevens of Gothenburg rode from the Gothenburg Public Library to WPL, a two-hour trip, to pick up the cards on Dec. 6. Shown with Grasz and Stevens are horses Mister (left) and Bonnie. (LOCAL Photos by Mel Nutt)



# SPORTS



Sophomore Julien Davis shooting around to warm up after coming out of the locker room at halftime. (LOCAL Photo by Jayden Wills)

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## The Haymakers Start Their Season Off Strong

JAYDEN WILLS

The Haymaker boys' basketball team had their first home game and a big win over Chase County on Dec. 4. The Haymakers 84-39 victory over the Longhorns set the tone for the season. The Haymakers started strong, scoring 20 points in the first quarter. With a strong defensive front, Cozad held Chase County to only 5 points. In the second quarter, Cozad added another 18 points and allowed Chase County to score 13, ending the first half 38-18.

The third quarter mirrored the first half with the Haymakers adding 26 points and holding Chase County to 9. To wrap up the game in the final quarter, Cozad was able to score 20 more points, while Chase County was able to score 12 points.

Some noteworthy players in the Chase County game are junior Kellen Shoemaker who had 21 points on the night, Chayden Hoffmaster who had 18 points and sophomore Julien Davis who had 14 points for the night; four of those were made at the arc. Senior Gage



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Strauss led the Haymakers in rebounds with 7, while Shoemaker and Ollie Davis each had 6.

The Haymakers traveled to Maxwell to take on the Wildcats on Dec. 6 in another dominating show to bring their season record to 2-0 with a 69-22 win. Stats for this game were unavailable at the time of press.

The Haymakers will put on a show tomorrow when they host Hershey, Dec. 12 before they host Holdrege on Saturday during Retro Night.

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Freshman Wyatt Hueftle earned first place in the 106-pound division at the Cozad Invite on Dec. 6. (LOCAL Photos by Barry Mraz)



During the Cozad Invite on Dec. 6, Drake Hasbrouck earned his 100th career win and finished the invite with second place.

## Hueftle Leads Haymakers, Hasbrouck Hits 100 Wins

LIZ ROMERO

The Cozad boys wrestling team welcomed 14 visiting schools to the Haymaker Invitational on Dec. 6 and finished 11th in the team standings. The invite brought full brackets, competitive matches, and several strong individual performances for the Haymakers.

Freshman Wyatt Hueftle set the tone at 106 pounds. He went 5-0 on the day and claimed first place.

At 126, Kenneth Hernandez added a runner-up finish after winning two of his three matches.

Drake Hasbrouck delivered another highlight at 150 pounds.

He went 2-1, secured second place, and reached a milestone with the

100th win of his high school career.

Cozad picked up more medals as the day progressed.

Landon Baker earned fourth at 157 with three wins, while Brenner Thayer finished third at the same weight after going 4-1. At 175, Crex Ventura earned second place with three wins. Ikensen Isonobu added a fourth-place finish at 215 after winning twice.

Other Haymaker results included Kersan Inek (138) went 1-3 and placed sixth. Kaden Shirley (144) won one match in a challenging bracket. Byn Sylvan dropped both of his matches. Kaden Schwarz (138) finished with one win in three matches.

The Haymakers return to the mat

tonight, Dec. 11, when they co-host McCook. They will then travel to Col-

by, Kansas, for a two-day tournament on Dec. 12-13.



 GOTHENBURG  
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### Explore Career Opportunities

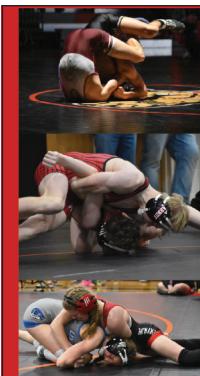
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*Last updated on Dec. 2, 2025*

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Junior Braelyn Malcom was shooting around during warm-ups before their game against Chase County on Dec. 4. (LOCAL Photo by Jayden Wills)

# Lady Haymakers Starts Their Season With a 1-1 Record

JAYDEN WILLS

On Dec. 4, the Cozad Haymakers hosted the Chase County Longhorns. Chase County was able to win against Cozad, but the Haymakers still put up a strong fight.

In the first quarter, Chase County found the net and racked up 15 points. The Longhorns defense held the Haymakers to zero. In the second quarter, Cozad found a pace that worked and scored 9 points, while the Haymaker defense held Chase County to 5, making the score 20-9 going into halftime.

Coming out of the locker room for the third quarter, Cozad kept up their momentum on offense. The Haymakers added another 8 points, and their defense put pressure on Chase County, only allowing 7.

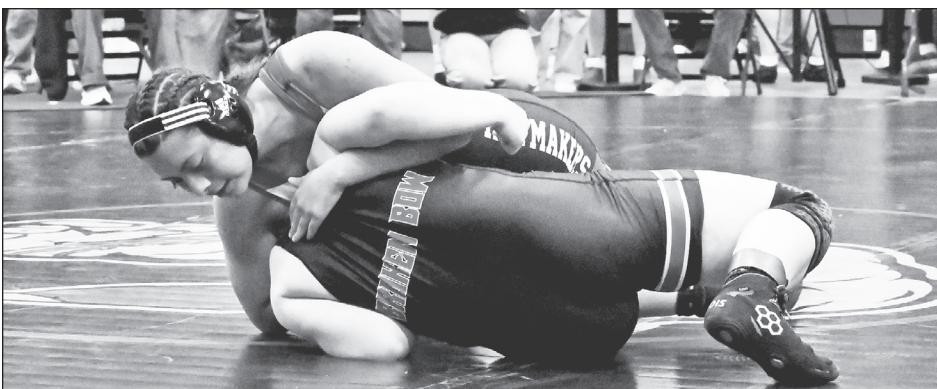
In the final quarter, Cozad added another 6 points but ultimately couldn't stop Chase County, who was

able to score 14, making the final score 41-23.

Notable playmakers throughout the game were sophomore Brittlin Bussinger who scored 8 points and junior Braelyn Malcom tallied 6 points. Makenna Broz scored the lone 3-pointer. Emersyn Propp led the Haymakers in rebounds with 8 and Aubrey Hammerlin followed with 7.

Despite the loss, Cozad still played hard and gave it their all, using the loss to push them in their game against the Maxwell Wildcats on Dec. 6. The Haymakers took the win in a competitive close game, clinching the win 50-46. Stats for this game were unavailable at the time of press.

The Haymakers will host Hershey tomorrow, Dec. 12, before Holdrege comes to town on Saturday, Dec. 13 for Retro Night.



Haymaker Andrea Saravia drives Broken Bow's Alexis Pflaster to the mat for her first win of the Cozad Invite on Dec. 5. She went on to finish as the runner-up in her bracket.

## Negley Leads Lady Haymakers at Season-Opener

LIZ ROMERO

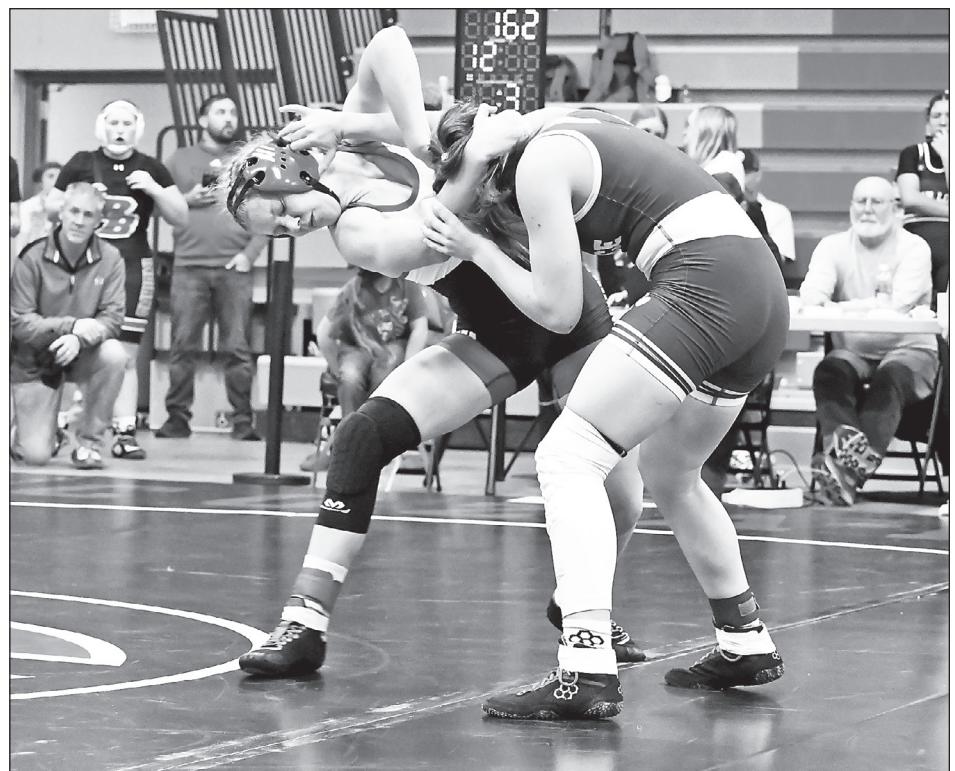
The Cozad Haymakers kicked off their season on Dec. 5 with a strong showing at their home invite, which drew nearly 20 visiting teams to town. With eight wrestlers competing, Cozad settled into 12th place, setting a solid foundation for the weeks ahead.

At 110 pounds, Audrey Osburn put together a steady day on the mat. She won two of her five matches and earned a fourth-place finish.

Abby Negley continued her impressive run at 115 pounds. She went unbeaten on the day and brought home the first-place medal, keeping her career streak intact.

Andrea Saravia delivered a confident performance at 145 pounds, winning two of her three matches and finishing as the runner-up.

The 170-pound bracket featured two Haymakers. Eva Olivas picked up one



Cozad's Abby Negley breaks free from Alliance's Myleigh Simmons and moves toward a 21-5 technical fall victory. (LOCAL Photos by Barry Mraz)

win and placed 13th, while Nevaeh Allen collected two wins and finished 10th.

In the 190-pound division, Graciah Roberts added a ninth-place finish after earning one win in her five matches.

The Lady Haymakers return to action tonight, Dec. 11, when they co-host McCook at 6 p.m. They will then travel to the Sandhills Valley Invite on Saturday, Dec. 13.

# DAWSON COUNTY JAIL BOOKINGS



PERSONS IN THIS STATEMENT ARE PRESUMED INNOCENT UNTIL PROVEN GUILTY IN A COURT OF LAW. CONTENT PROVIDED BY [NEWSBUDDY.ORG](http://NEWSBUDDY.ORG)

## FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2025

### Slack, Porter John - 23

Eustis, NE - 11/28/2025 - 22:20 — Driving Under the Influence (.15 or Greater – One Prior)

## SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2025

### Calmo-Perez, Isabel - 36

Lexington, NE - 11/29/2025 - 22:08 — Driving Under the Influence (2nd Offense – High Test); Obstructing a Police Officer

## SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2025

### Frickenstein, Ricky - 55

Gothenburg, NE - 11/30/2025 - 15:42 — Driving Under the Influence – Liquor

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2025

No Reported Arrests

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2025

### Chaubhari, Rakesh - 44

Lexington, NE - 12/02/2025 - 13:45 — Failure to Appear (Criminal Trespassing - 2nd Degree)

### Lopez-Vargas, Juana Eloiza - 20

Lexington, NE - 12/02/2025 - 19:25 — Driving Under Suspension (Before Reinstated – State)

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2025

### Sanchez, Victor Hugo - 31

Lexington, NE - 12/03/2025 - 23:44 — Driving Under Suspension

### Afea, Bile Farah - 31

Lexington, NE - 12/03/2025 - 10:45 — Dawson County Sheriff's Office Warrant – Failure to Appear – Abuse of Vulnerable Adult

## Felipe-Baltazar, Alonzo - 29

Loomis, NE - 12/03/2025 - 18:59 — Buffalo County Warrant (Driving Under the Influence - .08); Driving Under Suspension (3rd)

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2025

### Vallejo, Bryan Ozvaldo - 27

Lexington, NE - 12/04/2025 - 12:19 — Dawson County Sheriff's Office Warrant – Failure to Appear – Theft – Shoplifting \$0-\$500 (2nd Offense); Dawson County Sheriff's Office Warrant (Failure to Appear – Theft – Unlawful Taking \$0-\$5,000); Possession of Marijuana 1 oz; Dawson County Sheriff's Office Warrant (Driving Under Suspension); Dawson County Sheriff's Office Warrant (Reckless Driving)

### Miller, Nicole M - 45

Colorado Springs, CO - 12/04/2025 - 17:24 — Failure to Appear (Possession of Marijuana)



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# Legals

## Notice

COUNTY COURTHOUSE,  
LEXINGTON, NE  
DECEMBER 1, 2025

The Dawson County Board of Commissioners of Dawson County, Nebraska, met in regular session on Monday, December 1, 2025 in the Commissioners' Room, 2nd Floor, Lexington, Nebraska, immediately following the Board of Equalization meeting. Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication in the Lexington Clipper-Herald. A copy of the Proof of Publication is on file in the office of the County Clerk. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the published notice

and in the notice to members of the Board of County Commissioners of this meeting. All proceedings shown hereafter were taken while the convened meeting was open to the public. Chairman Swanson called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. County Clerk, Michaela Arndt called the roll with Commissioners PJ Jacobson, Bill Stewart, Rod Reynolds, Joe Richeson and Chairman Kevin Swanson present. Chairman Swanson announced the current open meetings act was posted for the public and the location of the poster. Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2025, regular meeting as pre-

sented. Aye: 5. Nay: 0. Motion carried. Motion was made and seconded to approve the Treasurer's Receipts as submitted. Aye: 5. Nay: 0. Motion carried. Treasurer's Receipts: \$594,237.96. Motion was made and seconded to approve the claims as presented. Aye: 5. Nay: 0. Motion carried. Total Claims: \$2,636,862.31. GENERAL VENDOR CLAIMS: Atallah Abdallah, Witness Fee, Expenses, \$260.79. Applied Connective, Supplies, \$116.96. Benchmark, Meals, \$1,067.95. Berreckman & Bazata, Legal Services, \$2,032.00. Tamara Brainerd, Witness Fee, \$20.00. Central Nebraska Reporting, Depositions, \$672.20. CenturyLink, Monthly Service, \$976.00. Clerk of District Court, CLAIMS: \$1,220.00. Community Action Partnership, Monthly Expenses, \$1,361.46. Country Partners, Fuel, \$8,094.25. Culligan, Repairs, \$323.10. Daake Law Office, Legal Services, \$425.00. Davis Law, Legal Services, \$3,750.50. Dawson County Treasurer, Transfer, \$68,000.00. Defense Technology, Education,

\$2,100.00. Diamond Drugs, Medical, \$4,049.00. DSLR Pros, Equipment, \$10,610.00. Chawnta Durham, Expenses, \$6.00. Fagot Refrigeration & Electric, Remodel Repairs, \$7,418.14. Fellers Heating & Air, Repairs, \$156.72. First Concord Benefits, Annual Fees, \$400.00. Galls, Uniforms, \$58.39. Great Plains Reporting, Depositions, \$355.70. Kenneth R Harbison, Monthly Expenses, \$3,000.00. HD Supply, Supplies, \$524.72. Heldt, McKeeone & Copley, Legal Services, \$2,869.16. Hiebner Counseling, Services, \$374.26. Hometown Leasing, Monthly Leases, \$1,162.85. Alex Huntley, Witness Fee, \$94.20. Ideal Linen & Uniform, Monthly Service, \$182.12. Jack's Uniform & Equipment, Uniforms, \$650.79. Jones Plumbing, Repairs, \$1,036.00. Jury Duty, Jury, \$2,991.52. Lexington Regional Health Center, Medical, \$14,143.67. Lexington Utilities System, Utilities, \$10,096.55. Malcom, Nelsen & Windrum, Legal Services, \$7,028.40. MGM Targets, Equipment, \$1,237.39. Derek L Mitchell, Legal Services, \$3,300.00. NE

Survey Record Repository, Filing Fees, \$105.00. Nebraska Health and Human Services, October Services, \$453.00. Nebraska Law Enforcement, Training Certification, \$75.00. Nebraska Sheriffs Association, Annual Membership, \$430.00. Physicians Laboratory, Services, \$9,225.00. PIP Marketing Signs, Supplies, \$430.69. Platte Valley Auto Mart, Repairs, \$3,429.98. Power DMS, Annual Subscription, \$3,668.93. Radiology Associates, Medical, \$30.36. Randys & Brians Towing, Towing, \$200.00. Region II Human Services, 2nd Quarter Match, \$26,341.16. Rudolph Law, Legal Services, \$2,056.25. Shaw Law, Legal Services, \$1,844.80. Sign Pro, Signage, \$560.00. Heather Smith, Transcriptions, \$195.05. State of NE-Admin Services, Monthly Fees, \$356.02. Summit Food Services, Meals, \$12,844.68. Syndicate Publishing, Publications, \$190.60. TK Elevator, Maintenance, \$675.00. Logan Tomlinson Middleswart, Witness Fee, \$97.00. True Blue Collision, Repairs, \$2,375.35. U Save Business, Supplies, \$2,583.10. U Save Pharmacy, Medical, \$63.37. Verizon, Monthly Service, \$165.17. VISA-Pinnacle Bank, Education, Equipment, \$944.23. VISA-Pinnacle Bank, Supplies, \$31.74. Waldinger Corporation, Repairs, \$2,030.45. Wellness Partners, Preventive Care Clinic, \$42,930.00. Ann Young, Medical Management, \$2,000.00. TOTAL: \$279,677.53. ROAD VENDOR CLAIMS: Ace Irrigation, Culverts, \$12,745.00. ATCO International, Supplies, \$221.85. Axxent Buildings, Building Repairs, \$502.50. Black Hills Energy, Utilities, \$70.59. Bomgaars, Supplies, \$89.90. Clear Live, Monthly Service, \$19.02. Cozad Auto Supply, Supplies, \$2.37. Frontier, Monthly Service, \$130.85. Grainger, Supplies, \$321.15. Interlight, Equipment Supplies, \$259.92. J&A Traffic Products, Sign Posts, \$5,479.50. John Deere Financial, Equipment Parts, \$573.56. Lexington Regional Health Center, Medical, \$210.00. Lexington Utilities System, Utilities, \$393.57. Mead Lumber, Shop Tools, \$279.99. NACO, Conference Registration, \$160.00. Overton Sand & Gravel, Gravel, \$66,141.95. Paulsen Inc., Gravel, \$9,912.26. Rose Holdings, Equipment Parts, \$323.19. S & W Auto Parts, Equipment Supplies, \$13,408.66. State Steel Supply, Grader Blades, \$1,208.78. US Bank, Driver Training, \$349.00. Viaero, Monthly Service, \$125.00. Village of Eddyville, Utilities, \$37.50. W Bar Extinguishers, Equipment Supplies, \$1,405.48. Winter Equipment, Grader Blades, \$43,500.00. TOTAL: \$157,871.59. COUNTY INS VENDOR CLAIMS: Pinnacle Bank, Petty Cash, \$165,730.05. TOTAL: \$165,730.05. CASA VENDOR CLAIMS: US Bank, Promotional Items, \$55.25. TOTAL: \$55.25. SHERIFF GRANTS VENDOR CLAIMS: Eastside Animal Center, K-9 Expenses, \$429.11. ERAD Group, Annual Subscription, \$4,950.00. TOTAL: \$5,379.11. EMP RECOGNITION VENDOR CLAIMS: Dawson County Clerk, Petty Cash, \$156.25. TOTAL: \$156.25. INHERITANCE TAX VENDOR CLAIMS: Dawson County Treasurer, Transfer, \$868,000.00. TOTAL: \$868,000.00. RANGE MGMT VENDOR CLAIMS: Gnirk Lawn Care, Mowing, \$125.00. Metal-masters, Equipment, \$1,105.30. TOTAL: \$1,230.30. CED BLDG VENDOR CLAIMS: HD Supply, Supplies, \$137.30. TOTAL: \$137.30. NOXIOUS WEED VENDOR CLAIMS: Bomgaars, Supplies, Tools, \$320.97. Lexington Utilities System, Utilities, \$119.47. TOTAL: \$440.44. INVENTORY MAINT VENDOR CLAIMS: CharmTex, Supplies, \$173.80. Ideal Linen & Uniform, Monthly Service, \$287.50. Keefe Supply, Commissary Supplies,

## LAND AUCTION! HIGHWAY 97 RANCH

JANUARY 21, 2026



SELLER: JAMES P. MANARY IRREVOCABLE TRUST

4,750 ACRES SANDHILL RANGE  
OFFERED IN 3 PARCELS & A COMBINATION:

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- PARCEL 2: 640 ACRES
- COMBINATION A: PARCELS 1 & 2 - 3,469 ACRES
- PARCEL 3: 1,281 ACRES

PROPERTY LOCATED 12 MILES NORTH OF  
NORTH PLATTE, NE ON HIGHWAY 97.

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NEWSPAPER

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# Legals

\$1,421.22. Spectrum, Monthly Service, \$311.24. U Save Business, Supplies, \$1,032.00. VISA-Pinnacle Bank, Commissary Supplies, \$2,273.83. TOTAL: \$5,499.59. HISTORICAL SOCIETY VENDOR CLAIMS: Dawson County Historical Society, Monthly Fee, \$712.02. TOTAL: \$712.02. GENERAL PAYROLL CLAIMS: General Offices, Salaries, \$605,145.42. EFTPS, FICA, \$55,646.45. Ameritas, Retirement, \$52,692.62. Point C, Health Insurance, \$43,778.49. Dawson County, County Share, \$142,041.93. Deductions, Misc., \$1,407.32. CIL, Misc., \$4,168.38. TOTAL: \$904,880.61. ROAD PAYROLL CLAIMS: Roads, Salaries, \$145,068.09. Deductions, Misc., \$233.88. CIL, Misc, \$-3,500.00. TOTAL: \$141,801.97. COUNTY INSURANCE CLAIMS: Reimbursements, Fitness, \$413.19. TOTAL: \$413.19. CASA PAYROLL CLAIMS: CASA, Salaries, \$9,302.56. EFTPS, FICA, \$693.00. Ameritas, Retirement, \$594.17. Dawson County, Health Insurance, \$1,301.82. Deductions, Misc, \$194.04. CIL, Misc, \$-500.00. TOTAL: \$11,585.59. DISPATCH PAYROLL CLAIMS: Communications, Salaries, \$58,046.71. EFTPS, FICA, \$4,138.52. Ameritas, Retirement, \$3,906.79. Dawson County, Health Insurance, \$18,760.27. Deductions, Misc, \$-168.38. TOTAL: \$84,683.91. NOXIOUS WEED PAYROLL CLAIMS: Weed, Salaries, \$8,587.61. Deductions, Misc, \$20.00. TOTAL: \$8,607.61. Citizen's comments: Committee Reports: Courthouse Remodel

update: Brian Woldt, Emergency Manager gave update. Mark Christiansen presented six bids were received for motor graders. Two from NMC Cat in the amount of \$403,000.00 each less stated trades; two from NMC Cat as alternate bids in the amount of \$410,900.00 less stated trades and two from Murphy in the amount of \$363,301.00 less stated trades. Motion was made and seconded to accept the two Murphy bids in the amount of \$363,301.00, less \$67,000.00 trade and \$363,301.00 less \$60,000.00 trade. Aye: 5. Nay: 0. Motion carried. Motion was made and seconded to approve renewal with Delta Dental and authorize the County Clerk to sign renewal contract. Aye: 5. Nay: 0. Motion carried. Motion was made and seconded at 9:09 a.m. to go into executive session at the request of Chairman Swanson regarding elected official salaries and to protect public interest. Aye: 5. Nay: 0. Motion carried. Motion was made and seconded to go out of executive session at 10:32 a.m. Aye: 5. Nay: 0. Motion carried. There was no discussion other than salary discussion. No action taken. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:33 a.m. I, Michaela Arndt, County Clerk in and for Dawson County, hereby certify that all the subjects included in the foregoing proceedings were contained in the agenda for the meeting, kept continually current and available for

public inspection at the office of the County Clerk during regular business hours prior to said meeting. That the minutes of the County Commissioners of Dawson County, NE, from which the foregoing proceedings have been extracted were in written form and available for public inspection within ten working days and prior to the next convened meeting of said body; that all media requesting notification concerning the meeting of said body were provided advance notice of the time and place of said meeting and subjects to be discussed at said meeting.

Michaela Arndt

Dawson County Clerk

Kevin Swanson, Chairman

Dec. 11, 2025

(356) znez

## Notice NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF  
REX L. GERMAN,  
DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that on this 5th day of November 2025, the County Court of Dawson County, Nebraska, the Registrar issued a written statement of Informal Probate of said Deceased, REX L. GERMAN, Estate No. PR25-99 and that Amy Hirn, 2419 Cucharas Ct., Fort Collins, CO 80525 has been appointed as Personal Representative of this estate. Creditors of this estate must file their claims with this Court on or before January 27th, 2026, or be forever barred.

Myndee M Hagan  
Clerk of the County Court  
of Dawson County  
700 N. Washington,  
Lexington, NE 68850  
/s/ Scott H. Trusdale, #14261  
Attorney for the Estate of  
REX L. GERMAN  
P.O. Box 11  
Cozad, Nebraska 69130  
308-325-0343  
trus@cozadtel.net

Nov. 27, 2025

Dec. 4, 2025

Dec. 11, 2025

(38) znez

## Notice IN THE COUNTY COURT OF DAWSON COUNTY, NEBRASKA ESTATE OF BETTY L. SHOOP, DECEASED

### ESTATE NO. PR25-106

Notice is hereby given that on November 19th, 2025, in the County Court of Dawson County, Nebraska, the Registrar issued a written statement of Informal Probate of the Will of said Decedent and that Claude E. Berreckman, Jr., was informally appointed by the Registrar as Personal Representative of the Estate. Creditors of this Estate must file their claims with this Court on or before January 27th, 2026, or be forever barred.

Myndee M Hagan  
Clerk of the County Court  
of Dawson County  
700 N. Washington,  
Lexington, NE 68850  
Claude E. Berreckman, Jr.,  
#17049

of Berreckman & Bazata,  
P.C., L.L.O.  
801 Meridian Avenue,  
PO Box 214  
Cozad, NE 69130-0214  
(308) 784-2040  
(308) 784-2043 - fax  
claudejr@cozadtel.net

Nov. 27, 2025

Dec. 4, 2025

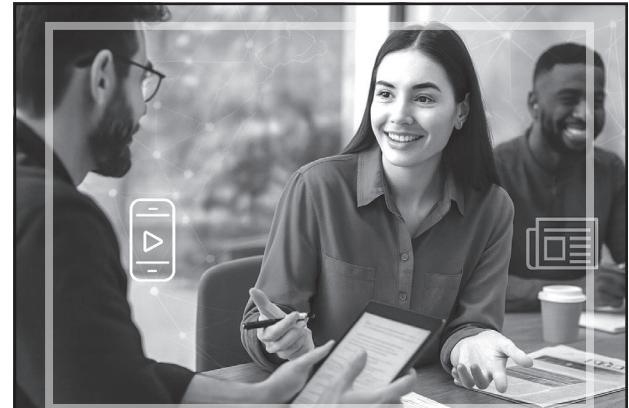
Dec. 11, 2025

(38) znez

## Notice COUNTY COURTHOUSE, LEXINGTON, NE DECEMBER 1, 2025

The Dawson County Board of Equalization of Dawson County, Nebraska, met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, December 1, 2025

in the Commissioners' Room, 2nd Floor, Lexington, Nebraska. Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication in the Lexington Clipper-Herald. A copy of the Proof of Publication is on file in the office of the County Clerk. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the published notice and in the notice to members of the Board of County Equalization of this meeting. All proceedings shown hereafter were taken while the convened meeting was open to the public. Chairman Swanson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. County Clerk, Michaela Arndt called the roll with Commissioners



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# Legals

PJ Jacobson, Bill Stewart, Rod Reynolds, Joe Richeson and Chairman Kevin Swanson present. Chairman Swanson announced that the current open meetings act was posted for the public and the location of the poster. Motion was made and seconded to approve the November 14, 2025 regular meeting minutes as presented. Aye: 5. Nay: 0. Motion carried. The

meeting was adjourned at 9:01 a.m. I, Michaela Arndt, County Clerk in and for Dawson County, hereby certify that all the subjects included in the foregoing proceedings were contained in the agenda for the meeting, kept continually current and available for public inspection at the office of the County Clerk during regular business hours prior to said meeting. That

the minutes of the Dawson County Board of Equalization of Dawson County, NE, from which the foregoing proceedings have been extracted were in written form and available for public inspection within ten working days and prior to the next convened meeting of said body; that all media requesting notification concerning the meeting of said body were provided

advance notice of the time and place of said meeting and subjects to be discussed at said meeting.

Michaela Arndt,  
Dawson County Clerk  
Kevin Swanson, Chairman  
Dec. 11, 2025  
(76) znez

## Notice

### NOTICE OF INCORPORATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that

Cozad Wrestling Club, Inc., a Nebraska Nonprofit Corporation, is organized as a public benefit corporation under the laws of the State of Nebraska, with its registered office at 809 Meridian Ave., Cozad, NE 69130. The registered agent is Bronson J. Malcom. The incorporator is Brian Messersmith, 830 Meridian Avenue, PO Box 145, Cozad, NE 69130. The corporation will not have

members.

Malcom, Nelsen  
& Windrum Law Office  
Attorney for:  
Cozad Wrestling Club, Inc.  
PO Box 174  
Cozad, NE 69130  
(308) 784-2048

Dec. 4, 2025  
Dec. 11, 2025  
Dec. 18, 2025  
(23) znez

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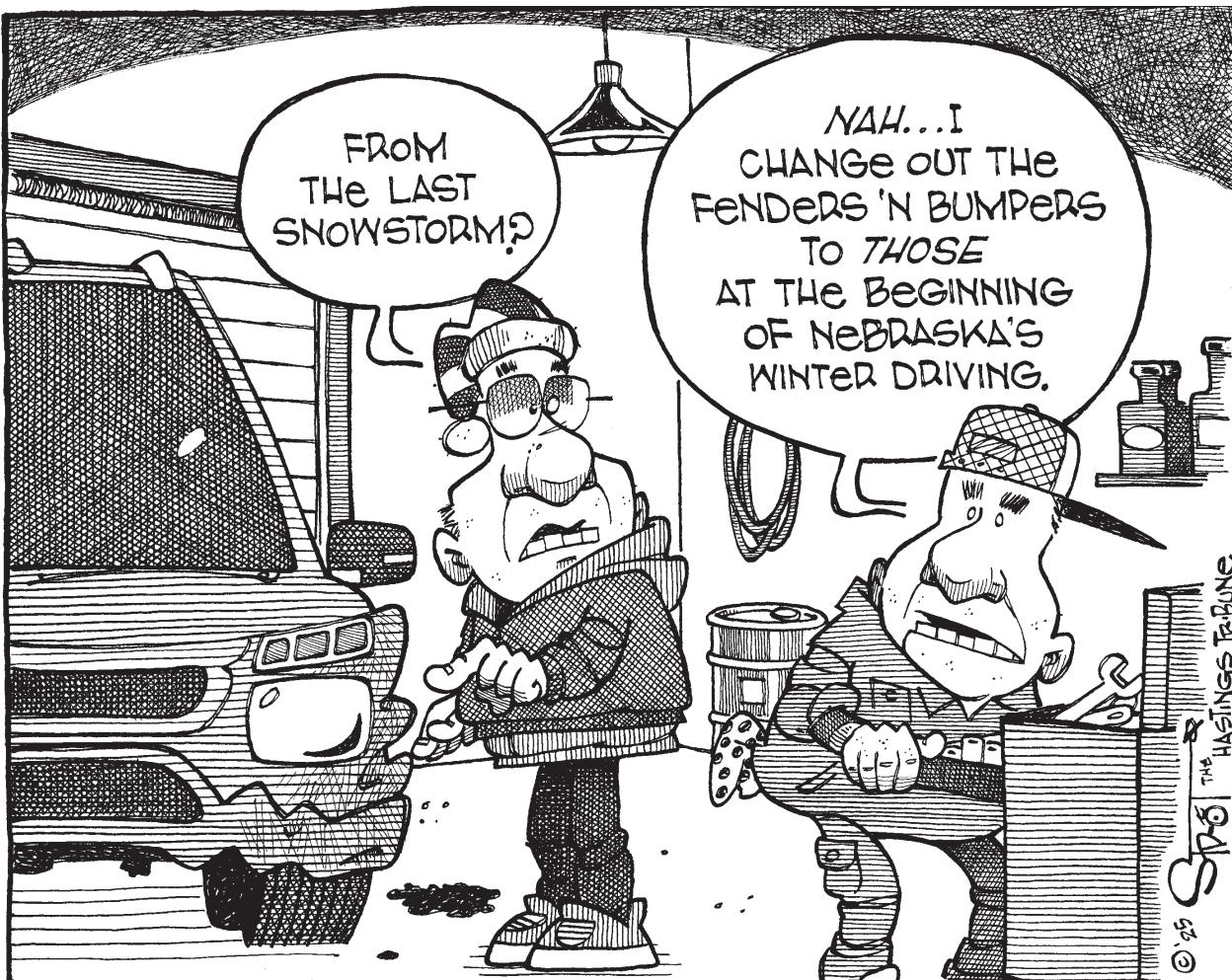
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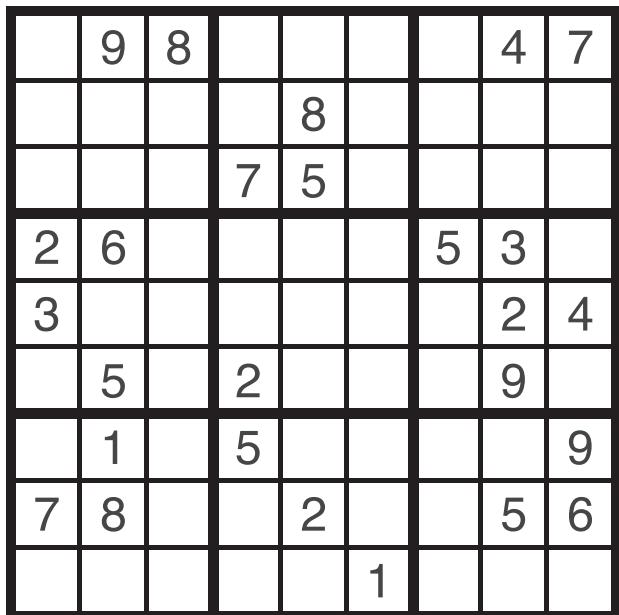
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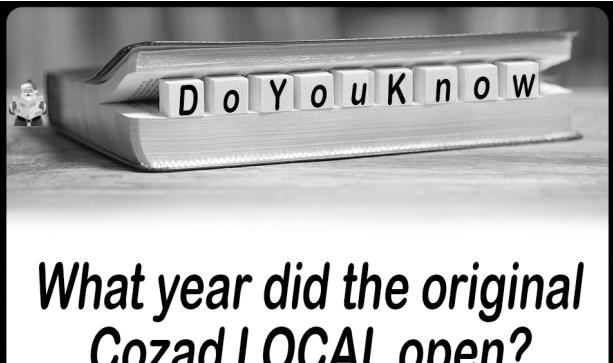
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# Game Page



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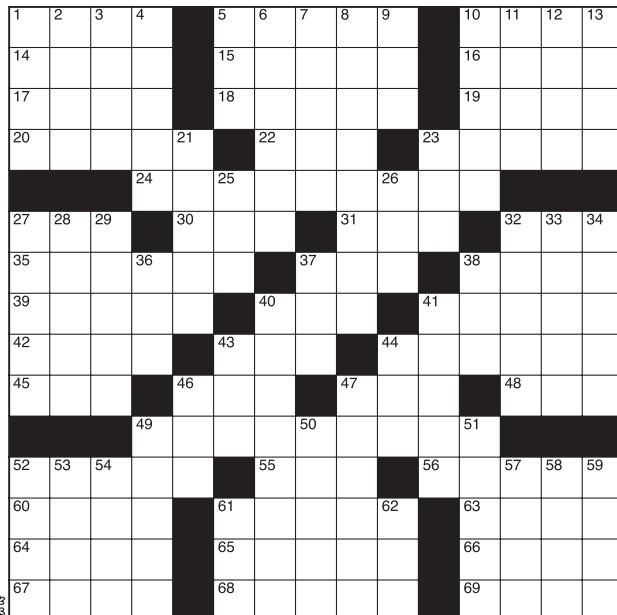
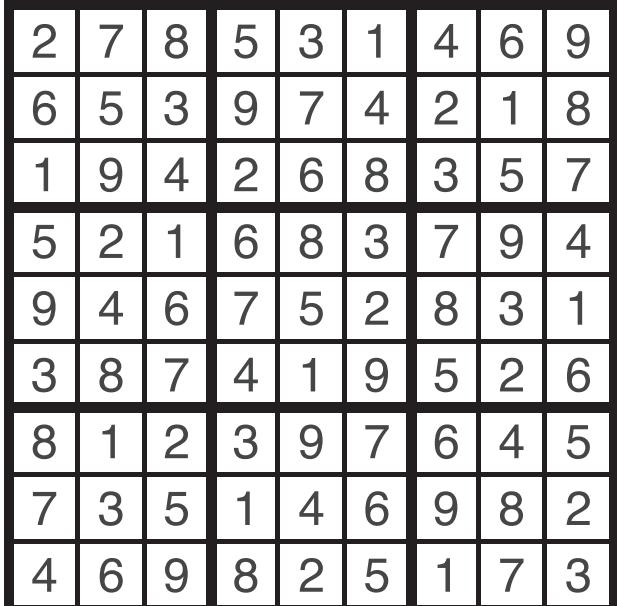


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## SOLUTIONS 12-03-2025

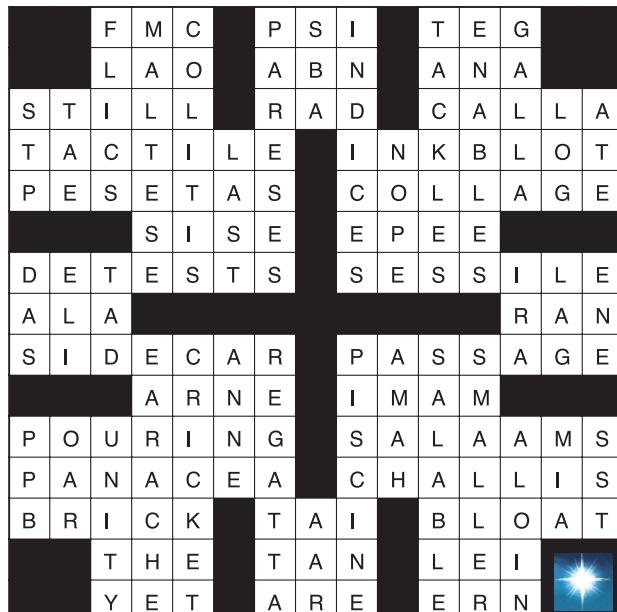


### CLUES ACROSS

- Light cavalry
- Coconut palms
- Rounded knob
- Central Japan city
- Sandwiches
- Shape produced by a curve
- Ancient region in modern-day Syria
- French modernist painter
- Grandmother
- Mammary gland of cattle
- Rocky peak
- Secret plan
- Songs to one's lover
- More (Spanish)
- Father
- Chinese principle underlying the universe
- Ballplayer's accessory
- Together
- A person's brother or sister
- Evil spirit
- Monetary units
- Partner to cheese
- About Sun
- Group of like-minded people

### CLUES DOWN

- Two-toed sloth
- Fat from a pig's abdomen
- Romanian city
- Specifies
- Rounded, glaciated valley
- Spoke
- Collection of sacred books
- Extravagantly theatrical
- Very fast airplane
- Forearm bones
- Ancient kingdom
- Legitimate: \_\_\_ fide
- Semitransparent gemstone
- Counsels
- Head honcho
- Cool!
- Touch lightly
- Extract money via taxation
- Dyes
- Cloying sweetness
- Sodas
- Coastal village in Guam
- Chemical ring
- The bill in a restaurant
- Car mechanics group
- One-time presidential candidate Dole
- Health care for the aged
- Wise persons
- Passage with access at one end
- Make a wound
- America's spies
- Roof of the mouth
- Plants of the lily family
- Pinkish-red color
- Vaccine developer
- Mottled citrus fruit
- A place to store garden tools
- Rare goose native to Hawaii
- Popular Hollywood pig
- Musician Clapton
- A move exposing one to danger
- Historic Spanish soldier
- CNN's founder



**FOX**  100 E 8th St.  
Cozad, NE

Dec 12<sup>th</sup> – Dec 18<sup>th</sup>

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Zootopia 2, PG

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### SOLUTION 12-03-2025

*Guess Who?*

Answer: Alyssa Milano

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## Letter to the Editor

## My fellow Dawson County Community Members:

In response to Tyson's sudden and shocking decision to close their Lexington Division Beef Packing Plant that has touched every corner of our county and all of Greater Nebraska, we want to speak to you directly -and from the heart. We are facing a moment that will test us. The impacts on our local economy, our workforce, our schools, our collective communities, and ag partners are real and deeply felt. Families are worried about their livelihoods and their children's futures. Workers are wondering what tomorrow will bring. Ag producers are scrambling to maintain their operations and their commitment to feed the world.

We want you to know this: you are not facing this moment alone.

Our community has always met challenges with resilience, cooperation, and a determination to take care of one another. This moment will be no different. We reaffirm our commitment to advancing the county's best interests with full transparency and accountability during this period of uncertainty.

What gives us hope- today and always -is the strength of this community. We are neighbors who look out for one another, families who work hard and care deeply, and people who have weathered tough times before. Together we will navigate this challenge with compassion, courage, and unity.

We are honored to serve you, and we are committed to standing with you every step of the way.

We will move forward- together.

***Your Dawson County Board of Commissioners,  
Kevin Swanson, Chairman  
Dawson County Board of Commissioners***



## How to Participate:

1. Find each icon on the list TWICE in this week's issue.
2. Fill in all the blanks with the page number where you found each duplicate.
3. Each correct entry goes into a drawing for LOCAL Cozad gift cards.

Turn in your completed list before the next Thursday issue (just this form).

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Cozad LOCAL c/o Christmas Contest

\*Mail or drop off entry at Cozad LOCAL, c/o Christmas Contest



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