



# Gumption Vibe Brings Wellness and Connection Home to Minden

CINDY RAMSEY

Last August, a grand opening event was held to unveil Minden's first co-working space, Gumption. Just over six months later, on March 13, Kevin and Julie Krull invited the community back to explore the newest addition to the Gumption Vibe.

Gumption began as a co-working space that was meant to inspire community, creativity, and connectivity. The west end of the building is outfitted with a variety of comfortable workspaces to meet the needs of people needing to get business done. With secure, reliable, high-speed internet, desks, tables, comfortable chairs, conference rooms, a video booth, a phone booth, ADA accessible restrooms, lockers, and a kitchen stocked with coffee and snacks to enjoy in the community break room, the shared space began bringing people together to make things happen.

The Krulls never meant to stop there and renovations of the east end of the building began soon after. While focus for the west wing is placed on innovation, networking, and creativity, the east end leans toward wellness, care, and gathering.

Accessed by a door at 349 N. Minden Avenue, the east wing has been transformed to allow healing and wellness practitioners the ideal space to offer services like massage, energy work, counseling, health coaching, acupuncture, restorative care, and more right here in Minden. The Krulls have begun connecting with interested practitioners to bring larger city healing services closer to home. Their motto: healthy communities begin with healthy people.

Gumption also offers a place for rest and renewal with three curated Airbnb suites as well. The Nature Nook is centered on reconnecting with nature through sensory amenities that provide an ideal space for rest. The Salt Sanctuary soothes guests with its tranquil fur-



Gumption hosted an open house event on March 13 to show off the east wing renovation of the co-working space. The east wing includes flexible use treatment spaces, a large community gathering space, and three curated Airbnb suites. This newest addition to the Gumption Vibe is accessed at 349 N. Minden Avenue and focuses on wellness, care, and gathering. (Courier photo by Cindy Ramsey)

## Weather Forecast

Mar. 20:	88/46	
Mar. 21:	83/46	
Mar. 22:	66/37	
Mar. 23:	62/37	
Mar. 24:	67/39	
Mar. 25:	65/31	
Mar. 26:	54/26	



# News Briefs

## Republican Convention

The Kearney County Republican Party will hold its 2026 County convention on Tuesday, March 24 at 7pm in Minden. The event will be held at the Kearney County Fairgrounds, North Highway 10, Minden. All registered Republicans are invited to attend the convention.

The 2026 Kearney County Convention serves many important functions for the Republican Party. Local party officials will be elected, and the selection of delegates and alternates to the NEGOP State Convention will occur. The voting delegates at the convention are those who registered at <https://secure.anedot.com/neo-gop/delegate-form-2026> before the March 1 deadline.

## Democratic Convention

The Kearney County and the Franklin County Democratic party will hold its 2026 County convention on Thursday, April 9, 2026, at 6pm. The event will be held at the Assembly Room of the Kearney County Courthouse. All registered Democrats are invited and encouraged to attend.

The 2026 Convention will have representation from the State Party. Local party officials for each county will be elected. There will also be the selection of delegates and alternates to the Nebraska Democratic Party State convention. Voting delegates to the County Convention can register at the time of the convention.

## WIC Clinic Dates

To enroll for WIC visit [signupwic.com](http://signupwic.com). A screening over the phone is completed before attending your appointment. In person WIC clinics in Kearney County will

### Courier Weekly Deadlines:

Courier Designed Ads need to be requested by the customer by Thursday at 5:00 pm.

Client supplied or pre-designed ads are due on Friday at 4:00 pm.

Community supplied content needs approved by Friday at 4:00 pm.

**Legals are DUE on Friday at noon.**

Thank you Minden for helping us make our paper great!

be held at United Methodist Church in Minden, 340 N. Newell on Monday, April 13; Monday, May 11; and Monday, June 8.

## Husker Quilt Raffle

Paws Up Kearney County is selling tickets for a Husker quilt raffle. The Husker themed, all cotton, king sized quilt was made and donated by Marlene Detmers. Drawing for the quilt will be held on Saturday, April 25 at the Paws Up Shelter Me fundraiser. You do not need to be present to win. Raffle tickets can be purchased through Paws Up Kearney County board members by email at [pawsupkearneycounty@gmail.com](mailto:pawsupkearneycounty@gmail.com), by messaging Paws Up Kearney County on Facebook, or by texting Jane at 308-830-9870. Cash, check and venmo accepted.

## Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt

Join Minden Lions Club for a day of joy, laughter, and the thrill of the hunt on April 4 from 11am-2pm at Jaycee Park. Their Easter Egg Hunt promises delightful surprises and memories that will last a lifetime with face-painting, food, Easter bunny, and fun. Preschool and Kindergarten hunt begins at 11am. 1st-4th grades begin at approximately 11:20am.

## Partnership Announcement

Harold Warp Pioneer Village and the Hastings Museum are excited to announce a Reciprocal Museum Membership Program. If you are a member of one of these amazing museums, you can enjoy your membership benefits at the other museum too. Benefits include free entry and a discount in the gift shop.

## Wilcox-Hildreth Music Department Mattress Fundraiser

The Mattress Fundraiser is back and every purchase benefits the Wilcox-Hildreth Music Department. The event will be held on Saturday, March 28 from 10am-4pm at Wilcox-Hildreth High School. All sizes available including custom. Brand new with 1-20 year warranties. Delivery and shipping available. Free threshold delivery. Cash, check, credit card accepted. Financing available. 25+ mattresses on display, all comfort levels.

## Spring Plant Sale

Minden Post Prom/7-8 Washington DC Trip Annual Spring Plant Sale is underway. The sale ends April 5th. Please contact Lisa Clapper or use the QR code to view the catalog and place your order online. 'Bonus Buys' are available for online orders only. Online orders are encouraged. Be sure to note the student or 'post prom' as the seller. With every purchase you are supporting a great organization!



Pick up will be at Kearney County Fairgrounds on April 22. Do not wait to order as some items can run out.

## Weather Recap

Date	High	Low	Precip.
3/7/26	53	30	-
3/8/26	68	35	-
3/9/26	73	42	-
3/10/26	62	41	-
3/11/26	50	36	-
3/12/26	62	30	-
3/13/26	56	39	-
Total Week Precip.....	0.00		



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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.

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nishings that provide a calm haven of relaxation away from home. The Resonance Room immerses guests in sound and light experiences that harmonize body, mind, and spirit in restorative alignment.

Upgrades are available for the most soothing Airbnb stays. Available add-ons include Resonance Reset, HeartBloom Ritual, Dream Weaver, and Gumption Sampler. Each package pampers guests for a restful stay that will leave them rejuvenated.

A large community space complete with fireplace and comfortable seating creates



the perfect backdrop for gatherings. Gumption encourage the community to join in the fun for First Friday, Third Thursday, and Pop-up events that will entertain, inspire, and bring people together.

The space was full for the open house event with members of the community gathering to see the renovated space, talk, laugh, and enjoy being together. This is the vision the Krulls held for Gumption: a place where people gather, share ideas, support one another, and imagine what's possible for this town. They look forward to many more people securing memberships to join the Gumption Vibe.



Learn more and explore membership options at [GumptionVibe.com](http://GumptionVibe.com).

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**Online Auction**



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501 A Ave. - Axtell  
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## Young Nebraskans are flipping the script

By Jeff Yost

"How fast can I leave this place?"

Young people in Nebraska have been asking themselves that question for a long time. Maybe you even asked yourself at one point. I certainly did. For much of the 20th century, that's just the way things were. There was a script: grow up, graduate high school, and depart for greener pastures. Not the most inspiring narrative.

We've learned since then that the questions we ask shape our community stories, and that those stories shape our community's success. For the last 30 years, Nebraska Community Foundation has been working to change the questions we ask about our hometowns. Over the past five years NCF has surveyed over 4,000 high school age students in 43 Greater Nebraska school districts. Here are a few highlights:

- Three-fourths reported no negative stigma with returning to or staying in the area they live now
- 76% feel connected to their hometown
- 59% said they are somewhat or extremely likely to live in the area they live now as an adult
- When asked to rank qualities of their ideal community to live in, safety, good schools, and proximity to family top the list every year

I don't expect people to believe me right away when I say that one of the most powerful approaches to bringing people to your community is as simple as making space. Some might roll their eyes – surely there are better options? I believe invitation is the right tool for lasting change, and I believe one of the most powerful questions you can ask young people is "how do you want to play a role in our hometown?"

One way to ask that important question is through Hometown Internships. Nebraska Community Foundation launched the program in 2019, hoping to build an experience that brings young adults back home to see their hometown through a different lens. Communities invited them into the room

where decisions are made and encouraged them to take an active role. We started with just one intern that first year. Now, we regularly have dozens of interns, with some communities even sponsoring two or three at a time. The NCF network has hosted 113 internships since 2019.

Alongside the increase in participants, NCF has expanded and refined the program's curriculum. Interns now embark on something we call Operation Discovery. This educational component engages interns to explore innovative strategies grounded in mapping their community's assets and helping lead important conversations, ultimately driving progress towards community aspirations.

By necessity, the places that make up the NCF network don't always have the same approach to community-building. And they shouldn't, because every village, city, or county in our state possesses unique local assets and strengths requiring strategies just as unique. Some towns capitalize on their natural resources, others on a robust entrepreneurial spirit, and others on arts or culture. Most focus on a combination of their strengths. Our Nebraska hometowns have no shortage of assets to strengthen and share with residents, neighbors, and visitors.

The people who are best equipped to recognize and understand these assets are those who live and work in that community. Hometown Internships bring people back by appealing to one heart, one mind at a time. Some interns rediscover why they love their hometowns, and others fall in love with their community for the first time. That's the kind of change that sticks and proves that an invitation and making room for the next generation should be part of any approach to bring more people into Greater Nebraska.

These experiences are having profound impacts on both the young adults and their local champions. They're initiating all sorts of productive activities to build community, strengthen intergenerational relationships, improve community narrative and self-concept, and provide a strong case statement for investing time, talent, and treasure in their hometown. For the past three years at the end of the summer, we've asked Hometown Interns to write a love letter to their hometown. Listening to these young adults read their inspiring and heart-warming letters is one of my favorite days of the year!

We are learning these young adults are not just discovering their communities, they are discovering something about themselves – how their place shaped them and why they just might want to come home for good someday. Twenty interns have already returned to their hometowns. Some found jobs and joined local organizations. A few have even purchased homes. Even more interns have told us that they now imagine themselves returning to Greater Nebraska someday to build their lives.

They've flipped the script. According to one Hometown Intern's love letter, there's a new question:

"How fast can I return?"

Jeff Yost is President and CEO of Nebraska Community Foundation. For more information about NCF's work, visit [NebraskaHometown.org](http://NebraskaHometown.org).

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# Minden Speech Team SWC Runners-up

CINDY RAMSEY



The Minden Speech Team had an amazing showing at Southwest Conference Speech on March 9 in McCook. The Whippets had 16 of their 20 events make it to finals and earned second place as a team behind Gothenburg.

Minden results from the Southwest Conference Speech Meet were:

Duet Acting - Carson Wright and Frank Kovacs, 3rd Place; Dayne Porter and Isabelle Martin, 5th Place

Humorous Prose - Frank Kovacs, 3rd Place; Arabella Reed, 4th Place

Serious Prose - Arabella Reed, 3rd Place; Miles Heath, 8th Place  
 Poetry - Miles Heath, 2nd Place; Emory Porter, 3rd Place  
 Entertainment Speaking - Natali Uribe, 3rd Place; Danica Schoone, 6th Place  
 Informative Speaking - Hope Mason, 7th Place; Grace Hansen, 11th Place  
 Oral Interpretation of Drama - Emory Porter, Hope Mason, Luz Lopez, and Natali Uribe, 5th Place; Miles Heath, Mia Tira, and Dayne Porter, 9th Place  
 Persuasive Speaking - Frank Kovacs, 3rd Place; Rebbeca Lempka, 6th Place  
 Program Oral Interpretation - Arabella Reed, 2nd Place; Emory Porter, 4th Place  
 Extemporaneous Speaking - Carson Wright, 5th Place; Hallie Hartman, 6th Place  
 The Whippets attended the District B-5 Meet in Aurora on March 16. Results will be posted in next week's Courier.

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# Letter to the Editor

## Community-owned ACE to participate in Choice Gas Selection period

ACE, the Public Alliance for Community Energy, will again be participating as a natural gas supplier in the upcoming Nebraska Choice Gas program selection period. The 2026 Choice Gas selection period begins April 2 and runs through April 22.

Formed by Nebraska communities to ensure competition in the Choice Gas program to benefit Nebraskans, ACE remains true to its mission of providing competition as the only community-owned natural gas supplier in the program.

Local control remains at the heart of ACE with each of ACE's 75 member communities, including Minden, having a representative on ACE's Board of Directors.

ACE recently distributed \$400,000 to its 75 member communities, including Minden, as part of its revenue return program. Since its formation, ACE has returned more than \$4.7 million to Nebraska communities, including more than \$81,000 to Minden. These funds are used in many ways for the betterment of each community.

In Minden, ACE funds have been used for playground equipment and amenities in each of our community parks. Currently, we have a new shelter scheduled to be installed at Chautauqua Park this summer.

Along with its mission of providing competition in the program, ACE also serves as an advocate for natural gas consumers in the program.

ACE's success is largely due to Nebraska communities working together for the benefit of their residents. To learn more about ACE and its mission, visit [www.ACEenergy.org](http://www.ACEenergy.org).

By choosing ACE as your natural gas supplier, you are supporting Nebraska communities through a community-owned hometown success story that was created and still works for the benefit of Nebraskans.

Larry Evans, Mayor, ACE Board Representative  
Michael Krings, City Administrator, ACE Board Representative

# Duet Runner-up



The Axtell Speech Team had a great day at a very competitive, large meet of Class B, C, and D schools at the Riverside Invite on March 9. Wildcats Isaiah Sinachack and Elijah Sinachack earned second place in Duet Acting.



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# Calendars and Menus

## MINDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### MENUS:

Friday, Mar. 20: BREAKFAST: Breakfast pizza; LUNCH: Tuna noodles

Monday, Mar. 23: BREAKFAST: Breakfast pizza; LUNCH: Sweet & sour meatballs, rice

Tuesday, Mar. 24: BREAKFAST: Muffin, cheese stick; LUNCH: Beef tacos

Wednesday, Mar. 25: BREAKFAST: Breakfast sandwich; LUNCH: Pulled pork sandwich, baked beans

Thursday, Mar. 26: BREAKFAST: Breakfast nachos; LUNCH: Chicken crispito with cheese

Friday, Mar. 27: BREAKFAST: Donuts, yogurt; LUNCH: Fish sticks, Mac-n-cheese

### ACTIVITIES:

Friday, Mar. 20: V TR @ UNK Indoor Invite, 11 a.m.

Saturday, Mar. 21: SWC Band/Vocal/Art Clinic @ Ogallala, 9 a.m.

Monday, Mar. 23: K-1 Music Concert

Tuesday, Mar. 24: State ACT/Pre-ACT tests; V TR Marsh Beck Invite, 2:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Mar. 25: 8th Grade Field Trip to Lincoln; State FFA Convention

Thursday, Mar. 26: State FFA Convention

Friday, Mar. 27: State FFA Convention; State SP; V TR @ Holdrege, 1 p.m.

## AXTELL COMMUNITY SCHOOL

### MENUS:

Friday, Mar. 20: NO SCHOOL

Monday, Mar. 23: LUNCH: BBQ chicken sandwich/wrap, green beans OR Chicken Caesar salad

Tuesday, Mar. 24: LUNCH: Chicken tortilla soup, black beans, corn OR Turkey sub

Wednesday, Mar. 25: LUNCH: EASTER DINNER scalloped potatoes & ham, dinner roll, peas/carrots

Thursday, Mar. 26: LUNCH: Something on a bun, corn OR Chef salad

Friday, Mar. 27: LUNCH: Pizza burger, peas OR Tuna salad on a croissant

### ACTIVITIES:

Friday, Mar. 20: NO SCHOOL

Monday, Mar. 23: Robotics @ Create US Open-Council Bluffs, Iowa, 8:30 a.m.

Tuesday, Mar. 24: Robotics @ Create US Open, 8:30 a.m.

Wednesday, Mar. 25: Robotics @ Create US Open, 8:30 a.m.; State FFA Convention

Thursday, Mar. 26: State FFA Convention

Friday, Mar. 27: State FFA Convention; TR @ Wilcox-Hildreth Invite, 10 a.m.

## Crispitos

Thursday, Mar. 26: BREAKFAST: Yogurt; LUNCH: Spaghetti bar

Friday, Mar. 27: BREAKFAST: Funnel cakes; LUNCH: Mandarin orange chicken

### ACTIVITIES:

Friday, Mar. 20: FFA Chapter meeting, 7:30 a.m.; HAL Hildreth, 9:10 a.m.; FCA meeting, 12 p.m.; HAL Wilcox, 12:30 p.m.

Monday, Mar. 23: Red Cross Blood Drive @ Wilcox, 11 a.m.; FBLA meeting, 6:15 p.m.

Tuesday, Mar. 24: ACT Option 1; 7-12 Team meeting, 7:45 a.m.

Wednesday, Mar. 25: State FFA Convention @ Lincoln

Thursday, Mar. 26: State FFA Convention @ Lincoln; PK-6 Team meeting, 7:45 a.m.; GO @ Overton Quad, 4 p.m.

Friday, Mar. 27: State FFA Convention @ Lincoln; TR Falcon Invite, 10 a.m.; FCA meeting, 12 p.m.

## COMMUNITY SERVICES

### Dinner Menus

Meals served at Minden Community/Senior Center (Community Action Partnership of Mid-Nebraska), 403 N. Colorado Avenue, at noon. Please call 308-832-2139 the day before the dinner with your reservations. All meals are served with coffee, water, and milk. Menu are subject to change. Join us.

Monday, Mar. 23: Chicken & noodles over mashed potatoes, carrots, bread, fruit & dessert

Tuesday, Mar. 24: Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, dinner roll & fruit

Wednesday, Mar. 25: Breakfast burritos, salad, fruit & dessert

Thursday, Mar. 26: Pork roast, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, dinner roll & fruit

Friday, Mar. 27: Pizza, salad, fruit, breadsticks & dessert

## WILCOX-HILDRETH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### MENUS:

Friday, Mar. 20: BREAKFAST: Monte Cristo; LUNCH: Cheese pizza

Monday, Mar. 23: BREAKFAST: Muffins; LUNCH: Chicken legs

Tuesday, Mar. 24: BREAKFAST: Waffles; LUNCH: Hamburger

Wednesday, Mar. 25: BREAKFAST: Banana chunk; LUNCH:

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# SPORTS

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## Wind Challenges Minden Trap Team at First Meet

MARISSA CHRISTIANCY

Minden Trap Team shooters took the field March 14, 2025 at their first Mid-Nebraska Trapshooting Conference (MNTC) meet. The MNTC competes on Saturdays for six weeks in Doniphan, Nebraska. The six weeks of competition culminates with all-conference awards presented the sixth week of competition. The shooters compete in three different events each Saturday. The Junior High shooters shoot 50 targets in the 16 yardline event, and the Senior High shooters shoot 50 targets in both the 16 yardline and the handicap events. Additionally, the seniors compete for High Overall (HOA) awards, which are awarded based on the total combined scores of their 16 yardline and handicap events. Please see the final scores for week #1 in the "Results" tables.

For the first week of competition, the weather presented an unseasonably warm day that brought a windy challenge. Winds impacted the targets' trajectory and caused the targets to dip and dive unexpectedly. The shooters rose to the challenge and shot well!

In the junior division, Wyndser Lupkes shot a 46/50 to claim Junior Lady Champion. She dominated the field with a 8 target lead ahead of the second place junior lady.

In the Senior division, Kellan Conyers shot a 46/50 in the handicap event. He tied for high 24-25 yardline champion. Kellan shot-off to break the tie but lost the shoot-off. The team brought

home two HOA awards this week. Kellan Conyers shot 94/100 and claimed HOA Senior Male Champion. Alizabeth Nielsen shot a 86/100 to claim HOA Senior Female 3rd Place.

Senior High Scores			
	16 Yardline (out of 50)	Handicap (out of 50)	Overall (out of 100)
Conyers, Kellan	48	72	94
Nielsen, Aaron	46	67	90
Seiler, Drew	47	72	89
Betty, Maverick	44	62	87
Nielsen, Alizabeth	45	67	86
Dixon, Matt	38	50	82
Gillming, Owen	39	54	78
Pasbrig, Dalton	37	50	78
Kring, Madeline	36	42	77
Smith, Rhiley	37	50	75
Seiler, Zoey	39	53	74
Johnson, Morgan	39	54	73
Fuehrer, Zane	35	42	73
Faber, Sara	35	42	72
Johnson, Mason	38	50	71
Cederburg, Stephanie	24	42	67

Junior High Scores	
16 Yardline (out of 50)	
Lupkes, Wyndser	46
Oberg, Huntley	43
Hansen, Vincent	40
Noetzelman, Drake	40
Burki, Jordan	39
Halkyard, Brooks	38
Seiler, Gage	36
Gottsch, Wyatt	34
Jurgens, Jayden	28
Forster, Grayden	26
Gottsch, Aiden	23
Sinsel, Zander	22
Forster, Trace	22
Heath, Shawn	21
Burki, Asa	17
Oberg, Gentry	14
Heath, Shane	11

**HAPPY 100th BIRTHDAY!**

Help celebrate Pablo Martinez's 100th birthday with an open house and card shower!  
1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, March 29, 2026  
Windmill, Minden NE  
Food & Cake

**Lions Club Pancake Feed**  
Sunday, March 22  
Serving 10 AM - 1 PM  
Kearney Co. Fairgrounds  
Proceeds go to MASC & Lions Scholarships

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

Celebrate Helen Bennett-Case's 90th birthday on March 25 with a card shower

Send cards or call:  
1380 35 Rd  
Minden, NE 68959  
402-463-5243

# Bowling Standings

## Classey Lassies 3-5-26

Team Standings:	W	L
Upland Bar & Grill	27	17
Aurora Coop-Keene	26.5	17.5
Skye's The Limit Salon	26	18
Pony Express Ford	21	23
Platte River BBQ	20	24
Split Happens	19.5	24.5
Dobish Dumpster	19	25
Larson Bros Construction	17	27

High Individual Game: Deb Cavanaugh-Dorn, 181; Camala Binder, 178; Amber Misek, 169

High Individual Series: Deb Cavanaugh-Dorn, 469; Krissy Simonton, 438; Amber Misek, 432

High Team Game: Platte River BBQ, 422; Pony Express Ford, 412; Split Happens, 395

High Team Series: Platte River BBQ, 1138; Skye's The Limit Salon, 1123; Upland Bar & Grill, 1111

## Sunday Mixed 3-8-26

Team Standings:	W	L
Flinstones	47	25
3 Chicks & A Stick	42	30
Bowling Stones	41	31
Travelers	40.5	31.5
Lucky Dogs	36.5	35.5

High Individual Game, Men: Calvin Durand, 192; Randy Durand, 191; Kenny Wright, 173

High Individual Series, Men: Randy Durand, 540; Calvin Durand, 479; Kenny Wright, 458

High Individual Game, Women: Krissy Simonton, 207; Kasey Welch, 194; Amber Misek, 175

High Individual Series, Women: Kasey Welch, 540; Krissy Simonton, 492; Amber Misek, 487

High Team Game: 3 Chicks & A Stick, 657; Travelers, 620; Bowling Stones, 602

High Team Series: Travelers, 1801; Bowling Stones, 1698; Flinstones, 1654

## Monday Maniacs 3-9-26

Team Standings:	W	L
Lieske, Lieske & Ensz Law Firm	22	14
Children First Daycare	18	18
Minden Exchange Bank & Trust	18	18
Budget Heating & Air	14	22

High Individual Game: Rendy France, 213; Deb Dorn, 199; Deb Dorn, 186

High Individual Series: Deb Dorn, 550; Rendy France, 500; Ashley Osterbuhr, 467

High Team Game: Lieske, Lieske & Ensz Law Firm, 504; Children First Daycare, 480;

Lieske, Lieske & Ensz Law Firm, 419

High Team Series: Lieske, Lieske & Ensz Law Firm, 1332; Children First Daycare, 1296;

Minden Exchange Bank & Trust, 1067

## Minden Unified Association 3-12-26

Team Standings:	W	L
First Bank	136.5	83.5
Joyce Farms	123	97
Miller Body	85	135
APEX	84.5	119.5

High Individual Game: Shawn Nelson, 222; Rich Pesek, 200; James Miller, 196

High Individual Series: Shawn Nelson, 616; Zach Grams, 531; Kevin Reed, 527

High Team Game: Joyce Farms, 749; First Bank, 651; Miller Body, 649

High Team Series: Joyce Farms, 2126; Miller Body, 1876; First Bank, 1831



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# Do You Remember

## Eighty Years Ago — 1946

Dale Christensen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest J. Christensen, and Marvin Walberg, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Walberg, enlisted in the Navy and reported for training in San Diego, Calif.

A group of baseball enthusiasts met to discuss ways and means of bringing the game back to Minden. Night baseball was considered the answer to poor attendance and discussion centered on the equipment needed for a lighted field.

Minden Girl Scouts joined their sister scouts in observation of their national 34th anniversary. The Minden Girl Scouts were organized in January of this year, 1946, with the Minden Woman's Club responsible for its activation.

## Seventy Years Ago — 1956

W.E. Richardson, formerly of Minden, purchased the old POW camp west of Holdrege for a junk yard. Richardson conducted a salvage business with his sons, Gene and Dick.

Ross G. Linson, son of Mr. and Mrs. C.E. Frank, retired from the Navy after 27 years of service.

Wilcox students receiving all A's for the first six weeks of the second semester were Marlene Anderson, Barbara Meyers, Edith Anderson and Elvira Westerbuhr.

## Sixty Years Ago — 1966

Fred Schwartz, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Schwartz, was

selected by the American Legion Post 94 to represent Minden at Boys State. Patty Johnson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold L. Johnson, was chosen by the American Legion Auxiliary to represent Minden at Girls State.

David Lieske, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Lieske of Upland, was selected to represent the Upland American Legion Post at Boys State. Susan Nielsen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Nielsen, was selected to represent the Upland American Legion Auxiliary at Girls State.

As part of the extensive remodeling of Hested's, a grand opening was held. Ethel Gleave, manager, had been with the company for 37 years; and her sister, Hazel Gleave, assistant manager, had been with the company 35 years.

## Fifty Years Ago — 1976

Minden Police Dept. and Kearney County Sheriff's Dept. were busy investigating the burglary of five businesses on Highway 6: Evert Manchester's Mobil Service, Reese Slack's Texaco Service, Bob McBride's Minden Terminal Station, Mary Nelson's Terminal Cafe and Dick McBride's Terminal Implement.

Senior bowlers met at the Auto Way Bowl for an afternoon of fun and exercise. Hansine Slack had high game for the women and Harry Bergsten high game for the men.

The Minden Board of Education approved a new school board policy providing access to student records by students, parents and guardians of students.

## Forty Years Ago — 1986

In the Minden High School's first speech tournament of the year, Susan Smith received a first place trophy in Novice O.P.A.; Penny Shearer placed sixth in Novice Entertainment; and Karen Hartman and Keith Frerichs

received superiors for their performances.

Lisa Jo Loschen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dale Loschen of Hildreth, received the title of Miss Kearney at the Kearney Area Scholarship Pageant.

Rob Vitera of Minden was named to the Southwest Conference basketball first team.

## Thirty Years Ago — 1996

Placing at the annual Inter-High contest at McCook Community College were Troy Heath, Axtell, first in American government; Richard Shanahan, Axtell, second in geography; and John Ricker, Wilcox, third in agriculture.

The fifth grade Minden Magic basketball team claimed the championship of the Cozad basketball tournament. Members were Bentley J. Benson, Derek Amstuz, Brett Emery, Matt Dornhoff, Collin Martin, Chase L'Heureux, Joel Jacobsen, Zac Carlson, Nolan Weeces and Andy Craig. Coaches were Gordon Amstuz and Bentley Benson.

Eighth graders Kelly Throener, Natalie Beahm and Danielle Nielsen participated in telling the story of the future at the Sixth Annual Visual Enrichment Day in Holdrege.

## Twenty Years Ago — 2006

Minden East Elementary third graders Abbie Sanders and Madisyn Ayres took first place in the third grade division at the 15th annual ESU No. 11 Invention Convention in Minden.

Artwork created by Minden High School Students Jennifer Kotschwar and Chris Worland and C.L. Jones Middle School students William Sikkenga and Melody Rapp was on display at the Nebraska State Office Building in Lincoln after being selected to be exhibited as part of the Nebraska Youth Art Month exhibit.

Axtell Wildcats boys basketball team was State Runner-Up in Class D-1 with a 26-1 record. The Wildcats lost to the Humphrey St. Francis Flyers in the championship game with a score of 70-34.

## Ten Years Ago — 2016

Jensen Memorial Library received a \$2,500 grant through the America's Farmers Grow Communities Arm of the Monsanto Fund. Julia Thomsen was named the winner of the grant for Kearney County. Thomsen picked Jensen Memorial Library as recipient for the money which will be used to purchase books and develop upcoming event and class offerings at the library.

Axtell met up with a buzzsaw in the Walthill Blujays (that is how they spell it) in the opening round of the D1 state tournament on March 10 at Lincoln East High School. Walthill's 75-56 victory ended the Cats' outstanding season at 22 wins and five losses. The Blujays were the eventual D1 runners-up.

Antibullying advocate motivational speaker Anthony Ianni brought his message to C.L. Jones Middle School and Minden High School students at a convocation held in C.L. Jones Gymnasium on March 7. Ianni shared his experiences of being bullied using his own story to reach the audience as both an advocate and inspiration.

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# Police Report

## Minden Police Report Calls for service

### March 5

0151 - Underpass - Removed Animal  
0318 - City limits N. Hwy. 10 - Traffic Stop  
1148 - High School Parking Lot - Two Dogs Having an Adventure - Returned to Owner  
1326 - 600 Block Nance Ave. - Vandalism to Garage  
1944 - Brown Ave. and Holland St. - Traffic Stop  
2231 - Report taken - Ongoing Investigation

### March 6

1432 - 1st St. and Smith Ave. - Accident Investigation

### March 7

0914 - 500 Block W. 1st St. - Found Wallet  
1027 - 1st St. and Hull Ave. - Found Dog - Returned to Owner  
2302 - 700 Block N. Brown Ave. - Traffic Complaint  
2318 - JC Park - Park Curfew Violation



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### March 8

1356 - Colorado Ave. and Holland St. - Animal Complaint  
2015 - 12th St. and Brown Ave. - Traffic Complaint  
2246 - 12th St. and Brown Ave. - Traffic Stop

### March 9

0528 - Axtell - Agency Assist  
0956 - 700 Block N. Brown Ave. - Found Debit Card  
1552 - 3rd St. and Park Ave. - Check Welfare  
1614 - Agency Assist  
1834 - JC Park- Willful Reckless Driving  
2153 - 100 Block Ridge Ave. - Traffic Stop

### March 10

0842 - Truancy  
1229 - 500 Block S. Brown Ave. - Check Welfare  
1504 - 100 Block E. Hastings St. - Unit Call  
1837 - 700 Block N. Nebraska Ave. - License Pickup Order

### March 11

0003 - Agency Assist  
1240 - HHS Intake  
1418 - 100 Block S. Lincoln Ave. - Possible Runaway  
1734 - 200 Block N. Colorado Ave. - Unit Call  
2151 - Brown Ave. and Hawthorne St.- Traffic Stop

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# For the Record

## Kearney County County Court

Brandon Goodsell, Kearney, drive under suspension/ before reinstated-state, fine 7 days jail, 7 days credit for time served, Nebraska State Patrol Officer Alonso, 11-25-25

Miguel A. Villarreal, Kearney, COUNT I: speeding 6-10 MPH County/State, fine \$25; COUNT II: no valid registration-car/pick-up/step van, fine \$25, Nebraska State Patrol Officer Scott, 6-20-25

Jake T. Roper, Minden, DUI-.08 blood-2nd offense, fine \$500, 10 days jail, 1 day credit for time served, 22 months probation, 1 year revoked license, Kearney County Sheriff Officer Seals, 6-3-25

Esperanza C. Aguilar, Juniata, speeding 21-35 MPH County/State, fine \$300, Kearney County Sheriff Officer Herrada, 1-17-26

## Minden Fire & Rescue

3-8-26—The Minden Emergency Unit was dispatched to E. 1st Street to transport a patient to Kearney Regional.

3-10-26—The Minden Emergency Unit was dispatched to E. Hastings Street for a fall.

3-11-26—The Minden Emergency Unit was dispatched to N. Colorado Avenue for a personal illness.



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# Church Directory

## Axtell

**Bethany Lutheran**  
903 25 Road  
BethanyAxtell.org  
(308) 743-2597

**Marcia Dorn, Pastor**

Sunday, Mar. 22: Sunday School and Coffee Fellowship, 10 a.m.; Worship with Holy Communion, 10:45 a.m.

Worship will be recorded and posted on our website at BethanyAxtell.org.

**First Presbyterian**

406 A Avenue

**Pastor Doodle Harris**

Sunday, Mar. 22: Fellowship & Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship service, 10:30 a.m.

**Keene Evangelical Free**

662 F Road  
308-743-2611

**Matthew Snell, Pastor**

Sunday, Mar. 22: Worship service, 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.; Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, Mar. 25: Evening Bible Study, 7 p.m.

**Trinity Lutheran, LCMC**

104 E. Fifth St.

**Craig Richardson, Pastor**

Sunday, Mar. 22: Donuts & Juice, Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 10:30 a.m.; Messiah Practice, 2:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Mar. 25: Lent Supper, 6 p.m.; Worship, 7 p.m.

## Campbell

**St. Anne Catholic**  
Father Adam Sparling,  
Pastor

Sunday, Mar. 22: Mass, 8 a.m.

**Trinity Lutheran**

360 So. Stewart  
(402) 756-8552

**Greg Volsky, Vacancy Pastor**

Sunday, Mar. 22: Worship, 9:30 a.m. with Sunday school to follow

**United Westminster Presbyterian**  
Broad and Main Street  
**Mark A. Diehl, Pastor**  
Sunday, Mar. 22: Worship, 10 a.m.

## Funk

**Fridhem Lutheran**  
401 Lake Street  
**Daren Popple, Pastor**

Sunday, Mar. 22: Sunday School, 9:20 a.m.; Worship, 10:30 a.m.

Communion offered 1st & 3rd Sunday each month

## Heartwell

**God's Lighthouse, Full Gospel**

Sunday, Mar. 22: Worship, 10:30 a.m.

**Holy Family Catholic Mission Parish**

287 Jefferson Street  
**Father Evan Winter**

Sunday, Mar. 22: Mass, 8:30 a.m.

## Hildreth

**Trinity Lutheran**  
502 Sanders Avenue  
**Caroline Schenk, Pastor**

Sunday, Mar. 22: Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 10:30 a.m.

## Holdrege

**The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints**

112 W 11th Ave  
402-208-7277

Sunday, Mar. 22: Sacrament meeting, 10 a.m.

To schedule an appointment with the missionaries for either a gospel lesson

and/or for any other service call or text (402) 452-1992

Visitors welcome

## Macon

**Zion Lutheran**  
Located 1 mile west of Macon, 1503 31st Road, (Franklin)

**Marcia Dorn, Pastor**

Sunday, Mar. 22: Worship service, 9 a.m.

## Minden

**Bethany Lutheran**  
437 E. Fourth St.

**Don Hunzeker, Pastor**

**Julie Schmidt, Parish Ministry Associate**

Thursday, Mar. 19: Men's Prayer Breakfast, 7 a.m.

Saturday, Mar. 21: Walking, 8 a.m.

Sunday, Mar. 22: Contemporary Worship, 8:30 a.m.; Blended-Traditional Worship, 10:30 a.m.; Healing Services at both services

Tuesday, Mar. 24: Piece Corps Quilting, 1 p.m.; Bible Study, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Mar. 25: Church Club, 5 p.m.; Wednesday Night Supper, 6 p.m.; Lenten Service, 6:45 p.m. with Confirmation following; Oaks Youth Trip meeting, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Mar. 26: Men's Prayer Breakfast, 7 a.m.

Stay connected with our website, Bethanyminden.org

**Evangelical Free**  
1310 W. First St.

**Tom Barnes, Lige Reed, Pastors**

Sunday, Mar. 22: Worship, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday School, 11 a.m.

**First Christian Church Disciples of Christ**

444 N. Brown Ave.

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Call (308) 832-2693

Sunday, Mar. 22: Worship service, 9:30 a.m.; Church Family Fellowship after worship services; Sunday School, 11 a.m.

Friday, Mar. 27: Preschool Spring Break begins Ladies' Bible Study Tuesdays @ Bloomfield Home, 9 a.m.

**Fredericksburg Lutheran**

616 33 Road

**Julie Schmidt, Parish Ministry Associate**

**Don Hunzeker, Pastor**  
Sunday, Mar. 22: Worship, 9:30 a.m.; Fellowship Coffee 10:30 a.m.

Communion served 2nd Sunday each month

**Saint John The Baptist Catholic**  
628 N. Garber

**Father Evan Winter**

Saturday, Mar. 21: Mass, 5:30 p.m., confessions before Mass

Sunday, Mar. 22: Mass, 10:30 a.m.; (in Spanish at 12:30 p.m.); confessions before Mass

**St. Paul Lutheran**

206 N. Colorado

**Rev. William Zwick**

Friday, Mar. 20: Breakfast & Prayer, 7 a.m.; Red Cross @ Minden High School, 8:15 a.m.

Sunday, Mar. 22: Church Council "Chat", 8:30 a.m.; Bible Study/Sunday School, 9 a.m.; High School Youth, 9:15 a.m.; Worship, 10:15 a.m.

Wednesday, Mar. 18: JYM 5th, 5 p.m.; Lent Supper, 5:30 p.m.; Lent Service, 6:30 p.m.; JYM 6th-8th, 7:15 p.m.

Thursday, Mar. 26: Bible Study, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, Mar. 27: Breakfast &

Prayer, 7 a.m.

**United Methodist**  
340 N. Newell Ave.  
**Kayla M. Mangrich, Pastor**

Sunday, Mar. 22: Worship, 10 a.m.; Confirmation, 11:15 a.m.

Wednesday, Mar. 25: Youth Group, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Mar. 26: Prayer Time, 1:30 p.m.

**Westminster United Presbyterian**

109 N. Colorado

**Sharon Rees, Pastor**

Sunday, Mar. 22: Worship/Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Coffee Fellowship, 10:30 a.m. Communion 1st Sundays

Wednesday, Mar. 25: PW Circle, 9:30 a.m.; Fellowship Friends, 1:30 p.m.; Youth Club, 3:45 p.m.; Dinner & Devotions, 6 p.m.

## Wilcox

**St. John's Lutheran**

**102 S. Stockton St. Kenton Birtell, Pastor**  
Sunday, Mar. 22: Worship, 9:30 a.m.

Holy Communion every other Sunday

**United Methodist**  
203 S. Sapp St.  
**Candance Miller, Pastor**

Sunday, Mar. 22: Worship, 9 a.m.

Communion 1st Sunday every month

**Wilcox Community**

106 W. Detroit St.

**Craig Cedar, Pastor**

**Affiliated with Evangelical Free Church of America**

Sunday, Mar. 22: Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 10:45 a.m.

Wednesdays: Awana & Youth Group, 6:30 p.m.

Bible Studies during the week. Check our Facebook page.

## Axtell Area Oratorio Society

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# MESSIAH

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K-12 - \$10 • Door - \$20

For More Information, Call (308) 470-1209 Or (308) 830-0755

# Obituaries

## Cecil G. Lindstrom, 91 - Holdrege Resident



A memorial service for Cecil G. Lindstrom will be held on Saturday, March 21, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church in Holdrege, Nebraska with Vicar Libby Florian and Reverend Dr. W. Kirwin Stewart, Jr. officiating.

A private inurnment be held at Fridhem Cemetery, Funk, Nebraska.

Cecil Gene Lindstrom, 91 years of age, of Holdrege, Nebraska, passed away on Friday, March 13, 2026, at Phelps Memorial Health Center in Holdrege. Cecil was born at home near Sacramento, Nebraska, on May 11, 1934, the second of three children of Carl Hilbert and Ida Christianna (Garrelts) Lindstrom. Cecil was baptized at his home as an infant and was confirmed at the Fridhem Lutheran Church in Funk, on June 29, 1947, by Pastor Marvin D. Johnson. Cecil received his primary education near Sacramento, in Districts #8 and #10, and graduated from Holdrege High School with the class of 1951.

On April 20th, 1958, Cecil was united in marriage to Karen Bloomfield at the First Christian Church in Minden, Nebraska. This union was blessed with three children: Jill Marlene, James Albert, and Jack Winton. Cecil started his career in 1953, working for the Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District in the surveying department. While he worked for CNPPID, he was also in the National Guard from 1954 to March 17, 1961. In 1962, he went to work for the Nebraska Department of Roads, as an engineering aid, and then in 1971, he returned to work for CNPPID, until his retirement in May of 1999.

Cecil loved his grandchildren and attended their many activities over the years. He was active in the Holdrege Volunteer Fire Department and the rescue unit from 1958 to 1988, where he also served as the Assistant Fire Chief. Cecil loved to hunt and had a duck blind on the Platte River, up into his 90s. After retirement, his interest in windmills drew him to windmill trade shows in Texas and Nebraska. In 2000, Cecil built a full-sized wooden windmill, that now stands on his parent's farm south of Funk.

In 1958, Cecil transferred his membership to Bethel Lutheran Church in Holdrege and later to Spirit of Grace Lutheran Church in Holdrege.

Cecil was preceded in death by his parents: Carl and Ida Lindstrom; one brother, Glen Lindstrom and his wife, Larileen; two brothers-in-law: Addison Johnson; and Stan Anderson; and his parents-in-law, Albert and Wilma Bloomfield.

Cecil leaves to celebrate his life, his wife of 68 years, Karen Lindstrom; three children: Jill (Fingerhut) Mosher and her husband, Gary of Morse Bluff, Nebraska; Jim Lindstrom and his wife, Sue (Haley) of Holdrege; and Jack Lindstrom and his wife, Dr. Julie (Jacobsen) of Broken Bow, Nebraska; six grandchildren: Nicholas Fingerhut and his wife, Kara of Grain Valley, Missouri; Kayla (Fingerhut) Kuhn and her husband, Alex of Central City, Nebraska; Jenni (Lindstrom) Guthrie and her husband, Riley of Alma, Nebraska; Michelle (Lindstrom) Dake and her husband, Terence of Orleans, Ne-

braska; Anna Lindstrom; and Sara Lindstrom, both of Broken Bow; nine great-grandchildren: Brynn and Jace Guthrie; Cullen, Henley, Gunner, and Haiden Dake; Myles and Callie Kuhn; and Briggs Fingerhut; one sister, Lila Johnson of Holdrege; two sisters-in-law: Shirley Anderson of Seward, Nebraska; and Jeanette Genereux and her husband, Don of Honey Creek, Iowa; a brother-in-law, Terry Bloomfield and his wife, Susanne of Walsenburg, Colorado; and a host of nieces and nephews, other relatives, and friends.

Cecil was a good husband, Dad, Grandpa, and Great-Grandpa. He will be deeply missed.

There will be no visitation, viewing or memorial book signing the evening prior. The family is honoring Cecil's wish for cremation.

A memorial has been established in Cecil's honor, and kindly suggested to: the Funk Fire Department, the Holdrege Fire Department, or the Holdrege Gun Club.

Expressions of caring and kindness can be sent to the family at [www.nelsonbauerfh.com](http://www.nelsonbauerfh.com)

The Nelson-Bauer Funeral Home in Holdrege is in charge of the arrangements.

## Brent Stephen Sherwood, 66 - Minden Resident



Brent Stephen Sherwood, 66, of Minden, Nebraska, passed away on March 3, 2026, at Kearney Regional Hospital in Kearney, Nebraska.

Brent was born on May 24, 1959, in Syracuse, Kansas, to Steve and Evelyn Sherwood (Comer). He spent much of his life in Minden, Nebraska,

where he became a familiar and friendly presence in the community he loved.

Brent worked for many years in agriculture and later spent many years as a truck driver, including with CASH-WA of Kearney, Nebraska, before retiring. Through his work and daily life, he met countless people and had a gift for connecting with others. Brent truly never knew a stranger and was known for his easygoing nature and willingness to strike up a conversation with anyone.

He enjoyed the simple things in life that brought people together. Brent loved fishing, sitting around a fire, listening to his vinyl records, attending concerts, and spending time by the water. He also enjoyed making lead fishing weights and sharing his hobbies with others. Above all, he valued community, conversation, and the moments that brought family and friends together.

Brent is survived by his children and their families: Austin and Morgan Sherwood of Ord, Nebraska; Keegan and Lilly Sherwood of Corvallis, Oregon; Dayln Sherwood of Hastings, Nebraska; and Jaxson and Sierra Sherwood of Omaha, Nebraska.

He is also survived by his grandchildren, Metsyn and Annexlyn (Nexie) Sherwood of Ord, Nebraska.

Close family friends Brandon and Kassie Reeh, along with Harper and Stella Reeh of Minden, Nebraska, were also an important part of Brent's extended family.

He is also survived by his brothers, Lance and Becky Sherwood of Oklahoma, and Loid Sherwood of Kansas, along with many cousins and extended family members who will remember him fondly.

A Celebration of Life will be held on June 21, 2026, in Healy, Kansas. Details will be announced.

A second Celebration of Life will be held on June 27, 2026, at Carl Sinsel's home located at 929 South Minden Street Minden, NE beginning at 5pm with dinner followed by a bonfire, where family and friends will honor Brent's wishes by spreading some of his ashes, listen to music, and remember the joy he brought to us all.

Brent will be remembered for his love of music, the outdoors, the Kansas City Chiefs, his Minden water, and the people around him. His memory will live on in the stories shared around fires, the songs played on old records, football season, and the quiet moments spent by the water.

In Brent's honor, gather often, share stories, play the music loud, and keep the fire burning.

## LeRoy William Erpelding, 84 - Minden Resident



LeRoy William Erpelding, age 84, of Minden, passed away on Thursday, March 12, 2026. Funeral Mass will be held on Friday, March 20, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. at St. John's Catholic Church in Minden with Fr. Evan Winter officiating. Visitation with family present will be held on Thursday, March 19, 2026, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at Craig Funeral Home in Minden, NE with a Rosary service at 6:00 p.m. at the funeral home. Private family burial

will be held at the Minden Cemetery. Memorials in LeRoy's honor are kindly suggested to the family to be distributed to organizations focused on brain disease research. Arrangements are under the care of Craig Funeral Home in Minden.

LeRoy William Erpelding was born on October 8, 1941, in Kearney, NE to Frederick and Marguerite (Hultman) Erpelding. He married Lois Siebke on August 18, 1962, in Kearney and to this union three children were born: Kristi, Sally and Doug. The family made their home in Minden, NE where LeRoy was a science teacher at Minden Public Schools until 1982, then changed careers to the Insurance industry. He was a member of St. John's Catholic Church, Minden City Council, Optimist Club and Minden Volunteer Fire Department.

Those left to cherish his memory include his wife of 64 years, Lois Erpelding of Minden, Kristi (Leon) Cook of Cross Plains TN, Sally (Tom) Beutler of Norfolk NE and Doug (Nikki) Erpelding of Parker CO; grandchildren: Tyler (Jeanie) Cook of Herrin IL, Haley (Austin Elsbury) Cook of Indianapolis IN, Logan (Susan Spence) Beutler of Lexington KY, Andrew Beutler of Cambridge MA, Lauren Beutler of Lincoln NE, Trevor Erpelding of Fort Collins CO, Ryan Erpelding of Fort Collins CO; great-grandson Leo Cook of Herrin IL; sisters-in-law, Marge Jelden and Lori Erpelding of Kearney; as well as many nieces and nephews, extended family and friends.

LeRoy was preceded in death by his parents and brothers Gary, Jim and Eugene.

Tributes and memories can be shared with the family at [www.craigfunerals.com](http://www.craigfunerals.com).

# Noteworthy Achievements in Kearney County Schools



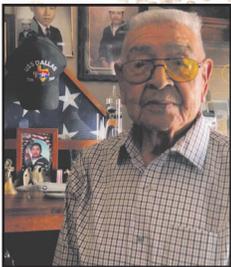
Congratulations to Ed Rowse from Minden Public Schools for being selected as the NSIAAA Region 5 Athletic Director of Year! He was recognized on March 10 in Lincoln. Mr. Rowse is a great representative of MPS!



The Nebraska State Bandmasters Association (NSBA) recognizes band programs across the state whose students have an average GPA of 3.5 or higher. Congratulations to the Minden High School Whippet Band for earning this

award for the 2nd year in a row! Learning to play or sing music can have a profound impact on how students learn and this is just a small reminder that band students do amazing things no matter what classroom they are in.

**HAPPY**  
*100th*  
*Birthday!*



Pablo Martinez of Minden will be celebrating his 100th birthday on March 26.

**If you happen to swing by 617 N. Kearney Ave., honk as you go by!**

*The Martinez Family*



Congratulations to Axtell 5th grader Brezlin Beeler for winning the "Now I Know Scholar Award" Scholarship for \$500 to attend the Junior National Young Leaders Conference in Atlanta, Georgia this summer. She will be attending a week long camp with Mrs. Bertrand and another classmate to learn about the Civil Rights Movement and Martin Luther King Jr. while also learning leadership, confidence building, and critical thinking skills. Brezlin will be hosting a series of fundraisers to help support her trip. You can donate directly to her account by visitng: <https://give.envisionexperience.com/YbcN3nHTwU> Way to go, Brezlin! We are proud of you!

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# Salute to Ag 2026

## Building Blocks With Books

ARABELLA REED

Advocating for the youth of agriculture is quickly becoming a goal for the Minden FFA Program and its mission of inspiring new generations along the way. In early January, the local chapter had put together a bookshelf designed as a simple barn for the elementary school to enjoy and use. Inside was filled with around 30-40 books with agricultural-based themes surrounding the literature for the young. By working with the Farm Bureau, the chapter was able to succeed in this project. The job: teach the youth of our agricultural community about the land

they live on and how we thrive.

A group from the 3rd-period Plant Science class visited with elementary school students to read colorful and interactive books. The students consisted of Arabella Reed (12), Sophie Birkestrand (11), Caleb Schwenka (11), Evan Lutkemeier (11), Mason Johnson (11), Bailee Fries (10), Dayne Porter (10), Hailey Petersen (10), and Hali Knott (10). The class arrived at the library with the purpose of connecting with the youth of their community and creating a small bond that sparks inspiration for the future of agriculture.

Upon arrival, the students and Mrs. Oertle spoke on what FFA is and what it stands for as an organization. Then, the students were dispersed amongst the children and read to the children about growing potatoes with pirates, saving up to plant strawberries, farm equipment, and much more. As one walked around the colorful and lively library, smiles could be seen on each child's face as they interacted with their designated high schooler.

As the hour came to a close, the smiling children said goodbye to the students of Mrs. Oertle's Plant Science class, awaiting another day when they might be able to



read about agriculture once again with their high schoolers. While the students of the Minden FFA chapter left after reading, the book barn still stands well-kept and enjoyed, as it will for quite some time.

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# Honoring Local FFA Chapters During National Ag Week



The Minden FFA Chapter had a lot of success in the 2024-2025 school year. We grew as a chapter and accomplished goals established by our leadership team. As a chapter, we received a 3 Star National Chapter Rating in Nebraska. At the Nebraska State Convention, we had nine seniors receive their Nebraska State FFA Degree, the most in program history! We also had 32 members compete in 12 contests at the Nebraska State FFA Convention. This year, we have a goal to win the state contest in Ag Communications and make it to the national competition. As a chapter, we also hope to become a National Three-Star Chapter. Coming up at this year's state convention, we will have 29 members competing in 11 competitions.

## MINDEN FFA CHAPTER 2025-2026

### Members

**8th Grade:** Lexie Anderson, Blake Boudreau, Kennedy Eckhardt, Chloe Faz, Grayden Forester, Gemma Fritson, Wyatt Gottsch, Garrett Hartman, Shawn Heath, Ariaahanna Johnson, Laynee Joyce, Kenzi Knott, Emerson Kuehn, Wyndser Lupkes, Huntley Oberg, Jenna Petersen, Clarissa Ramos, Natalie Ramos, Zoe Sexton, Taya Tomsen, Isaak Van-Pool

**Freshman:** Stella Birkestrand, Levi Burchell, Josa Ciemnoczolowski, Tatum Delira, Landon Grollmes, Hallie Hartman, Asa Heun, William Hickenbottom, Owen Hostetler, Kinleigh Hudson, Morgan Johnson, Bryson Knott, Lillian Labenz, Lukas Labenz, Luke Livingston, Bo Luktemeier, Katherine Marshall, Addisyn Norris, Scarlet Rogers, Mckinley Segelke, Ella Warburton, Jocelyn Zerr

**Sophomores:** Brielle Boudreau, Aly Cederburg (Historian), Bailee Fries, Owen Gillming, Seth Jacobitz, Sydney Jenkins, Rilynn Johnson, Hali Knott, Hailey Petersen, Marlie Petersen, Dayne Porter, Cole Schwenka

**Juniors:** Sophie Birkestrand (Reporter), Sara Faber, Kassie Fetterolf, Jada Gant, Lilian Gruber, Mason Johnson, Kimberly Larsen, Evan Luktemeier (Sentinel), Caleb Schwenka (Treasurer), Kadence Sitzman, Cael Smith

**Seniors:** Ava Fickler, Alyssa Johnson (President), Madeline Kring, Isabelle Martin, Tessa Morey, Shelby Nelson, Lizzy Nielsen (Secretary), Emory Porter, Arabella Reed (Vice president), Abby Reith, Danica Schoone, Christina Trine

**Advisors:** Macie Oertle and Student Advisor Sydney Jenkins



To those who work in acres not hours, thank you.  
**Happy National Ag Week**

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This year our chapter has two teams that qualified for the Career Development Events at the Nebraska State FFA Convention. The teams are Welding and Agricultural Technology and Mechanics Systems. The students on the Welding CDE Team are Thomas Donley, Cody Schriener, Cauy Twohig, and Callen Wenninghoff. The students on the Agricultural Technology and Mechanics Systems CDE Team are Wyatt Abrahamson, Jacob Jezbera, Wyatt Johnson, and Brandon Wagner.

The Senior FFA Members that will receive their FFA State Degrees at the Nebraska State FFA Convention are Brooke Casper, Thomas Donley, Cheyenne Lieb (President), Aubree Overholser (Treasurer), Cody Schriener (Vice President), Cauy Twohig, Brandon Wagner, and Callen Wenninghoff.

Our Chapter has the Nebraska State FFA Convention, Chapter Banquet, and Chapter Petting Zoo coming up within the next two months.



### WILCOX-HILDRETH FFA CHAPTER 2025-2026

#### Members

Brooke Casper, Thomas Donley, Cheyenne Lieb (President), Aubree Overholser (Treasurer), Cody Schriener (Vice President), Cauy Twohig, Brandon Wagner, Callen Wenninghoff, Brett Woollen, Jaxon Guthrie, Grayson Johnson (Secretary), Kaleb Johnson, Kyler Masters, Madi Sheen, William Welsh, Wyatt Abrahamson, Brayton Blank, Drew Blank, Ayva Bendoff, Camryn Bunger (Reporter), Mikah Eiley, Jacob Jezbera (Sentinel), Wyatt Johnson, Alex Klatt-Terabelian (Historian), Landon Lienemann, Luke Lush, Maddie Mulinde, Cole Ortgiesen, Drake Ritner, Kaden Schriener, Sutton Strong, Ona Wilsey, Hunter Casper, Stetson Guthrie, Kinley Hansen, Gage Henery, Kip Johnson, Rylan Lush, Westen Robinson, Grant Twehous, Ellie Blank, Kellen Blank, Jordan Burki, Elsie Donley, Alexis Garrett, Georgia Guthrie, Kolby Hansen, Levi Johnson, Dax Knaus, Lucus Bergstrom, Audrina Henery, Kolt Johnson, Maddison Lienemann, Henry Lush, Emmett Nitchie, Kaylan Nitchie, Layla Nitchie, Malaney Nitchie, Kooper Twohig.

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# 2026 NATIONAL AG WEEK

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- George Washington

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## AXTELL FFA CHAPTER 2025-2026

### Last Year's Accomplishments

8 FFA members attended National FFA in October of 2024, Joseph Fickenscher received his American FFA Degree.

18 FFA members attended State FFA in April of 2025, Caleb Kindschuh and Jerzee Smidt received their State FFA Degrees.

Last year we hosted a student teacher in the Fall of 2024 (Miss McKenna Darby) who now teaches at Franklin.

We had a team qualify for State Land Judging

### This Year's Accomplishments

FFA members attended Ignite and P2C leadership conferences in the fall.

High school FFA members attended FFA Career Day where they visited/toured A&M Ag, Vytelle, Steinbrinks and Wolfden Dairy.

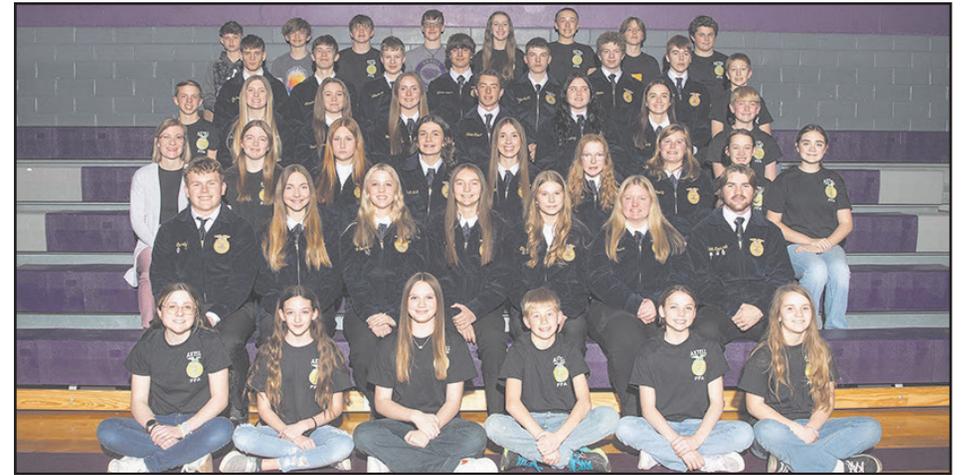
We are looking forward to hosting Elementary Ag Day in April this year and doing a petting zoo.

This semester (Spring 2026) we are hosting a student teacher, Mrs. Isela Horwart

We have 15 students attending State FFA at the end of March, Lillian Dobish and Nora Sonnenfeld will be receiving their State FFA Degree's

The Agriscience team of Krystal Fickenscher, Samuel Kindschuh, Solara Quigley and Samantha Vinchattle placed 1st at our district contest and will be competing at State FFA in March

The Natural Resources team of Krystal Fickenscher, Micah Houchin, Barrett Thorell and Samantha Vinchattle placed 5th at our district contest and will be competing at State FFA in March



Members

**Seniors:** Emily Danburg, Lillian Dobish (Vice President), Nora Sonnenfeld (President), Jacob Stoner, Keira Swartz

**Juniors:** Emma Hall (Secretary), Morgan Hawkins (Reporter), Ella Lorenz (Treasurer), Ashlynn Nelson, Connor Strolberg,

**Sophomores:** Stephanie Cederburg (Sentinel), Allison Fulmer, Aiden Orcutt, Gabbi Robinson, Kiptyn Swartz, Nolan Wells

**Freshman:** Krystal Fickenscher, Summer Hagemeister, Caleb Hall, Amelia Halvorsen, Micah Houchin, Isa Jimenez, Samuel Kindschuh, Chase Nickel, Solara Quigley, Barrett Thorell, Samantha Vinchattle

**8th Grade:** Grayson Bray, Leanne Ellingson, Hadley Most, Ari Nickel, Mick Pfeil, Karleigh Smith, Logan Strolberg, Marley Thorell, Adelyn Wells

**7th Grade:** Riley Hill

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# Nebraska's Top National Rankings

- 1st** · Beef and veal exports, 2024 – \$1,661,000,000
- Commercial cattle slaughter, 2025 – 6,421,300 head
- Harvested cropland acres, irrigated, 2022 – 7,857,031 acres
- Great Northern bean production, 2025 – 843,000 cwt.
- Cash receipts per capita, 2024 – \$15,989
- All cattle on feed, Jan. 1, 2026 – 2,800,000 head
- 2nd** · All cattle and calves, Jan. 1, 2026 – 6,150,000 head
- Popcorn production, 2022 Census – 333,276,821 lbs.
- Ethanol production, 2025 – 2,100,000,000 gallons
- Pinto bean production, 2025 – 1,262,000 cwt.
- Commercial red meat production, 2025 – 7,757,700,000 lbs.
- Proso millet production, 2025 – 3,515,000 bushels
- Cash receipts from all livestock & products 2024 – \$20,040,489, 7.5% U.S Total
- No-till cropland acres, 2022 Census – 10,101,251 acres
- Bison, 2022 Census – 32,206 head
- 3rd** · Cash receipts all farm commodities, 2024 – \$32,064,614,000, 6.2% of the U.S. total
- Corn for grain production, 2025 – 2,027,300,000 bushels
- Corn exports, 2024 – \$1,655,000,000
- Alfalfa hay production, 2025 – 3,201,000 tons
- 4th** · Beef cows, Jan. 1, 2026 – 1,560,000 head

- Total animal products exports, 2024 – \$2,265,000,000
- All dry edible bean production, 2025 – 2,502,000 cwt.
- Light red kidney bean production, 2025 – 91,000 cwt.
- Land in farms and ranches, 2025 – 43,900,000 acres
- Cover crop acres, 2022 Census – 925,686 acres
- 5th** · Agricultural exports, 2024 – \$8,189,000,000
- Cash receipts from all crops, 2024 – \$12,024,126,000, 4.9% of U.S. total
- Dry edible pea production, 2025 – 340,000 cwt.
- Soybean exports, 2024 – \$1,612,000,000
- Grain sorghum production, 2025 – 17,835,000 bushels
- Sugarbeet production, 2025 – 1,360,000 tons
- Soybean production, 2025 – 313,745,000 bushels
- 6th** · All hogs and pigs on farms, Dec. 1, 2025 – 3,650,000 head
- Commercial hog slaughter, 2025 – 8,238,900 head
- Harvest cropland acres, 2022 Census – 18,003,280 acres
- Sunflower production, 2025 – 40,817,000 lbs.
- All hay production, 2025 – 5,569,000 tons
- 7th** · Pastureland acres, 2022 Census – 21,940,079 acres
- 11th** · Pork exports, 2024 – \$321,000,000
- 12th** · Harvested organic cropland acres, 2021 – 89,040 acres
- Winter wheat production, 2025 – 37,835,000 bushels

## Nebraska Ag Facts

- 1 in 4 jobs in Nebraska are related to agriculture.
- Nebraska had 44,100 farms and ranches during 2025; the average operation consisted of 995 acres.
- The total value of agricultural products sold in 2024 was \$32.1 billion. Of that total value of production, 63% originated from livestock with 37% from crops.
- Nebraska's 10 leading commodities (in order of value) for 2024 cash receipts are cattle and calves, corn, soybeans, hogs, chicken eggs, broilers, hay, dairy products (milk), wheat and misc. crops.
- In 2023, every dollar in agricultural exports generated \$1.06 in economic activities such as transportation, financing, warehousing and production.
- Nebraska's \$8.19 billion in agricultural exports in 2024 translates into \$10.9 billion in additional economic activity.
- Nebraska's top five agricultural exports in 2024 were beef and veal, corn, soybeans, feeds and grain products
- In 2025, Nebraska ranked second in ethanol production capacity, with 24 operating plants having production capacity of over 2.3 billion gallons.
- Approximately 35% of Nebraska's 2024 corn crop was utilized in ethanol production.
- During 2022 Census, the average age of producers in Nebraska was 56.9 years. The number of young producers (age 34 or less) was 9,031 or 11% of all producers. The number of female producers was 26,364 or 33% of all producers.



## THANK YOU

We salute your long hours and hard work through all seasons.



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# Nebraska Agriculture is Building the Future! Celebrating National Ag Week March 15-21

SHERRY VINTON, DIRECTOR, NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



As Nebraska's Director of Agriculture, and a rancher myself, it is a distinct honor and privilege to celebrate National Agriculture Week each year. This annual recognition is a time to celebrate and thank our hardworking farmers, ranchers, agribusiness professionals, educators and innovators who power our state's economy, so we can feed and fuel the world. With one in four jobs directly related to agriculture in Nebraska, it is our state's largest industry.

Youth outreach is an integral part of our work here at NDA and this year's poster contest theme, Agriculture: Building the Future, really rings true. Agriculture is not just about sustaining the present, it is about innovating, investing and working together to

create a stronger, more resilient tomorrow for everyone. From Omaha, that is home to great transportation, technology, insurance and financial companies that serve our agricultural commodities, to our corn and soybean fields in eastern Nebraska, to the cattle operations and the western rangelands, our producers and entrepreneurs are leading the way in sustainable practices, cutting-edge technology, processing and forward-thinking stewardship.

Our farmers and ranchers are building the future in remarkable ways now. With new seed technologies guided by precision agricultural tools from planting to harvest they are using data analytics to optimize yields while conserving water and inputs. Our first-class ethanol industry with carbon capture abilities continues to advance renewable fuels supporting energy independence, affordability and clean air.

Recent investments in soybean processing exemplifies progress and surging demand for renewable fuels. Soybean oil from these crush facilities serves as the base feedstock for biodiesel, renewable diesel and other clean energy solutions. These state-of-the-art plants process millions of additional bushels annually, creating local markets for our growers, supporting good paying jobs and delivering value added products right here at home.

This progress ties directly into the truly world class circular economy found uniquely here in Nebraska. The ethanol industry transforms corn into high octane, clean burning fuel while returning about a third of each bushel as distillers grain, a high protein, high energy perfect feed for livestock. Complementing this, the expanded soybean crush produces high quality soybean meal, a premier protein source for Nebraska livestock. Our state leads in production of the best tasting protein choices in our beef, pork and poultry products.

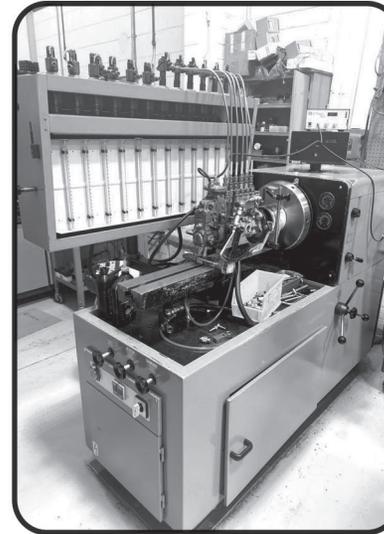
All of this equals a bright opportunity for our youth and the future. Those interested in learning more about a career in agriculture should check out the premier program offered by NDA, the Nebraska Ag Youth Institute. NAYI is a weeklong program for high school juniors and seniors hosted through generous donations where the infinite possibilities of careers in agriculture can be explored. For more information along with an application for NAYI visit [www.nda.nebraska.gov/NAYI](http://www.nda.nebraska.gov/NAYI). The deadline to apply for NAYI 2026 is April 15th.

As we mark this week, please take a moment for gratitude and reflect on how agriculture touches every aspect of your daily life: the food on your table, the fuel in your vehicle and the jobs that support so many families. Take time to thank a farmer or rancher and ask them about their Nebraska ag story.

Together, we are building the future, one harvest, one innovation and one generation at a time. Nebraska's ag community is resilient, adaptive and forward leaning and I am honored to serve alongside you.



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## Extension News - Horticulture

By Elizabeth Exstrom, M.S.

Central Nebraska Extension Horticulture Educator  
and Certified Arborist

### Start Strong: Caring for Your Vegetable Seedlings

Last week's warm temperatures may have nudged you out of winter mode and into garden planning. While it is still too early to plant most vegetables outdoors, there is plenty you can be doing right now to prepare for the season ahead.

In Part 1, we talked about the planning that goes into starting your own vegetable transplants. First, decide what you want to grow. Then determine when those crops can safely be planted outside. Remember, cool-season crops and warm-season crops have different planting windows. By counting backward six to eight weeks from your outdoor planting date, you can determine when seeds should be started indoors.

Cool-season crops like broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, and kohlrabi tolerate chilly spring temperatures and light frost. In Nebraska, these can often be planted outdoors between April 1 and May 10. That means seeds should be started indoors in mid- to late February.

Warm-season crops—including tomatoes, peppers, and eggplant—need warmer weather and should not go into the garden until after the danger of frost has passed, usually around Mother's Day. To have sturdy transplants ready, seeds should be started indoors in late March.

Planting the seeds is the easy part. Once seedlings emerge, the real work begins.

If you planted multiple seeds in each cell pack or container, now is the time to thin them. Rather than pulling out extra seedlings, use small scissors to clip the weaker plants at soil level. Pulling them can disturb the roots of the strongest seedling you want to keep.

If you started seeds in a flat or shared container, the seedlings will need to be transplanted into individual pots once they develop a few sets of leaves. Choose a larger container and fill it with fresh potting media—not garden soil. Carefully lift the healthiest seedlings and place them into their new container. Handle seedlings gently, holding them by the leaves instead of the delicate stem. Pinching or damaging the stem can interfere with water movement and stunt growth.

Light is one of the most important factors in growing strong seedlings. A bright, sunny window may work, but supplemental lighting often produces better results. Seedlings that receive enough light stay compact and develop dark green leaves. If plants appear pale, stretched out, or leaning toward the window, they are not getting enough light.

If you are using fluorescent grow lights, position them close—about one inch above the tops of the plants. While that may seem too close, fluorescent bulbs do not produce enough heat to damage seedlings as long as the leaves are not touching the bulb. As plants grow taller, continue raising the light to maintain that close distance.

Watering is another critical step. Before seeds sprout, the soil surface needs to stay consistently moist so seedlings can push through. After emergence, allow the soil surface to dry slightly between waterings. The goal is to keep seedlings evenly moist, but never soggy.

Too much moisture, especially in cool conditions, can lead to a common problem called damping off. This fungal disease causes seedlings to rot at the soil line and collapse. Good air circulation, proper light, and careful watering help reduce the risk.

Starting your own vegetable transplants takes a little attention, but the reward is healthy, homegrown plants ready for the garden. Plan ahead, provide the right environment, and monitor seedlings closely. Before long, the plants you started indoors will be ready to thrive outside.

*Elizabeth Exstrom is a Horticulture Extension Educator with Nebraska Extension in Hall County. For research-based gardening information, contact Elizabeth at [elizabeth.exstrom@unl.edu](mailto:elizabeth.exstrom@unl.edu), visit [huskerhort.com](http://huskerhort.com), or follow HuskerHort on Facebook and Twitter.*

## Nebraska's Natural Resources

- Nebraska's farms and ranches utilize 43.9 million acres, 89% of the state's total land area.
- Nebraska is fortunate to have aquifers below it. If poured over the surface of the state, the water in those aquifers would have a depth of 37.9 feet (11.6 meters).
- Nearly 80,000 miles of rivers and streams add to Nebraska's bountiful natural resources.

• There are 22 million acres of rangeland and pastureland in Nebraska, half of which are in the Sandhills.

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# Nature's Network: Supporting Ecosystems, Preserving Wildlife and Influencing Relationships

ALIZABETH NIELSEN, MHS STUDENT

ALDA, NEB. – Central Nebraska's "crane season" is a time of year that brings over a million Sandhill Cranes to the central Platte River area. A time of year that can be considered "a spectacle to behold".

Every year, during March and April, Kearney and the central Platte River area become home to over a million Sandhill Cranes. These stunning birds utilize the wet meadows and rangelands that this area has to offer. To learn more about these unique landscapes, I visited the Crane Trust, where I met Bethany Ostrom, a wildlife biologist who specializes in birds.

The Crane Trust is home to a genetically pure bison herd of around 120 head. Bethany mentioned that bison are one of the main reasons that Sandhill Cranes began migrating through central Nebraska. "When bison graze on rangelands, they do it in an inconsistent pattern. They do not eat certain grasses during specific times of the year, unlike cattle, which eat every grass all of the time," Bethany stated.

Proving her expertise in birds, Bethany expressed, "Those varying structures that bison leave within the rangelands serve as habitat to several wildlife species, especially the grassland breeding bird population. In addition, these grazed-down expanses that bison create are great places for Sandhill Cranes to land, as they can clearly see what they are going to touch down on." The Sandhill Cranes can use this ground to nest and scavenge for biotic organisms like earthworms, insects, tubers, and many other things. They also utilize the bison chips to find grubs to eat.

Bethany detailed that the Platte River Valley area is unique because it contains a tall grass prairie system and a wet meadow system. That is due to the fact that the water table is so high in the area, meaning that the grass can get all of the water that it needs to survive from the ground; It does not need to receive any rainwater in order to survive. Since these grasses get more water than plants in the surrounding areas, they grow taller, creating the tall grass prairie system.

Wet meadows and rangelands do not just benefit animals; they benefit people, too. The naked eye just might not be able to see the effects or realize them. If you dive deeper into the matter, you just might recognize how great an impact that wet meadows and rangelands have on us, also. Furthermore, wet meadows and rangelands are home to a multitude of pollinators, including thousands of native bee species, but-

terflies, moths, beetles, wasps, and flies. If there is a significant stand of trees within the area, bats can be found near wet meadows and rangelands. Bats are very useful to the ecosystem as they eat pests that can kill crops. Not only do these organisms pollinate flowers found in wet meadows and rangelands, but they also assist farmers in growing successful crops through pollination. As Bethany expressed, "Farmers and ranchers can work in tandem with conservation."

Without wet meadows and rangelands, our world would be different. They support an array of necessary species that greatly benefit our landscape and economy. Not all the time do we as humans realize the importance of our natural landscape, but it is important that we begin to educate ourselves and advocate for the wet meadows and rangelands that greatly support us




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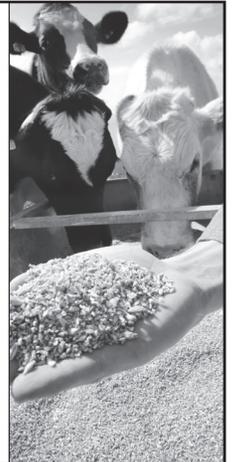


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# Controlling Winter Annual Weeds

TODD WHITNEY

Record winter high temperatures are causing earlier weeds emergence; so now is the time to control winter annual weeds in alfalfa. Thin field stands combined with open soil surfaces and adequate moisture can result in high weed pressure. So, prior to alfalfa shoot green-up or dormancy break, scout fields for early green winter annual weed patches of pennycress, downy brome, mustards, cheatgrass, and shepherd's purse. Left unchecked, these weeds can lower first cutting hay yield, quality and palatability. Also, excessive weeds can extend dry-down and lengthen harvest time.

However, before applying any herbicide, scout current and potential weed pressure. Verify that fields have enough weeds to justify herbicide spray applications and then determine the best management options.

Winter annual weeds can grow better during cooler Spring temperatures than alfalfa; so dormant alfalfa herbicides such as MCPA Amine; metribuzin and Gramoxone® can still be applied. Pre-emergent herbicides such as Warrant®, Chateau®, and Prowl H2O® can be applied soon after green-up, but these chemicals will not control weeds which have already germinated. Aim® herbicide will control early growing broadleaf weeds but not control grassy weeds. Poast® herbicide will control most growing weedy grasses but not downy brome. Pursuit® and Raptor® herbicides control growing henbit well during early alfalfa green-up, but control weeds best when air temperatures are warmer. Glyphosate products like Roundup Weathermax®/Powermax® will control growing weeds with warmer temperatures too; however, they must be used with Roundup-Tolerant alfalfa varieties.



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Other new alfalfa field products include: Balan®, Trust®, Moxy®, Arrow®, Select Max®, Velpar, Karmex®, Sinbar®, Pursuit, Butyrac® and Raptor®. Our UNL Extension publication, EC 130, 'Guide for Weed, Disease, and Insect Management in Nebraska provides additional information.

Winter annuals can quickly establish in hay fields, so early season weed control is important for quality hay production. Timing is essential, so control winter annuals before alfalfa breaks dormancy and before weeds render economic losses. For more alfalfa information visit: <https://cropwatch.unl.edu>

# Mild Winter & Insect Pressure

SAMANTHA DANIEL

This winter has been quite mild and dry across the state, with most locations experiencing periods of higher-than-normal temperatures and 77% of the state currently in drought. What do these conditions mean for insect survival this winter and pest pressure this spring and summer?

Because insects have a variety of methods they use for survival, we can only generalize when trying to predict future insect populations and pressure based on winter conditions. Insects that overwinter belowground, like grasshoppers, are generally less affected by mild winter conditions since soil temperatures are more constant. However, a shallow frost layer can increase survivability. In contrast, for insects that overwinter aboveground, like alfalfa weevil, fewer cold days can increase survival, but a lack of snow cover can lead to exposure when temperatures do fall below freezing.

Conditions this spring can have a more significant impact on insect pest populations. A cool, wet spring can delay grasshopper hatching, while alfalfa weevil thrives in cool and overcast conditions. If this spring brings hot, dry conditions, grasshoppers will thrive while alfalfa weevil activity could be reduced.

In the end it's important to scout early and often so that insect pest populations can be monitored. And remember, if more pests survive due to this mild winter, so too will more beneficial insects survive to help moderate pest populations.

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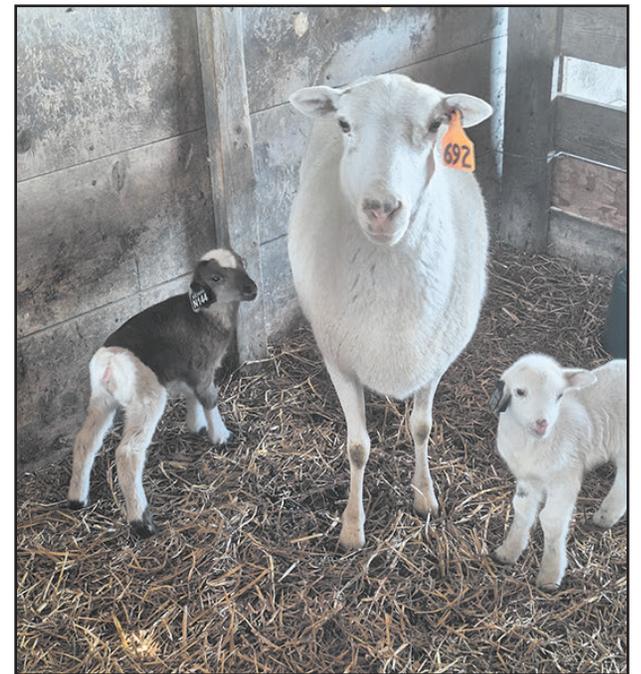


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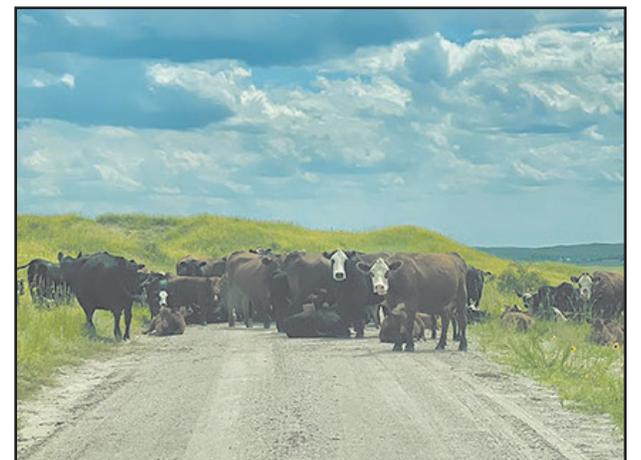
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# Salute to Agriculture



March is National Agriculture Month, but the agriculture industry is the backbone of Kearney County all year round. Residents have captured several moments showing the many aspects of agriculture found in the area. Thank you to all who shared their photos!



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# Plant Problems

By Rita Brhel

## Sedum popped out of ground, Dormant lawns don't need watered

**Q:** I started to do some yard work and noticed that a few of my sedum plants had popped out of the ground. Hopefully it's enough that I just pushed them back into the ground. Did this happen because it's been so warm lately?

**A:** The temperature swings from freezing to spring-like 50s and 60s we've been seeing definitely contribute to your sedum "popping out of the ground," although these temperature swings are not necessarily unusual for south-central Nebraska. What is atypical, and the biggest contributor to this issue, is the lack of winter snowfall. Snow provides insulation to the soil to minimize those temperature swings. Your sedum popping out of the ground is the result of what we call frost-heaving: the swelling of soil in response to repeated freeze-thaw cycles. Ice takes up more space in the soil's air pockets than liquid water, so when soil moisture freezes, the soil around that ice expands, moving upward and pushing your sedum's root systems upward, too—even to the point where the roots are above the soil surface. Frost-heaving is more common in perennials with shallow root systems or perennials planted in late summer or fall as their root systems are not yet well-established. Sedum is a commonly affected perennial along with blanket flower, chrysanthemum, coral bells, coreopsis, pincushion flower, strawberries, and shasta daisy. Another risk factor is low-lying or poorly draining, heavy soil. Our most common soil type in south-central Nebraska is clay, which can fit this profile. As far as what to do with your sedum now, the recommendation is exactly what you did—gently push the roots back into the ground—followed by mulching to minimize the temperature swings ahead. Keep in mind that if the plant roots have been out of the soil for a while, the plant may not survive. Come next fall, mulch your perennials with four inches of grass clippings, straw, leaves, or other organic materials to provide insulation in case we get another snow-less winter. For more information, watch this video short from Backyard Farmer: <https://www.youtube.com/shorts/6b2h0efWhBg>.

**Q:** My neighbors are watering their brown lawns. Last week, I read that it's important not to try to hurry lawns to green up. Does this mean that it's OK that I'm not watering my lawn yet?

**A:** Dormancy protects lawn grass from winter's harsh weather conditions like freezing temperatures and drought. It's been a little tricky this year to figure out exactly what to do when it comes to caring for our yards, because this winter has been so mild and dry. Although we have been encouraging people to water their trees a bit more this winter, especially trees planted last fall and certain evergreens susceptible to winter drought, such as arborvitae, lawns generally do not need to be watered before they break dormancy. Doing so is a risk for irrigation systems, tends to benefit weeds more than the lawn grass, and may promote some diseases such as snow mold. Now that we're into March, the weather forecast will hopefully include more rain chances that will—combined with lengthening daylight—bring lawn grass out of dormancy at the appropriate time: mid-April for Kentucky bluegrass and tall fescue, and mid-May for zoysia grass and buffalo grass. That said, since we've had no snow cover and rather mild temperatures, someone worried about their new sod or a lawn that was seeded last fall could do an occasional light sprinkling of water on their lawn by hose or bucket during a string of warm, dry days. But it's important, with a new or established lawn, not to make irrigation a regular activity until the grass is actively growing later this spring.

*Rita Brhel lives in Fairfield, has a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, is a certified Master Gardener, and coordinates the Horticulture Program at Adams County's Nebraska Extension office in Hastings. Have a horticulture question? Contact your County Extension office to get connected with your local Nebraska Extension horticulturist.*



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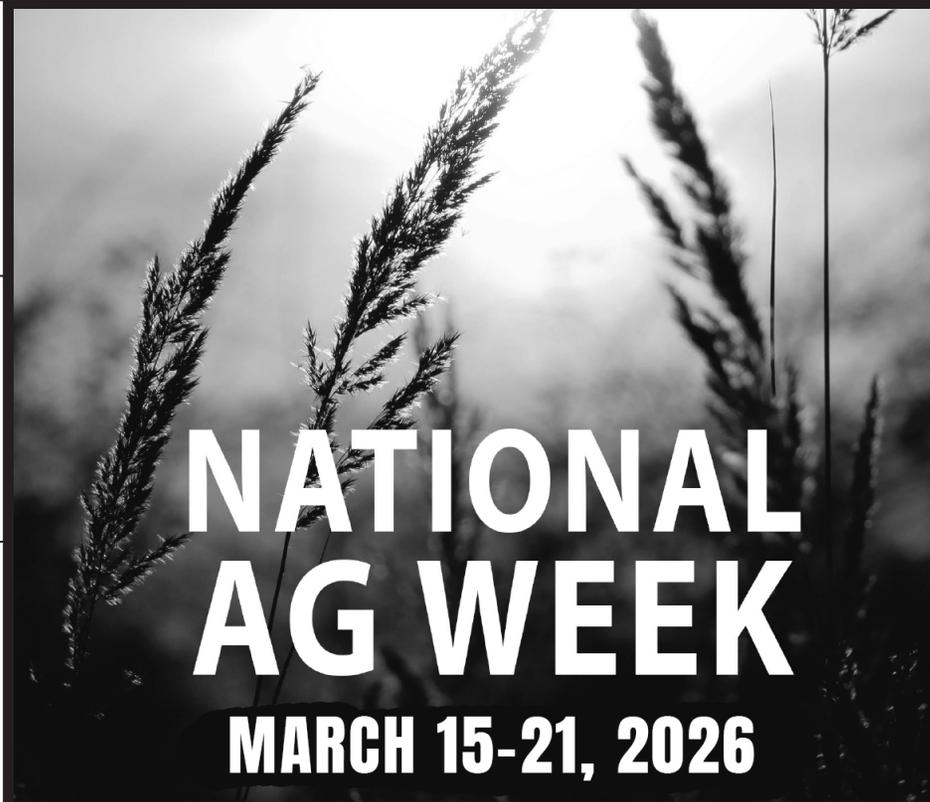
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# Legal Notices

## NOTICE

**WILCOX-HILDRETH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING AND BOARD RETREAT MONDAY MARCH 9, 2026 - 8:00 AM**

**POSTING LOCATIONS: MINDEN COURIER POSTING DATE: 2/26/2026 FRANKLIN CHRONICLE POSTING DATE: 2/25/2026 CONFERENCE ROOM-WILCOX 404 SAPP STREET WILCOX, NE 68982-0190**

1. Call to Order. Roll Call. 2. Announce location of posted Open Meetings Act. 2.A. Pledge. 3. Consent Agenda. Motion by Ryan Knaus, seconded by Alan Casper, to approve the consent agenda. Motion Passed. Teresa Carey: Yea, Alan Casper: Yea, Kert Hansen: Yea, Ryan Knaus: Yea, Kirk Nelson: Yea, Chris Stuehm: Yea. Yea: 6, Nay: 0. 3.A. Approval of Agenda. 3.B. Approval of minutes of Regular February 16, 2026 Board Meeting. 3.C. Approval of Claims. 3.D. Financial Report. 4. Visitors and communication from the public. No visitors in attendance. 5. Action Items. 5.A. Discuss, consider and take all necessary action to revise/review board policies 4003, 4037, 4039,4041, 4062, 5035, 5067, 3013, 3016, 3019, 3026, 3039, 3046. Motion by Kert Hansen, seconded by Teresa Carey, to revise/review board policies 4003, 4037, 4039,4041, 4062, 5035, 5067, 3013, 3016, 3019, 3026, 3039, 3046.. Motion Passed. Teresa Carey: Yea, Alan Casper: Yea, Kert Hansen: Yea, Ryan Knaus: Yea, Kirk Nelson: Yea, Chris Stuehm: Yea. Yea: 6, Nay: 0. 5.B. Discuss, consider and take all necessary action

to approve the academic calendar for the 2026-2027 school year. Motion by Alan Casper, seconded by Chris Stuehm, to approve the academic calendar for the 2026-2027 school year. Motion Passed. Teresa Carey: Yea, Alan Casper: Yea, Kert Hansen: Yea, Ryan Knaus: Yea, Kirk Nelson: Yea, Chris Stuehm: Yea. Yea: 6, Nay: 0. 5.C. Discuss, consider and take all necessary action to approve the resignations of staff. The board acted on the resignation of Emerson Lauder. Motion by Ryan Knaus, seconded by Kert Hansen, to approve the resignations of staff. Motion Passed. Teresa Carey: Yea, Alan Casper: Yea, Kert Hansen: Yea, Ryan Knaus: Yea, Kirk Nelson: Yea, Chris Stuehm: Yea. Yea: 6, Nay: 0. 5.D. Discuss, consider and take all necessary action to approve the transfer of \$25,000 from the Special Building Fund to the General Fund. Motion by Alan Casper, seconded by Ryan Knaus, to approve the transfer of \$25,000 from the Special Building Fund to the General Fund. Motion Passed. Teresa Carey: Yea, Alan Casper: Yea, Kert Hansen: Yea, Ryan Knaus: Yea, Kirk Nelson: Yea, Chris Stuehm: Yea. Yea: 6, Nay: 0. 5.E. Discuss, consider and take all necessary action to approve a bid to replace windows in the Hildreth building around the stage and locker rooms. The board reviewed cost estimates to replace windows at the Hildreth building. The project would include windows in the gymnasium and northwest side of the building, including the shop, music room and locker rooms. Motion by Alan Casper,

seconded by Teresa Carey, to approve a bid to replace windows in the Hildreth building around the stage and locker rooms. Motion Tabled. Teresa Carey: Yea, Alan Casper: Yea, Kert Hansen: Yea, Ryan Knaus: Yea, Kirk Nelson: Yea, Chris Stuehm: Yea. Yea: 6, Nay: 0. 6. Discussion Items. 6.A. Strategic Plan review with the NASB. The Board of Education and NASB reviewed the progress that the district has made with the Strategic Plan. The Board reviewed the progress for each objective area. The administration provided the documentation for what has been completed in each objective area. 6.B. Board Governance Training with the NASB. The NASB provided a 90-minute training session for the Board of Education in the area of Board Governance. 6.C. Estimated Costs for Future Track Remodel. Superintendent Patterson provided some updated forecast numbers for the Board for replacement costs for the track. The track base was installed in the late 1980s and is deteriorating. A new track base will need to be installed and the estimated cost for replacing the track base and surface is \$800,000. The board will get cost estimates for replacing the concession stand at the track and incorporating restrooms in that building, and get cost estimates for replacing the bleachers, and relocating the shot and discuss rings to the north side of the road. To finance the project, the board could utilize the depreciation and special building funds if a project was approved at a future date. 6.D. 2026-2027 Preliminary Budget. 7. Administrator Report. 7.A.

Superintendent Report. Superintendent Patterson reported: 1. Current Financial Updates. 2. Cost estimates for potential facility projects. 3. Financial Forecast updates. 4. Review of current legislative bills and how they would impact the district. 7.B. Principal Report. Principals Muhlbach and Glenn reported to the board progress that the district has made on the Strategic Plan. 8. Next Board Meeting: 8:00 PM Monday, April 20, 2026 in the Wilcox Conference Room. 9. Adjourn. Motion by Chris Stuehm, seconded by Ryan Knaus, to adjourn at 11:24am. Motion Passed. Teresa Carey: Yea, Alan Casper: Yea, Kert Hansen: Yea, Ryan Knaus: Yea, Kirk Nelson: Yea, Chris Stuehm: Yea. Yea: 6, Nay: 0. Checking Account ID 1 Fund Number 01 GENERAL FUND: Amazon Capital Services, Inc., 125.92; Black Hills Energy, 10,600.54; BTS Communications, Phone Vendor, 54.00; Capital Sanitary Supply Co, Inc., 1,461.31; Central Nebraska Truck and Trailer Repair LLC, 1,142.27; Clearly, 97.39; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, E-Rate/Charter, 317.87; Eakes Office Solutions, 2,461.07; ESU #11, 65,892.86; Family Physical Therapy & Sports Center, 266.00; Fritz's Market, 61.60; Great Plains Communications, 315.00; HD Supply Facilities Maintenance, Ltd., 621.70; Hometown Leasing, Copy Machine Lease Company, 894.00; J.W. Pepper & Son, Inc., 34.35; Kat's Korner Market, 198.88; Kearney Public School, 270.00; Kearney Winnelson Co., 575.00; Kidwell, Inc, 9,995.00; KSB School Law PC LLO, 316.00; Larsen's Ace Hardware, 105.46; Matheson Tri-Gas Inc, 332.83; Matthew Bend-

er & Co., Inc., 329.86; Maxwell Public Schools, 125.00; Menards - Kearney, 28.99; Nebraska State Fire Marshal Agency, 72.00; Overdrive, Inc., 15.96; Rutt's Heating and Air Conditioning, Inc., Heating & Air Conditioning, 2,203.00; Syndicate Publishing, Newspaper, 80.17; Village Of Hildreth, 2,032.43; Village Of Wilcox, 2,110.80; VISA, 1,140.40; Wage Works, 128.75; Wilcox-Hildreth Clearing Acct, 674.50; Woodward's Disposal Service, 56.00; Yanda's Music And Pro Audio, 60.00; Fund Number 01: 105,196.91; Checking Account ID 1: 105,196.91. Mar 19, 2026 (251) znez

## NOTICE

**IN THE COUNTY COURT OF KEARNEY COUNTY, NEBRASKA ESTATE OF ROBERT E. CHRISTENSEN, DECEASED ESTATE NO. PR26-8**

Notice is hereby given that on the 3rd day of February, 2026, in the County Court of Kearney County, Nebraska, the Registrar issued a written statement of Informal Probate of the Will of said Deceased and that Kent E. Christensen and Kelly J. Trausch were informally appointed by the Registrar as Co-Personal Representative of this Estate. Creditors of this estate must file their claims with this Court on or before May 13, 2026, or be forever barred.

/s/Laura B. Tobiassen

Clerk of the County Court  
By: /s/ Jeffrey P. Ensz  
Jeffrey P. Ensz (#23917)  
Attorney for Personal Representative  
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435 North Colorado Avenue  
P.O. Box 268  
Minden, NE 68959-0268

(308) 832-2103  
jenz@lieskelawfirm.com  
Mar 12, 2026  
Mar 19, 2026  
Mar 26, 2026  
(36) znez

## NOTICE

**NOTICE OF KEARNEY COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION**

The Nebraska Democratic Party and the Kearney County Democratic Party hereby give notice that the County Convention will be held at The Assembly Room of the Kearney County Courthouse, it meets the requirements, 424 North Colorado Ave. on Thursday, April 9, at 6:00 PM.

All of the rules and forms governing the county convention process, including registration forms, are listed on the NDP website at nebraskademocrats.org/conventions.

At the county convention, we elect local officers and delegates to the state convention, where party leaders are then elected.

The Kearney County Democrats and State Party Chair Jane Kleeb look forward to your help in building the party at the local level.

Questions? Please call 402-434-2180 or email info@nebraskademocrats.org.

Paid for by the Nebraska Democratic Party, 3701 O Street, Lincoln, NE 68510..

Mar 19, 2026

(38) znez



### Bethany Home

*Loving Care with a Spiritual Touch*  
(308) 832 - 1594 • bethany-home.net  
515 West First Street, Minden, NE 68959

## NOTICE

### AXTELL COMMUNITY SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2026 7:00 PM - LIBRARY

The Board reserves the right to move agenda items to accommodate the flow of the meeting. AGENDA 1. Call meeting to order, roll call. 2. Open meetings law is posted and recognized. 3. Recognition of guests and request for public comment. 4. Approval of minutes from the board meeting on February 10, 2025. Motion Passed: Motion to approve the minutes from the board meeting on February 10, 2025. Proposal passed with a motion by Linda Almquist and a second by Ty Fickenscher. Bette Dimon Yes, Linda Almquist Yes, Kurt Behrhorst Yes, Ty Fickenscher Yes, Matt Strolberg Yes, Jeff Halvorsen Yes. 5. Presentation: Jeff Collison, Cornerstone Electric, Gym Lights. a. In Packet: Darrin Callen Quote. 6. Presentation: Dave Stupka, Summer Projects. a. Gym light discussion. b. Concrete: sidewalk to playground. c. Ag Building Flooring. d. Extending New Flooring. e. Jr High Showers. 7. Discussion and action of the district financial reports. Motion Passed: Motion to approve financial reports as presented. Proposal passed with a motion by Ty Fickenscher and a second by Linda Almquist. Bette Dimon Yes, Linda Almquist Yes, Kurt Behrhorst Yes, Ty Fickenscher Yes, Matt Strolberg Yes, Jeff Halvorsen Yes. 8. Discussion and action of district claims. Motion Passed: Motion to approve district claims as presented. Proposal passed with a motion by Jeff Halvorsen and a second by Bette Dimon. Bette Dimon Yes, Linda Almquist Yes, Kurt Behrhorst Yes, Ty

Fickenscher Yes, Matt Strolberg Yes, Jeff Halvorsen Yes. 9. Administrative Reports. a. Jenn DeBord, Principal. 1. New Resource Position. 2. Winter MAP Scores. 3. MTSS Update. b. Craig Lorenz, Principal. 1. End of 3rd quarter. 2. FKC Music Contest. 3. Spring Break: March 19 & 20. 4. MAP Scores. c. Rob Gregory, Superintendent. 1. 2026-27 State Aid Certification: Handout. 2. Short Bus: 2000, 22 passenger, GMC w/ Thomas engine, 136, 785 miles, no AC, CDL required. 3. Conference Room Table. 10. Discussion Items. a. Staff Update: SPED teacher resignation & new teacher contract. b. Converted Van: Woodhouse Ford. c. Windows & Doors: Kurt & Facility Advocates. d. Lunch Tables. e. ACS Cheer Squad: Increase from 8 to coaches discretion. f. Principal 2026-27 contracts. g. Preschool: follow up. h. Parking: bus load & unload, main street, student drop off and pick up. 11. Action Items. a. Regretfully accept the resignation of Karli Edgren as SPED Behavioral Specialists teacher. Motion Passed: Motion to regretfully accept the resignation of Karli Edgren as SPED Behavioral Specialists teacher. Proposal passed with a motion by Bette Dimon and a second by Linda Almquist. Bette Dimon Yes, Linda Almquist Yes, Kurt Behrhorst Yes, Ty Fickenscher Yes, Matt Strolberg Yes, Jeff Halvorsen Yes. b. Approval of SPED teacher contract for Amy Christensen for the 2026-27 school year. Motion Passed: Motion for the approval of SPED teacher contract for Amy Christensen for the 2026-27 school year. Proposal passed with a motion by Matt Strolberg and a second by Ty Fickenscher. Bette Dimon Yes, Linda Almquist Yes, Kurt Behrhorst Yes, Ty

Fickenscher Yes, Matt Strolberg Yes, Jeff Halvorsen Yes. c. Approval of Facility Advocate quote for gym doors #13 & #14 replacement in the amount of \$29,000. Motion Passed: Motion for the approval of Facility Advocate quote for gym doors #13 & #14 replacement in the amount of \$29,000. Proposal passed with a motion by Ty Fickenscher and a second by Jeff Halvorsen. Bette Dimon Yes, Linda Almquist Yes, Kurt Behrhorst Yes, Ty Fickenscher Yes, Matt Strolberg Yes, Jeff Halvorsen Yes. d. Approval of Facility Advocate quote of first floor exterior window replacement with ballistic glass not to exceed the amount of \$160,000. Motion Passed: Motion for the approval of Facility Advocate quote of first floor exterior window replacement with ballistic glass not to exceed the amount of \$160,000. Proposal passed with a motion by Jeff Halvorsen and a second by Ty Fickenscher. Bette Dimon Yes, Linda Almquist Yes, Kurt Behrhorst Yes, Ty Fickenscher Yes, Matt Strolberg Yes, Jeff Halvorsen Yes. e. Approval of Wynot Ram 2021 Promaster van quote of \$26,000. Motion Passed: Motion for the approval of Wynot Ram 2021 Promaster van quote of \$26,000. Proposal passed with a motion by Jeff Halvorsen and a second by Matt Strolberg. Bette Dimon Yes, Linda Almquist Yes, Kurt Behrhorst Yes, Ty Fickenscher Yes, Matt Strolberg Yes, Jeff Halvorsen Yes. f. Approval of five lunchroom tables from Mitchell in the amount of \$11,096.85. Motion Passed: Motion to approve five lunchroom tables from Mitchell in the amount of \$11,096.85. Proposal passed with a motion by Ty Fickenscher and

a second by Bette Dimon. Bette Dimon Yes, Linda Almquist Yes, Kurt Behrhorst Yes, Ty Fickenscher Yes, Matt Strolberg Yes, Jeff Halvorsen Yes. g. Approval of ACS Cheer Team to increase members to coach discretion beginning in the 2026-27 school year. Motion Passed: Motion to approve the ACS Cheer Team to increase members to coach discretion beginning in the 2026-27 school year. Proposal passed with a motion by Kurt Behrhorst and a second by Matt Strolberg. Bette Dimon Yes, Linda Almquist Yes, Kurt Behrhorst Yes, Ty Fickenscher Yes, Matt Strolberg Yes, Jeff Halvorsen Yes. h. Approval of Junior High shower repair in the amount of \$13,250. Motion Passed: Motion to approve the Junior High shower repair in the amount of \$13,250. Proposal passed with a motion by Jeff Halvorsen and a second by Bette Dimon. Bette Dimon Yes, Linda Almquist Yes, Kurt Behrhorst Yes, Ty Fickenscher Yes, Matt Strolberg Yes, Jeff Halvorsen Yes. i. Approval of principal contract for Jennifer DeBord for the 2026-27 school year. Motion Passed: Motion to approve the principal contract for Jennifer DeBord for the 2026-27 school year. Proposal passed with a motion by Linda Almquist and a second by Matt Strolberg. Bette Dimon Yes, Linda Almquist Yes, Kurt Behrhorst Yes, Ty Fickenscher Yes, Matt Strolberg Yes, Jeff Halvorsen Yes. j. Approval of principal contract for Craig Lorenz for the 2026-27 school year. Motion Passed: Motion to approve the principal contract for Craig Lorenz for the 2026-27 school year. Proposal passed with a motion by Bette Dimon and a second by Linda Almquist. Bette

Dimon Yes, Linda Almquist Yes, Kurt Behrhorst Yes, Ty Fickenscher Yes, Matt Strolberg Yes, Jeff Halvorsen Yes. 12. Informational Items. a. Calendars. b. Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, April 15, 2026 @ 7:00 PM in the library. Note: LB 399 Civic Hearing @ 6:45 PM Jeff-Bette-Matt...need 4 there? Committee Reminder Sheet. 13. Motion to adjourn. Motion Passed: Motion to adjourn at 9:13 pm. Proposal passed with a motion by Linda Almquist and a second by Bette Dimon. Bette Dimon Yes, Linda Almquist Yes, Kurt Behrhorst Yes, Ty Fickenscher Yes, Matt Strolberg Yes, Jeff Halvorsen Yes. Fund: 01 GENERAL FUND: ACTIVITY FUND, 275.00; AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES, 1,323.65; ARCHWAY, THE, 155.00; ART OF EDUCATION, 785.00; BERTRAND HIGH SCHOOL, 25.00; BUILDERS WAREHOUSE INC, 139.00; DANA F COLE & COMPANY, LLP, 165.00; DECKER EQUIPMENT, 1,036.84; DUG'S SHOP, 686.66; EAKES OFFICE PLUS, 5,752.81; ECHO GROUP, INC, 782.76; EDUTRAK, LLC, 2,991.20; ESU #10, 966.32; ESU #11, 60,482.09; FAMILY PHYSICAL THERAPY & SPORTS CENTER, 2,398.00; FOLLETT SOFTWARE, LLC, 921.36; FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL, 25.00; GOODHEART-WILLCOX PUBLISHER, 600.00; GUMDROP BOOKS STORE, 819.66; HAMILTON LONG DISTANCE, 1,545.03; HOBART SALES & SERVICE, 237.79; HOMETOWN LEASING, 2,866.38; JOHNSTONE SUPPLY, 978.48; KAT'S KORNER MARKET, 296.46; KEARNEY COUNTY HEALTH SERVICES, 35.00; KINDSCHUH CONSTRUCTION, CO, 100.00; KULLY PIPE & STEEL SUPPLY, 300.67; LOCKMOBILE, THE, 679.00; LUNCH FUND, 16,766.03; MANDT SYSTEM,

INC, THE, 2,995.00; MARC, 223.86; MENARDS-KEARNEY, 1,553.35; MID-STATES AUTOMATION & CONTROL, INC, 2,705.00; MINDEN HIGH SCHOOL, 40.00; MISSION PLUMBING LLC, 809.28; MUSEUM OF NEBRASKA ART, 160.00; NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION, 450.00; NEBRASKA COUNCIL ON ECONOMIC EDUCATION, 60.00; PLATTE VALLEY COMMUNICATIONS, 742.64; QUADIANT FINANCE USA, INC, 300.00; RELIABLE PEST CONTROL SERVICES, INC, 68.00; RETIREMENT PLAN CONSULTANTS LLC, 400.00; REVOLVING CASH ACCOUNT, 2,852.03; SOUTHERN POWER DISTRICT, 4,798.53; SOUTHERN VALLEY SCHOOLS, 25.00; SYNDICATE PUBLISHING, 144.39; TEACHER SYNERGY, LLC, 133.00; TIME MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS, 174.00; TREVIPAY-WALMART, 173.07; VILLAGE OF AXTELL, 982.93; VISA, 165.00; WARD'S SCIENCE, 227.24; Vendors Listed: 52; Total: 124,317.51; March Payroll: 421,984.18; Total: 546,301.69. Fund: 08 SPECIAL BUILDING FUND : BD CONSTRUCTION, INC, 109,933.21; EAKES OFFICE PLUS, 79,133.73; HAMILTON INFORMATION SYSTEMS, INC, 21,526.26; Vendors Listed: 3; Total: 210,593.20. Fund: 10 COOPERATIVE FUND: AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES, 426.73; CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS, 114.99; ESU #10, 655.98; ESU #11, 56,202.41; FAMILY PHYSICAL THERAPY & SPORTS CENTER, 1,253.00; HOMETOWN LEASING, 99.81; JOSTENS INC, 25.65; RELIABLE PEST CONTROL SERVICES, INC, 55.00; REVOLVING CASH ACCOUNT, 1.00; Vendors Listed: 9; Total: 58,834.57; March Payroll: 22,010.37; Total: 80,844.94. Mar 19, 2026 (352) znez

**NOTICE****NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION**

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has formed a limited liability company under the Nebraska Limited Liability Company Act:

1. The name of the limited liability company is DOUBLE DART HOLSTEINS, L.L.C.

2. Its initial designated office and principal place of business is 495 L Rd., Axtell, NE 68924; and the name, street, and mailing address of the limited liability company's registered agent for service of process of the Company is David R. Anderbery, 495 L Rd., Axtell, NE 68924.

3. This company is organized to engage in the transaction of any or all lawful business, other than banking or insurance, for which a limited liability company may be organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska including but not limited to the business of farming; and to do and transact all other lawful business incident to, necessary or suitable or advisable for, or in any way connected with, such business.

4. The company commenced on November 26, 2025, and shall have perpetual existence.

5. The company is to be managed by one or more managers who shall be elected by members.

David R. Anderbery,  
Organizer

Douglas R. Walker, #16953  
Duncan, Walker & Schenker,  
P.C., L.L.O.

P.O. Box 340  
Hildreth, Nebraska 68947  
308-938-4585

Mar 12, 2026

Mar 19, 2026

Mar 26, 2026

(53) znez

**NOTICE****NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Kearney County Board of Zoning Adjustment on the 26th day of March 2026; 7:00 pm. at the Courthouse in the Assembly Room of the Courthouse in Minden, of Kearney County Nebraska to hear public comments on:

An application for Variance from Zoning Regulation 5.27  
· Location: 16 6 14 TRACT S 1/2 E 1/2 NE 1/4 16-6-14 LINCOLN 31.22 AC.

· Approximately 1/3 mile south of HWY 74 and 35 Road on the West side.

Questions or comments may be directed to County Zoning Administrator Office at 308-832-2795. An agenda for this meeting, kept continuously current, is available for public inspection at the office of the Zoning Administrator. The agenda may be modified prior to such meeting.

Carrie Favinger  
Zoning Administrator  
308-832-2795

Mar 12, 2026

Mar 19, 2026

(35) znez

**NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that BC Publishing LLC, a Nebraska limited liability company, has been organized under the laws of the state of Nebraska, with its initial designated office at 240 Nance Avenue, Minden, NE 68959. The initial agent for service of process of the company is Cynthia Ramsey, 240 Nance Avenue, Minden, NE 68959.

Mar 5, 2026

Mar 12, 2026

Mar 19, 2026

(13) znez

**NOTICE****REGISTRATION OF TRADE NAME**

Trade Name: Lost Cowboy Bar and Grill

Name of Applicant: Nebraska Dunes, LLC

Address: 592 S Rd Axtell, NE 68924

Applicant is: Limited Liability Company

If other than an Individual, state under whose laws' entity was formed: Nebraska

Date of first use of name in Nebraska: March 15, 2026

General nature of business: Bar, food, and beverage service at a golf course

/s/ Lane Claussen  
Lane Claussen

Mar 19, 2026

(16) znez

**NOTICE**

NOTICE FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON APPLICATION OF JIM'S IRON HORSE BAR & GRILL, LLC FOR CLASS C LIQUOR LICENSE.

Notice is hereby given that Jim's Iron Horse Bar & Grill, LLC has filed an application with the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission for the issuance of a retail Liquor License Class C.

The Village of Wilcox Board of Trustees will hold a public hearing concerning the issuance of said license on Thursday, March 26, 2026 at the Wilcox Town Hall located at 107 West Sapp St., Wilcox, NE.

All persons desiring to give evidence either verbally or by affidavit in support of or in protest against the issuance of said license may do so at the time of the hearing.

Melinda Ferree,  
Village Clerk  
Wilcox, Nebraska

Mar 19, 2026

(29) znez

**NOTICE****NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE**

For default in the payment of debt secured by a deed of trust executed by Natasha McMahan and Chris McMahan, dated May 31, 2019, and recorded on June 17, 2019, Document No. 2019-00576, in Book No. 256, at Page 393 in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds, Kearney County, Nebraska, the undersigned Successor Trustee will on April 28, 2026, at 10:00 AM, at the assembly room of the Kearney County, Courthouse, Minden, Nebraska, sell at public vendue to the highest bidder for cash: **The South Ten Feet (S10') of Lot Two (2), and all of Lot Three (3), Block Twelve (12), Original Town of Axtell, Kearney County, Nebraska,** commonly known as 300 1st Ave, Axtell, NE, 68924

subject to all prior easements, restrictions, reservations, covenants and encumbrances now of record, if any, to satisfy the debt and costs.

Liliana E. Shannon,  
Successor Trustee  
First Publication: March 19, 2026

**NOTICE**

Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. §1692c(b), no information concerning the collection of this debt

Scandinavian  
Mutual Insurance Company

**Erin Pittz, Agent**

608 W 4th Street  
Axtell, NE 68924  
308.340.2145  
erinpittz.scmi@gmail.com

may be given without the prior consent of the consumer given directly to the debt collector or the express permission of a court of competent jurisdiction. The debt collector is attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose (No. 256961). For more information, visit [www.Southlaw.com](http://www.Southlaw.com)

Mar 19, 2026

Mar 26, 2026

Apr 2, 2026

Apr 9, 2026

Apr 16, 2026

(57) znez

**NOTICE****IN THE COUNTY COURT OF KEARNEY COUNTY, NEBRASKA ESTATE OF ERMA JEAN SCHARFF, DECEASED ESTATE NO. 26-9**

Notice is hereby given that on March 6th, 2026, in the County Court of Kearney County, Nebraska, the Registrar issued a written statement of Informal

Probate of the Will of said Decedent and that Sheila J. Bauer, whose address is 17324 Poppleton Avenue, Omaha, Nebraska 68130, 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 May 13, 2026, or be forever barred.

/s/ Laura B. Tobiassen  
Registrar

Kearney County Court  
Kearney County  
Courthouse  
Minden, NE 68959

Carson K. Messersmith  
#27365

KLEIN, BREWSTER, BRANDT & MESSERSMITH  
Attorney for Applicant  
P.O. Box 272  
Minden, NE 68959  
308-832-2150  
minden@kleinbrewster.com

Mar 12, 2026

Mar 19, 2026

Mar 26, 2026

(41) znez

**YOUR TAX DOLLARS.**

**YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW.**



**FIND OUT THREE WAYS**

EMAIL WEBSITE NEWSPAPER

**NEPublicNotices.com**

## NOTICE

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Notice is hereby given that a regular meeting of the Kearney County Joint Planning Commission will be held the 1st day of April 2026 @ 6:00 pm at the Kearney County Fairgrounds Building, in Minden, of Kearney County Nebraska.

The following is scheduled:  
· Public Meeting for consideration of wind and solar generation system regulation changes.

Questions or comments may be directed to the County Zoning Administrator's Office at 308-832-2795. An agenda for this meeting, kept continuously current, is available for public inspection at the office of the Zoning Administrator. The agenda may be modified prior to such meeting.

Carrie Favinger  
Zoning Administrator  
3/9/2026

Mar 19, 2026  
Mar 26, 2026  
(31) znez

## NOTICE

### NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that there has been organized under the Nebraska Uniform Limited Liability Company Act, the following-named limited liability company: CHB LLC. The street and mailing address of the initial designated office is 601 Ave. B, Axtell, Kearney County, Nebraska 68924. Colby L. L'Heureux is the initial agent at such address for purposes of service of process. The limited liability company commenced on February 24, 2026, and shall have

perpetual existence.

Dated: February 24, 2026  
CHB LLC,  
A Nebraska Limited  
Liability Company.  
By/s/ Andrew S. Olson  
Andrew S. Olson, Bar No.  
26841  
Dier, Osborn & Cox, P.C.,  
L.L.O.

Attorneys at Law  
419 East Avenue, P.O. Box  
586  
Holdrege, NE 68949-0586  
Phone: (308) 995-8621  
Fax: (308) 995-6062  
aolson@doclaw.net

Mar 5, 2026  
Mar 12, 2026  
Mar 19, 2026  
(38) znez

## NOTICE

### NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Latter Repair & Irrigation, Inc., a Nebraska Corporation (the "Corporation") has voluntarily dissolved pursuant to Neb.Rev.Stat. §21-201 et seq. and has filed Articles of Dissolution with the Nebraska Secretary of State. The dissolution was duly approved by the shareholders in the manner required by the Nebraska Model Business Corporation Act and the Articles of Incorporation. The name and title of the person who is winding up, managing the Corporation's affairs and distributing the assets and liabilities of the Corporation is Monica L. Latter, Director. Any creditor of the Corporation must submit written claims to Monica L. Latter at the following address: P.O. Box 40, Wilcox, NE 68982. Such claim shall include the claimant's name and address and a basis for the claim against the corporation. Any claim against the Corporation is barred unless an action to enforce the claim is com-

menced within three (3) years from March 12, 2026.  
Taylor A. L'Heureux  
DeWald Deaver L'Heureux,  
P.C. L.L.O.  
Mar 12, 2026  
Mar 19, 2026  
Mar 26, 2026  
(41) znez

## NOTICE

### IN THE COUNTY COURT OF KEARNEY COUNTY, NEBRASKA ESTATE OF BARBARA K. LYNN, DECEASED ESTATE NO. PR 26-7

Notice is hereby given that on February 26, 2026, in the County Court of Kearney County, Nebraska, the Registrar issued a written statement of Informal Probate of the Will of said Decedent and that Denise K. Rich, whose address is 1102 P Rd., Minden, NE 68959, 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 May 26, 2026, or be forever barred.

/s/Laura B. Tobiassen  
Clerk of the County Court  
Address of County Court:  
PO Box 377  
Minden, NE 68959  
Andrew S. Olson, Bar #26841  
Dier, Osborn & Cox, P.C.,  
L.L.O.  
419 East Avenue,  
P.O. Box 586  
Holdrege, NE 68949-0586  
aolson@doclaw.net  
Phone (308) 995-8621  
Fax (308) 995-6062  
Mar 5, 2026  
Mar 12, 2026  
Mar 19, 2026  
(38) znez



# Statewide Classifieds

### ANNOUNCEMENT

ADVERTISE STATEWIDE for \$225/25 word classified ad. Over 120 newspapers with circulation of more than 237,000. Contact your local newspaper or call 1-800-369-2850.

HELLO NEBRASKA! Introducing www.nepublicnotices.com, a new public notice website presented as a public service by all Nebraska newspapers. Free access, fully searchable – because democracy depends upon open government and your right to know.

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SWITCH AND save up to \$250/year on your talk, text and data. No contract and no hidden fees. Unlimited talk and text with flexible data plans. Premium nationwide coverage. 100% U.S. based customer service. For more information, call 1-877-768-5892

### FOR SALE - NEWSPAPER

1871 WEEKLY Newspaper For Sale. County-seat legal paper, strong profits, loyal readers. Prime digital upside. Owners retiring. beditor@gpcom.net | deditor@gpcom.net

### SENIOR CARE

PORTABLE OXYGEN Concentrator? May be covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility

with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 855-385-3580.

### HOME SERVICES

DOES YOUR basement or crawl space need some attention? Call Thrasher Foundation Repair! A permanent solution for waterproofing, failing foundations, sinking concrete and nasty crawl spaces. FREE Inspection & Same Day Estimate. \$250 off ANY project with code GET250. Call 1-844-958-3431

THE BATHROOM of your dreams in as little as 1 day. Limited Time Offer - \$1000 off or No Payments and No Interest for 18 months for customers who qualify. BCI Bath & Shower. Many options available. Quality materials & professional installation. Senior & Military Discounts Available. Call Today! 1-855-451-2244

### WANTED TO BUY

WE BUY 8,000 cars a week. Sell your old, busted or junk car with no hoops, haggles or headaches. Sell your car to Peddle. Easy three step process. Instant offer. Free pickup. Fast payment. Call 1-855-910-0760

Do something your future self will thank you for:

Get screened for colon cancer!

Colon Cancer Screening (women/men 45-74):

- FIT Kit screening (at-home screening)
- Colonoscopy

Scan the code or call TODAY to get an at-home FIT Kit screening test!



Nebraska Colon Cancer Screening Program 800-532-2227 || <https://preventionmatters.ne.gov/>

# SUDOKU

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Level: Intermediate

### CLUES ACROSS

- Inclined to do
- Sketches
- Book of Chronicles (abbr.)
- Atomic #58
- Dorm official
- Small Eurasian deer
- Southern constellation
- Workers' groups
- Former
- Excellent
- Romance language related to Spanish
- Reference
- Equally
- Dirty towels
- A cargo (abbr.)
- Ammunition
- You get one in summer
- Slang for trucks with trailers
- Swiss river
- Exchange rate
- British School
- College teacher
- Foreign Service
- Horse gear
- Cost to fly
- A salt or ester of boric acid
- Mocking
- One who bird-watches
- Concluding passage

# CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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|---|--|---------------------------------------|
| 54. A major division of geological time | 6. Where rockers work                    | 29. Payment (abbr.)                   |
| 55. Sodium                              | 7. Cut of beef: ___ mignon               | 31. Cuisine style                     |
| 56. A way to produce                    | 8. Nocturnal burrowing reptile           | 32. Genus of true flies               |
| 58. Soak                                | 9. Atomic #62                            | 33. City in western France            |
| 59. Laughed loudly and harshly          | 12. Genus of evergreen subshrubs         | 35. Arrogance                         |
| 60. Affirmative                         | 13. Flowering plant of the legume family | 38. One holding a position of command |
|   | 17. Inches per minute (abbr.)            | 41. Weekday                           |
|   | 19. Tropical fruit                       | 43. An evening party                  |
|   | 20. Hot fluid beneath the earth's crust  | 44. Print errors                      |
|   | 21. James ___, painter                   | 45. Not good                          |
|   | 25. Popular dessert                      | 46. Egyptian Sun god                  |
|   |  | 47. East German town                  |
|   |  | 49. Olfactory property                |
|   |  | 56. Atomic #37                        |
|   |  | 57. "Pollock" actor Harris            |

### CLUES DOWN

- Moth species phalonia
- Quantum of energy
- Break the law
- Location of White House
- Official cancellation of a

## 3.12.26 SOLUTIONS

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		D	A	O			T	A	M					
		D	I	S	T	E	M	P	E	R	E	D		
F	R	A	N	C	I	S	S	I	N	A	T	R	A	
L	A	T	T	I	C	E		P	A	P	A	Y	A	S
A	D							A	N	A		R	I	
P	I	C	T		A	B	C		T	H	E	S	E	S
S	O	A	Y		D	R	A	T		O	A	K		
	S	T	P		C	A	B	A	L		S	O	T	
		C	A	D		E	B	L	A		E	D	A	M
S	C	H	L	E	P		Y	A	M		S	A	N	A
C	A		C	U	B								N	T
I	N	D	W	E	L	L		P	R	A	I	R	I	E
	T	R	E	A	S	U	R	E	I	S	L	A	N	D
		O	B	S	E	R	V	A	N	T	L	Y		
		B	E	D						D	I	S		

## Local Classifieds

### SERVICES

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**Minden Community Players**  
*present*

# Clue

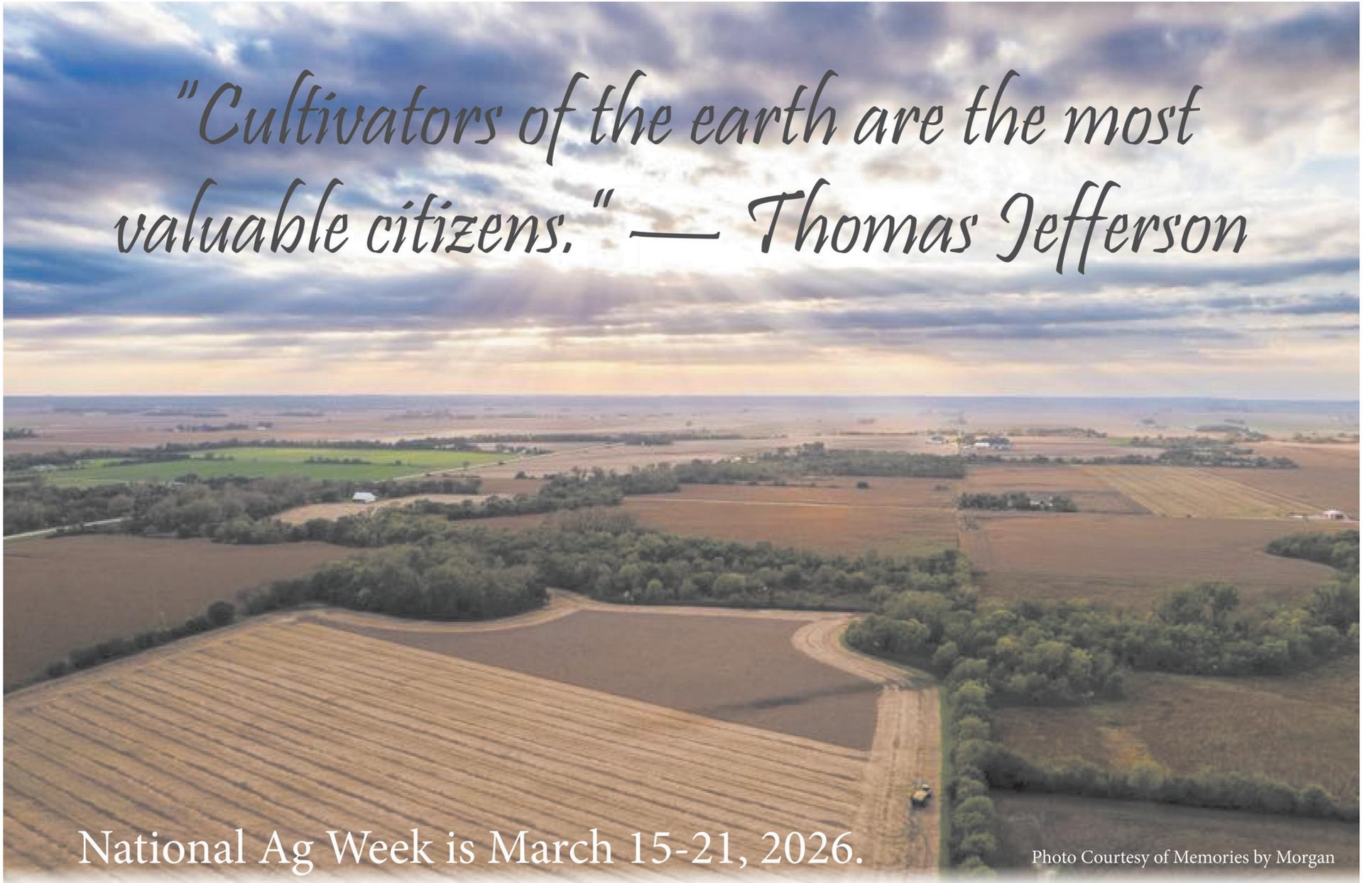
**MARCH 6 - 22**

**Tickets \$17.50**

Fri & Sat at 7:30 pm / Sun at 2:30 pm

**MINDENOPERAHOUSE.COM**

*"Cultivators of the earth are the most valuable citizens." — Thomas Jefferson*



National Ag Week is March 15-21, 2026.

Photo Courtesy of Memories by Morgan



McCann-Carpenter Dental, L.L.C.



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