The Minden COURIER

VOL 137 ISSUE 16 10.1.2026 32 PG $2

Community Champions Dick & Sally Phillips Earn Donation for MPS Foundation

CINDY RAMSEY

Between chants of 'Go Big Red' during the first home Husker game of the season were cheers and applause for a Minden couple. Dick and Sally Phillips were the first honorees in the Highstreet Insurance/Husker Community Champions campaign.

Last year, Highstreet Insurance partnered with the University of Nebraska and the Nebraska Cornhuskers to donate money to food banks for each sack the Huskers made. This year the partnership is celebrating "Community Champions".

During each Husker home football game, a Community Champion will be selected from the available nominations and recognized for their contributions to the people of their community. Not only will the champions be recognized by the Huskers during the game's broadcast, their communities will benefit from a $2,500 donation from Highstreet Insurance. By the end of the season, seven Community Champions will be recognized and seven communities will receive a generous donation from Highstreet Insurance.

In honor of Dick and Sally, Highstreet Insurance presented a check for $2,500 to the Minden Public Schools Foundation on September 23. Read on for the amazing tribute to a couple who have touched countless lives in our community shared by Highstreet Insurance.

Champion of the Underdog

Some people give back to their community. Others become part of its foundation.

For nearly four decades, Dick and Sally Phillips have invested their time, energy and hearts in generations of young people and families in Minden, Nebraska. They are a powerful example of what it means to build a resilient community by investing in its people.

Their story began in 1967, when the high school sweethearts arrived in Minden. Dick became a sixth-grade social studies teacher. Sally began working as a nurse.

cont. PAGE 3 - Community Champions



Minden couple Dick and Sally Phillips were the first honorees in the Highstreet Insurance/Husker Community Champions campaign at the first home Husker game of the season. On September 23, Highstreet Insurance presented a $2,500 check to the MPS Foundation in honor of the couple. Pictured left to right: Caleb Hoyt, Simon Mckenzie, and Johnie Kamery from Highstreet Insurance, Sally and Dick Phillips, Kirk Ramsey, Darcie Reed, and Steph Emery from MPS Foundation. (Courier photo by Cindy Ramsey)

Weather Forecast

Oct. 2:	67/50
Oct. 3:	70/54
Oct. 4:	69/49
Oct. 5:	68/53
Oct. 6:	71/53
Oct. 7:	69/51
Oct. 8:	68/49



INSIDE - Salute to Harvest



PAGES 16-18 - Home Field Football

News Briefs

WIC Clinic Dates

To enroll for WIC visit signupwic.com. A screening over the phone is completed before attending your appointment. In person WIC clinics in Kearney County will be held at United Methodist Church in Minden, 340 N. Newell on Monday, October 19; Monday, November 9; and Monday, December 21.

JML Touch-A-Truck

Jensen Memorial Library presents Touch-A-Truck on Saturday, October 10 from 10am-noon. Join them on the downtown square to learn about the vehicles that help the community thrive. Follow Jensen Memorial Library on Facebook and Instagram for information on other upcoming events.

Legion Membership Drive

The local Legion family is planning a membership drive for Tuesday, October 6 at The Windmill. We will start at 5:30pm with Auxiliary to get the "changing of the guard" taken care of. We are looking for members that may not have kept their dues paid and would like to get involved again. There were also eligibility changes at National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky that we want to share with everyone. This is how we can make sure that we get officers that are in place willing to share info with all the members and revitalize Americanism and patriotism efforts in the community. Officers from District 10 will be available to help answer questions and facilitate the meeting while getting members signed up and ready for the coming year. If you have any questions, please reach out to District 10 President Tina Nelson at 402-469-3367 or via email at district10aux@gmail.com or District 10 Vice-President Greg Smolick at 308-240-0475 1sgsmolik@gmail.com.We look forward to meeting with all of you.

Hunters Education

There will be a hunters' education class in Minden starting Monday, October 19 and running through the mentor hunt on Saturday, October 24. Classes will be held on October 19, 20, 22, 23, and 24. To join this class, register on the Nebraska Game and Parks' website. If you have any questions, please contact Delvin Schmidt at 308-830-0977.

Bleed Big Red in Minden

Husker fans, here's your chance to make a difference and help Nebraska compete in the Abbott & Big Ten® "We Give Blood" Challenge!

Join us at Kearney County Health Services (dining room) on Tuesday, October 13, from 10am–3pm to donate blood. Your donation can help save lives AND count toward Nebraska's total in the Big Ten challenge.

As a bonus, donors who log their donation for Nebraska can claim an exclusive, limited-edition Husker-themed Big Ten T-shirt while supplies last!

Visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter sponsor code: kearneycohealthne or call 1-800-RED-CROSS. You may also sign up by contacting Erin Schwenka at Kearney County Health Services 308-832-3400.

Be sure to submit your proof of donation online at BigTen.org/Abbott or text GIVEBLOOD to 222688 (ABBOTT) to make sure it counts toward the university's leaderboard total.

Check you email after logging your donation to score an exclusive, limited edition Husker themed Big Ten T-shirt by mail (while supplies last).

Anyone in the community can participant. You don't have to be a UNL student or alum. Schedule your appointment today, then follow the steps in the graphic to make sure your donation counts for Nebraska.

Let's show the Big Ten how Minden bleeds RED!

Minden Dance Kids Camp

The Minden High School Dance Team will host a Kids Camp on Friday, October 16. This camp is open to kids age PreK (potty trained) to 5th grade. Sign in will be held at 3pm and camp will run from 3:30-5:30pm in the high school commons area. Campers will perform during halftime on Friday, October 23. Registration of $35 includes cost of t-shirt. Forms will be sent home from school with more details or contact a dance member. Register by Friday, October 2.

SNHU Announces Summer 2026 Dean's List

PRESS RELEASE

Tannon Moreno of Minden (68959) has been named to Southern New Hampshire University's (SNHU) Summer 2026 Dean's List. The summer terms run from May to August.

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.500 to 3.699 for the reporting term are named to the Dean's List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits over each 16-week term or paired 8-week terms grouped in fall, winter/spring, and summer.

Subscribe Today!

Weather Recap

Date	High	Low	Precip.
9/19/26	78	64	.36
9/20/26	67	59	.01
9/21/26	69	54	.05
9/22/26	69	54	-
9/23/26	73	54	.04
9/24/26	61	56	1.54
9/25/26	68	58	.45
Total Week Precip.....			.....2.45

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 Kearney County for helping us make our paper great!

The Minden Courier

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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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from PAGE 1 - Community Champions

What followed was a lifetime of showing up for others.

For Dick, teaching was personal.

As a child, he struggled in school. He never imagined becoming a teacher until the Vietnam War led him to college, where he discovered a calling: helping students who needed someone to believe in them.

That experience shaped the teacher he became.

Known as a "champion of the underdogs," Dick had a gift for connecting with young people who were struggling academically, emotionally, developmentally or financially. He saw potential in students who sometimes struggled to see it themselves.

Over 36 years in Minden Public Schools, including 30 years as an assistant coach with the Minden wrestling program, he helped countless young people find confidence, belonging and a belief in what they could become.

But Dick and Sally's impact went far beyond the classroom.

They opened their home to students through Fellowship of Christian Athletes, growing a small basement gathering into a weekly event attended by more than one-third of Minden High School. Each year, the ministry culminated in a Colorado ski trip for nearly 300 students and sponsors, an extraordinary undertaking for a community of fewer than 3,000 people.

Their commitment eventually extended to families, too.

For more than 15 years, Dick and Sally founded and led Be The Gift, a nonprofit created to help single-parent families with practical needs, from home repairs and oil changes to scholarships and food distribution.

Sometimes helping a family means fixing what's broken. Sometimes it means putting food on the table. Sometimes it means taking one problem off a parent's shoulders when they already have too many to carry.

Sally's impact has been just as meaningful. She co-founded and co-hosted FCA, helped lead Be The Gift, spent years teaching Sunday School and confirmation classes, and continually found ways to serve the people around her. Together, their influence has reached thousands of lives.

But numbers don't really tell their story.

The better measure is found in the former students who still remember, it's in the families who received help when they were struggling. It's in the young people who found community around a basement table. It's in the people who carried those lessons into their own lives.

That is what makes Dick and Sally such meaningful Community Champions.

They understood that resilient communities aren't built because everything goes right. They're built because people are willing to stand beside one another when it doesn't. That spirit runs deeply through Dick and Sally's story and reflects something at the heart of Highstreet's mission: building resilient communities for all our futures.

And decades later, their impact lives on in the people who are more confident, connected and prepared for what comes next because Dick and Sally believed in them.

That's the real measure of a Community Champion: not what you build for yourself, but what remains in the people you invest in.

They've helped an entire community see possible.

How Property Taxes Are Assessed in Nebraska

OP-ED BY SENATOR DAN LONOWSKI

In Nebraska, county governance plays a crucial role in establishing and managing property taxes, a primary source of funding for local public services. The process relies on a structured system of checks and balances divided among distinct county offi cials and boards. At the center of this fi nancial framework is the county board—composed of elected county commissioners or supervisors—which holds the ultimate authority to levy and set the fi nal property tax rates required to fund county operations, public schools, law enforcement, and vital infrastructure.

Before the county board can set these rates, the county assessor must determine the foundation of the tax: the value of the property itself. As an elected offi cial, the assessor evaluates all real estate and tangible personal property within the county to estimate its current market value. Because these assessments directly impact how much a property owner will pay, the county board of equalization steps in to ensure fairness. This board reviews the assessments, hears grievances from property owners, and adjusts valuations to maintain equity and impartiality across the county.

Once valuations are fi nalized and the county board approves the tax levies, the fi nancial cycle moves to collection. The county treasurer is responsible for billing and collecting the property taxes from residents. After collection, the treasurer distributes these funds not only to county departments but also to other local tax-levying entities, including public school districts, community colleges, and city governments.

Ultimately, Nebraska's county tax system relies on collaboration. By separating the duties of valuation, equalization, rate-setting, and collection, the state ensures that local government remains funded while maintaining regulatory oversight and avenues for taxpayer recourse.

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UNK Band Day brings music, marching to downtown Kearney

PRESS RELEASE

KEARNEY – The beat of drums and sound of brass echoed through downtown Kearney on Saturday as student musicians took center stage during a traditional fall event.

A total of 32 middle and high school marching bands from across the state joined the University of Nebraska at Kearney for the 67th annual UNK Band Day Parade.

A long-standing staple of the fall marching season, UNK Band Day is both a celebration of music and competition. It serves as preparation for the Harvest of Harmony Parade and Field Competition, scheduled for Oct. 3 in Grand Island.

For the 10th straight year, Kearney High School won the sweepstakes trophy awarded to the top overall band. The Bearcats also received the outstanding drum line and color guard awards.

Other first-place honors went to Gering in Class A, Holdrege in Class B, Amherst in Class C, Parkview Christian in Class D and Lexington in the middle school division.

UNK Band Day Results

Sweepstakes Trophy
Kearney High School

Outstanding Drum Line
Kearney High School

Outstanding Color Guard
Kearney High School

Class AA
1st – Kearney High School
2nd – Grand Island Senior High
3rd – Columbus High School

Class A
1st – Gering

Class B
1st – Holdrege
2nd – Grand Island Central Catholic
3rd – Kearney Catholic

Class C
1st – Amherst
2nd – Doniphan-Trumbull
3rd – Ravenna

Class D
1st – Parkview Christian
2nd – Arcadia
3rd – Wilcox-Hildreth

Middle School
1st – Lexington
2nd – Ogallala
3rd – Faith Christian









America 250 Traveling Flag

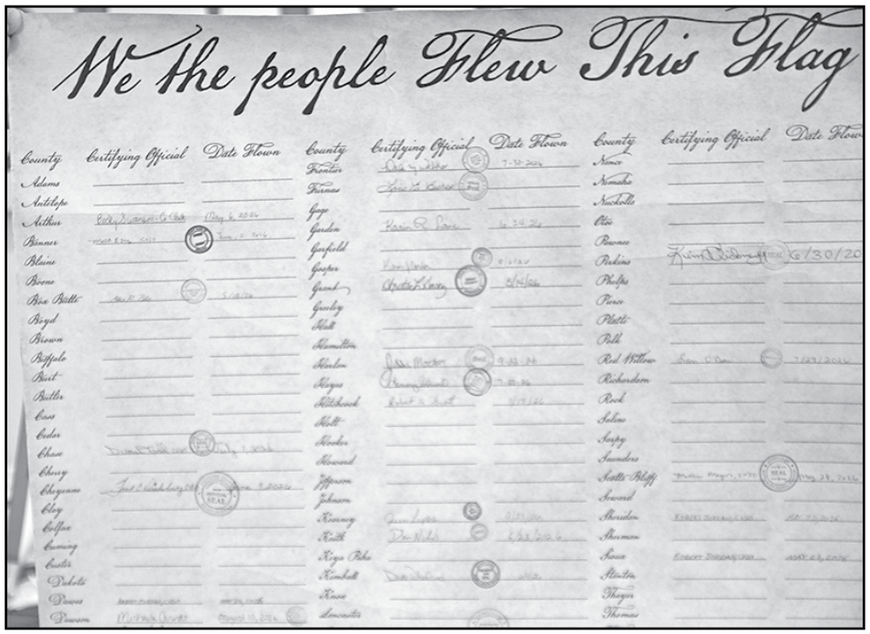
A commemorative flag is traveling across the state connecting communities in honor of America's 250th anniversary. On September 23, the flag was raised in Kearney County at the Veteran Services Office.

America 250 traveling flag participants display the flag for a single day before passing it onto the next participant for display. A log sheet accompanies the flag to keep track of its journey across Nebraska. The top portion of the log, titled 'We The People Flew This Flag', is for courthouses in each county. All other locations sign and date the log under 'Others Who Flew The Flag' along with their location.

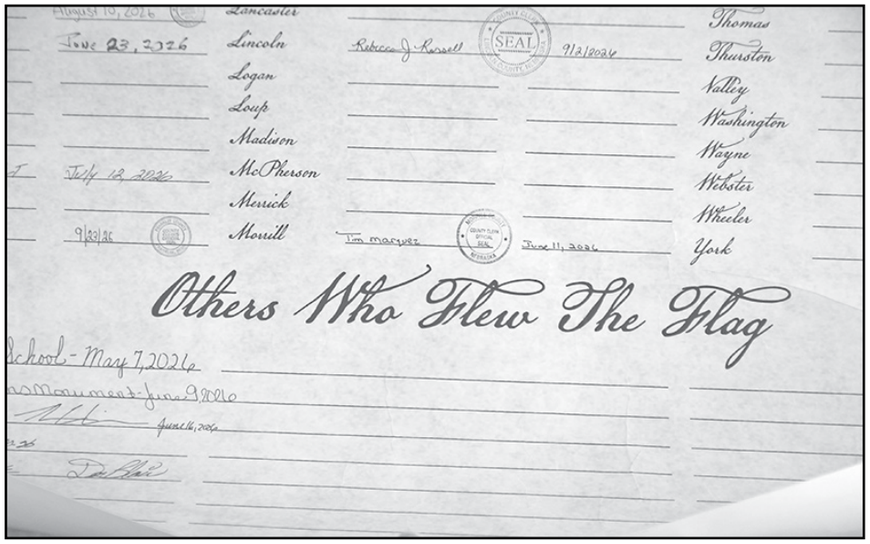
Participants are helping create a meaningful, statewide tribute to 250 years of American history and the people and communities who continue to shape it.

(Courier photos by Carrie Conner)











Minden Homecoming



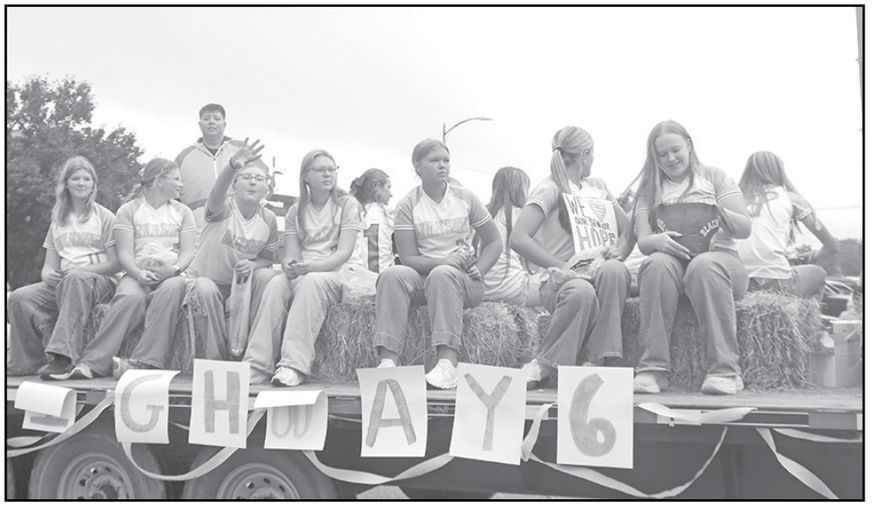
Minden High School held its 2026 homecoming parade and coronation on Friday afternoon around the square and at the Minden Opera House. (left) Royalty were Queen Sophia Birkestrand and King Frank Kovacs. (clockwise from right) Children First Childcare fills the air with bubbles during the parade. High school sports teams including volleyball and softball had floats in the parade. The MHS dance team encouraged school spirit with their pom poms and dance moves. The MHS band provided music for the occasion. (Courier photos by Carrie Conner and Cindy Ramsey)











How to Identify New and Emerging Leaders

AUDRA ESPINOZA, CENTER FOR RURAL AFFAIRS

Every thriving small town has one thing in common: people who are willing to step up, invest their time, and work alongside others to make their community better. Strong leaders don't just keep good work moving forward. They inspire others, build momentum, and help shape a brighter future for everyone.

However, communities can't rely on the same people forever. If we want our towns to remain vibrant and resilient, we must also identify, encourage, and invest in the next generation of leaders.

As you think about who might be ready to lead, consider whether that person looks for ways to make things better. Do they see challenges as opportunities instead of roadblocks? Do they take responsibility and have the persistence to follow through? Do they encourage and bring out the best in those around them?

Are they well respected by their peers, a self-starter who takes initiative, and someone who has already demonstrated leadership?

Did someone come to mind? If so, don't keep it to yourself. Sometimes all it takes is someone saying, "I think you'd be great at this," to give a future leader the confidence to step forward.

Developing new leaders is one of the most important responsibilities today's leaders have. Yet we often hear from emerging leaders that they aren't given the chance to contribute their ideas or take on meaningful roles. When that happens, communities don't just lose fresh perspectives. They risk losing talented people who are eager to make a difference.

When we intentionally invest in the next generation of leaders, everyone benefits. Leadership transitions become smoother, new ideas take root, and communities are better prepared to meet tomorrow's challenges.

The future of our small towns depends not on finding the perfect leader, but on encouraging the potential that already exists within our communities.

Black Hills Energy Supports Volunteer Fire Departments Through Funds for Firefighters Program

PRESS RELEASE

Volunteer firefighters play a critical role in protecting the communities we serve, often responding to emergencies while balancing careers, families and other responsibilities. Through the Black Hills Corporation Foundation's Funds for Firefighters program, Black Hills Energy is proud to support these local heroes with resources that help keep communities safe.

This year, the Foundation awarded $165,000 through 72 grants benefiting volunteer and combination fire departments across its service territory. The grants are expected to positively impact residents in 72 communities across seven states.

In Nebraska, 24 fire departments received $40,000. Local recipients were:

Minden Fire & Rescue: battery-operated ventilation fan

Funds for Firefighters grants help departments purchase critical equipment and resources, including:

Protective gear such as coats, helmets, boots and safety equipment

Rescue and emergency response tools

Communication equipment and radios

Fire suppression equipment, hoses and nozzles

Infrastructure improvements and facility upgrades

Other mission-critical equipment identified by local departments

"Volunteer firefighters answer the call when their neighbors need them most," said Andy Storf, general manager of Nebraska operations at Black Hills Energy. "We are honored to support these dedicated first responders through the Funds for Firefighters program and help provide the equipment and resources they need to serve their communities safely and effectively."

The Funds for Firefighters program aligns with the Foundation's commitment to building thriving communities throughout its service territory.

Since 2001, the Black Hills Corporation Foundation has granted more than $10,000,000 to organizations across the communities we serve.

To learn more about Black Hills Energy's commitment to community impact, visit blackhillsenergy.com/community.

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City Council Approves 2026-27 Budget

CINDY RAMSEY

The Minden City Council held its 2026-27 budget hearing on September 21. The hearing was closed with no public comment given. The council's regular meeting followed the hearing.

In a staff report for the August 2026 treasury report, the council learned large changes in the tax funds reflect a large payment to Diamond Construction for the 7th Street project. Enterprise funds are up from last month as a result in increased utility revenues for the summer. All of these changes have the overall treasury up slightly from last month. Following the presentation, the council approved the August 2026 treasury report to be filed for audit.

There were no significant changes to note in the August 2026 budget report. Revenues continue to outpace expenses leaving the City in a good position. The council approved the August 2026 budget report as presented.

Resolution 1847 for the property tax request was presented to the council. The property tax request and proposed levy are down slightly from last year despite the City's budget increasing because of increased valuations. The council approved the resolution. Mayor Larry Evans shared there is a lot to consider when preparing the tax request as the state legislature considers actions that could affect city funding.

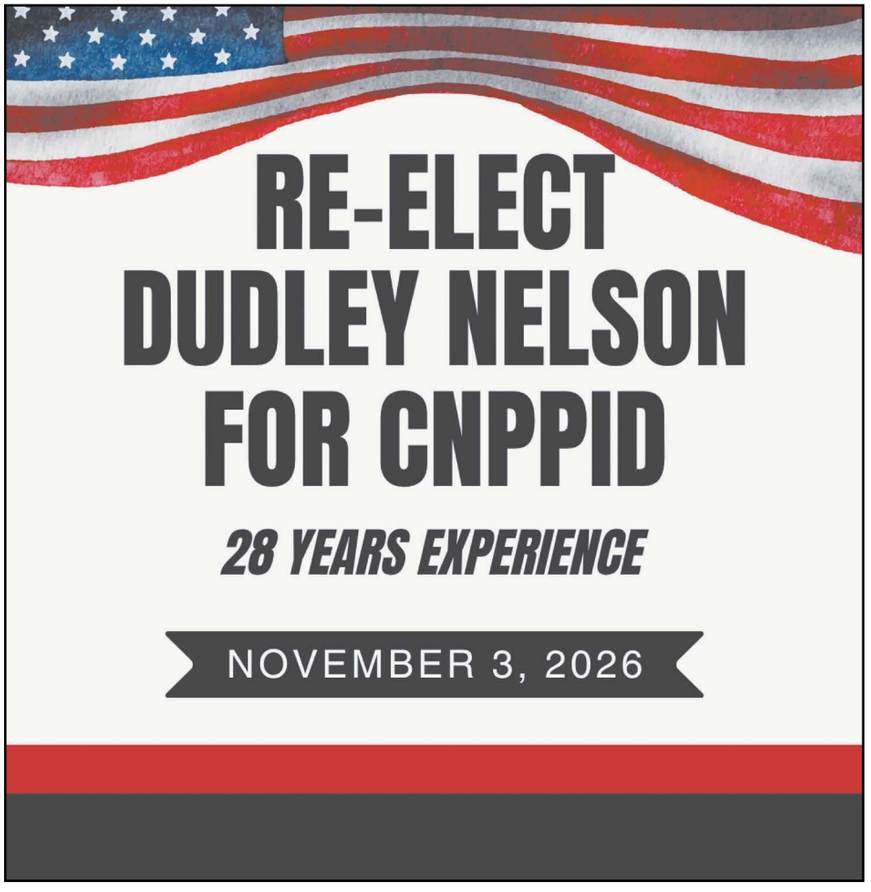
The City's 2026-27 budget includes revenues of approximately $19 million and expenses of nearly $21 million as well as a $1.9 million contingency. The council was given a breakdown of the budget by department to review as well as an overall summary of the budgeted revenues and expenses. The council approved the budget as proposed. This was followed by approval of Ordinance 1330 to adopt the 2026-27 budget statement. The council waived the three readings and adopted the ordinance by title.

Paving in the 7th Street improvement project that includes Tower Avenue and Nebraska Avenue is getting completed. With this progress, the council approved payment #2 in the amount of $313,335.68 to Diamond Engineering Company for the work.

The new Fill-N-Chill building has also progressed leading the council to the next few agenda items. All of the utilities have been moved from the former alley removing the need for temporary easements the council approved in January. The council approved motions to release the temporary easements in the former alley and issuance of payment to the Kearney County Clerk for filing.

Fill-N-Chill property was previously owned by both Hoff Brothers LLC and PSK LLC, but the entire property is now owned by PSK LLC. The council approved a motion for a minor subdivision to combine all of the lots and issuance of payment to the Kearney County Clerk for filing fees. This will allow the new store to be constructed across former property lines.

In other business the council: Approved September 8 minutes. Approved bills and claims. Approved payment of $385.20 to Rembolt Ludtke LLP for legal services.



L.T. PEDLEY DRUG

Pedley Drug is seeking a part-time/full-time pharmacy technician able to work in a fast-paced, professional, customer-oriented environment. No nights, no holidays. Some Saturday mornings. Must be detail oriented and able to multi-task. If not currently certified, Nebraska certification will be obtained while training.

Benefits include: 401K and 401K matching, Health Insurance, Paid Time Off, and Employee Discount

Send resume to:
PO Box 108 MINDEN, NE 68959
Or pedleydrug@hotmail.com
Or pick up application at Pedley Drug
419 N Colorado Avenue
Phone Inquiries: (308) 832-2815

Moving and Grooving at KCHS Community Day









Kearney County Health Services hosted a morning of movement and education during their Free to Move and Safe to Groove Community Day on September 26. The day began with a fun run that invited participants to dress in their groovy duds. Coffee Spur coffee truck was on site for a caffeine boost as the community was invited to join a health fair with educational materials and activities, touch-a-truck opportunities, and lots of giveaways. The event wrapped up with a free lunch provided by KCHS. (Courier photos by Cindy Ramsey)



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1209 Blaine St. - Holdrege
2 Bed, 2 Bath, 2 car garage



105 11th St. - Minden
Commercial/Industrial Property



209 Oak St. - Minden
3 Bed, 2 Bath, 3 car garage



3360 S Southern Hills Dr. - Hastings
3 Bed, 2.5 Bath, 3 acres



1823 Bateman St. - Hastings
2 Bed, 1 Bath, 1 car garage



1202 O St. - Franklin
1 Bed, 2 Bath, 1 car det. garage



1041 Birch St. - Minden
3 Bed, 2 Bath, 2 car garage



121 S Minden - Minden
2 Bed, 1 Bath, 2 car det. garage



1401 Marshall St. - Wood River
3 Bed, 2 Bath, 2 car garage



12080 Antioch Ave. - Glenvil
3 Bed, 2 Bath, 4.58 acres



105 W 6th St. - Grand Island
2 Bed, 2 Bath, 1 car det. garage



809 Hwy. 281 - Red Cloud
2 Bed, 2 Bath, 2.87 acre lot



1042 Birch St. - Minden
3 Bed, 2 Bath, 2 car garage



1136 Road T - Blue Hill
4 Bed, 1 Bath, 6.82 acre lot

High School Students of the Month



Axtell

Name: Arianna Nickel **Grade:** Freshman

Achievements: Arianna has been our hardest working employee for Wildcat Business. We've had some pretty big orders come in, and Arianna jumped right in and got to work. She would come in on a workday and instantly ask what she could do or would volunteer for any jobs that needed done.

What attributes does the student have that helped her achieve success: She is respectful and responsible. She is not afraid of hard work, and she wants to see the business succeed. ~ Mrs. Tara Smith

Minden

Name: Dalton Pasbrig **Grade:** Senior

Achievements: Rocket League Division 2 2024 State Champion & 2025 Runner-Up, 2 Year Team Captain (Esports)

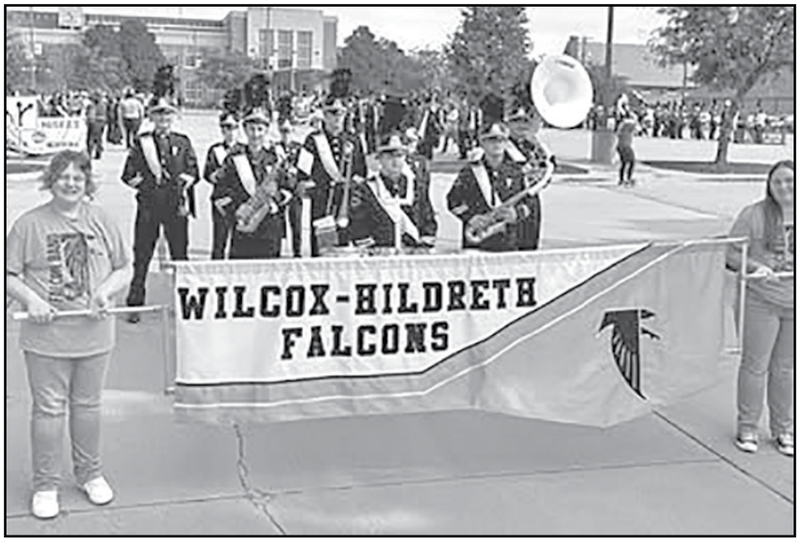
Challenges he has overcome: Being in a lot of activities and sports that have coinciding schedules with Esports has made it difficult for Dalton to make it to every match; however, whether he is competing or watching from afar he makes sure to support and cheer on his teammates every week.

What attributes does the student have that helped him achieve success: Dalton has always shown commitment to the team and passion for what he is doing year after year.

Dalton has continued to be a supportive and competitive student for years and has become a phenomenal guide and leader for our newer and less-experienced students. ~ Coach Markus Ramsey



Wilcox-Hildreth



Marching with a crew of just nine members, our incredible Falcon band gave an outstanding performance and brought home our first UNK Band Day trophy in over 10 years!

When every single musician counts, these nine stepped up, poured their hearts into the music, and proved that size doesn't limit success.

Seniors: Craig Bunger, Taylor Ingram, Tylar Johnson, Landin Braddy

Juniors: Jacob Jezbera, Luke Lush

Freshman: Bianca Herfel, Dax Knaus, Jordan Burki

Banner Holders: Ireland and Gracelynn Yochum

STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS

RISING AG LLC
Jared Brader
402.984.4043 - risingag.com
PIONEER BRAND · SEEDS

Glenwood

Scandinavian Mutual Insurance Company
Erin Pittz, Agent
608 W 4th Street Axtell, NE 68924
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L.T. PEDLEY DRUG

AB Anderson Bros.
Electric, Plumbing, & Heating, Inc.

Calendars and Menus

Minden Public Schools

MENUS:

Friday, Oct. 2: BREAKFAST: Cheese omelet, cereal; LUNCH: Cheeseburger, chips

Monday, Oct. 5: BREAKFAST: Cereal, hard boiled egg; LUNCH: BBQ pork rib sandwich

Tuesday, Oct. 6: BREAKFAST: Breakfast sandwich; LUNCH: Beef & noodles, dinner roll

Wednesday, Oct. 7: BREAKFAST: Scrambled eggs, banana bread; LUNCH: Chicken fried steak, potatoes and gravy

Thursday, Oct. 8: BREAKFAST: Biscuits and gravy; LUNCH: Chili, cinnamon roll

Friday, Oct. 9: BREAKFAST: Donut bites, yogurt; LUNCH: Chicken and waffles

o-o-o

ACTIVITIES:

Friday, Oct. 2: V FB @ Broken Bow, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 3: Harvest of Harmony

Monday, Oct. 5: NSAA Class C4 V Girls District G; JV FB vs. Adams Central, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 6: NSAA Class C4 V Girls District G; 8th grade VB @ Hastings St. Cecilia, 4:30 p.m.; 7th grade VB vs. Sunrise MS, 4:30 p.m.; 7th grade FB @ Cozad, 5 p.m.; 8th grade FB @ Cozad, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 7: FCCLA District Leadership Conference; FFA Land Judging Contest, 8 a.m.

Thursday Oct. 8: NSAA District SB; 8th grade/JV/V Boys & Girls XC Southwest Conference Championships @ Cozad, 4 p.m.; V VB Triangular @ Prairie View, 6 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 9: NSAA District SB; V FB vs. Holdrege, 7 p.m.

Wilcox-Hildreth Public Schools

MENUS:

Friday, Oct. 2: BREAKFAST: Donuts; LUNCH: Pulled pork on a bun

Monday, Oct. 5: NO SCHOOL

Tuesday, Oct. 6: BREAKFAST: Pancakes; LUNCH: Walking tacos

Wednesday, Oct. 7: BREAKFAST: Tornados; LUNCH: Personal pizza

Thursday, Oct. 8: BREAKFAST: Breakfast pizza; LUNCH: Lasagna

Friday, Oct. 9: BREAKFAST: Banana bread; LUNCH: Chicken nuggets

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ACTIVITIES:

Friday, Oct. 2: Flu Shots; PK-6 Team meeting, 7:45 a.m.; XC FKC @ Overton (TBD), 10 a.m.; FB @ Franklin, 3 p.m.; VB @ Franklin, 5 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 5: NO SCHOOL; JV FB @ Shelton

Tuesday, Oct. 6: FBLA meeting, 11:40 a.m.; VB @ Bertrand Triangular, 5 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 7: FFA Land Judging; 4th grade Zoom Field Trip, 11 a.m.; NHS meeting, 11:40 a.m.; JH FB & VB @ Sumner-Eddyville-Miller, 1 p.m.; MTSSA Team meeting, 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 8: 7-12 Team meeting, 7:45 a.m.; ASVAB (Juniors), 8 a.m.; XC @ Falcon Invite, 1 p.m.; JH VB @ Silver Lake, 3 p.m.; VB @ Silver Lake Triangular, 5 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 9: PK-6 Team meeting, 7:45 a.m.; CCC Diesel Technology Ag Classroom visit, 1:58 p.m.; FB @ Arapahoe, 7 p.m.

Axtell Community School

ACTIVITIES:

Friday, Oct. 2: NO SCHOOL; XC @ FKC Invite @ Overton, 10 a.m.; FB @ Overton, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 3: Harvest of Harmony

Monday, Oct. 5: JH/JV FB & VB vs. Loomis, 3 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 6: Ready to Stand Curriculum Social Media 8th, 10, 12th grades; JV VB @ Arapahoe, 5 p.m.; V VB @ Arapahoe, 6 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 7: FFA District Land Judging-HS only; Title Parent's meeting, 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 8: XC @ Wilcox-Hildreth Invite, 1 p.m.; JV/V VB @ Pleasanton Triangular, 5 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 9: FB vs. Pleasanton, 7 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, Oct. 5: Fried chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, dinner roll, fruit and dessert

Tuesday, Oct. 6: Baked steak, baked potato, winter blend, muffin and fruit

Wednesday, Oct. 7: Pancakes, sausage, salad, fruit and dessert

Thursday, Oct. 8: Spaghetti, green bean, garlic bread and fruit

Friday, Oct. 9: Salmon patties, fried potatoes, buttered carrots, bread, fruit and dessert

RYDE Transportation For All Ages

RYDE Transit offers public transportation for all residents of Minden and Kearney County, Monday thru Friday – 8:00am to 5:00pm. Service is available to Minden and all of Kearney County, and out of town trips to Kearney, Holdrege, Hastings, and Grand Island. Please call at least 24 hours in advance for a ride.

RYDE Transit provides transportation for medical care, therapy, education, jobs, and shopping for individuals of all ages.

Call 308.832.2139 to schedule your ride. Public Transportation is easy to ride, and open to everyone.

A & L Leveling
Ditch & Pit Cleaning
Minden
Mobile • 830-0163 - Leonard • 830-0161 - Todd
Business • 832-0427



2 ONLINE LAND AUCTIONS
GET REGISTERED TODAY!!
158.35+/- Deeded Acres
CHAMBERS, NE HIGHWAY 95 HAY MEADOW
*Artesian & Electric Wells
Bidding Start: October 27, 2026 at 1:00 pm (Central)
Bidding Closes: November 3, 2026 at 1:00 pm (Central)
From Chambers, NE: Travel 1.5 miles West on State Highway 95 to the North Boundary of the property. Excellent access. High capacity grazing or haying.
O'NEILL, NE HAY MEADOW WITH 1/2 MILE OF ELKHORN RIVER
160+/- Deeded Acres
Bidding Start: October 30, 2026 at 1:00 pm (Central)
Bidding Closes: November 6, 2026 at 1:00 pm (Central)
General Property Location: From the Intersection of Hwy. 281 and 870 Road South of O'Neill, travel 2.25 West to 490th Ave, then ½ mile North to the southwest corner of the property.
Check our Website for Complete Terms & Conditions of these Online Only Land Auctions!
"Dedicated to the Success of Our Clients"
Land Marketers Realty
TRAVIS DOUGHERTY, Broker
Mobile (402) 336-7612
Office (402) 336-4444
www.LandMarketers.com

Do You Remember

Ninety Years Ago — 1936

Rev. Thompson opened his new service station at the junction of Highways 6 and 10; the establishment, Thompson's Service Station, handled Texaco gasoline and oils.

Mr. Carl Anderson purchased the F.O. Peterson property in north Minden last week and was making preparations to build a new sale barn on the property. Anderson was to manage the sales organization and C.A. Olson & Son were to be the auctioneers.

Eighty Years Ago — 1946

The Minden Saddle Club enjoyed an afternoon riding last Sunday. New members are being added at each week's ride. Plans for next week are to make a river ride and have a picnic lunch.

Scoring in all four quarters, Minden's high school football team had little trouble handling Oxford's gridsters, 26-0, last Friday on the local field.

William Bos and son, Gerald, of the Minden Creamery recently announced a new service to their patrons living on the Union Pacific railroad in the Kearney area. The creamery now makes daily trips to Kearney where they meet the trains, bring the cream from that point, and return the empty cans the next day. The new arrangement serves both the Minden establishment and their customers.

Seventy Years Ago — 1956

Harvey Spilker took over as the new chairman of the Kearney County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation committee; he had been elected by the community delegates to the county convention. Other officers elected were C.W. Lynn, vice chairman; Harold Schneider, third member; Kenneth Holsten, first alternate; and Dale Wells, second alternate.

"Billy The Kid," starring Robert Taylor was showing this week at the Minden Theatre in Tecnincolor. Next week's show was "Bhowani Junction," with Ava Gardner, Stewart Granger, Bill Travers and Abraham Sofaer.

Sixty Years Ago — 1966

Mrs. Ralph Davidson, Mrs. Calvin Steen and Mrs. Gilbert Nelson were local women attending the American Baptists Women of Nebraska annual state convention.

In a neighborhood FKC showdown between the Wilcox Eagles and Axtell Wildcats, the Eagles came away with an impressive 34-6 win. The win brought Wilcox's season to 4-0.

Ken's Snack Bar, owned by Kenneth "Pat" Patterson celebrated its grand opening on Oct. 1. The business was located at the corner of Sixth and Colorado.

Fifty Years Ago — 1976

Nineteen students passed the Hunters Safety class given at the Minden Gun Club. Minden students included Boyd Jacobsen, Danny Villars, Tim Smith, David Johnson, Jim Schneider, Dean Warner, Jeff Johnson, Mike Zern, Nathan Talbert, Paul Talbert, Brian Fahrenbruch, Joe Hogeland, Kevin Mildfeldt, Dennis Jensen and Denise Jensen.

Sharen Lukow had the high score in the women's morning bowling league with a 169; coming in second was Sherryl Swartz followed by Marie Morris. The winning team for the week was Harmack, Inc., coming in second were The Farmers' Wives.



2016 — The Minden Optimist Club held its annual Punt, Pass & Kick competition at Augie Nelson Park. Shown from left are medalists from 6-11 year olds - Dedric Cervantes, Carter Harsin, Brysen Schwenka, Luke Grollmes, Landon Grollmes, Cloee Johnson, Cody Jensen and Jeff Scheibel. Top placers in each division were 6-7 boys - Cohen Schmidt, first; Cole Schwenka, second; and Landon Grollmes, third. 8-9 boys - Luke Grollmes, first; Jeff Scheibel, second; and Cody Jensen, third. 10-11 boys - Carter Harsin, first; Brysen Schwenka, second; and Dedric Cervantes, third. 10-11 girls - Cloee Johnson, first.

Forty Years Ago — 1986

Second Lt. Christopher C. Berggren, son of Gary and Dorothy Berggren of Axtell, has been awarded silver wings following graduation from U.S. Air Force navigator training at Mather Air Force Base, Calif.

A group of Hildreth students attended the Republican Party Rally in Omaha, which featured President Ronald Reagan. Attending were Dan Benz, Amy Jo DeJonge, Amy Hinrichs, Tami Lindau and Leann Johnson.

Thirty Years Ago — 1996

Progress on the grant application for a downtown project was underway. The Minden Main Street Program was looking to beautify the square with landscaping at the end of each parking island.

The Axtell Wildcat Marching Band took first place in Class D at the University of Nebraska at Kearney Band Day. Accepting the trophy were director Arlyce Johnson and Drum Major Richard Shanahan.

Twenty Years Ago — 2006

The staff of McCann-Carpenter Dental Clinic of Minden volunteered their time and services for the Mission of Mercy free dental clinic in Grand Island.

Adrian Smith, candidate for Nebraska's Third Congressional District, made a stop at Heartland Co-op in Minden as part of his 'Harvest Tour'. Smith also made stops at the Westcott farm near Holdrege and the Swanson farm near Wilcox in an effort to discuss issues with producers from across central Nebraska.

The Minden Lady Whippet golfers became the 2006 Southwest Conference champions with all six members of the varsity team finishing in the top ten of the competition.

Ten Years Ago — 2016

Be the Gift Nebraska distributed several hundred pounds of meat from hogs purchased at the 4H livestock auction to single parent families. Meat Mondays was a recent addition to the services offered by Be The Gift. The Monday meat program began providing meat to single parent families just over one prior with an estimated 3,000 pounds of donated beef and pork handed out in that time.

McCann-Carpenter Dentistry visited with Minden preschool students to teach them proper dental hygiene. At the end of the visit, students were given a new toothbrush from the dental office.

The descendants of Michael and Caroline (Whittle) Strine gathered in the community room of Bethany Home in Minden for their annual reunion. Phyllis Bartlett brought some of her family picture books and Gloria LeDroit brought a small display of family trees printed from her ancestry files, all of which generated much discussion and story-telling. The display showed life timelines for the parents of Michael Strine. Heinrich Strine was born in Strinesville, Pa., (named for an ancestor who was recruited by William Penn to come to the New World) on Oct. 4, 1826. (The younger folks were amazed that his birth was 190 years ago!)

Church Directory

Axtell

Bethany Lutheran
903 25 Road
BethanyAxtell.org
(308) 743-2597
Marcia Dorn, Pastor
Sunday, Oct. 4: 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, Oct. 4: Worship, 9 a.m.; Sunday School, 10:00 a.m.

Keene Evangelical Free
662 F Road
308-743-2611
Matthew Snell, Pastor
Sunday, Oct. 4: Worship service, 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.; Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 7: Evening Bible Study, 7 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran, LCMC
104 E. Fifth St.
Craig Richardson, Pastor
Sunday, Oct. 4: Sunday School/Juice & Donuts, 9:30 a.m.; Worship/Communion, 10:30 a.m.

Campbell

St. Anne Catholic
Father Adam Sparling, Pastor
Sunday, Oct. 4: Mass, 8 a.m.

Trinity Lutheran
360 So. Stewart
(402) 756-8552
Greg Volsky, Vacancy Pastor
Sunday, Oct. 4: Worship, 9:30 a.m. with Sunday school to follow

United Westminster Presbyterian
Broad and Main Street
Mark A. Diehl, Pastor
Sunday, Oct. 4: Worship, 10 a.m.

Funk

Fridhem Lutheran
401 Lake Street
Daren Popple, Pastor
Sunday, Oct. 4: 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, Oct. 4: Worship, 10:30 a.m.

Holy Family Catholic Mission Parish
287 Jefferson Street
Father Evan Winter
Sunday, Oct. 4: Mass, 8:30 a.m.

Hildreth

Trinity Lutheran
502 Sanders Avenue
Caroline Schenk, Pastor
Sunday, Oct. 4: 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, Oct. 4: 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, Oct. 4: Worship service, 9 a.m.

Minden

Bethany Lutheran
437 E. Fourth St.
Don Hunzeker, Pastor
Julie Schmidt, Parish Ministry Associate
Thursday, Oct. 1: Men's Prayer Breakfast, 7 a.m.
Saturday, Oct. 3: Walking, 8 a.m.
Sunday, Oct. 4:Contemporary Worship, 8:30 a.m.; Blended-Traditional Worship, 10:30 a.m.; Holy Communion at both services
Tuesday, Oct. 6: Piece Corps Quilting, 1 p.m.; Bible Study, 7 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 7: Church Club, 5 p.m.; Wednesday Night Supper Club, 6 p.m.; Confirmation, 6:30 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 8: Men's Prayer Breakfast, 7 a.m.; Miriam Circle, 9 a.m.
Stay connected with our website, Bethanyminden.org

Evangelical Free
1310 W. First St.
Tom Barnes, Lige Reed, Pastors
Sunday, Oct. 4: Worship, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday School, 11 a.m.

First Christian Church Disciples of Christ
444 N. Brown Ave.
Come grow with us!
Call (308) 832-2693
Sunday, Oct. 4: Worship service, 9:30 a.m.; Church Family Fellowship after worship services; Sunday School, 11 a.m.; Grandparents Day
Ladies' Bible Study Tuesdays @ Bloomfield Home, 9 a.m.

Fredericksburg Lutheran
616 33 Road
Julie Schmidt, Parish Ministry Associate
Don Hunzeker, Pastor
Sunday, Oct. 4: 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, Oct. 3: Mass, 5:30 p.m., confessions before Mass
Sunday, Oct. 4: 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, Oct. 2: Breakfast & Prayer, 7 a.m.; Homecoming Parade, 2:30 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 4 Church Council Chat, 8:30 a.m.; Sunday School/Adult Bible Study, 9 a.m.; Worship, 10:15 a.m.; Fellowship, Coffee & Cookies, 11:15 a.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 6: Choir practice, 7 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 7: JYM Basic, 3:45 p.m.; Communion, 6:30 p.m.; JYM Advanced, 7 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 8: Bible Study, 6:30 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 9: Breakfast & Prayer, 7 a.m.

United Methodist
340 N. Newell Ave.
Kayla M. Mangrich, Pastor
Thursday, Oct.1: Prayer Time, 1:30 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 4: Sunday School,9 a.m.; Worship, 10 a.m.
Thursday, Oct. 8: Prayer Time, 1 :30 p.m.

Westminster United Presbyterian
109 N. Colorado
Gary Smith, Pastor
Sunday, Oct. 4: Worship, 9:30 a.m.; Coffee Fellowship, 10:30 a.m.; Communion 1st Sunday
Wednesday, Oct. 7: Fellowship Friends, 1:30 p.m.

Wilcox

St. John's Lutheran
102 S. Stockton St.
Kenton Birtell, Pastor
Sunday, Oct. 4: Worship, 9:30 a.m.
Holy Communion every other Sunday

United Methodist
203 S. Sapp St.
Candance Miller, Pastor
Sunday, Oct. 4: 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, Oct. 4: 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

"Pray without ceasing." - 1 Thessalonians 5:17



A Lifetime of Love

By Shana Schoone

What Death Teaches About Love

Since my near death experience (NDE) in 2018, I have become fascinated with death. It didn't take me long to realize that many people do not like to talk about death. I read somewhere recently that every fear leads back to the fear of death. Perhaps this big fear of death is the greatest unknown we have. So when I got closer to it, it became less scary. Let's get wild and talk about the thing we aren't supposed to talk about: death and why it is actually so beautiful.

First off, death is not scary when you get closer to it. If you hear about people's NDE's you will always hear about the peace that it gave them right off the bat. Mine began like many others when I found myself lying in a hospital bed with 80 blood clots in my lungs. My life flashed before my eyes. It wasn't these vivid memories but more so experiencing every emotion I had ever felt in the order I felt them in. Not just typical emotions like sadness or happiness but rather emotions we do not have the language for. But on top of every good and heavy emotion was a sense of overwhelming gratitude for everything I had ever lived. Even though I was just 19 years old, it was as if I had lived everything I needed to live. I had full trust and peace that if it was my time to go, I would be fine. More importantly, I felt an immense feeling of love and deep connection toward myself, God, and others. Even people who had hurt me or strangers I would never see again. Anyone can imagine how much pain I was in with 80 blood clots inside of me. But as I got deeper into the moment, my mind was at peace. **Death teaches us that love is the only thing that matters in this life.** To love and be loved. That is all we take with us. That is all we remember. Nothing else in our lives is even real. We cannot bring our money, status, possessions, or even our grudges.

Next, we cannot talk about death without discussing time and how it is ever so fleeting. Time is a currency we will never know the balance of. Living happens to us until we realize death will come some day. Maybe far in the future or tomorrow. So we have to begin to ask ourselves how we want to live. **Death gives us our lives back by making us fall in love with life.** Without it, life would be all there is. A neverending loop. Death helps us celebrate a cup of coffee, a walk outside, the smell of rain. It makes nothing mundane and everything precious.

Further, I hate the idea that we can grow out of our grief. That when we lose someone, time will heal us. We won't feel anything anymore. No. It is supposed to hurt. When someone in our lives dies, a part of us dies with them. No more memories can be made. So all we have are the ones we've made. **Death shows us how much we love someone,** how much they truly matter to us. When we can tap into that while they're still alive, that gives us the opportunity to love them better. Since my NDE, it is not uncommon for me to sit in my love for others and randomly write appreciation letters to them. Many times they cry because they feel so seen, and that is an honor. Hell, I have even written to my exes after a breakup. Most of us go our whole lives never knowing or understanding just how much we mean to someone. It sounds crazy, but next time you hug someone, imagine them dying. You will hug them harder. Next time you get in a fight with someone, imagine them dying. You will clear things up faster.

Finally, I would argue **death isn't that unknown**. Most of us know what it is like to grieve someone who is dead or alive. I would go as far to say you have died already, meaning you are not the same person you were at five years old. You probably have a lot more knowledge, responsibility, and experience now. We die every day because we become someone new with everything we learn and experience. Who is to say a physical death will be any different? Life always follows death.

THAT'S LOVE.

With love always,

Shana Schoone

Obituaries

Janette Rae (Johnson) Bier, 83 - Former Minden Resident



Janette Rae (Johnson) Bier, beloved mother, grandmother, sister, teacher, singer and friend, passed away peacefully on September 15, 2026, at Sunfire Ranch in the Crystal River Valley near Carbondale, Colorado. A celebration of life will be held at 10:00 a.m. on October 3, 2026, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Hildreth, with Rev. Caroline Schenk officiating. The service will be streamed to the church's YouTube page. Private family inurnment will be held at Emmanuel Lutheran Cemetery south of Hildreth. Memorials are suggested to the Alzheimer's Foundation of America. Arrangements are under the care of Craig Funeral Home in Minden.

Janette was born on October 6, 1942, in Minden, Nebraska to John O. and Selma Johnson. She grew up on the family farm outside of Hildreth, Nebraska, where she developed a deep appreciation for family, hard work, animals, church and community that remained part of her throughout her life. She graduated from Hildreth High School in 1960 and went on to graduate from Kearney State Teachers College in 1964 and she later attended Colorado State University where she earned a master's degree in administration.

Janette was a high school business teacher and administrator in Vail, Colorado where she also raised her two children John and Jaymeson Janske. Teaching was an important part of who she was, and she brought to it the same patience, kindness and generosity that she brought her family and friends. Having sung professionally, Janette was also a well-known singer in the Vail community and the Crystal River Valley.

In 1990, Janette married her soulmate, Jeff Bier, and made her home in Carbondale and Redstone. Together they shared a life filled with family, community and the beauty of the mountains. Together they hiked, skied, biked, danced and immersed themselves in friendship and community. In Redstone, Janette was able to continue her love of singing, both in church and with various musical groups in the valley. Janette was a past president of the Redstone Community Association, co-founder of the Redstone Ice Rink and on the Board of Directors of the Redstone Historical Society.

Above all, Janette treasured her family. So proud of her roots, she adored her Nebraska relatives and all of her grandchildren. She was the grandmother, sister, aunt and cousin who showed up, encouraged, cared and gave her time so generously. Her family knew how deeply they were loved, and that love remains one of her most enduring gifts.

Janette was preceded in death by her mom and dad John O. and Selma Johnson, brother Jerry and son Jon, and is survived by her daughter Jaymeson (Jason) Sewell; her husband Jeff; her stepchildren, Abbey (Nathan) Ziv and Oriana (Tyler) Moebius; daughter-in-law Cindy Janske: her grandchildren Cameron and Brody Leo; Asher, Lexi, Bella and Taj Moebius, Ollie and Amos Ziv, Audrey and Selma Janske and Rio and Stella Sewell; and her siblings, Jack Johnson, June Loschen and Joyce Albers.

She leaves behind a family who will miss her deeply, along with the many friends, former students, church community and the people she touched throughout her life.

Janette's life was defined not only by what she accomplished, but by her infectious smile, how she made people feel: loved, welcomed, supported and cared for. Her kindness and generosity will live on in the people she loved and in the many lives she quietly made better.

Tributes and memories can be shared with the family at www.craigfunerals.com.

Roger Alan Olsen, 78 - Former Minden Resident



Roger A. Olsen, 78, of Albion, NE passed away Saturday, September 26, 2026, at his home surrounded by his family.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Tuesday, September 29, 2026 at St Michael's Catholic Church in Albion, NE with Fr. Matt Gutowski officiating. Burial followed at St. Michael's Catholic Cemetery with military rites by American Legion Post 162, VFW Post 736 and the Navy Funeral Honors team. Visitation was held on Monday, September 28, 2026 at the church with a wake service.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to the family for later designation.

Levander Funeral Home of Albion, NE is in charge of the arrangements. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.levanderfuneralhome.com.

Roger Alan Olsen, son of Chester and Violet (Monk) Olsen, was born November 30, 1947, in Minden, NE. He grew up on the family farm near Norman, NE, with his siblings. Roger attended Minden High School, graduating with the class of 1966.

Following high school, Roger attended Central Community College in Hastings, where he met the love of his life, Gayle Byrne. Roger and Gayle were united in marriage on September 14, 1968, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Red Cloud, NE.

In 1969, Roger enlisted in the United States Navy. During his service, Roger was assigned to the 49th Squadron and served as a flight crew member aboard the P-3 Orion, attaining the rank of E-5.

Roger and Gayle lived in Hastings, NE, until April 1969, when they moved to Jacksonville, FL, where Roger was stationed at the naval base. In September of that same year, they relocated to Key West, FL. In September 1971, they returned to the naval base in Jacksonville. Roger and Gayle returned to Red Cloud, NE, in December 1972 before relocating to Albion in 1991.

Roger worked as a serviceman for Kansas Nebraska Gas and later as a marketer for Black Hills Energy. While living in Red Cloud, Roger was an active volunteer with the Red Cloud Volunteer Fire Department and served as an EMT, giving his time to help his community. After moving to Albion, he was a member of American Legion Post 162 and the Albion Lions Club.

Poppie, as he was lovingly known by his grandchildren, knew how to enjoy the simple things in life. During their years in Red Cloud, many weekends were spent at Harlan County Lake, where Roger loved boating, fishing, and spending time with family and friends. Those weekends created countless memories and reflected what Roger enjoyed most—good times with the people he loved.

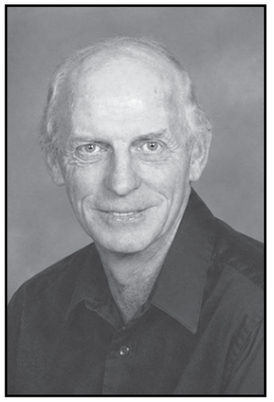
He spent many years playing in the men's golf league at the Albion Country Club and countless hours on the course with his grandsons. Every fall brought one of his favorite traditions—deer hunting with his son Scott, his sons-in-law and grandson. He was an excellent cook and was famous for his chocolate chip cookies and chicken-fried steaks, always making enough to share with his family. He loved traveling with family and taking long trips with Gayle every fall.

More than anything, Poppie loved his family. He loved being surrounded by his kids, grandkids, and great-grandkids, never missing a sporting event, school activity, birthday party, or anything else that mattered to them. Whether he was cheering them on from the sidelines, listening to their stories, or simply soaking in the chaos, his love and pride were always clear.

The greatest legacy Poppie leaves behind is the family he loved so fiercely: four children, Tracy (Brent) Lipker and Amy Hooker, both of Albion, NE; Jeri (Adam) Wies of Petersburg, NE; and Scott (Jill) Olsen of Battle Creek, NE; 13 grandchildren, Amanda (Philip) Rasmussen, Michael, Jaxon, and Myah Lipker; Tristin, Reagan, and Preston Hooker; Karlie, Kaci, and Kenzie Wies; and Taylor, Hunter, and Carter Olsen; four great-grandchildren, Collins, Baker, Grant, and Cal; sister, Mary (George) Hendricks of Champaign, IL; sister-in-law, Janice Kuehn of Heartwell, NE; along with nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives, and friends.

Roger was preceded in death by his loving wife, Gayle; his parents, Chester and Violet Olsen; his in-laws, Gerald and Pearl Byrne; his grandparents; brother, Lyle Olsen; and brothers-in-law, Don Nelson and Erv Kuehn.

Paul K. Dorn, 76 - Minden Resident



Paul K. Dorn, 76, of Minden, passed away on Sunday, September 20, 2026, at Accura Healthcare in Franklin. Funeral services were held on Friday, September 25, 2026, at Zion Lutheran Church in Macon with Rev. Marcia Dorn officiating. Interment was held later that day at the Minden Cemetery. Visitation with the family present was held on Thursday, September 24, 2026, at Craig Funeral Home in Minden. Memorials in Paul's honor are kindly suggested to Accura Healthcare in Franklin or to Paws Up Kearney County. Arrangements are under the care of Craig Funeral Home in Minden.

Paul K. Dorn was born on October 13, 1949, in Franklin to Henry T. and Dora H. M. (Bienhoff) Dorn. He attended Franklin Public Schools, graduating with the class of 1967. After high school he attended Central Community College in Hastings and earned a degree in automotive technology. Paul faithfully served in the United States Army National Guard for 18 years, before he was honorably discharged. He worked as a mechanic at Dahlgrens in Holdrege for 15 years and then spent 29 years at LandMark in Minden until his retirement.

He married Phyllis Noonan on May 9, 1970, and to this union two children, Chad and Jackie, were born. They later divorced. Paul and Pat (Deterding) Peterson were united in marriage at a surprise outdoor wedding in their beautiful yard on July 28, 2001. He gained three daughters through this marriage: Deanna, Pam and Carmen.

Paul and Pat raised a big garden for numerous years with Paul's inventive mind, he was always coming up with ways to garden smarter, not harder. Together they worked on building and maintaining a beautiful yard that included a rock garden, stream, pond and walkways surrounded by flowers of all types. Paul was never one to shy away from work.

He enjoyed deer hunting and fishing in what he called "God's Country" around Franklin and Harlan County. Pat and Paul liked to spend time traveling around the area, and enjoyed trips to Nashville, South Dakota, Las Vegas, the "Boats" in Council Bluffs, the casinos in Kansas with friends and Florida, Colorado, Lincoln and Clearwater to visit kids and grandkids. Paul was an avid TV watcher. He loved to watch sports of all kinds, car racing, westerns, especially John Wayne , MASH, and bull riding.

Paul is survived by his son, Chad Dorn and wife, Trisha, their children, Shaylee Lippincott and husband, J.L., Blaine Dorn and wife, Payton, and Caden Dorn, their grandchildren, Remi and twins, Huntley and Haizlee Lippincott; daughter, Jackie Sanne and husband, Mike, their children, Tristen Sanne and fiancée Morgan, and Taylor Euse and husband, Matt; daughter, Deanna Adams and husband Rob, their children, Tyler Adams and partner, Jersey Elam, and Sheyll Henker and husband Tristan, their granddaughter, Emerald Adams; daughter, Pam Peterson and her daughter Becca; daughter, Carmen Gimeson and husband Josh; brothers, Dennis Dorn and wife, Sarah, and Wendell Dorn and wife, Debbie; sisters-in-law, Kathy Dorn, Karen Deterding and Barbara Frazier; as well as many nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews, and close friends.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Pat; parents Henry and Dora Dorn; parents-in-laws, George and Erma Deterding; brother, Merle Dorn; brothers-in-law, Wayne Deterding and Bob Frazier.

Tributes and memories can be shared with the family at www.craigfunerals.com.

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Patriots Outplay Whippets in Close Contest

ROGER HANSEN

When the sixth-ranked (Minden) and ninth-ranked (Adams Central) teams meet, it is expected to be a good, close contest. And that was the case on September 25 in Minden as the Patriots got by the Whippets 10-7 on a drizzly evening with wet, slick field conditions.

Adams Central kicked off and forced Minden to punt on its first possession. The Patriots then scored in just two plays with a 66-yard TD run. The XPK made it 7-0 AC at 9:12 of the first.

Both teams' defenses coerced more punts for the rest of the opening period.

Seven plays into the second quarter, the Patriots went up 10-0 with a 27-yard field goal at 9:54.

The Whippets looked like they were going to cash in for points on the next possession, moving 68 yards in 12 plays. Two Cole Schwenka receptions from Parker Hatch and some yard-eating runs by Logan Verbeck and Hatch got the ball to AC's 15, but an interception stifled that drive.

The Dawg defense forced a three-and-out and then Minden's offense took over with good field position at the AC 31. A Hatch-to-Andrew Runions pass play of 16 yards got the ball to the Patriots' four and two snaps later Hatch found Verbeck for a four-yard passing TD. Reliable Aaron Banuelos booted the PAT and with 30 seconds to go before halftime the Whippets closed the gap to 10-7.

The third quarter went by quickly with both teams mainly using the ground game and possessions ending in punts or ceded by downs.

The Whippets made an excellent defensive stand with under three minutes to go in the fourth, twice rebuffingthe Patriots when they had a third-and-one and a fourth-and-one.

With 2:27 remaining, Minden took over at the Minden 40 and began to drive for what could have been a game-winning or game-tying score. A big play in the possession was a 29-yard connection from Hatch to Turner Schmidt. The clock now showing under 1:30 remaining, the Whippets had a fourth-and-five at the AC 12. Hatch dropped back looking for a receiver but his pass was batted down, and the Patriots needed just a few plays to run out the clock.

Minden outyarded AC 217 to 202, the Whippets running for 103 and passing for 114 while AC ran for 139 and threw for 63.

RUSHING: Hatch 20-54, Verbeck 16-52, Bo Lutkemeier 1-2, Schwenka 1-(-5)

PASSING: Hatch 12-22, 114 yds., one TD, one int.

RECEIVING: T. Schmidt 3-44, Schwenka 4-39, Runions 3-27, Luke Livingston 1-0, Verbeck 1-4, one TD

TACKLES (solos-assts): Kanin Heath 7-3, Lutkemeier 4-5, Cael Smith 3-2, T. Schmidt 3-2, Kellen Conyers 3-2, Schwenka 4-0, Banuelos 2-2, Runions 2-1, Cohen Schmidt 2-1, Drew Seiler 2-1, Verbeck 0-2, Christian Sorensen 1-0, Dalton Pasbrig 1-0, Hatch 0-1

TACKLES FOR LOSS: Smith 2, Lutkemeier 1, Cohen Schmidt 1

SACKS: Smith 1

PUNTING: Lutkemeier 3- 35.7 ave.

PUNT RETURNS: T. Schmidt 1-20

KICKOFF RETURNS: T. Schmidt 3- 10.3 ave.





Minden fell in a close Homecoming contest to Adams Central on September 25. (above) Cole Schwenka gets air in a nice catch. (left) The Minden defense puts pressure on the Adams Central ball carrier and offense. (Courier photos by Tim Hudson)

Ad. Central	7	3	0	0-	10 (4-1)
Minden	0	7	0	0-	7 (4-1)

AC- 66 run (kick)
AC- 27 FG
M- Verbeck, 4 pass from Hatch (Banuelos kick)

Minden plays at Broken Bow (2-3) on October 2. The Indians beat Kearney Catholic 27-20 last week.

Eagles Conquer Wildcats

ROGER HANSEN

Axtell hosted Southern Valley on September 25 and the visiting Eagles got the better of the Cats 52-8.

Axtell ran for 69 yards and passed for 50 to total 119.

RUSHING: Carter Lorenz 4-41, Nick Dahl 14-33, Landon Powers 7(-1), Carter Hardenbrook 2(-2), Mick Pfeil 1(-2)

PASSING: Lorenz 3-10, 47 yds., one TD, 3 int.; Powers 1-1, 3 yds.

RECEIVING: Luke Samuelson 1-38, one TD; Nolan Wells 2-9; Luke Abbott 1-3

TACKLES (solos-assts): Dahl 5-9, Hardenbrook 1-10, Abbott 3-7, Samuelson 1-6, Grayson Bray 2-4, Samuel Kindschuh 1-5, Powers 2-4, Lorenz 2-3, Pfeil 1-1, Logan Strolberg 1-1, Barrett Thorell 1-1, Brogan Pittz 0-1, Wells 0-1

TACKLES FOR LOSS: Powers

FUMBLE RECOVERIES: Hardenbrook 1, Samuelson 1

PUNTING: Powers 4-31.3 ave.

KICKOFF RETURNS: Abbott 2-19.5 ave., Powers 2-12.5 ave., Dahl 3-9.7 ave.

TDs- Samuelson 1

CONVERSION RUNS: Dahl 1





The Axtell football team hosted Southern Valley for their Homecoming game on September 25. The Eagles bested the Cats on the field. (above) Nick Dahl tries to rush past Southern Valley defenders. (left) Landon Powers carries the ball. (Courier photos by Kimberly Powers)

Axtell will be looking to snap a 14-game losing streak at Overton (0-5) on October 2. The Eagles last week forfeited to Cambridge, their second forfeit of the season. Otherwise, they have been defeated by Loomis 66-8, Bertrand 60-20 and Anselmo-Merna 42-0. The other forfeit was to Twin Loup.

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Wolves Break Through Falcon Defense

ROGER HANSEN

Loomis went to Wilcox-Hildreth (at Hildreth) on September 25 and left town with a 38-12 win over the Falcons.

A recurring theme in all three of the Falcons losses has been that Wil-Hil scores first. In this contest Luke Lush took the opening back 76 yards for a TD.

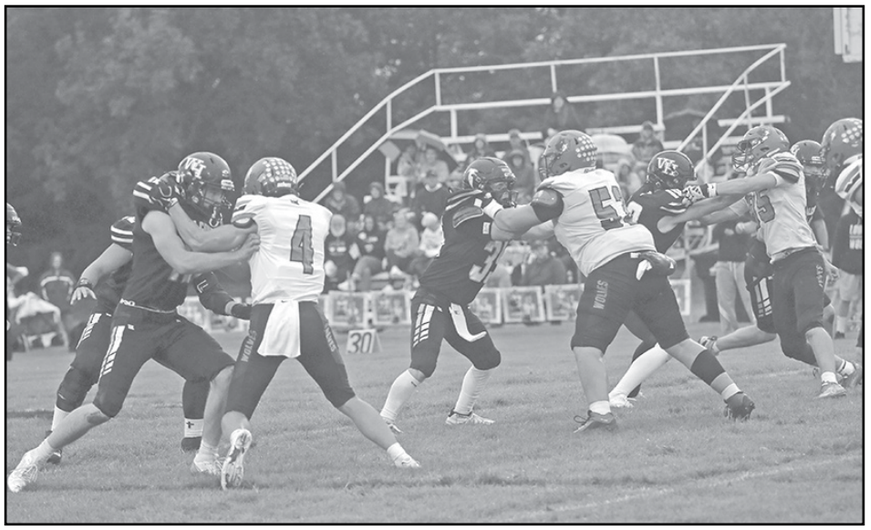
Loomis scored one TD in the first quarter and a TD and conversion in the second to lead 14-6 at halftime.

The Wolves scored twice more in the third period on two TDs and two more two-point conversions.



Toward the end of the third period, Landon Lienemann hooked up with Kaleb Johnson on a 45-yard TD pass to bring the Falcons to within 18, 12-30.

A couple of minutes into the fourth, Loomis scored the final eight points of the game to reach the 38-12 final.



The Wilcox-Hildreth defense worked hard in the 38-12 loss to Loomis at home on September 25. Pictured are the Falcons trying to hold back the Wolves during the competition in Hildreth. (Courier photos by Carrie Conner)

Loomis	6	8	16	8-	38 (5-0)
Wil-Hil	6	0	6	0-	12 (2-3)

Wil-Hil goes to Franklin (1-4) on October 2 for another 3:00 game. The Flyers lost to South Loup last week 56-0. Their one win is over Axtell.

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Axtell Boys Run Away With Title at Franklin Invite

ROGER HANSEN

Franklin hosted a cross country invitational on September 22 with Wilcox-Hildreth and Axtell among the competing schools. There were 15 schools represented and nine complete teams (at least three runners for Class D) on the boys' side and 13 schools with 7 complete teams for the girls.

Axtell's boys won the meet scoring 27. Shelton (33) and Bertrand-Loomis (38) were second and third, respectively. The boys' winner, from Bertrand-Loomis, timed 17:39.

Axtell's boys' medalists: Micah Houchin was second at 18:10, Felix Lopez 12th at 19:14 and Oscar Clausen 13th at 19:15. Also for the Cat boys: Chase Nickel (30th, 20:31), Isaiah Sinachack (34th, 21:06) and Elijah Sinachack (55th, 22:44).

Wil-Hil's two runners were: Jacob Jezbera (25th, 20:19) and Craig Bunger (74th, 29:52). 76 boys ran

The top three girls' scores were: Amherst 14, Bertrand-Loomis 43 and Axtell 45. The girls' winner, from Alma, ran 20:41.

For Axtell's girls, Emma Hall ran to 5th at 22:14. Also for the Cat girls: Jalena Lorenzo (18th, 24:58), Ella Lorenz (22nd, 25:15) and Kayla Abbott (36th, 33:04).

For the Falcons: Chloe Johnson (17th, 24:49) and Allegra Johnson (23rd, 25:55). 38 girls ran.





The Axtell boys cross country team dominated the competition at the Franklin Invite on Sept. 22. (above) Chloe Johnson represents Wilcox-Hildreth in the girls race. (right) Chase Nickel of Axtell pushes it in the boys race. (Courier photos by Shaina Johnson)

Former Whippets Competing at a Collegiate Level

ROGER HANSEN

Recent Minden High School grads that are known to be competing in college include:

Males-Landon Bules, Nebr. Wesleyan basketball; Jake Ryan, Wake Forest football; Brycen Schwenka, Dordt football; Brett Eckhardt, Ft. Hays track; Robert Nelson, UNK wrestling

Females- Mattie Kamery, Wayne volleyball; KayLynn Jorgensen, South Dakota golf; Myla Emery, Concordia volleyball; Makenna Starkey, Concordia volleyball and track; Kinsie Land, Iowa Western track

If there are others, let the Courier know as we want to mention them.

Warner and Graham Bring Home Hardware

ROGER HANSEN

Minden's middle school cross country runners competed at the Adams Central Invite at the Elks course east of Hastings on September 22.

96 boys and 62 girls ran the 3K.

Medalling for Minden were: Boys-Gideon Warner, 7th, 11:32; Girls-Josie Graham, 9th, 14:01.





The Minden junior high cross country team competed at the Adams Central Invite on Sept. 22. (above) The six boys running for Minden take off from the starting line. (right) Minden's lone girl runner, Josie Graham starts at a steady pace. (Courier photos by Cindy Ramsey)

Cats Find Success Against GI Lutheran, Harvard

ASHLEY BEBENSEE

The Axtell Lady Wildcats took home two wins and a loss at the beginning of a busy week of volleyball.

The Cats extinguished the Grand Island Lutheran Lightning in three sets Sept. 21 at home 25-17, 25-18 and 25-14.

The team was on fire on both the offensive and defensive end. Junior Leah Stritt pounded in 11 kills, and senior Ashlynn Nelson had 18 digs. Freshman Hadley Most successfully set up 16 set assists.

Individual stats for Axtell vs. Grand Island Lutheran

Kills: Leah Stritt 11, Ashlynn Nelson 9, Morgan Hawkins 5, Adelyn Wells 4, Bristol Thorell 2

Aces: Hadley Most 1, Hawkins 1

Blocks: Amelia Halvorsen 4, Thorell 2

Digs: Nelson 18, Wells 17, Mina Schilling 16, Stritt 10, Most 7, Hawkins 5, Halvorsen 1, Thorell 1

Assists: Most 16, Wells 10, Schilling 6, Stritt 1, Nelson 1

The Wildcats traveled to Harvard Sept. 22 to compete in the Harvard Triangular against Giltner and Harvard.

The Giltner Hornets stung the Wildcats in two sets, 25-20 and 28-26. The Hornets limited the number of successful kills for the Cats, but Stritt and Nelson both managed to send home six apiece. Nelson also led in digs with 14. Most once again had the most set assists with eight.

Individual stats for Axtell vs. Giltner

Kills: Stritt 6, Nelson 6, Hawkins 2, Halvorsen 1, Thorell 1

Aces: Stritt 2, Most 2, Hawkins 1

Blocks: No stats available

Digs: Nelson 14, Stritt 12, Schilling 7, Wells 6, Most 4, Solara Quigley 2, Hawkins 2, Thorell 1

Assists: Most 8, Wells 4, Quigley 2, Hawkins 1, Schilling 1

In their last game of the triangular, the Wildcats swept Harvard in two sets 25-14 and 25-14.

Stritt was on fire at the net with 10 successful kills. Freshman Adelyn Wells led in digs with 7. Hadley Most set up her teammates with 16 assists.

Individual stats for Axtell vs. Harvard

Kills: Stritt 10, Halvorsen 5, Hawkins 4, Thorell 4, Wells 4, Nelson 2

Aces: Stritt 3, Hawkins 3, Most 1, Wells 1

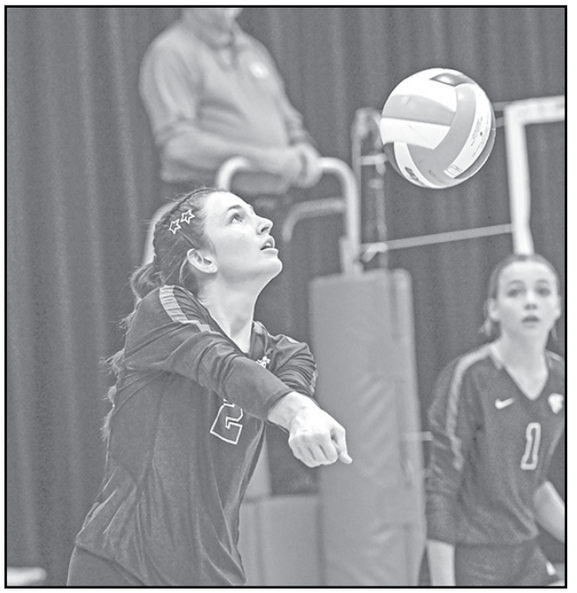
Blocks: Thorell 1

Digs: Wells 7, Most 5, Nelson 4, Stritt 4, Schilling 4, Brooklyn Dejonge 2, Halvorsen 1, Hawkins 1

Assists: Most 16, Assists 10, Stritt 1, Nelson 1, Schilling 1



The Lady Cats found success on the court early in the week with victories over GI Lutheran and Harvard. (above) Amelia Halvorsen faces off with a GI Lutheran player at the net. (below) Leah Stritt keeps play alive with a dig. (Courier photos by Rachel Hawkins)



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Lady Falcons Face Some Bumps

ASHLEY BEBENSEE

The Wilcox-Hildreth volleyball team dealt with some tough blows Sept. 26 at the Spartan Invitational in Ansley-Litchfield. The Falcons' record fell to 10-4 for this season.

Wil-Hil rebuffed the Burwell Longhorns in two sets 25-8 and 25-14.

Junior Camryn Bunger had a team-best six kills for the match, and freshman Elsie Donley put up an impressive 11 blocks. Freshman Georgia Guthrie had 15 successful set assists.

Individual stats for Wil-Hil vs. Burwell

Kills: Camryn Bunger 6, Ellie Blank 4, Georgia Guthrie 3, Kinley Hansen 3, Elsie Donley 3, Madison Sheen 2

Aces: Guthrie 2, Blank 2, Bunger 1, Elin Patterson 1

Blocks: Donley 11, Guthrie 2

Digs: Blank 7, Bunger 6, Guthrie 3, Patterson 3, Sheen 3, Donley 3, Hansen 1

Assists: Guthrie 15, Sheen 1, Blank 1

The North Central Knights, who have only lost two games season, slashed the Falcons in two sets 25-19 and 25-14.

The Falcons put up a stellar 12 blocks led by Bunger with four. They were also well-rounded in digs with Guthrie at 11 and seven apiece to sophomore Elin Patterson, freshman Ellie Blank and Donley. Guthrie was the ball-handling specialist with 10 assists.

Individual stats for Wil-Hil vs. North Central

Kills: Bunger 4, Hansen 2, Donley 2, Sheen 1, Blank 1

Aces: Blank 1, Donley 1

Blocks: Bunger 4, Hansen 3, Donley 3, Guthrie 2, Sheen 2, Blank 1

Digs: Guthrie 11, Patterson 7, Blank 7, Donley 7, Bunger 6, Sheen 4, Hansen 1

Assists: Guthrie 10, Hansen 1

Wil-Hil took on the home team of Ansley-Litchfield in their final match of the day. Despite winning set one 26-24, the Spartans fought tooth and nail for set 29-27 and easily took set three 25-14.

The Falcons had an incredible 87 digs with 19 attributed to senior Madison Sheen and 17 to freshman Ellie Blank. They continued to show their prowess at the net with 16 blocks led by Sheen's eight. Bunger and Blank had five kills apiece, and Guthrie set up 19 successful assists.

Wil-Hil competed in the Elba Quad on Sept. 29, and they will host their Pink Out! Triangular Oct. 1 In Wilcox.



Elsie Donley and Kinley Hansen go up for the block while Madison Sheen stays vigilant. (Courier photo by Nicky Blank)

Individual stats for Wil-Hil vs. Ansley-Litchfield

Kills: Bunger 5, Blank 5, Hansen 3, Guthrie 1, Sheen 1

Aces: Guthrie 3

Blocks: Sheen 8, Donley 7, Guthrie 5, Bunger 5, Blank 2

Digs: Sheen 19, Blank 17, Guthrie 14, Donley 11, Bunger 10, Patterson 9, Hansen 7

Assists: Guthrie 19

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Lady Whippets Head Back to Hastings

ASHLEY BEBENSEE

The Minden Whippets volleyball team wrapped up their homecoming week Sept. 26 at the Hastings Invitational.

The Whippets put up a fight against the Class A Kearney Bearcats but ultimately succumbed in three sets. Minden went on to win their next two matches against Hastings and Lexington.

Minden came out strong against the Bearcats, claiming the first set 26-24. The Bearcats clawed their way back, snatching the last two sets 25-22 and 25-22.

Freshman Malayna Emery was a vital defensive specialist in the game with 16 digs. Junior Aly Cederburg put up 14 kills, and junior Victoria Hansen placed her teammates up for success with 12 assists.

Individual stats for Minden vs. Kearney

Kills: Aly Cederburg 10, Kaleigh Carr 8, Malayna Emery 5, Reagan Carey 4, Josa Ciemnoczolowski 3, Victoria Hansen 2

Assists: Hansen 12, Olivia Armstrong 11, Emery 4, Rilynn Johnson 1, Carr 1

Aces: Emery 1, Ruby Rhynalds 1, Hansen 1

Digs: Emery 16, Carr 14, Hansen 5, Armstrong 4, Johnson 4, Cederburg 3, Carey 3, Sophia Birkestrand 1, Ciemnoczolowski 1

Blocks: Cederburg 4, Johnson 3, Carr 3, Ciemnoczolowski 2, Emery 1

For the second time this season, Minden defeated Hastings in two sets 25-10 and 25-17. Cederburg hit double digits in kills with 10, and Hansen once again had the most assists with 11. Carr kept up the defensive end with nine digs.





(above) Kaleigh Carr prepares for a powerful hit while teammates Victoria Hansen and Malayna Emery prepare for action. (right) Reagan Carey sends the ball over the net past two defenders. (Courier photos by Susan Fries)

Individual stats Minden vs. Hastings

Kills: Cederburg 10, Carey 5, Johnson 4, Emery 4, Ciemnoczolowski 3, Berkley Hatch 1, Carr 1,

Assists: Hansen 11, Armstrong 8, Cederburg 2, Lexie Anderson 1, Carr 1,

Aces: Emery 2, Birkestrand 2, Carr 2, Hansen 1

Digs: Carr 9, Armstrong 6, Carey 6, Hansen 4, Anderson 3, Birkestrand 3, Cederburg 3, Emery 2, Tatum Delira 2, Ciemnoczolowski 2

Blocks: Cederburg 3, Emery 1, Carey 1

The Whippets' record improved to 8-13 after they defeated the Lexington Minutemaids in two sets 25-18 and 25-22.

Cederburg spiked eight kills, and Hansen had 13 assists. Carr continued her dominance on defense with 13 digs.

After a week on the road, Minden played Kearney Catholic High School Sept. 29 at home. The Whippets will travel on Oct. 1 to take on Sandy Creek.

Individual stats for Minden vs. Lexington

Kills: Cederburg 8, Carr 6, Carey 5, Johnson 4, Emery 2, Ciemnoczolowski 2

Assists: Hansen 13, Armstrong 5, Carr 3, Emery 1

Aces: Emery 2, Birkestrand 1, Hansen 1, Carr 1

Digs: Carr 13, Cederburg 9, Hansen 7, Emery 6, Armstrong 3, Birkestrand 3, Carey 3, Rhynalds 1

Blocks: Carey 1

Athlete of the Week

GAGE THULL - CROSS COUNTRY



School - Minden High School
Grade - Senior
2026 Season Accomplishments:
Won the Milford Invitational 5K in a season-best time of 17:19.2.
Became the first Minden boys runner since 2018 to win an invitational.
Placed third in the Minden Classic 3,000 meters with a time of 10:02.9.
Program record-board accomplishment: Completed Minden's seven-mile marathon workout in 41:33, averaging approximately 5:56 per mile. His performance placed him among the top 10 individual runners in Minden program history for the seven-mile marathon. His name now appears alongside several of the most accomplished runners in Minden history, including multiple state champions and state medalists.
Challenges and Growth: Has learned to manage the physical and mental demands of high-level distance running. Has continued developing his confidence and racing ability through consistent training.
Has shown the ability to compete successfully over different distances and on a variety of courses.
Attributes that have led to his success:
Consistent and dependable work ethic.
Coachable and receptive to instruction.
Leads through his actions and daily preparation. Sets a positive example for Minden's younger runners.
Additional comments from Coach Wheelock:
Gage has earned his success through years of commitment and consistent work. His victory at Milford was an important accomplishment for both Gage and the Minden boys program.
As a senior, he has embraced a leadership role and helped raise expectations for his teammates.
We are proud of what he has accomplished and excited to see what he can achieve during the remainder of his senior season. ~ *Coach Shawn Wheelock*

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Lady Cats Fall to Irish, Dominate Eagles

ASHLEY BEBENSEE

The Axtell Wildcats split the Southern Valley Triangular on Sept. 24, losing to North Platte St. Patrick's and defeating Southern Valley.

St. Pat's took the first set 25-12, but Axtell rallied back in set two for a victory of 25-20. It wasn't quite enough, and the Irish easily claimed the third set 25-8.

Senior Morgan Hawkins led the team with six kills. Freshman Adelyn Wells had eight set assists, and junior Leah Stritt racked up nine digs.



Amelia Halvorsen and Ashlynn Nelson offer a strong defense against North Platte during the Southern Valley Tri on Sept. 24. (Courier photo by Rachel Hawkins)

Individual stats for Axtell vs. North Platte St. Pat's

Kills: Morgan Hawkins 6, Leah Stritt 5, Bristol Thorell 4, Ashlynn Nelson 1, Hadley Most 1

Assists: Adelyn Wells 8, Hadley Most 8, Stritt 1

Aces: Hawkins 2, Wells 1

Blocks: No stats available

Digs: Stritt 9, Wells 7, Hawkins 6, Nelson 6, Jerzey Ramirez 2, Solara Quigley 2, Amelia Halvorsen 1, Thorell 1, Mina Schilling 1

The Wildcats easily snared the Southern Valley Eagles in two sets 25-15 and 25-15.

The Cats didn't rack up a high number of kills with only 14, led by Stritt's five. However, the defense helped them win the game with six successful blocks and 29 digs. Senior Ashlynn Nelson had the most digs with eight.

The Wildcats' record is now 7-13. The team took on the Bertrand Vikings at home on Sept. 29.

Individual stats for Axtell vs. Southern Valley

Kills: Stritt 5, Nelson 3, Wells 2, Hawkins 2, Halvorsen 1, Thorell 1

Assists: Wells 7, Most 6, Schilling 1

Aces: Most 1, Stritt 1

Blocks: Hawkins 3, Halvorsen 3, Thorell 2, Stritt 1

Digs: Nelson 8, Schilling 6, Stritt 6, Wells 6, Hawkins 3

Swedes Take Down Whippets

ASHLEY BEBENSEE

After defeating Gothenburg the week before, the Minden Whippet volleyball team was overcome by the Swedes on Sept. 24 in Gothenburg.

It took four sets for Gothenburg to defeat Minden, but they managed to seize the win 25-15, 25-27, 25-22 and 25-18.

Junior Aly Cederburg was hot at the net with 15 kills and six blocks. Sophomore Olivia Armstrong and junior Victoria Hansen were almost evenly matched with set assists. Armstrong tallied 18, and Hansen had 16. Junior Kaleigh Carr played a crucial role for the Whippets, leading in digs with 14, as well as seven kills, three aces, two blocks and two assists.

Individual stats for Minden vs. Gothenburg

Kills: Aly Cederburg 15, Kaleigh Carr 7, Malayna Emery 6, Reagan Carey 4, Josa Ciemnoczolowski 4, Victoria Hansen 2, Rilynn Johnson 1, Olivia Armstrong 1

Assists: Armstrong 18, Hansen 16, Emery 2, Carr 2, Cederburg 1

Aces: Carr 3, Armstrong 2

Digs: Carr 14, Carey 11, Hansen 10, Cederburg 10, Armstrong 7, Emery 4, Lexie Anderson 2, Ruby Rhynalds 2, Ciemnoczolowski 1

Blocks: Cederburg 6, Johnson 5, Carr 2, Ciemnoczolowski 2, Emery 1

Softball Games Cancelled Due to Weather

ASHLEY BEBENSEE

Rain and wet field conditions led to the cancellation of the Sept. 24 softball game for the HWY 6 Trailblazers against Southern Valley/Alma and the Sept. 26 Tekamah-Herman Tournament. As of press time, it had not been determined if these games will be rescheduled.

The Trailblazers hosted a triangular Sept. 28 against Lexington and Fairbury and a triangular Sept. 29 with Polk County-Aquinas Catholic and Centura-Central Valley. They will take on North Platte on Oct. 1 in Holdrege.

Minden Courier Football Contest Week 4 Winners

ROGER HANSEN

Week four of the Courier Football Contest had one one-miss entry--Karen Ingram of Upland. She wins the $25 first prize.

Six entries had two misses so the tie-breaker determined the second place winner. Sharon Bruening of Minden hit the final point total on the nose (44--NU 31, Mich. St. 13) so she is awarded $15.

Others with two misses--Jim Bruening, Minden (47); Corey Ziola, Minden (38); Lisa Fries, Minden (51); Jena Coil, Ralston (35); Kyle Rutt, Campbell (49).

Most missed games this week: Minnesota over Washington, Iowa over Michigan, Florida over Ole Miss; Texas over Tennessee.

Huskies and Tigers Top Dawgs at Home Triangular

ROGER HANSEN

The Minden girls' golfers started the week with a home triangular on September 22. It was a very competitive meet with Aurora and Hastings tying for the top with 191s each and then the Whippets not too far back at 200.

Macy Jorgensen was the top Dawg again firing a 35 to take honors for the day. Ceirra Riley tied for 7th with a 51, Laynee Joyce shot a 56 and Hallie Hartman carded a 58.

Arihanna Johnson shot a 71 as a JV.

The second scheduled meet of the week was to have taken place on September 24 at the Holdrege Invite but the meet was cancelled due to rainy conditions.

The girls will have played twice before the next Courier goes to print--October 28 at the Cozad Invite and then right back to Cozad the next day on the 29th for the Southwest Conference Meet.

The C-4 District meet will be contested at Lakeside Country Club at Johnson Lake (south of Lexington) on Monday, October 5. Schools in the District are Adams Central, Arcadia/Loup City, Broken Bow, Burwell, Centura, Cozad, Doniphan-Trumbull, Gibbon, Gothenburg, GICC, Hi-Line, Holdrege, Kearney Catholic, Ravenna, St. Paul and Wood River in addition to Minden.

The Class 'C' State Meet will be held on October 12-13 (Monday- Tuesday) at the Lake Maloney course near North Platte.



Ceirra Riley putts her way toward the hole. (Courier photo by Carrie Conner)

Bowling Standings

Classey Lassies 9-17-26

Team Standings:	**W**	**L**
Platte River BBQ	10.5	5.5
Pony Express Ford	9.5	6.5
Split Happens	9	7
Larson Bros Construction	8	8
Skye's The Limit Salon	8	8
Upland Bar & Grill	8	8
Aurora Coop-Keene	6	10
Dobish Dumpsters	5	11

High Individual Game: Kristi McDowell, 191; Cori Malone, 189; Amber Misek, 186

High Individual Series: Kristi McDowell, 458; Mary Wendell, 453; Cori Malone, 443

High Team Game: Pony Express Ford, 447; Larson Bros Construction, 421; Aurora Coop-Keene, 407

High Team Series: Pony Express Ford, 1216; Platte River BBQ, 1134; Larson Bros Construction, 1128

Minden Unified Association 9-24-26

Team Standings:	**W**	**L**
Joyce Farms	87	53
APEX	87	53
Miller Body	78	62
First Bank	67.5	72.5
WII TEAM	63.5	76.5

High Individual Game: Dusty Space, 245; James Miller, 188; Shaun Johnson, 185

High Individual Series: Dusty Space, 650; Shawn Nelson, 540; James Miller, 526

High Team Game: Miller Body, 695; Joyce Farms, 635; APEX, 610

High Team Series: Miller Body, 2012; Joyce Farms, 1842; APEX, 1738

Sports Calendar

Wilcox-Hildreth

Friday, October 2
FB @ Franklin
VB @ Franklin
XC @ FKC - Overton
Tuesday, October 6
VB @ Bertrand Tri.
Thursday, October 8
XC - Falcon Invite
VB @ Silver Lake Tri.

Axtell

Friday, October 2
FB @ Overton
XC @ FKC - Overton
Tuesday, October 6
VB @ Arapahoe
Thursday, October 8
XC @ Wilcox-Hildreth
VB @ Pleasanton Tri.

Minden

Friday, October 2
FB @ Broken Bow
Monday, October 5
GO @ Districts - Lakeside Country Club
Tuesday, October 6
GO @ Districts - Lakeside Country Club
Thursday, October 8
XC @ SWC - Cozad
VB @ Ogallala Tri.
SB @ Districts



OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM
WEEK #6 (Oct. 10)

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____

Phone: _____

First Bank & Trust _____

Kearney County Health Services _____

L.T. Pedley Drug _____

Husker Irrigation _____

Bethany Home _____

Sargent Irrigation _____

Fill-N-Chill _____

Budget Heating & Air _____

Pony Express Ford _____

Phelps Memorial Health _____

Tie-Breaker: Indiana @ Nebraska (Circle Winner)

Points: _____

OFFICIAL RULES:

1. Find the games in the advertisements. Select a winner for each game and enter that team beside the corresponding advertiser in the entry blank provided.
2. Tie-Breaker: Circle the team that you believe will win between the two provided. For the tie-breaker points, write down your predicted amount of points FOR BOTH TEAMS (i.e. one team scores 7, the other 3, you will mark down 10 points in total).
3. Bring the Official Entry Blank to the Minden Courier office (520 N. Minden Ave. - Minden) or send to the "Minden Courier Football Contest" c/o Minden Courier P.O. Box 379 Minden, NE 68959. Send just the entry blank. **Entries must be dropped off by 4pm or postmarked by the Friday before the weekly games are played.**
4. One entry per person per week, please.
5. Decisions regarding the outcome of the contest are FINAL.
6. Staff members of The Minden Courier are not eligible to enter the contest.
7. Prize money will be mailed, or available for pick up, the week following the contest.
8. Must be 18 or older to enter.
9. No photo copies.

PRIZES: ONE TIME ONLY JACKPOT: Every perfect weekly entry will be saved for a chance to win $100 at the end of the contest in its entirety. **FIRST PLACE:** $25 awarded weekly. **SECOND PLACE:** $15 awarded weekly.

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For the Record

Marriage License

Aaron Cass Doxon, 31, Minden & Starla Dawn Doxon, 30, Minden; 9-15-26

Dylan Matthew Janda, 23, Minden & Erica Kay Boyd, 23, Minden; 9-11-26

Colton Thomas Wagner, 25 Hastings & Isabella Catherine Poppe, 22, Hastings; 9-18-26

Kearney County District Court

Doug Meyers, Minden & Kathy Meyers, Minden vs. Mariea McGill, Minden; protection order-harassment, 9-9-26

Falcon Equipment Finance, Omaha vs. Upward Ag Systems, LLC, Axtell & Tyrell Fickenscher, Axtell; contract dispute-other, 9-10-26

State vs. Christian N. Mendoza Amaya, Grand Island; sexual assault-1 degree, 9-23-26

LVNV Funding LLC c/o Gurstel Law Firm PC, Golden Valley, Minnesota vs. Josh Dorn, Minden; transcript of judgment, 9-22-26

Kearney County County Court

Shelby J. Borden, Elwood, speeding 6-10 MPH County/State, fine $75, Minden Police Officer Eikenberry, 8-30-26

Seydou M. Hisseine, Lexington, speeding 11-15 MPH County/State, Nebraska State Patrol Officer Gonzalez, 8-13-26

Thomas Allen, Hastings, COUNT I: DUI-.15+, fine $500, 2 day jail, 1 day credit for time served, 4 months probation, 1 year revoked license; COUNT II: possess marijuana 1oz or less-1st offense, fine $300, 4 months probation, Kearney County Sheriff Officer Larsen, 7-8-26

Gaven E. Cheatham, Minden, COUNT I: minor in possession-under 19 1st offense, fine $250; COUNT II: no license on person, fine $50; COUNT III: possess/consume open alcohol container, fine $50; COUNT IV: possess or use drug paraphernalia, fine $100, Minden Police Officer Eikenberry. 8-20-26

Joshua M. Filmer, Johnstown, Pennsylvania, speeding 6-10 MPH County/State, fine $75, Nebraska State Patrol Officer Margritz, 5-1-26

Austin R. Meade, Franklin, speeding 6-10 MPH County/State, fine $75, Nebraska State Patrol Officer Margritz, 9-2-26

Minden Fire & Rescue

9-10-26—The Minden Fire & Rescue was dispatched to Highway 6 & P Road for a hay bale fire.

9-10-26—The Minden Emergency Unit was dispatched to E. 1st Street for a transfer.

9-11-26—The Minden Emergency Unit was on standby at Kuper Field for the football game.

9-16-26—The Minden Emergency Unit was dispatched to N. Hubbard Avenue for a possible OD.

9-17-26—The Minden Emergency Unit was dispatched to E. Holland Street for a medical alert (pain all over).

9-17-26—The Minden Emergency Unit was dispatched to Runza for a 2 vehicle accident.

9-18-26—The Minden Emergency Unit was dispatched to S. Colorado Avenue for a lift assist.

9-18-26—The Minden Emergency Unit was dispatched to S. Colorado Avenue for a fall.

9-19-26—The Minden Emergency Unit was dispatched to Western Avenue for a fall.

9-19-26—The Minden Emergency Unit was dispatched to S. Nebraska Avenue for back pain.

9-20-26—The Minden Emergency Unit was dispatched to E. 4th Street for an assault.

9-21-26—The Minden Fire & Rescue was dispatched to N. Minden Avenue for a fire alarm.

9-21-26—The Minden Emergency Unit was dispatched to S. Nebraska Avenue for a complication from a stroke.

9-24-26—The Minden Fire & Rescue was dispatched to Bethany Home for a fire alarm.

9-24-26—The Minden Emergency Unit was dispatched to S. Minden Avenue for a fall with injury.

Axtell Fire & Rescue

9-16-26—The Axtell Emergency Unit was dispatched to W. 4th Street for a fall with injury, transported to Good Sam.

9-21-26—The Axtell Emergency Unit was dispatched to transport patient to PMHC in Holdrege.

9-21-26—The Axtell Fire & Rescue was dispatched to Main Street for a fire alarm. The theater group was using a fog machine, there was no fire.

Kearney County Sheriff

9-6-26, A vehicle driven by Joseph Kinkadien, Ogallala, & a vehicle driven by Jack M. Canteberry, Blue Hill, were traveling southbound on Highway 10. Canteberry collided into the rear of Kinkadien. Estimated damage, Kinkadien: $4,000. Estimated damage. Canteberry: $8,000.

Minden Police Report

Calls for Service

September 16

0502 - 500 Block E. 5th St., City Ordinance Violation

1236 - 1st St. and Brown Ave./Hwy 6 & 10, Traffic Control

1607 - 200 Block N. Hubbard Ave., Unit Call

1655 - 400 Block Western Ave., Neighbor Dispute

1745 - 100 Block S. Nebraska Ave., Officer Information

1816 - 300 Block N. Hubbard Ave., Animal Complaint

2014 - 700 Block Nance Ave., City Ordinance Violation

September 17

0913 - 200 Block N. Kearney Ave., Truancy

1156 - 100 Block E. Holland St., Unit Call

1538 - 1300 Block N. Brown Ave., Vehicle Accident

1844 - 16th St. and Brown Ave., Traffic Stop

2014 - East City limits, Suspicious Activity

2026 - Campbell St. and Brown Ave., Vehicle in Ditch, Contact Made with Owner

September 18

0006 - 300 Block S. Brown Ave., Suspicious Subject, Unable to Locate

0044 - 600 Block W. 3rd St., Walkthrough

0601 - 4th St. and Minden Ave., Traffic Stop

0731 - 300 Block S. Colorado Ave., Unit Call

1140 - 500 Block Western Ave., Neighbor Dispute

1549 - Lions Park, Suspicious Activity

1817 - 300 Block S. Colorado Ave., Unit Call

2038 - 200 Block Smith Ave., Suspicious Vehicle

2248 - 300 Block E. Holland St., City Ordinance Violation

2333 - 2nd St. and Brown Ave., Traffic Stop

September 19

0152 - 500 Block Western Ave., Lift Assist

1100 - 1300 Block N. Brown Ave., Assault Investigation

1216 - 900 Block S. Nebraska Ave., Unit Call

1458 - Hwy 6 & 10, Driving Complaint

1535 - 900 Block S. Nebraska Ave., Check Welfare

2104 - 700 Block N. Brown Ave., Traffic Stop

September 20

0351 - 700 Block E. 4th St., Assault Investigation

1250 - 200 Block W. Holland St., Harassment

1359 - Hwy 6 and 31 Rd., Agency Assist, Driving Complaint

September 21

0215 - 300 Block N. Minden Ave., Fire Alarm

0819 - 900 Block S. Colorado Ave., Unit Call

1217 - 200 Block W. Campbell St., Fraudulent Activity

1528 - 900 Block S. Colorado Ave., HHS Intake

1647 - Hwy 6 & 10, Report of Accident, Unable to Locate

1836 - 200 Block S. Thomsen Ave., Motorist Assist

1847 - 5th St. and Brown Ave., Traffic Stop, Arrest Made on Active Warrant

2030 - 5th St. and Brown Ave., Traffic Stop

2131 - 5th St. and Brown Ave., Traffic Stop

2203 - Brown Ave. and Lexington St., Traffic Stop

September 22

0216 - Hwy 6 and McIntyre Ave., Traffic Stop

0446 - 800 Block S. Nebraska Ave., City Ordinance Violation

1524 - 400 Block W. 3rd St., Check Welfare

1740 - 100 Block N. Kearney Ave., Animal Complaint

1908 - 6th St. and Brown Ave., Traffic Stop

1908 - Northbound Hwy 10, Traffic Complaint

1955 - Hwy 6 and McIntyre Ave., Traffic Stop

2011 - Hwy 6 and Garber Ave., Traffic Stop

2040 - Hwy 6 & 10, Motorist Assist

September 23

0203 - 700 Block N. Minden Ave., Suspicious Vehicle

1656 - 9th St. and Colorado Ave., BSNF Cross Arms Down

2220 - 200 Block W. Holland St., Unwanted Subject

0441 - 200 Block W. Holland St., Check Welfare

Legal Notices

NOTICE

CITY OF MINDEN
COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

The City Council of the City of Minden, Nebraska, met on September 8, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in regular session in the Council Chambers, pursuant to advance notice of said meeting simultaneously transmitted to all members of the Council and to the public as shown by the copy thereof posted in the Minden City Hall, Outside the Minden City Hall, First Bank & Trust Co., Minden Exchange Bank & Trust Co., and the Post Office. A copy of the notice is on file in the office of the City Clerk. Council Members Present: Bunger, Sumstine, Yant, and Schneider. City Officials Present: Olson, Evans, Krings, and Jordan. Approved Bills and Claims: A. Christensen--Personnel $100.00, Amazon Capital Services--Supplies $1,017.01, American Fence Company Of Kearney Inc--Repairs $364.44, Atlas Automation Llc--Repairs $660.00, B&R Stores, Inc--Supplies $52.59, Black Hills Gas Holdings, Llc--Utilities $129.64, Capital One--Supplies $2,319.94, Ccmobl Inc--Cleaning $722.25, City Of Holdrege--Fees $7,998.20, City Of Kearney--Supplies $377.18, Colonial Research Chemical Corp--Chemical $6,237.94, Dier,Osborn & Cox, P.C., L.L.O--Legal $4,251.50, D. Shoff--Personnel $100.00, Dutton-Lainson Company--Supplies $695.74, Eakes Inc--Supplies $237.83, Essential Resource Group Inc--Fees $44.49, Fyr-Tek Inc.--Repairs $1,448.64, G. Engelhardt--Incentive $69.80, Great Plains Communications--Phone/Internet $100.78, Great Plains Communications--Phone/Internet $1,201.81, Iworq Systems Inc--Supplies $4,000.00, Jci Industries, Llc--Maintenance $4,200.00, J. D Barnes--Maintenance $400.00, J. J Collison--Repairs $250.00, Jims Ok Tire Minden Llc--Repairs $87.00, John Deere Financial--Supplies $70.31, Jones Insurance Agency, Inc--Insurance $18,319.00, Ke Co Treasurer--Fees $6,033.33, Kearney Powersports--Supplies $135.80, K. Anderson--Personnel $200.00, Kt Diesel & Equipment--Repairs $1,624.14, Landmark Implement Carquest--Supplies $451.43, Les Lee P. Mcgee--Supplies $559.40, Menards Of Kearney--Supplies $440.78, M. Shelton--Personnel $200.00, Mid Nebraska Aggregate, Inc--Supplies $465.76, Midlands Contracting, Inc.--Maintenance $30,838.65, Minden Chamber Of Commerce--Economic Development $5,000.00, Minden Utility Dept.--Utilities $4,839.16, Municipal Pipe Services Inc--Repairs $10,750.00, Municipal Supply-Nebraska--Supplies $2,948.44, Napa Auto Parts--Supplies $40.61, Nebraska Rural Water Assoc.--Fees $800.00, Nphe--Fees $465.00, Olsson Associates--Tech/Engineering $35,230.58, One Call Concepts Inc--Fees $53.57, Penguin Management--Fees $1,062.00, Platte Valley Laboratories, Inc--Supplies $276.00, Presto X Co.--Maintenance $294.56, Rek Enterprises Llc--Repairs $230.74, Revenue Bond Payment Account--Fees $2,525.00, Revenue Bond Payment Account--Fees $2,000.00, Revenue Bond Payment Account--Fees $8,950.00, S. Schlley--Repairs $3,500.00, S. Albers--Repairs $1,701.09, Southern Power District--Utilities $29.19, Southern Power District--Utilities $34.21, S. Plank--Training $74.48, The Minden Courier--Printing $263.71, T. Cowden--Personnel $150.00, T. R. Beck--Supplies $84.00, Town And Country Farm And Home Inc--Supplies $1,404.66, T. Frerichs--Incentive $180.00, T. Robinson--Supplies $73.64, T. McDowell--Incentive $500.00, United Parcel Service, Inc--Fees $201.15, Verizon Wireless--Phone/Internet $809.44, Vermeer High Plains--Rental $600.00, Village Cleaners Inc--Uniforms $54.63, Woodward Disposal--Fees $32.50, 8-21-2026 Payroll $76,365.95. Items Approved: Consent Agenda--Schneider motioned to approve the consent agenda and Yant seconded. Voted aye: Bunger, Sumstine, Yant, and Schneider. Resolution making assessments in Street Improvement District No. 2025-1 AND issuance of a $16 payment to Kearney County Clerk for filing fees--Yant motioned to approve Resolution 1843 making assessments in Street Improvement District No. 2025-1 AND issuance of a $16 payment to Kearney County Clerk for filing fees. Bunger seconded. Voted aye: Bunger, Sumstine, Yant, and Schneider. Resolution amending the water rates--Yant motioned to approve Resolution 1844 amending the water rates with a $25 base rate and a per unit rate of $1.50. Bunger seconded. Voted aye: Bunger and Yant. Voted nay: Sumstine and Schneider. Evans voted aye. Amendment to the Hoff Brothers Inc liquor license located at 709 N Brown Ave for an area addition--Schneider motioned to approve the amendment to the Hoff Brothers Inc liquor license located at 709 N Brown Ave for an area addition. Bunger seconded. Voted aye: Bunger, Sumstine, Yant, and Schneider. Certificate of payment #1 for the 3rd Street sanitary sewer improvements AND issuance of $154,037.25 payment to Van Kirk Bros Contracting--Bunger motioned to approve the certificate of payment #1 for the 3rd Street sanitary sewer improvements AND issuance of $154,037.25 payment to Van Kirk Bros Contracting. Schneider seconded. Voted aye: Bunger, Sumstine, Yant, and Schneider. Contract for manhole rehabilitation with Johnson Service Company in the amount of $27,000--Bunger motioned to approve a contract for manhole rehabilitation with Johnson Service Company in the amount of $27,000. Sumstine seconded. Voted aye: Bunger, Sumstine, Yant, and Schneider. Fiscal year 2026-2027 Employee Pay Plan— Schneider motioned to approve the 2026-2027 Employee Pay Plan. Sumstine seconded. Then Sumstine motioned to table the fiscal year 2026-27 Employee Pay Plan until the next meeting to get the national or state cost of living. Motion died due to lack of second. Voted aye for the approval of the 2026-2027 Employee Pay Plan: Bunger, Yant, and Schneider. Voted nay: Sumstine. Resolution to close Highway 10 for Bandfest on October 17, 2026 as requested by the Minden Chamber of Commerce and to accept the duties of LB 589--Schneider motioned to approve Resolution 1845 to close Highway 10 for Bandfest on October 17, 2026 as requested by the Minden Chamber of Commerce and to accept the duties of LB 589. Sumstine seconded. Voted aye: Bunger, Sumstine, Yant, and Schneider. AMI Base Station replacement and install in the amount of $62,283.10 with Core & Main--Bunger motioned to approve the AMI Base Station replacement and install in the amount of $62,283.10 with Core & Main. Sumstine seconded. Voted aye: Bunger, Sumstine, Yant, and Schneider. Project Order #5639996 with NPPD in the amount of $31,385.39 for electrical upgrades at 624 N. Minden Avenue--Bunger motioned to approve Project Order #5639996 with NPPD in the amount of $31,385.39 for electrical upgrades at 624 N. Minden Avenue. Sumstine seconded. Voted aye: Bunger, Sumstine, Yant, and Schneider. Resolution authorizing the Mayor and Street Superintendent to sign the 2026 Annual Certification of Program Compliance--Yant motioned to approve Resolution 1846 authorizing the Mayor and Street Superintendent to sign the 2026 Annual Certification of Program Compliance. Bunger seconded the motion. Voted aye: Bunger, Sumstine, Yant, and Schneider. Selection of options for employee health insurance including dental and vision, and the employer provided coverages for short term disability, long term disability, and life & AD&D--Yant motioned to approve the renewal of the employee health insurance contract with Point C, adding a Terminal Liability Option and the approval of a contract with KC Life for dental, vision, short term disability, long term disability, and life & AD&D policies. Schneider seconded. Voted aye: Bunger, Sumstine, Yant, and Schneider. Payment to Minden Lawn and Sprinkler for $313.20 for grass seed--Schneider motioned to approve payment to Minden Lawn and Sprinkler for $313.20 for grass seed. Bunger seconded. Voted aye: Bunger, Sumstine, and Schneider. Abstain: Yant. Non-Action Items: Council Announcements. Public Forum. Public hearing to consider assessments in Street Improvement District No. 2025-1. Bunger motioned to adjourn at 6:46 p.m. and Sumstine seconded. Voted aye: Bunger, Sumstine, Yant, and Schneider.

Abbey Jordan, City Clerk

A complete transcript of the council minutes is available at the City Clerk's office and online at mindennebraska.org.

Oct 1, 2026
(318) znez

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Two Rivers Public Health Department will be holding its regular Board of Health Meeting on October 6, 2026. The meeting will be held in a virtual manner beginning at 6:00PM with the option of being in person at 516 W 11th Street Suite 108B Kearney NE. Access trphd.ne.gov to find the meeting link. The agenda for this meeting is kept current and available for public inspection at Two Rivers Public Health Department the agenda may be modified at this meeting.

Jeremy Eschliman
Health Director
888-669-7154

Oct 1, 2026
(21) znez

NOTICE

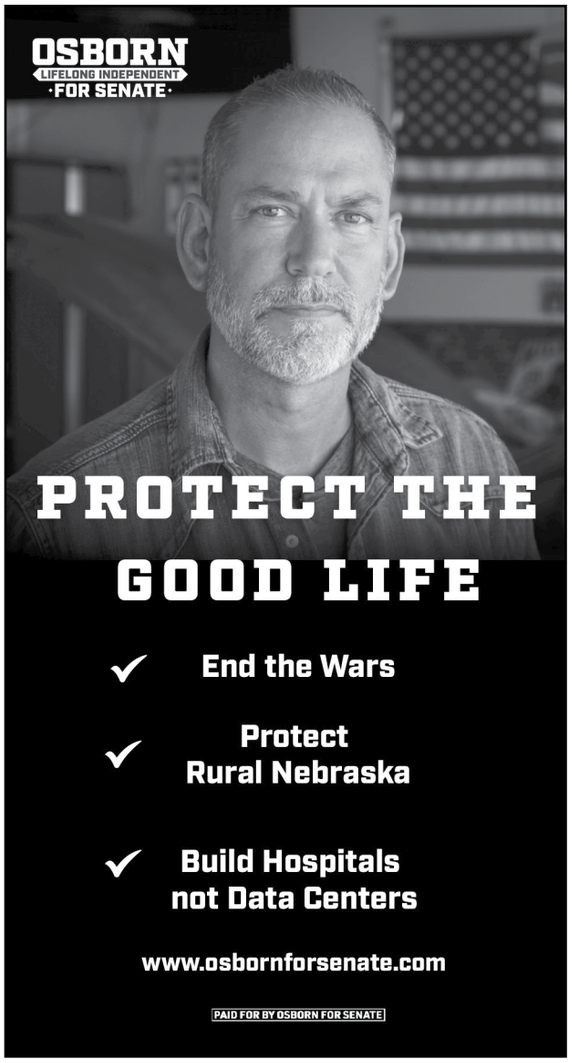
NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that there has been organized under the Nebraska Uniform Limited Liability Company Act, the following-named limited liability company: **S5 Enterprises, LLC**. The street and mailing address of the initial designated office is 967 W 1st St. Minden, NE 68959. Shane Schmidt is the initial agent at such address for purposes of service of process. The limited liability company commenced on April 7th, 2025, and shall have perpetual existence.

Dated: September 9, 2026

S5 Enterprises, 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

Sep 17, 2026
Sep 24, 2026
Oct 1, 2026
(37) znez



NOTICE

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the following-described property will be sold by FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF OMAHA, Trustee, at public auction to the highest bidder in the Assembly Room of the Kearney County Courthouse, 424 North Colorado, Minden, Nebraska, on October 30, 2026, at 12:30 p.m.:

The South half of Lot 5, and all of Lot 6, Block 1, B&M Addition to Wilcox, Kearney County, Nebraska

The highest bidder will deposit with the attorney for Trustee, the full purchase price in certified funds by 5:00 p.m. on the day of the sale, at the offices of Locher Pavelka Dostal Braddy & Hammes, except this requirement is waived when the highest bidder is the Beneficiary. The Purchaser shall be responsible for all prior liens, all applicable fees, and all taxes, including the documentary stamp tax. This property is sold "as is" and this sale is made without any warranties as to the title or condition of the property.

DATED this 31 day of August, 2026.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF OMAHA, Trustee
By: /s/ Gregory L. Galles
For: LOCHER PAVELKA DOSTAL BRADDY & HAMMES, LLC
200 The Omaha Club
2002 Douglas Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68102
Phone: (402) 898-7000
Fax: (402) 898-7130
Gregory L. Galles, #21748
Attorney for Trustee

STATE OF NEBRASKA
COUNTY OF DOUGLAS

On this 31 day of August, 2026, before me, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, personally came Gregory L. Galles, to me known to be the identical person whose name is affixed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged the execution thereof to be a voluntary act and deed.

Witness my hand and notarial seal the day and year last above written.

/s/ Katelyn Kerans
Notary Public

Sep 10, 2026
Sep 17, 2026
Sep 24, 2026
Oct 1, 2026
Oct 8, 2026
(71) znez



NOTICE

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING KEARNEY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MINDEN, NE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Regular Meeting of the Kearney County Board of Commissioners will be held on Tuesday, October 6, 2026 at 9:30 a.m., in the Commissioners' Room of the Kearney County Courthouse, Minden, NE. An agenda for said meeting is kept continuously current at the office of the Kearney County Clerk. Said meeting is open to the public.

/s/ Jenni Lupkes
Kearney County Clerk

Oct 1, 2026
(21) znez

NOTICE

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF KEARNEY COUNTY, NEBRASKA ESTATE OF JUDITH K. GILBERT, DECEASED ESTATE NO. PR26-28

Notice is hereby given that on September 22nd, 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 Earl Gilbert, whose address is 1322 B Avenue, Kearney, Nebraska 68847, 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 December 1, 2026, or be forever barred.

/s/ Laura B. Tobiassen
Registrar
Kearney County Court
Kearney County Courthouse
Minden, NE 68959

Remington S. Slama #27389
KLEIN, BREWSTER, BRANDT & MESSERSMITH
Attorney for Applicant
P.O. Box 272
Minden, NE 68959
308-832-2150
minden@kleinbrewster.com

Oct 1, 2026
Oct 8, 2026
Oct 15, 2026
(38) znez

AURORA COOPERATIVE
UPLAND SERVICES
- On-Farm Tire Truck
- Automotive Repair
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- Tire Service & Repair
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- Cenex Oil & Lubes
- Bulk Oil & DEF Delivery
402-756-0152
372 Midland Street
Upland, NE

NOTICE

ORDINANCE NO. 1330

AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT THE BUDGET STATEMENT TO BE TERMED THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION BILL; TO APPROPRIATE SUMS FOR NECESSARY EXPENSES AND LIABILITIES; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION IN PAMPHLET FORM.

Passed and adopted this 21st day of September, 2026

/s/ Larry Evans
Larry Evans, Mayor
ATTEST:
/s/ Abbey Jordan
Abbey Jordan, City Clerk
(SEAL)

Oct 1, 2026
(19) znez

NOTICE

WILCOX-HILDRETH PUBLIC SCHOOL BUDGET HEARING MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2026 - 8:00 PM POSTING LOCATIONS: MINDEN COURIER POSTING DATE: 9/10/2026 FRANKLIN CHRONICLE POSTING DATE: 9/2/2026 SCHOOL WEBSITE WHFALCONS.ORG ON 9/14/2026 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. Superintendent Report. Superintendent Patterson presented the budgets for all funds. 4. Visitors and communication from the public. Visitor in attendance: Joe Fouts. 5. Adjourn. Motion by Teresa Carey, seconded by Chris Stuehm, to Adjourn meeting at 8:02 p.m. Motion Passed. Teresa Carey: Yea, Alan Casper: Yea, Kert Hansen: Yea, Ryan Knaus: Yea, Kirk Nelson: Yea, Chris Stuehm: Yea Yea: 6, Nay: 0.

WILCOX-HILDRETH PUBLIC SCHOOL TAX REQUEST HEARING MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2026 ~ IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE BUDGET HEARING POSTING LOCATIONS: MINDEN COURIER POSTING DATE 09/10/2026 FRANKLIN CHRONICLE POSTING DATE 09/02/2026 SCHOOL WEBSITE WHFALCONS.ORG ON 9/14/2026 CONFERENCE ROOM - WILCOX 404 SAPP STREET WILCOX, NE 68982-0190

1. Call to Order. Roll Call. 2. Superintendent Report. Superintendent Patterson presented the tax request for all funds. 3. Visitors and communication from the public. Visitor in attendance: Joe Fouts. 4. Adjourn. Motion by Ryan Knaus, seconded by Alan Casper, to Adjourn meeting at 8:05 p.m. Motion Passed. Teresa Carey: Yea, Alan Casper: Yea, Kert Hansen: Yea, Ryan Knaus: Yea, Kirk Nelson: Yea, Chris Stuehm: Yea Yea: 6, Nay: 0.

WILCOX-HILDRETH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2026 ~ IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE TAX REQUEST HEARING POSTING LOCATIONS: MINDEN COURIER POSTING DATE 09/10/2026 FRANKLIN CHRONICLE POSTING DATE 09/02/2026 SCHOOL WEBSITE WHFALCONS.ORG ON 9/14/2026 CONFERENCE ROOM - WILCOX 404 SAPP STREET WILCOX, NE 68982-0190

1. Call to Order. Roll Call. 2. Announce location of posted Open Meetings Act. 3. Consent Agenda. Motion by Alan Casper, seconded by Chris Stuehm, 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 August 17, 2026 Board Meeting and Budget Workshop and Facility Planning Meeting of August 25, 2026. 3.C. Approval of Claims. 3.D. Financial Report. 4. Visitors and communication from the public. Visitior in attendance: Joe Fouts. 5. Action Items. 5.A. Discuss, Consider and take all necessary action to approve the 2026-27 General Fund Budget of $7,314,183 Depreciation Fund $2,313,680, Employee Benefit Fund $27,194, Activities Fund $568,664, School Nutrition Fund $370,000, Special Building Fund $2,099,494, QCPUF $755,742, and Student Fee $16,842. Motion by Ryan Knaus, seconded by Kirk Nelson, to approve the 2026-27 General Fund Budget of $7,314,183 Depreciation Fund $2,313,680, Employee Benefit Fund $27,194, Activities Fund $568,664, School Nutrition Fund $370,000, Special Building Fund $2,099,494, QCPUF $755,742, and Student Fee $16,842. 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 2026-2027 Tax Request Resolution #2026 with a General Fund Tax Request of $5,437,761, Special Building Fund Tax Request of $1,010,101. Motion by Alan Casper, seconded by Kirk Nelson, to approve the 2026-2027 Tax Request Resolution #2026 with a General Fund Tax Request of $5,437,761, Special Building Fund Tax Request of $1,010,101. 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 a transfer from the general fund to the nutrition fund in the amount of $157.95, to reimburse the cost of adult meal prices, and $167.21 to reimburse the nutrition fund for the cost of K & PK milk and snacks that are not reimbursable. Motion by Teresa Carey, seconded by Chris Stuehm, to approve a transfer from the general fund to the nutrition fund in the amount of $157.95, to reimburse the cost of adult meal prices, and $167.21 to reimburse the nutrition fund for the cost of K & PK milk and snacks that are not reimbursable. 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 review board policies: 4005, 4008,4015,4019,4044,4046,4050,4054. Motion by Kert Hansen, seconded by Ryan Knaus, to review board policies: 4005,4008, 4015,4019,4044,4046,4050, 4054. Motion Passed. 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. Review the public information document about facilities to be released by Superintendent Patterson. Superintendent Patterson presented the Board with a letter for their review that will be released to the public. 6.B. Review the public information survey about facilities to be released by Superintendent Patterson. Superintendent Patterson presented the Board with a survey for their review that will be released to the public. 7. Administrator Report. 7.A. Superintendent Report. Superintendent Patterson reported: 1. School Finance Updates. 2. Public Letter. 3. Public Survey. 4. School Audit. 5. Negotiations. 7.B. Principal Report. Principal Glenn reported: 1. Attendance. 2. Americanism Act. 8. Next Board Meeting: 8:00 PM Monday, October 19, 2026 in the Wilcox Conference room. 9. Adjourn. Motion by Alan Casper, seconded by Ryan Knaus, to Adjourn meeting at 8:27 p.m. Motion Passed. Teresa Carey: Yea, Alan Casper: Yea, Kert Hansen: Yea, Ryan Knaus: Yea, Kirk Nelson: Nay, Chris Stuehm: Yea Yea: 5, Nay: 1.

Checking Account ID 1 Fund Number 01 GENERAL FUND: AED Authority, 897.00; Amazon Capital Services, Inc., 1,375.55; Apptegy, 6,136.00; B-H Photo-Video, 1,036.68; Black Hills Energy, 1,374.92; BrightArrow Technoligies, Inc., 1,000.00; BSN Sports LLC, 3,018.85; BTS Communications, Phone Vendor, 54.00; Capital Sanitary Supply Co, Inc., 226.51; Central Nebraska Bobcat, 11,050.30; Clearfly, 122.59; Cooperative Producers Inc, 5,597.49; Culligan of Kearney, 150.00; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, E-Rate/Charter, 0.00; Diversified Safety and Compliance LLC, 250.80; Eakes Office Solutions, 1,383.63; ESU #11, 4,721.60; Family Medical Specialties, Medical Provider, 149.00; First Care Medical, P.C., 185.00; Franklin County Chronicle, 193.43; Fritz's Market, 19.07; Great Plains Communications, 292.79; Hastings Tribune, The, 125.00; Holdrege Public School, 15,322.96; Hometown Leasing, Copy Machine Lease Company, 894.00; J.W. Pepper & Son, Inc., 235.19; Kidwell, Inc, 406.25; KSB School Law PC LLO, 860.00; Lakeshore Learning Materials, 36.97; Larsen's Ace Hardware, 105.53; Loomis Public School, 25.00; Matheson Tri-Gas Inc, 150.68; Menards - Kearney, 12.99; Minden Courier, Newspaper, 468.02; NASB, 159.00; Nebraska Schoolmasters Club, 40.00; NSIAAA, 300.00; Presto-X Company, Pest Control, 117.44; Rapid Fire Protection Inc., 470.00; Rosendahl Repair, 895.66; Rutt's Heating and Air Conditioning, Inc., Heating & Air Conditioning, 765.00; Spracklin Chiropractic, 100.00; Time Management Systems, 6.00; Truck Center Companies Nebraska/Iowa/Kansas, 42.12; United Cultures, Inc., 170.00; Village Of Hildreth, 2,735.16; Village Of Wilcox, 0.00; VISA, 2,345.66; Wage Works, 128.75; Walmart, 38.92; Wilcox-Hildreth Lunch Account, 90,167.21; Woodward's Disposal Service, 55.00; Yanda's Music And Pro Audio, 738.05; Fund Number 01: 157,151.77; Checking Account ID 1: 157,151.77.

Oct 1, 2026

(308) znez

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NOTICE

VILLAGE OF WILCOX, NE - NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that the Village of Wilcox, Nebraska, by resolution of the Village Board of Trustees, has directed a sale of the following real property owned by it:

Lots One (1) and Two (2), Block Eight (8), B & M Addition to the Village of Wilcox, Kearney County, Nebraska (Parcel ID 0008148.00)

Any person desiring to submit a responsive bid, together with supporting documentation described in the below, shall do so, under seal, to the office of the Wilcox Village Clerk located at 107 W Sapp Street, Wilcox, Nebraska 68982, so it is received in the Clerk's office no later than November 10, 2026, at 12:00 p.m. Any bid received after such date and time shall not be considered. Bids shall be opened and may be awarded at the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees on November 10, 2026, at 7:30 p.m.

Terms and conditions of sale are as follows:

1. The Village intends to sell the Property to the highest bidder. Bidders shall include with the bid proof of ability to pay or obtain financing (which, at minimum, shall be in the form of a letter of preapproval from a lender).
2. The Property is being sold subject to the terms and conditions of the Real Estate Purchase Agreement approved by the Village Board and attached to Resolution No. 697 ("Purchase Agreement"). Any person desiring to submit a bid should first review the Purchase Agreement. A copy of the Purchase Agreement is available for review or to copy at the office of the Village Clerk.
3. Any person submitting a bid agrees that such bid shall be subject to the terms of the Purchase Agreement. Any bid that purports to modify any terms of the Purchase Agreement shall not be a valid bid and shall not be accepted by the Village.
4. A minimum bid amount of $10,000 is required. No bid will be accepted below this minimum bid amount.
5. The Property is being sold "as is," without warranty of any kind as to the condition of any improvements thereon, and subject to any and all restrictions and encumbrances of record and subject to compliance with any and all Nebraska laws governing the procedure of the sale of real property by a Nebraska municipality classified as a village.
6. The Village will consider all reasonable bids, but reserves the right to reject any and all bids and reserves the right to request additional information and supporting documentation from any bidder prior to the award of any bid.
7. Sale shall be confirmed by ordinance that will identify the purchaser and purchase price, in addition to the terms of sale set forth in the Purchase Agreement.
8. Following the passage of the ordinance described above, the sale be conducted in strict accordance with the Purchase Agreement.

Melinda Ferree, Village Clerk
Sep 17, 2026
Sep 24, 2026
Oct 1, 2026
(107) znez

Keep Care Local. Keep Communities Strong.

Access to care *closer to home helps rural Nebraska families thrive.*

NEBRASKA
RURAL HEALTH TRANSFORMATION

The Rural Health Transformation Program is supported by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (US HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling $218,529,075.01 with 100 percent funded by CMS/US HHS. The contents are those of the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement by, CMS/US HHS, or the U.S. Government.

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Local Classifieds

Help Wanted

ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY: Government agency in Holdrege seeks person with bookkeeping (QuickBooks) and writing skills for a full-time M-F position. Proficiency with spreadsheets (Excel) is also needed. Excellent benefits package includes paid holidays, vacation, sick leave, health insurance and retirement plan with employer match. Send resumes to: tribasin@tribasinnrd.org by Oct. 16.

Services

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

CLUES ACROSS

1. "Wicker Man" actor Nic
5. Protection
8. Cloth worn over a shoulder
12. Ceramic jars
14. Midway between northeast and east
15. South American hummingbird
16. Platforms
18. Taxi
19. Mild yellow Dutch cheese made in balls
20. A citizen of Yemen
21. Military mailbox
22. Nuclear near reach weapon
23. Clears
26. Broken
30. Actress Lathan
31. Avid fan
32. One and only
33. Proceeding
34. River in Portugal and Spain
39. Doctor of Education
42. Defeat handily
44. Less complicated
46. Handyman tools
47. Written works
49. Castle dweller's safety net
50. Honorable title (Turkish)
51. Greatest
56. Can do
57. A place to sleep on the road
58. Member of U.S. Navy
59. 24-hour units of time
60. Actor Horsley
61. In a way, sounds off
62. Formerly (archaic)
63. Eye infection
64. Plundered

CLUES DOWN

1. William __, Buffalo Bill
2. Wings
3. Candle or lantern
4. Freedom from difficulty
5. A type of pie
6. Metrical foot
7. __ Kerr, actress
8. Nap
9. Popular singer Bocelli
10. Immune responses
11. "Mad Men" leading man
13. A citizen of Senegal
17. Philly basketball player
24. Not even
25. Measures wind speed
26. Insecticide
27. Jordan glided through it
28. Bird-like dinosaur genus
29. Expression of satisfaction
35. Big Blue
36. One point east (clockwise) of due north
37. Of she
38. Oral rehydration solution
40. Knocks off course
41. Popular cop show of yesteryear
42. Zhou dynasty state
43. Genus of gulls
44. Onion flatbreads
45. Declare as true
47. Of a lobe
48. Missouri county
49. Produced
52. Volcanic crater
53. Off-Broadway theater award
54. KU hoops coach Bill
55. Check for

SUDOKU

8		9	3					
	1				9	2		
								4
9			5		4		7	
2								
	6			8			1	3
3			2			7		
6		8		7	5			
	5							

Level: Intermediate

HOROSCOPES

ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20
Aries, you will soon learn that any obstacle can be overcome if you set your mind to it. While a certain task may seem daunting right now, don't allow it to intimidate you.

TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21
Others are paying attention to you even if they seem distracted, Taurus. Embrace the scrutiny and do your best to reciprocate any special attention coming your way.

GEMINI – May 22/Jun 21
Gemini, make an effort to be there for a loved one this week. You have a unique ability to listen and support others, and your loved one will not take your efforts for granted.

CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22
Cancer, if your energy and attention span is a bit scattered this week, take steps to ensure all of your responsibilities are taken care of. A respite is on the horizon.

LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23
Leo, by observing others you can learn how they operate and make the most of your chances to work with them. Apply a similar approach to your personal relationships.

VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22
Try to tackle a financial project this week, Virgo. Select something relatively easy to begin with, and then go from there if you find yourself in a financial groove.

LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23
It's time to get the creative juices flowing, Libra. Tackle a project around the house, like painting or rearranging a room. Look for a new creative hobby as well.

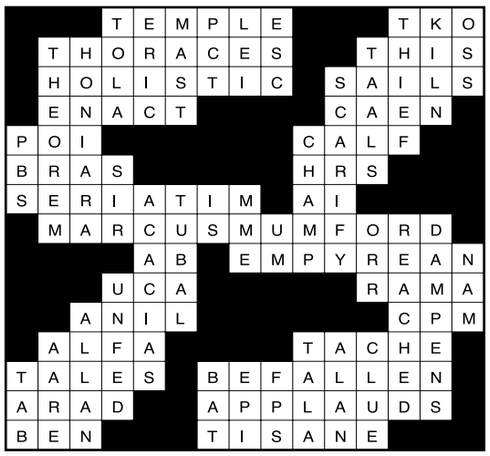
SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22
Scorpio, you have a lot of energy and a need to strive toward perfection in all that you do. Those traits will prove valuable around the office this week.

SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21
Keep trying to convince someone that your ideas are credible, Sagittarius. With a little more persuasion, you may win this person over and he or she will become a big supporter.

CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20
Capricorn, even if you don't want to go along with what the group is doing this week, you may have to concede that what is best for the group trumps your personal preference.

AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18
Aquarius, financial issues may be keeping you on your toes, but it's nothing you can't handle if you stick to your plan. You may want to do some tinkering, however.

PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20
Pisces, continue to bring the right people into your inner circle. One person in particular has your eye and might be just what you need.



9.24.26 SOLUTIONS

9	7	1	5	4	3	2	6	8
8	3	2	6	1	7	9	4	5
5	4	6	2	9	8	1	3	7
3	1	9	8	7	6	4	5	2
7	5	4	1	3	2	6	8	9
2	6	8	9	5	4	3	7	1
1	8	3	4	2	5	7	9	6
6	9	7	3	8	1	5	2	4
4	2	5	7	6	9	8	1	3



Have you seen ads promising easy money if you wrap your car?
You find an ad on social media. A big company wants you to wrap your car. Promises you hundreds or thousands of dollars. Sends you a check for thousands more than you expect and wants you to wire back some of the money. Maybe even return some of it in gift cards?

This one is pretty black and white!

If you get a message urging you to deposit a check and wire money back, it's a scam. Every time. No matter the story.

Calling all students!
CliffNote version:

If it sounds too good to be TRUE then it probably IS

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Axtell 2026 Homecoming Royalty



Axtell Community School held its 2026 Homecoming festivities on September 25. The coronation was held before the football game against Southern Valley. (below) King candidates were Logan Cappel, Warren Myers, and Connor Strolberg. Queen candidates were Ella Lorenz, Morgan Hawkins and Emma Hall. (above) Logan Cappel was crowned king and Morgan Hawkins was crowned queen. (Courier phtotos by Rachel Hawkins)

