



Whippet Speech Team Heats Up

CINDY RAMSEY

The Minden Speech team braved an early frigid morning on January 24 to face intense competition at the Broken Bow Invite. Confidence and focus propelled the Whippets to finish second overall behind Gothenburg. The medal count continues to rise for Minden with three novice events and 20 varsity events earning honors during the competition.

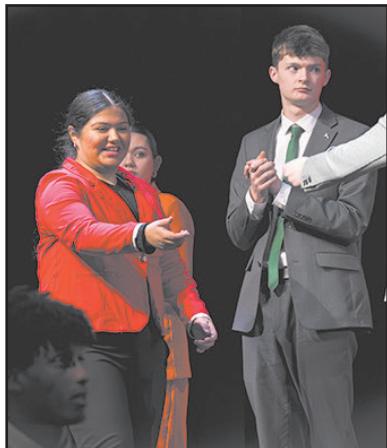
Varsity medal winners were: Emory Porter, 2nd Place, Poetry; Arabella Reed, 2nd Place, Humorous Prose; Rebecca Lempka, 3rd Place, Persuasive; Frank Kovacs and Carson Wright, 3rd Place, Duet Acting; Arabella Reed, 3rd Place, Serious Prose; Arabella Reed, 3rd Place, POI; Miles Heath, Dayne Porter, and Mia Tira, 4th Place, OID; Frank Kovacs, 4th Place, Humorous Prose; Emory Porter, 4th Place, POI; Miles Heath, 5th Place, Serious Prose; Miles Heath, 6th Place, Poetry; Natali Uribe, 6th Place, Entertainment; Emory Porter, Natali Uribe, Hope Mason, and Luz Lopez, 6th Place, OID; Isabelle Martin and Dayne Porter, 8th Place, Duet Acting; Danica Schoone, 8th Place, Entertainment; Carson Wright, 8th Place, Extemporaneous; Anila Cortez-Thompson, Grace Hansen, Kierra Antillon and Brooke Carr, 8th Place, OID; Isabelle Martin, 12th Place, Entertainment; Natali Uribe, 12th Place, Poetry; Hope Mason, 12th Place, Serious Prose

Novice medal winners were: Steven Rhodes, 4th Place, Entertainment; Hallie Hartman, 4th Place, Humorous Prose; Mia Tira and Tynlie Struss, 6th Place, Duet Acting

The Whippets will hit the road once again on January 31 compete in the CNFL #2 meet in Grand Island.



The Minden Speech team collected more than 20 medals and second place as a team at the Broken Bow Speech Invite on January 24. Pictured: (above) Novice Hallie Hartman (center) is recognized on stage during the awards ceremony. (left) Natali Uribe accepts one of the medals she won during the competition. (Courier photos by Arabella Reed)



PAGE 4 - Minden City Council



PAGES 6-15 - High School Sports

Weather Forecast

Jan. 30:	21/1	
Jan. 31:	25/15	
Feb. 1:	41/19	
Feb. 2:	48/26	
Feb. 3:	46/23	
Feb. 4:	43/23	
Feb. 5:	52/26	

News Briefs

MHS Junior Class Fundraiser

The Minden High Junior Class will hold a fundraiser at Runza on February 4th from 5-10 p.m. Runza will donate 10% of all sales during that time to support the Junior Class, helping pay for prom and graduation. Families are encouraged to stop by after parent-teacher conferences and enjoy a meal while supporting local students.

Husker Quilt Raffle

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

Heart of Our Hometown

Only a few tables are left for the Axtell Community Fund Heart of Our Hometown fundraiser. The event will be held on February 21 at the Axtell Fire Hall and includes a prime rib meal, dueling pianos, a live auction, and a silent auction. Social hour begins at 5:30pm followed by dinner at 6:30pm.

Farm Bill & Ag Policy Presentation

An upcoming presentation in Minden, hosted by Nebraska Extension and the Center for Agricultural Profitability, will help producers and agribusiness professionals learn about changes in ag policy and the latest information about assistance. The meeting will be held at 10 a.m. Feb. 3 at the Kearney County Fairgrounds, 404 21st St. The meeting is free to attend, but registration is requested by Jan. 30 with the office of Nebraska Extension in Adams County, at 402-461-7209.

Courier Weekly Deadlines:

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

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

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

Legals are DUE on Friday at noon.

Thank you Minden for helping us make our paper great!



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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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City of Minden Celebrates Ribbon Cutting of New Upper-Story Housing on Historic Courthouse Square

P R E S S R E L E A S E

The long-awaited revitalization of a cornerstone downtown Minden building is now complete. On Friday, January 30, 2026 at 2:00 pm, the public is invited to celebrate the ribbon cutting and tour the five newly constructed upper-story apartments at 345 N Colorado Avenue, now known as Zu Haus Flats. In conjunction with the event, 52 Taphouse on the main level will host an open house in celebration of their recent opening.

In 2023, the City of Minden was awarded \$802,500 in 2023 from the Nebraska Department of Economic Development – Nebraska Affordable Housing Trust Fund following a highly competitive grant process. This funding supported the creation of five modern upper-story housing units within the historic building, constructed in 1887. After sitting vacant for many years, the property was primed for redevelopment as a partnership through a public-private partnership between Longshot Property Development, South Central Economic Development District, Inc. and the City of Minden emerged.

This project was made possible with a collaborative and community approach with additional financing support from the Minden Investment Club and Center for Rural Affairs. Together, the owner's investment of Longshot Property Development, Jacob & Emily Rafert, provides needed additional

rental housing while also energizing the downtown district for years to come. The completion of Zu Haus Flats—features three modern 2-bedroom apartments and two 1-bedroom upper-story units. The new 52 Taphouse business opened earlier in January. Jacob Rafert, Owner, said, "Conversations are in progress for a possible new commercial tenant on the south side."

"The Zu Haus Flats project breathes new life into one of Minden's oldest buildings, turning it into modern housing and commercial space that supports downtown vitality, preserves local history, and invests in the future of our community. This project adds much needed housing to Minden in a way that we have not seen before while simultaneously increasing traffic in our historic downtown square," said Michael Krings, City Administrator/Economic Development Director, City of Minden.

For more information, contact the City Office at 308.832.1820 or SCEDD, LeAnn Jochum, Deputy Director who served as Grant Administrator at 308.455.4776. Visit <https://zuhausflats.com/>.

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Weather Recap

Date	High	Low	Precip.
1/17/26	27	11	-
1/18/26	45	5	-
1/19/26	30	9	-
1/20/26	47	17	-
1/21/26	43	24	-
1/22/26	32	23	-
1/23/26	22	5	-
Total Week Precip.			0.00

themindencourier.com

CCC Announces 2025 Fall President's and Dean's Honor Lists

PRESS RELEASE

(Grand Island, Neb.) – Central Community College has announced the names of full-time students who earned spots on the President's and Dean's honor lists for the 2025 fall semester.

The students were enrolled at one or more CCC locations, which include the Columbus, Grand Island and Hastings campuses and Holdrege, Kearney, Lexington and Ord centers.

Students on the President's Honor List earned a perfect 4.0 grade point average while students on the Dean's Honor List earned a GPA between 3.5 and 3.99.

President's Honor List

Axtell: Alessandra Banzhaf-Diaz
 Funk: Cade Axtell
 Hildreth: Mia Vansyckle
 Minden: Aubree Bules, Jerzee Smidt and Kaylin Talbert
 Upland: Isaac Dejonge
 Wilcox: Makayla Johnson
Dean's Honor List
 Axtell: Jacob Eschlman, Cadie Nickel and Toby Stepanek
 Bloomington: Zayden Wilsey
 Minden: Becky Anderson, Rebecca Bogart, Keyenna Nelson, John Rowan, Dalton Sinsel and Bradley Smolik
 Wilcox: Jennifer Martin

Wayne State Announces Dean's List for Fall 2025 Semester

PRESS RELEASE

Jan. 21, 2026 (WAYNE, Neb.) – Wayne State College included 1,300 students on the dean's list for exemplary academic achievement during the Fall 2025 semester.

Students listed on the dean's list are full-time undergraduate students who have achieved a GPA of 3.5 or above on a 4.0 scale for the semester. An asterisk (*)

Washburn Announces Konner Verbeck is a Fall 2025 President's List Honoree

PRESS RELEASE

TOPEKA, KS (01/20/2026)-- Washburn University is pleased to announce its President's List honorees for the fall 2025 semester. To qualify for the President's List, a student must complete at least 12 hours of graded credits and earn a semester grade point average of 4.0.

Konner Verbeck from Minden

For fall 2025, 872 students qualified for the President's List.

"These students have excelled in the classroom through tremendous hard work and dedication. We congratulate them for attaining this milestone, earning a place among the best and brightest at Washburn," said Dr. JuliAnn Mazachek, president, Washburn University.

denotes a 4.0 GPA for the term.

For more information, contact Wayne State's Records and Registration Office at 402-375-7239.

Axtell: Ellie Johnson
 Minden: Adalle Banzhaf-Diaz*, Jasper Birkestrand, Aiyanna Frizane, Mattie Kamerly* and Lige Reed
 Hildreth: Georgia Ramsey

Iowa State University Announces Fall 2025 Dean's List

PRESS RELEASE

AMES, Iowa (January 23, 2026) – More than 11,800 Iowa State University students have been recognized for outstanding academic achievement by being named to the 2025 fall semester Dean's List. Students named to the Dean's List must earn a grade point average of at least 3.50 on a 4.00 scale while carrying a minimum of 12 credit hours of graded course work.

Hildreth: Spencer Jezbera, Animal Science, B.S.

UNK Hosts More Than 600 Students for Annual Honor Band and Choral Clinic

PRESS RELEASE

KEARNEY – More than 600 students from 100 high schools across the state participated in the annual Honor Band and Choral Clinic at the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

Presented by the UNK Department of Music, Theatre and Dance, the event provides advanced musical instruction and performance opportunities for outstanding band and choir students. Participants worked closely with UNK faculty and other respected Nebraska educators.

The clinic concluded with two public concerts on the evening of January 26th in UNK's Health and Sports Center. A 5 p.m. performance featured the UNK Wind Ensemble, Festival Band and Honor Band, followed by a 6:30 p.m. concert showcasing the Treble Choir, Festival Choir and Honor Choir.

Local participating students are listed below:

Axtell: Emma Hall, Bristol Thorell, Elizabeth Pfeil, Carston Kendall, Isaiah Sinachack, Alijah Sinachack, and Jacob Stoner

Minden: Rebecca Lempka, Abigail Reith, Chloe Osborn, Lindsey Foth, Kierra Antillon, Brooke Carr, Madalyn Morey, and Ashlyn Zerr

Wilcox-Hildreth: Craig Bunger, Taylor Ingram, Kamryn Russell, and Chloe Johnson

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Council Approves Funding Agreements and Easements

CINDY RAMSEY

The council and public were invited to a ribbon cutting and open house for Zu Haus Flats during the January 20 Minden City Council meeting. The event is a celebration of the completed remodel of the new apartments at 345 N. Colorado Avenue and the opening of 52 Taphouse beginning at 2:00 p.m. on January 30.

Getting to business, the council approved payments to Klein, Brewster, Brandt & Messersmith in the amount of \$562.50 and Remboldt Lutkje LLP in the amount of \$3,731 for legal services. These services related to a nuisance situation the City is dealing with that would be a conflict of interest for the City Attorney to handle.

Funding agreements with the Minden Development Corporation, Minden Chamber of Commerce, Minden Senior Center and American Legion were approved. The Minden Development Corporation serves as the economic development arm of the City utilizing resources to impact projects and recruit businesses, families and individuals to Minden. The funding agreement includes a development fee from Minden Mining that is paid to the City annually.

The Chamber of Commerce serves as the marketing agency of the City promoting local businesses in Minden. The funding agreement was increased to \$25,000 this year contingent on award of a grant from the Nebraska Tourism Commission. The Chamber has a committee working on new events and activities for Minden's 150 year anniversary in 2027 and plans to create a committee to enhance the Christmas traditions celebrations this year.

The Minden Senior Center served over 7,700 meals least year and served as the base for RYDE Transit in Kearney County. Despite the name, there is no age limit for those who receive meals from the Senior Center whether they dine in or take the food to go. A survey of guests last year revealed high overall satisfaction in quality and service. The City will once again provide \$5,000 to the Senior Center to assist in its operations for the year.

American Legion Post #94 runs the American Legion Baseball program including maintenance of the Bjorklund Memorial Field complex owned by the City. In exchange for this maintenance, the City provides \$5,000 of support. This year Minden will host the American Legion Baseball Juniors regional tournament.

As discussed at the previous meeting, Fill N Chill in Minden is planning to construct a new building west of the existing location. For this to be accomplished the City will need to vacate the alley behind the current building. Temporary easement agreements with PSK LLC and Hoff Brothers Inc. were approved to ensure the City and NPPD will continue to have access to overhead electric lines while the new store is being built. The electric lines will be moved as part of the project at which point the easements can be removed.

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Office Manager/Realtor



1330 W 7th - Hastings
5 Bed, 2 Bath, 2 car garage



1461 S. Lexington - Hastings
Commercial Property



501 A Ave. - Axtell
3 Bed, 1 Bath, 3 car det. garage



911 S. Hastings Ave. - Hastings
4 Bed, 2 Bath, 1 car garage



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



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



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



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

With the easements in place, the council approved ordinance #1314 vacating the alley behind Fill N Chill. The council opted to waive the three readings and adopted the ordinance by title.

Two proposals were received for the City's water/water system planning grant study. The council completed a scoring sheet for the proposals from JEO and Olsson during the meeting and the totals were calculated. JEO clearly outscored Olsson and was awarded the planning study project.

In other business the council: Approved January 5 minutes. Approved bills and claims. Approved cafeteria plan reimbursements. Approved December 2025 treasury report. Approved December 2025 budget report.

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For the Record

Kearney County District Court

Michael C. Sumstine, Minden & Teresa J. Sumstine, Minden vs. City of Minden, Nebraska; appeal-other agencies-DMV, etc. 1-20-26

Kearney County County Court

Gage A. Whetstone, Kearney, COUNT I: disturbing the peace, fine \$75; COUNT II: disturbing the peace, fine \$75, Kearney County Sheriff Officer Eshleman, 12-13-25

Chastity A. Montanez, Gibbon, no valid registration-car/pick up/step van, fine \$25, Nebraska State Patrol Officer Lassen, 12-5-25

Rochelle K. Herrada, Axtell, speeding 6-10 MPH County/State, fine \$75, Nebraska State Patrol Officer Stindt, 1-2-26

Colby A. Klahn, Minden, speeding 6-10 MPH County/State, fine \$75, Nebraska State Patrol Officer Margitz, 11-28-25

Tyler S. White, Tonopah, Arizona, speeding 6-10 MPH Municipal, fine \$75, Nebraska State Patrol Officer Stirn, 1-8-26

Colby A. Hartman, Gibbon, DUI-alcohol-1st offense, fine \$500, revoked license 6 months, 7 days jail, 1 day credit for time served, Kearney County Sheriff Officer Larsen, 4-27-25

Thomas S. Kitzing, Holdrege, willful reckless driving-1st offense, fine \$500, 3 months probation, Kearney County Sheriff Officer Seals, 8-31-25

Andrew A. Alumit, Minden, COUNT I: overweight on axle or group of axles, fine \$325; COUNT II: overweight on axle or group of axles, fine \$150; COUNT III: unlawful/fict display of plate/renew tab, fine \$50, Nebraska State Patrol Officer Wroblewski, 11-12-25

Minden Fire & Rescue

1-15-26—The Minden Emergency Unit was dispatched to W. 5th Street for a semi conscious patient.

1-16-26—The Minden Emergency Unit was dispatched to

transport from KCHS to CHI Good Sam in Kearney.

1-17-26—The Minden Emergency Unit was dispatched to Brown Avenue.

1-17-26—The Minden Emergency Unit was dispatched to Ridge Avenue for a female with breathing difficulties and a lightheaded male.

1-19-26—The Minden Fire & Rescue was dispatched to Wardcraft for an automatic alarm.

1-19-26—The Minden Emergency Unit was dispatched to D Road for a fall.

1-20-26—The Minden Emergency was dispatched to Sycamore Street for a lift assist.

1-21-26—The Minden Fire & Rescue was dispatched to S. Highway 74 & 33 for a fire.

Axtell Fire & Rescue

1-6-26—The Axtell Fire & Rescue was dispatched to Axtell Public School regarding a fire alarm.

1-6-26—The Axtell Emergency Unit was dispatched to Mosaic for a personal illness.

Kearney County Sheriff

1-12-26, A vehicle driven by Samuel Soucie, Upland was traveling east on Highway 6 when it came upon a cow in the eastbound lane causing the vehicle to swerve. The front passenger side impacted the cow causing damage to the vehicle & the cow. Estimated damage: \$10,000.

1-12-26, A vehicle driven by Gordon Poore, Minden, traveling south on 40 Road was struck by a northbound vehicle that had crossed the centerline. The vehicle did not remain on scene. Estimated damage, Poore's vehicle: \$500.

1-14-26, A vehicle driven by Sharon L. Bell, Deshler was northbound on Highway 10 when a deer entered the roadway. The vehicle struck & killed the deer with the driver side headlight. The deer was thrown into the west ditch & the vehicle came to rest on the east shoulder, losing electrical systems. Estimated damage: \$2,000.

Stop Signs Coming to V Road

CINDY RAMSEY

More regulatory signs are coming to a county road intersection after the January 20 meeting of the Kearney County Board of Commissioners. Highway Superintendent Joe Anderson explained the need for the signs.

During a paving project on V Road, Anderson noted intersections with 34 and 36 Roads were missing stop signs. One intersection did have yield signs. He had Oak Creek Engineering complete a road study and their findings supported Anderson's belief the intersections should have stop signs. With this information, the board approved a resolution for the installation of permanent stop signs as discussed.

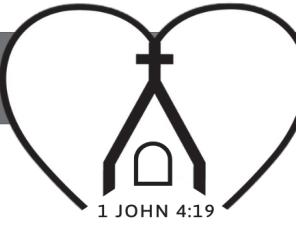
Continuing with road business, the board approved an interlocal agreement with Franklin County for the 40 Road overlay project. The agreement outlines the scope of both Counties' projects and the responsibilities of each County in regard to the projects. Because Franklin County won't address the project bids until February 3, the board tabled any action to award bid of the project until the same date.

Minden Lawn and Sprinkler will fertilize and treat the courthouse lawn per an agreement approved by the board in December, but the company is no longer offering mowing services. The County received mowing bids from Phillips Mowing and from Craig Bros Mowing for 2026. The board approved the lower bid from Craig Bros Mowing for \$110 per week.

Gravel bids for 2026 were received from Mid-Nebraska Aggregates for \$14.55 per cubic yard, Ed Broadfoot & Sons Sand & Gravel for \$14.25 per cubic yard, and Southwest Gravel Products for \$13.50 per cubic yard. All bids were accepted.

In other business the board: Approved January 8 minutes. Approved bills and claims. Approved duplicate General Fund checks 2505149 for \$57.75, 25090022 for \$20, and 25100112 for \$190.70. Approved election SuperMicro CSE-73li-404B system agreement. Approved Nebraska Department of Ag Weed reports. Accepted County Treasurer semi-annual report for July 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025. Approved contract with Ace/Eaton Metals for 2026 culverts. Approved estimate from Wilson Flooring for new carpet for the courthouse assembly room and sent request for the same square foot pricing to replace flooring in the County Attorney's office.

The Kearney County Board of Equalization also met on January 20. The board approved December 16 minutes. County Assessor Jennifer Pittner presented seven tax list corrections which were approved as presented. The board reviewed a request for reassessment due to significant damage to property in Axtell. Deadline for the report was July 15, 2025, but the report wasn't received by the County until December. Missing this deadline tied the board's hands and led to a denial of the request. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



1 JOHN 4:19

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SPORTS



Lady Falcons Bring Home Team Trophy For Second Straight Week

PHIL SERRONE

Last week, the Wilcox-Hildreth girls wrestling team experienced their best finish in program history with a second place team finish at Shelton. Fast forward a week and the Lady Falcons once again placed second overall, this time at the Neligh-Oakdale Invitational on Jan. 23.

The Lady Falcons scored 61.5 team points to edge out Crofton/Bloomfield's 59 team points to collect the runners-up plaque. Wil-Hil's strong finish was capped off with four individual wrestlers securing medals.

Elin Patterson (21-12) and Camryn Bunger (17-3) led the way with first place finishes at their respective weight classes. This is the second straight invitational that the duo have reigned atop their weight division.

Dinah Culp (14-8) and Ona Wilsey (20-11) collected silver medals after the pair combined for three total victories. Wilsey earned a pin victory in the first round followed by a decision win to advance to the finals. She lost a tough battle in the championship round by decision 7-9 against Hartl from Elkhorn Valley.

Wilcox-Hildreth will aim to continue their strong momentum with a home dual against Alma on Jan. 30. On Jan. 31, the Lady Falcons will set out to show that they are the best in the conference at the FKC Invite held at Ansley-Litchfield.

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

100: Dinah Culp had a bye to start then won by total falls 17-2 over Clay of Ansley-Litchfield in 4:59 then lost by majority decision 4-14 against Hernandez of Ord to place second overall

115: Elin Patterson opened with a 18-3 total fall win over Mahaney of Northeast Nebraska in 3:23 then pinned Dennis of Crofton/Bloomfield in 4:32 to place first overall

125: Ona Wilsey started with a pin victory over Duffy in Crofton/Bloomfield in 0:46 then won by decision 6-2 over Spann of Boone Central then lost by decision 7-9 against Hartl of Elkhorn Valley to place second overall

130: Ayva Bendorf started with a pin victory over Sanderson of Northeast Nebraska in 4:24 then was pinned by Brott of Ansley-Litchfield in 1:30 then was pinned by Chessmore of Elgin Public/Pope John in 3:38

135: Camryn Bunger opened with a pin victory over McGargill of Crofton/Bloomfield in 0:37 then pinned Bystrzynski of Humphrey-Lindsay in 0:27 then pinned Randall of Northeast in 1:13 then won by total falls 19-4 over Meinick of Ord in 3:31 to place first overall



Wilcox-Hildreth girls wrestling placed second overall as a team for the second consecutive week at the Neligh-Oakdale Invitational on Jan. 23. Elin Patterson and Camryn Bunger each placed first overall. Pictured: The Lady Falcons pose proudly after back-to-back weeks as team invite runners-up. (Courtesy photo)

Patterson Passes Milestone at South Loup

PHIL SERRONE

On Jan. 23, Axtell and Wilcox-Hildreth boys wrestling teams traveled to South Loup High School for the chance to test their mat skills. The invitational had 19 schools in attendance.

Overall, it was a great team showing for the Falcons as the team placed fourth overall behind a team score of 109.5. Axtell finished with a team score of 13 for a 13th place finish.

Leading the way for the Falcons was Brody Patterson who placed first at the 138 lb. weight division. This was a special week for Patterson as the senior eclipsed 100 career pins and 150 career wins.

Cay Twohig and Jacob Jezbera collected silver medals after placing second at their respective weight classes. Gavin Ironshell placed third overall while Craig Bunker, Drake Ritner and Kyler Masters finished fourth overall.

Axtell's Nick Dahl (22-17) added six points to Axtell's team total after securing two pinfall wins in under 30 seconds. Connor L'Heureux (16-19) pinned an SEM wrestler in 1:35 to pick up his 16th win of the season.

The Wildcats will attend the Ord Invitational on Jan. 30. We will have a full breakdown from the invitational in next week's paper!

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

106: Mikah Eiley started with a pinfall loss against Hunter of Burwell in 0:43 then pinned Sanger of Brady in 1:11 then lost by decision 5-10 against Folchert of North Platte St.Pats

120: Cooper Woollen opened with a pinfall loss against Stewart of Plainview in 0:46 then lost due to pin against Citta of North Platte St.Pats in 3:49

132: Kyler Masters started with a pin victory over Linden of South Loup in 1:23 then pinned Sward of Sandhills Valley in 1:10 then was pinned by Jensen of Burwell in 3:02 then won by total falls 16-1 over Hodges of Elm Creek in 1:56 then lost by decision 4-5 against Pettit Jr of Mullen to place fourth overall

138: Brody Patterson opened with a bye then pinned Forsen of Mullen in 0:53 then won by decision 4-2 over Kromarek of Plainview then won by decision 5-1 against Dawe of Burwell to place first overall

144: Cay Twohig opened with a bye then pinned Ward of Plainview in 1:47 then pinned Backer of Sutherland in 2:52 then was pinned by Beavers of Elm Creek in 2:43 to place 2nd overall

150: Drake Ritner opened with a bye then pinned Forbes of Plainview in 1:55 then lost by total falls 0-19 against Meier of Elm Creek in 4:13 then pinned Albertson of Sutherland in 2:00 then was pinned by Grint of Twin Loup in 1:34 to

place fourth overall

157: Brett Woollen started with a bye then was pinned by Thoene of Burwell in 2:16 then had a bye then was pinned by Dahl of Axtell in 0:21

165: Gavin Ironshell opened with a bye then was pinned by Walker of Mullen in 5:11 then had a bye then pinned Solorzano of Plainview in 1:49 then secured a sudden victory 4-1 over Brown of Burwell then won by decision 12-6 over Walker of Mullen to place third overall

190: Jacob Jezbera opened with a pin victory over Rabinson of Brady in 1:47 then pinned Goad of Elm Creek in 1:41 then pinned Bottorf of Twin Loup in 1:27 then won by majority decision 10-0 over Frahm of Plainview then lost by decision 2-7 against Larson of Burwell to place second overall

285: Craig Bunker started with a pin loss against Hernandez of Elm Creek in 0:42 then was pinned by Stewart of Plainview in 0:24 then pinned Welton of Burwell in 1:01 then was pinned by Andersen of Sutherland in 3:02 then won due to medical forfeit to place fourth overall

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

113: Luke Abbott opened with a pin loss against Wortman of Plainview in 1:10 then was pinned by Ferris of Burwell in 1:22 then was pinned by Grunstad of Elm Creek in 2:40 to place fourth



Wilcox-Hildreth and Axtell boys wrestling competed at the South Loup Invite on Jan. 23. Pictured: Brody Patterson (WH) has his hand raised, he placed first overall at South Loup and Neligh-Oakdale. (Courier photo by Cheri Twohig)

132: Connor L'Heureux started with a pin loss against Schauda of Twin Loup in 1:38 then pinned Schreiner of SEM in 1:43 then was pinned by Dempsey of Sutherland in 1:35

144: Samuel Kindschuh opened with a pin loss against Beavers of Elm Creek in 0:20 then had a bye then lost by decision 3-8 against Woolf of Sutherland

157: Nick Dahl opened with a bye then was pinned by Kraud of Mullen in 2:10 then pinned Corbin of Ansley-Litchfield in 0:19 then pinned Woollen of Wil-Hil in 0:21 then was pinned by Meier of Elm Creek in 4:47

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Wilcox-Hildreth Places Second at Neligh-Oakdale

PHIL SERRONE

Closing out a busy three-day stretch of matches, Wilcox-Hildreth boys wrestling team traveled to Neligh-Oakdale on Jan. 24 for an invitational. 21 schools were in attendance for the event.

The Falcons had a strong showing across their roster as the team collected six medals en route to a 136 point second place finish and a runners-up trophy. It was nearly a first place finish but Mullen High School edged the Falcons by two points.

Brody Patterson ended his tremendous week with a first place finish at his respective weight class, his second time this week atop the podium. The senior's record on the season now stands at 33-2 and is looking primed for a state tournament run.

Kyler Masters (27-8), Cauy Twohig (24-9), Gavin Ironshell (27-10) and Jacob Jezbera (30-6) showed out within their weight divisions collecting silver medals for their efforts. Mikah Eiley earned a fifth place medal after securing two pinfalls.

Next up for the Falcons will be a home dual triangular on Jan. 30 against Weeping Water and Alma. Following that meet, the team will travel to Doniphan-Trumbull for an invitational on Jan. 31. We will have a full recap from both events in next week's paper!

Here are the following results for each Falcon wrestler

at their respective weight class:

106: Mikah Eiley opened with a pin loss against Mendoza of Summerland in 1:44 then pinned Miller of Mullen in 0:56 then was pinned by Thies of Wisner-Pilger in 0:52 then pinned Fernau of Clarkson/Leigh in 2:25 to place fifth

120: Cooper Woollen started with a total fall loss 1-17 against Wadsworth of Central Valley in 3:00 then had a bye then was pinned by Walker of Cross County/Osceola in 4:04

132: Kyler Masters started with a pin victory over Schreiner in Osmond-Wausa in 1:45 then pinned Phillips of Pleasanton in 1:32 then won by majority decision 14-3 over Confer of High Plains Community then was pinned by Pettit Jr. of Mullen in 5:28

138: Brody Patterson opened with a pin victory over Perkins of Riverside in 0:57 then pinned Titus of



The Falcons took down Hi-Line and Brady at a dual triangular as well as placed second overall at the Neligh-Oakdale Invite on Jan. 24. (Courier photo by Cheri Twohig)

Ainsworth in 2:50 then pinned Henery of Neligh-Oakdale in 1:34 then won by majority decision 10-2 over Mendoza of Summerland to place first overall

144: Cauy Twohig opened with a pin victory over Riessland of Pleasanton in 1:43 then pinned Berggren of Cross County/Osceola in 5:20 then won by majority decision 11-3 over Mendoza of Summerland then lost by decision 4-10 against Hoefer of Neligh-Oakdale to place second overall

150: Drake Ritner started with a pin loss against Titus of Ainsworth in 3:29 then had a bye then was pinned by Smith of Fullerton in 2:16

157: Brett Woollen opened with a pin victory over Beed of Fullerton in 2:43 then lost by total falls 5-22 against Gardner of Osmond-Wausa in 3:54 then pinned Honebrink of Humphrey-Lindsay in 1:42 then lost by total falls 4-19 against Drueke in 2:49

165: Gavin Ironshell started with a pin victory over Dodds of Riverside in 3:26 then won by decision 4-3 against Veik of Elgin Public/Pope John then was pinned by Walker of Mullen to place second overall

190: Jacob Jezbera started with pin victory over Finley of Fullerton in 1:05 then pinned Aaberg of Fullerton in 3:02 then was pinned by Nelson of Wisney-Pilger in 0:50 to place second overall

285: Craig Bunger opened with a pin loss against Jockens of West Holt in 2:45 then pinned Rice of Cross County/Osceola in 0:22 then pinned Carey of Fullerton in 1:33 then was pinned by Klein of Central Valley in 4:00

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Heifers - Medium and Large 1 (Per Cwt./Actual Wt.)
Weight Range - 600-648; Avg. Weight - 621; Price Range - \$376-427.50; Average Price - \$406.10

Axtell Girls Invite Highlighted by Six Medalists

PHIL SERRONE

The Axtell girls wrestling team put on a show for the home crowd as the Lady Cats collected a fifth place team finish on Jan. 24 at their home invite. 12 schools braved below zero temperatures to work on their mat skills.

As a team, the Lady Cats finished with 58 points. Kearney High School placed first overall followed by SEM and Ansley-Litchfield. Minden had five wrestlers attend the meet and placed seventh overall.

Jersey Ramirez (16-9) was impressive in her four matches in the afternoon as she finished 3-1 with three wins due to pinfall. Sadie Lorenzo (11-17) showed grit in her four matches, collecting a silver medal and a 3-1 finish.

Binzley Walz (16-16) and Taelynn Myers (16-14) earned third place medals. Walz secured a dominant majority decision 13-2 over Thoene of Kearney to earn her medal. Myers was 3-1 highlighted by a total fall first round win 15-0.

Krystal Fickenscher (14-18) placed second overall at her weight division after splitting her two matches 1-1. Madilynn Hays (5-14) competed at the 145 lb. weight division with one other wrestler paving the way for first place finish for Hays.

Axtell will travel to Ansley-Litchfield on Jan. 31 for the FKC Invitational. We will have a full recap from the FKC

Invite in next week's paper!

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

100: Jersey Ramirez opened with a pin victory over Warburton of Minden in 1:45 then pinned Utrera of Cozad in 0:59 then pinned Boyles of Ansley-Litchfield in 1:00 then was pinned by Suhr of Brady in 1:40 to place second overall

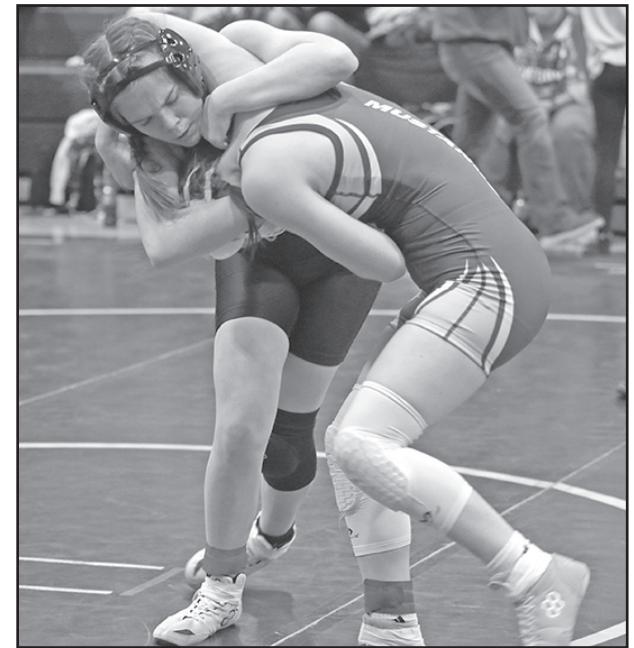
115: Sadie Lorenzo started with a pin victory over Salvador of Loomis in 1:06 then won by total falls 17-1 over Segelke of Minden in 3:07 then was defeated by pinfall against Heckman of Loomis in 2:34 then won by majority decision 10-0 over Alavi of Kearney to place second overall

125: Binzley Walz had a bye to start off then was pinned by Hrasky of SEM in 2:27 then pinned Moore of Hi-Line in 0:47 then won by majority decision 13-2 over Thoene of Kearney to place third overall

135: Krystal Fickenscher started with a decision 6-0 win over Vermeire of Kearney then lost due to decision 0-7 against Walters of Kearney to place second

145: Madilynn Hays opened with a bye then pinned Johnson of Minden in 1:57 to place first overall

170: Taelynn Myers opened with a total fall win 15-0 over Matson of Kearney in 1:24 then was pinned by



Lady Wildcats wrestling hosted their home invite on Jan. 24 with a tremendous showing as the team brought home six medallists as well as a top five team finish. Pictured: Binzley Walz fights to take her opponent to the ground. (Courtesy photo by Phil Serrone)

Rhamy of Overton in 1:04 then pinned Roach of Holddrege in 1:56 then pinned Matson of Kearney in 2:12 to place third overall

Lady Whippets Pick Up Win, Boys Fall to Central City

PHIL SERRONE

'Parent Night' took place on Jan. 22 for the girls and boys wrestling teams of Minden. Central City braved the chilly weather conditions to face off against both teams in dual action.

Starting off the event was the Lady Whippets as the team took part in a quick dual that consisted of only four matches. Marlie Petersen, Myka Petersen and Brinley Pohl notched victories in their matchups. The rest of Minden's points came from forfeits as the team delivered a 48-27 victory in front of the home crowd.

In the boys matchup, the Whippets were defeated by Central City 30-45. Lukas Labenz, Isaac Reed, Kanin Heath and Cael Smith were victorious in their head-to-head clashes.

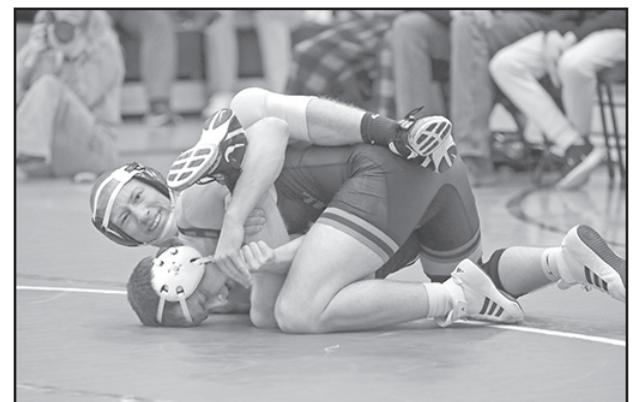
Here are the following results from Minden Girls vs Central City:

100: Ella Warburton won due to forfeit
110: Ashlyn Zerr won by forfeit
115: McKinley Segelke won by forfeit

125: Myka Petersen pinned McNeff in 1:31
130: Brinley Pohl pinned Meekins in 2:56
135: Victoria Hansen lost by decision 2-9 against Peters
140: Marlie Petersen pinned Deibert in 0:35
145: Cristal Gonzalez won by forfeit
155: Annika Soelberg won by forfeit

Here are the following results from Minden boys vs Central City

120: Owen Gilming was pinned by Brandenburg in 2:16
126: Owen Hostetler was pinned by Varley in 1:29
132: Lukas Labenz won by decision 4-7 against Senkbile
138: Isaac Reed won by total falls 18-1 over Zimmerman in 3:06
150: Grayson Heggemeyer won by forfeit
157: Byron Kring lost by decision 1-7 against Zikmund
165: Kanin Heath pinned Redmond in 2:59
175: Frank Kovacs was pinned by Malachias in 1:18
190: Cael Smith won by majority decision 18-8 over Santini



Minden boys and girls wrestling had a busy week with contests at Central City followed by the Younes Hospitality Dual Invite in Kearney. Pictured: (above) Kanin Heath smiles as he attempts to get his leg free from his opponents' grasp. (front page) Brinley Pohl keeps her opponent grounded. (Courtesy photos by Phil Serrone)

215: Sage Saunders lost by pin to Peters in 1:02
285: Evan Lutkemeier won by forfeit

Whippet Wrestling Programs Compete at Kearney Duals

PHIL SERRONE

Fresh off duals against Central City, the Minden girls and boys wrestling teams hit the mats on Jan. 23 at the Kearney Sportsplex for the Younes Hospitality Duals. 19 schools were in attendance for the boys side while 17 schools attended for the girls.

On the boys side, Minden placed 16th overall after getting swept 0-5 in their five duals. Round one saw the Whippets defeated 26-50 against Augusta and a tough round two loss 9-70 against Columbus. In the Augusta match, Cael Smith and Byron Kring dominated their matchup with Smith collecting a pin in under 30 seconds while Kring earned a total fall win.

It was a tough round three loss against Kearney JV which saw the Whippets narrowly defeated by a score of 35-42. Kearney Catholic defeated Minden by a score of 53-28 in round four. With 15th place on the line, Minden faced off against Wray High School and were defeated 26-53.

Kanin Heath finished the afternoon with an impressive 4-0 record, he did not compete in the Wray contest. Evan Lutkemeier was perfect in his four matches as well with four pins, he collected a forfeit in the Kearney Catholic match.

For the girls team, the Lady Whippets finished 11th overall with a record of 1-4. Minden lost to Colby 21-54 in the opening round. Before collecting a third round bye, Minden fell 29-48 against Millard West in the second round. Waverly bested the Lady Whippets in the fourth round 36-48.

The Lady Whippets were able to end the afternoon on a high note with a 48-24 win over Gretna. Brinley Pohl, McKinley Segelke and Ashlyn Zerr were the standouts on the team finishing the afternoon with a 4-1 record.

Minden's boys were scheduled to travel to Lexington on Jan. 24 but elected to not make the trip. Next up for the boys will be a road trip to Fillmore Central on Jan. 31.

Lady Whippets wrestling will travel to Lexington for a dual on Jan. 29. Closing out the week, Minden will host the SWC tournament on Jan. 31. We will have a full recap from each wrestling event for the boys and girls in next week's paper!

Here are the following results from all five duals for Minden boys wrestling:

Minden vs Augusta:

120: Owen Gilming was pinned by Terry in 0:13
126: Owen Hostetler lost by total falls 0-15 against Weaver
132: Lukas Labenz was pinned by Luinstra in 0:23
138: Isaac Reed won by decision 13-7 over Wills
144: Grayson Heggemeyer was pinned by Hartley in 0:26

150: Bryon Kring won by total falls 21-3 over Robbins
157: Aaron Banuelos lost by decision 6-1 over Pringle
165: Kanin Heath pinned Apel in 0:26
190: Cael Smith pinned Tatom in 0:19
215: Sage Saunders was pinned by Carey in 0:57
285: Evan Lutkemeier pinned Benington in 0:52

Minden vs Columbus:

120: Gilming was pinned by Schwarting in 1:32
126: Hostetler was pinned by McFarland 0:35
132: Labenz was pinned by Kropatsch in 2:22
138: Reed was pinned by Jenny in 4:43
150: Banuelos was pinned by Petersen in 0:11
165: Heath won by decision 8-3 over Renteria
190: Smith lost by total falls 2-20 against Delano
215: Saunders was pinned by Nelson in 1:39
285: Lutkemeier pinned Andresen in 3:27

Minden vs Kearney JV:

120: Gilming was pinned by Smith in 0:50
126: Hostetler was pinned by Launer in 0:14
132: Labenz won by decision 11-4 against Mills
138: Reed won by total falls 19-2 over Schall
144: Heggemeyer was pinned by Sutton in 0:23
150: Kring won by decision 12-11 over Tripe
157: Banuelos was pinned by VanHorn in 5:30
165: Frank Kovacs was pinned by Ryan in 1:36
175: Heath pinned DeCent in 1:09
190: Smith won by forfeit
215: Saunders won by pin fall over Whiting in 2:53
285: Lutkemeier pinned Vasquez in 0:49

Minden vs Kearney Catholic:

120: Gilming was pinned by Lawrence in 0:28
126: Hostetler was pinned by Frank in 0:43
132: Labenz was pinned by Rogers in 2:44
138: Reed pinned Woodward in 5:01
144: Heggemeyer was pinned by Younes in 3:11
150: Kring lost by total falls 3-22 against Erickson
157: Banuelos won by majority falls 10-2 against Rector
165: Heath pinned VanMatre in 3:41
175: Kovacs was pinned by Onnen in 0:51
190: Smith won by forfeit
215: Saunders was pinned by Vasquez in 4:36
285: Lutkemeier won by forfeit

Minden vs Wray:

120: Gilming was pinned by Buoy in 1:10
126: Hostetler was pinned by Gonzalez in 0:38
132: Labenz was pinned by Godsey in 3:21
138: Reed won by total falls 16-0 over DePue
144: Heggemeyer was pinned by Stults in 0:41

150: Kring lost by total falls 1-19 against Collins
157: Banuelos won by decision 4-1 over Molina
165: Kovacs was pinned by Roman in 3:13
190: Smith pinned Riggleman in 0:32
215: Saunders pinned Goodwin in 1:46
285: Lutkemeier pinned Burrell in 0:16

Here are the following results for each Minden girls match:

Minden vs Colby HS:

100: Ella Warburton was pinned by Salcido in 3:42
110: Ashlyn Zerr won by forfeit
115: McKinley Segelke was pinned by White in 3:27
125: Myka Petersen was pinned by Hoover in 4:39
130: Brinley Pohl won by decision 12-7 over Gray
135: Victoria Hansen pinned Boyson in 3:43
140: Marlie Petersen was pinned by Hills in 0:59
145: Cristal Gonzalez pinned Zerr in 0:53
155: Annika Soelberg was pinned by Stieben in 0:52

Minden vs Millard West:

105: Warburton pinned Anton in 1:58
110: Zerr won by forfeit
120: Segelke won by total falls 15-0 over Quigley
125: My. Petersen won by pinfall over Pelach in 3:59
130: Pohl was pinned by Jurgensen-Allen in 5:09
135: Hansen was pinned by Hoegemeyer in 0:47
140: Ma. Petersen was pinned by Seymour in 2:21
145: Gonzalez pinned Vore in 3:10
155: Soelberg was pinned by Voss in 1:51

Minden vs Waverly

100: Warburton was pinned by Dewing in 3:25
110: Zerr was pinned by Kamrath in 0:22
115: Segelke pinned Foster in 0:20
125: My. Petersen pinned Kutschara in 3:14
130: Pohl pinned Hying in 5:02
135: Hansen pinned Von Herder in 0:29
140: Ma. Petersen pinned Stevens in 0:32
145: Gonzalez was pinned by Hagaman in 3:59
155: Soelberg pinned Teinert in 3:43

Minden vs Gretna:

100: Warburton won due to forfeit
110: Zerr won due to forfeit
115: Segelke won due to forfeit
125: My. Petersen won due to forfeit
130: Pohl pinned Bock in 4:20
135: Hansen won due to pinfall over Oseke in 2:49
140: Ma. Petersen pinned Poppleton in 0:41
145: Zoey Seiler won due to forfeit
155: Autumn Johnson was pinned in 1:47 against Freyer

Falcons Take Down Hi-Line and Brady

PHIL SERRONE

Wilcox-Hildreth boys wrestling began a grueling three-day stretch with a road trip to Eustis-Farnam for a triangular dual. Brady High School was also in attendance for the event that took place on Jan. 22.

The Falcons defeated Brady in their first match of the triangular by a dominant score of 66-4. This was a quick dual with only a total of three matches taking place with Wil-Hil coming out on top 2-1.

Mikah Eiley and Jacob Jezbera each picked up pinfall victories while the rest of the Falcons team points stemmed from forfeits.

In a much more competitive matchup, Wil-Hil bested Hi-Line by six points securing the win 42-36. Kyler Masters, Brody Patterson, Cauy Twohig, Brett Woollen and Gavin Ironshell each had their hands raised after their matches due to pinfall.

Here are the following results from Wilcox-Hildreth vs Brady:

106: Mikah Eiley pinned Sanger in 1:12
120: Cooper Woollen won by forfeit
132: Kyler Masters won due to forfeit
138: Brody Patterson won due to forfeit
144: Cauy Twohig won due to forfeit

150: Drake Ritner won due to forfeit

157: Brett Woollen lost by decision 9-19 against Karchner

165: Gavin Ironshell won due to forfeit

175: Damien Campbell won due to forfeit

190: Jacob Jezbera pinned Robison in 1:56

215: Callen Wenninghoff won due to forfeit

285: Craig Bunker won due to forfeit

Here are the following results from Wilcox-Hildreth vs Hi-Line

106: Eiley won due to forfeit

120: C.Woollen lost due to pinfall against Kelly in 1:44

132: Masters pinned Oakland in 2:56

138: Patterson pinned Kerzner in 1:06

144: Twohig pinned C.Schutz in 1:45

150: Ritner lost due to pinfall against P.Schutz in 3:18

157: B.Woollen pinned Redwine in 3:34

165: Campbell was pinned by Rupp in 0:59

175: Ironshell pinned Scharf in 2:11

190: Jezbera won due to forfeit

215: Wenninghoff was pinned by Koch in 2:40

285: Bunker was pinned by Viter in 0:59

Bowling Standings

Classey Lassies 1-15-26

Team Standings:

	W	L
Skye's The Limit Salon	14	6
Upland Bar & Grill	11	9
Platte River BBQ	11	9
Pony Express Ford	11	9
Aurora Coop-Keene	10.5	9.5
Dobish Dumpsters	10	10
Split Happens	8.5	11.5
Larson Bros Construction	4	16

High Individual Game: Haley Deyo, 191; Kasey Welch, 178; Cori Malone, 165

High Individual Series: Haley Deyo, 478; Kasey Welch, 462; Cori Malone, 457

High Team Game: Dobish Dumpsters, 416; Split Happens, 414; Platte River BBQ, 414

High Team Series: Split Happens, 1167; Platte River BBQ, 1134; Dobish Dumpsters, 1107

Sunday Mixed 1-18-26

Team Standings:

	W	L
Flinstones	32	16
3 Chicks & A Stick	30	18
Lucky Dogs	25.5	22.5
Bowling Stones	25	23
Travelers	24.5	23.5

High Individual Game, Men: Randy Durand, 213; Calvin Durand, 203; Marty Misek, 184

High Individual Game, Women: Sheila Schoone, 172; Laurie Wright, 167; Haley Deyo, 158

High Individual Series, Men: Randy Durand, 526; Marty Misek, 510; Calvin Durand, 479

High Individual Series, Women: Sheila Schoone, 503; Haley Deyo, 408; Laurie, Wright, 385

High Team Game: Flinstones, 614; 3 Chicks & A Stick, 563; Bowling Stones, 542

High Team Series: Flinstones, 1646; 3 Chicks & A Stick, 1623; Bowling Stones, 1563

Minden Unified Association 12-25-25

Team Standings:

	W	L
First Bank	48	32
Joyce Farms	42	38
APEX	33	31
Miller Body	26	54

High Individual Game: Spencer Mills, 211; Travis Kuhlmann, 208; Gavin Blum, 190

High Individual Series: Spencer Mills, 550; Paul Jensen, 515; Travis Kuhlmann, 510

High Team Game: APEX, 695; First Bank, 653; Miller Body, 624

High Team Series: First Bank, 1827; APEX, 1759; Miller Body, 1733

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Crowds Cheer on Dawg Double Victory Week at Home

ROGER HANSEN

Two home games, two wins for the Minden boys last week as the Whippets defeated St. Paul 58-36 on January 20 and then won over Holdrege 59-56 on January 23. Minden's successful week moved the record to 10-5.

The Whippets started well and continued to out-point St. Paul in all four quarters.

The 'Luke' boys, Craig and Grollmes, scored nine and five, respectively, in the first quarter leading to a 19-11 advantage.

Grollmes (5) and Craig (3) again paced the Whippets in the lower-scoring second period. Minden led at halftime 29-19.

The Whippets used a 12-0 run that began in the second quarter and extended well into the third to break the game open. St. Paul went 14 possessions and nine and a half clock minutes without scoring. Jackson Armstrong's trey at the third period horn put Minden up 41-25.

Armstrong was just getting warmed up as he hit from long range twice more in the first minute of the fourth quarter. Then Craig, Landon Bules, Traelin Christensen and Turner Schmidt led Minden to an eventual 25-point margin before settling for a comfortable 22-point win.

The Whippets were 22-49 (8-20 on 3s) for 45% on FGs and 6-13 on FTs. They had 9 offensive and 25 defensive rebounds, 19 assists, 8 steals and 14 turnovers.

Craig had 16 points, 2 rebounds and 2 assists and Grollmes got 14 points, 9 rebounds and 2 assists. Bules had 9 points, 4 rebounds and 7 assists and Armstrong also scored 9. Christensen supplied 8 points, 11 rebounds, 5 assists and 5 steals. Jack Scheibel gathered 3 rebounds and Bloomfield had 2 rebounds.



Minden TeamMates held their chuck-a-duck fundraiser during the January 23 home basketball game against Holdrege.

St. Paul	11	8	6	11-	36 (5-10)
Minden	19	10	12	17-	58 (9-5)

MINDEN- Craig 16, Grollmes 14, Armstrong 9, Bules 9, Christensen 8, Schmidt 2

In a typically energy-charged contest against Holdrege, the Whippets had the final upper hand.

It was a game of runs--each team with two of them. The Dusters had the first run--10-2 in the final five minutes of the opening quarter--to lead 18-10 after one period. Christensen and Grollmes scored four each in the frame to kick-start Minden.

Holdrege opened up a 25-14 advantage at 5:52 of the second but the Whippets chipped away and cut the Dusters' lead to 30-22 by halftime. Craig and Christensen scored five apiece in the second.

In the last five minutes of the second and extending through the entirety of the third, an arctic blast infiltrated the Dusters' offense. Over the course of 30 possessions, Holdrege was 2-20 from the floor with 10 turnovers. Their only points of the third period were two FTs with 20 seconds remaining. In the meantime, Minden's 29-7 run vaulted the Whippets to a 43-32 lead by the conclusion of the third. Christensen scored 10 in the quarter.

The Dusters employed a 15-4 run over the first five-plus minutes of the fourth quarter to knot the game at 47-47 at 2:55. Minden went right down and got back on top 50-47 on a crucial trey from Christensen.

A technical foul on a foul call against the Whippets allowed Holdrege to attempt four FTs (they made three) and have possession of the ball. The Dusters turned it over but had tied the contest at 50-50. A Christensen bucket at 1:59 and his two FTs at 1:25 put Minden up 54-50.

After a Duster FT, Craig converted a huge and-1 moving the lead to 57-51.

Holdrege made another FT and a two-pointer closing the gap to 57-54 at 0:37. A Whippet turnover and a Duster layup made it 57-56 at 0:24. Then two big FTs from Armstrong at 0:13 got the lead back to three forcing Holdrege to try for a three-pointer to tie, which they couldn't connect on.

Six Whippets scored in the second half, every point being important.

Minden was 19-54 (3-15 on 3s) for 35% on FGs and 18-26 on FTs. There were 8 offensive and 27 defensive



Minden boys basketball improved their record to 10-5 on the season with wins over St. Paul 58-36 and Holdrege 59-56. Pictured: Luke Craig attempts to tip the ball to his team to begin the game. (Courier photo by Arabella Reed)

rebounds, 11 assists, 9 steals and 14 turnovers.

Holdrege was 20-53 (6-23 on 3s) for 37% on FGs and 10-22 on FTs. The Dusters had 13 turnovers.

Christensen was phenomenal on the night getting a double-double of 26 points (a career-best) and 15 rebounds plus 2 assists and 3 steals. Craig had 12 points, 3 rebounds, 3 assists and 3 steals and Grollmes scored 10 to go with 9 rebounds (just one rebound away from a double-double two games in a row). Bules had 6 points, 5 rebounds and 3 assists. Bloomfield got 3 points and Armstrong added 2 points, 2 rebounds and 2 steals.

Holdrege	18	12	2	24-	56 (5-10)
Minden	10	12	21	16-	59 (10-5)

MINDEN- Christensen 26, Craig 12, Grollmes 10, Bules 6, Bloomfield 3, Armstrong 2

Lady Whippets Face Opponents on Home Court

ROGER HANSEN

Minden's girls played a couple of home contests last week and they got by St. Paul 39-35 on January 20 but were upended by Holdrege 62-37 on January 23. The split of the games left the record at 10-5.

It wasn't easy but the Whippets prevailed in a grind-it-out game against St. Paul.

Minden led 11-7 late in the first quarter but would not lead again until about two minutes left in the fourth period.

The Whippets fell behind by eight, 12-20, in the second quarter before a trey by Riley Eden ended St. Paul's 13-1 run. Then the Wildcats were up nine, 15-24, when a three-ball from Ruby Rhynalds gave Minden a needed jolt. At halftime St. Paul led 24-18.

The Whippets continued to close the gap in the third period, partly with offense and, at least as importantly, with defense, limiting St. Paul to five points in the quarter. Myla Emery scored four and KayLynn Jorgensen five, including a three-pointer in the final 30 seconds to tie the contest at 29-29, which is how the period ended.

Minden's first lead, 32-31, since the first quarter happened at 6:15 of the fourth when Jorgensen sank a three. The final period had many long, deliberate possessions by both teams, each wanting to maximize their time with the ball. St. Paul briefly went ahead by one at 4:52, but an and-1 by Emery after an offensive rebound by Jorgensen (her fifth OR of the game) put the Whippets in front for good. A free throw from Kaleigh Carr and three more FTs from Emery ensured a Whippet victory. Another yeoman defensive effort in the fourth saw Minden hold the Wildcats to six points.

The Whippets were 14-50 (5-25 on 3s) for 28% on FGs and 6-11 on FTs. They had 14 offensive and 16 defensive

rebounds, 12 assists, 6 steals and 12 turnovers.

Emery had 15 points, 9 rebounds, 2 assists, 3 steals and 2 blocks in a typical all-around effort for her. Jorgensen got 8 points, 7 rebounds (not bad for the shortest player on the court) and 3 assists. Carr provided 7 points, 5 rebounds and 3 assists and Rhynalds had 6 points and 3 assists. Eden pitched in 3 points and 6 rebounds and Lauren Starkey nabbed 2 rebounds.

St. Paul 10 14 5 6- 35 (4-12)

Minden 11 7 11 10- 39 (10-4)

MINDEN- Emery 15, Jorgensen 8, Carr 7, Rhynalds 6, Eden 3

Holdrege visited Minden on January 23 and the state-ranked Dusters left with a win.

Holdrege proved to be a tough matchup for the Whippets, its pressure defense forcing Minden miscues and leading to some points off turnovers. Also, the Dusters cashed in four threes in the first quarter. All of the above led to a 20-11 lead by the end of the first. Jorgensen scored Minden's first five points.

The Whippets' defense in the second period held Holdrege to 10 points and forced five turnovers. Emery made two two-point buckets and Jorgensen hit her second trey of the half but the Dusters were able to extend their lead to 12, 30-18, by halftime.

After trailing by 14 early in the third, Minden cut the margin to nine, 26-35, halfway through the quarter but a dry spell by the Whippets and a 10-0 run by Holdrege pushed the lead out to 45-26. In the final minute of the third, Starkey netted a three and Emery completed an and-1, but Holdrege kept scoring and through three periods the Dusters led 48-32. Emery put in eight points in the quarter.

The Dusters finished with a strong fourth period, ending with a 10-2 run to put the contest on ice.

The Whippets were 14-33 (6-12 on 3s) for 43% on FGs and 3-11 on FTs. They had 4 offensive and 14 defensive rebounds, 12 assists, 6 steals and 20 turnovers.

Holdrege shot 21-46 (8-13 on 3s) for 45% from the floor and 12-17 on FTs. They had 9 turnovers.

Emery had 15 points, 5 rebounds, 2 assists and 2 steals and Jorgensen scored 12 plus 5 rebounds, 2 assists and 2 steals. Carr had 3 points, 6 rebounds and 3 assists and Starkey got 3 points. Eden and Rhynalds each dealt 2 assists.

Holdrege 20 10 18 14- 62 (14-3)

Minden 11 7 14 5- 37 (10-5)



The Lady Whippets split their week of games 1-1 with a victory over St. Paul 39-35 and a loss against rival Holdrege 37-62. Their record is now 10-5 on the season. Pictured: Riley Eden sets up on the lower block awaiting a free throw attempt. (Courier photo by Arabella Reed)

MINDEN- Emery 15, Jorgensen 12, Carr 3, Starkey 3, Rhynalds 2, Eden 2



Minden Cheer parents were recognized during the January 20 home basketball game against St. Paul. (Courier photo by Arabella Reed)

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Axtell Wildcats Sink First Victory of the Season

ROGER HANSEN

WInless no more! Axtell's boys topped Arapahoe 41-37 at Arapahoe on January 20 for the Cats first win of the season. Axtell's record improved to 1-14.

The Cats had a strong first quarter, getting out to a 15-10 lead. However, the Warriors led at halftime 22-20 and still held a slim lead at the end of the third period 30-29.

Axtell outdid Arapahoe 12-7 in the fourth quarter to claim that initial victory.

The Cats were 12-52 (5-24 on 3s) for 23% on FGs and 8-17 on FTs. They had 9 offensive and 24 defensive rebounds, 10 assists, 9 steals and 16 turnovers. It was a true team win as nine players put points in the book for Axtell.

The Warriors were 14-48 (3-17 on 3s) for 29% on FGs and 10-18 at the foul line.

Warren Myers scored a career-best 12 and added 4 rebounds and 2 steals. Reece Hunt nearly doubled up with 10 points and 9 rebounds and he had 3 assists. Easton Bergstrom got 3 points, 7 rebounds and 3 blocks. Aydan Houchin stattded 3 points, 4 rebounds, 2 assists and 2 steals and Kyler Kolbo had 3 points and 2 assists. Carter Lorenz supplied 3 rebounds and 3 steals. Davin Sonnenfeld grabbed 5 rebounds.

Axtell 15 5 9 12- 41 (1-14)

Arap. 10 12 8 7- 37 (0-15)

AXTELL- Myers 12, Hunt 10, Bergstrom 3, Kolbo 3, Micah Houchin 3, Landon

Powers 3, A. Houchin 3, Lorenz 2, Sonnenfeld 2

Back at home on January 23, the Cats hosted nearby rival Wilcox-Hildreth and the visiting Falcons claimed the win 71-35.

Wil-Hil had doubled the score on Axtell by the end of the first quarter 20-10 and then really poured it on in the second period to lead at halftime 47-16.

The Falcons went on to led 63-24 through three quarters before the Cats had an 11-8 advantage in the final period.

Wil-Hil got points from 10 players. Landon Lienemann led with 18, which included four treys. Kaleb Johnson dropped in 13 and Drew Blank tallied 11. Thomas Donley and Jacob Beck each scored 8 while Cody Schriner scored 4. Full stats for the Falcons were unavailable at press time.

The Cats were 14-39 (5-25 on 3s) for 36% on FGs and 2-7 at the foul line. They had 11 offensive and 12 defensive rebounds, 8 assists, 4 steals and 16 turnovers.

Axtell's scoring leader was Hunt with 10 plus 3 rebounds. Myers had 6 points, 8 rebounds, 3 assists and 2 steals and Lorenz also scored 6. Kolbo got 5 points and 2 assists and Nolan Wells had 4 points. Micah Houchin had 3 points, Bergstrom and Powers each pulled in 3 rebounds and Sonnenfeld got 2 rebounds.

Wil-Hil 20 27 16 8- 71 (4-11)

Axtell 10 6 8 11- 35 (1-15)

WIL-HIL- Lienemann 18, K. Johnson 13, Blank 11, Donley 8, Beck 8, C. Schriner 4, Stetson Guthrie 3, Sutton Strong 3, Kip Johnson 2, Kaden Schriner 1

AXTELL- Hunt 10, Lorenz 6, Myers 6, Kolbo 5, Wells 4, M. Houchin 3, Bergstrom

1



Axtell boys basketball secured their first win of the season over Arapahoe on Jan. 20 by a score of 41-37. The Wildcats fell to rival Wilcox-Hildreth on Jan. 23 by a score of 35-71. Pictured: Axtell's Reece Hunt and Wil-Hil's Drew Blank get into a jump ball situation. (Courier photo by Phil Serrone)

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

DINAH CULP - WRESTLING

School - Wilcox-Hildreth Public School

Grade - Senior

Achievements in past seasons and this season:

This is my first year coaching Dinah, and throughout the season she has shown consistent growth and improvement on the mat. Since returning from Christmas break, she hasn't lost a match, a testament to her hard work, resilience, and commitment to getting better every day.

Challenges she has overcome: Dinah faced several challenges early in the season, including adjusting to a new coach, new practice routines, and different meet expectations. She also competed through illness during the first few meets. Since the break, she has been healthy, and her performance has reflected that. Her confidence and wrestling continue to improve with each match.

Attributes that have led to her success: Her success is driven by her strong determination and desire to win, as well as the positive team environment around her. Dinah and her teammates consistently push one another in practice, creating a culture of accountability and improvement. That daily effort is now translating into team and individual success at meets.

Beyond athletics, Dinah exemplifies what it means to be a student-athlete. She is involved in National Honor Society, FBLA, Volleyball, Track, Wrestling, and One Act. She prioritizes academics while fully committing to her athletic and extracurricular pursuits, making her a well-rounded and dedicated senior. - Coach Mitchell Sloggett



Lady Falcons and Lady Wildcats Claw for Dominance

ROGER HANSEN



Lady Falcons basketball was defeated on Jan. 23 by Axtell 40-58 and another loss on Jan. 24 against Amherst 12-48. Wilcox-Hildreth senior Cheyenne Lieb broke the record for most made threes in a career during the face-off with Axtell. Pictured: Lieb drives towards the basket and attempts to get a foul call on Axtell. (Courier photo by Phil Serrone)

Schilling 4, Stritt 3, Nelson 3, Bristol Thorell 2, Brooklyn DeJonge 2, Morgan Hawkins 2

The Cats took on Wilcox-Hildreth on January 23 at Axtell in the annual cross/intra-county game. The Cats were better this night 58-40 over the Falcons.

Broncos Overpower Falcons

PHIL SERRONE

On Jan. 24, the Lady Falcons (0-17) traveled to Amherst High School in search of their first win of the season. Unfortunately, the Broncos overpowered Wilcox-Hildreth on offense and defense resulting in a 12-49 loss.

Amherst got out to an early 17-1 lead in the first quarter and never looked back scoring double digits in each quarter except the fourth where the Broncos missed that mark by one point.

Wilcox-Hildreth's best quarter output came in the third when the team scored six points. Cheyenne Lieb, Chloe Johnson and Kinley Hansen combined for four points each. Lieb, who broke the record for most threes in a career Friday in Axtell, added another three pointer to her record breaking career. No other stats were provided.

On Jan. 27, Wilcox-Hildreth faced off against Silver Lake High School. Concluding the week, the Lady Falcons will host Franklin High School. Tip off is slated for 6:00 p.m. We will have a full breakdown from both games in next week's paper!

Here are the following stats from Wilcox-Hildreth girls vs Amherst:
Points: Cheyenne Lieb 4, Chloe Johnson 4, Kinley Hansen 4

A week with two games found the Axtell girls losing one and winning one to move their record to 6-10.

On January 20 a solid Arapahoe squad bested the Cats 68-28 at Arapahoe. Axtell hung in there for a half but the second half was decisive in the Warriors' favor. Arapahoe led 30-18 at halftime but increased the difference to 50-22 by the end of the third.

Emily Danburg paced the Cats' scoring with 12 followed by Mina Schilling with 4 and Ashlynn Nelson and Leah Stritt with 3 each.

Axtell	7	11	4	6-	28
(5-10)					
Arap.	14	16	20	18-	68
(13-2)					

AXTELL- Danburg 12,

Axtell surged to a big lead after one period and was dominant again in the second quarter as the Cats led at halftime 38-9. Danburg had 15 points at intermission for Axtell and Hawkins eight. Chloe Johnson scored seven in the second for Wil-Hil.

Cheyenne Lieb scored 10 in the third for the Falcons and nine more in the fourth on her way to 21 for the game. Wil-Hil's career leader in three-pointers sank three in the third and three more in the fourth. Danburg added eight more points in the third to reach her game-high 23. At the end of the third period the Cats were up 53-26.

Wil-Hil again outpointed Axtell in the fourth as the Falcons reached 40 (previous high 30) for the first time this season. Axtell also achieved its season-high in points eclipsing 53 that was reached in December.

Wil-Hil was 11-37 (7-22 on 3s) for 29% on FGs and 11-18 on FTs.

Lieb had 21 points, 4 rebounds and 3 steals and Chloe Johnson got 13 points, 3 rebounds, 4 assists and 2 steals. Kinley Hansen had 4 points and 8 rebounds, Allegra Johnson grabbed 7 rebounds and got 2 assists and Kaylan Ogier had 7 rebounds and 2 steals.

Axtell was led by Danburg's 23 points followed by Morgan Hawkins 8 and 7 apiece from Maddie Wells and Leah Stritt. Brooklyn DeJonge netted 5 points.

Wil-Hil 0 9 17 14- 40 (0-16)

Axtell 18 20 15 5- 58 (6-10)

WIL-HIL- Lieb 21, C. Johnson 13, Hansen 4, Kamryn Russell 2

AXTELL- Danburg 23, Hawkins 12, Stritt 7, Wells 7, DeJonge 5, Thorell 2, Nelson 2

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

EMILY DANBURG - BASKETBALL

School - Axtell Community School

Grade - Senior

Achievements in past seasons and this season - Emily has been a Fort Kearny Conference third-team selection and Academic All-State selection. Emily

has filled many roles throughout her career at Axtell, shifting from a shooting guard to more of a point guard this season. She has done well handling opposing full court pressure, while still finding her way to the rim.

Attributes that have led to her success:

Emily is a natural competitor and leader. She brings that attitude into each practice and makes us better as a group. Emily has always shown a strong work ethic and has spent many hours working to strengthen every area of her game. It's been special to see Emily develop so much as a player and person during her high school career at Axtell. - Coach Brian Hubbert



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FFA Students of the Month

MINDEN

Name: Hallie Hartman

Grade: Freshman



SAE: Agriculture Education

Involvement in the chapter: Hallie has been involved in our chapter since the 8th grade. Last year, she got involved by attending conferences, competing in contests, and she won the Star Discovery Award. This year, she has been just as involved! She has been working on developing her SAE in agriculture education, competing in contests, and serving on committees.

Recent successes: This month, she tried something new and competed in Senior Parli Pro as a freshman. The team of upperclassmen needed

an extra member, and she offered to try out the contest. She also competed in Junior Prepared Public Speaking and presented a speech she wrote on the Importance of Rural Healthcare in Nebraska.

AXTELL

Name: Samantha Vinchattle

Grade: Freshman



Involvement in the chapter: Samantha is an active member in our FFA chapter and has been since joining as an 8th grader. So far this year Samantha has participated in chapter meetings, Husker Harvest Days, helping with Farm Safety Day, attending leadership conferences, participating in district contests and helping fundraise for our FFA chapter.

Recent successes: Most recently Samantha competed in District Leadership Development Events which were held in Aurora at The Leadership Center.

Samantha competed in Natural Resources Speaking and gave a speech over how corn affects Nebraska. Samantha earned a red ribbon for her speech.

WILCOX-HILDRETH

The Wilcox-Hildreth FFA organization kicked off the new year with Leadership Development Events and State Degree submissions last week. February will prove to be a busy and exciting month for the group as they take part in State Degree Interviews Feb. 4 and the Nebraska Cattlemen's Classic on Feb. 18. The month will wrap up with National FFA Week on Feb. 23-27.

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Calendars and Menus

Minden Public Schools

MENUS:

Friday, Jan. 30: BREAKFAST: Long John, string cheese; LUNCH: Deli sub sandwich bar, chips

Monday, Feb. 2: BREAKFAST: Bagel with cream cheese; LUNCH: Pulled pork nachos

Tuesday, Feb. 3: BREAKFAST: French toast stick, hard boiled egg; LUNCH: Chicken fried chicken on a bun, French fries

Wednesday, Feb. 4: BREAKFAST: Breakfast boat; LUNCH: Beef enchiladas, beans

Thursday, Feb. 5: BREAKFAST: Blueberry donut, yogurt; LUNCH: Stuffed crust pepperoni pizza

Friday, Feb. 6: NO SCHOOL

ACTIVITIES:

Friday, Jan. 30: Girls & Boys BB SWC Semi-Final; 7/8 Girls WR @ Grand Island Westridge, 4:15 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 31: Girls & Boys BB SWC Finals; Speech CNFL #2 @ GIHS, 8 a.m.; V/JV Boys WR @ Raymond Central Invite, 9 a.m.; Girls WR SWC Championship Meet, 11 a.m.

Monday, Feb. 2: 7/8 Boys BB @ Doniphan-Trumbull, 4:30 p.m.; 7th Boys BB vs. Sunrise, 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 4: Early Release, 1/1:10 p.m.; FFA District Review for State Degrees; P/T Conferences, 3-6 p.m.

Thursday Feb. 5: Early Release, 1/1:10 p.m.; P/T Conferences, 3-8 p.m.; 7th & 8th Boys BB @ Broken Bow, 4:30

Friday, Feb. 6: NO SCHOOL; Girls WR Districts @ Plainview; Boys WR SWC @ Holdrege, 11 a.m.; V/JV Girls & Boys BB @ Cozad, 4:30 p.m.

Axtell Community School

ACTIVITIES:

Friday, Jan. 30: Boys WR @ Ord Invite, 10 a.m.

Saturday, Jan. 31: Boys & Girls BB @ FKC round one game; Girls WR @ FKC Invite @ Ansley, 10 a.m.

Monday, Feb. 2: Girls BB @ FKC Quarterfinal

Tuesday, Feb. 3: Boys BB @ FKC Quarterfinal

Wednesday, Feb. 4: State Degree Interviews seniors only; JH Girls & Boys BB @ Overton, 3 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 5: Girls BB @ FKC Semi-Finals; Boys WR @ FKC Invite vs Amherst, 10 a.m.

Friday, Feb. 6: Boys BB @ FKC Semi-Finals; Girls WR @ District meet

Wilcox-Hildreth Public Schools

MENUS:

Friday, Jan. 30: BREAKFAST: Pancakes; LUNCH: Fried chicken legs

Monday, Feb. 2: BREAKFAST: Monte Cristo; LUNCH: Chicken patty

Tuesday, Feb. 3: BREAKFAST: Muffins; LUNCH: Beef stroganoff

Wednesday, Feb. 4: BREAKFAST: Waffles; LUNCH: Hot

ham & cheese

Thursday, Feb. 5: BREAKFAST: Banana chunk; LUNCH: Chili

Friday, Feb. 6: BREAKFAST: Yogurt; LUNCH: Italian dunkers

ACTIVITIES:

Friday, Jan. 30: V/JV Girls & Boys BB vs. Franklin (Girls Senior Night), 4:30 p.m.; Boys WR Wilcox-Hildreth Triangular Senior Night, 5 p.m.; Pep Band @ BB game, 6:15 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 31: Girls & Boys BB First Round FKC Tournament; Boys WR @ Doniphan-Trumbull Invite, 9 a.m.; Girls WR FKC @ Ansley-Litchfield Invite, 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, Feb. 1: FBLA Scholarship Application due

Monday, Feb. 2: Girls BB FKC Quarterfinals

Tuesday, Feb. 3: 7-12 Team meeting, 7:45 a.m.; Student Council meeting, 11:40 a.m.; Boys BB FKC Quarterfinals, 6 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 4: FFA State Degree Interview Proficiency; National Honor Society meeting, 11:40 a.m.; JH Boys BB vs Silver Lake, 2 p.m.; MTSS-A, 3:5- p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 5: PK-6 Team meeting, 7:45 a.m.; Boys WR FKC/TVC Championships, 10 a.m.; FCA lunch meeting, 11:40 a.m.; Girls BB FKC Playback Games, 6 p.m.; Girls BB FKC Semi-Finals, 6 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 6: Girls WR Districts @ Lakeview Junior Senior High, 2 p.m.; FBLA SLC Registration deadline/projects due; District Special Education meeting, 2:45 p.m.; Boys BB FKC Playback Games, 6 p.m.; Boys BB FKC Semi-Finals, 6 p.m.

Community Services

Dinner Menus

Meals served at Minden Community/Senior Center (Community Action Partnership of Mid-Nebraska), 403 N. Colorado Avenue, at noon. Please call 308-832-2139 the day before the dinner with your reservations. All

Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who helped me celebrate my 90th birthday. Thank you for the cards, flowers and gifts. Thank you to my daughter and family for organizing and making my party an enjoyable event. It was so good to see everyone and I had such a wonderful time. Thank you for making my day special.

Lola Meyer

meals are served with coffee, water, and milk. Menu are subject to change. Join us.

Monday, Feb. 2: Fried chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, dinner roll, fruit and dessert

Tuesday, Feb. 3: Swiss steak, baked potato, carrots, dinner roll and fruit

Wednesday, Feb. 4: Soup, sandwich, fruit and dessert

Thursday, Feb. 5: Pork roast, mashed potatoes, gravy, mixed vegetables, dinner roll and fruit

Friday, Feb. 6: Beef and noodles, pickled beets, dinner roll, 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.

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Do You Remember

Eighty Years Ago — 1946

Ted Binderup demonstrated that his herd of Hampshire hogs were ranked among the highest in America as several hogs were selected as 1945 Reserve All Americans among Hampshires by a magazine dealing with records of the breed.

Max Houtchens, former Minden High School commerce teacher was the new director of the airline training program and veteran adviser at Denver University.

The Rotarians honored the Rotary-Anns at a dinner in the home of Mayor and Mrs. Arthur Jensen. Tom Mason, Clayton Morey and Ray Burg served on the entertainment committee.

Seventy Years Ago — 1956

Ninety percent of the shareholders of the Farmers Co-op Grain & Supply Company were in favor of proceeding with arrangements for the construction of a new 250,000 bushel concrete elevator.

All three Kearney County high school basketball teams had a clean sweep as Minden, Axtell and Wilcox all notched double victories, with both first and second team outfits.

Art Siegal, speaking at the Lions Club meeting, gave a talk on the use of natural gas in Kearney County for pumping irrigation water.

Sixty Years Ago — 1966

Bill Johnson collected 18 points as the Whippets basketball team upset Holdrege, 59-53.

Dr. Wayne H. Danielson, a Minden High School graduate and biochemist and 24 year staff member at Children's

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Hospital in Denver, Colo., was named to receive the hospital's first annual outstanding service award.

Cindy Hedstrom, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Duane Hedstrom of Axtell, was installed as honored queen of Job's Daughters in Minden in a ceremony in the Masonic Temple.

Fifty Years Ago — 1976

A new book at the Axtell library, "Memoirs of a Country Doctor," was written by a former Axtell physician Dr. Thomas L. Doher.

Tom Christensen joined the staff of the Nuckolls County Hospital in Superior as their chief medical technologist.

The Danish Folk Dance Group was asked to serve as greeters at the Royal Danish Banquet honoring her majesty, Queen Margrethe II of Denmark and his royal highness, the Prince Henrich.

Forty Years Ago — 1986

Angie Hauserman won the Special Olympics Bowling Tournament in Hastings with scores of 144, 110 and 126.

Two new 4-H clubs were organized in Wilcox: the Wilcox Clovers Club was led by Tanice Twohig; and the Oneida Eagles Club was under the leadership of Jack Landin.

The number one Problem Solving Team at Minden High School included Kim Beck, Lezlie Nelson, Suzanne Phillips and Mark Richardson. The number two team included Kevin Budd, Shawn Young, John Stadler, Jason Glenn, David Burchell and Steve Stuhmer.

Thirty Years Ago — 1996

Plunging temperatures, high winds and heavy snow plagued the area as a blizzard left people stranded, caused several accidents and closed schools and businesses. In mid-afternoon, temperatures plummeted 20 degrees while the wind velocity increased and visibility went from clear to less than a city block.

In his address as the new president of the Minden Chamber of Commerce, Dr. Scott Maline introduced the chamber's newest project, a St. Patrick's Day celebration.

M&M Diesel Auto and Repair was welcomed to the business community by the Chamber Ambassadors.

Twenty Years Ago — 2006

Ed Sheen of Minden was presented with a plaque during his wrestling hall of fame induction ceremony at



2016 — The Axtell Lady Cats and Wilcox-Hildreth Lady Falcons played a nail-biter in Axtell with the Lady Cats coming out on top 42-41. Axtell's Sophie Mellema is surrounded by Camryn Preston and Bridget Beisel after securing a rebound in the first half.

Kearney High School. He had been on the mat competing, coaching, and refereeing for 47 years.

Minden Police Department's new drug dog Haaken was introduced to the community. The pure blood German Shepherd replaced the recently retired Kearney County Sheriff's Office drug dog and was purchased with donations from the community totalling nearly \$20,000.

Minden High School senior Adrianna Choquette was one of 48 finalists honored by Believer and Achievers. The statewide program was created by Nebraska bank and the NSAA to recognize Nebraska's future leaders.

Ten Years Ago — 2016

City of Minden employees along with line stoppers from Hastings and Midlands Contracting of Kearney worked to fix a broken water main and valve on Colorado Avenue. Workers kept busy from 7am until midnight in freezing weather to fix the problem.

Minden graduate Quincey Krull returned from New York to entertain guests at the Inspire 2016 benefit gala at Minden Opera House. She sang, read a poem, and told the story of her journey from Minden to New York City where she has found work acting.

Minden MOPS held their 4th annual Chili Cook Off and Cinnamon Roll Competition at the Kearney County Fairgrounds. First place winner in the chili competition was Shawntel Daniell who also won crowd favorite. Second place was the Minden MOPS Mentor Moms. First place in the cinnamon roll competition was Carol Blythe. Second place and crowd favorite was Chelsey Petersen. Jessah Linden won best decorated booth.

What's your story?

We'd love to tell it!

Contact Cindy
308.832.2220 | cindy@syndicatepub.com

MINDEN
courier

Church Directory

Axtell

Bethany Lutheran

903 25 Road

BethanyAxtell.org

(308) 743-2597

Marcia Dorn, Pastor

Sunday, Feb. 1: Sunday School and Coffee Fellowship, 10 a.m.; Worship with Holy Communion, 10:45 a.m.

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

First Presbyterian

406 A Avenue

Pastor Doodle Harris

Sunday, Feb. 1: Fellowship & Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship service, 10:30 a.m.

Keene Evangelical

Free

662 F Road

308-743-2611

Matthew Snell, Pastor

Sunday, Feb. 1: Worship service, 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.; Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, February 4: Evening Bible Study, 7 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran, LCMC

104 E. Fifth St.

Craig Richardson,

Pastor

Sunday, Feb. 1: Donuts & Juice, Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship/Communion, 10:30 a.m.; Bible Study, 12:45 p.m.

Monday, February 2: Bible Study, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 4: High School Youth Meal/Fellowship, 6 p.m.

Campbell

St. Anne Catholic

Father Adam Sparling,

Pastor

Sunday, Feb. 1: Mass, 8 a.m.

Trinity Lutheran

360 So. Stewart

(402) 756-8552

Greg Volsky,
Vacancy Pastor

Sunday, Feb. 1: Worship, 9:30 a.m. with Sunday school to follow

United Westminster

Presbyterian
Broad and Main

Street

Mark A. Diehl, Pastor

Sunday, Feb. 1: Worship, 10 a.m.

Funk

Fridhem Lutheran

401 Lake Street

Daren Popple,

Pastor

Sunday, Feb. 1: 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, Feb. 1: Worship, 10:30 a.m.

Holy Family Catholic

Mission Parish

287 Jefferson Street

Father Evan Winter

Sunday, Feb. 1: Mass, 8:30 a.m.

Hildreth

Trinity Lutheran

502 Sanders Avenue

Caroline Schenk,

Pastor

Sunday, Feb. 1: Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 10:30 a.m.

Evangelical Free

Holdrege

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

112 W 11th Ave

402-208-7277

Sunday, Feb. 1: 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, Feb. 1: Worship service, 9 a.m.

Minden

Bethany Lutheran

437 E. Fourth St.

Don Hunzeker, Pastor

Julie Schmidt, Parish Ministry Associate

Thursday, Jan. 29: Men's Prayer Breakfast, 7 a.m.

Saturday, Jan. 31: Walking, 8 a.m.

Sunday, Feb. 1: Contemporary Worship, 8:30 a.m.; Blended-Traditional Worship, 10:30 a.m.; Holy Communion at both services

Tuesday, February 3: Bible Study, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 5: Men's Prayer Breakfast, 7 a.m.

Stay connected with our website, Bethanyminden.org

Evangelical Free

1310 W. First St.

Tom Barnes, Lige

Reed, Pastors

Sunday, Feb. 1: Worship, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday School, 11 a.m.

First Christian Church Disciples of Christ

444 N. Brown Ave.

Come grow with us!

Call (308) 832-2693

Sunday, Feb. 1: Worship service, 9:30 a.m.; Coffee Fellowship after worship services; Sunday School, 11 a.m.

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

Fredericksburg

Lutheran

616 33 Road

Julie Schmidt, Parish Ministry Associate

Don Hunzeker, Pastor

Sunday, Feb. 1: Worship, 9:30 a.m.; Fellowship Coffee 10:30 a.m.

Communion served 2nd Sunday each month

Saint John The Baptist Catholic

628 N. Garber

Father Evan Winter

Saturday, Jan. 31: Mass, 5:30 p.m., confessions before Mass

Sunday, Feb. 1: 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, Jan. 30: Breakfast & Prayer, 7 a.m.

Sunday, Feb. 1: Bible Study/ Sunday School, 9 a.m.; Worship/Communion, 10:15 a.m.

Wednesday, February 4:

JYM 5th, 5 p.m.; Communion, 6:30 p.m.; JYM 6th-

8th, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 5: Bible Study, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 6: Breakfast & Prayer, 7 a.m.

United Methodist

340 N. Newell Ave.

Kayla M. Mangrich,

Pastor

Sunday, Feb. 1: Worship, 10 a.m.; Confirmation, 11:15 a.m.

Thursday, Feb. 5: Prayer Time, 1:30 p.m.

Westminster United

Presbyterian

109 N. Colorado

Sharon Rees, Pastor

Sunday, Feb. 1: Worship, 9:30 a.m.; Coffee Fellowship, 10:30 a.m. Communion 1st Sundays

Wilcox

St. John's Lutheran

102 S. Stockton St.

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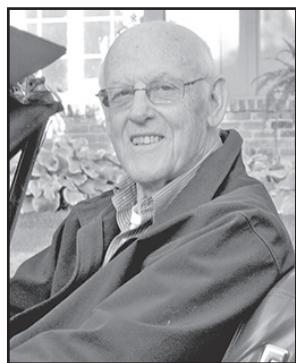
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Obituaries



Harold "Hilly" Beck, 91

Harold "Hilly" Beck passed away at home on January 15, 2026, surrounded by his family at the age of 91.

Born on a farm near Minden, Nebraska, he attended a one-room schoolhouse until the 8th grade. He graduated from

Minden High School in 1952 and graduated from Hastings College in 1956, where he met his wife, Nadine Cowan. The couple married in 1956.

He worked for The Paul Revere Life Insurance Company for 42 years.

Hilly was a multi-sport athlete and long-time coach at Baptist Bible College (now Mission University), where he served as the head men's basketball coach from 1987-2002.

He achieved numerous athletic recognitions throughout his life, including inductions into the Nebraska High School Sports Hall of Fame in 2002, the Hastings College Sports Hall of Fame in 1990, and the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame in 2010.

Although Hilly was a fiercely competitive athlete and coach, nothing mattered more to him than his family and his Lord and Savior. He poured out unwavering kindness and love on those around him. A devoted husband, father, and grandfather, he will be remembered as someone who consistently put others before himself. He lived a life with integrity and purpose. He was a man worthy of respect and emulation because of his love for his Lord. Hilly entered heaven hearing the words, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant." Matthew 25:21

He was preceded in death by his parents, Harry and Mabel (Rasmussen) Beck, and by his brothers and sisters-in-law: Archie and Lois Beck, Richard and Betty Beck, Donald and Marion Beck, and Marshall and Carole Beck.

Hilly is survived by his loving wife of 69 years, Nadine; his daughters, Christy Boston and Julie Beck; his grandson, Brett Boston, and his spouse, Irene; as well as a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends.

Visitation will be held at Gorman-Scharpf Funeral Home on Friday, January 23, 2026, from 6 pm to 8 pm.

Services in Minden, Nebraska, will be held at a later date. He will be interred in Upland, Nebraska.

In lieu of flowers, the family invites you to make a contribution to the Athletic Department at Mission University (formerly Baptist Bible College).



Audrey Annette (Johnson) Christensen, 83 - Minden Resident

Audrey Annette (Johnson) Christensen of Minden, Nebraska, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, January 21, 2026, at the age of 83, at Bethany Home. Celebration of life services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 4, 2026, at the

Bethany Home Chapel in Minden. Private family inurnment will be held prior to services at the Minden Cemetery. Memorials in Audrey's honor are kindly suggested to the family for future designation. Arrangements are under the care of Craig Funeral Home in Minden.

Audrey Annette (Johnson) Christensen was born on September 29, 1942, the fifth child of Frank and Oveline (Roy) Johnson. Audrey graduated from Campbell High School in 1960.

On November 19, 1961, Audrey married Robert Christensen at Westminster United Presbyterian Church in Minden, Nebraska. The couple made their home in Minden throughout their married life. Audrey was a devoted partner to Robert, often serving as his helpful "gopher" on the farm. She was an accomplished cook who prepared countless meals for family, farmhands, and hired help.

Audrey cherished her family and home above all. She took great pride in her flower gardens and vegetable patch, and she was an avid quilter who loved designing patterns and "putting the puzzle together." She also enjoyed antiquing with Robert—for many years they maintained a booth at Granny's Attic in Minden—and collecting cookie jars and decorative hot pad dresses.

She was a faithful and active member of Westminster United Presbyterian Church, where Audrey served on the Deacon's Commission. She was involved in numerous community organizations, including the Garden Club, Extension Club, Red Hats, and Common Threads Quilting Club. She was a dedicated 4-H leader, sewed items for Babies in Need, and supported the Red Cross Blood Drive.

Audrey took special joy in attending her children's and grandchildren's sporting events, 4-H activities, and other milestones.

She is survived by her loving husband, Robert Christensen; three children, Kelly Trausch (Gene) of Minden, Kathy Lippert (Tom) of Chardon, Ohio, and Kent Christensen of Minden; six grandchildren, Molly Trausch of Des Moines, Iowa, Peter Trausch (Missy) of Minden, Dallis Christensen (Elly) of Syracuse, Nebraska, Dakota Christensen (Ashley) of Roca, Nebraska, Nick Lippert of Cleveland, Ohio, and Maddie Lippert of San Diego, California; four great-grandchildren, Mayley Christensen (daughter of Dallis and Elly) and Evan Christensen (son of Dakota and Ashley) and Emma and Charlie Trausch (children of Peter and Missy); brother Dale Johnson; brother-in-law John Schell, and sisters-in-law Lyra Johnson, Ardyce Johnson, and Sandy Johnson.

Audrey was preceded in death by her parents, Frank and Oveline Johnson; brothers Haldine Johnson and Don Johnson; sisters Marjorie Osler and Janice Schell; and brother-in-law Rodney Osler.

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



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Bonita M. Sturgis, 87 & Evert Lee Sturgis, 88 - Holdrege Residents

A Joint Celebration of Life Memorial Service for Bonita M. Sturgis and Funeral Service for Evert L. Sturgis was held on Wednesday, January 28, 2026, at the Holdrege Methodist Church, Holdrege, Nebraska, with Pastor Rhonda Wulf officiating. Inurnment and Interment followed at the Prairie Home Cemetery, at Holdrege. Military Honors for Evert were provided by the United States Army National Guard Funeral Honors Team and the Martin-Horn American Legion Post #66 of Holdrege.

Bonita M. Sturgis, 87 years of age, of Holdrege, (formerly of Axtell, Nebraska), passed away Sunday, November 23, 2025, at Holdrege Memorial Homes. In her final days, she was surrounded by family and never let go of her husband of 68 years' hand before going to meet her Savior.

Evert Lee Sturgis, 88 years of age, of Holdrege, (formerly of Axtell, Nebraska), passed away Wednesday, January 21, 2026, at Holdrege Memorial Homes. In his final days, he was surrounded by his family. Evert was born on June 13, 1937, in Holdrege, the third of five children, born to Lewis Benjamin "L.B." or "Bill" and Florence Elizabeth (Johnson) Sturgis. He attended and graduated from Holdrege Public Schools. Following his education, Evert was inducted into the United States Army at Omaha, Nebraska, on September 5, 1956. He was honorably discharged from Fort Bliss, Texas, and then served in the reserved capacity.

While working as a telephone operator, Bonita met the love of her life, Evert. On December 26, 1956, they were united in marriage at the Methodist Church in Holdrege, and to this union, they were blessed with five children: Julie, Karen, Jill, Jimmy "Koke", and Kristi. The family made their home in Loomis, Nebraska, and later moved to Axtell.

Evert worked as a Mechanic, and owned and operated service stations, the Standard Station and later, the Conoco Station. Later the couple began working at Becton-Dickinson. They retired together in 1998 from BD.

Evert was a member of the Atlanta United Methodist Church, the Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks, serving as the Exalted Ruler for two terms, and the Shriners International for many, many years. Evert enjoyed

car racing, Shriner Clown traveling to many parades, hospitals, and attending as many as the grandchildren's activities as possible.

In 2024, Bonita and Evert moved into Holdrege Memorial Homes, where they enjoyed spending time with each other, their friends, and, of course, constant visits from kids, grandkids, and great-grandkids.

He was preceded in death by his parents; parents-in-law; his grandson, Parker Sturgis; his siblings: Dorothy Peterson and husband, Duane; and Dean Sturgis; a nephew, Robert "Bob" Peterson; brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law: Richard David and his wives, Betty and Mary Lou; Ronald David and his wife, Lois; Dwayne David; Paul David; Roger David; and Peggy Piepenbrock; John Schell; Randy Luttrell; Loretta Sturgis; and Linda Sturgis.

He leaves to celebrate his life, his children: Julie Hill (Bruce Schescke) of Oxford, Nebraska; Karen Hanson (Doug Hanson) of Axtell; Jill Silver (Bob) of Funk, Nebraska; Koke Sturgis (Wanda) of Wilcox, Nebraska; and Kristi Massey of Alda, Nebraska; ten grandchildren: Wynnne Hill (Brandon Gregory) of Holdrege; Desiree Hill (Scott Hamilton) of Oxford, Nebraska; Sturgis Hanson (Brianna) of Axtell; Andrea Silver of Lincoln, Nebraska; Benjamin Silver of Funk; Kylie Massman (Ryan) of Windsor, Colorado; Dakota Massey (Kenzie Thurman) of Hastings, Nebraska; Cheyenne Diedrich (Logan) of Hot Springs, Arkansas; and Sierra Massey of Alda; ten great-grandchildren: Willa and Rhydian Lincoln; Eevee and Louie Silver; Crosby and Carter Massman; Jeremiah Massey; Saige Massey; Gracelyn and Dunham Diedrich; and Myra Hanson; brothers: Dale Sturgis of Holdrege; and Chuck Sturgis of Holdrege; brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law: Marge Sturgis of Newcastle, Wyoming; Elaine Schell of Holdrege; Johnnie David and his wife, Harriet of Longmont, Colorado; Mary Johnson and her husband, Ed of Alma, Missouri; Larry David and his wife, Cindy of Stromsburg, Nebraska; Retha Jo Luttrell of Lakewood, Colorado; and Mike David and his wife, Trish of Holdrege; Donna David of Newark, Ohio; Pat David of Russell, Kansas; Jane David of Kearney; and Eric Piepenbrock of Phoenix, Arizona; and an endless list of nieces, nephews, cousins, neighbors, and friends who will miss them dearly.

A Visitation and Memorial Book Signing for Evert and Bonita was held on Tuesday, January 27, 2026, at the Nelson-Bauer Funeral Home in Holdrege, with the family greeting.

In Lieu of Flowers, memorials are strongly suggested and encouraged to: Shriners International, Holdrege Memorial Homes, the Atlanta Methodist Church, or to the family for future designation.

Expressions of caring and kindness can be sent to the family at www.nelsonbauerfh.com

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

Legal Notices

NOTICE

NOTICE OF RENEWAL OF RETAIL LIQUOR LICENSE

Notice is hereby given pursuant to section 53-135.01 that a liquor license may be automatically renewed for one year from May 1, 2026 for the following retail liquor licensee:

CPI WILCOX STATION

104 E SAPP ST

WILCOX, NE 68982

Notice is hereby given that written protests to the issuance of automatic renewal of license may be filed by any resident of the Village on or before February 5, 2026, in the office of the Village Clerk and that in the event protests are filed by three or more such persons, hearing will be had to determine whether continuation of the license should be allowed.

Melinda Ferree,
Village Clerk
Wilcox, NE

Jan 29, 2026
(29) znez

NOTICE

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF KEARNEY COUNTY, NEBRASKA ESTATE OF MARLIN L. LARSEN, DECEASED ESTATE NO. 26-3

Notice is hereby given that on January 20th, 2026, in

the County Court of Kearney County, Nebraska, the Registrar issued a written statement of Informal Probate of the Will of said Decedent and that Linda K. Larsen, whose address is 1753 34 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 March 31, 2026, or be forever barred.

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

Carson K. Messersmith
#27365
KLEIN, BREWSTER, BRANDT & MESSERSMITH
Attorney for Applicant
P.O. Box 272
Minden, NE 68959
308-832-2150
minden@kleinbrewster.com

Jan 29, 2026
Feb 5, 2026
Feb 12, 2026
(41) znez

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NOTICE
MEETING OF THE
KEARNEY COUNTY
BOARD OF EQUALIZATION
JANUARY 20, 2026

A Meeting of the Kearney County Board of Equalization was held on January 20, 2026 at 9:25 a.m. in the Commissioners' Room of the Courthouse in Minden, NE. Present were Vice Chairman Nathan Avery and Board Members Jason Sinsel, Brent Stewart, Heath Hofstetter, Jeff England and James Miller. Absent was Chairman Robert Swanson. Also present were Kearney County Clerk Jenni Lupkes, Jennifer Pittner County Assessor, Melodie Bellamy County Attorney, Joe Anderson Hwy Supt., and Cindy Ramsey of the Minden Courier. Detailed Minutes from the Board of Equalization Meeting are available for inspection at the County Clerk's Office. The Kearney County Board of Equalization took the following action: Approved the minutes of December 16, 2025. Met with Jennifer Pittner, Assessor and approved Tax List corrections: #1773 - Florell, Clint, Side-By-Side Listed on Parcel 21149, \$500.42; #1774 - Nickel Farms, INC., Remove One Homesite, \$211.20; #1775 - Matkins, Steve, Clerical Error, \$0.00; #1776 - Matkins, Steven R., Clerical Error, \$87.92; #1777 - Matkins, Steven R., Clerical Error, \$86.40; #1778 - Matkins, Steven R., Clerical Error, \$226.30; #1779 - Fortitude Mining, Clerical Error, \$1,577.50. Reviewed Report of Damaged Real Property, South 12' Lot 10 & all of Lots 11 & 12, Block 4 Original Town-Axtell. Requesting reassessment of property taxes due to significant damage to the real property. Report received

on December 18th, 2025 and deadline for said report was July 15th, 2025. The Board denied the request for failure to complete statutory deadlines. Adjourned the Board of Equalization meeting at 9:35 a.m.

/s/ Nathan Avery,
 Vice Chairman
 Kearney County
 Board of Equalization
 ATTEST:
 /s/ JENNIFER LUPKES
 Kearney County Clerk
 (SEAL)

Jan 29, 2026
 (73) znez

NOTICE
REGULAR MEETING BOARD
OF COMMISSIONERS
KEARNEY COUNTY,
NEBRASKA

JANUARY 20, 2026 -
9:30AM

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Kearney County, NE was held January 20, 2026 at 9:30 a.m. in the Board of Commissioners' Room of the Courthouse in Minden, NE. Present were Chairman Brent Stewart and Board Members Jason Sinsel, Jeff England, Robert Swanson, Nathan Avery, James Miller and Heath Hofstetter. Also present were County Clerk Jenni Lupkes, Joe Anderson Hwy Supt., Melodie Bellamy Co Attorney, Craig Lupkes Bldg. & Grds Supr. and Cindy Ramsey of the Minden Courier. Detailed Minutes from the Board of Commissioners Meeting are available for inspection at the County Clerk's Office. The Board of Commissioners took the following action: Approved minutes of the Board of Commissioners meeting on January 8, 2026. Approved Bills and Claims. Held a Public Comment. No comments were made. Approved Interlocal Cooperation Agree-

ment between Franklin and Kearney Counties for 40 Rd Overlay. Discussed 40 Rd Overlay Bids. Adopted duplicate checks from General Fund 2505149, 5-20-25, \$57.75, to Mason's Supermarket; 25090022, 09-02-25, \$20.00, Jacob Meyer; from Juvenile Services Aid Fund 25100112, 10-07-25, \$190.70, to Morgan Wicht. Approved Election SuperMicro CSE-73li-404B System (Server) Kearney County/SOS Agreement. Approved 2025 Department of Ag Weed Reports. Opened Courthouse Mowing Bids at 9:50 a.m. for 2026. Phillips Mowing, Minden NE - \$230.00/wk; Craig Bros Mow Co., Minden NE - \$110.00/wk. Accepted bid from Craig Bros Mow Co. Opened Gravel Bids at 10:00 a.m. for 2026. Mid-Nebraska Aggregates, Gibbon, NE -\$14.55 cu yrd; Ed Broadfoot & Sons Sand & Gravel Kearney, NE -\$14.25 cu yrd; Southwest Gravel Products, Axtell, NE -\$13.50 cu yrd. All Bids were accepted. Met with Tom Bokenkamp from Ace/Eaton Metals. Approved the culvert contract for 2026. Reviewed Co. Treasurer Semi-Annual Report July 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025. Adopted a resolution to install permanent stop sign intersection of V Rd and 35 Rd. Met with Craig Lupkes Building and Grounds Supervisor concerning Assembly Room flooring. Board approved estimate from Wilson Flooring, Franklin NE. for \$5,641.53 with the caveat that Mr. Lupkes ask Wilson Flooring if they will honor the same sq. ft. price and replace the flooring in the Co. Attny Ofc as well. Adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

/s/ Brent Stewart, Chairman
 Kearney County
 Board of Commissioners
 ATTEST:

/s/ Jenni Lupkes
 Kearney County Clerk
 GENERAL FUND: Ana E. Beerman, Juror Fee, \$48.05; Bethany Home, Sv, 1,245.00; John T. Biever, JR., Juror Fee, 35.00; Brenda S. Bodfield, Juror Fee, 35.00; Business World Products, Su, 300.80; Misty L. Casper, Juror Fee, 61.10; Lonnie L. Clark, Juror Fee, 48.05; Comm Action Ptnrshp of Mid-Ne, Senlow Bus, 1,546.43; Rita Crooks, Juror Fee, 35.00; Eakes Ofc Solutions, Su, 306.61; Embassy Suites Hotels, Lodging, 139.00; FGH Law Ofc, Sv, 6,345.53; Esmerelda Figueroa, Juror Fee, 35.00; First Concord Ben, Self-Fund Ded, 3,922.52; First Concord Ben, Cafeteria, 120.00; Franklin Co Sheriff, Sv, 44.28; Lacy J. Fredrickson, Juror Fee, 49.50; Gary E. Gebel, Juror Fee, 64.00; Great Plains Comm, Sv, 138.35; Brent W. Harsin, Juror Fee, 35.00; Philip Heun, Vet Sv Ofc, Dues, Mile, Phone, 177.04; Jeremiah L. Holmes, Juror Fee, 35.00; Nicole M. Ingram, Juror Fee, 43.70; Integrated Security Solutions, Fees, 880.00; Stephan Jackson, Prior Sv, 12.00; Patty Jesters, Prior Sv, 12.00; Mark E. Jurgens, Juror Fee, 55.30; K & K Auto Repair, Sv, 484.19; Kearney Co Health Sv, Sv, 330.00; Kearney Co Pub Defender, Dec Expense 2025, 1,299.16; Kearney Co Road Depart, Fuel, 1,442.83; Derek B. Kissinger, Juror Fee, 43.70; Klein, Brewster, Brandt, & Messersmith, Sv, 6,854.00; Anisha J. Kuehn, Juror Fee, 35.00; Matthew J. Kulhanek, Juror Fee, 35.00; Chris M. Labrie, Juror Fee, 35.00; Megan B. Lange, Juror Fee, 40.80; Linda Larsen, Prior Sv, 48.00; Lieske Lieske & Ensz, Sv, 2,601.50; Lincoln Co Sheriff, Sv, 24.00; Barbara Lynn, Prior Sv, 24.00; Jeannette M. Marshall, Juror Fee, 58.20; William R. McDonald,

Juror Fee, 35.00; Ashley M. Mealing, Juror Fee, 35.00; Jacob R. Meyer, Phone, 20.00; Mid-Ne Indv Sv, 25/26 Co-Allocation, 6,688.00; Debra R. Miller, Juror Fee, 35.00; Minden Hardware, Su, 16.58; Michelle L. Mosley, Juror Fee, 35.00; Ne Assoc Co Assessors, Dues, 100.00; Ne Assoc Co Officials, Dues, 75.00; Ne Supreme Court, Pub, 164.15; Richard Nelson, Prior Sv, 120.00; Todd R. Nichol, Juror Fee, 35.00; Robert J. Nordby, Juror Fee, 35.00; Patricia Osterbahr, Prior Sv, 300.00; Todd E. Pease, Juror Fee, 52.40; LT Pedley, Sv, 53.71; Rodney S. Peterson, Juror Fee, 50.95; Joy W. Phillips, Juror Fee, 35.00; Spencer E. Quigley, Juror Fee, 46.60; Quill, Su, 320.42; Redford Direct, Su, 1,339.92; Callie Jo Reiss, Juror Fee, 49.50; Bradley J. Roberts, Juror Fee, 48.05; McKayla S. Schwenka, Juror Fee, 37.90; Joshua D. Shults, Juror Fee, 61.10; Brian R. Sinsel, Juror Fee, 40.80; Soarin Group, Sv, 2,229.00; St of Ne DAS-Cent Fin, Sv, 150.00; Miles C. Steen, Juror Fee, 49.50; Thomas Stewart, Attorney at Law, Sv, 509.78; Tyson W. Stratman, Juror Fee, 49.50; Bryce K. Sweeney, Sv, 126.25; Syndicate Publish, Pub, 9.41; Julie L. Terrel, Juror Fee, 35.00; Thomson Reuters-West Publish, Sv, 132.00; Sara S. Trampe, Juror Fee, 50.95; Jonathan A. Uden, Juror Fee, 35.00; USPS, Dues, 126.00; USDA Aphis, Sv, 1,173.60; Anthony M. Van Pool, Juror Fee, 35.00; Steven R. Voigt, Prior Sv, 24.00; Jacob J. Wehrer, Juror Fee, 49.50; Corey A. Wilson, Juror Fee, 35.00; Deborah S. Woollen, Juror Fee, 49.50; John Wubbenhorst, Jr, Juror Fee, 61.10; TOTAL \$43,884.81. ROAD AND BRIDGE FUND: Carquest/Landmark Implement, Su, \$895.26; Colonial Research Chem, Su, 155.26; Eakes Ofc Solutions, Su, 37.77; Equipment Blades, Su, 14,940.90; Fifth Street Print, Su, 713.95; Filtercare, Cleaning, 145.15; First Concord Ben, Self-Fund Ded, 1,037.82; Jim's OK Tire, Sv, 2,485.00; Landmark Implement, Su, 160.57; Logan Contractors Su, Su, 7,661.00; Mason's, Su, 9.48; Menards, Su, 678.98; Minden Hardware, Su, 312.43; Murphy Tractor & Equip, Su, 1,215.00; Ne Weed Control Assoc. Reg 4, Dues, 15.00; Newman Signs, Su, 2,117.28; NMC Exchange, Su, 20,147.93; Oak Creek Engineering, Sv, 2,004.50; Sahling Kenworth, Su, 79.57; Sunbelt Rentals, Rental, 2,284.03; TOTAL \$57,096.88. JUVENILE SERVICES AID FUND: Healthy Horizons Counseling, Sv, \$300.00; Morgan Wicht, JV Svc Ofc, Mile, 97.88; TOTAL \$397.88. COMMUNICATIONS FUND: First Concord Ben, Self-Fund Ded, 826.67; Great Plains Comm, Sv, 197.53; Ne Tech & Telecomm, Sv, 662.05; Platte Valley Comm, Maint, 3,360.00; St of Ne DAS - Cent Fin, Sv, 30.00; TOTAL 5,076.25. Jan 29, 2026 (251) znez

NOTICE

ORDINANCE NO. 1314

AN ORDINANCE TO VACATE THE PLATTED ALLEY IN BLOCK 14, RAILROAD ADDITION IN THE CITY OF MINDEN, KEARNEY COUNTY, NEBRASKA; AND PROVIDING FOR THE PUBLICATION OF THIS ORDINANCE IN PAMPHLET FORM.

Passed and approved this 20th day of January, 2026.

/s/ Larry Evans

Larry Evans, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Abbey Jordan

Abbey Jordan, City Clerk (SEAL)

Jan 29, 2026

(18) znez

NOTICE

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Regular Meeting of the Kearney County Board of Commissioners will be held on Tuesday, February 3, 2026 at 9:30 a.m., in the Commissioner's Room of the Kearney County Courthouse, Minden, NE. An agenda for said meeting is kept continuously current at the office of the Kearney County Clerk. Said meeting is open to the public.

/s/ Jenni Lupkes
Kearney County Clerk
Jan 29, 2026
(21) znez

NOTICE

CITY OF MINDEN COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

The City Council of the City of Minden, Nebraska, met on January 5, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in regular session in the Council Chambers, pursuant to advance notice of said meeting simultaneously transmitted to all members of the Council and to the public as shown by the copy thereof posted in the Minden City Hall, Outside the Minden City Hall, First Bank & Trust Co., Minden Exchange Bank & Trust Co., and the Post Office. A copy of the notice is on file in the office of the City Clerk. Council Members Present: Bunker, Sumstine, Yant, and Schneider. City Officials Present: Olson, Evans, Krings and Jordan. Approved Bills and Claims: 7aa Investments--Supplies \$32.76, A. Jordan--Fees \$16.00, B & S Painting & Powerwashing--Repairs \$2,079.00, Black Hills Gas Holdings, Llc--Utilities

\$1,415.55, Bound Tree Medical Llc--Supplies \$817.66, B. Carlson--Energy Rebate \$299.80, Business World Products Of Hastings, Inc--Supplies \$35.98, Capital One--Infrastructure Capital \$3,907.00, City Of Hastings--Fees \$751.05, C. Bryant--Repairs \$3,750.89, Colonial Research Chemical Corp--Repairs \$138.09, Eakes Inc--Supplies \$1,324.73, Elan Financial Services--Fees \$35.00, Elliott Equipment Company--Repairs \$890.03, E. Wheeler, Llc--Supplies \$148.61, Fyr-Tek Inc--Supplies \$3,210.30, Greater Nebraska Cities--Legal \$5,000.00, Hd Supply Facilities Maintenance Ltd--Chemical \$877.98, Isw--Supplies \$78.40, Jims Ok Tire Minden Llc--Repairs \$1,066.00, J. Ciernoczolowski--Energy Rebate \$61.99, John Deere Financial--Supplies \$2,144.03, Ke Co Treasurer--Fees \$6,033.33, Kt Diesel & Equipment--Refunds \$2,060.73, Landmark Implement Carquest--Supplies \$206.07, Longshot Property Development, Llc--Energy Rebate \$2,000.00, Menards Of Kearney--Supplies \$761.99, Michael Todd & Company, Inc.--Supplies \$615.25, Midwest Hydraulic Service & Equipment Co--Repairs \$1,442.08, Minden Exchange Bank & Trust C-Financing \$6,050.40, Minden Utility Dept.--Utilities \$4,545.21, Municipal Supply-Nebraska--Supplies \$3,430.70, Ne Municipal Clerks Assoc--Membership \$150.00, Northwest Electric Llc--Repairs \$5,577.35, Nphe--Fees \$70.50, Olsson Associates--Tech/Engineering \$17,704.95, Overhead Door Co--Repairs \$422.66, P. Carkoski Construction--Repairs \$2,510.00, Platte Valley Laboratories,

Inc--Chemical \$215.00, Police Officers Association Of Nebraska--Membership \$180.00, Pony Express Ford--Repairs \$82.95, Presto X Co--Maintenance \$178.18, Rdo Truck Center--Repairs \$333.32, Rek Enterprises Llc--Repairs \$461.06, Revenue Bond Payment Account--Fees \$2,000.00, Revenue Bond Payment Account--Fees \$2,525.00, Revenue Bond Payment Account--Fees \$8,950.00, Syndicate Publishing, L.L.C.--Fees \$95.71, T. Fuller--Repairs \$4,421.31, Tyler Technologies--Fees \$18,803.84, Verizon Wireless--Phone/Internet \$785.58, Village Cleaners Inc--Uniforms \$50.12, Wilke Contracting Corporation--Infrastructure Capital \$29,125.00, Witmer Public Safety Group--Supplies \$115.77, Woodward Disposal--Fees \$32.50, 12-26-25 Payroll \$67,587.05. Items Approved: Consent Agenda--Yant motioned to approve the consent agenda and Bunker seconded. Voted aye: Sumstine, Bunker, Yant, and Schneider. Ordinance 1312 adding Chapter 70, Article V Light-weight E-scooter, E-bike, and Hoverboard usage on public property to the Minden Municipal Code, third reading--Yant introduced Ordinance 1312 for its third reading and Schneider seconded. Voted aye: Bunker, Yant, and Schneider. Voted nay: Sumstine. Ordinance 1313 amending Section 2-116, Duties of city attorney and city prosecutor, of the Minden Municipal Code, first reading. Bunker intro-

duced Ordinance 1313 for its first reading and Sumstine seconded. Voted aye: Sumstine, Bunker, Yant, and Schneider. Bunker motion to waive the three readings of Ordinance 1313 and Schneider seconded. Voted aye: Sumstine, Bunker, Yant, and Schneider. Schnieder motion to adopt Ordinance No. 1313 by title and Sumstine seconded. Voted aye: Sumstine, Bunker, Yant, and Schneider. Agreement with PSK LLC for the relocation of utility lines--Schneider motioned to approve the agreement with PSK LLC for the relocation of utility lines and Bunker seconded. Voted aye: Sumstine, Bunker, Yant, and Schneider. NPPD work order #5609455 for utility relocation in the amount of \$265,860--Yant motioned to approve NPPD's work order #5609455 for electric line relocation in the amount of \$265,860 and Sumstine seconded. Voted aye: Sumstine, Bunker, Yant, and Schneider. Petition for annexation submitted by the Community Redevelopment Authority for Lot 1, Block 1, Overleese Addition to the City of Minden--Bunker motioned to approve the petition for annexation submitted by the Community Redevelopment Authority for Lot 1, Block 1, Overleese Addition to the City of Minden and Schneider seconded. Voted aye: Sumstine, Bunker, Yant, and Schneider. Non-Action Items: Council Announcements. Public Forum. Oath of Office, Police Officer Chance Eiken-

berry. Bunker motioned to adjourn at 6:29 p.m. and Schneider seconded. Voted aye: Bunker, Sumstine, Yant, and Schneider.

Abbey Jordan, City Clerk
A complete transcript of the council minutes is available at the City Clerk's office and online at minden-nebraska.org.

Jan 29, 2026
(206) znez

/s/Lane Claussen
Lane Claussen, Member of
Nebraska Dunes, LLC,
Jan 22, 2026
Jan 29, 2026
Feb 5, 2026
(39) znez

NOTICE

NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that there has been organized under the Nebraska Uniform Limited Liability Company Act, the following-named limited liability company: C2 TRUCKING LLC. The street and mailing address of the initial designated office is 129 S Nance Ave., Minden, Kearney County, Nebraska 68959. Collin S. Choquette is the initial agent at such address for purposes of service of process. The limited liability company commenced on January 12, 2026, and shall have perpetual existence. Dated: January 12, 2026

C2 TRUCKING 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@doctlaw.net

Jan 22, 2026
Jan 29, 2026
Feb 5, 2026
(38) znez

Name of Organizer:



Bethany Home
Loving Care with a Spiritual Touch

(308) 832 - 1594 • bethany-home.net
515 West First Street, Minden, NE 68959



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

308-832-1800



NOTICE

WILCOX-HILDRETH PUBLIC

SCHOOL BOARD OF

EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

MONDAY JANUARY 19,

2026 - 7:00 PM

POSTING LOCATIONS:

MINDEN COURIER

POSTING DATE: 1/8/2026

FRANKLIN CHRONICLE

POSTING DATE: 1/7/2026

CONFERENCE ROOM-

WILCOX 404 SAPP STREET

WILCOX, NE 68982-0190

1. Call to Order. Roll Call. 2. Announce location of posted Open Meetings Act. 2.A. Pledge. 3. Consent Agenda. Motion by Kert Hansen, seconded by Ryan Knaus, to approve the consent agenda. Motion Passed. Teresa Carey: Yea, Alan Casper: Yea, Kert Hansen: Yea, Ryan Knaus: Yea, Kirk Nelson: Yea, Chris Stuehm: Yea. Yea: 6, Nay: 0. 3.A. Approval of Agenda. 3.B. Approval of minutes of Regular December 15, 2025 Board Meeting. 3.C. Approval of Claims. 3.D. Financial Report. 4. Visitors and communication from the public. 5. Action Items. 5.A. Reorganization of the Board of Education. Discuss, Consider and take all necessary action to approve officers and committee assignments. Current positions: Kirk Nelson Board President, Kert Hansen Board Vice President, Alan Casper Board Treasurer, Ryan Knaus Board Secretary. Administrative Staff Negotiations-Kert Hansen, Chris Stuehm, Teresa Carey; Certified Staff Negotiations-Kirk Nelson, Alan Casper, Ryan Knaus; Americanism-Kert Hansen, Chris Stuehm, Teresa Carey; Technology and Equipment-Kirk Nelson, Alan Casper; Support Services-Kert Hansen; Curric-

ulum and Instruction-Teresa Carey, Alan Casper; Building and Grounds-Kirk Nelson, Kert Hansen, Ryan Knaus; Transportation-Alan Casper, Teresa Carey; Finance-Kirk Nelson, Alan Casper; Volunteers in Public School-Chris Stuehm, Teresa Carey; WACF-Teresa Carey, Kert Hansen; Franklin County Community Foundation- Alan Casper; Phelps County Community Foundation-Alan Caper; GRN-Alan Casper, Kert Hansen. Motion by Ryan Knaus, seconded by Chris Stuehm, to take all necessary action to approve officers and committee assignments. Motion Passed. Teresa Carey: Yea, Alan Casper: Yea, Kert Hansen: Yea, Ryan Knaus: Yea, Kirk Nelson: Yea, Chris Stuehm: Yea. Yea: 6, Nay: 0. 6. Discussion Items. 6.A. Strategic Plan Update. 6.B. Election Reminders for the Board. 7. Administrator Report. 7.A. Superintendent Report. Superintendent Patterson reported: 1. School Finance updates. 2. Security Camera installation updates. 3. Strategic Plan updates. 4. Board Election reminders to the BOE. 7.B. Principal Report. Principal Muhlbach Reported: Device Data. NAEP Testing. Literacy Night. Glenn Reported: Quarter 2 and Semester 1 attendance numbers. 8. Next Board Meeting: Monday, February 16, 2026 at 7:00pm in the Wilcox Conference Room. 9. Adjourn. Motion by Kert Hansen, seconded by Alan Casper, to adjourn meeting at 7:28 p.m. Motion Passed. Teresa Carey: Yea, Alan Casper: Yea, Kert Hansen: Yea, Ryan Knaus: Yea, Kirk Nelson: Yea, Chris Stuehm: Yea. Yea: 6, Nay: 0. 5.C. Designate KSB School Law as legal counsel, Cornerstone Bank as the depository bank, and the Minden Courier as the district newspaper. Motion by Kert Hansen, seconded by Ryan Knaus, to designate KSB School Law as legal counsel, Cornerstone Bank as the depository bank, and the Minden Courier as the district newspaper. Motion Passed. Teresa Carey: Yea, Alan Casper: Yea, Kert Hansen: Yea, Ryan Knaus: Yea, Kirk Nelson: Yea, Chris Stuehm: Yea. Yea: 6, Nay: 0.

5.D. Appoint Joe Muhlbach as the district Title IX Coordinator. Motion by Alan Casper, seconded by Ryan Knaus, to appoint Joe Muhlbach as the district Title IX Coordinator. Motion Passed. Teresa Carey: Yea, Alan Casper: Yea, Kert Hansen: Yea, Ryan Knaus: Yea, Kirk Nelson: Yea, Chris Stuehm: Yea. Yea: 6, Nay: 0. 6. Discussion Items. 6.A. Strategic Plan Update. 6.B. Election Reminders for the Board. 7. Administrator Report. 7.A. Superintendent Report. Superintendent Patterson reported: 1. School Finance updates. 2. Security Camera installation updates. 3. Strategic Plan updates. 4. Board Election reminders to the BOE. 7.B. Principal Report. Principal Muhlbach Reported: Device Data. NAEP Testing. Literacy Night. Glenn Reported: Quarter 2 and Semester 1 attendance numbers. 8. Next Board Meeting: Monday, February 16, 2026 at 7:00pm in the Wilcox Conference Room. 9. Adjourn. Motion by Kert Hansen, seconded by Alan Casper, to adjourn meeting at 7:28 p.m. Motion Passed. Teresa Carey: Yea, Alan Casper: Yea, Kert Hansen: Yea, Ryan Knaus: Yea, Kirk Nelson: Yea, Chris Stuehm: Yea. Yea: 6, Nay: 0.

Checking Account ID 1 Fund Number 01 GENERAL FUND: A & L Leveling Inc., 13,753.27; Amazon Capital Services, Inc., 649.70; Apple Inc, 1,328.00; Beck, Ryan, 48.00; Bennetts, Robert, 48.00; Black Hills Energy, 10,922.09; BTS Communications, Phone Vendor, 54.00; Bunker, Tonya, 48.00; Central Nebraska Truck and Trailer Repair LLC, 1,625.00; Clearfly, 97.39; Cooperative Producers Inc, 3,376.61; DAS State Accounting-Central

Finance, E-Rate/Charter, 317.87; Eakes Office Solutions, 838.34; ESU #11, 12,062.25; Franklin Covey Client Sales, Inc., 12,000.00; Fritz's Market, 2,082.57; Furby's Plumbing, 9,604.00; Great Plains Communications, 292.61; Hance, Carolyn, 352.72; Hastings Tribune, The, 125.00; HD Supply Facilities Maintenance, Ltd., 1,038.96; Hometown Leasing, Copy Machine Lease Company, 894.00; Ironshell, Jeff, 48.00; J.W. Pepper & Son, Inc., 337.89; Janssen and Sons Ford, 90.20; Janssen Chrysler Jeep Dodge, 32.95; Jaymar Business Forms, Inc., 182.13; Johnson, Dustin, 96.00; Johnson, Jessie, 48.00; Johnson, Mary, 48.00; Kat's Korner Market, 58.28; KSB School Law, 77.00; Larsen's Ace Hardware, 153.35; Lincoln Journal Star, 160.00; Masters True Value, 1,404.10; Matheson Tri-Gas Inc, 143.81; One-Source The Background Check Company, LLC, Background Check Company, 19.00; Patterson, Justin, 48.00; Petrick, Travis, 48.00; Presto-X Company, Pest Control, 215.31; Romar Pest Control, Pest Control, 660.00; Rutt's Heating and Air Conditioning, Inc., Heating & Air Conditioning, 913.54; S & W Auto Parts, 31.37; Sheen, Kelly, 48.00; Shults, Rebekah, 48.00; Sparqdata Solutions, Inc., 4,100.00; Syndicate Publishing, Newspaper, 254.03; Truck Center Companies Nebraska/Iowa/Kansas, 429.39; University of Nebraska at Kearney, 270.00; UNK-Music, 120.00; Village Of Hildreth, 1,780.74; Village Of Wilcox, 1,819.50; VISA, 3,201.35; Wage Works, 144.50; Weides Water LLC, 1,100.00; Welsh, Brian, 48.00; Whipkey, Cody, 88.00; Wilcox-Hildreth

Clearing Acct, 54.89; Wilson Flooring & Furnishings, Carpet/Floor Installer, 3,026.32; Woodward's Disposal Service, 55.00; Woollen, Rachel, 144.00; Yanda's Music And Pro Audio, 55.00; Fund Number 01: 93,160.03; Checking Account ID 1: 93,160.03. Jan 29, 2026
(243) znez

NOTICE

NOTICE OF
DISSOLUTION OF

A/J TOMSEN FARMS, INC.
NOTICE IS GIVEN that the undersigned has dissolved a corporation under the laws of the State of Nebraska as follows:

1. A/J Tomsen Farms, Inc. filed its Articles of Dissolution with the Secretary of State on December 16, 2025.

2. The effective date of dissolution is December 31, 2025.

3. Jana Tomsen, President, is authorized to wind up and liquidate the corporation's business and affairs.

4. Any claimant of the corporation shall provide the basis of any claim against the corporation and shall send the claim to: Allison R. Seiler, 5408 Global Drive, P.O. Box 1060, Kearney, NE 68848.

5. Assets, Value; Pivots, Bins, and Buildings, \$367,000.00; Cash, \$263,147.88; Note Receivable, \$230,000.00. Liabilities, Value; Rent, \$50,000.00; Total, \$580,147.88

6. Any creditors of the corporation must submit written claims to the corporation at the following address: 5408 Global Drive, P.O. Box 1060, Kearney, NE 68848. Such claim shall include the claimant's name and address and a basis for the claim against the corporation.

7. Any claim against the corporation is barred unless an action to enforce the claim is commenced within three (3) years from December 16, 2025.

Jan 15, 2026

Jan 22, 2026

Jan 29, 2026

(51) znez

NOTICE

IN THE COUNTY COURT

OF KEARNEY COUNTY,

NEBRASKA ESTATE OF

JERRY LYNN DYKE,

DECEASED

ESTATE NO. 26-1

Notice is hereby given that on January 6, 2026, in the County Court of Kearney County, Nebraska, the Registrar issued a written statement of Informal Probate of the Will of said Decedent and that Sarah Brandt, whose address is 245 Western Avenue, 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 the March 17, 2026 or be forever barred.

/s/ Laura B. Tobiassen

Registrar

Kearney County Court

Kearney County

Courthouse

Minden, NE 68959

Carson K. Messersmith

#27365

KLEIN, BREWSTER, BRANDT

& MESSERSMITH

Attorney for Applicant

P.O. Box 272

Minden, NE 68959

308-832-2150

minden@kleinbrewster.com

Jan 15, 2026

Jan 22, 2026

Jan 29, 2026

(41) znez

ELECTION NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that on Tuesday, May 12, 2026, a Primary Election and on Tuesday, November 3, 2026, a General Election will be held at the polling places in each precinct in Kearney County, Nebraska. The following is a list of offices that will be up for nomination or election in Kearney County, Nebraska. The Incumbent (any current office holder) filing deadline is February 17, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. The Non-Incumbent (new filers) filing deadline is March 2, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.

OFFICES NOMINATED IN THE PRIMARY ELECTION AND ELECTED IN THE GENERAL ELECTION

FEDERAL OFFICES-Partisan, File at Secretary of State's Office, Lincoln, Nebraska.

OFFICE	TERM OF OFFICE
United States Senator	6 Years
Representative in Congress-District 3	2 Years

STATE OFFICES-Partisan Offices. File at Secretary of State's Office, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Governor	4 Years
Secretary of State	4 Years
State Treasurer	4 Years
Attorney General	4 Years
Auditor of Public Accounts	4 Years

STATE OFFICE-Nonpartisan Offices. File at Secretary of State's Office, Lincoln, Nebraska.

OFFICE	TERM OF OFFICE
State Board of Education-District 7	
1 Member of Board of Education	4 Years
Central Community College-District 2	
1 Member of Board of Governors	4 Years
Tri-Basin Natural Resources District-Subdistricts 3, 5, 6, At-Large	
1 Member each, Board of Directors	4 Years
Southern Public Power District-Subdivision 2	
1 Member of Board of Directors	6 Years

COUNTY OFFICES-Partisan, File at Kearney County Clerk's Office, Courthouse, 424 N. Colorado Ave. Minden, Nebraska

OFFICE	TERM OF OFFICE
County Clerk	4 Years
Clerk of the District Court	4 Years
County Treasurer	4 Years
County Sheriff	4 Years
County Attorney	4 Years
Public Defender	4 Years
County Surveyor	4 Years
County Assessor	4 Years
County Commissioners-Districts 1, 3, 5 and 7	
1 Member each District	4 Years

CITY OF MINDEN-Nonpartisan, File at Kearney County Clerk's Office, Court house, 424 N. Colorado Ave. Minden, NE

OFFICE	TERM OF OFFICE
Mayor of City of Minden - At Large	4 Years
1 Member of Minden City Council - North Ward	4 Years
1 Member of Minden City Council - South Ward	4 Years
3 Members of Minden Airport Authority - At Large	6 Years

SCHOOLS-Nonpartisan, File at Kearney County Clerk's Office, Courthouse, 424 N. Colorado Ave., Minden, Nebraska

3 Members Board of Education-	
Axtell School District 50-0501	4 Years
3 Members Board of Education-	
Minden School District 50-0503	4 Years

SCHOOLS-Nonpartisan, File at Franklin County Clerk's Office, Franklin, Nebraska

3 Members Board of Education	
Wilcox-Hildreth School District 50-0001	4 Years
SCHOOLS-Nonpartisan, File at Adams County Clerk's Office, Hastings, Nebraska	
OFFICE	TERM OF OFFICE

3 Members Board of Education	
Kenesaw School District 01-0003	4 Years
4 Members Board of Education	
Silver Lake School District 01-0123	4 Years
3 Members Board of Education	

SCHOOLS-Nonpartisan, File at Buffalo County Election Commissioner's Office, Kearney, Nebraska	
OFFICE	TERM OF OFFICE
3 Members Board of Education	
Kearney School District 10-0007	4 Years
3 Members Board of Education	

3 Members Board of Education	
Gibbon School District 10-0002	4 Years
3 Members Board of Education	
Shelton School District 10-0019	4 Years

OFFICES ELECTED IN THE GENERAL ELECTION

All candidates for these offices are not nominated in the Primary Election. The Incumbent (any current office holder) filing deadline is July 15, 2026, at 5:00 p.m., and the Non-Incumbent (new filers) filing deadline is August 3, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.

STATE OFFICES-Nonpartisan, File at Secretary of State's Office, Lincoln, Nebraska

OFFICE	TERM OF OFFICE
--------	----------------

Central Nebraska Public Power & Irrigation District	
Kearney County Subdivision	
1 Member Board of Directors	6 Years
EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNITS-Nonpartisan, File at Secretary of State's Office, Lincoln, Nebraska	

OFFICE	TERM OF OFFICE
Educational Service Unit No. 9	
1 Member-District 1	4 Years
Educational Service Unit No. 10	
1 Member-District 5	4 Years
1 Member-District 7	4 Years

Educational Service Unit No. 11	
1 Member-District 5	4 Years
1 Member-District 9	4 Years
VILLAGE TRUSTEES-Nonpartisan, File at the Kearney County Clerk's Office, Courthouse, 424 N. Colorado Ave., Minden, Nebraska	

Village of Axtell, 2 Members	4 Years
Village of Heartwell, 3 Members	4 Years
Village of Norman, 3 Members	4 Years
Village of Wilcox, 2 Members	4 Years

Retention of some Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, Workman's Compensation Court, District Court and County Court Judges may appear on the General Election Ballot along with proposals for Constitutional Amendments, Initiative Petitions and other measures.

In some cases, a filing fee will be required which is 1% of the officer's annual salary. Some candidates may be required to complete forms with the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission.

For information about running for office, call the Kearney County Clerk's Office at (308) 832-2723 or the Secretary of State's Office (402) 471-2555.

Dated this 15th day of January, 2026.

/s/ Jenni Lupkes

Kearney County Clerk

Minden, Nebraska

(SEAL)

znez

NOTICE**NOTICE OF
ORGANIZATION OF
MINDEN FITNESS, LLC
A NEBRASKA LIMITED
LIABILITY COMPANY**

Notice is hereby given that MINDEN FITNESS, L.L.C., a Nebraska Limited Liability Company, has been organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska. The street mailing address of the Company's initial designated office is 19210 Buckeye Road, Gibbon, NE 68840. The initial agent for service of process of the Company is Parker, Grossart & Bahensky, L.L.P., 1516 1st Avenue, P.O. box 1600, Kearney, Nebraska 68848-1600.

Jan 15, 2026

Jan 22, 2026

Jan 29, 2026

(22) znez

office. The agenda may be modified prior to such meeting.

Joseph Anderson
Highway Superintendent
01/16/2026

Jan 22, 2026

Jan 29, 2026

(34) znez

**NOTICE
NOTICE OF
PUBLIC HEARING
KEARNEY COUNTY BOARD
OF COMMISSIONERS**

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held during the regular meeting of the Kearney County Board of Commissioners on the 3rd day of February 2026 at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioners Room of the Courthouse in Minden of Kearney County Nebraska, Located at 424 N Colorado Ave. The purpose of hearing public comments regarding the following application for an Administrative Subdivision made by J & P Hoban Ag, L.L.C.

Said hearing is for the purpose of Administrative Subdivision application made by J & P Hoban Ag, L.L.C. for, an administrative subdivision further described as:

A tract of land being part of the Southeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter (SE1/4 SE1/4) of Section Thirty-four (34), Township Eight (8) North, Range Thirteen (13) West of the Sixth Principal Meridian, Kearney County, Nebraska, more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at the Southeast Corner of Section 34 and assuming the East line of the South Half of the Southeast Quarter of Section 34 as bearing N 00°33'27" W and all bearings contained herein are relative thereto; thence on the East line of the South

Half of the Southeast Quarter of Section 34, N 00°33'27" W a distance of 1320.10 feet to the Northeast Corner of the said South Half of the Southeast Quarter of Section 34; thence on the North line of said South Half of the Southeast Quarter of Section 34, N 89°59'34" W a distance of 214.00 feet; thence leaving the North line of said South Half of the Southeast Quarter of Section 34, S 00°33'27" E and parallel with the East line of said South Half of the Southeast Quarter of Section 34 a distance of 1320.17 feet to a point on the South line of the Southeast Quarter of said Section 34; thence on the South line of said Southeast Quarter of Section 34, N 89°59'17" E a distance of 214.00 feet to the place of beginning. Containing 6.49 acres, more or less, of which 1.14 acres, more or less are presently being used for road purposes on the East and South sides to divide off a parcel of land to sell.

Said meeting is open to the public and all interested parties are invited to attend. for or against said application. Any party may appear in person or be represented by an agent or attorney. The agenda for said meeting is kept current at the office of the county clerk and can be modified up to 24 hours before the meeting.

Questions or comments may be directed to the Zoning Administrator Office at (308) 832-2795.

Carrie Favinger
Zoning Administrator
January 13, 2026

Jan 22, 2026

Jan 29, 2026

(102) znez

Statewide Classifieds**ANNOUNCEMENT**

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GUN SHOW

GUNS. GUNS. GUNS. GUNS. GUNS. National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association Gun Show, Pinnacle Building, Fonner Park in Grand Island, Feb. 7 9am-5pm; Feb. 8 9am-4pm.

HOME SERVICES

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

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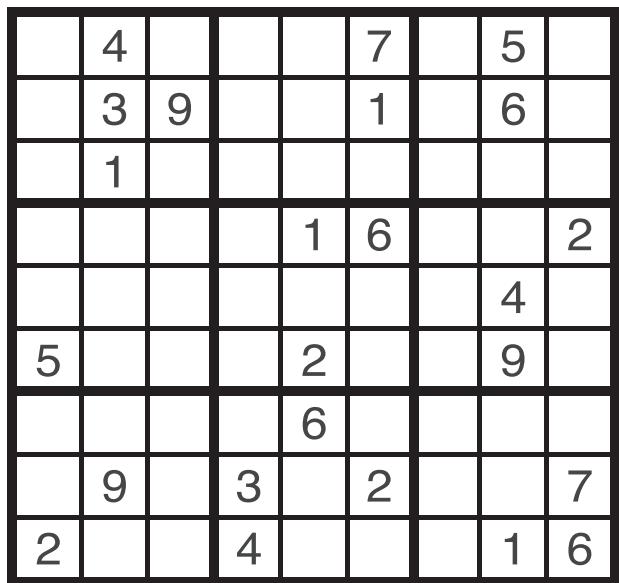
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SUDOKU



Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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Human Resources: 308.832.3400 x2727

Email: info@kchs.org

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

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 for additional information!

CLUES ACROSS

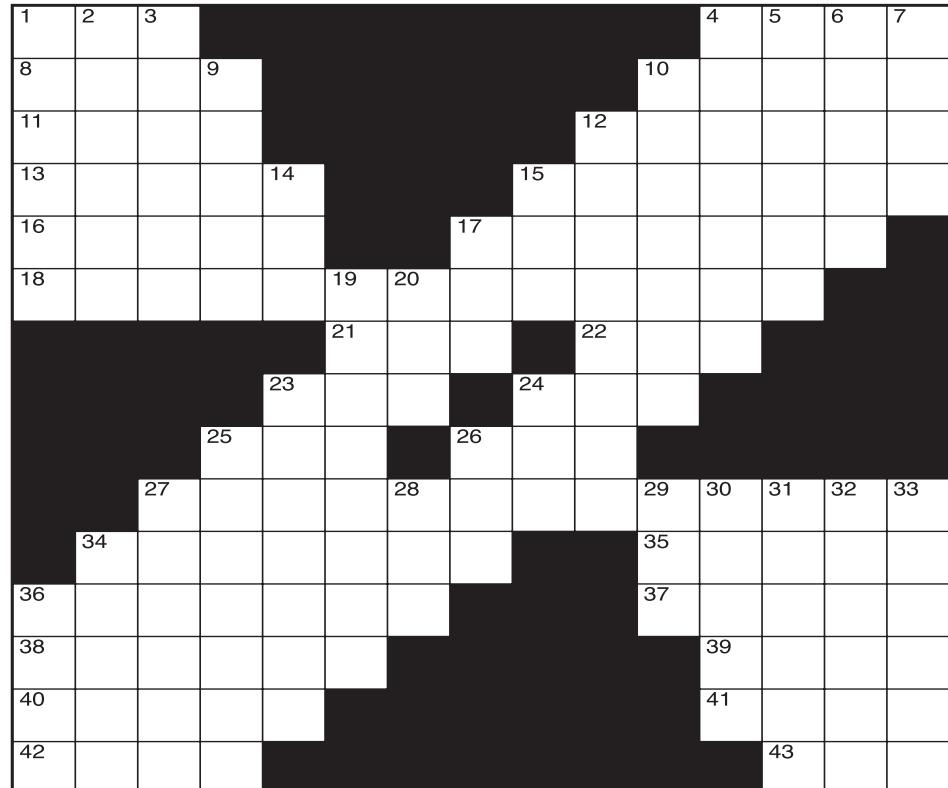
- Racket sport pros
- Make tea
- City South of Moscow
- Spanish bullfighting term
- Egg-shaped
- Could not remember
- French modernist painter
- Persons
- Painful intestinal obstruction
- Professions
- Is up to the task
- Wood or metal bolt
- Tax collector
- A way to save for the future
- Georgia rockers
- Midway between north and northeast
- High schoolers' test
- Does not accept responsibility
- One who prepares
- Gout-indicative deposits
- Place to play games
- Book of Genesis character
- Cleans oneself
- Unloaded for money
- Genus of flowering plants
- Take a puff
- Congressmen
- God of battle in Scandinavian mythology

CLUES DOWN

- Type of bomb

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE



2. South Pacific islands	hormone
3. Celestial body	15. More (Spanish)
4. Negotiates	17. Chicago ballplayer
5. Consider in a specified way	19. Leaves a place
6. Type of group in organic chemistry	20. Cannot be found
7. Buddhist monasteries	23. One's internal body parts
9. Inhabitant of Bering Sea island	24. Tell on
10. Body part	25. North American peoples of southwest
12. Milestone birthday	26. Soviet Socialist Republic
14. Thyroid-stimulating	27. Extract used for jams
and jellies	
28. Greek goddess of the dawn	
29. Old English letter	
30. A way to exaggerate	
31. Get up and leave	
32. "Boardwalk Empire" character	
33. More generous	
34. Hanging cloth used as a blind	
36. Ancient Greek sophist	



1.22.26 SOLUTIONS

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



The IRS doesn't initiate contact with taxpayers by email, text messages or social media channels to request personal or financial information.

This includes requests for PIN numbers, passwords or similar access information for credit cards, banks or other financial accounts.

DELETE DON'T REPLY

IRS.gov is a great resource for IRS related questions.



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www.mindenexchange.com



State Oratorical Winner



Frank Kovacs (second from left) of Minden won the Nebraska State American Legion Oratorical Speech Contest. He has qualified to compete at the national contest in May in Michigan where the top prize is \$25,000! (Courtesy photo)



**COMMUNITY WELLNESS
CENTER FEASIBILITY STUDY 2025**

Scan the QR code or visit the [link below to take the survey](https://shout.com/s/USdmYxsX) about a potential community wellness center

<https://shout.com/s/USdmYxsX>

Please complete survey by February 25th

