

35th Annual Minden Bandfest Oct 18

PRESS RELEASE

October 18, 2025 marks the 35th year of the Minden Bandfest, sponsored by the Minden Chamber of Commerce. The event started in 1991 after Phil Fahrlander, a long time Minden band director, approached Todd Jensen, who was the incoming President of the Minden Chamber of Commerce, with the idea to start a parade and field competition.

"Phil felt if it was done right it could fill a need out there, while also bringing a great event to Minden," said Todd, who has continued to serve as the Bandfest coordinator every year of the event.

Eight bands participated the first year, and that number soon began to grow. In recent years, there has been as many as 42 bands marching through the streets of Minden. This year 37 school marching bands are expected to attend.

"We attract bands from across a wide area of the state, and many have told me it's their favorite event," said Todd. "We are unique because the focus is totally on them, and they enjoy the friendly atmosphere."

The bands will march by class, with the Junior High bands starting the parade off at 1:00pm. Lining up on West First Street, the bands march onto Brown Avenue where they perform for the judges at Fourth and Brown before returning to the school again via Fifth Street. Parade awards follow at Kuper Field with the field competition immediately after that.

The field competition gives the bands going onto the NSBA state marching competitions one last chance to be critiqued before the state competitions. The bands are scored by a group of three judges. They judge music, marching ability and overall presentation, as well as their creativity, precision, uniformity and entertainment value. This year's judges are Janet Palmer of Holdrege, Dave Klein of Kearney, and Paul Ramp of Friend.

Todd says Phil knew what he was talking about all those years ago. "It's not only filled a need, but it makes for a big day for Minden and the Chamber of Commerce.



Minden will host 37 school marching bands and countless spectators during the 35th annual Minden Bandfest event on October 18th. The parade will begin at 1pm with the field show to follow at Kuper Field. (Courier photo by Cindy Ramsey)



Weather Forecast

Oct. 17:	74/49	
Oct. 18:	67/42	
Oct. 19:	67/47	
Oct. 20:	70/48	
Oct. 21:	66/42	
Oct. 22:	61/41	
Oct. 23:	64/43	

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PAGES 8-9 - Local Band Spotlights

PAGE 19 - MS Girls State Runner-Up

Sweet Adelines Show Dates Announced

PRESS RELEASE

Nebraska Pride Chorus of Sweet Adelines International once again presents its annual show, "Dancing to the Hits". Under the direction of Connie Witt from Kearney, the chorus brings the best of barbershop style a cappella harmony to the stage to entertain audiences.

Nebraska Pride Chorus represents women from eight different communities in Central Nebraska. The chorus meets weekly in Lexington and performs throughout the year for different organizations and churches. The mission of Sweet Adelines is to promote harmonious acapella harmonious singing through education and performance.

In this day of instant photos and event sharing with friends and family, this show will evoke memories from songs from the '50s, 60's, 70's and 80's as you reminisce of times spent dancing the night away with these wonderful songs.

Our Guest Performer is Rascal Martinez, a multi-instrumentalist- from North Platte. He plays a wide array of classic rock alongside his original material. Rascal entertains folks of all ages across the Midwest.

The "Dancing to the Hits" show times and dates are October 18, 2025 in Arapahoe at the high school at 2:00 PM and in Kearney at the Merryman Performing Arts Center at 7:30 PM. On October 19th, the show will be performed at the Episcopal Church at 2:30 PM.

Admission is Free Will Donation at all venues. Hope to see you there.

Kearney County Courthouse Survey

PRESS RELEASE

Kearney County is asking residents to complete a survey to help determine next steps regarding the courthouse dome repair.

The project began with an assessment of rust on the interior and exterior of the courthouse tower. It was immediately clear the scope of the project would be well beyond that of a standard paint job. The tower has insufficient ventilation and condensation occurs frequently. Rust exists on most of the horizontal steel connections as well as many of the vertical joints. Because of the unique structural system, utilizing the exterior skin as support, removing and replacing rusting structural components becomes dangerous to the structure.

The Kearney County courthouse dome is a unique structure that is a centerpiece to Minden's annual Christmas Lights display. The repair project will have a hefty pricetag, so your input is needed.

Please complete the survey at <https://tinyurl.com/SaveChristmasCity> or scan the QR code. Paper copies of the survey are available at the Kearney County Courthouse and Jensen Memorial Library.

The survey will be open October 15, 2025 through November 15, 2025.



from PAGE 1 - Bandfest

It takes some coordination for sure, but thanks to the community support, and our loyal volunteers, it always comes together."

The Highway 10 detour goes in place at noon, and spectators are encouraged to follow the detour and then approach the parade route from the east. Bands participating in the 35th annual Minden Bandfest parade in order will be:

Junior High: Arapahoe-Holbrook, Medicine Valley, Blue Hill, Faith Christian, Palmer, Holdrege, and Minden

Class D: Overton, Pleasanton, Gibbon, Wilcox-Hildreth, Elm Creek, Chambers, Loup City, Litchfield, Kenesaw, North Platte Catholic, SEM, Arapahoe-Holbrook, Medicine Valley, Axtell, and Bertrand

Class C: Hastings St. Cecilia, Amherst, Centura, Ravena, Sandy Creek, St. Paul, Alma, Superior, Hershey, and Wood River

Class B: Kearney Catholic, Adams Central, Holdrege, and Minden

Class A: McCook

Competing in the field competition in order will be:

Superior, Hershey, Kearney Catholic, Adams Central, Holdrege, Minden, and McCook

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Weather Recap

Date	High	Low	Precip.
10/4/25	85	66	-
10/5/25	75	62	-
10/6/25	58	49	.2
10/7/25	65	44	-
10/8/25	55	46	-
10/9/25	64	56	-
10/10/25	74	59	-
Total Week Precip.....			0.20

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.

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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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Letters may be sent via email.

News Briefs

Paws Up Kearney County

Paws Up Kearney County has several upcoming events. Join a DIY Craft Night on Sunday, October 26 at 2pm at the Lempka Home, 1045 Western Ave. Participants can make a 16" round door hanger (\$25 each) or 18"x30" door mat (\$35 each). Participants must pre-register by Sunday, October 12. All door hangers, mats, and supplies for crafting will be supplied. Lots of stencils to choose from, some but not all stencils are pet themed.

Holiday Pet Photos will be taken on Sunday, November 9 from 1-5pm at the Lempka Home. \$25 donation suggestion for session. Pets must be on a leash or in a carrier when coming and going to avoid any confrontation with other pets. Call or text Jane for your reservation time.

A 'Pugtato' Bar fundraiser will be held on Sunday, December 14 from 5-7pm at The Windmill, 521 N. Colorado Ave. before the Light of the World pageant. This event will feature a potato bar with all the fixings, desserts, and drinks (to go containers available). Free will donation, cash bar. Enjoy a hot meal and a cool pageant while supporting a great cause.

Christmas City 5K Run/Walk & Little Elf Run

The Minden Chamber of Commerce will host the 15th annual Christmas City 5K Run/Walk & Little Elf Run on Saturday, November 29. Registration begins at 8:30am, Little Elf 1/2 Mile starts at 9am, and the 5K starts at 9:30am all at Westminster United Presbyterian Church, 109 N. Colorado Avenue.

A t-shirt will be provided to all 5K participants who pre-register by November 1. Registration is \$20 per entry for the 5K and free for the Little Elf Run. Registration forms can be found at the Chamber office and www.mindennc.org on the event page.

Costumes are encouraged. Celebrate the race with pancakes during the Minden Rotary Pancake Feed at the church the same morning.

Halloween Candy Crawl

The Minden Chamber of Commerce will host a Halloween Candy Crawl around the square on Friday, October 31 beginning at 2:30pm. Kids are invited to come dressed up in their Halloween costumes to take part. Participants can start on any of the four corners of the square and walk by businesses to get candy and treats. Parents are asked to please accompany their children. Be sure to bring bags for candy and treats!

MPS Informational Meetings

Minden Public Schools will be sharing information regarding the proposed construction of a new elementary school building and the upcoming special bond election during informational meetings. On Friday, October 17 at 9am, stop by East Elementary for coffee and a self guided tour around the school. On Thursday, October 23 at 7pm, a presentation of general information including finance options will be given at East Elementary. For more information about the project and proposed bond, visit <https://www.mindenforward.org/>.

Boy Scout BBQ Fundraiser

Minden Boy Scout Troop 199 will host a BBQ fundraiser on Saturday, October 18 from 11am-2pm at Mason's parking lot. The scouts will be serving hotdogs and hamburgers.

Murder Mystery Dinner

The Minden FFA Alumni and Minden Chamber are partnering to host a Christmas City Murder Mystery Dinner fundraiser to support the Minden FFA chapter on Saturday, November 15 at the Minden Opera House. The event begins with a social hour starting at 5pm followed by dinner at 6pm and the program beginning at 6:30pm. Tickets are available now \$40 per person or \$300 for a table of 8. Tickets can be purchased at mindenoperahouse.com.

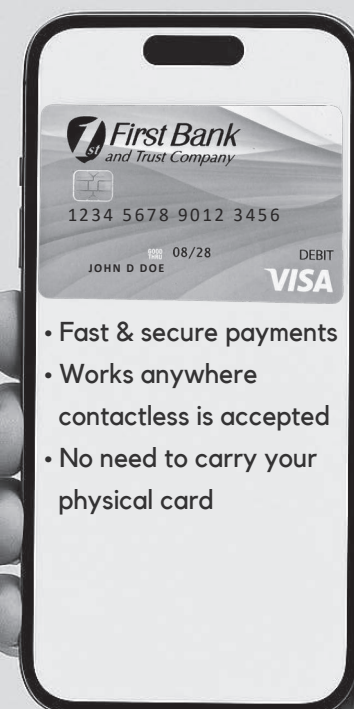
Pints for Polio

Rotary Club of Minden is hosting its second annual Pints for Polio fundraiser on Thursday, October 30 from 5-7pm at Thunderheard Brewing, 201 F Avenue, Axtell. Tickets can be purchased in advance from any Minden Rotary member for \$20 or at the door day of for \$23. Tickets are good for two select beers, light appetizers, great company, and a great cause. Proceeds from this event will be used to raise awareness and fight against polio.

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, November 10 and Monday, December 8.

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City Council Met Oct 6

CINDY RAMSEY

The Minden City Council made quick work of the agenda during the October 6 regular meeting.

Second reading of ordinance 1306 authorizing the issuance and sale of bond anticipation notes not to exceed \$700,000 for the K Road paving project was quickly approved. There was no changes on the matter from the previous meeting to report.

A bid opening for the project was held on September 24 with six bids submitted. The engineer's estimate was \$602,000. Nielsen Contracting submitted the lowest bid at \$464,673. The council approved the bid from Nielsen Contracting for the K Road paving project.

State statute allows for deferral of special assessments on agricultural land. Dave and DeAnna Anderbery, owners of agricultural land adjacent to the K Road paving project, have gone through the necessary steps and submitted an application for deferral of special assessment. The council approved the Anderberys' application for deferral of special assessment.

With the holidays just around the corner, the council took action on employee appreciation gifts. Full-time City employees will receive \$100 chamber bucks and regular part-time employees will receive \$50 chamber bucks. All City employees and volunteer firemen will also receive gift certificates for a ham or turkey from Mason's Market.

Longshot Property Development was approved for a \$100,000 loan from the Minden Revolving Loan Fund last October with a 12-month deferment on payments for the commercial space in the Zu Haus Flats building. The space will not be ready by the time payments are scheduled to begin due to construction delays. Owners Jacob and Emily Rafert requested an additional two months of deferment to allow time for the build out and the tenant to begin leasing the space. The council approved the extension to allow for repayment to start on January 1, 2026.

Police Chief Jarvis Kring told the council the department's current body and dash camera system is outdated and no longer supported by Watchdog. This has presented complications as the cameras shut off in the middle of investigations creating a liability for the City and the officers. The City received a quote from Axon Enterprises for new body and dash cameras for \$109,111.80. This expense has been budgeted and the company is highly recommended. The council approved the contract for the purchase to be paid over a five year period.

The council approved the City's comprehensive fee schedule as presented. There were no significant changes, but some cleaning up of language.

In other business the council: Approved minutes from the September 15 & 22 meetings. Approved bills and claims. Approved excused absence of Councilman Jack Yant. Approved special designated liquor license for Gutterz Fun Center LLC at the Kearney County Fairgrounds for a reception on 11-8-25 from 3:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.



The Minden Volunteer Fire & Rescue Department new Life Line Emergency vehicle was recently delivered complete with a fresh paint job. The ambulance with it's Whippet design made its debut in the Minden Homecoming parade on October 10. (Courtesy photo)

Fire Safety at East Elementary



Minden's Volunteer Fire Department visited East Elementary on October 8. The students learned about some of the tools used by the firemen and what to do in case of a fire. Third graders got a special treat as they walked to the fire hall and got a closer look at the emergency vehicles and had a chance to spray a firehose. (Courier photos by Carrie Conner)



Kearney County District Court Clerk Resigns

CINDY RAMSEY

Another long time employee of the County will be taking her leave after the new year. Clerk of District Court Jill Fritson submitted her letter of resignation to the Kearney County Board of Commissioners prior to the October 7 regular meeting.

Fritson has been employed by the County for 27 years. The board regretfully accepted her resignation effective January 31, 2026. The County will be accepting applications for a replacement to finish the 11 months that will remain in the current term.

County Attorney Melodie Bellamy had previously informed the board she would like to be removed as the IT contact person for the County. Bellamy informed the board Darin Haight is willing to take on this role, but had inquired if there would be financial compensation for the additional duties and requested a job description to outline expectations. The board discussed how best to proceed. Following the discussion the board determined Haight would be made head of the IT Committee and asked to keep track of the time commitment involved with this new position over the next ten months. The County will then build compensation for the duties into the next budget.

Highway Superintendent Joe Anderson submitted a snow plan to ensure everyone is on the same page with how snow removal will be handled this winter. The basic plan, as it has been in the past, is to begin plowing after the snow stops and to only salt approaches to major intersections and railroad crossings. This plan can be altered at any time as Anderson recognizes no two storms are the same. This plan provides a general guideline for snow removal that takes into consideration the time and cost associated with the work. The board approved the plan as presented.

Anderson also informed the board he had missed the deadline to apply for the grant utilized by the County every other year to host a tire cleanup. Rather than take on the full cost of tire disposal, the board determined the cleanup should be skipped for 2026. Residents can anticipate a tire cleanup in 2027 instead.

Jerry Berggren from Berggren Architects informed the board another wrinkle has presented itself in the courthouse dome tower restoration project. Berggren provided pictures of a floor/ceiling issue and explained this would need to be

remedied before the tower can be sealed off. Furthermore, these repairs may require the courthouse to be closed for a time. The framing involved needs to be cleared before a cost estimate can be determined.

County Assessor Jennifer Pittner informed the board the survey to gather public feedback regarding the dome restoration project will go live on October 15. The survey can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/SaveChristmasCity> or by scanning a QR code found on flyers that will be distributed throughout the county. Paper copies will also be available at the Kearney County courthouse and Jensen Memorial Library. Pittner will be working to get paper copies into the other communities in the county as well. The survey will close on November 15.

County Clerk Jenni Lupkes provided an update from

the Central District meeting. Funding cuts were announced at the meeting as well as changes in the distribution of property tax. The state will also be moving to a single license plate in 2029.

Before adjourning, the board discussed holiday gifts for employees. Chairman Brent Stewart will coordinate with Midwest Meats to create a meat bundle for County employees to pick up before Thanksgiving.

In other business the board: Approved September 16 minutes. Approved bills and claims, payroll, and hospital taxes. Approved September 2025 County Clerk and Clerk of District Court fee reports. Approved Sheriff quarterly report ending 9-30-25. Approved child support costs allocation plan. Appointed Jenni Lupkes as the County's registered NACO voter.

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MPS Hosts Community Information Meetings

CINDY RAMSEY

Minden Public Schools held the first of three informational meetings about a proposed \$27 million bond issue on October 8 at the Minden High School theater. East Elementary Principal Sandy Pohl welcomed attendees with a brief history of the 100 year old elementary school building and encouraged the public to take a similar attitude toward education and the future that residents had when the building was constructed.

Pohl explained the current building doesn't fit the physical needs of students and doesn't meet safety standards. Escalating maintenance costs are putting a strain on the district. Pohl also stated teacher retention is a concern due to the issues faced at the current facility.

Superintendent Jim Widdifield took over the presentation explaining what the district has done in the past two years since the previous bond failed. Improvements to C.L. Jones Middle School including a secure entrance remodel and roof, boiler, and electrical upgrades were included in the previous scope of work but have since been completed using special building funds. Similarly, high school parking has been expanded and a traffic study of the high school and middle school area has been completed. Widdifield said the new elementary school project will help ensure all facilities are effective and efficient as possible.

Matt Kreutzer from CMBA shared an overview of the project scope and changes from the previous proposal. With this project, the district is looking to create a K-12 site with the elementary located east of the middle school that allows the district to plan for future growth. The current elementary site is physically out of space restricting expansion. The proposed new elementary building would have secure entrances, be ADA compliant, and provide fire safety and appropriate tornado shelter that the current building lacks. Shared resources will also provide the district long term savings.

Cody Wickham from DA Davidson explained the neutral levy financing plan the district plans to use if the bond is approved. The plan includes redirecting special building funds from repairs and maintenance of the current elementary building to pay for the new building. Once the high school bond is paid off in 2034, the bond levy will be eliminated. Additionally, LB1107 gives Nebraska taxpayers a credit that reduces school property taxes by 30% for both general fund and special building fund on ag land and commercial and residential property. This credit helps lower the impact on taxpayers and provides long term financial stability for the district.

Wickham explained the school's total levy may go up to account for salary increases and inflation, but the bond levy will drop off after the current bond is paid off and the special building fund levy will stay flat through 2049 when the new bond will be paid off. If valuations stay steady or increase, the elementary bond could be paid off even sooner. The district will also have the opportunity to refinance the bond for further savings if interest rates improve.

Mike Kalb from BD Construction explained the purpose and role of the Construction Manager at Risk for the project. In addition to reviewing the architect's information and creating a detailed budget, the CMR helps bid the project and keep things on track while the work is being done. Kalb stated the market is as good as it has been since 2008 and MPS can expect competitive bid activity on this project.

Attendees were reminded the election will be held by mail with ballots mailed to registered voters between October 13-24. Completed ballots must be returned to the county election office by November 4 at 5 p.m. Completed ballots should be mailed back by October 27 in the envelope provided to ensure it arrives in time or they can be hand delivered to the local election office during business hours or put inside the election drop box outside the county election office. Residents may register online to vote by visiting nebraska.gov/apps-sos-voter-registration by October 17. The last day to register in person to vote is October 24.

Following the presentations, the floor was opened to questions. Questions ranged from clarifications regarding financing to what the district has planned for the current elementary building if the bond is approved. Several members of the public shared their frustration with the many proposed projects from the School, City, and County that could affect their taxes. School board members joined the presenters in answering questions posed by the public.

Answers to the questions asked during the meeting as well as additional information about the proposed project and bond can be found at mindenforward.org. Questions can also be submitted on that site. MPS will host two more informational meetings. On Friday, October 17 at 9 a.m. join the district for coffee and a self guided tour around East Elementary. On Thursday, October 23 at 7 p.m. a presentation of general information including finance options will be given at East Elementary.

Residents are encouraged to get the information they need to make an informed decision on the proposed bond issue.

Whippets of the Month

C.L. Jones Middle School



4th Grade
Austyn Stepp



Austyn is a perfect example of the Whippet Way. She always shows stellar character and has a strong work ethic. She leads by example with kindness, determination, respect, always giving her best and encouraging others to do the same.

5th Grade
William Crane



William is a hard worker who always gives his best. He is friendly and is willing to lend a hand to other students!

6th Grade
Charlotte Winkler



Charlotte is always very respectful and has a great attitude. She demonstrates how responsible and disciplined she is by getting her work turned in on time and completing it to the best of her ability. She is very talented, and she uses her talents to help those around her.

7th Grade
Eli Kuehn



Eli Kuehn is a student that every teacher dreams about having in their class. He is kind, respectful, funny, and just an overall great kid!

8th Grade
Malayna Emery



Malayna makes those around her feel comfortable and appreciated. She has a quiet and humble way of showing she cares and respects her peers and her teachers.

Minden High School Homecoming 2025 ‘Beat Bow’



Minden held its Homecoming festivities last week complete with spirit dress up days in the schools, a parade, and coronation prior to the football game against Broken Bow, and the Homecoming dance on October 10. Carson Wright was crowned Homecoming King and Hallee Schoone was crowned Homecoming Queen. (Courier photos by Cindy Ramsey and Lily Ramsey)



Let's Hear It For The Bands

Minden High School Marching Band

The 2025 Minden High School Marching Band is directed by Matthew Stubbs. Last year the Whippet Band earned second place in Class B Parade at the Harvest of Harmony Parade and a Superior rating at the NSBA State Marching Contest.

"We are aiming to build on the successes of last year in the hopes of earning superior ratings at all of our parade and field show contests this Fall," Stubbs said.

On October 4, the MHS Band competed in the Harvest of Harmony parade and field show in Grand Island. The Whippets received third place in the Class B parade competition and a Division 2 Excellent rating for their field show. This is the third year in a row the MHS Band has been in the top three for parade in Class B. Bandfest marks the middle of the band's competition season followed by the NSBA State Marching Contest on October 25. The band also performs at all home football games with their field show 'Thor's Hammer'.

Members of the 2025 MHS Marching Band are: Drum Majors: Benezith Alarcon and Abby Reith; Flute: Brielle Boudreau, Tynlie Struss, Jaelyn Trew, and Jocelyn Zerr; Clarinet: Zoey Calderon, Kinleigh Hudson, Luz Lopez, Hope Mason, Addyson Meyer, Madisen Mulroney, and Hailey Petersen; Alto Sax: Josa Ciernoczolowski, Frank Kovacs, Caleb Mostrom, and Casey Nelson; Tenor Sax: Jade Melroy; Bari Sax: Sawyer Grotrian; Horn: Kierra Antillon; Trumpet: Kassi Fetterolf, Gisele Guthard, Rebecca Lempka, Steven Rhodes, Mason Shirley, Amelia Tira, and Jackson Widdifield; Trombone: Kaden Bock, Abby Hollis, Reed Morlang, and Dalton Pasbrig; Baritone: Jon Althouse; Tuba: Patrick Cowling; Drumline: Bailey Alkire, Stell Birkestrand, Margot Dimond, Miles Heath, Ashlyn Kernick, Madalyn Morey, Dayne Porter, and Jack Scheibel; Color Guard: Brooke Carr, Kaylie Lawless, and Zipporah Wilson.



**Keep calm
and march on!**

*Good luck to all bands
at Bandfest 2025!*

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Axtell Community School Marching Band

The 2025 Axtell Community School Marching Band is in its first year under the direction of Brock Persson. This year the Wildcat Band is focusing on pride.

"Our goal this year for marching band will be instilling a sense of pride and sharing school pride throughout the school year by performing for pep bands," Persson said. "Our goal is to get better everyday and perform to the best of our ability daily."

Last year the Axtell Band earned a Superior rating at Bandfest. The Wildcats look forward to scoring high again in this year's Bandfest. The band will continue to share pride through music at pep band and concert performances throughout the school year.

Members of the 2025 Axtell Marching Band are: Drum Majorette: Brecklyn Delaney; Flute: Laura Behrhorst, Riley Hill, Jalena Lorenzo, and Sadie Lorenzo; Clarinet: Leanne Ellingson, Rosa Georgiana, Charlotte Nicholson, Karleigh Smith, and Binzley Walz; Alto Saxophone: Oscar Clausen, Carston Kendall, Willow Philippi, and Aubrey Vinchattle; Trumpet: Samantha Catanese, Lillian Dobish,



Coben Hill, Ian Johnson, Connor Strolberg, Logan Strolberg, and Samantha Vinchattle; Baritone: Jacob Stoner and Marley Thorell; Trombone: Grayson Bray and Mickiah Pfeil; Percussion: Daniel "Levi" Johnson and Eliza-

beth Pfeil; Color Guard: Kali Philippi (Captain), Gabriella Robinson, and Bristol Thorell; 6th grade members: Elijah Lorenzo, Rush Rahmann, Aaliyah Seals, Leigha Smith, Charlie Strolberg, and Loron Vinchattle.

Wilcox-Hildreth Public School Marching Band

The 2025 Wilcox-Hildreth Marching Band includes 39 members in grades 7-12 under the direction of Elaine Arehart. The Falcon Band leadership team includes seniors Aubree Overholser, Kaden Woollen, and Cooper Woollen and juniors Taylor Ingram and Landin Braddy.

Last year the Wilcox-Hildreth Band brought home a Superior from the Minden Bandfest. This year the band is working hard to earn at least two Superior ratings during the competition season.

The Falcon Band is nearing the end of its full schedule of performances this season including competitions at UNK Band Day, Harvest of Harmony, and Bandfest as well as pep band, Homecoming and Fall Festival parades, and a State Fair performance. Following Bandfest, the band will focus on preparing for concerts and FKC competitions.

Members of the 2025 Wilcox-Hildreth Marching Band are: Kaden Woollen, Alto Sax; Cooper Woollen, Trumpet; Kamryn Russell, Flute, Aubree Overholser, Trombone;



Tylar Johnson, Clarinet; Chloe Johnson, Trumpet; Taylor Ingram, Clarinet; Craig Bunker, Tuba; Landin Braddy, Percussion; Baylee Wilfahrt, Baritone; Luke Lush, Alto Sax; Jacob Jezbera, Trombone; Brayton Blank, Trumpet; Rylan Lush, Clarinet; Kip Johnson, Percussion; Allegra Johnson, Percussion; Hunter Casper, Trumpet; Micah Bell, Percussion; Matalay Anderson, Clarinet; Dax Knaus, Trombone; Bianca Herfel, Trumpet; Georgia Guthrie, Flute; Alex-

is Garrett, Trumpet; Jordan Burki, Alto Sax; Ellie Blank, Clarinet; Jacob Wagner, Trumpet; Layla Nitchie, Alto Sax; Kaylan Nitchie, Flute; Emmett Nitchie, Trombone; Khloe Mulinde, Alto Sax; Henry Lush, Baritone; Maddi Lienemann, Percussion; Kolt Johnson, Tenor Sax; Audrina Henery, Clarinet; Reese Harrold, Percussion; Parker Davis, Trumpet; Raiden Bilttoft, Trumpet; Lucas Bergstrom, Trombone; and Truly Adam, Clarinet.

Best of luck to area bands at Bandfest 2025!

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Kearney County Extension News

By Jason Tuller

University of Nebraska-Lincoln Associate
Extension Educator — RPN

Use it or lose it. I'm sure you have heard that phrase before. Sometimes it refers to knowledge, or muscle. If you don't regularly exercise you grow weaker over time at an accelerated rate. If you don't use a skill such as a foreign language, eventually you forget, so Use it or Lose it.

How does that equate to living in a rural community? It fits in many ways. During our work with the grocery store cohort with the Center for Rural Affairs, it was a common topic of the grocery stores that they wished that more people would shop in their stores. Use it or Lose it. These grocery stores are existing on very thin margins. Another couple of shoppers really do make a difference in their bottom lines. More shoppers means that they can continue to serve the community. Fewer shoppers means that they may no longer be a sustainable business and service in your community. Use it or Lose it.

Another community aspect would be the school system. Use it or lose it. How do you use a school? Have children, send them to school. School consolidations have happened throughout Nebraska. Do you think that these would be necessary if every school was filled to capacity with kids? Our enrollments are declining and because of this we consolidate schools because it is expensive to have 5 kids in a classroom or pay a superintendent for 50 children. Use it or Lose it.

Restaurants are another community asset where use it or lose it comes into play. Restaurants have significantly better profit margins on sales than grocery stores, but they still need customers. It is easy to find yourself only going out to eat when you are out of town. It seems that my family falls into that category many times. It is much cheaper to eat at home. Yet, if you want to continue to have the option of dining in your community, make an effort to support your local restaurants. Use it or Lose it.

The Extension Office is no exception. Use it or Lose it. The University of Nebraska – Lincoln Extension Office is provided to your county by the county and the University. The Extension Office may only have an office manager and an Extension Educator with a singular expertise in it, but they are able to bring other Extension Educators and University resources to any issue. The more used it gets, the easier it is to get continued funding. Extension has many programs including 4-H, Crops and Water, Ag Profitability, Livestock, Horticulture, Food and Nutrition, Health, Rural Prosperity and Early Childhood. Every county has access to all of these programs. Whatever your community is facing, Extension can provide you with an expert. Use it or Lose it.

Rural Prosperity Nebraska is a piece of Extension. We currently have a couple of large areas of the state that have no local coverage. As budget cuts go through the University system, hiring has been slowed. Perhaps if the communities in these areas were clamoring for more RPN programming, the hiring would be completed. As an RPN team we just met and discussed our programming offerings. We cut or limited the rollout of many programs because they sit unused, they are excellent programs, but no one asks for them. Use it or Lose it.

If your community could benefit from any of the Rural Prosperity Nebraska and Nebraska Extension ideas that I've discussed in this column, please reach out to me. I'd love to speak to your community about these topics. You can reach me at jason.tuller@unl.edu or at the Thayer County office at 402-768-7212.

Jason Tuller is an Extension Educator for the University of Nebraska – Lincoln. He works in the Rural Prosperity Nebraska program and covers ten-county area including Kearney, Adams, Clay, Fillmore, Saline, Franklin, Webster, Nuckolls, Thayer, and Jefferson Counties.

ESU #11 Organizes Conference for Teachers

PRESS RELEASE



On October 6, 2025, Kate Hatch and Jody Bauer from ESU 11 organized a fall conference for schools in the ESU 11 area. This year's conference was entitled "Making a Difference" and provided teachers with the opportunity to learn more about the field of education. The day began and ended with a keynote presentation from nationally renowned speaker, Steve Gilliland. During the course of the day, teachers were able to attend a variety of breakout sessions to enhance their teaching skills. Session topics focused on technology integration, special education, coaching, media, fine arts, reading, math, science, social studies, and career education. Approximately 650 educators from the following districts were in attendance: Alma, Arapahoe, Axtell, Bertrand, Cambridge, Elwood, Eustis-Farnam, Franklin, Loomis, Minden, Southern Valley, Wilcox-Hildreth, All Saints Catholic, and Legacy Christian.

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For the Record

Marriage License

Luke Allen Schuster, 31, Minden & Michaela L. Knuth, 34, Minden; 10-6-25
Thomas M. Spilinek, 27, Minden & Alexandria J. Calleroz, 28, Minden; 10-3-25

Kearney County District Court

State vs. Elijah E. Poppert, Minden; COUNT I: terroristic threats; COUNT II: use firearm to commit a felony; COUNT III: unlawful possession of a handgun; 10-3-25

Kearney County County Court

Teresa Adam, Upland, possess or use drug paraphernalia, fine \$100, Nebraska State Patrol Officer Bauer, 7-24-25
Cameron L. Allard, Axtell, speeding 6-10 MPH County/State, fine \$25, Nebraska State Patrol Officer Margritz, 8-29-25
John R. Sloan, Kuna, Idaho, COUNT I: drive under suspension/before reinstated-state, fine jail 3 days; COUNT II: speeding 21-35 MPH County/State, fine \$200, Kearney County Sheriff Officer Seals, 8-16-25
Matthew R. Thomas, Holdrege, speeding 16-20 MPH County/State, fine \$125, Kearney County Sheriff Officer

Herrada, 7-20-25

Minden Fire & Rescue

10-2-25—The Minden Emergency Unit was dispatched to Q Road for a personal illness.
10-2-25—The Minden Emergency Unit was dispatched to S. Minden Avenue for a fall with lift assist.
10-3-25—The Minden Emergency Unit was dispatched to Bethany Home for a personal illness.
10-3-25—The Minden Emergency Unit was dispatched to E. 1st Street for a personal illness.
10-4-25—The Minden Fire & Rescue was dispatched to 37 & J Road for a bean field fire.
10-4-25—The Minden Fire & Rescue was dispatched to Harlan County for a field fire.
10-4-25—The Minden Fire & Rescue was dispatched to Highway 10 for a ditch fire.
10-4-25—The Minden Fire & Rescue was dispatched to Highway 10 & E Road for a vehicle fire.
10-4-25—The Minden Fire & Rescue was dispatched to P Road for a combine fire.
10-5-25—The Minden Emergency Unit was dispatched to N. Kearney Avenue for a personal illness.
10-6-25—The Minden Emergency Unit was dispatched to Highway 10 & South K Road for a 2-vehicle accident.
10-7-25—The Minden Emergency Unit was dispatched to N. Hubbard Avenue for a fall.
10-7-25—The Minden Emergency Unit was dispatched to U Road for a personal illness.
10-9-25—The Minden Fire & Rescue was dispatched to N. Garber Avenue for a possible gas leak.

Bowling Standings

Classey Lassies 10-2-25

Team Standings:	W	L
Split Happens	22	10
Dobish Dumpsters	19.5	12.5
Pony Express Ford	18.5	13.5
Larson Bros Construction	16	16
Aurora Coop-Keene	16	16
Upland Bar & Grill	13	19
Platte River BBQ	12	20
Skye's The Limit Salon	11	21
High Individual Game: Sheri Keller, 177; Joyce Bestol, 171; Mandy Dobish, 166		
High Individual Series: Joyce Bestol, 473; Betty Smith, 452; Sheri Keller, 439		
High Team Game: Skye's The Limit Salon, 429; Dobish Dumpsters, 429; Aurora Coop-Keene, 423		
High Team Series: Upland Bar & Grill, 1221; Dobish Dumpsters, 1195; Split Happens, 1167		

Minden Unified Association 10-9-25

Team Standings:	W	L
Joyce Farms	95.5	84.5
Miller Body	95	85
First Bank	88	91
APEX	65.5	83.5
High Individual Game: Dustin Schwenka, 192; Jonathan Miller, 192; Paul Heath, 190		
High Individual Series: Dustin Schwenka, 536; Paul Jensen, 523; Paul Heath, 483		
High Team Game: Miller Body, 665; Joyce Farms, 581; First Bank, 548		
High Team Series: Miller Body, 1862; Joyce Farms, 1679; First Bank, 1616		

Minden Unified Association 10-6-25

Team Standings:	W	L
Lieske, Lieske & Ensz Law Firm	17	7
Children First Daycare	12	12
Minden Exchange Bank & Trust	12	12
Budget Heating & Air	7	17
High Individual Game: Rendy France, 192; Ashley Osterbuhr, 173 & 175; Deb Dorn, (2) 163		
High Individual Series: Rendy France, 487; Deb Dorn, 484; Sherri Merrill, 459		
High Team Game: Lieske, Lieske & Ensz Law Firm, 454; Lieske, Lieske & Ensz Law Firm, 444; Children First Daycare, 440		
High Team Series: Lieske, Lieske & Ensz Law Firm, 1276; Children First Daycare, 1232; Minden Exchange Bank & Trust, 1084		

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Do You Remember

Eighty Years Ago — 1945

Ted Binderup had five first prizes, five second places and the Senior Champion sow at the Kansas State Fair. Binderup was Kearney County's oldest breeder of Hampshire Hogs.

Routh's Appliance Store had its formal opening. A new postwar General Electric line of appliances was promised as soon as the war permitted.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Jensen quietly observed their 56th wedding anniversary. The Jensen family included son Arthur, grandson Marshall and great grandson Andras.

Seventy Years Ago — 1955

The Minden Saddle Club held its final dinner at the Country Club. Dwindling interest in the club resulted in the closing of the local organization.

Dan Arnold, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bertrand Arnold, and Ruth Wieting, daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. Theo Wieting, were crowned homecoming king and queen. Attendants were Bob Knudsen, Jim Jacobs, Mary Ann Lundeen and Nancy Spilker.

Wilmer Talbot was elected chairman of the Lowell Farm Bureau unit. Other officers were Joe Slater, Dale Lange and Mrs. Virgil Gibbons.

Sixty Years Ago — 1965

Lou Etta Smith, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Smith of Norman, received the 4-H God-Home Country Award at a service at the Methodist church.

The Kearney County Democratic Committee recommended for congressional approval the name of Wm. V. Ahrens for postmaster.

Elwood Johnson, Mike Wortman, Roger Etzelmiller, Tom Johnson and Roger Bienhoff were the offensive leaders as the Minden Whippets downed Broken Bow 27-21.

Fifty Years Ago — 1975

The Minden Board of Education voted to construct a gymnasium facility in a two-phase project. The first phase would include a masonry and metal construction building and the second phase would include a building for showers and dressing rooms for the gymnasium facilities.

The old Fredericksburg Post Office and General Store was moved to its new location at the east end of the Kearney County Museum.

Winners of Minden's Bank Night Drawing were Pearl Kinney, \$50; Bonnie Mildfeldt, \$20; Jerry Granger and John C. Frecks, \$5 each.

Forty Years Ago — 1985

Leona Brauer and Phyllis Crary were honored by the Kearney County Community Hospital staff for their many years of dedicated and dependable service.

Minden city mail carrier Francis Eckhoff retired. Eckhoff came to Minden in 1958, starting as a substitute mail carrier and later becoming Minden's city one carrier.

Seniors elected to the Minden student council were Stephanie Jameson, president; Kelly Sinsel, vice president; Rob Vitera, treasurer; Traci Beach, secretary; Sarah Norton and Shari Nielsen.

Thirty Years Ago — 1995

A group of 35 people met at the Axtell Community School to examine the possibility of building a golf course in Axtell. A show of hands showed unanimous support for furthering the research.

Minden High School Homecoming candidates were Carissa Gould, Allyson Beahm, Abigail Kuehn,



2015 — Minden's Volunteer Fire Department visited East Elementary. The students learned about some of the tools used by the firemen and what to do in case of a fire.

Laura Stratman, Carson Martin, Karissa Armstrong, Anson St. Clair, Mike Kuehn, Brent Johnson, Ty Bienhoff, Philip Christensen and Brock Emery.

Hildreth humbled Jennings, Kan. with 37 consecutive points in the opening quarter to pull away for a 45-6 victory. Dave Fritson was the leading passer throwing for 49 yards. Nathan Fuerst was the top receiver.

Twenty Years Ago — 2005

A delegation of Russian leaders made a stop in Minden as part of the Open World Leadership Program. The group was on tour looking at how economic development is evolving in rural areas.

The Lady Whippets golf team won their fourth straight Class C district title and earned the opportunity to go for their fourth straight state championship.

Geraldine Stirtz of Minden, a member of the teacher education faculty at the University of Nebraska Kearney, received the Midwest Consortium Voyager Award as a scholarly practitioner of service-learning.

Ten Years Ago — 2015

Minden Girl Scout Troops 290, 653, 645, and 657 filled care packages with girl scout cookies and other treats to send to soldiers overseas. VFW Post #5537 met the girls while writing the check to pay postage on the packages. The two groups have worked together for 5 years sending treats to troops overseas.

The Southwest Conference cross country meet was held in cool and occasionally drizzly conditions at the Ainsworth Country Club. For the first time since 2002 the Minden boys were conference champions. The Whippets scored 18 to claim the title over Ainsworth (26), Gothenburg (59) and the other four league schools. Six Minden runners earned medals and all-conference designation and a seventh Whippet would have been included in that elite company but a school is allowed no more than six medalists/all-SWC designees.

Coach Etz Court was established in Ogallala over the summer as a dedication to Mark Etzelmiller. The basketball coach was a Minden native who was selected to the Class B All-state basketball team as a senior in 1975.

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Calendars and Menus

Minden Public Schools

MENUS:

All breakfast includes fruit or vegetable and milk. All lunch includes fruit and vegetable bar and milk.

Friday, Oct. 17: NO SCHOOL

Monday, Oct. 20: BREAKFAST: Bagel with cream cheese, yogurt cup; LUNCH: Mini corn dogs, baked beans

Tuesday, Oct. 21: BREAKFAST: French toast; LUNCH: Soft or hard shell beef tacos

Wednesday, Oct. 22: BREAKFAST: Breakfast boat; LUNCH: Chicken Alfredo with broccoli, breadstick

Thursday, Oct. 23: BREAKFAST: Egg bites, hash browns; LUNCH: Tater tot casserole, dinner roll

Friday, Oct. 24: BREAKFAST: Breakfast pizza; LUNCH: Sweet & sour meatballs over rice

ACTIVITIES:

Friday, Oct. 17: NO SCHOOL; V FB @ Gothenburg, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 18: ACT Test; Minden Bandfest, 1 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 20: V VB SWC @ Cozad, 4 p.m.; JV FB vs Lexington, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 21: V VB SWC @ Cozad, 4 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 22: PSAT Test for Select Juniors, 8 a.m.

Friday, Oct. 24: State CC @ Kearney; V FB Parent Night vs Cozad, 7 p.m.

Axtell Community School

MENUS:

Friday, Oct. 17: LUNCH: Steak fingers, dinner roll, peas OR Oriental chicken salad

Monday, Oct. 20: LUNCH: Beef noodles, mashed potatoes, corn

Tuesday, Oct. 21: LUNCH: Chicken tortilla soup, corn, black beans OR Grilled cheese

Wednesday, Oct. 22: LUNCH: Something on a bun, peas OR Chicken Caesar salad

Thursday, Oct. 23: LUNCH: Teriyaki chicken, rice, Oriental veggies

Friday, Oct. 24: LUNCH: Pizza, green beans OR Ham sub

ACTIVITIES:

Friday, Oct. 17: End of Quarter One

Saturday, Oct. 18: Minden Bandfest, 1 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 20: FFA meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 21: VB @ Silver Lake Invite, 4 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 24: State XC @ Kearney

Wilcox-Hildreth Public Schools

MENUS:

Milk, peanut butter and jelly sandwich, fresh fruit and vegetable bar and yogurt served daily plus many more new breakfast and lunch items.

Friday, Oct. 17: BREAKFAST: Stuffed hash brown; LUNCH:

BBQ chicken on a bun

Monday, Oct. 20: BREAKFAST: Bagel; LUNCH: Cheese pizza

Tuesday, Oct. 21: BREAKFAST: Ham & egg sandwich; LUNCH: Hamburger gravy

Wednesday, Oct. 22: BREAKFAST: Ham bar; LUNCH: Chicken noodle soup

Thursday, Oct. 23: BREAKFAST: Pancakes; LUNCH: Pasta cavatini

Friday, Oct. 24: BREAKFAST: Monte Cristo; LUNCH: Bosco Bostix

ACTIVITIES:

Friday, Oct. 17: HAL @ Hildreth, 9:10 a.m.; FBLA Officer meeting, 12 p.m.; HAL @ Wilcox, 12:30 p.m.; End of 1st Quarter, 3:40 p.m.; FB Senior Night vs. Elm Creek, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 18: Minden Bandfest, 1 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 20: VB @ Pleasanton Triangular, 5 p.m.; Board of Education meeting, 8 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 21: 7-12 Team meeting, 7:45 a.m.; FBLA meeting, 11:40 a.m.; Student Council meeting, 11:40 a.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 22: Senior Class Photo Trip-all seniors, 9 a.m.; JH VB @ Amherst Triangular, 1 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 23: FB 1st Round Playoffs; PK-6 Team meeting, 7:45 a.m.; VB @ Southern Valley, 6 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 24: State XC @ Kearney, 12 p.m.; JH Halloween Dance Party, 8 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

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Survey will be open October 15 - November 15

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subject to change. Join us.

Monday, Oct. 20: Chicken fried chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, dinner roll, fruit & dessert

Tuesday, Oct. 21: Pork chop, mashed potatoes, gravy, winter blend, dinner roll & fruit

Wednesday, Oct. 22: Sandwich, salad bar & dessert

Thursday, Oct. 23: Roast beef, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, dinner roll & fruit

Friday, Oct. 24: Meatballs, macaroni & cheese, beets, bread, fruit & dessert

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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.

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Church Directory

Axtell

Bethany Lutheran

903 25 Road

BethanyAxtell.org

(308) 743-2597

Marcia Dorn, Pastor

Sunday, Oct. 19: 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

Sunday, Oct. 19: Fellowship & Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship service, 10:30 a.m.

Keene Evangelical Free

662 F Road

308-743-2611

Matthew Snell, Pastor

Sunday, Oct. 19: Worship service, 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.; Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 22: Evening Bible Study, 7 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran, LCMC

104 E. Fifth St.

Craig Richardson,

Pastor

Sunday, Oct. 19: Council Meeting, 9 a.m.; Donuts/Juice & Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 10:30 a.m.

Monday, Oct. 20: Men's Bible Study, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 22: High School Supper/Fellowship, 6 p.m.

Campbell

St. Anne Catholic

Father Adam Sparling,

Pastor

Saturday, Oct. 18: Mass, 5 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 19: Mass, 8 a.m.

Trinity Lutheran

360 So. Stewart

(402) 756-8552

Greg Volsky,

Vacancy Pastor

Sunday, Oct. 19: Worship, 9:30 a.m. with Sunday school to follow

United Westminster

Presbyterian

Broad and Main

Street

Mark A. Diehl, Pastor

Sunday, Oct. 19: Worship, 10 a.m.

Funk

Fridhem Lutheran

401 Lake Street

Daren Popple,

Pastor

Sunday, Oct. 19: 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. 19: Worship, 10:30 a.m.

Holy Family Catholic Mission Parish

287 Jefferson Street

Father Evan Winter

Sunday, Oct. 19: Mass, 8:30 a.m.

Hildreth

Trinity Lutheran

502 Sanders Avenue

Caroline Schenk,

Pastor

Sunday, Oct. 19: 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. 19: 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. 19: Worship service, 9 a.m.

Minden

Bethany Lutheran

437 E. Fourth St.

Don Hunzeker, Pastor

Julie Schmidt, Parish

Ministry Associate

Thursday, Oct. 16: Men's Prayer Breakfast, 7 a.m.

Saturday, Oct. 18: Walking, 8 a.m.

Sunday, Oct. 19: Contemporary Worship, 8:30 a.m.; Blended-Traditional Worship, 10:30 a.m.; Holy Communion at both services

Tuesday, Oct. 21: Piece Corps Quilting, 1 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 22: Church Club, 5 p.m.; Wednesday Night Supper, 6 p.m.; Confirmation, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 23: Men's Prayer Breakfast, 7 a.m.

Stay connected with our website, Bethanyminden.org

Evangelical Free

1310 W. First St.

Tom Barnes, Lige

Reed, Pastors

Sunday, Oct. 19: Worship, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday School, 11 a.m.

First Christian Church Disciples of Christ

444 N. Brown Ave.

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Sunday, Oct. 19: Worship service, 9:30 a.m.; Coffee Fellowship after worship services

Ladies' Bible Study Tuesdays @ Bloomfield Home, 9 a.m.

Fredericksburg

Lutheran

616 33 Road

Julie Schmidt, Parish

Ministry Associate

Don Hunzeker, Pastor

Sunday, Oct. 19: Combined Service with Bethany Lutheran/Potluck Following, 10:30 a.m.

Communion served 2nd Sunday of each month

Saint John The

Baptist Catholic

628 N. Garber

Father Evan Winter

Saturday, Oct. 18: Mass, 5:30 p.m., confessions before Mass

Sunday, Oct. 19: 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. 17: Breakfast & Prayer, 7 a.m.

Sunday, Oct. 19: Bible Study/Sunday School, 9 a.m.; Worship/Communion, 10:15 a.m.

Monday, Oct. 20: Quilt Tie Group, 9 a.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 21: Choir Practice, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 22: JYM

5th, 5 p.m.; Communion, 6:30 p.m.; Confirmation Family Night, 7 p.m.;

Thursday, Oct. 23: Bible Study, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 24: Breakfast & Prayer, 7 a.m.; Game Night, 7 p.m.

United Methodist

340 N. Newell Ave.

Kayla M. Mangrich,

Pastor

Sunday, Oct. 19: Worship, 10 a.m.; Confirmation, 11:15 a.m.

Westminster United Presbyterian

109 N. Colorado

Sharon Rees, Pastor

Sunday, Oct. 19: Worship/Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Communion 1st Sundays; Coffee Fellowship, 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 22: Fellowship Friends, 1:30 p.m.

Wilcox

St. John's Lutheran

102 S. Stockton St.

Kenton Birtell, Pastor

Sunday, Oct. 19: Worship, 9:30 a.m.

Holy Communion every other Sunday

United Methodist

203 S. Sapp St.

Candance Miller,

Pastor

Sunday, Oct. 19: 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. 19: Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 10:45 a.m.

Wednesdays: Awana & Youth Group (during school year), 6:30 p.m.

Bible Studies during the week. Check our Facebook page.

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Obituaries & Services

Norris John aka 'Norry' or 'Poke' Christensen



Norris "Norry" John Christensen of Minden was born to Martha and Chester Christensen who farmed east of Minden on October 25th, 1925. Norry died on Tuesday, March 1st, 2022 at the age of 96. We as a family decided we would give our bodies to UNMC in Omaha for medical education. It has been three years and it's time for a Celebration of Life memorial service for Norry that will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, October 24th, at the Bethany Lutheran Church in Minden, with a military service at the Minden Cemetery directly following. We will be celebrating the life and 100th birthday of a wonderful son, father, husband and a friend to all.

When Norry was 14 years-old, the almost impossible life of working a small farm during the dirty '30s forced the Christensen family to move into Minden in 1939. Norry was baptized at the Christian Church in Minden on August 8, 1940. He was then confirmed into the Bethany Lutheran Church on December 18, 1955. I think wife Norma had something to do with that. Norry graduated from Minden High School in 1943 where he had become a very good athlete. He was contacted by area colleges and a couple minor league teams about playing baseball but as he was making up his mind. Uncle Sam came calling and Norry enlisted into the Navy and was stationed on the troop transport carrier the USS General E.T. Collins. Their assignment for the next three years was to distribute roughly 4,000 soldiers per trip to different fighting "Hot Spots" in the Pacific Theatre and then pick up all the wounded and dead on the way back to headquarters in Hawaii or the USA. When he wasn't dodging bullets, planes and torpedoes, he played on both the men's baseball and basketball teams in the service league. Norry attained the rating of 3rd Class Petty Officer and his main duty was fire control. When the war ended they were sent to collect troops that were still abroad. When finished with this enormous task Norry was decommissioned from the Navy in Seattle, Washington in 1946. He had traveled over 134,000 miles on his tour of duty.

When he returned to Minden he married Norma Jensen, the girl of his dreams since they started dating at the age of 14, and they remained sweethearts to the end. Through this marriage were born three boys: Robert, Mark and Jim. After returning from the war Norry had very little money so he found a job for awhile in house construction until he bought the milk delivery service in the Minden area from Vic Silvrants and it became "Norry's Delivery", and was the first pasteurized milk sold in Minden. The "Milk Man" continued delivering milk for over 20 years. During this time he continued to play baseball and basketball for Minden in the Kansas-Nebraska League and town team ball. Area teams would recruit him for tournaments and play-off games. Norry was a competitive golfer as well and had many thrilling tournaments against friends old and new. At times his temper got the best of him and at one tournament he was seen climbing a tree to retrieve his putter. He got pretty good at climbing trees.

In 1972 Norry and Norma were hired to run the Pioneer Village Motel. In 1982 they decided to visit their boys who all worked in or around Casper, Wyoming. They ended up staying for 11 years. They joined Our Savior's Lutheran Church and Norry became their "handy man/janitor" for the entire church and pre-school. They made a million friends and truly loved Wyoming.

Norry decided to retire and they moved back to Minden to rekindle old friendships

and live out the rest of their lives. He played a lot of golf, cheered on the Whippets and the Huskers every weekend, and enjoyed painting on canvas as well as houses. He did this well into his 80s and played golf until he was 92.

Norry also loved music, had a good voice and liked to sing. He sang in school and then in the Navy. He sang for the Bethany Lutheran Church choir, a barbershop quartet, and the Minden Chorus who were fantastic and entertained thousands in south central Nebraska and were loved by all who heard them sing. There were many things going on in Norry's life and these were but a few.

At the end of Norry's life he would sit by his picture window and gaze at the sky, the trees, his lawn, the neighbors working and playing outdoors, the kids coming and going to and from school and watching them play on the school playground. In his eyes you could see him looking back on 96 years of life. And what a life. I couldn't imagine a better father.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Chester & Martha Christensen, his wife Norma Jensen Christensen, his sister Luann and husband Roger Johnson, two sons Bob and Jim, his daughter-in-law Janet Christensen, his grandson-in-law Shawn Duncan, his great-granddaughter Kristian Duncan Morgan, and his childhood dog Rover, who after 90 years he still cherished and brought a tear to his eye when he told stories of their years and journeys together on the farm.

Family left to cherish his memory include his son and daughter-in-law John Mark & Jane (Jensen) Christensen of Minden; daughter-in-law Karla Fandry and husband Jim of Grand Island; granddaughter Heather Thesenvitz and husband Tom and their children Kylie, Tarah, Tucker Norris, Elizabeth, Max and Molly, and great-great grandsons Bently and Austin and great-granddaughter Amelia; granddaughter Megan Duncan and great-granddaughters Aariah and Madison; granddaughter Dana Feters and her husband Donnie, and great-grandchildren Mary and her husband Alex, James, Ruth and Anna, all from Colorado; granddaughter Brooke Graham and husband Eric, and their children Elijah and Isaac; granddaughter Robin Mortenson and husband Ty, and their children Ryleigh and Brynlee; grandson Jon and wife Maddie and daughter Murphy; and daughter-in-law Eddie Christensen and son John, all of Wyoming. Also many Bogaard, Christensen and Jensen cousins in the USA and Denmark, as well as numerous friends.

Expressions of caring, kindness plus memories and experiences with Norry, and memorials, can be sent to jmchris@rcom-ne.com or to Mark & Jane Christensen at 917 Q Road, Minden. Memorials will be sent to local children's charities. We also thank Craig Funeral Home for all their help.

Carol Mae M. Gramke



Carol Mae M. Gramke, 90, of Upland, passed away on Tuesday, September 23, 2025, at CHI Health - Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney. Memorial services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 18, 2025, at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Minden with Rev. William Zwick officiating. The service will be streamed to the church's YouTube page. Private family inurnment will be held at the Upland Cemetery. Memorials in Carol Mae's honor are kindly suggested to the family for future designation. Arrangements are under the care of Craig Funeral Home in Minden. Tributes and memories can be shared with the family at www.craigfunerals.com.

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Lady Whippets are Statebound No Handicap Required

ROGER HANSEN

Minden's girls are again off to the State Golf Tournament to take another crack at an elusive Class C championship by virtue of their winning the C-4 District. The Whippets took care of business with a 21-stroke cushion over runner-up Adams Central. GICC in third qualified as well, as the top three teams from a district go on to State competition.

TEAM SCORES: Minden 353, Adams Central 374, GICC 380, Ravenna 401, Holdrege 406, Cozad 421, Kearney catholic 447, Broken Bow 459, Gibbon 510, Hi-Line 521, Burwell 535, Wood River 536, St. Paul 545. Centura, Doniphan-Trumbull and Arcadia-Loup City also had girls at the meet but were short of complete teams.

Seldom has KayLynn Jorgensen not been a meet's top medalist. Rather, this is the only meet in the 2025 season that she did not finish atop the leaderboard. She was second by one stroke to Peyton Hartman of Adams Central, 74 to 75. Shelby Nelson fired an 84 to place third and Macy Jorgensen shot 86 for sixth. Isabelle Martin was 25th at 108 and Lauren Starkey 47th at 124.



By the time readers are perusing this article the State Meet will have already been contested, which was on October 13-14 at North Platte's Lake Maloney course. Expected to be the main challengers for a State title are Minden, Columbus Scotus, Atkinson West Holt, Adams Central, GICC, Battle Creek and Valentine.

A full summary of the State Meet will be highlighted in the next Courier.



The Lady Whippets golf team capped off a tremendous season with another first place finish at Districts held in Grand Island. KayLynn Jorgensen placed second overall. Pictured clockwise from above: The Lady Whippets pose with their first place district trophy. Shelby Nelson hits the ball with power off the tee. Macy Jorgensen gives her all powering the ball off the tee. (Courier photos by Phil Serrone)




Well done this season, Whippets!

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Congrats on a phenomenal golf season!

Hwy 6 Trailblazers' Season Ends With District Loss

PHIL SERRONE

Softball season has come to its conclusion after the Hwy 6 Trail Blazers were defeated by York High School on Oct.9 in the first round of districts. The final score of the game was 0-6.

Statistically speaking, the matchup was much more even than what the scoreboard reflects as both teams tied with four base hits each. York's discipline at the plate proved to be the difference maker as the Lady Dukes collected nine walks.

3B Neveah Browitt led the Trail Blazers connected for two singles in the contest finishing 2-3 at

the plate. 1B Katherine Marshall had the biggest knock of the game when she knocked a pitch to the outfield for a ground-rule double. CF Stella Birkestrand hit a single in the sixth inning as she finished 1-2.



P Addisyn Norris left it all out on the pitchers mound as she tossed the entire six innings. She allowed four hits, six runs (6 ER), nine walks and struck out an impressive nine batters. She threw 136 pitches and 65 pitches landed as strikes.

The Trail Blazers close out the season with a final record of 7-12. For a team that came into the season with a youth movement, you could see the improvement throughout



Hwy 6 Trail Blazers had their season come to an end with a first round loss at districts against York High School. Their final record on the season is 7-12. Pictured: (above) Scarlet Rogers gets ready on defense in right field. (below) Kaleah Boulware stands in the batter's box awaiting her pitch. (Courier photos by Phil Serrone)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	R	H	E
HWY6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	3
YRKV	4	0	1	0	1	X	6	4	0

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Whippets' Pace Earns SWC Title, Lots of Medals

ROGER HANSEN

Minden's cross country runners had a good deal of success at the Southwest Conference meet at Broken Bow on October 9.

The Whippet girls ran to a conference championship for the first time since 2021 and just the fifth time ever. The team was led by Adelyn Whitten and Alexa Warner, who were second and third, respectively, and two other medalists in Aclynn Osterbuhr (7th) and Evie Sharkey (13th).

GIRLS TEAM SCORES: Minden 25, Gothenburg 27, Broken Bow 55, McCook 78, Holdrege 82, Cozad 97, Ogallala 105

GIRLS individuals: Scout Bell, Gothenburg, 1st, 20:18; Adelyn Whitten, 2nd, 20:44; Alexa Warner, 3rd, 20:59; Aclynn Osterbuhr, 7th, 22:23; Evie Sharkey, 13th, 23:17; Cristal Gonzalez, 20th, 24:26; Zipporah Wilson, 33rd, 26:43. 47 girls ran.

The Minden boys were third in a tough field of teams and individual runners. Three Whippets earned medals--Gage Thull (8th), Javi Perales (10th), Trystan Sharkey (15th).

BOYS TEAM SCORES: Holdrege 22, Gothenburg 34, Minden 52, Cozad 65, Ogallala 74, Broken Bow 114

BOYS individuals: Tyler Hetz, Gothenburg, 1st, 16:30; Gage Thull, 8th, 17:42; Javi Perales, 10th, 17:56; Trystan Sharkey, 15th, 18:21; Isaac Reed, 20th, 18:50; Steve Rhodes, 26th, 19:38; Holt Aschenbrenner, 36th, 20:07; Seth Jacobitz, 44th, 20:57; Eli Warner, 56th, 21:40; Frank Kovacs, 57th, 21:45; Jack Widdifield, 63rd, 22:15; Byron Kring, 71st, 23:09; Landon Grollmes, 78th, 24:07; Lucas Collins, 84th, 25:24; Grayson Heggemeyer, 86th, 26:05. 87 boys ran.

The Minden middle school girls merited five of the 15 medals in the 3K race and handily won the meet.

GIRLS TEAM SCORES: Minden 19, Holdrege 38, Gothenburg 51, Ogallala 51, Cozad 72

GIRLS individuals: Gemma Fritson, 3rd, 12:12; Regan Johnson, 4th, 12:21; Kinsey Morey, 7th, 12:54; Emerson Kuehn, 9th, 13:12; Taya Tomsen, 12th, 13:46; Kennedy Eckhardt, 18th, 14:34; Tehya Toline, 32nd, 21:43. 32 girls ran.

The middle school boys were led to a fourth place finish by Blake Boudreau's second place and Brantley Wright's 12th.

BOYS TEAM SCORES: McCook 29, Holdrege 47, Ogallala 58, Minden 60, Cozad 69, Broken Bow 69, Ogallala 90

BOYS individuals: Blake Boudreau, 2nd, 11:26; Brantley Wright, 12th, 12:23; Zander Sinsel, 16th, 12:51; Liam Collins, 30th, 14:04; Brody Casper, 43rd, 15:24. 52 boys ran.



The Minden cross country team competed at the Southwest Conference meet at Broken Bow on October 9. The high school girls team brought home the SWC team title, their first since 2021 and only the 5th in program history. The Whippets brought home a host of individual medals as well. Four high school girls, three high school boys, five middle school girls, and two middle school boys brought home hardware from the meet. (Courtesy photos)



Minden Girls Make History at Middle School State Meet

ROGER HANSEN

At the biggest Junior High meet of the year, the Nebraska Middle School State Meet at Papillion-LaVista South on October 11, Minden's girls finished as State runners-up in the Classes C-D championship division.

The Top Seven Scores: Kearney Zion Lutheran 59, Minden 68, Adams Central 83, Doniphan-Trumbull 98, Wayne 100, Mitchell 107, Auburn 122. There were 19 complete teams and 163 girls running.

The silver medalling 3K team consisted of Regan Johnson (9th medal, 12:06), Gemma Fritson (10th medal, 12:10), Kinsey Morey (33rd, 12:55) and Emerson Kuehn (58th, 13:37). Also running for Minden were Taya Tomsen (87th, 14:19) and Kennedy Eckhardt (123rd, 14:59).

This is the highest finish for a Minden team ever.

Adelinn Nickel of Axtell was 128th at 15:29.

In the C-D championship race for the boys, the Whippets did not have a complete team (4 needed, 3 ran), Blake Boudreau medalled at 23rd at 11:12. The other two young Mindenites were Brantley Wright (86th, 12:22) and Zander Sinsel (179th, 13:49).

Oscar Clausen of Axtell was 82nd at 12:17. 227 boys ran.

In the all-class open division for boys, 6th grader Gideon Warner of Minden

nearly medalled, coming in 26th at 12:27. Henry Lush of Wilcox-Hildreth was 171st at 15:16. 275 boys ran.

In total on the day over six races, 1,290 athletes ran.



The CL Jones Middle School Girls brought home the Class C/D State Runner-Up Trophy at the Nebraska Middle School State Championships in Papillion on October 11. This is the highest team finish ever by a Minden cross country team at the event. Additionally, Minden has now had a state medalist every year since 2013. Individual medal winners were Gemma Fritson, 10th; Blake Boudreau, 23rd; and Regan Johnson, 9th. (Courtesy photos)

Way To Go Whippets!



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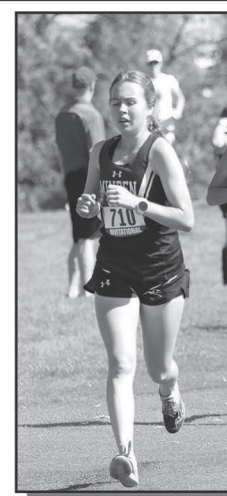


ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

ALEXA WARNER & ADELYN WHITTEN

School - Minden High School
Sport - Cross Country

Achievements: Minden junior Alexa Warner and freshman Adelyn Whitten have led the Whippets' cross country team this season to a number of high finishes, and individually each has medaled in all the meets in which they have competed. Adelyn has six top-five placements, and Alexa has five. They paced Minden to the SWC Championship recently and will attempt to lead the team to a state meet qualification at the District meet on Oct. 15 at Ogallala.



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Wilcox-Hildreth Hosts Falcon Invitational

ROGER HANSEN



The Wilcox-Hildreth cross country team hosted the Falcon Invitational at Franklin on October 9. Falcon runners earning medals at the event were Alex Klatt-Terabelian, Chloe Johnson, and Allegra Johnson. (Courtesy photo)

Wilcox-Hildreth and Axtell competed at the Falcon Invitational hosted by Wilcox-Hildreth at Franklin on October 9.

The Falcon girls finished fourth and the boys fifth. The Cat boys were sixth while the girls did not run a complete team. Many of the Axtell runners, both boys and girls, were held out of this meet ahead of the District meet on October 16.

Girls team scores: Kenesaw 16, Pleasanton 22, Amherst 23, Wil-Hil 32, Overton 39

Girls individual results: 1st-Brooklyn Fast, Amherst, 21:06; 10th-Chloe Johnson, WH, 24:34; 13th-Allegra Johnson, WH, 25:18; 14th-Kaylan Ogier, WH, 25:21; 15th-Sadie Lorenzo, AX, 25:29; 19th-Kali Philippi, AX, 26:40; Kallie Linden, AX, 27:00; 23rd-Ayva Bendorf, WH, 27:16. 28 girls ran.

Boys team scores: Elm Creek 14, Kenesaw 19, Amherst 23, Pleasanton 46, Wil-Hil 48, Axtell 53

Boys individual results: 1st-Darian Dorsey, Kenesaw, 18:24; 6th-Alex Klatt-Terabelian, WH, 19:03; 11th-Felix Lopez, AX, 19:47; 21st-Jacob Jezbera, WH, 21:32; 25th-Chase Nickel, AX, 21:54; 30th-Eli Sinachack, AX, 23:26; 34th-Cooper Woollen, WH, 24:37; 36th-David Sonnenfeld, AX, 24:43; 37th-Craig Bunger, WH, 25:29; 39th-Brett Woollen, WH, 27:02; 41st-Caleb Hall, AX, 28:22. 43 boys ran.

The junior high kids ran 2400 meters.

Girls: 10th-Audrina Henery, WH, 21:33

Boys: 22nd-Henry Lush, WH, 15:25; 23rd-Rush Sinachack, AX, 16:50

Both schools' high school runners will be at the District meet at Cambridge on October 16. The meet includes 19 schools and the top three teams and top 15 individuals will qualify for the State meet at Kearney on October 24.

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Blue Devils Stop Cats in Their Tracks

ROGER HANSEN



Axtell was downed by Elm Creek 0-57 in Axtell on October 10. The Cats dropped to 0-7 and end the season on October 16 (Thursday) at Franklin (3-4).

RUSHING-104, PASSING- 29, TOTAL OFFENSE-131

Individual Rushing- Nick Dahl 21 carries, 71 yards; Conner L'Heureux 11-37; Carter Lorenz 1- (-3); Reece Hunt 3- (-2)

Individual Passing- Lorenz 1-9, 27 yds.; Dahl 1-2, 2 yds.; L'Heureux 1-1, 0 yds.

Individual Receiving- Hunt 1-27; L'Heureux 1-2

Tackles (solos-assists): Dahl 10-6 (1 for loss); L'Heureux 1-5; Landen Eckhoff 1-3; Barrett1-2 (1 for loss); Lorenz 1-1; Easton Bergstrom 0-1; Hunt 1-0

Punting- Eckhoff 3-14.0 ave.

Kickoff Returns- Dahl 4-14.5 ave.; L'Heureux 2-10.5 ave.

Score by Quarters unavailable.

The previous week (vs. Blue Hill) Dahl rushed for 107 yards and led the team in tackles with 9 solos and 4 assists with one tackle for loss.



The Axtell Wildcats fought until the final whistle but were defeated by Elm Creek High School 0-57 on Oct.10. Pictured: (above) Reece Hunt brings in a wide open pass. (left) A pair of Wildcats collide into the ball carrier for a tackle attempt. (Courier photos by Phil Serrone)

Falcons Earn Tough Win Over Kenesaw

PHIL SERRONE

After suffering a setback last week against Franklin, the Wilcox-Hildreth football team bounced back into the win column with a win over Kenesaw High School. The final score of the game was 36-18.

The Falcons scored points in every quarter and pitched a first half shutout. Kenesaw managed to score some points in the second half but by that time, the damage had already been done resulting in a Falcon win. No individual stats were provided.

Wilcox-Hildreth's record on the season now sits at 4-3. The team will play in their final regular season game when the team hosts Elm Creek on Oct.17. A Wil-Hil win would give the team a district championship. Kick off is slated for 7:00 p.m. We will have a full recap in next week's paper!



The Falcons line up at the line of scrimmage awaiting the snap. (Courier photo by Phil Serrone)

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	F
WH	8	8	6	14	36
Kenesaw	0	0	12	6	18

Keep an eye on themindencourier.com for any stat additions!

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Lady Cats' Win Streak Halted By Warriors

PHIL SERRONE

It took a total of five sets but the Axtell Lady Cat's six game win streak has finally ended. The loss came against Arapahoe High School on Oct.7.



The Lady Wildcats had their six game win streak come to an end with three losses this past week against Arapahoe, Amherst and Pleasanton. Pictured: (above) Addyson Skaggs lines up her serve attempt. (right) Leah Stritt sends her serve attempt over the net. (Courier photos by Phil Serrone)

The matchup itself was highly competitive that saw the Lady Cats take a 2-0 lead led by set scores 25-15 and 25-12. Arapahoe recovered in the following two sets to force overtime winning 23-25 and 22-25. Heading into overtime, the game could have gone either way but it was the Warriors standing tall by a score of 11-15.

Emily Danburg delivered another great performance on what has been an exceptional season so far for the senior. She finished with 15 kills, two aces, eight digs and one assist. Addyson Skaggs formed a solid one-two punch with Danburg as she collected nine kills. Arapahoe had a difficult time solving Axtell's serve as the Lady Cats collected 12 aces led by Madison Wells' five. Wells also led the team in assists with 26 total.

Defensively, the Lady Cats were resilient totaling 74 digs as a team. Skaggs led the team with 20 digs followed by Morgan Hawkins' 17 digs and Leah Stritt's 12 digs. Ashlynn Nelson had a team high two blocks.

Here are the following stats for Axtell vs Arapahoe:

Kills: Emily Danburg 15, Addyson Skaggs 9, Bristol Thorell 4, Ashlynn Nelson 2, Morgan Hawkins 2, Madison Wells 1; Aces: Wells 5, Danburg 2, Stritt 2, Hawkins 2, Skaggs 1; Digs: Skaggs 20, Hawkins 17, Stritt 12, Wells 9, Danburg 8, Nelson 5, Thorell 3; Assists: Wells 26, Danburg 1, Nelson 1, Stritt 1; Blocks: Nelson 2, Wells 1



Wildcats Drops Two Games at Amherst Tri

PHIL SERRONE

After riding the high of a six game win streak, the Lady Wildcats of Axtell have hit a bump in the road closing out the week with two losses. Both losses occurred at the Amherst Tri on Oct.9, Pleasanton High School was the other school in attendance.

In our first recap, Axtell faced off against Amherst High School for two sets. Axtell kept it close in the first set but were defeated 20-25 while the second set got away from Axtell resulting in a loss 14-25. Amherst has had a great season so far with an overall record of 19-5 so this was a nice test for the Lady Cats.

Addyson Skaggs led the team with six kills, one ace and 14 digs. Bristol Thorell had one of her better games attacking the ball this season collecting five kills. Madison Wells put her teammates in all the right spots earning 14 assists. On the defensive side, the Lady Cats totaled 43 digs as a team.

Closing out the week was a matchup against Pleasanton High School in which the Lady Wildcats were defeated in three sets. Set scores were: 18-25, 26-24 and 22-25.

Emily Danburg and Thorell combined for 26 kills in the contest with Danburg leading the way with 14 kills. Wells once again had a strong presence setting up the offense pacing the team in assists with 20.

As a team, the Lady Cats combined for 55 digs led by Danburg and Wells who each collected 10 digs. Skaggs and Hawkins were not too far behind their teammates with

nine digs each.

Axtell's record on the season now sits at an even 12-12. The FKC tournament began on Oct.13 with the Lady Cats facing off against SEM. The winner of the game went on to face the two seed Overton High School. We will have a full recap from the FKC tournament in next week's paper!

Here are the following stats for Axtell vs Amherst:

Kills: Addyson Skaggs 6, Bristol Thorell 5, Emily Danburg 4, Morgan Hawkins 2; Aces: Skaggs 1; Digs: Skaggs 14, Danburg 6, Madison Wells 6, Hawkins 5, Leah Stritt 4, Mina Schilling 4, Ashlynn Nelson 3, Amelia Halvorsen 1; Assists: Wells 14, Schilling 3; Blocks: Danburg 1, Nelson 1, Wells 1; Hawkins 1

Here are the following stats for Axtell vs Pleasanton:

Kills: Danburg 14, Thorell 12, Skaggs 6, Hawkins 2, Halvorsen 1; Aces: Danburg 1, Wells 1, Hawkins 1, Digs: Danburg 10, Wells 10, Hawkins 9, Skaggs 9, Nelson 7, Stritt 5, Schilling 4, Solara Quigley 1; Assists: Wells 20, Stritt 3, Skaggs 1, Nelson 1, Quigley 1; Blocks: Hawkins 5, Wells 1, Halvorsen 1, Quigley 1

Lady Whippets Split SWC Clashes at Home

PHIL SERRONE

It was an SWC clash on Oct.9 that saw the Minden Lady Whippets face off against SWC foes Broken Bow and Ogallala High School. Minden was victorious over Broken Bow but fell to Ogallala for the second time this season in two sets.

Starting off the triangular was a battle with Ogallala that saw the Lady Whippets struggle to solve the Lady Indians dropping both sets 15-25 and 19-25. Ogallala has had Minden's number this season with four straight set victories.

Myla Emery led the way with seven kills and seven assists. Kaleigh Carr collected five kills while Rebbeca Lempka finished with four kills. Victoria Hansen facilitated the offense with a team-high 10 assists. Grace Hansen picked up Minden's lone ace in the contest. No defensive stats were provided.

The Lady Whippets got back on track in the final game of the evening winning both sets over Broken Bow 25-19. Minden attacked Broken Bow's defense throughout the two sets totaling 25 kills.

Emery's tremendous season added another standout performance as she led the offensive charge with 12 kills, eight assists, six aces and added five blocks on the defensive end. Aly Cederburg added six kills while Lempka contributed four kills. V.Hansen continued to shine with precision ball placement finishing with a team high nine assists.

As a team, Minden limited Broken Bow's offense with a total of 13 blocks. Cederburg tied with teammate Emery for the team high with five blocks. Digs statistics were not provided.

The end of the regular season is quickly approaching with two games remaining on the schedule before districts begin. Minden (19-7) hosted their final home game against Cozad on Oct.14. Following that match, the team concluded the season on Oct.16 with a road trip to Holdrege. This will be a highly competitive matchup so if you are able to make the trip, come out and show support! We will have a recap from the final two games of the season in next week's paper!

Minden Courier Football Contest Winners Week 7

ROGER HANSEN

Week 7 of the Courier Football Contest was a bit of a tough cookie as just one contestant had as few as two misses and four others missed three. The sole two-miss picker was Corey Ziola of Minden and for his effort he wins the \$25 first prize.

Tony Lunbery of Axtell edged others for second as his tie-breaker prediction of 48 (actual score--Northwestern 22, Penn State 21=43) was the closest. None of those involved in the tie-breaker predicted Northwestern to defeat Penn State (nor did most of the country), so we just looked at the total points to determine the winner.

The other 3-missers were Frank Kovacs of Minden (49), Jena Coil of Ralston (51) and Pat Duntz of Minden (62).

The Courier regrets the error of one matchup in the contest that was not a game being played last weekend, that being Alabama vs. Mississippi. The matchup should have been Alabama vs. Missouri. The contest editor simply threw that game out so everyone's contest had nine rather than ten games to be considered. We truly hope it does not happen again.

Most missed games were Kansas State over TCU, UCLA over Michigan State, Indiana over Oregon and Texas over Oklahoma.



The Lady Whippets competed in an SWC clash against Broken Bow and Ogallala on Oct.9. Minden was defeated by Ogallala in two sets but pulled out the victory over Broken Bow later in the evening. Pictured: Myla Emery tips the ball over the net for a point. (Courier photo by Phil Serrone)



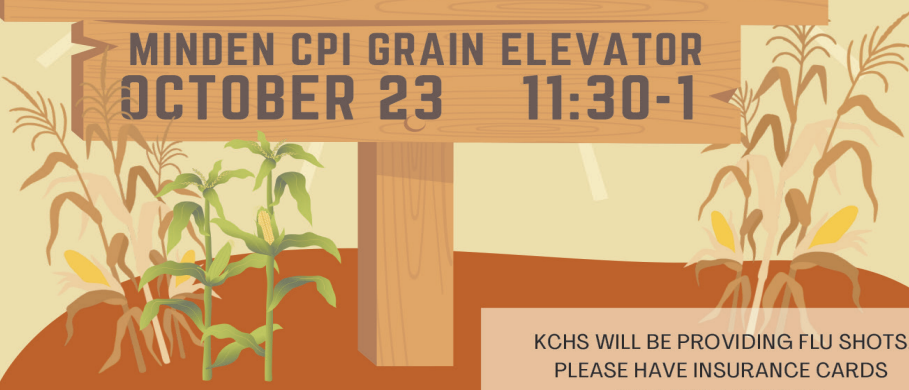
**KEARNEY COUNTY
HEALTH SERVICES**

HARVEST LUNCHES

**KEENE GRAIN ELEVATOR
OCTOBER 21 11:30-1**

**HILDRETH CPI GRAIN ELEVATOR
OCTOBER 22 11:30-1**

**MINDEN CPI GRAIN ELEVATOR
OCTOBER 23 11:30-1**



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Lady Falcons Get Back Into Win Column

PHIL SERRONE

The Lady Falcons of Wilcox-Hildreth managed to break a lengthy losing streak with a big win over Bertrand High School. Wilcox-Hildreth competed in four games on the week including matchups with Ansley/



Litchfield, Giltner and Silver Lake.

On Oct. 7, Wilcox-Hildreth hosted their 'Pink Out' Night against Bertrand and Ansley/Litchfield. The Lady Falcons pulled out a tough win against Bertrand 2-1 by set scores of 25-15, 20-25 and 25-22.

Camryn Bunker had 30 kill attempts in the contest and connected for eight kills. Madison Sheen added six kills while Dinah Culp added five kills. Wilcox-Hildreth found great success with their serves as the team collected eight aces. Aubree Overholser led the team with three aces. Cheyenne Lieb managed to put her teammates in all the right spots for success as she ended the game with 16 assists.

Defensively, the Lady Falcons got contributions across the depth chart totaling 67 digs as a team. Elin Patterson was the team leader at the end of the game with 16 digs. Culp added 13 digs while Bunker had 10 digs and added two blocks.

Unfortunately, the second game did not go the Lady Falcons way as the team was defeated by Ansley-Litchfield in two sets 16-25 and 8-25. No individual stats were provided for this game.



The Lady Falcons got back into the win column with a three-set victory over Bertrand last Tuesday. The team dropped matches against Giltner, Ansley/Litchfield and Silver Lake. Pictured: (above) Kinsley Hansen delivers a spike on the opposing defense. (left) Aubree Overholser sets up her serve attempt. (Courier photos by Phil Serrone)

On Oct. 9, Wilcox-Hildreth traveled to Giltner High School for a triangular with Silver Lake also in attendance. The team was defeated by Giltner in two sets 10-25 and 20-25. The matchup against Silver Lake did not bring better results as the Lady Falcons were defeated in two sets 14-25 and 21-25. No individual stats were provided for either game.

With the most recent victory, Wilcox-Hildreth's record on the season now sits at 2-21. The FK tournament began on Oct. 13 with a first round matchup against Elm Creek. We will have a full recap from the FK tournament in next week's paper!

Here are the following stats for Wilcox-Hildreth vs Bertrand:

Kills: Camryn Bunker 8, Madison Sheen 6, Dinah Culp 5, Kinley Hansen 2, Cheyenne Lieb 2; Aces: Aubree Overholser 3, Culp 2, Elin Patterson 2, Bunker 1; Digs: Patterson 16, Culp 13, Bunker 10, Lieb 9, Sheen 8, Ona Wisley 8, Hansen 2, Overholser 1; Assists: Lieb 16, Culp 3, Wisley 2, Bunker 1; Blocks: Bunker 2

No other individual stats were provided

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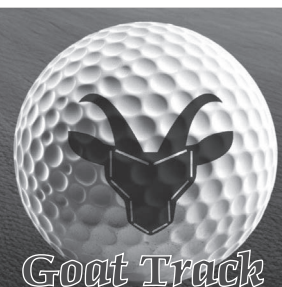
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OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM - Week #9 (Oct. 25)

Name: _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____

First Bank And Trust _____

Pony Express Ford _____

Bethany Home _____

Fill-n-Chill _____

L.T. Pedley Drug _____

Budget Heating & Air _____

Husker Irrigation _____

Sargent Irrigation _____

Goat Track _____

Phelps Memorial Health _____

Tie-Breaker Teams: Northwestern @ Nebraska

Points: _____

Official Rules:

- 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.
- 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.)
- Bring the Official Entry Blank to the Minden Courier office (520 N. Minden Ave - Minden, NE 68959) 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 NOON, or postmarked, by the Friday before the weekly games are played.**
- One entry per person per week, please.
- Decisions regarding the outcome of the contest are FINAL!
- Staff members of Syndicate Publishing are not eligible to enter the contest.
- Prize money will be mailed, or available for pick up, the week following the contest.
- Must be 18 or older to enter.
- 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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Legal Notices

NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Kearney County Board of Commissioners on October 21st, 2025 at 10:00 am at the Courthouse in the Commissioners Room of the Courthouse in Minden, of Kearney County Nebraska to hear public comments on:

Application for an anaerobic digester to utilize feedlot manure to produce renewable natural gas. Questions or comments may be directed to the County Zoning Administrator Office at 308/830-0589. An agenda for this meeting, kept continuously current, is available for public inspection at the office of the County Clerk. The agenda may be modified prior to such meeting.

Craig Lupkes
Zoning Administrator
10/2/25

Oct 9, 2025
Oct 16, 2025
(31) znez

NOTICE

REGULAR MEETING BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS KEARNEY COUNTY, NEBRASKA

OCTOBER 7, 2025 - 9:30AM

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Kearney County, NE was held October 7, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. in the Board of Commissioners' Room of the Courthouse in Minden, NE. Present were Chairman Brent Stewart and Board Members Jason Sinsel, James Miller, Nathan Avery, Robert Swanson and Heath

Hofstetter. Absent was Jeff England. Also present were County Clerk Jenni Lupkes, Joe Anderson Hwy. Supt., Craig Lupkes Emerg. Mgmt. Dir., Melodie Bellamy Co. Attorney and Cindy Ramsey of the Minden Courier. Detailed Minutes from the Board of Commissioners Meeting are available for inspection at the County Clerk's Office. The Board of Commissioners took the following action: Approved minutes of the Board of Commissioners meeting on Sept 16, 2025. Approved Bills and Claims, July payroll and Hospital Taxes. Approved the County Clerk and Clerk of the District Court Fee Reports for September 2025. Held a Public Comment. No comments were made. Accepted with regret the resignation letter of County Clerk Jill Fritson as of 1-30-2026. Approved Brent Stewart, Chairman to sign the Child Support survey Costs Allocation Plan. Appointed Jenni Lupkes to cast the ballot for Kearney County at the NACO Annual Convention in December, 2025. Met with Jenni Lupkes to hear updates from the Central District meeting in September 2025. Discussed Holiday gifts for employees. Approved adding Darin Haight to the IT Committee and make him the liaison to the Board. Approved the 2025 Snow Plan presented by Joe Anderson Hwy Superintendent. Discussed with Joe Anderson Hwy Superintendent, conducting the countywide tire clean up in 2027. Received and update on the roof dome project from Architect Jerry Berggren. Adjourned the meeting at 11:00 AM.

/s/ Brent Stewart, Chairman
Kearney County

Board of Commissioners
ATTEST:
/s/ JENNI LUPKES
Kearney County Clerk
GENERAL FUND: County Payroll Acct, Payroll, Sept 2025, \$386,025.74; A T & T Mobility, Sv, 429.32; Melodie Bellamy, Co Attny, NSBA Dues, 550.00; Benson Tree Sv, Sv, 180.00; Black Hills Energy, Ut, 223.19; Buffalo County Sheriff, Fees, 18.50; Business World Products, Su, 55.08; City of Minden, Ut, 1,430.16; Clerk of the District Court Kearney County, Fees, 72.00; Community Action partnership of Mid-Nebraska, Senlow Bus, 1,321.75; Dana F Cole & Company, Sv, 6,000.00; Digital-Ally, Sv, 1,015.00; Eakes Office Solutions, Su, 2,202.88; Election Systems & Software, Sv, 1,234.75; Enterprise Electric, Su, 173.75; FGH Law Office, Mile, 2,095.10; First Concord Benefits Group, Self-Fund Ded, 2,648.06; First Concord Benefits Group, Fees, 120.00; Shelly Gibbins, Extension Ofc Manager, Su, 498.01; Google, Sv, 950.40; Great Plains Comm, Sv, 641.16; Great Plains Reporting Co, Sv, 165.20; Rhonda Herrick, Extension Educator, Mile, 460.81; Philip Heun, Vet Sv Officer, Mile/ Phone/Lodging, 937.67; Hometown Leasing, Copier Lease, 344.89; K & K Autp Repair, Sv, 574.47; Kearney County Court, Court Costs, 587.00; Kearney County Public Defender, Sv, 1,525.64; Kearney County Road & Bridge Fund, Cash Transfer, 54,000.00; Kearney County Road Dept, Fuel, 69.30; Kearney County Sheriff's Fund, Sv, 361.75; Klein, Brewster, Brandt, & Messersmith, Sv, 4,145.75; Lieske, Lieske & Ensz, Sv, 2,280.00; Craig Lupkes, EM, Su, 181.51; Jenni Lupkes, Kearney Co Clerk, Mile, 59.08; Madison National Life, Ins, 975.95;

Mason's Supermarket, Su, 243.16; Jacob R. Meyer, Deputy Co Attorney, Phone, 20.00; Minden Courier, Subs, 65.00; Minden Exchange Bank & Trust Co - ACH, Fees, 20.80; Minden Hardware, Su, 23.48; Minden Lawn and Sprinklers, Mow, 500.00; Minden Medical Clinic, Sv, 49.86; MIPs, Sv, 3,151.94; NAPA Auto Parts, Su, 11.89; Nebr Intergovernmental Risk, Train, 432.00; Nebraska Assoc of County Officials, Conference, 215.00; Nelson Law, Mile, 2,281.02; LT Pedley Drug, Su, 32.68; Phelps County Sheriff's Ofc, Sv, 6.00; Physicians Laboratory, Sv, 300.00; Planet Technologies, Sv, 3.29; Jessica Poppe, Kearney Co Clerk Staff, Mile/Meal, 68.08; Presto-X, Exterm, 92.50; Quadient Leasing USA, Post Machine Lease, 894.96; Markus Ramsey, Kearney Co Dep Clerk, Mile/Meal, 73.23; Secretary of State- Elect Div, Train, 60.00; Soarin Group., Sv, 2,709.00; State of Nebraska Dept of Correctional Svcs, Sv, 2,801.17; Thomas Stewart, Attorney at Law, Sv, 925.37; Syndicate Publish, Pub, 216.90; Wilson Auto, Sv, 81.09; WJE Consulting, Sv, 1,095.00; Woodward's Disposal Service, Sv, 123.33; TOTAL \$491,050.62. ROAD AND BRIDGE FUND: County Payroll Acct, Payroll, Sept 2025, \$101,322.10; Ace/ Eaton Metals, Culverts, 16,297.00; Anderson Ford of Lincoln, Truck, 51,707.00; Joe Anderson, Hwy Superintendent, Phone, 156.26; Black Hills Energy, Ut, 54.64; Carquest/ Landmark Implement, Parts, 639.67; Choice Paint

& Su, Su, 474.95; CHS- Petro Direct Ship, Su, 1,151.00; City of Minden, Ut, 122.66; Eakes Office Solutions, Su, 237.69; Ed Broadfoot & Sons Sand & Gravel, Su, 15,007.72; First Concord Benefits Group, Self-Fund Ded, 848.07; Great Plains Comm, Sv, 136.56; Hansen Int'l Truck, Su, 717.92; Jim's OK Tire Store, Sv, 125.00; Kearney Co Treasurer, Reg, 15.00; Kimball Midwest, Su, 85.08; Douglas Kring, Truck Driver, Reg, 31.00; Landmark Implement, Su, 4,729.58; Lawson Products, Su, 43.68; LCL Truck Equipment, Su, 3,504.42; Medical Enterprises, Sv, 72.00; Mid-Nebraska Aggregate, Su, 2,148.01; Midway Chevrolet, Sv, 3,719.58; Minden Hardware, Su, 149.39; Minden Machine Shop, Su, 36.37; MIPS Inc., Sv, 124.16; Murphy Tractor & Equipment Co, Su, 10,500.00; NAPA Auto Parts, Su, 169.56; Nebraska Assoc of Co. Official, Conf, 160.00; NMC Exchange, Su, 3,836.66; Nebraska Weed Control, Membership, 235.00; Olsen Cattle & Diesel, Su, 244.98; Platte Valley Comm, Su, 3,256.70; Randy Pracht, Road Mechanic, Phone, 30.00; Presto-X, Exterm, 74.62; Quality Sound & Comm, Unit Rent, 79.00; Road Builders Machinery & Supply, Su, 678.75; Sahling Kenworth Inc-Kearney, Su, 5,210.76; Sapp Brothers Petroleum, Fuel, 10,316.35; Southern Public Power District, Ut, 428.74; State of NE Dept Rev Motor Fuels Division, Fuel, 1,928.00; Syndicate Publish, Pub, 98.18; Wilcox Ut Dept, Ut, 6.68; TOTAL \$240,910.49. JUVENILE SERVICES AID FUND:

Investigator Jason Bauer, Meal, \$42.79; Investigator Kyle Kuebler, Meal, 41.89; TOTAL \$84.68; INHERITANCE TAX FUND: Western Select Genetics, Su, \$360.00; TOTAL \$360.00. JUVENILE SERVICES AID FUND: F Johnson Building, OfcRent, \$1,005.00; Morgan Wicht, Juvenile Sv Ofc, Mile, 190.70; TOTAL \$1,195.70. 911 WIRELESS SERVICE FUND: CenturyLink, Sv, \$674.99; TOTAL \$674.99. COMMUNICATIONS FUND: County Payroll Acct, Payroll, Sept 2025, \$26,261.56; City of Minden, Ut, 82.69; First Concord Benefits Grp, Self-Fund Ded, 1,791.32; Great Plains Comm, Sv, 73.92; State of Ne DAS - Cent Fin #6507, Sv, 30.00; State of Ne DAS - Cent Fin #6506, Sv, 537.60; TOTAL \$28,777.09.
Oct 16, 2025
(262) 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 21, 2025 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 16, 2025
(21) znez



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NOTICE

CITY OF MINDEN COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

The City Council of the City of Minden, Nebraska, met on September 15, 2025 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: Evans, Olson, Krings, and Jordan.

Approved Bills and Claims: Accent Wire-Tie--Supplies \$1,591.24, Amazon Capital Services--Supplies \$1,979.06, Aurora Cooperative Elevator Company--Fuel \$394.02, B&R Stores, Inc--Supplies \$97.08, Black Hills Gas Holdings, LLC--Utilities \$60.40, Bontz Cleaning System, Inc--Repairs \$2,241.00, Btac United Acquisition Holding Company--Supplies \$488.28, Business World Products Of Hastings, Inc--Supplies \$26.40, Cengage Learning, Inc--Supplies \$98.37, City Of Kearney--Fees \$8,605.00, Comcate Software, Inc--Fees \$3,420.68, Consolidated Concrete Co--Supplies \$769.00, Core & Main Lp--Supplies \$13,506.87, Demco, Inc--Supplies \$415.56, Dollar General-Regions 410526--Supplies \$28.75, D. Schroeder--Training \$102.00, Dutton-Lainson Company--Supplies \$424.69, Eakes Inc--Supplies \$857.11, Elan Financial Ser-

vices--Supplies \$2,606.70, Essential Resource Group Inc--Fees \$60.98, Fig-gins Construction Col Inc--Infrastructure Repair \$23,463.00, Five Points Bank--Fees \$249.68, Gary's Auto Repair--Repairs \$322.10, Great Plains Communications--Phone/Internet \$121.77, Greatamerica Financial Services Corporation--Fees \$135.23, Hawkins Water Treatment--Chemical \$4,164.00, Intellicom Computer Consulting--Tech/Engineering \$4,760.25, Isw--Supplies \$9.92, J. K. Benson--Repairs \$2,000.00, Jims Ok Tire Minden LLC--Repairs \$1,678.10, J. Hlavinka--Training \$102.00, Jones Insurance Agency, Inc--Fees \$50.00, K&K Auto Repair Inc--Repairs \$1,745.24, Kearney County Clerk--Fees \$10.00, Kearney County Clerk--Fees \$10.00, Kearney Powersports--Supplies \$265.95, Landmark Implement Carquest--Supplies \$67.73, M. Froid--Training \$224.00, Matheson Tri-Gas Inc--Supplies \$98.48, Mid Nebraska Aggregate, Inc--Supplies \$49.05, Midwest Tapes--Supplies \$217.68, Municipal Supply-Nebraska--Supplies \$298.10, Napa Auto Parts--Supplies \$136.41, Ndee--Training \$125.00, Ne Mosquito And Vector Control--Training \$50.00, Nebraska Library Association--Training \$350.00, Nppd Kwh--Utilities \$197,108.64, Nppd O & M--Maintenance \$36,709.04, One Call Concepts Inc--Fees \$55.17, Oriental Trading--Supplies \$512.13, Oscars Concrete & Remodeling LLC--Infrastructure Repair \$2,900.00, P. Jensen--Infrastructure Repair \$3,283.38, Platte Valley Communications Of Kearney, Inc--Repairs \$626.10, Pony Express Ford-

--Repairs \$2,679.37, Presto X Co--Maintenance \$108.28, Quadient Finance Usa, Inc--Fees \$439.00, Rek Enterprises LLC--Repairs \$23.50, R. Hurst--Tech/Engineering \$750.00, Southern Power District--Utilities \$28.34, Southern Power District--Utilities \$36.76, Spectrum Business--Phone/Internet \$340.09, Subsurface Solutions--Tech/Engineering \$5,157.19, Syndicate Publishing, L.L.C--Fees \$81.48, T. R. Beck--Supplies \$431.07, Town And Country Farm And Home Inc--Supplies \$1,027.18, Tribasin Nrd--Fees \$50.00, Versatile Roofing--Repairs \$395.00, Western Pathology Consultants, Inc--Fees \$191.00, Wex Bank--Fuel \$5,319.31, Woodward Disposal--Fees \$32.50, E. Cline--Dependent Care \$384.60, E. Cline--Health Reimbursement \$773.96, A. Jordan--Health Reimbursement \$999.96, J. Hill--Health Reimbursement \$999.96, 9-5-25 Payroll \$74,797.23. Items Approved: Consent Agenda--Bunger motioned to approve the consent agenda. Schneider seconded. Voted aye: Bunger, Sumstine, Yant, and Schneider. Treasury Report, August 2025--Schneider motioned to approve the August 2025 Treasury Report and Yant seconded. Voted aye: Sumstine, Bunger, Yant, and Schneider. Budget Report, August 2025--Yant motioned to approve the August 2025 Budget Report. Bunger seconded. Voted aye: Bunger, Sumstine, Yant, and Schneider. Wholesale Power Contract with NPPD--Yant motioned to approve the Wholesale

Power Contract with NPPD. Schneider seconded. Voted aye: Bunger, Sumstine, Yant, and Schneider. NPPD Project #5587000 in the amount of \$88,527.34 located between Hillcrest and Park--Bunger motioned to approve the NPPD Project #5587000 in the amount of \$88,527.34 located between Hillcrest and Park. Sumstine seconded. Voted aye: Bunger, Sumstine, Yant, and Schneider. Approval of an Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of Bond Anticipation Notes, not to exceed \$700,000--Bunger introduced Ordinance No. 1306 for its first reading. Sumstine seconded. Voted aye: Bunger, Sumstine, and Schneider. Voted nay: Yant. Ordinance Amending Sections 94-66, 94-67, and 94-68; Zoning Districts of the Minden Municipal Code. Sumstine introduced Ordinance No. 1307 for its first reading. Bunger seconded. Voted aye: Bunger, Sumstine, Yant, and Schneider. Bunger motioned to waive the three readings of Ordinance No. 1307 and Yant seconded. Voted aye: Bunger, Sumstine, Yant, and Schneider. Bunger motioned to adopt Ordinance No. 1307 by title. Sumstine seconded. Voted aye: Bunger, Sumstine, Yant, and Schneider. Final Plat for the following Property: a Tract of Ground Located in Part of Lot A in the NW 1/4 Of Section Eighteen (18) Township Six (6) North, Range Fourteen (14) West of the 6th P.M. Kearney County, Nebraska--Schneider motioned to approve the Final Plat of A TRACT OF GROUND LOCATED IN PART OF LOT A

IN THE NW 1/4 OF SECTION EIGHTEEN (18) TOWNSHIP SIX (6) NORTH, RANGE FOURTEEN (14) WEST OF THE 6TH P.M. KEARNEY COUNTY, NEBRASKA with the legal description as stated on the agenda. Yant seconded. Voted aye: Bunger, Sumstine, Yant, and Schneider. Motion carried. Non Action Items: Council Announcements. Public Forum. Public Hearing for Street Improvement District 2025-1. Discussion of 12th Street and 13th Street between Highway 10 and Colorado Ave for the Pioneer Village Campground Expansion per Agenda Item Request by Al Lux Representing Pioneer Village Museum. Discussion of "Local" Support of Minden per Agenda Item Request by Kevin Krull. Bunger motioned to adjourn at 6:45 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 minden-nebraska.org.
Oct 16, 2025
(262) znez

NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Kearney County Board of Commissioners on October 21st, 2025 at 10:15 am at the Courthouse in the Commissioners Room of the Courthouse in Minden, of Kearney County Nebraska to hear public comments on:

Special Use Application for remodeling pens using roller compacted concrete and increasing head count to 85,000 while staying in existing feedlot footprint. Questions or comments may be directed to the County Zoning Administrator Office at 308/830-0589. An agenda for this meeting, kept continuously current, is available for public inspection at the office of the County Clerk. The agenda may be modified prior to such meeting.

Craig Lupkes
Zoning Administrator
10/2/25

Oct 9, 2025
Oct 16, 2025
(33) znez


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NOTICE

CITY OF MINDEN

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

The City Council of the City of Minden, Nebraska, met on September 22, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in special 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: Evans, Krings, and Jordan. Absent: Olson. Non-Action Items: Public Forum. Consent Agenda. Public Hearing on the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Budget. Sumstine motioned to adjourn at 7:09 p.m. and Bunger 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 minden-nebraska.org.
Oct 16, 2025
(40) znez

NOTICE

CITY OF MINDEN

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

The City Council of the City of Minden, Nebraska, met on this day in session commencing on September 22, 2025 immediately upon adjournment of the preceding budget hearing, which began at 7:00 p.m. on 9-22-2025, and continued until all attendee testimony has concluded. The

meeting was held 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: Evans, Krings, and Jordan. Absent: Olson. Approved Items: Resolution for the Property Tax Request-- Bunger motioned to approve Resolution 1826 for the Property Tax Request and Yant seconded. Voted aye: Bunger, Sumstine, Yant, and Schneider. Fiscal Year 2025-26 Budget as Proposed--Yant motioned to approve the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Budget as Proposed and Schneider seconded. Voted aye: Bunger, Sumstine, Yant, and Schneider. Annual Appropriations Bill, an Ordinance to adopt the 2025-26 Budget Statement, first reading. Schneider introduced Ordinance No. 1308 for its first reading. Yant seconded. Voted aye: Bunger, Sumstine, Yant, and Schneider. Yant motioned to waive the three readings of Ordinance No. 1308. Schneider seconded. Voted aye: Bunger, Sumstine, Yant, and Schneider. Bunger motioned to adopt Ordinance No. 1308 by title. Sumstine seconded. Voted aye: Bunger, Sumstine, Yant, and Schneider. Quote and Authorize Payment to JCI Industries for a New Heliflow Blower Unit for the Wastewater Treatment Plant in the Amount of

\$17,635-- Yant motioned to approve the Quote and Authorize Payment to JCI Industries for a New Heliflow Blower Unit for the Wastewater Treatment Plant in the Amount of \$17,635. Bunger seconded. Voted aye: Bunger, Sumstine, Yant, and Schneider. Non-Action Items: Public Forum. Consent Agenda. Public Hearing on the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Budget. Bunger motioned to adjourn at 7:21 p.m. and Schneider 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 minden-nebraska.org.
Oct 16, 2025
(97) znez

NOTICE

IN THE COUNTY COURT

OF KEARNEY COUNTY,

NEBRASKA

ESTATE OF

PHYLLIS ANN GASTON,

DECEASED

ESTATE NO. PR25-30

Notice is hereby given that on October 7, 2025, 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 Roger B. Gaston, whose address is 1395 Country Club Drive, Sidney, Nebraska 69162 and Robert T. Gaston, whose address is 1215 E. Assumption Road, Hastings, Nebraska 68901-7746, were informally appointed by the Registrar as Co-Personal Representatives of the Estate. Creditors of this estate must file their claims with this Court on or before December 16, 2025, 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 16, 2025
Oct 23, 2025
Oct 30, 2025
(44) znez

NOTICE

IN THE COUNTY COURT

OF KEARNEY COUNTY,

NEBRASKA

ESTATE OF

MARCELE D. SCHMIDT,

DECEASED

ESTATE NO. PR25-29

Notice is hereby given that a Petition for Formal Probate of Will of said Deceased, Determination of Heirs, and Appointment of Minden Exchange Bank & Trust Company as Personal Representative has been filed and is set for hearing in the County Court of Kearney County, Nebraska, located at Minden, Nebraska, on October 30, 2025, at or after 8:45 o'clock a.m.

MINDEN EXCHANGE BANK
& TRUST COMPANY,
Petitioner
P.O. Box 179
Minden, NE 68959
308-832-1600

Remington S. Slama #27389
KLEIN, BREWSTER, BRANDT
& MESSERSMITH
Attorney for Petitioner
P.O. Box 272
Minden, NE 68959
308-832-2150
minden@kleinbrewster.com
Oct 9, 2025
Oct 16, 2025
Oct 23, 2025
(35) 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: Craig Bros Mow Co, LLC. The street and mailing address of the initial designated office is 1020 W 1st St., Minden, Kearney County, Nebraska 68959. John A.E. Craig is the initial agent at such address for purposes of service of process. The limited liability company commenced on

October 3, 2025, and shall have perpetual existence.

Dated: October 3, 2025

Craig Bros Mow Co, 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

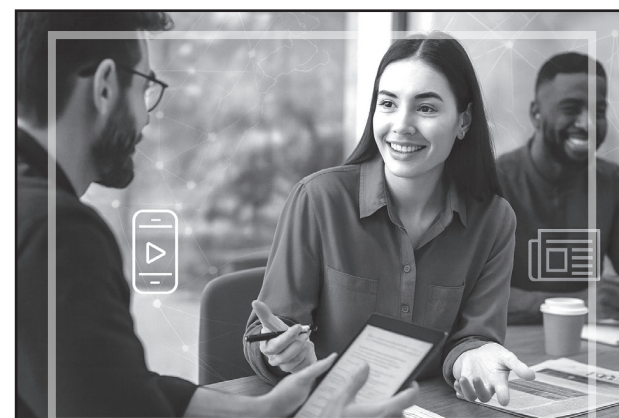
aolson@doclaw.net

Oct 9, 2025

Oct 16, 2025

Oct 23, 2025

(38) znez



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NOTICE

**NOTICE OF SCHOOL BOND
ELECTION
\$27,285,000
KEARNEY COUNTY SCHOOL
DISTRICT 0503
(MINDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS)
IN THE
STATE OF NEBRASKA
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4,
2025**

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given to the qualified electors of Kearney County School District 0503 (Minden Public Schools) in the State of Nebraska (the "District") that a special election has been called and will be held in the District on Tuesday, November 4, 2025, at which time there shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the District the following proposition:

"Shall Kearney County School District 0503 (Minden Public Schools) in the State of Nebraska (the "District") issue general obligation bonds of the District in an aggregate stated principal amount not to exceed Twenty-Seven Million Two Hundred Eighty Five Thousand Dollars (\$27,285,000), for the purpose of providing funds to pay the costs of construction and acquisition of a new elementary school building, site and public infrastructure improvements, modifications to the District's existing buildings and facilities, and providing for the necessary furniture, equipment and apparatus for such buildings and facilities of the District; such bonds to be issued from time to time, to bear interest at such rate or rates, to be sold at such prices and to become due at such time or times as may be fixed by, or determined at the direction of, the Board of Education,"

and

"Shall the District cause to be levied and collected annually a special levy of taxes against all the taxable property in the District sufficient in rate and amount to pay the principal of and interest on such bonds as the same become due?"

FOR such Bonds and tax

○ AGAINST such Bonds and tax

Electors voting in favor of the proposition shall blacken the oval opposite the words "FOR such Bonds and tax" following the proposition.

Electors voting against such proposition shall blacken the oval opposite the words "AGAINST such Bonds and tax" following the proposition.

Ballots for early voting may be obtained from the County Election Commissioner's office.

By Mail Election

This election will be an election by mail. All registered voters residing within Kearney County School District 0503 (Minden Public Schools) in the State of Nebraska will receive their ballot by mail, and therefore, no polling places will be open for voting. Ballots will be mailed by the Election Commissioner not sooner than the 22nd day and not later than the 10th day before the election date of November 4, 2025 (between October 13, 2025, and October 25, 2025). Upon receipt of the official ballot, the registered voter shall mark it, seal the ballot in the identification envelope supplied with the ballot, sign the identification envelope, and comply with the instructions provided with the ballot.

Voter Registration Dead-

lines

The deadline to register to vote at an agency, online, with a deputy registrar, by mail, or delivered by an agent is the third Friday before the election date (October 17, 2025). The deadline for in-person registration is the second Friday before the election date (October 24, 2025), by 6:00 p.m. at the County Election Commissioner's office for the County in which the voter lives. Any voter who changes information on a current registration or registers to vote after the ballots have been mailed but before such in-person registration deadline will be given a ballot at the time of registration or change. Ballots for early voting may be obtained at the Election Commissioner's office of the County in which the voter lives.

Ballot Return Deadline

Voted ballots, sealed in the completed identification envelope and completed in accordance with the instructions provided with the ballot, must be delivered by mail, in person, or by an agent to the Election Commissioner. Ballots must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on November 4, 2025.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
OF EDUCATION OF KEARNEY COUNTY SCHOOL
DISTRICT 0503 (MINDEN
PUBLIC SCHOOLS) IN THE
STATE OF NEBRASKA

Oct 9, 2025

Oct 16, 2025

Oct 23, 2025

Oct 30, 2025

(165) znez

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GUN SHOW

GUN SHOW: October 17-19, 2025, Westfair, Council Bluffs, IA Fri 4-9pm, Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. \$10 (under 12 FREE). More info: 563-608-4401 www.marvkrauspromotions.net

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2		1		7		5		6
4								
			3	8				
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Level: Intermediate

Local Classifieds

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GARAGE SALES

MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE: 658 32 Road (3.5 miles south of Minden on Highway 10) Friday, Oct. 17: 10a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 18: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Home decor, toys, furniture, crafts, Yeti coolers, sewing machine, kayak & lots more

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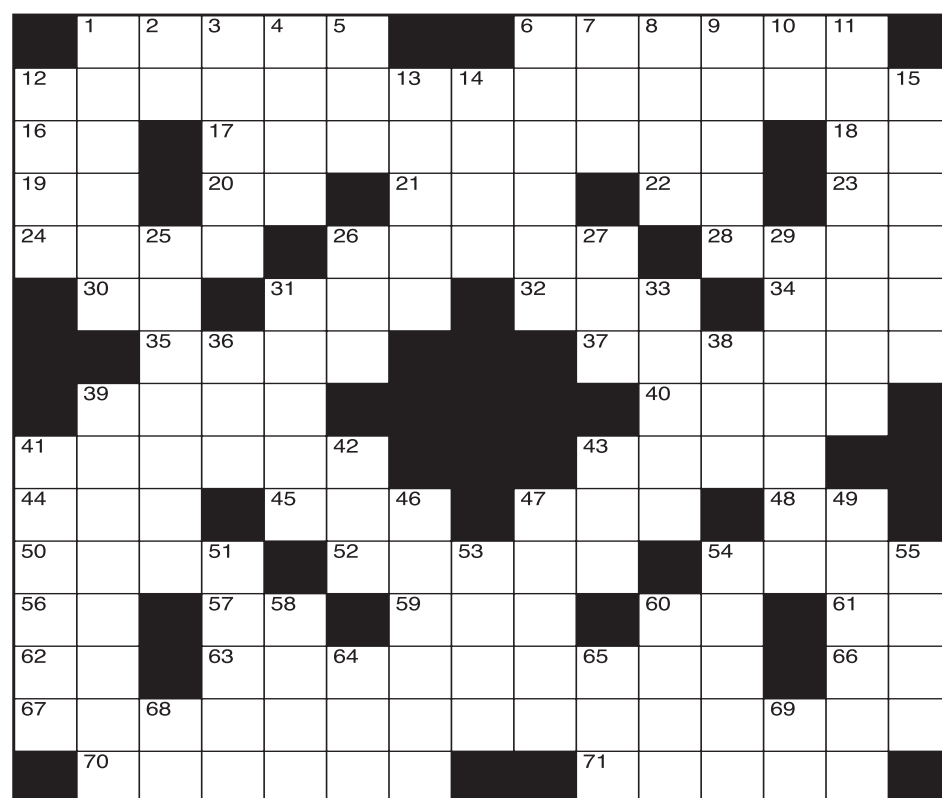
CLUES ACROSS

1. Martial arts in China
6. The butt of jokes
12. Nevertheless
16. Sportscaster Michaels
17. A firm believer
18. Atomic #18
19. One's bestie
20. Of I
21. Hamburger accessory
22. Thus
23. Partner to Pa
24. Scottish tax
26. Cuts away
28. Require
30. Government lawyer
31. Own (Scottish)
32. Body cavity
34. Brew
35. Young woman (French)
37. Platforms
39. Pair of points in mathematics
40. Attack suddenly
41. Aviators
43. Make perfect
44. Yearly tonnage (abbr.)
45. Neither
47. The center of a city
48. Sacrifice hit in baseball
50. Singer Redding
52. Dragged forcibly
54. Puncture with a knife
56. Belonging to me
57. Expresses surprise
59. Haul
60. The Golden State
61. Biblical Sumerian city
62. Integrated circuit
63. Opposed to certain principles
66. Sodium
67. Qualities
70. Walk
71. It awaits us all

CLUES DOWN

1. Ate quickly
2. Peyton Manning's alma mater
3. Moves through water
4. Run away from
5. Utah resident
6. Natural objects
7. Children's game
8. Obligation to prove

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



9. Ancient Greek building for performances
10. Soldier
11. Decorated
12. Catches
13. Russell __, author
14. Speak indistinctly
15. Students get them
25. Japanese warrior
26. Dessert
27. Doleful
29. Most cushy
31. Moon crater
33. Small evergreen Arabian tree
36. Something fugitives are "on"
38. 007's creator
39. Paintings on hinged panels
41. Type of bomb
42. Japanese classical theater
43. U.S. gov't department
46. Flightless bird
47. One who cuts wood or stone
49. Buttock and thigh together
51. A way to gather
53. Body part
54. Argentinian city
55. Undergarments
58. Jai __, sport
60. Container for shipping
64. Type of screen
65. Get free of
68. Indicates position
69. Business department

10.9.25 SOLUTIONS

4	3	2	5	6	1	7	9	8
6	5	9	8	4	7	2	3	1
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Let's Hear it for the Bands!

Bandfest 2025 is Saturday in Minden



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