



# Wilcox Cozy Inn Cafe is Serving Up Hearty Helpings of Homemake Flavor

CINDY RAMSEY

Sheri Fecht, owner of Cozy Inn Cafe in Holdrege, recently opened a second restaurant in Wilcox. Customers of the Wilcox Cozy Inn Cafe have been able to enjoy the same homemade flavors without the drive since November 4.

Holdrege native Fecht worked at the Cozy Inn Cafe under the previous owner for 12 years before purchasing and operating the business herself eight years ago. The cafe serves hearty home cooking including its famous hot beef sandwiches made completely from scratch.

"We're becoming a dying art because we can't keep up with fast food," Fecht said.

Despite the competition, the Cozy Inn Cafe has found success as a local eatery.

"I always run lunch specials so they are fast. You can come in and order and get served right away if you're coming in on the lunch hour," Fecht said. "Then we also have a full menu of burgers and Reubens and that kind of thing."

When the previous restaurant housed in the Wilcox Cafe building left, the small community was anxious to fill the location with a new restaurant quickly. One of the building owners took a chance and approached Fecht with a proposal to expand the well known Holdrege business with a second location. Luckily for Wilcox and its visitors, she was on board.

"The building has been passed down through generations. They were looking for someone to come in and have a cafe because they wanted to keep something in the community for the community," Fecht said.

Just a couple months after being approached with the proposal, the Wilcox Cozy Inn Cafe opened. The process was aided by the building owners.

"They have been real helpful and very good people," Fecht said. "I went to Central Community College in Hastings and took Hotel/Motel/Restaurant Manage-



Cozy Inn Cafe owner Sheri Fecht (right) and her staff, Kelli Lemmond (left) and Terrance Hansen (center) recently began serving tasty homemade meals in their second location in Wilcox. (Courier photo by Cindy Ramsey)

## Weather Forecast

Dec. 19:	52/37	
Dec. 20:	57/26	
Dec. 21:	45/27	
Dec. 22:	49/31	
Dec. 23:	51/29	
Dec. 24:	48/30	
Dec. 25:	46/31	



cont. PAGE 3 - Cozy Inn Cafe

PAGE 5 - KCCF Restoration Milestone

PAGES 20-25 - Court Play Heats Up

# News Briefs

## Early Deadline and Holiday Hours

The Minden Courier will have an early printing schedule for the December 25th issue resulting in an early deadline. All news and ad submissions must be turned in by Thursday, December 18th.

The Minden Courier office will be closed for Christmas December 24-26. The office will be closed on January 1st for New Year's. Submissions can always be left in the dropbox in front of the office at 520 N. Minden Avenue or emailed to mindencourier@gmail.com at any time. Happy Holidays from the Minden Courier staff!

## 5 Acres of Christmas Lights

Come and drive through our "Dean, Julie & Tanner's Christmas In The Country" light display this holiday season and experience the festive feel of Christmas! Located at 2051 36 Road Friday, November 29 through Sunday, January 4 from 5:30pm until midnight seven days a week. We look forward to seeing and greeting you all!

## MHS Winter Concert and Soup Supper

The MHS Band and Choir will hold their Winter Concert and Soup Supper fundraiser on Friday, December 19. The freewill donation soup supper will also feature a silent auction and live entertainment from 5:30-6:40pm in the MHS Commons. The concert will feature jazz band, singing club, concert choir, and concert band in the MHS Fine Arts Auditorium beginning at 6:45pm.

## Christmas Lights Contest

Hildreth residents are invited to join in the holiday spirit by putting up their best Christmas light show for the chance to win prizes. Grow Hildreth members will travel around town and the surrounding area on December 20th to judge Christmas lights. Winners will be announced on the Grow Hildreth Facebook page and in the newsgram. Prizes: 1st place - \$100 to Fritz's Market, 2nd place - \$75 to Fritz's Market, 3rd place - \$50 to Fritz's Market.

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## Lions Hall Grand Reopening

Come celebrate the grand reopening of the Wilcox Lions Hall with a meal and trivia to follow on Saturday, January 3. Community meal will be served 5:30-6:30pm. Trivia starts at 7pm. The cost to participate in trivia is \$100 per team (maximum 8 people per team). This is open to all with trivia optional. Please try and pre register your team.

## 2025 Goodfellows Drive Continues On

PRESS RELEASE

At this time, the Kearney County Goodfellows have collected \$3,632.27 through donations.

The money will be used to make Christmas food boxes for Christmas dinners for families and individuals in Kearney County. The Goodfellows also help throughout the rest of the year with rent payments, utility bills, heating bills, medical bills, mortgage payments and other special needs as they come up. Because the Goodfellows are all volunteers, all the money is used for these needs.

Cash donations can be made at any of the banks in Kearney County.

All donations will be printed in the Minden Courier unless otherwise requested. This week's donors are:

Rick & Teresa Chramosta  
Loneta Nolan  
Tony & Tammy Ellis  
Lyra Johnson  
John & Cathy Osgood  
Randy & Nancy Scheidies  
Vernon Christensen

## Weather Recap

Date	High	Low	Precip.
11/6/25	37	25	-
11/7/25	33	26	-
12/8/25	48	25	-
12/9/25	48	31	-
12/10/25	43	35	-
12/11/25	57	32	-
12/12/25	44	37	-
Total Week Precip.....			0.00

### 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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## from PAGE 1 - Cozy Inn Cafe

ment never thinking I would own my own. That was my goal, but I never thought it would happen. Now here I am with two."

Although the Wilcox Cozy Inn Cafe has only been open for a short time, community support and feedback have been positive.

"There's been a few times I've had to close due to weather or some other issues, but it's been going good and I'm starting to learn the people," Fecht said.

As Holdrege residents, Fecht and most of her team are still getting to know their Wilcox customers. Terrance Hansen mans the grill and fills the plates while Kelli Lemmond and Kayla Evans greet and serve customers. One home grown team member is helping to bridge the gap between customers and employees.

"Becky Bennetts works for me over lunches. She lives in Hildreth, but she grew up here in Wilcox so she knows a lot of the people. Kelli works out front so she knows most of them more than I do because I'm usually stuck in the back," Fecht explained.

While the Fecht oversees the Wilcox cafe, the Holdrege location is in good hands with her husband, James, and her experienced breakfast cook.

"I don't have a manager over there. My ultimate goal is to leave Terrance to cook and my waitstaff to take care of it here so I can go back and forth between places," Fecht said.

Wilcox Cozy Inn Cafe is open Tuesday through Friday 6:30 a.m. - 2 p.m., Saturday 6:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., and Sunday 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. with dine in or carryout options available.

"Sunday we just do lunch because we do breakfast all day in Holdrege so I figure if people want breakfast they can go there and if they want lunch they can come here," Fecht said.

The Wilcox Cozy Inn Cafe crew is excited to become better acquainted with the community and looks forward to serving as a hub for food, friends, and family for years to come.

"I do appreciate all of the people who come in here and support me. I enjoy their company and Kelly enjoys their company," Fecht said. "It's a really close knit community and that's very nice."



The Wilcox Cafe has been a staple of the small town for generations. Residents are happy to support the newest restaurant occupying the building, Wilcox Cozy Inn Cafe. (Courier photos by Cindy Ramsey)

# MERRY CHRISTMAS!



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# School Board Adds Director of Special Services

CINDY RAMSEY

The Minden Public Schools board of Education held its regular monthly meeting on December 8 with a short agenda. The board dove right in approving the consent agenda including minutes from the November meeting, financial reports, and expenditures and claims for payment.

With the busy end of year schedule many of the school principals were unable to attend the meeting, but High School Principal Don Hosick had a positive report for the board. There are a lot of great candidates who applied for the high school Language Arts opening. Hosick reported interviews are being held with the top candidates.

Winter weather can result in school closures and Superintendent Jim Widdifield informed the board and public there are several elements considered in making that decision. Safety is the top priority always. The district has many young drivers, students who live out of town, and young students who require childcare when there is no school. All of these pieces are closely evaluated when a school closure for weather is considered.

The State of the Schools report for MPS has been released to the public. MPS has once again earned a 'Great' classification not only as a district, but each building also earned a 'Great' classification. This report is based on 2024-25 data. The full report can be found on the MPS website under the superintendent's tab.

The sole action item on the agenda was to consider adding a Director of Special Services position to the district. In 2023, Sandy Pohl and Chelsey Jensen were named Preschool Director and SPED Director respectively. Widdifield has served as the SPED Director since Jensen left at the end of last school year, but the position would be better held by an individual with more experience and the time to dedicate to the program.

Widdifield told the board he would like to have a Director of Special Services position created for the 2026-27 school year to handle SPED, ELL, and 504 and provide additional help with HAL and MTSS. Creating this administrative position will ensure these programs are properly overseen without overwhelming any current staff with the additional duties. Widdifield emphasized this position has always been warranted for this district.

MPS has some staff members with the qualifications for this position, but they will also look outside of the district to guarantee they find the best candidate for the position. The cost to the district is estimated at \$20,000 with the remainder reimbursed

through the State.

Kevin Raun stated he hopes for better student outcomes and faculty relief with the creation of this position. Rusty Rhynalds shared that he hopes to find someone for the position with experience and credentials that will help bridge gaps and offer support and guidance to better serve students and be very beneficial to the district.

The board unanimously approved a motion to add a Director of Special Services for the 2026-27 school year. With no further business the meeting was adjourned. The next regular meeting of the Minden School Board will be held on Monday, January 12 at 7pm in the MHS Media Center.

## CCC Holds 2025 Winter Commencement

PRESS RELEASE

(Grand Island, Neb.) – Central Community College honored 358 graduate candidates and 40 GED graduates during its 2025 winter commencement Dec. 12 at CCC-Columbus.

The candidates attended one or more CCC locations, which include the Columbus, Grand Island and Hastings campuses and Holdrege, Kearney, Lexington and Ord centers.

Forty-six of the associate degree candidates achieved an accumulative grade-point average of 3.75 or higher during their college career and graduated with honors. Their names are preceded by an asterisk (\*).

Local recipients of degrees and diplomas were:

Associate of Applied Science Degree

Heartwell: Natasha R. Diaz Aguilar, criminal justice

Minden: Abigayl J. Anderson, business administration, and Rachel D. Smallcomb, health information management services

Diploma

Minden: Lane T. Cheney, diesel technology; Aden Jonak, information technology and systems; and Alexis Ciprian, paramedicine

## Contact Us

Let us know about any questions, concerns or ideas you may have!

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and

**Christmas Observance on  
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Fri., Dec. 26, 2025**

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# KCCF Reaches a New Renovation Milestone

PRESS RELEASE

The Kearney County Community Foundation has completed over half a million dollars worth of new renovations to the Opera House/Donut Shop building, which the KCCF first renovated and re-opened over 25 years ago. Todd Jensen has been a KCCF member since the time of the original renovation, and has been involved in these recent projects as well.

"We are so fortunate to have a 'Preservation Fund' that we established at the time of the renovation to provide for the future care and maintenance of the building and equipment. We wanted to ensure that we could keep the Opera House in great shape for many years to come, and the Preservation fund, along with the amazing financial support we've received, gives us the financial means to do so," said Todd.

The most recent work started in motion when HVAC updates were planned in late 2019, and then with replacing the carpet in 2020, the time of the pandemic.

"The Opera House carpet was beginning to show some wear after 20 years of service, and when the pandemic hit, it provided a good time to get it replaced," Todd said.

The carpet was custom made to match the paint colors used in the Opera House. The Foundation continued work to replace all of the HVAC systems, along with other projects such as replacing the Green Room tile floor, changing

all the lighting to LED, some concrete work, and installing a new roof on the Opera House.

"We seem to go from one thing to another, in addition to the regular things like painting and elevator and ice machine maintenance," said Todd.

Case in point, it was about this time Todd was asked to investigate a cracked window on the front of the Donut Shop, which is part of the adjacent building the Foundation bought in order to use the top floor as a green room for the Opera House.

"When we were renovating the Opera House, that was our main focus, and the Donut Shop lower floor part of it was mostly left alone," Todd said.

However, investigating the crack in the window he soon realized there was more to it than just the window, as he found water and foundation concerns underneath it in the basement of the Donut Shop.

"That basement is separate from the Opera House and I hadn't been down there in a long time. The front sidewalk had a sidewalk vault under it that was crumbling, and there was also an old basement window that had caved into the basement," said Todd. "We were really concerned about the movement happening, especially in that corner, which was not only evident from the cracked window, but also a 'staircase crack' in the brick above."

Consulting with a structural engineer and architect, a plan was put in place to secure the front, fill the sidewalk vault, prevent more water infiltration, and put new supports in the basement, along with other upgrades inside and outside the



Todd Jensen and Deb Granger, KCCF members, stand in front of the new Donut Shop facade. (Courier photo by Ashley Benensee)

donut shop. Deb Granger, KCCF treasurer, set to work on securing a 'shovel ready grant' to help with the costs, which also allowed for additional work to protect the building, such as excavating in the alley to seal the basement up from the outside, and new stucco all along the exterior walls. The new front facade and interior work was finished in the spring of 2025, and the stucco work was completed soon after.

Todd sums it up by saying, "In the end that cracked window was a blessing, as it set some needed work in motion that will hopefully help protect the building for years to come. We appreciate the support and everyone's understanding while the work was in progress."

The KCCF has 501c3 status and maintains a website where you can support the Foundation, the preservation fund, and other community funds administered by the KCCF at [kccfoundation.org](http://kccfoundation.org).

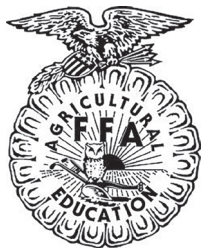


## What's your story?

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# FFA Students of the Month

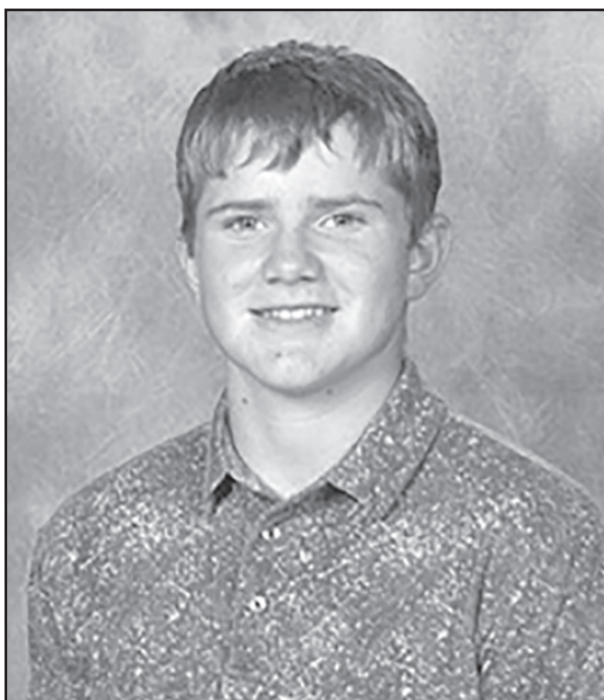


## MINDEN

**Name:** Josa Ciemnoczowski **Grade:** 9th Grade

**SAE:** Field and Flour (Sourdough Baking)

**Involvement:** Josa has been a top participant in FFA both quarters this year. She has participated in Land Judging where she placed 44th and Livestock Judging where she has placed 121st. She plans to participate in Creed Speaking and Food Science in the spring. Josa has also been active in attending chapter meetings and monthly FFA socials. We are excited to watch Josa grow in her leadership within the Minden FFA chapter!



## AXTELL

**Name:** Samuel Kindschuh **Grade:** 9th Grade

**Involvement in the chapter:** Samuel is a very active member in the Axtell FFA chapter. So far this year he has competed in Land Judging and Livestock Evaluation and also plans to compete in District LDE's (our speaking events) in January. Additionally, Samuel has attended our monthly meetings, participated in community service activities, and gone to leadership conferences.

**Recent successes:** Samuel recently competed in the District Livestock Judging contest where he earned a white ribbon. At the start of December Samuel received his FFA Jacket and was also awarded with the "Top Fundraiser" award from our annual fruit sales fundraiser.



## WILCOX-HILDRETH

**Name:** Aubree Overholser **Grade:** 12th Grade

**SAE:** Babysitting and Cornerstone Bank

**Involvement in the chapter:** I am the 2025-2026 Treasurer for the Wilcox-Hildreth FFA Chapter. I have been involved in many different FFA competitions such as Livestock Judging, Biotechnology, Job Interview, Natural Resources, Nursery Landscape and Farm Business Management.

**Recent successes:** I have been an officer for the last two years.



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## Kearney County Extension News

By Jason Tuller

**University of Nebraska-Lincoln Associate  
Extension Educator — RPN**

It is the Christmas season. Do you have a Christmas list? Does your community have a Christmas list?

Spoiler Alert: Santa does not bring presents to communities. Communities have to be Santa to themselves. There isn't anyone coming to fulfill the hopes and dreams of rural communities. There are many service providers out there that can come and help, but it is rare that they come bearing gifts. Most of us just help to empower communities to help themselves.

What is on your community's Christmas list? Are they personal wishes that you want, like I wish my neighbor would be less noisy. Are they items or ideas that have been created through facilitated group meetings so that all voices can be heard and the most supported ideas can be pushed to the top? Maybe you want all of the downtown buildings to hold businesses. Maybe you just want the businesses in your town to have regular hours or have extended hours so that you can shop after you get home from work. Maybe you just want the park swing fixed.

Santa has billions of children to take care of on Christmas Eve, so it isn't up to him to fix that swing. Many communities would welcome volunteer help to get the park fixed up. Painting, pulling weeds, and just regular equipment maintenance can be an overwhelming job in the parks. A group of a few volunteers can make a huge difference.

Getting a group of volunteers together doesn't have to be difficult. Maybe it is a church group or the people you play cards with. Perhaps the group is the families of a sports team. Get everyone together, drink some hot chocolate, and then go make a difference. Getting groups of volunteers does take one thing...a leader, or a convener, someone who is able to take on the job of finding a date, setting the times, making sure the hot chocolate is there and getting necessary provisions and permissions.

Perhaps your community Christmas list is much bigger than just fixing up a park. Maybe you want to apply for a grant in the coming year? Are you doing the prep work needed to make that happen? Many grants give you extra points for community participation. If it is a housing grant they need a housing study. These items must be done before the grant comes out. Grant application windows are shrinking, especially federal grants. Some of the grants that I've seen come out in the last month have a 10 day application window. If you are not 100% ready to fill out that application on day one, you may not be able to get it finished. All of the prep work needs to be finished before the grant application window opens. Not only is it important to have items on your Christmas list, the prep work needs to be a priority.

Another potential Christmas list item for communities is new leadership. In many communities the same 10 people have been working behind the scenes to lead the community for decades. Many of them wish that there was someone to replace them. Santa is not going to bring your replacement. Those volunteers that want replacements need to work on growing leaders in their communities to take their place. Begin mentoring others in the community. Also realize that time is precious and you may not be able to find someone to replace you, but maybe you can find 5 people to each take a little piece of what you do. It takes time and planning to find new leadership.

Unfortunately, Santa isn't going to come and bring gifts to your community. Communities have to do it themselves. There is help available but it takes a community reaching out and doing the prep work needed in order to be ready to create its own

Christmas gifts.

If your community could benefit from any of the Rural Prosperity Nebraska 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](mailto: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.*

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The second annual Give Big Minden event raised \$65,660 for the community thanks to sponsors, donors, and non-profit partners. This generosity will help care for seniors, support single-parent families, preserve the local history, fund classroom projects and educational opportunities, continue to grow medical services, stock shelves and feed families, support seniors through meals and programming, care for animals, invest in the community's future and keep arts and culture thriving right here in Minden.

Every gift will create real impact. Thank you for showing up, giving generously, and proving once again that this community is an amazing place!

# Falcons at State One Act



The Wilcox-Hildreth Play Production Team competed at the NSAA Class D1 State Play Production competition on December 10 at the Johnny Carson Theater in Norfolk. The Falcons earned fifth place with their performance of 'Abominable'. Congratulations on a great season! (Courtesy photo)

Mary Lanning  
HEALTHCARE



# Axtell FBLA Students Raise Over \$1,700 to Support Alzheimer's Association

PRESS RELEASE

Axtell, NE — December 11, 2025 — The Alzheimer's Association proudly recognizes the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) students from the Axtell, Nebraska Chapter for their leadership, compassion, and dedication to service.

These students volunteered at the Kearney Walk to End Alzheimer's on October 12 and continued their efforts by organizing a fundraiser after the event. Through their hard work, they raised over \$1,700 to support Alzheimer's care, support, and research.

Tara Smith, advisor for Axtell FBLA, said, "While planning our fundraiser and participating in the Kearney Walk, several members shared with me a family member affected by Alzheimer's. I think it was eye-opening to some members to see people they know being affected by Alzheimer's. Our student body and community pulled together for the fundraiser, and we were able to collect \$1,700."

Reflecting on the students' achievements, Smith added, "It means a lot to me as an advisor seeing my FBLA members care about a cause and work together to make a difference. Axtell FBLA members did a wonderful job planning and executing a successful

fundraiser, but we could not have done it without student body support and the Axtell community support."

Ashley Shum, Fundraising Manager at the Alzheimer's Association Nebraska Chapter, said, "Axtell FBLA has shown tremendous heart. Their commitment to supporting families affected by Alzheimer's is inspiring, and we're grateful for the difference they're making."

The Alzheimer's Association thanks the Axtell FBLA Chapter for their dedication and generosity. Their efforts reflect the true spirit of service and provide hope to the millions of Americans living with Alzheimer's and their families.

For more information about the Walk to End Alzheimer's or to learn how to get involved, visit [act.alz.org/Kearney](http://act.alz.org/Kearney).



KEARNEY COUNTY  
HEALTH SERVICES

Holiday

HOURS

MERRY  
CHRISTMAS

★ Christmas Eve  
December 24th

Minden Medical Clinic  
Open Until Noon

★ Christmas Day  
December 25th

Offices & Clinics  
CLOSED

★ Friday  
December 26th

Normal Hours  
8am-5pm

\* HAPPY \*

New Year

★ New Year's Eve  
December 31st

Minden Medical Clinic  
Open Until Noon

★ New Year's Day  
January 1st

Offices & Clinics  
CLOSED

★ Friday  
January 2nd

Normal Hours  
8am-5pm

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MINDEN

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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, Dec. 19: BREAKFAST: Long John, hard boiled egg; LUNCH: Stuffed crust pizza

### ACTIVITIES:

Friday, Dec. 19: End of 2nd Quarter; Early dismissal, 12 p.m.; V/JV Girls WR @ Flatwater Fracas, 9 a.m.; HS Band/Choir Concert & Soup Supper, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 20: V Boys WR @ Boone Central Invite, 9 a.m.; 9th Girls & Boys BB @ Kearney Invite, 9 a.m.; V/JV Girls WR @ Flatwater Fracas, 9 a.m.

Monday, Dec 22—Friday, Jan. 2: NO SCHOOL

Wednesday, Dec. 24—Sunday, Dec. 28: NSAA Five-Day Moratorium

## Axtell Community School

### MENUS:

Friday, Dec. 19: LUNCH: Sack Lunch for Finals

### ACTIVITIES:

Friday, Dec. 19: FINALS; JV Boys & Girls BB vs. Amherst,

4:30 p.m.; Girls BB vs. Amherst, 6 p.m.; Boys BB vs. Amherst, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 20: Girls & Boys WR @ Cambridge Invite, 10 a.m.

Monday, Dec. 22—Jan. 5: NO SCHOOL

Wednesday, Dec. 24—Sunday, Dec. 28: NSAA Five-Day Moratorium

## 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.

### ACTIVITIES:

Friday, Dec. 19: FFA Fruit Delivery; End of 2nd Quarter, 2:40 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 20: FFA Fruit Delivery; Girls & Boys WR @ Cambridge Invite, 10 a.m.; V/JV Boys & Girls BB vs. Pleasanton, 1 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 22—Friday, Jan. 5: NO SCHOOL

Tuesday, Dec. 23: 7-12 Team meeting, 7:45 a.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 24—Sunday, Dec. 28: NSAA Five-Day Moratorium

## Community Services

### Dinner Menus

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

Monday, Dec. 22: Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, dinner roll, fruit and dessert

Tuesday, Dec. 23: Spaghetti, green beans, garlic bread and fruit

Wednesday, Dec. 24: Center Closed Merry Christmas

Thursday, Dec. 25: Center Closed Merry Christmas

Friday, Dec. 26: Sausage gravy and biscuits, salad, fruit and dessert

### RYDE Transportation For All Ages

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

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

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

# Bowling Standings

## Classey Lassies 12-4-25

### Team Standings:

	W	L
Aurora Coop-Keene	4	0
Platte River BBQ	4	0
Split Happens	3.5	0.5
Skye's The Limit Salon	3	1
Upland Bar & Grill	1	3
Dobish Dumpsters	0.5	3.5
Larson Bros Construction	0	4
Pony Express Ford	0	4
High Individual Game: Betty Smith, 192; Kasey Welch, 189; Amanda Rasmussen, 182		
High Individual Series: Betty Smith, 516; Kasey Welch, 468; Amanda Rasmussen, 460		
High Team Game: Platte River BBQ, 449; Aurora Coop-Keene, 424; Skye's The Limit Salon, 419		
High Team Series: Platte River BBQ, 1221; Skye's The Limit Salon, 1220; Split Happens, 1213		

## Sunday Mixed 12-7-25

### Team Standings:

	W	L
Flinstones	21	7
3 Chicks & A Stick	19	9
Lucky Dogs	14	14
Travelers	14	14
Bowling Stones	13	15
High Individual Game, Men: Randy Durand, 187; Cody Wyatt, 182; Marty Misk & Calvin Durand, 180		
High Individual Game, Women: Laurie Wright, 176; Sheri Wyatt, 161; Betty Smith, 154		
High Individual Series, Men: Randy Durand, 510; Calvin Durand, 477; Cody Wyatt, 447		
High Individual Series, Woman: Laurie Wright, 462; Sheri Wyatt, 425; Betty Smith, 420		
High Team Game: Flinstones, 576; Lucky Dogs, 547; Travelers, 524		
High Team Series: Flinstones, 1608; Bowling Stones, 1537; Lucky Dogs, 1512		

## Minden Unified Association 11-27-25

### Team Standings:

	W	L
Joyce Farms	182	130
Miller Body	162.5	152.5
First Bank	149.5	161.5
APEX	96	168
High Individual Game: Dusty Space, 233; Shawn Nelson, 214; Jeff Miller & Dustin Schwenka, 183		
High Individual Series: Dusty Space, 575; Shawn Nelson, 558; Jeff Miller, 494		
High Team Game: Miller Body, 680; Joyce Farms, 623; First Bank, 561		
High Team Series: Miller Body, 2005; Joyce Farms, 1734; First Bank, 1635		

# Click-It Advertisers

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Bethany Home provides skilled nursing care, assisted living, memory care, rehabilitation care, and more in Minden.

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**Kim Snavely  
Agent**

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kimsnavely.com

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Friday-Saturday  
Make Reservations**

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Innkeepers Bob & Linda Ard

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Kearney County Hospital  
& Senior Life Solutions**

To provide exceptional family-centered  
care while strengthening the health  
and well-being of our community

727 East First Street • Minden, NE 68959  
Email: info@kchs.org  
308-832-3400  
www.kchs.org

Find us online @  
**themindencourier.com**



# Do You Remember

## Eighty Years Ago — 1945

An early freeze, coupled with a shortage of moisture, indicated corn yields were to be considerably lower than the August estimates.

Kearney County went over the top with much to spare in the final Victory Loan drive for bonds. Richard Armstrong, chairman of the last campaign, stated that never from the opening day did he question the final outcome.

After four years, the Christmas lights on the courthouse would be turned on. A mixed chorus, comprising 60 voices, sang several Christmas carols.

## Seventy Years Ago — 1955

The highest award in the York Rite of Free masonry, the York Cross of Honor, was given to Charles John Lehmkuhl of Minden, during the York Cross of Honor meeting in Omaha. The honorary degree was conferred only on those who had held the highest office in each of the four bodies of the rite.

Mervin Peterson was among the farm placement representatives given credit for outstanding performance in locating jobs. The work was voluntary and was performed in connection with the Nebraska employment service.

Mrs. Howard Ream entertained at a birthday party in honor of Anna Hokser on her 91st birthday.

## Sixty Years Ago — 1965

Grant Meiner, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Meiner, was promoted to lieutenant junior in the U.S. Navy. He was stationed at Oak Harbor, Wash., after spending two months at Vietnam aboard the aircraft carrier, U.S.S. Independence.

"An Old-Fashioned Christmas" was the theme of the concerts given by the Minden schools in a two-evening presentation. Directors were Mrs. Charles Heinrich, Bill Larson and R.E. Witte.

The Axtell Junior Woman's Club and the Axtell firemen hosted Santa Claus Day with free cartoons and a visit from jolly old St. Nicholas at the community building.

## Fifty Years Ago — 1975

Linda Nelson and Veronica Ruge were \$5 winners at the Bank Night drawing. Winners needed to be present in one of the participating stores when the drawing occurred. Both winners were in the Ben Franklin store.

Nebraska State Savings and Loan sponsored a Dress-a-Doll contest. The dolls were judged by Joan Kopf and Nancy Tomsen and winners were Agnes Garrison, Orral Baacke, Gigi Sorensen, Anna Bower, Jean Sorensen, Kathy Bienhoff and Senga Garrison. All dolls were sent to needy children.

Licensed as city street superintendent was Thomas B. Kenney.

## Forty Years Ago — 1985

Senior Adrienne Benz of Hildreth won the local Voice of Democracy speech contest. Janelle Harms placed second and Tami Lindau placed third.

The Air Care helicopter from Kearney's Good Samaritan Hospital landed at the Kearney County Community Hospital. Personnel on the helicopter demonstrated how patients

should be prepared for flight and gave information on safety measures to be used around the helicopter.

A television crew from WOW in Omaha came to Minden to film the presentation of the "Light of the World" Christmas pageant.



**2015** — The Minden Lions Club held its 2015 Holiday Lighting Contest with four categories: Griswold, Elegant, Animated, and Religious. The overall 100 Year Lights winner was Dean and Julie Zoerb.

The live presentation was sent via satellite from the truck and viewed by over 20 communities in the Omaha area.

## Thirty Years Ago — 1995

Axtell wrestlers had a good start to their season by placing fifth in the Harvard Invite. Reaching the championship finals were Adam Sandburg and David Schledewitz.

The Minden City Council stepped up plans to build an incinerator that could handle 21 tons of waste a day and would cost between \$750,000 to \$1 million dollars to construct.

The Minden Technology Committee announced that local access to the Internet was available in Minden.

## Twenty Years Ago — 2005

The Lady Whippets basketball team picked up the Southwest Conference win over Broken Bow, 54-52, to keep their record unblemished at 3-0. Minden senior guard Becky Jameson scored 15 points in the win.

Kearney County was one of 39 Nebraska counties being evaluated for possible federal funding due to damage caused by the November 27-28 blizzard that struck Nebraska. Among the damage throughout the county was \$38,500 of damage to the Axtell Fire Hall.

A cornerstone dedication was held during a December 11 ceremony at the site of the new FSA building on south Highway 10. The ceremony was conducted by the Masons of Nebraska and Rob Morris Lodge No. 46 of Kearney.

## Ten Years Ago — 2015

After nearly two months, the Breakaway opened its doors to the public on December 10 with its original moniker but new owners. Aaron and Kelinda Gilg of Kearney chose to keep the bar's name for simplicity and convenience.

The Jazzethyst 2015 tour took place with the Minden High School music department including the show choir, Amethyst, concert choir and instrumental ensemble performing all day long. The groups made stops on NTV, Daylight Donuts in Kearney, Minden Senior Center, Bethany Home, Methodist Women Luncheon, Long Term Care and East Elementary.

The pop-up gallery 'Art on the Square with Holiday Flair' showcased talent from around the area. In addition to the paintings, sculptures, glass work, and jewelry, music talents performed and local vendors held special events like wine tastings.



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

**Erin Pittz, Agent**

# For the Record

## Kearney County District Court

State vs. Lauren Durbin, Minden, felony-bind over 2 COUNTS possess controlled substance; 11-21-25

State vs. Dallas E. Dean, Kearney, felony-bind over Del/dsp/dst/pos cntrl subs-Sch 1,2,3; 12-8-25

Kathleen R. Huddleston, Minden, InRe Name Change; 12-4-25

## Kearney County County Court

Osman E. Argueta Cruz, Broken Bow, no operator's license/waiverable, fine \$75, Nebraska State Patrol Officer Wroblewski, 11-19-25

Joshua W. Lange, Minden, COUNT I: willful reckless driving-1st offense, fine 60 days jail; COUNT II: attempt of a class 1 misdemeanor, fine 60 days jail, Minden Police Officer Shrader, 8-3-24

James L. Nielsen, Osceola, speeding 11-15 MPH County/State, fine \$125, Nebraska State Patrol Officer Buhlke, 11-16-25

Tosha M. Savage, Ravenna, speeding 11-15 MPH County/State, fine \$125, Nebraska State Patrol Officer Margrit, 10-24-25

Branden L. Barnes, Holdrege, COUNT I: criminal mischief- \$0-500, fine \$150, restitution \$230; COUNT II: disturbing the peace, fine 10 days jail, 10 days credit for time served; COUNT III: criminal mischief- \$0-500, fine \$150; Kearney County Sheriff, 7-22-25

Leanne R. Atchison, Kearney, attempt of a class 4 felony, fine 60 days jail, probation 18 months, \$500 restitution, probation 12 months, Minden Police Officer Kerns, 9-18-23

Christopher A. Reeves, Minden, COUNT I: obstruct a peace officer, fine \$500, probation 6 months; COUNT II: refuse to submit to test-1st offense, fine \$500, probation 6 months, 60 days revoked license; Minden Police Officer Graham, 12-4-25

Heidi E. Sloane, Leakey, Texas, speeding 6-10 MPH County/State, fine \$75, Nebraska State Patrol Officer Bauer, 10-15-25

Hannah K. Fries, Minden, speeding 6-10 MPH County/State, fine \$75, Nebraska State Patrol Officer Bauer, 10-16-25

Andres M. Marquez Erives, Hastings, speeding 6-10 MPH County/State, fine \$25, Nebraska State Patrol Officer Lassen, 2-26-25

Dillon Durham, Campbell, no valid registration-car/pick up/step van, fine \$25, Nebraska State Patrol Officer Lassen, 11-12-25

Richard Garcia, Kearney, COUNT I: license vehicle without liability insurance, fine \$100; COUNT II: speeding 6-10 MPH County/State, fine \$25, Nebraska State Patrol Officer Margrit, 7-30-25

Ashton Kring, Axtell, speeding 11-15 MPH County/

State, fine \$125, Nebraska State Patrol Officer Margrit, 9-19-25

Charlotte Dvorak, Kearney, speeding 6-10 MPH County/State, fine \$75, Nebraska State Patrol Officer Margrit, 11-20-25

Bill J. Winberg, Kearney, DUI-alcohol-1st offense, fine \$500, 4 months probation court, 60 days revoked license, Nebraska State Patrol Officer Gonzalez, 1-26-25

Jacob L. Palmer, Peotone, Illinois, speeding 11-15 MPH County/State, fine \$75, Nebraska State Patrol Officer Evans, 7-21-25

Kevin M. Jameson, Kenesaw, violate stop or yield sign, fine \$75, Kearney County Sheriff Officer Larsen, 10-24-25

Jose A. Donato, Juniata, careless driving, fine \$100, Kearney County Sheriff Officer Struss, 11-3-25

Angel G. Madriz-Navarrete, Minden, fail to yield ROW-entering roadway, fine \$25, Kearney County Sheriff Officer Eshleman, 10-31-25

Nolan V. Meyers, Arapahoe, following too close, fine \$50, Kearney County Sheriff Officer, 11-2-25

## Minden Fire & Rescue

11-29-25—The Minden Emergency Unit was dispatched.

12-2-25—The Minden Emergency Unit was dispatched to 84 & E. 32.

12-2-25—The Minden Emergency Unit was dispatched to Highway 10 & P Road for a concussion.

12-3-25—The Minden Emergency Unit was dispatched to N. Hubbard Avenue for back pain.

12-6-25—The Minden Emergency Unit was dispatched to Ridge Street for a personal illness.

12-8-25—The Minden Emergency Unit was dispatched to Highway 10 & V Road for a 2-vehicle accident.

12-8-25—The Minden Emergency Unit was dispatched to Bethany Home for a personal injury.

12-8-25—The Minden Emergency Unit was dispatched to N. Hubbard for a personal illness.

12-8-25—The Minden Emergency Unit was dispatched to E. 2nd Street for a personal illness.

12-10-25—The Minden Fire & Rescue was dispatched to 40 Road for a tractor fire.

12-10-25—The Minden Emergency Unit was dispatched to E. 7th Street for a personal injury.

12-10-25—The Minden Emergency Unit was dispatched to KCHS for an interfaculty transfer to Good Sam.

## Axtell Fire & Rescue

11-26-25—The Axtell Emergency Unit was dispatched to A Avenue for a personal illness.

12-9-25—The Axtell Emergency Unit was dispatched to Mosaic for a personal illness and transport to Phelps Memorial.

12-9-25—The Axtell Emergency Unit was dispatched to Mosaic for a personal illness and transport to Good Sam Hospital.

## Kearney County Sheriff

11-29-25, A vehicle driven by Jace Anthony Green, Hastings, was traveling eastbound on 50A Link when a deer ran from the south ditch colliding with the vehicle. Estimated damage: \$3,000.

12-6-25, A vehicle driven by Angela A. Finn, Minden, was traveling southbound on Highway 10 when a deer ran eastbound across the road and struck the passenger side of the vehicle. Estimated damage: \$1,000.

11-29-25, A vehicle driven by Zachary William Fautett, Kearney, was traveling westbound on Highway 6, crossed onto a patch of black ice, went off the right side of the road into the ditch, rolling to the left side of the vehicle. Estimated damage: \$10,000.

11-29-25, A vehicle driven by Elizabeth E. Bock, Minden, was going south on Highway 44 when the driver lost control on the ice, spun around and entered the east ditch striking a road sign pole. Estimated damage: \$4,000.

## Kearney County Sheriff's Office Investigating Fatal Two-Vehicle Crash

PRESS RELEASE

The Kearney County Sheriff's Office is investigating a fatal two-vehicle crash that occurred on December 8, 2025 at approximately 7:32 a.m. near Highway 10 and Fort Kearney Road.

Deputies arrived to find a white Ford F-250 pickup and a tan GMC SUV with extensive damage. The GMC SUV was traveling northbound on Highway 10, and the Ford F-250 was traveling eastbound on the 50-A Link when the vehicles collided at the intersection.

The driver of the GMC SUV, Saul Barboza Montano of Minden, was pronounced deceased at the scene. The family has been notified.

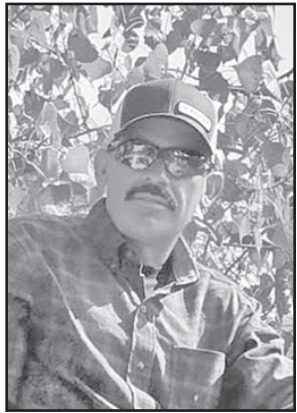
The driver, Cory A. Rady of Indiana, and passenger, Damian Wells of North Carolina, of the Ford pickup were using seat belt restraints and sustained non-life-threatening injuries. They were both transported to a local medical facility for treatment. The driver of the GMC was not wearing a seat belt at the time of the crash. Two independent witnesses were identified at the scene and provided statements to investigators. Their cooperation is appreciated.

The Kearney County Sheriff's Office continues to investigate the circumstances of the crash with assistance from the Nebraska State Patrol, the Minden Volunteer Fire Department, Good Samaritan Hospital and EMS, and the Kearney County Attorney's Office. We also extend our gratitude to the good samaritans who stopped to help.



# Obituaries

## Saul Barboza Mantano, 45 - Minden Resident



Saul Barboza Mantano, 45, of Minden passed away on Monday, December 8, 2025, as the result of a motor vehicle accident. A Memorial Mass were held on Tuesday, December 16, 2025, at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Minden with Fr. Evan Winter officiating. Inurnment will be held in Tamazula de Gordiano Mexico at a later date. There was no visitation. In lieu of flowers, memorials in Saul's honor are kindly suggested to the family for future designation. Arrangements are under the care of Craig Funeral Home in Minden.

Saul Barboza Mantano was born, the youngest of five, on September 28, 1980, to Juan Barboza and Rebeca Mantano De Barboza in Tamazula de Gordiano, Mexico. He grew up in Mexico and attended school there until moving to the United States in 2004.

He was blessed with three children: Juan, Emili, and Saul Jr. The family made their home in Minden and Kearney. Saul was employed in various fields and specialized in welding and farming. He enjoyed fishing, camping, gardening, and animals, especially raising chickens and quail. Saul loved his family and was considered a father figure by most of his nieces and nephews. He was great at teaching life lessons.

Those left to cherish his memory include his children, Juan Barboza, Emili Barboza, and Saul Barboza, Jr. all of Kearney; mother, Rebeca Mantano De Barboza of Sidney; brothers, Juan Barboza and Efrain Barboza both of Mexico; sisters, Maria Barboza of Minden and Amparo (Lloyd) Stott of Sidney; as well as a host of nieces, nephews, extended relatives and close friends.

He was preceded in death by his father, Juan Barboza.

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

## Melanie J. Lantis, 58 - Deshler Resident



Former Hastings resident, Melanie J. Lantis 58, passed away Sunday, December 7, 2025, at her home in Deshler Nebraska.

Celebration of Life will be at 1:00 p.m., Friday, December 19, 2025, at Butler Volland Funeral Home in Hastings with Father Mark Seiker officiating. Graveside service will follow at St. Joseph's Cemetery in Giltner, NE. to be buried by her son. Rosary will be 7:00 p.m. Thursday, December 18, 2025, at Butler Volland funeral home, and visitation will be 1-8 p.m. with the family present from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Memorials may be given to the family to be established at a later date. The service will be live-streamed on Livingston Butler Volland Funeral Home's website. To view the service, go to Melanie's obituary

and click the play button shown toward the bottom of the page. Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.lbvfh.com](http://www.lbvfh.com). Livingston Butler Volland Funeral Home & Cremation Center is serving the family.

Melanie was born to Edward and Janet (Rader) Soucie on April 11, 1967 in Grand Island, NE. She married Gary Lee Lantis on June 2, 1989. To this union 3 boys were born Jamie Lee, Christopher Lee and Jeffrey Edward. They later divorced.

Melanie resided and worked in Kearney, NE. She had an Associates Degree in Applied Sciences and Early Child Development. She used this degree while working at

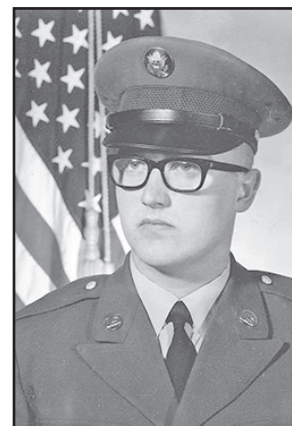
Headstart. Then moving to DSN in Kearney working with mentally under developed persons. She later decided to spread her heart in the field and invited two different individuals to live in her home and provided love and care to these persons as she had with everyone she came in contact with. She gave up this passion eventually because of serious health issues. She enjoyed doing crafts and her love grew when her granddaughters joined in on her love. They were the light of her life.

In her boys' younger years she would do anything to spend time with them. Hunting, fishing, and many hours of video games. She also enjoyed gardening and time with her sisters and their families. She enjoyed making things new and interesting and pleasure of hers was to redecorate her living space.

Melanie was preceded in death by her parents, grandparents, two nephews and her beloved son, Jamie Lee Lantis.

She is survived by: Sons & Spouse: Christopher Lee & Candice Lantis, and Jeffrey Edward Lantis; Grandchildren: Kaia, Edyn, McKayla, and Keyton; Stepmother: Elaine Soucie; Brothers & Spouses: Greg & Patricia Soucie, and Dan & Tammy Soucie; Sisters & Spouses: Becky & Randy Sorensen, Lisa & Melvin Trausch, Valerie & Dale Engel, Angela & Mark Allen; Former Husband: Gary Lee Lantis; Numerous Nieces, Nephews, other extended family and many friends.

## Marlin L. Larsen, 73 - Minden Resident



Marlin L. Larsen, 73, of Minden, passed away on Saturday, December 13, 2025 at his home. Funeral services were held on Wednesday, December 17, 2025 at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Minden with Rev. William Zwick officiating. The service was streamed to the church's YouTube page. Interment was held following the service at the Minden Cemetery with military honors presented by the Minden American Legion and Heartwell Veterans of Foreign Wars. Visitation was held one hour prior to service time. Memorials in Marlin's honor are kindly suggested to St. Paul Lutheran Church or to the family for future designation. Arrangements are under the care of Craig Funeral Home in Minden.

Marlin Leroy Larsen was born on October 1, 1952, to Leo and Esther (Sinsel) Larsen at the Seeley Hospital in Minden. He grew up on the family farm and attended country school. He finished his education in Minden, graduating in 1970.

He met his wife, Linda Whitsell, on a blind date while she was visiting Minden. They were married on January 14, 1972, and were blessed with one son, Douglas. Marlin was drafted into the United States Army and served from 1973 until 1975, spending one year in Korea. He was employed by Piester Manufacturing and later took over the family farm operation.

Marlin was a lifelong member of St. Paul Lutheran Church where he was baptized, confirmed and married. He enjoyed gunsmithing, hunting, fishing, blacksmithing and stationary engines.

Those left to cherish his memory include his wife of 53 years, Linda of Minden; son, Douglas and his wife, Steph of Minden; beloved granddaughters, Emily and Kimberly; sister, Sheryl Morris; sisters-in-law, Karen Baskett and Linda Whitsell; brother-in-law, Bruce Whitsell and his wife, Pat; as well as a host of nieces, nephews, extended relatives and close friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; infant sister, Karen; father and mother-in-law, Bill Whitsell and Helen Rumsby; sister-in-law, Kay Whitsell; brothers-in-law, Larry Whitsell and Myron Morris; uncle, Clarence Sinsel; and aunt, Doris Nielsen.

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

# Church Directory

## Axtell

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

**Marcia Dorn, Pastor**

Sunday, Dec. 21: 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, Dec. 21: Fellowship & Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship service, 10:30 a.m.  
Wednesday, Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Service, 6 p.m.

**Keene Evangelical Free**

662 F Road  
308-743-2611

**Matthew Snell, Pastor**

Sunday, Dec. 21: Worship service, 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.; Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 24: Evening Bible Study, 7 p.m.

**Trinity Lutheran, LCMC**  
104 E. Fifth St.

**Craig Richardson, Pastor**

Sunday, Dec. 21: Donuts & Juice, Sunday School & Program Practice, 9:30 a.m.; AM Sunday School Program, 10:30 a.m.; PM Bible Study, 12:45 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 22: Bible Study, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Worship/Communion, 5:30 p.m.

## Campbell

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

Saturday, Dec. 20: Mass, 5 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 21: Mass, 8 a.m.

**Trinity Lutheran**  
360 So. Stewart  
(402) 756-8552

**Greg Volsky, Vacancy Pastor**

Sunday, Dec. 21: Worship, 9:30 a.m. with Sunday school to follow

**United Westminster Presbyterian**

Broad and Main Street  
**Mark A. Diehl, Pastor**

Sunday, Dec. 21: Worship, 10 a.m.

## Funk

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

Sunday, Dec. 21: 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, Dec. 21: Worship, 10:30 a.m.

**Holy Family Catholic Mission Parish**

287 Jefferson Street  
**Father Evan Winter**

Sunday, Dec. 21: Mass, 8:30 a.m.

## Hildreth

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

Sunday, Dec. 21: 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, Dec. 21: 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, Dec. 21: Worship service, 9 a.m.

## Minden

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

**Don Hunzeker, Pastor**  
**Julie Schmidt, Parish Ministry Associate**

Thursday, Dec. 18: Men's Prayer Breakfast, 7 a.m.

Saturday, Dec. 20: Walking, 8 a.m.

Sunday, Dec. 21: Contemporary Worship, 8:30 a.m.; Blended-Traditional Worship, 10:30 a.m.; Blue Christmas Service, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 24: Candlelight Services, 7 p.m. & 11 p.m.

Stay connected with our website, Bethanyminden.org

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

**Tom Barnes, Lige Reed,**

## Pastors

Sunday, Dec. 21: Worship, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday School, 11 a.m.

**First Christian Church Disciples of Christ**  
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Sunday, Dec. 21: Worship service, 9:30 a.m.; Coffee Fellowship after worship services; Sunday School, 11 a.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 23: Christmas Eve-Eve Service, 6:30 p.m.  
Ladies' Bible Study Tuesdays @ Bloomfield Home, 9 a.m.

**Fredericksburg Lutheran**

616 33 Road  
**Julie Schmidt, Parish Ministry Associate**

**Don Hunzeker, Pastor**  
Sunday, Dec. 21: Worship, 9:30 a.m.; Fellowship Coffee 10:30 a.m.

Communion served 2nd Monday each month

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

**Father Evan Winter**

Saturday, Dec. 20: Mass, 5:30 p.m., confessions before Mass

Sunday, Dec. 21: 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, Dec. 19: Breakfast & Prayer, 7 a.m.

Sunday, Dec. 21: Bible Study, 9 a.m.; Worship/Communion, 10:15 a.m.; Caroling & Cookie Plates, 3:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 23: Choir Practice, 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 24: Worship, Carols & Candles, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 25: Worship & Communion, 10:15 a.m.

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

Sunday, Dec. 21: Worship, 10 a.m.; Confirmation, 11:15 a.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Service, 7 p.m.

**Westminster United Presbyterian**  
109 N. Colorado

**Sharon Rees, Pastor**  
Sunday, Dec. 21: Christmas Cantana, 9:30 a.m.; Coffee Fellowship, 10:30 a.m. Communion 1st Sundays

Wednesday, Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 5 p.m.

## Wilcox

**St. John's Lutheran**  
102 S. Stockton St.

**Kenton Birtell, Pastor**  
Sunday, Dec. 21: Worship, 9:30 a.m.

Holy Communion every other Sunday

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

Sunday, Dec. 21: 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, Dec. 21: 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.

## This week's Market Report is sponsored by:

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## For the week ending December 13, 2025.

Nebraska Weekly Grain Prices, Omaha-Council Bluffs  
US No. 2 Yellow Corn: \$4.21-\$4.39  
US No. 1 Soybeans \$10.22-\$10.39  
Steers – Medium and Large 1 (Per Cwt./Actual Wt.)  
Weight Range – 650-699; Avg. Weight – 669; Price Range – \$371-\$422; Average Price - \$409.52  
Heifers – Medium and Large 1 (Per Cwt./Actual Wt.)  
Weight Range – 550-595; Avg. Weight – 573; Price Range - \$382.50-\$457; Average Price - \$411.42



# These Local Houses of Worship Welcome You During This Holiday Season!

**Westminster United Presbyterian Church**  
 109 N. Colorado, Minden • 832-2170  
**Wednesday, December 24**  
 Christmas Eve  
 Candlelight Service  
 at 5:00pm  
*Communion will be served.*

**Christmas Eve**  
 CANDLELIGHT  
 SERVICE



**Christmas Eve**  
**Wednesday, Dec. 24**  
**5:00 p.m.**  
**Candlelight Service**


**Minden Evangelical Free Church**  
**1310 W. First St., Minden • 832-1574**

**Bethany Lutheran Church**  
**437 E. Fourth, Minden • Phone 832-1886**  
**Wednesday, Dec. 24**  
**7 & 11 p.m.**  
 Christmas Eve  
 Candlelight Service  
7 pm service will be live streamed on youtube -  
 Bethanylutheranchurchminden or links will  
 be on our Facebook page or website



*Joy to the World*

**Christmas Eve**  
**Wednesday, Dec. 24**  
 Christmas  
 Candlelight, 7pm



**Minden**  
**United Methodist Church**  
 Pastor Peter Choi  
 340 N. Newell, Minden • 832-1995

**Christmas Blessings**

**Christmas Eve,**  
**Wednesday, Dec. 24**  
 Family Service - 5pm  
 Candlelight Service  
 11pm  
*All Are Welcome!*



**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
**502 Sanders Ave., Hildreth, NE**  
**308-938-3395**

**Come Home  
 for Christmas!**

St. John The Baptist Catholic Church  
 624 North Garber Ave., Minden  
 832-1245

**Wednesday, Dec. 24**  
**Christmas Eve Mass**  
 4 p.m. English  
 7 p.m. Spanish  
 11 p.m. English

◆◆◆◆

**Thursday, Dec. 25**  
**Christmas Day Mass**  
 9 a.m. Holy Family  
 (Heartwell)  
 11 a.m. English



*Christmas Brings Light & Life*



**Christmas Services  
 Schedule**

**Christmas Eve Service**  
 Wednesday, Dec. 24 at 7 pm  
*Carols and Candles*

**Christmas Day Service**  
 Thursday, Dec. 25 at 10:15 a.m.  
*Worship and Holy Communion*

**First Sunday after Christmas**  
 Sunday, Dec. 28 at 10:15 a.m.  
*Worship*

**St. Paul Lutheran Church**  
 206 N. Colorado Ave., Minden  
 308.832.1343 – stpaulminden@gmail.com

Join Bethany Lutheran  
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 during the past year.  
 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21  
 Open to community  
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## Two Falcons Medal at Southern Valley Invite

PHIL SERRONE

Wilcox-Hildreth kept their strong start to the wrestling season rolling as the team traveled to Southern Valley High School for the Randy Glur Invitational on Dec. 12. The Falcons had placed ninth overall in a crowded field of 16 other schools with a team score of 82.

Brody Patterson had the best showing for the Falcons as he picked up second place at 144 lb weight division. All three of his victories came into fruition via decisions as he pushed his season record to 5-1.

Jacob Jezbera pushed his record out to 9-1 on the season after earning third place at the 190 lb weight division. Overall, the Falcons had eight wrestlers contribute towards the team score.

The Falcons competed at the Axtell Invitational on Dec. 16. Following that meet, the team will travel to Cambridge High School on Dec. 20 for the Fran Jorgensen Invitational. We will have a full recap for both invites in next week's Courier!

Here are the following results for each wrestler at their respective weight class:

106: Mikah Eiley opened with a pin fall loss to Franklin in 0:45 then was pinned by Herskind of Sedgwick County/Fleming in 3:57

120: Cooper Woollen opened with a total fall loss to Imhof of Sedgwick County/Fleming 0-15 in 2:57 then got a bye then was pinned by Clark of Sandhills/Thedford in 3:31

138: Kyler Masters opened with a bye then pinned Hoover of Chase County in 4:39 then was pinned by Stenka of Adams Central in 3:43 then lost by majority decision 3-13 against Tikemeier of Loomis

144: Brody Patterson received a bye to start then won by decision 10-6 over Backer of Sutherland then won by majority decision 14-5 over Freeman of Loomis then lost by decision 6-8 against Hill of Arapahoe to place second

150: Drake Ritner started with a pin victory over Platt of Alma in 1:27 then was pinned by Amendt of Sedgwick County/Fleming in 5:54 then pinned Albertson of Sutherland in 1:42 then pinned Hock of Bertrand in 3:46 then was pinned by Russel of Chase County in 0:43

157: Cauby Twohig opened with a pin victory over Blake of Hitchcock County in 1:58 then pinned Marin of Sedgwick County/Fleming in 4:58 then was pinned by Harris of Sedgwick County/Fleming in 5:41 then lost by total falls 0-16 against Rasser of Red Cloud/Blue Hill in 2:07

165: Brett Woollen started with a total fall loss to Knox of Sedgwick County/Fleming 0-17 in 2:00 then received a bye then was pinned by Samson of Atwood-Rawlins County in 1:39

165: Damien Campbell opened with a pin fall loss to Hood of Adams Central in



Wilcox-Hildreth had two wrestlers earn medals this past week at the Southern Valley Invite on Dec. 12. 5. Pictured: Jacob Jezbera shoots a single leg takedown. (Courier photo by Cheri Twohig)

2:18 then received a bye then was pinned by Gonzales of Sedgwick County/Fleming in 3:52

175: Gavin Ironshell opened with a pin fall victory over Erickson of Hitchcock County in 1:50 then pinned Jorgenson of Southern Valley in 3:22 then was pinned by Reichman of Sedgwick County/Fleming in 1:51 then was pinned by Jackson of Franklin in 4:31

190: Jacob Jezbera opened with a pin fall victory over Kalvoda of Red Cloud/Blue Hill in 0:53 then pinned Broeker of Southern Valley in 2:47 then was pinned by Meyer of Loomis in 2:35 then pinned Diaz of Arapahoe in 2:18 then pinned Hubl of Hitchcock County in 4:29 to place third overall

215: Brandon Wagner started with a bye then was pinned by Koetter of Wauneta-Palisade in 5:56 then pinned Walz of Sutherland in 0:40 then pinned Ludeke of Southern Valley in 2:52 then was pinned by Treffer of Adams Central 1:33

285: Craig Bunger opened with pin fall win over Collicot of Bertrand in 0:58 then was pinned by Fairchild of Atwood-Rawlins County in 0:58 then pinned Billinger of Red Cloud/Blue Hill in 2:02 then was pinned by McLeod of Red Cloud/Blue Hill in 1:39



# Lady Cats and Falcons Tough Out Wood River Invite

PHIL SERRONE

Axtell and Wilcox-Hildreth's girls wrestling teams traveled to Wood River High School for an invitational on Dec. 13. Plenty of top wrestling programs were in attendance including 28 schools total providing plenty of chances to work on mat skills for both programs.

Neither team had a wrestler medal but some wrestlers still managed to have solid performances despite the lack of hardware. Axtell placed 21st with a team score of 22 while Wilcox-Hildreth placed 23rd overall with a team score of 19.

Jerzey Ramirez, Binzley Walz, Allison Fulmer and Taelynn Meyers each picked up pin fall victories for Axtell at the meet.

Wilcox-Hildreth had four wrestlers compete at the meet and despite not medaling anyone, each wrestler on the roster picked up a victory whether by pinfall or decision. Winners included: Dinah Culp, Ona Wilsey, Elin Patterson and Ayva Bendorf.

Both teams will have identical schedules before the holiday break. Starting off will be a road trip to Gibbon High School on Dec. 18 for an invitational. On Dec. 20, both teams will travel to Cambridge High School. We will have a full recap for both team's performances at both events in next week's paper!



Axtell and Wilcox-Hildreth's girls wrestling teams competed at the Wood River Invite on Dec. 13. Jerzey Ramirez of Axtell was the standout performer for the local girls teams finishing 3-2. Pictured: Jerzey Ramirez attempts to secure a pinfall. (Courtesy photo)

Here are the following results for each wrestler for the Axtell girls team:

105: Jerzey Ramirez started off with a pin fall win over Harlow of Conestoga in 2:28 then got pinned by Mejia of Schuyler in 1:01 then pinned Eggleston of Aurora in 2:22 then defeated Culp of Wil-Hil by decision 8-6 then was pinned by Decoff of Northwest in 2:04

120: Sadie Lorenzo started with a pinfall loss over Douthit of St.Paul in 2:16 then had a bye then lost by majority decision 1-9 to Patterson of Wil-Hil

135: Krystal Fickenschier started with a pinfall loss to Sebastian of Schuyler in 1:41 then got a bye then was pinned by Leon of Northwest in 4:03

140: Binzley Walz opened with a pinfall loss to Bohlman of Aurora in 3:16 then pinned Lind of Franklin in 0:19 then was pinned by Garcia Gomez of Grand Island in 4:54

155: Madilynn Hays opened with a pinfall loss to Morales of Schuyler then was pinned by Garrison of Grand Island in 1:46

170: Allison Fulmer opened with a pin victory over Huryta of Ravenna in 4:49 then was pinned by Ferguson of Conestoga in 1:09 then was pinned by Urbina of Gibbon in 2:01

190: Taelynn Meyers started with a pin victory over Wenzke of Ravenna in 1:04 then was pinned by Abell of Centennial in 0:33 then pinned Willis of Grand Island in 0:39 then was pinned by Pecker of Wood River in 1:44

Here are the following results for each wrestler for the Wilcox-Hildreth girls team:

105: Dinah Culp opened with a pinfall loss to Dworak of Elgin Public/Pope John in 1:28 then received a bye then won by decision 4-1 over Doane of Wood River then was beaten by decision 6-8 against Ramirez of Axtell

120: Elin Patterson started with a pin victory over Gottlob of Wood River in 5:26 then was pinned by Sebastian Schuyler in 5:11 then won by majority decision 9-1 over Lorenzo of Axtell then pinned Gonzalez of Aurora in 4:01 then was pinned by Douthit of St.Paul in 3:00

125: Ona Wilsey opened with a pin victory over Roberson of Grand Island in 1:57 then was pinned by Kuck of Northwest in 4:40 then won by decision 7-2 over Dubbs of Wood River then lost by majority decision 5-15 against Cunningham of Southern Valley/Arapahoe

130: Ayva Bendorf started with pin fall loss to Dalrymple of Northwest in 0:21 then pinned Gregg of Franklin in 2:18 then was pinned by Holder of Doniphan-Trumbull in 2:51

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# Four Dawgs Place in Top 3 at Dusters Invite

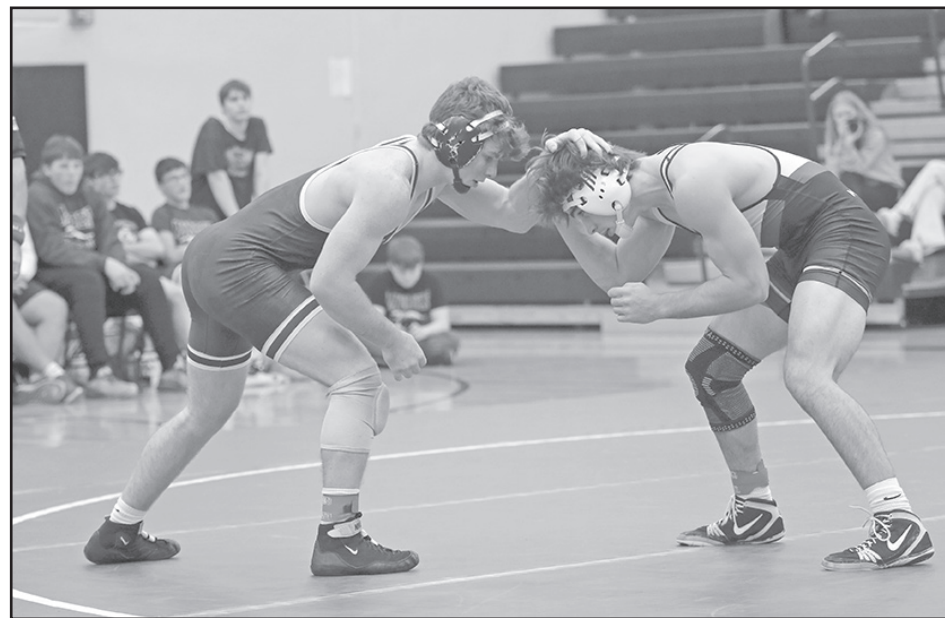
PHIL SERRONE

Closing out the second week of wrestling season for the Minden boys team was a trip to Holdrege High School on Dec. 13. The Duster Invitational hosted a total of 11 schools with plenty of highly competitive matchups throughout the day.

As a team, the Whippets placed seventh overall with a team score of 69.5. Northwest took home first place honors followed by Scottsbluff High School.

Across the board, the Whippets got strong contributions from their roster including four wrestlers placing in the top three of their respective weight class. Isaac Reed had the best finish of the afternoon for Minden as he placed second overall in the 138 lb. weight class. Byron Kring (150), Drew Seiler (215) and Parker Hatch (175) placed third at their respective weight class.

Minden will next hit the mats when the team hosts a triangular dual on Dec. 18 against Gothenburg and Aurora High School. Following that meet, the team will participate in an invitational held at Boone Central High School on Dec. 20. We will have a full recap from those meets in next week's Courier!



Minden boys wrestling team was victorious on Dec. 11 in its dual against Wood River. Closing out the week, the Whippets competed at the Duster Invite on Dec. 13 where the team saw three wrestlers finish in the top three. Pictured: Parker Hatch pushes on his opponents head to apply some leverage. (Courier photo by Phil Serrone)

Here are the following results for each wrestler at their respective weight class:

113: Morgan Johnson started with a pin victory over Gonzalez of Wayne in 3:09 then suffered an injury in the second round resulting in a loss to Brown of Scottsbluff in 2:00 then forfeited the final round

132: Lukas Labenz started with a pin loss to Clydesdale of Norton in 2:55 then won by decision 11-8 over Tilson of Holdrege then was pinned by Houser of Northwest

138: Isaac Reed earned a bye to start then won by total falls 17-2 over Amlong of Norton in 1:23 then won by total falls 18-2 over Lewis of Red Cloud/Blue Hill in 4:00 then lost by decision 4-5 to Reeves of Northwest to earn second place

150: Byron Kring opened with a pin fall loss to Marquardt of Holdrege in 0:39 then won by medical forfeit then pinned Nuss of Broken Bow in 3:38 then won by majority decision 11-1 over Dovel of Nebraska City to earn third place

157: Aaron Banuelos started with a decision loss 9-11 to Wells of Holdrege then received a bye then suffered a sudden loss 1-4 to Braun of Norton

175: Parker Hatch got a bye to open then pinned Seeman of Red Cloud/Blue Hill in

1:51 then lost by decision 5-11 to Wells of Broken Bow then won by decision 7-5 over Vieth of Northwest to earn third place

190: Christian Sorensen opened with a pin fall loss to Yendra of Northwest in 0:53 then was pinned by Rodriguez of Scottsbluff in 4:12

215: Drew Seiler opened with a pin fall victory over Holen of Holdrege in 1:44 then was pinned by Kerr of Northwest in 1:34 then pinned Railsback of Norton in 1:13 then pinned Fox of Scottsbluff in 0:54 to place third overall

## Whippets Split Duals Against Wood River

PHIL SERRONE

Heading into the second week of wrestling season was a road trip to Wood River High School for the boys and girls wrestling teams of Minden. The dual matchups were held on Dec. 11.

In the boys matchup, the Whippets toughed out a victory over Wood River by a score of 57-21. Minden had nine wrestlers in action resulting in a clean sweep with nine victories. Quickest victory of the dual went to Evan Lutkemeier who secured a pin in 18 seconds.

The girls matchup was a different outcome as the team fell to the Lady Eagles 24-60. Despite the score, the Lady Whippets had a great showing with five wrestlers picking up victories. Ultimately, it was open weights that tipped the scales in favor of Wood River with the Lady Eagles accumulating 30 points due to forfeit.

Here are the following results from Minden Boys vs Wood River:

113: Morgan Johnson won due to forfeit  
 126: Owen Hostetler was pinned by Martin in 0:46  
 132: Lukas Labenz pinned Grossart in 0:45  
 138: Isaac Reed pinned Miller in 1:00  
 144: Chad Teel lost by decision 1-6 to Johnson  
 150: Byron Kring won by majority decision 14-1 over Avila  
 157: Aaron Banuelos won by total falls 22-6 over Feh-ringer  
 165: Kanin Heath pinned Doane in 1:24  
 175: Parker Hatch pinned Wiese in 1:40  
 190: Caleb Schwenka pinned Guerrero Trejo in 1:27

215: Drew Seiler pinned Cruz in 0:40  
 285: Evan Lutkemeier pinned Gonzalez in 0:18

Here are the following results from Minden Girls vs Wood River:

105: Ella Warburton was pinned by Doane in 5:53  
 115: McKinley Segelke pinned Torres in 2:24  
 120: Ashlyn Zerr was pinned by Gottlob in 0:33  
 125: Keira Crane pinned Krolikowski in 2:00  
 130: Brinley Pohl pinned Wallace in 2:00  
 140: Marlie Petersen was pinned by Pietrzak in 1:55  
 145: Zoey Seiler was pinned by Stafford in 1:40  
 155: Cristal Gonzalez pinned Kindall in 1:49  
 170: Annika Soelberg was pinned by Johnson in 0:54



# Lady Whippets Medal Five at Crete, Dominant Keira Crane Earns First

PHIL SERRONE

The Lady Whippets wrestling team closed out their busy week with a road trip to Crete High School on Dec. 13. Plenty of schools were in attendance for the invite with 17 schools hitting the mats throughout the afternoon.

As a team, Minden placed ninth overall with a team score 82.5. Keira Crane had a tremendous performance on the mat picking up first place at the 120 lb. weight class. Her record on the season is now 10-1. This wasn't the only accolade the sophomore picked up as she notched her 50th career victory as well as broke the school record for quickest pinfall at nine seconds.

Marlie Petersen (140) earned a hard fought third place finish after winning four straight matches. Brinley Pohl, Ella Warburton and Cristal Gonzalez picked up medals at their respective weight class.

Overall, it was a great showing for Lady Whippet wrestling. The team will next be in action for two days on Dec. 19-20 at the highly competitive Flatwater Fracas dual tournament. We will have a full recap from this meet in next week's paper!

Here are the following results for each wrestler at their respective weight class:

105: Ella Warburton started with a pin fall loss to Clark of Nebraska City in 1:03 then got a bye then was pinned by Figueroa-Lopez of Ralston in 1:44 then was pinned by Aguilar of Crete in 0:49 to place sixth overall

115: McKinley Segelke started with a pin victory over Langan of Seward in 0:32 then was pinned by Meyer of Nebraska City in 2:48 then pinned Lucas Velasquez of Crete in 2:42 then was pinned by Gonzalez of Lexington in 4:39

120: Keira Crane started with a pin victory over Johnson of Omaha North in 0:45 then pinned Connolly of Ralston in 0:09 then pinned Mendoza of Lexington in 1:41 then pinned Gress of High Plains Community in 1:40 to earn first place overall

130: Brinley Pohl opened with a pin victory over Dilavou of Lincoln North Star in 3:50 then was pinned by Judd of Lincoln North Star in 3:13 then won by total falls 18-1 over Buchli of Seward in 3:35 then pinned Polite of Wilber-Clatonia in 2:43 then was pinned by Jones of Seward in 2:30 then won by medical forfeit to place fifth overall

140: Marlie Petersen opened with a bye then was

pinned by Dixon of Ralston in 2:38 then earned a pin victory over Villa of Seward in 0:40 then pinned Manjarrez Sandoval of Crete with no time provided then pinned Bey of Fairbury in 3:00 then pinned Mucito of Lincoln North Star in 1:55 to place third overall

145: Cristal Gonzalez started with a pin fall loss to Church of Lexington in 3:57 then pinned Sennett of Ralston in 4:04 then lost by decision 2-8 against Del Rio of Omaha North then was pinned by Strunk of Norris in 4:06 to place sixth overall

155: Annika Soelberg opened with a decision loss 10-11 to Lohmeier of Beatrice then was pinned by Hallsted of Seward in 2:59



The Lady Whippets wrestling team was defeated by Wood River in dual competition on Dec. 18. Minden competed at Crete Invite on Dec. 20. Keira Crane placed first in her weight division. Pictured: Ashlynn Zerr attempts to secure a pinfall. (Courier photo by Phil Serrone)

## Wildcats Dahl and Hardenbrook Medal at Tough Osceola Invite

PHIL SERRONE

After a busy start to the season that saw over 10 duals competed in for the Axtell boys wrestling team, the Wildcats continued to stay active on the mats at the Osceola Invite on Dec. 13. It was a jam packed invitational with 21 schools in attendance providing plenty of competition.

Axtell as a team finished 15th overall with 29.5 points behind Nick Dahl and Carter Hardenbrook's fourth place finish. The pair of Wildcats each picked up three pinfall victories at the meet. Dahl's record on the season now stands at 9-5 while Hardenbrook's record sits at 8-6.

The Wildcats hosted their own invitational on Dec. 16. Closing out the week, the team will travel to Cambridge High School on Dec. 19 for the Fran Jorgensen Invitational. We will have a full recap from both these meets in next week's paper!

Here are the following results for each wrestler at their respective weight class:

113: Chase Nickel started with a pin over Strom of Neligh-Oakdale in 3:02 then was pinned by Fernau of Clarkson/Leigh in 1:56 then was pinned by Jones of Howells-Dodge in 1:03 then was pinned by Sova of East Butler in 0:47

120: Luke Abbott opened with a pin fall loss to Furstenau of Neligh-Oakdale in 1:31 then was pinned by Renderos of Southern in 1:54 then pinned Cejka of East Butler in 1:40

138: Connor L'Heureux started with a pin loss to Nuttelman of Cross County/Osceola in 1:30 then was pinned by Abbott of Yutan in 2:19 then won by total falls 17-1 over Aguilar of Giltner/Harvard in 2:16

150: Samuel Kindschuh opened with pinfall loss to Gillming of Pleasanton in 0:35 then had to medically forfeit the next two rounds

157: Nick Dahl started with a pin fall loss to Pelster of Homer in 3:06 then pinned Kunasek of East Butler in 1:57 then pinned Kelsay of Southern in 0:42 then pinned Schulz of NG/SE in 1:34 then lost due to pinfall against Ideus of Southern in 1:53 to place fourth overall

165: Carter Hardenbrook opened with a pin fall victory over Ahlman of Homer in 1:15 then pinned Heskett of Southwest in 3:37 then pinned Adams of Shelby-Rising City in 3:29 then lost by majority decision 2-13 again Brown of High Plains Community then was pinned by Georges of Cross Count/Osceola in 2:44 to place fourth overall

# Wildcats Drop Three in Triple Game Week

ROGER HANSEN

Axtell's boys suited up three times in the past week and dropped contests to Silver Lake (14-70), Overton (36-65) and Harvard/Giltner (28-51). The Cats fell to 0-5.

Versus Silver Lake, Axtell hung tough in the first period trailing just 10-4. But the middle two quarters favored the Mustangs by a large margin, 43-10. Then Silver Lake was again superior in the fourth with a 15-point advantage in that period.

The Cats were 4-22 (including 3-11 on 3s) for 18% on FGs and 5-10 on FTs. They had 1 offensive and 16 defensive rebounds, 4 assists, 4 steals and 28 turnovers.

Reece Hunt had 5 points, 5 rebounds, 2 steals and 2 assists. Carter Lorenz scored 5 and Easton Bergstrom got 4 points and 3 rebounds. Warren Myers had 3 rebounds and Nolan Wells and David Sonnenfeld each had 2 rebounds.

S. Lake 10 22 21 17- 70 (2-1)  
Axtell 4 6 4 2- 16 (0-3)

AXTELL- Hunt 5, Lorenz 5, Bergstrom 4, Myers 2



Against Overton, the Cats put up their season-high in scoring. Individual stats were not available.

Axtell 12 5 8 11- 36 (0-4)  
Overton 18 17 21 9- 65 (3-0)

Back at home on December 13, Axtell hung in for about a quarter and a half before ultimately succumbing to Harvard/Giltner (a new co-op this year) 28-51.

At times in the contest Axtell had three freshmen and a sophomore on the floor. First period buckets by Hunt (two), Bergstrom and a trey from Aydan Houchin kept Axtell close. In the second quarter, four points from Kyler Kolbo helped the Cats to within five, 13-18, at 5:41, but H/G went on a 14-0 run. Myers hit a two to stop the run and at halftime H/G led 32-15.

Axtell could manage just three FTs in the third quarter but, while H/G wasn't scoring much either, the margin was extended to 42-18 by the



Axtell boys basketball team went 0-3 on the week with losses against Silver Lake, Overton and Giltner/Harvard. The team will travel to Ansley-Litchfield on Dec. 18 and host Amherst on Dec. 19. Pictured: (above) Easton Bergstrom goes up strong underneath the basket. (far left) Reece Hunt shoots his free throw attempt. (center) Carter Lorenz lines up his three point attempt. (Courier photos by Phil Serrone)

end of the third. Kolbo, Myers, Connor Strolberg and Caleb Hall put points on the board in the fourth as the Cats had a 10-9 advantage. Axtell was 5-10 (50%) from the field in the fourth. The Cats were 11-41, including 2-23 on 3s, for 27% on field goals and 4-10 on FTs with 27 turnovers. H/G was 22-67 (33%) on FGs, 5-11 on FTs and had 10 turnovers. Myers and Kolbo led the scorers with six each, Hunt had five and Bergstrom four. Unofficially, Sonnenfeld led the rebounding with five.

H/G 16 16 10 9- 51 (2-1)  
Axtell 9 6 3 10- 28 (0-5)

AXTELL- Myers 6, Kolbo 6, Hunt 5, Bergstrom 4, Houchin 3, Strolberg 2, Hall 2



# Lady Cats Finish Week Up One, Down Two

ROGER HANSEN



Axtell's girls played three games last week winning one and losing two moving the season record to 2-3.

On December 9 the Cats hosted Silver Lake and the visiting Mustangs got by Axtell 45-36.

The game was close throughout and was tied in fact after three periods 31-31. Then Silver Lake used a 14-5 advantage in the final quarter to emerge as the winner.

Leah Stritt led the Cats with 16 points while Emily Danburg scored 6, Maddie Wells 5 and Bristol Thorell 4.

Sophie Schmidt paced the Mustangs with 24 points. She was 8-8 on free throws in the fourth quarter.

S. Lake	12	13	6	14-	45 (2-1)
Axtell	10	11	10	5-	36 (1-2)

AXTELL- Stritt 16, Danburg 6, Wells 5, Thorell 4, Brooklyn DeJonge 2, Morgan Hawkins 2, Ashlynn Nelson 1

On December 12, the Cats visited Overton and were defeated 29-61.  
Overton outscored Axtell in all four periods and gradually pulled away.

Axtell	9	10	6	4-	29 (1-3)
Overton	17	12	17	15-	61 (3-0)

AXTELL- Danburg 8, Thorell 8, DeJonge 6, Wells 3, Hawkins 2, Nelson 2

The Cats closed the week claiming a win over a newly formed co-op of Harvard/Giltner 53-37 in Axtell on December 13. This was the most points Axtell had scored in a game since February of 2023 when they scored 58 in an overtime loss to Arapahoe.

The first quarter ended in a 5-5 tie and was a struggle for both teams as they combined to shoot just 3-30 from the floor (Axtell 1-12, H/G 2-18).

After that the Cats warmed up and led 21-9 at halftime. Hawkins (6), Wells (5), Danburg (5) and Thorell (4) contributed most of the first half scoring.

Axtell again had a good third quarter edging H/G 16-13 in the period to lead 37-23 through three.



The Lady Wildcats basketball team went 1-2 on the week with losses against Silver Lake and Overton. Their lone victory came over the weekend against Giltner/Harvard to push their record to 2-3 on the season. Pictured: (above) Madison Wells tussles with the defense for a loose ball. (left) Leah Stritt shows her strength as she heads towards the basket. Ashlynn Nelson lines up her free throw attempt. (Courier photos by Phil Serrone)

Danburg scored 6, Wells 4 and Hawkins 4. Danburg, Hawkins and Thorell all had at least nine rebounds at this point in the game.

Both squads scored well in the fourth period with the Cats outdoing H/G 16-15. Wells (5), Nelson (4) and Danburg (4) chipped in much of the scoring.

Axtell was 19-68 (28%) on FGs and 11-25 (44%) on FTs. The team had 17 turnovers. H/G was 14-59 (23%) on FGs, 6-16 (37%) on FTs and had 18 turnovers.

Four individuals started really well for the Cats. Danburg had a double-double of 15 points/13 rebounds and Hawkins doubled up also with 10 points and 17 rebounds. Wells had a career-best 14 points and Thorell nearly doubled up with 8 points/11 rebounds.

G/H	5	4	13	15-	37 (1-2)
Axtell	5	16	16	16-	53 (2-3)

AXTELL- Danburg 15, Wells 14, Hawkins 10, Thorell 8, Nelson 4, DeJonge 2





Scott Sinsel, Broker/Owner  
308-830-1599

**McBRIDE REALTY**  
CENTRAL PLAINS LIVING, L.L.C.



REALTOR

308-832-1800



Glenda Jacobsen, Realtor  
308-830-1000



# Falcons Fight on Court Until Final Whistle

PHIL SERRONE

The boys basketball team of Wilcox-Hildreth competed in two games this past week with a home matchup against Alma and a road trip to Shelton High School. Wilcox-Hildreth hosted Alma on Dec. 12 then faced off against Shelton on Dec. 13.

Alma overwhelmed the Wildcats for all four quarters, taking home a 27-56 victory. The Cardinals outscored the Falcons 7-19 in the first quarter. Alma followed that quarter up with another 14 points while limiting the Falcons offense to five points.

The third quarter was the best output for the Falcons offense as the team notched 10 points in the box score. Unfortunately, Alma's offense outmatched Wilcox-Hildreth's in each quarter including the fourth quarter 5-11.

Landon Lienemann and Thomas Donley paced the Falcons offense with nine points apiece. Kaleb Johnson contributed six points as well as a team-high nine rebounds. Donley was one rebound away from the lead as he collected eight boards. On defense, the Falcons picked up two blocks and two steals.

Heading into the Shelton matchup, it was a much

closer matchup compared to Alma as the Falcons came close to picking up their first win of the season. Unfortunately, the Bulldogs escaped with victory by a score of 51-56.

The Falcons had a lead after the first quarter by a score of 7-4 but the Bulldogs were able to ride a 21 point second quarter to send the game into a tie at halftime 24-24. A lackluster third quarter proved to be the edge that Shelton needed as the Bulldogs outscored the Falcons 11-17. Wilcox-Hildreth scored Shelton 16-14 in the fourth quarter but the deficit was too much for the Falcons to overcome.

Thomas Donley had his best game of the season with 25 points scored including one three pointer made. Lienemann and Johnson each collected nine points. Drew Blank had five points. No other stats were provided.

Wilcox-Hildreth will have competed on the road against Red Cloud on Dec. 16. Following that match will be two home matchups beginning on Dec. 18 against Arapahoe while concluding the week on Dec. 20 against

Pleasanton. We will have a full recap of all three games in next week's paper!



The Falcon boys basketball team was outmatched against Alma on Dec. 12 by a score of 27-56. Wilcox-Hildreth dropped a close contest the next day against Shelton 51-56. Pictured: (above) Landon Lienemann dribbles the ball up the court. (below) Thomas Donley brings down a board despite the defensive pressure. (Courier photos by Shaina Johnson)

## ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

### ALLISON FULMER - WRESTLING

**School** - Axtell Community School

**Grade** - Sophomore

**Achievements in past seasons**

**and this season** - Allison placed 3rd at a very tough Southwest tournament last week, finishing with three falls.

**Challenges she has overcome:**

This is Allison's first year of wrestling and is picking up moves as she goes.

**Attributes that have led to her**

**success:** Allison is an extremely hard worker and has a willingness to learn.

I'm excited to see what Allison can accomplish this season. She has proved to be a team player and is very supportive of all her teammates. - Coach Alex Jensen



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**PIONEER**



Here are the Wilcox-Hildreth vs Alma stats:

Points: Thomas Donley 9, Landon Lienemann 9, Kaleb Johnson 6, Cody Schriener 2, Drew Blank 1

Rebounds: Johnson 9, Donley 8, C.Schriener 2, Stetson Guthrie 2, Luke Lush 1, Lienemann 1, Kaden Schriener 1,

Assists: Johnson 2, Blank 2, C.Schriener 1

Here are the stats from Wilcox-Hildreth vs Shelton:

Points: Thomas Donley 25, Johnson 9, Lienemann 9, Blank 5, C.Schriener 2 (only stats offered)



# Lady Falcons Overwhelmed by Shelton and Alma

PHIL SERRONE

The Lady Falcons faced off against Alma and Shelton High School on Dec. 12-13 in hopes of securing their first win of the season. Unfortunately, the team will have to wait longer for that first victory as both games did not go in Wilcox-Hildreth's favor.



The Wilcox-Hildreth Lady Falcons basketball team had their record reach 0-4 on the season with losses against Alma and Shelton. Their next matchup will be Dec.20 against Pleasanton. Pictured: (above) Allegra Johnson looks to throw to an outlet after securing a rebound. (right) Chloe Johnson shoots a floater over the defense. (Courier photos by Shaina Johnson)

In the Alma matchup, Wilcox-Hildreth was overwhelmed from the first whistle as Alma ended the first quarter with a lead of 6-25. The Lady Cardinals did not take their foot off the gas in the second quarter heading into half-time with a lead of 8-46. Alma rested some of their starters in the second half which allowed Wilcox-Hildreth to outscore the opposing team 9-7 to close out the game. Final score: 17-52.

Wilcox-Hildreth had three scorers in the box score with Cheyenne Lieb leading the way with eight points. Chloe Johnson was not too far behind her teammate with seven points while Kinley Hansen finished with two points.

On the very next day, Wilcox-Hildreth traveled

to Shelton High School in hopes of breaking into the win column. Unfortunately, the Lady Falcons found similar challenges as the night before and were overwhelmed by a score of 13-50.

Lieb and Johnson tied for the team lead in points with a total of five. Hansen contributed three points. Lieb did most of her damage from the charity stripe knocking down five of six free throws.

Due to low numbers, Wilcox-Hildreth will not be competing this week against Red Cloud or Arapahoe. The Lady Falcons will next be in action on Dec.20 with a home game against Pleasanton. We will have a full recap from that game in next week's paper!

Quarter by quarter breakdown of Wilcox-Hildreth vs Alma:

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	F
Alma	25	21	7	0	52
Wilcox-Hildreth	6	2	5	4	17

Quarter by quarter breakdown of Wilcox-Hildreth vs Shelton

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	F
Wilcox-Hildreth	0	4	2	7	13
Shelton	9	14	13	14	50



## ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

### KYLER MASTERS - WRESTLING

**School** - Wilcox-Hildreth Public School  
**Grade** - Junior

**Achievements in past seasons and this season:** 2025 State Qualifier, finished with a season record of 35-23. He has started out strong this year at 3-0 and winning the Broken Bow Invite last weekend.

**Attributes that have led to his success:** Kyler has worked hard the past two years to improve himself on the mat. As an upperclassmen, he helps set a good example to underclassmen. He has the ability to compete at a top level each week and is eager to be on the podium at the state tournament this year. We are excited to see the great things he can accomplish. - Coach Justin Patterson



## RHYNALDS

Auction & Realty LLC

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2350 N. Brown, Minden

Rusty Rhynalds  
Owner/Realtor  
Auctioneer  
308.832.7407

Ron Skrdla  
Broker/Realtor  
402.469.3271

Jeff Loschen  
Realtor  
308.991.6398

Stephanie Harms  
Office Manager/  
Realtor

Online Auction

121 E 13th St. - Hastings  
2 Bed, 2 Bath, 1 car garage

\$449,000

Online Auction

3206 Ave. H - Kearney  
4 Bed, 2 Bath, 1 car det. garage

PENDING

Online Auction

41 Montgomery St. - Nelson  
4 Bed, 2 Bath, 2 car det. garage

PENDING

Online Auction

775 Brewster St. - Minden  
4 Bed, 3 Bath, 4 car garage

LOWER PRICE

850 Burlington Ave. - Hastings  
4 bed, 3 bath, 2 car det. garage

Online Auction

846 20 Road - Axtell  
4 Bed, 1 Bath, 2.68 acres

PENDING

Online Auction

2305 Home St. - Hastings  
3 Bed, 2 Bath, 3 car garage

PENDING

Online Auction

600 9th Ave. - Fairmont  
2 Bed, 1 Bath, 2 car garage

SOLD



# Whippets Battle Minutemen and Indians

ROGER HANSEN



The Whippets boys basketball team improved their record to 3-1 on the season with victories over Broken Bow and Lexington. Pictured: Luke Grollmes zips a pass past the defender hand in transition. (Courier photos by Phil Serrone)

The Minden boys defeated Lexington 60-42 at Lexington on December 9 and upended Broken Bow 75-67 in Minden on December 11 to own a 3-1 record through four games.

Versus the Minutemen, the Whippets raced out to a 36-17 lead by half-time. The second half was played pretty evenly with Lexington having a 25-24 edge in third and fourth period scoring.

Minden was 25-65 (5-25 on 3s) on field goal shooting for 38% and 5-12 at the charity stripe. The team had 16 offensive and 30 defensive rebounds, 16 assists, 7 steals and 15 turnovers.

Lexington was 16-52 (5-21 on 3s) from the floor for 30% and 5-16 on free throws. They committed 18 turnovers.

Traelin Christensen had an impressive double-double of 18 points and 19 rebounds. Luke Craig had career highs of 14 points and 8 rebounds plus 2 assists. Landon Bules drilled three 3s on his way to 13 points and added 6 rebounds and 8 assists. Luke Grollmes had 9 points, 5 rebounds and 2 assists. Cole Schwenka rolled triple threes for points, rebounds and assists. Jackson Armstrong made 2 steals, Jack Scheibel grabbed 2 rebounds and Ambrose Bloomfield dished 2 assists.

Minden 20 16 13 11- 60 (2-1)

Lexington 7 10 13 12- 42 (0-2)

MINDEN- Christensen 18, Craig 14, Bules 13, Grollmes 9, Schwenka 3, Armstrong 2, Cohen Schmidt 1

Against Broken Bow, the game was one of streaks and runs. The Indians drained six threes in the opening quarter on their way to leading 26-13 through the first period. Jackson Armstrong made two threes early in the quarter to jump start Minden.

The Whippets cut the margin to two, 34-32, at 2:31 of the second but the Indians converted two traditional three-point plays sandwiched around a four-point play, all in the final 1:08 of the first half and took a 48-37 into the halftime break. Christensen (9), Craig (5) and Armstrong (5) had the majority of Minden's points in the period.

Minden went on a 10-point run to begin the third quarter to pull to within one and eventually evened the score at 54-54 at 2:03 of the third. Armstrong canned his fourth

trey of the game with 30 seconds to go in the period but the Indians scored on their final three possessions of the third and led 60-57. Grollmes had 11 points in the third to help keep the Whippets close.

Broken Bow, after a trey in the first minute of the fourth, went nearly six minutes without scoring and Minden capitalized. Six Christensen points in the first two minutes of the period followed by a bucket from Grollmes gave the Whippets their first lead of the contest and they kept pouring it on from there. Bules made a trey and a free throw, Craig a bucket and two FTs and FTs from Christensen and Grollmes allowed Minden to keep the Indians at bay and go on for the win.

The Whippets were 23-56 (7-22 on 3s) for a FG %age of 41% and hit on 22 of 32 FTs (69%). They had 16 offensive and 24 defensive rebounds, 12 assists, 6 steals and 11 turnovers.

Broken Bow, after an early 7-10 onslaught on 3s, made only 2 of their next 20. They finished shooting 39% from the floor (22-56, including 9-30 on treys). They were 12-14 on free throws and had 10 turnovers.

Craig posted a double-double of 11 points and 12 rebounds (new high). Grollmes and Christensen tied for scoring honors tossing in 18 apiece with Grollmes getting 7 rebounds, 4 assists, 3 steals, 2 blocks and Christensen adding 9 rebounds and 3 assists. Armstrong scored a career-high 16 and Bules had 8 points, 12 rebounds and 3 assists.

Broken Bow 26 22 12 7- 67 (1-2)

Minden 13 24 20 18- 75 (3-1)

MINDEN- Grollmes 18, Christensen 18, Armstrong 16, Craig 11, Bules 8, Schwenka 3, Ambrose Bloomfield 1

## Bright Lights of Minden Winner



The Bright Lights of Minden Christmas Decorating Contest is underway and the week two winner is the Ryan and Shara Schurmann home at 239 W. 1st Street. The Schurmann home was selected by a group of secret judges as this week's favorite in the Minden Chamber of Commerce contest. The Schurmanns will receive \$75 Chamber Bucks. There is still time to join the fun and help brighten Minden this holiday season. Deck out your home with the best decorations for your chance to win Chamber Bucks and have your home featured in the Minden Courier. (Courtesy photo)



# Lady Whippets Just Getting Warmed Up

ROGER HANSEN

Minden's girls notched two wins last week knocking off Lexington 56-28 on December 9 at Lexington and then prevailing over Broken Bow 52-27 on December 11 in Minden to rise to 3-1.

Against Lexington, the Whippets got out to a 9-6 lead after one quarter and still were ahead by just five at halftime 22-17. Minden, however, had a considerable upper hand in the second half outpointing the Minute-maids 34-11.

Minden was 18-49 (6-19 on 3s) for 36% from the field and 14-22 on free throws. The team had 11 offensive and 20 defensive rebounds, 12 assists, 11 steals and 12 turnovers.

Myla Emery had a 16 point, 15 rebound double-double and added 4 assists and 4 steals. Kaleigh Carr scored 14 and had 6 rebounds and 2 assists and Ruby Rhynalds got 11 points (three 3s included), 2 rebounds and 2 steals. KayLynn Jorgensen hit a pair of 3s and put up 9 points and 2 steals and Riley Eden had 3 points, 5 rebounds and 3 assists.

Minden 9 13 16 18- 56 (2-1)  
Lexington 6 11 7 4- 28 (0-2)

MINDEN- Emery 16, Carr 14, Rhynalds 11, K. Jorgensen 9, Eden 3, Lauren Starkey 2, Macy Jorgensen 1

It took a while for the Whippets to break away from

Broken Bow. Minden led by seven at halftime, 21-14, after leading by as much as nine a couple of times in the first half.

In the third quarter the Whippets built a lead of 14 before the Indians chipped away to within eight. A traditional three-point play from Emery and a trey in the last minute of the third from Eden got the lead back to 13, 37-24, by the end of the period. Emery scored nine in the third.

A two and a three from Carr and a trey by KayLynn pushed Minden's advantage to 20 in the first three minutes of the fourth quarter. Emery and Carr drilled back-to-back threes in the final two minutes giving the Whippets their largest lead at 26 before settling for the 25-point victory.

Carr scored eight in the fourth.

Minden was 17-39 (7-14 on threes) for 43% on FGs and 11-17 on free throws. The team had 6 offensive and 25 defensive rebounds, 10 assists, 6 steals and 12 turnovers.

Broken Bow was 10-40 (3-17 on 3s) from the field for 25% and 4-8 on free throws. They also had 12 turnovers.

Emery again led with a double-double of 19 points and 10 rebounds. She also blocked two shots. Carr dropped in a career-best 16 plus having 5 rebounds and 3 assists. KayLynn scored six and got five rebounds and Eden had six points, five rebounds, three assists and two steals. Rhynalds got four points, four rebounds and two steals.



The Lady Whippets basketball team bounced back into the win column with victories over Broken Bow and Lexington. Their record on the year now stands at 3-1. Pictured: Ruby Rhynalds dribbles the ball up the court. (Courier photo by Phil Serrone)

Broken Bow 5 9 10 3- 27 (1-3)  
Minden 12 19 16 15- 52 (3-1)

MINDEN- Emery 19, Carr 16, K. Jorgensen 6, Eden 6, Rhynalds 4, M. Jorgensen 1

# Jorgensen Signs With Univ. of South Dakota

ROGER HANSEN

KayLynn Jorgensen answered some questions following her recent signing to attend the University of South Dakota for schooling and to play golf.

KayLynn: Almost everything attracted me to South Dakota. They have a great team culture and a very good coach and they have good facilities to improve my golf game. All the resources for academics will help me be the best student I can.

I also considered South Dakota State and the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO).

I think the transition to college will go well for me. My classes and workload between school and practice will increase, so I will have to learn to manage that. I think I will bring positivity to the team. I am also very competitive and will push everyone to be their best.

I am most excited for the travel and new golf courses I will get to play. I think one of biggest challenges will be 36 holes in a day at tournaments. Also, being gone multiple days in a row will bring a challenge staying caught up in school.

I will be majoring in Nursing.

Some of my favorite memories from high school and competing in golf are 1) winning a team and individual state championship; 2) van rides and eating after tournaments with the team; 3) all the team bonding activities



Minden senior KayLynn Jorgensen signed with the University of South Dakota on December 10 surrounded by family, coaches, and friends. KayLynn will continue her academic and golf career as a University of South Dakota Coyote. (Courier photo by Phil Serrone)

# Legal Notices

## NOTICE

**IN THE COUNTY COURT  
OF KEARNEY COUNTY,  
NEBRASKA ESTATE OF  
RANDALL E. HORINE,  
DECEASED  
ESTATE NO. PR 25-39**

Notice is hereby given that on December 9, 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 Randall C. Horine of 1184 L Road, Minden, Nebraska 68959 was informally appointed by the Registrar as Personal Representative of the Estate. Creditors of this Estate must file their claims with this Court on or before February 19, 2026, or be forever barred.

/s/ Laura B. Tobiasen  
Clerk of the County Court  
County Court of Kearney  
County  
P.O. Box 377  
Minden, Nebraska 68959  
Dec 18, 2025  
Dec 25, 2025  
Jan 1, 2026  
(30) znez

## NOTICE

**VILLAGE OF WILCOX  
MINUTES  
DECEMBER 9, 2025**

The Wilcox Village Board of Trustees met in regular session on December 9, 2025. Notices of the meeting were posted at the Wilcox Town Hall, Cornerstone Bank, Post Office and High Street Insurance. Agendas were mailed to each member of the Village Board. Chairman Gardels called the meeting to order and noted the Open Meetings Act. Trustees present: Gardels,

Norman Nash, Johnson and Adam. Others in attendance were: A. Greene, M. Latter, Cody Robinson, M. Gardels, R. Carey, D. Fecht. The minutes of the November 11, 2025 meeting were read and approved with the following addition requested by M. Latter regarding discussion at the November 11, 2025 meeting about drainage near her property. She states that the main issue is that the Village blocked natural drainage of water of lot behind her property. The treasurer's report was reviewed. Motion by Nash with second by Johnson to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried with all members voting in favor. The following claims were presented for payment: Syndicate 71.17; Verizon 179.81; Great Plains Com 242.10; American Legal Publishing 695.00; Hometown Leasing 106.69; CPI 377.30; Figgins Construction 46,437.15; Mid-NE Aggregate 1599.06; SPPD 346.10; NE Public Health Env Lab 380.00; Paulsen Inc. 589.54; DWEE 115.00; Wilcox Utilities 548.18; Black Hills 194.20; SPPD 2180.04; NPPD 19,946.36; Dutton-Lainson 485.91; Chemsearch 140.10; SCS 4362.95; Larsen's ACE 38.50; Visa 197.89; Cornerstone 30.00; Council 175.00; Salaries 5829.43; NE Dept of Rev. 625.35; EFTPS 1616.42; NYLife 1103.31; Transfers 81,582.75. Motion to approve all claims for payment was made by Adam with second by Nash. Motion carried unanimously. The Board reviewed all delinquent utility accounts. All nuisance properties were reviewed. One RV camper has been removed

from the 305 E. Franklin property. The trailer at 310 N. Noxon #9 is being demolished. This will be taken off the agenda after work is completed. The board reviewed cost estimate received from Miller & Associates to complete topographic elevation survey, create drainage options and provide probable construction costs in an area which includes West Addition and residences of 307, 309, 401 and 403 S. Everett St. and 408 W. Linn St. Cost of this study is \$6500.00. Motion by Norman with second by Nash to approve this proposal with Miller & Associates. Motion carried with all members voting in favor. The village will also be in contact with Miller & Associates regarding water/sewer changes and construction at the 310 N. Noxon property for re-development. Ordinance #688 – Adopting Nebraska Basic Code of Ordinances 2025 was reviewed. Motion was made by Adam to approve Ord. #688. Motion was made by Norman to suspend the three readings. Second given by Johnson. Motion carried unanimously, three readings suspended. A second to the original motion to approve Ord. #688 was given by Nash. Motion was put to a vote and carried with all members voting in favor. D. Fecht was present to discuss shipping containers in residential lots and to clarify what was discussed at the November 11th meeting that no shipping container, or secondary building can be on a residential lot without a primary structure (house). Ordinance #689 regarding shipping containers in residential area has not been completed. Further

discussion was tabled until January 13, 2026 meeting. It was also brought up about the SCS roll-offs now placed on a residential lot at this time. Ordinance regarding living in RV's was tabled until January 13, 2026 meeting. Norman made the motion to retain the following: Attorney – D. Walker; Clerk – M. Ferree; Maintenance Personnel – B. Johnson; Bank – Cornerstone Bank; Newspaper – Minden Courier; Planning Commission – R. Carey, H. Goddard, C. Gardels; Board of Health – B. Gardels, M. Twohig, K. Nash. Engineering Firm – Miller and Associates; Street Supt. Reed Miller, Lic S-514, Class A, Contract Consultant. Second was given by Adam. Motion passed with all members voting in favor. Re-Organization of the Board: Motion by Adam to retain B. Gardels as board chairman. Motion was seconded by Norman. Motion carried unanimously. The Wilcox Planning Commission presented two building permit applications reviewed at the Planning Commission meeting of December 12, 2025. #419 – K. Pinkal, fence at 208 N. Briggs was tabled until property lines are marked. #420 – Great Plains Communication, tower behind 125 S. Main St. Motion by Adam to approve building permit #420 contingent on moving electrical line. Second given by Norman. Motion carried. C. Robinson and M. Gardels representing St. John's Lutheran Church were present to request purchasing a lot at the 310 N. Noxon St. property for the future construction of a parsonage. Board requested a written proposal. This will be dis-

cussed and reviewed at the January 13, 2026 meeting of the Wilcox CDA. In other discussion, Clerk stated that new heater for office hasn't yet been installed. Also discussed utility billing software issues. B. Johnson discussed that he is removing vacant trailer at trailer court. Also discussed that water is being chlorinated at this time. With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST:  
Melinda Ferree  
Village Clerk  
ATTEST:  
Brad Gardels, Chairman  
Wilcox Village Board of  
Trustees

Dec 18, 2025  
(213) znez

**NOTICE  
NOTICE OF HEARING ON  
ADMINISTRATION IN THE  
COUNTY COURT OF  
KEARNEY COUNTY,  
NEBRASKA ESTATE OF  
JERRY KOHLER  
ESTATE NO. PR 25-40**

Notice is hereby given that a Petition for Formal Probate of Will, Determination of Heirs, and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed herein and is set for hearing in the County Court of Kearney County, Nebraska, located at 424 N Colorado Ave, Minden, Nebraska, on January 22, 2026, at 2:00 p.m.

Laura Tobiasen  
Clerk Magistrate of the  
County Court  
Address of County Court  
Kearney County Court  
P.O. Box 377  
Minden, NE 68959

Griffin E.W. Armendariz  
#28404  
garmendariz@nebraska-lawfirm.net  
Bruner Frank, L.L.C.  
5804 1st Avenue,  
P.O. Box 2230  
Kearney, NE 68848-2230  
Attorneys for Personal  
Representative  
Dec 18, 2025  
Dec 25, 2025  
Jan 1, 2026  
(36) znez

## A & L Leveling Ditch & Pit Cleaning

Minden

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Business • 832-0427





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

Notice is hereby given that the Heartwell Village Board will hold a public hearing on Monday, January 5, 2026, at 7:00 P.M. in the Town Hall at Heartwell, Nebraska, for the purpose of presenting the One and Six Year Street Improvement Program for the Village of Heartwell. The Street Program has been compiled by the Heartwell Village Board and the Heartwell Village Street Superintendent as provided by law. The Heartwell Village Board Dec 18, 2025 (19) znez

**NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION OF AQUAFOR HOLDING, LLC**  
Notice is hereby given that AquaFore Holding, LLC, a Nebraska limited liability company, has been organized pursuant to the Nebraska Uniform Limited Liability Company Act. The designated office of the Company is: 592 S Road, Axtell, NE 68924 The registered agent of the Company is: Nate Hartman, whose registered office is located at 5340 W 62nd Street, Kearney, NE 68845. The general nature of the business to be transacted by the Company is to engage in any lawful business for which a limited liability company may be organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska. The Company became effective on November 13, 2025, and will have perpetual duration unless otherwise provided in its operating agreement. Dated this 8th day of De-

cember, 2025.

Name of Organizer:  
/s/Lane Claussen  
Lane Claussen, Member of  
AquaFore Holding, LLC  
Dec 18, 2025  
Dec 25, 2025  
Jan 1, 2026  
(39) znez

**NOTICE****NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION  
OF AQUAFOR LAND, LLC**

Notice is hereby given that AquaFore Land, LLC, a Nebraska limited liability company, has been organized pursuant to the Nebraska Uniform Limited Liability Company Act. The designated office of the Company is: 592 S Road, Axtell, NE 68924 The registered agent of the Company is: Nate Hartman, whose registered office is located at 5340 W 62nd Street, Kearney, NE 68845. The general nature of the business to be transacted by the Company is to engage in any lawful business for which a limited liability company may be organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska. The Company became effective on November 13, 2025, and will have perpetual duration unless otherwise provided in its operating agreement. Dated this 8th day of De-

Name of Organizer:  
/s/Lane Claussen  
Lane Claussen,  
Member of AquaFore Land,  
LLC

Dec 18, 2025  
Dec 25, 2025  
Jan 1, 2026  
(39) znez

**NOTICE****NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION****OF BRUNING BROS, LLC**

Notice is hereby given that Bruning Bros, LLC (hereinafter referred to as "the Company") shall be considered organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska on January 1, 2026, with an effective time of 12:01 a.m. The street and mailing address of the Company's initial designated office is 1793 31 Road, Minden, Nebraska 68959. The initial agent for service of process of the Company is Jodie W. Bruning, whose street and mailing address and post office box number, if any, is 1793 31 Road, Minden, Nebraska 68959. Dated: December 1, 2025. Jodie W. Bruning and Gregory R. Bruning, Organizers.  
Dec 11, 2025  
Dec 18, 2025  
Dec 25, 2025  
(25) znez

**NOTICE****IN THE COUNTY COURT  
OF KEARNEY COUNTY,  
NEBRASKA ESTATE OF  
SANDRA L. ROYLE,  
DECEASED****ESTATE NO. PR25-41**

Notice is hereby given that on December 12, 2025 in the County Court of Kearney County, Nebraska, Terrell Dieter of 11560 721 Road, Alma, Nebraska 68920 was informally appointed by the Registrar as Personal Representative of the Estate. Creditors of this Estate must file their claims with this Court on or before February 19, 2026 or be forever barred.

/s/Laura B. Tobiassen  
Clerk of the County Court  
County Court of Kearney  
County  
P.O. Box 377  
Minden, NE 68959

Dec 18, 2025  
Dec 25, 2025  
Jan 1, 2026  
(26) znez

**NOTICE****IN THE COUNTY COURT  
OF KEARNEY COUNTY,  
NEBRASKA ESTATE OF  
RICHARD ANDERBERY,  
DECEASED****ESTATE NO. PR24-16**

Notice is hereby given that a final account and report of administration and a Petition for Complete Settlement, Probate of Will, Determination of Heirs, and Determination of Inheritance Tax have been filed and are set for hear-

ing in the County Court of Kearney County, Nebraska, located at 426 N. Colorado Ave., Minden, Nebraska 68959 on January 15, 2026, at or after 11:30 o'clock a.m. /s/ David Ray Anderbery  
David Ray Anderbery,  
Personal Representative  
495 L Road  
Axtell, NE 68924  
(308)830-3379

Douglas R. Walker, #16953  
Duncan, Walker & Schenker,  
P.C., L.L.O.  
P.O. Box 340  
Hildreth, NE 68947  
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Dec 18, 2025  
Dec 25, 2025  
Jan 1, 2026  
(33) znez

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## NOTICE

### MINDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Agendas for the December 8, 2025 meeting of the Board of Education were posted locally. Included in the notification were the time, place, date, and items on the agenda. Notice of meeting was published in the paper. Approved by the board were minutes from the meeting held November 10, financial reports, claims against the General Fund, and adding Director of Special Services. Dr. Widdifield presented the State of the Schools report. Detailed minutes of the meeting are available in the superinten-

dent's office.

DECEMBER 2025 - GENERAL FUND CLAIMS - CenturyLink, \$459.00; Minden Exchange Bank, \$35.05; Wright Express Fleet Services, \$636.61; Ameritas Life Insurance Corp., \$1,227.68; Blue Cross Blue Shield, \$197,273.82; Credit Management Services, Inc., \$436.30; Fiduciary Trust Company, \$2,000.00; Horace Mann Life Insurance Company, \$1,275.00; Madison National Life Insurance Co., Inc., \$2,579.37; Minden Exchange Bank & Trust Co., \$7,160.78; Minden Public Schools, \$114,073.83; Mps Payroll, \$143,371.36; Mps Payroll NE Income Tax, \$20,369.27; Ad-

min Partners, LLC, \$100.00; Amazon Capital Services, Inc., \$635.48; Aurora Cooperative, \$4,076.96; Black Hills Energy, \$6,073.16; Blick Art Materials, \$572.27; Breakout EDU, \$94.00; Carter Electric, \$805.45; City Of Minden, \$17,994.32; Clearly, \$823.88; DAS State Accounting - Central Finance, \$402.63; Eakes Office Solutions, \$1,719.19; Educational Service Unit #10, \$201.20; Educational Service Unit #11, \$9,505.77; Elan Financial Services, \$1,157.66; Engineered Controls, Inc., \$786.00; ESU Coordinating Council, \$553.50; Family Physical Therapy & Sports Center, P.C., \$6,786.00; Graduate Lincoln, \$576.00; Grayson Tool, \$1,718.46; Hilton Garden Inn, \$3,118.66; Hometown Leasing, \$3,855.49; John Deere Financial, \$9.46; JW Pepper

& Son, Inc., \$154.99; Kearney County Clerk, \$6,121.38; Kearney Towing & Repair Center, Inc., \$426.00; Klambunde, Melissa R, \$58.06; Landmark Implement Carquest, \$350.22; Mason's Market, \$503.21; Mhs Journalism, \$315.00; Mid-States Automation & Control, Inc., \$16,450.00; Miller Body Shop, \$250.00; Minden Hardware, \$320.64; Mousel, Rebecca A, \$44.49; Napa Auto Parts, \$292.32; Ne Association School Boards, \$2,716.00; Novus Windshield Repair, \$75.00; Omnify Benefits, \$140.40; One Source, \$114.00; Pony Express Ford, \$1,438.63; Presto-X Company, \$203.40; Protex Central, Inc., \$504.00; Rasmussen Mechanical Service, \$3,291.60; SmartPass, Inc., \$1,638.00; Syndicate Publishing, LLC, \$65.44; Teachers Pay

Teachers, \$352.99; U.S. Post Office, \$2,067.20; Verizon Wireless, \$335.64; Village Uniform, \$1,022.89; Widdifield, James T, \$360.33; Woodward's Disposal Service, Inc., \$62.50; Yanda's Music, \$69.31; Amazon Capital Services, Inc., \$245.86; Curriculum Associates, LLC, \$1,815.00; Embassy Suites, \$686.00; Family Physical Therapy & Sports Center, P.C., \$6,338.71; Menards - Kearney, \$1,224.74; NCSA, \$410.00; Pearson Clinical Assessment, \$300.00; William Macgill Co, \$71.76; Woodcraft Supply, LLC, \$41.74; December Net Payroll - \$458,076.84; Subtotal - \$1,061,417.90; LUNCH FUND CLAIMS - Sysco, \$2,565.03; Apple Acres Orchard, \$540.00; Mason's Market, \$66.93; Village Uniform, \$383.55; Cash-wa Distributing Co., \$27,058.16; LinPep-Co Partnership, \$1,687.70; Ameritas Life Insurance Corp., \$52.12; Blue Cross Blue Shield, \$4,991.47; Madison National Life Insurance Co., Inc., \$48.63; Minden Public Schools, \$2,538.25; Mps Payroll, \$2,821.12; Mps Payroll NE Income Tax, \$330.82; December Net Payroll - \$12,653.50; Subtotal - \$55,737.28; BOND FUND CLAIMS - BOK Financial Corporation, \$1,546,743.75; TOTAL CLAIMS - \$2,663,898.93. Dec 18, 2025 (141) znez

lay, Franklin County. Sealed bids will be received by the Kearney County Board of Commissioners, 424 N. Colorado, Minden, NE 68959 until 10:00 am local time on January 6, 2026. Sealed bids will then be publicly opened and read aloud.

Scope of Work: 40th and Q Road project includes traffic control, cold milling, furnishing and placing approximately 4,600 tons of Asphaltic Concrete and associated work. 28th Road project includes traffic control, furnishing and placing approximately 1,170 tons of Asphaltic Concrete and associated work.

Bids shall be submitted to: Kearney County Clerk, 424 N. Colorado, P.O. Box 339, Minden, NE 68959

Bids shall include: Bid Bond in the amount of 5% of the total base bid. Certified check, cashier's check or bid bond made payable to Owner.

Selected bidder shall supply: Performance Bond and Payment Bond in the amount of 100% of the total base bid.

Questions shall be directed to: Oak Creek Engineering, (308) 455-1152

Considerations: Contract documents can be obtained by contacting Oak Creek Engineering, (308) 455-1152. Contract documents must be purchased in hard copy, requiring a nonrefundable fee of \$40.00. Bids shall be submitted on furnished forms, sealed and marked with bidder contact information. Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids, hold bids for 30 days and select most beneficial bid.

Dec 18, 2025  
Dec 25, 2025  
Jan 1, 2026  
(65) znez



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## NOTICE

### INVITATION FOR BID

Public notice is hereby given that Kearney County, Nebraska invites sealed bids for furnishing necessary equipment, labor, materials and incidentals to complete 40TH and Q Road Asphalt Overlay, Kearney County and 28 Road Asphalt Over-



## 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: KDC FARMS LLC. The street and mailing address of the initial designated office is 203 N Kearney Ave., Minden, Kearney County, Nebraska 68959. Daniel M. Kristensen is the initial agent at such address for purposes of service of process. The limited liability company commenced on December 9th, 2025 and shall have perpetual existence.

Dated: December 9th, 2025  
KDC FARMS 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

Dec 18, 2025  
Dec 25, 2025  
Jan 1, 2026  
(39) znez

## NOTICE

### AXTELL COMMUNITY SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2025 7:00 PM LIBRARY

The Board reserves the right to move agenda items to accommodate the flow of the meeting. AGENDA 1. Call meeting to order, roll call. 2. Open meetings law is posted and recognized. 3. Recog-

nition of guests and request for public comment. 4. Approval of minutes from the November 10, 2025 board of education meeting. Motion Passed: Motion to approve minutes from the November 10, 2025 board of education meeting. Proposal passed with a motion by Jeff Halvorsen and a second by Ty Fickenscher. Linda Almquist, Yes; Bette Dimon, Yes; Jeff Halvorsen, Yes; Matt Strolberg, Yes; Ty Fickenscher, Yes; Kurt Behrhorst, Yes. 5. Presentation: Dave Stupka, gym floor. 6. Presentation: Linda Marshall, PreK Enrollment. 7. Discussion and action of district financial reports. Motion Passed: Motion to approve financial reports as presented. Proposal passed with a motion by Ty Fickenscher and a second by Jeff Halvorsen. Linda Almquist, Yes; Bette Dimon, Yes; Jeff Halvorsen, Yes; Matt Strolberg, Yes; Ty Fickenscher, Yes; Kurt Behrhorst, Yes. 8. Discussion and action of district claims. Motion Passed: Motion to approve district claims as presented. Proposal passed with a motion by Ty Fickenscher and a second by Linda Almquist. Linda Almquist, Yes; Bette Dimon, Yes; Jeff Halvorsen, Yes; Matt Strolberg, Yes; Ty Fickenscher, Yes; Kurt Behrhorst, Yes. 9. Administrative Reports. a. Jenn DeBord, Elementary Principal. 1. January Professional Development. 2. Basketball Holiday Invite, December 30 & 31. 3. Winter Break. b. Craig Lorenz, Secondary Principal. 1. Axtell Invite: No School, December 16. 2. Finals Days / Semester Testing, December 18 & 19. 3. Rae Of Hope. c. Rob Gregory, Superintendent. 1. Christmas Pie Delivery: December 18 -or- 19 @ 1:00. 10. Discussion Items. a. OAC Mtg: Ty-Linda-Bet-

te January 6, 2026: Kurt-Jeff-Matt. b. Elem/MS schedules & staffing for 2026-27. c. TERIP for 2026-27: CONFIDENTIAL. d. Negotiated Agreement Update: Matt-Linda-Kurt. e. 2026-27 Superintendent Contract. f. Eakes: Principals/Counselor Office Furniture. g. LB 79-3004: Annual Financial Literacy Act, board report. h. BD: Changes -or- Additions. 1. Contingency Fund -&- under budget. 2. Glycol: Existing Building AC. 3. Flagpole: new lighting, \$2,431.80. 4. New Canopy: Option #1 DEIFS Soffit \$55,730.78; Option #2 Metal Pannel \$61,006. 11. Action Items. a. Approval for Axtell Community Schools to prepare & offer TERIP for qualified certified employees for the 2026-27 school year. Motion Passed: Motion to approve Axtell Community Schools to prepare & offer TERIP For qualified certified employees for the 2026-27 school year. Proposal passed with a motion by Ty Fickenscher and a second by Bette Dimon. Linda Almquist, Yes; Bette Dimon, Yes; Jeff Halvorsen, Yes; Matt Strolberg, Yes; Ty Fickenscher, Yes; Kurt Behrhorst, Yes. b. Approval of 2026-27 superintendent contract for Dr. Chelsea Feusner. Motion Passed: Motion for approval of 2026-27 superintendent contract for Chelsea Feusner. Proposal passed with a motion by Matt Strolberg and a second by Bette Dimon. Linda Almquist, Yes; Bette Dimon, Yes; Jeff Halvorsen, Yes; Matt Strolberg, Yes; Ty Fickenscher, Yes; Kurt Behrhorst, Yes. c. Approval of new administrative office furniture for the main office addition in the amount of \$22,535.60. Motion Passed: Motion for approval of new administrative office furniture for the main office

addition in the amount of \$22,535.60. Proposal passed with a motion by Jeff Halvorsen and a second by Linda Almquist. Linda Almquist, Yes; Bette Dimon, Yes; Jeff Halvorsen, Yes; Matt Strolberg, Yes; Ty Fickenscher, Yes; Kurt Behrhorst, Yes. d. Approval of DEIFS Soffit to the west new canopy of the building addition in the amount of \$55,730. Motion Passed: Motion for approval of DEIFS Soffit to the west new canopy of the building addition in the amount of \$55,730. Proposal passed with a motion by Ty Fickenscher and a second by Linda Almquist. Linda Almquist, Yes; Bette Dimon, Yes; Jeff Halvorsen, Yes; Matt Strolberg, Yes; Ty Fickenscher, Yes; Kurt Behrhorst, Yes. 12. Informational Items. a. Calendars. b. Possible winter school board retreat/date. c. Next Board Meeting: January 12, 2026 @ 8:15 am. Note: FBLA would like to present if AM meeting is decided. d. Pie delivery: December 18 or 19 @ 1:00. 13. Motion to adjourn. Motion Passed: Motion to adjourn at 8:47. Proposal passed with a motion by Linda Almquist and a second by Bette Dimon. Linda Almquist, Yes; Bette Dimon, Yes; Jeff Halvorsen, Yes; Matt Strolberg, Yes; Ty Fickenscher, Yes; Kurt Behrhorst, Yes. Fund: 01 GENERAL FUND: A-1 REFRIGERATION, HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING, 129.06; AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES, 611.72; APPLE INC, 478.99; BUILDERS WAREHOUSE INC, 27.99; CAMBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL, 25.00; CAPITAL ONE - WALMART, 92.34; DANA F COLE & COMPANY, LLP, 165.00; DOUBLE D CLEAN-

ERS, 1,253.70; DUG'S SHOP, 2,316.60; E&E TURF INC, 262.50; EAKES OFFICE PLUS, 4,669.90; ESU #11, 59,529.10; FAMILY PHYSICAL THERAPY & SPORTS CENTER, 5,795.30; FICKENSCHER, TY, 275.80; FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL, 25.00; FRONTIER HOME MEDICAL, 289.00; HAMILTON INFORMATION SYSTEMS, INC, 405.75; HASTINGS MUSEUM, 290.00; HEARTLAND REFRIGERATION LLC, 10,673.48; HILTON GARDEN INN OMAHA-DOWNTOWN, 2,053.10; HIRERIGHT LLC, 102.90; JAYMAR BUSINESS FORMS INC, 310.35; KAT'S KORNER MARKET, 348.00; KINDSCHUH CONSTRUCTION, CO, 70.00; LUNCH FUND, 633.33; MARC, 507.98; MENARDS-KEARNEY, 514.72; MID-STATES AUTOMATION & CONTROL, INC, 4,454.50; NASB, 2,940.00; PLATTE VALLEY MEDICAL CLINIC, 100.00; PRO-ED, INC, 136.40; QUADIENT FINANCE USA, INC, 300.00; RELIABLE PEST CONTROL SERVICES, INC, 68.00; REVOLVING CASH ACCOUNT, 18.90; SHELTON PUBLIC

SCHOOL, 25.00; SOUTHERN POWER DISTRICT, 6,028.35; STATE OF NEBRASKA, 317.87; SYNDICATE PUBLISHING, 113.30; TEACHER SYNERGY, LLC, 361.36; TIME MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS, 177.00; TREVIPAY-WALMART, 203.60; VILLAGE OF AXTELL, 982.93; VISA, 2,813.38; Vendors Listed: 43; Total: 110,897.20; December Payroll: 404,745.52; Total: 515,642.72. Fund: 08 SPECIAL BUILDING FUND: BD CONSTRUCTION, INC, 381,302.55; Vendors Listed: 1; Total: 381,302.55. Fund: 10 COOPERATIVE FUND: CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS, 114.99; ESU #11, 56,536.14; FAMILY PHYSICAL THERAPY & SPORTS CENTER, 1,018.50; H2O PHOTOGRAPHY & DESIGNS, 396.00; HOMETOWN LEASING, 99.81; KAT'S KORNER MARKET, 107.05; RELIABLE PEST CONTROL SERVICES, INC, 55.00; REVOLVING CASH ACCOUNT, 5.00; Vendors Listed: 8; Total: 58,332.49; December Payroll: 19,821.08; Total: 78,153.57. Dec 18, 2025 (251) znez

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## NOTICE

### LEGAL NOTICE

#### ADULT NAME CHANGE IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF KEARNEY COUNTY, NEBRASKA

#### CASE NUMBER CI 25-64

IN RE NAME CHANGE OF KATHLEEN RAE HUDDLESTON. Notice is hereby given that on the 4th day of December, 2025, a petition was filed in the District Court of Kearney County, Nebraska, the object and prayer of which is for the change of the petitioner's name from Kathleen Rae Huddleston to Kathleen Rae. A hearing will be had on said petition before the Honorable Timothy E. Hoeft, at Kearney Co. Courthouse on the 30th day of January, 2026 at 9:30 a.m. or as soon thereafter as will be convenient for the court and that unless sufficient cause is shown to the contrary, the petitioner's name will be changed from that of Kathleen Rae Huddleston, to Kathleen Rae.

Dec 11, 2025  
Dec 18, 2025  
Dec 25, 2025  
Jan 1, 2026  
(33) znez

## NOTICE

#### NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

The following described property will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder, at the East entrance of the County Courthouse in Minden, Kearney County, Nebraska, on Wednesday, January 21, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.:

Lot Five (5), Sandy Lane Subdivision, a Subdivision being part of the Southeast Quarter and part of the Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Sec-

tion 26, Township 8 North, Range 16 West of the Sixth Principal Meridian, Kearney County, Nebraska.

SUBJECT TO any and all easements, rights of way, and other restrictions of record.

The particulars of this sale are:

1. The legal description (set forth just above) is associated with the street address of 278 Sandy Lane, Kearney, NE 68845.

2. The terms of the sale are:

(a) The sale will be held open for fifteen minutes to receive bids.

(b) The property is sold subject to any of the following which may be of record at the time of the sale: Real estate taxes; special assessments; mortgages and deeds of trusts and other liens; covenants and restrictions; easements; and other characteristics such as ordinances and resolutions which may affect the property.

(c) All bidders, other than the Beneficiary, must present a cashier's check for at least 10% of the successful bid. A reasonable amount of time, not to exceed 1 day, may be allowed to produce that cashier's check following the sale, at the discretion of the Successor Trustee. Closing of the sale, with the balance of the successful bid paid at that time, shall take place on a day certain between 10 to 20 days after the sale (this exact date to be announced upon the date of sale).

(d) Conveyance upon closing will be by a Trustee's Deed, referencing the exercise of the power of sale in the Deed of Trust. At closing, the successful bidder will be responsible to pay the documentary stamps,

if any, together with all recording fees. This sale, and its closing, is made without any warranties as to title or the condition of the property.

3. The Deed of Trust which is the subject of the default and which provides for the power of sale being exercised by the Successor Trustee, herein, is dated October 19, 2022. The Trustor is Wendy Jolynne Collins f/k/a Wendy Jolynne Starzec. The Successor Trustee is Jack W. Besse. The Beneficiary is Trius Federal Credit Union. This Deed of Trust is recorded at Book 275 of Microfilm on Page 255-277 of the Kearney County Register of Deeds Office.

4. The Notice of Default dated October 31, 2025, which precedes this NOTICE OF SALE, was filed in the office of the Register of Deeds for Kearney County, Nebraska, on October 31, 2025, and a copy of the same mailed to the Trustors as required by law.

5. This Notice will be published 5 times, once a week for 5 consecutive weeks; the last publication to be at least 10 days but not more than 30 days prior to the sale.

Dated this 2nd day of December, 2025.

Jack W. Besse #19005  
Successor Trustee  
Of PARKER GROSSART &  
BAHENSKY, LLP  
516 1st Avenue, P. O. Box  
1600  
Kearney, Nebraska 68848-  
1600  
(308) 237-2114 phone (308)  
234-4989 fax  
jwb@pgbbllaw.com

Dec 11, 2025  
Dec 18, 2025  
Dec 25, 2025  
Jan 1, 2026  
Jan 8, 2026  
(127) znez

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## Hospital

• **Acute Care / ER RN - Day Shift, Full Time, \$35-\$45/hr (RN) | \$5/hr Night Shift Differential | \$7/hr Weekend Night Differential | Up to \$15,000 Sign-On Bonus | Tuition Assistance**

Low nurse to patient ratio. Must be able to work in Acute/Med-Surg and Emergency Room settings.

• **Maintenance Tech - Full Time** / Maintain buildings and grounds; perform routine equipment maintenance, minor construction, plumbing, wiring, landscaping, etc. On-call rotation. Experience preferred but not required.

Competitive wages. Benefit package includes health, dental, vision, life insurance, PTO, discounted medical services, and wellness program, among other great benefits.

Visit [www.kchs.org/careers](http://www.kchs.org/careers) for additional information!

## CLUES ACROSS

1. American automotive titan

4. Tire term

7. Two-year-old sheep

10. Indigenous people of Thailand

11. Anti-Soviet Cold War group

12. Actress de Armas

13. Not moving

15. Cool!

16. Plants of the arum family

19. Connected with touch

21. Pen stain

23. Monetary units

24. School kids' art project

25. Early Bell Canada executive

26. Sword

27. Hates

30. Fixed in one place

34. Pie \_\_ mode

35. Moved swiftly on foot

36. Carrier on vehicle

41. A path to get through

45. "Rule, Britannia" composer

46. Spiritual leader

47. Flowing

50. Respectful compliments

54. Cure

55. Soft, lightweight fabric

56. Building material

57. Japanese delicacy

59. A way to cause to be swollen

60. One and only

61. You might get one in summer

62. Wreath

63. Thus far

64. They \_\_

65. Employee reference number

## CLUES DOWN

1. Policemen (French)

2. Toy dog

3. Intestinal condition

4. Muscular weaknesses

5. Helps little firms

6. Alphabetical lists

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

		1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9		
		10				11				12				
13	14					15				16			17	18
19					20			21	22					
23								24						
			25					26						
27	28	29						30				31	32	33
34												35		
36				37	38	39	40		41	42	43	44		
			45						46					
47	48	49						50				51	52	53
54								55						
56						57	58			59				
			60					61				62		
			63					64				65		

7. Takes down

8. Facilitates

9. Ethnic people of Ethiopia

13. Engine additive

14. Explorers group

17. Written account

18. Consumed

20. Opposite of first

22. No (slang)

27. Government lawyers

28. NY Giants great

29. Small amount

31. A way to save for your future

32. Fall behind

33. Midway between north-east and east

37. Head pain

38. Wildly popular sport

39. "Princess Diaries" actress Hathaway

40. Boat race

41. About fish

42. Nursemaid

43. Able to be marketed

44. Not as large

47. Parts per billion (abbr.)

48. Paddle

49. Oneness

51. Bitter chemical

52. Not around

53. Very fast airplane

58. Main tributary of the Rhine

## 12.11.25 SOLUTIONS

	R	A	B	B	I	S		S	A	L	I	N	E	
M	A	D	E	I	R	A		A	B	A	L	O	N	E
A	B		A	N	A	L	O	G	I	Z	E		D	A
H	I	N	D	S		A	U	G		E	A	G	E	R
D	E	U	S		S	A	T	E	S		C	R	A	N
I	S	M		R	A	M		D	K	G		O	R	E
		E	X	E	C				R	O	G	U	E	S
A	C	R	I	S						W	U	N	D	T
B	R	A	V	E	D				M	A	I	D		
R	U	T		T	A	R		P	O	N		H	U	S
E	S	O	P		B	A	S	A	L		T	O	N	E
A	A	R	O	N		P	I	P		S	A	G	E	R
S	D		S	A	T	I	R	I	C	A	L		A	U
T	E	H	E	R	A	N		S	A	R	C	A	S	M
	S	E	R	A	P	E		T	R	I	A	G	E	

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





WE HOPE YOU ARE ALL ENJOYING THIS HOLIDAY SEASON. IF YOU ARE STILL LOOKING FOR GIFT IDEAS OUR COMMUNITY HAS SO MUCH TO OFFER. GIFT CARDS AND CHAMBER BUCKS ARE ALWAYS A WIN!

### **HOLIDAY HOURS**

- 12/24 LOBBY 9A-12P  
DRIVE-UP 8A-12P
- 12/25 CLOSED
- 12/26 LOBBY 9A-3P  
DRIVE-UP 8A-5:30P
- 12/31 LOBBY 9A-3P  
DRIVE-UP 8A-3P



**Minden Exchange Bank  
& Trust Co**

MEMBER FDIC

# Frosty's First Adventure



Minden East Elementary 2nd and 3rd grade students entertained audiences with the holiday musical 'Frosty's First Adventure' on December 8 in the MPS Fine Arts Auditorium. The play was based on the musical by Mark Brymer and adapted and directed by Lori Rowley. (Courier photos by Carrie Conner)

