

Wahoo Newspaper

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Chestnut Street Construction Complete



Wahoo's Chestnut Street 'officially' open

Crews are still finishing work on street lights and sidewalks

By Suzi Nelson
suzi.nelson@wahoonepaper.com

WAHOO – A day decades in the making finally took place last week.

The ceremonial ribbon was cut marking the end of the Chestnut Street project on the new Chestnut Street near the 12th Street intersection. Last Thursday, members of the Wahoo City Council and city staff, representatives from the Wahoo Chamber of Commerce and Greater Wahoo Development Foundation and staff and owners of two local businesses that had a major role

in the project were present for the ceremony.

The \$6 million project straightened Chestnut Street

and upgraded the major intersections on the roadway to improve the exit and entrance to Wahoo and

strengthen the connection to the expressway that runs on the outside edge of the city. The project also included

improvements to the infrastructure including replacement of deteriorated storm drains and deficient water

mains.

The new look for what is now called the “Chestnut Street Corridor” includes streetscaping, lighting and sidewalks to identify the corridor as a separate thoroughfare but tie in with the rest of the community. These design standards have been adopted by the city to be used in other areas of development as well.

Mayor Jerry Johnson said the project has been on the city's radar for several decades.

“I go back 40, 50 years when I went to Luther (College) here and they talked about a highway through Wahoo,” he said during the Wahoo City Council meeting on Thursday.

City Administrator Melissa Harrell said she has had a set of plans for the Chestnut Street project on her desk for at least a decade.



RIBBON CUTTING: M.E. Collins employee Dan Ludvik, who oversaw much of the Chestnut Street project construction, cuts the ribbon during a ceremony last Thursday celebrating the completion of the project. Behind Ludvik are members of the Wahoo City Council, Wahoo city staff members, Mayor Jerry Johnson, representatives of the Wahoo Chamber of Commerce and Greater Wahoo Development Foundation and owners and staff member of JEO Consulting Group and M.E. Collins Contracting Company. (Staff Photo by Suzi Nelson)

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Ehrlich sentenced to over a decade in jail

By Suzi Nelson
suzi.nelson@wahoonepaper.com

SEWARD – A man found guilty of several counts stemming from an incident where a semi was used to attack law enforcement officers was sentenced to over a decade in

jail.

On Oct. 5, Jeffrey Ehrlich was sentenced in Saunders County District Court to 11 to 13 years on six charges that were leveled against him following an incident last year.

Saunders County Attorney Joe Dobesh said he is

pleased with the verdict.

“This was in the range we were looking for and we are satisfied with the outcome on those counts,” he said in an email last week.

The incident took place Aug. 13, 2019, in the 400 block of East Second Street in Wa-

hoo. Details of the incident were released in an affidavit filed in court last year. Law enforcement officers were called to the Ehrlich residence after he had reportedly assaulted his son.

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Parmenter Cemetery needs update 50 years later

By Elsie Stormberg
elsie.stormberg@wahoonepaper.com

YUTAN – When Cindy Barnes first moved to Yutan in 1967, she remembers there were still members of the Parmenter family around to take care of the Parmenter Cemetery.

Cathi Dunton was one of those relatives. Dunton, the daughter of Annabelle Parmenter Yocum, spent the summers of 1970 and 1971 recording the cleanup of Parmenter Cemetery and researching its history.

In Dunton's writing, she



PARMENTER: Parmenter Cemetery was donated by George Parmenter who intended it to be for Parmenter family, friends and neighbors according to research done by Parmenter's great-great-granddaughter Cathi Dunton. With 69 total graves, the oldest grave buried in the cemetery is that of Charlie W. Charling who was buried in 1875. (Staff Photo by Elsie Stormberg)

talks about how the project began during a conversation with Guy and May Vorse at the beginning of the summer of 1970. Guy explained that when visiting his mother Viola Vorse, who is buried at the cemetery, he “found it almost impossible to even enter the cemetery.”

Viola is the daughter of George W. Parmenter, who donated this land specifically for the family cemetery. Dunton's mother Annabelle is George's great-granddaughter, making Dunton

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Post-game Festivities

The 2020 Homecoming king and queen for Wahoo High School and the rest of the royal court were announced at the football field after Friday night's football game. Pictured are Wahoo's 2020 king and queen Cooper Hancock and Kharissa Eddie. (Staff Photo by Suzi Nelson)

Two district races for county supervisors seats examined

Sukstorf, Thiessen running for District 4

By Elsie Stormberg
elsie.stormberg@wahoonepaper.com

WAHOO – Scott Sukstorf was running unopposed for his sixth term for District 4 supervisor until Rob Thiessen submitted an affidavit declaring his write-in campaign on Sept. 16.

Sukstorf grew up in Cedar Bluffs and now lives under a Fremont address. He has been on the Saunders County Board of Supervisors for 20 years. Sukstorf also has also owned his own agriculture insurance company out of Cedar Bluffs, Sukstorf Insurance, and a farming operation for the past 40 years. He's been on the Three Riv-



Scott Sukstorf



Rob Thiessen

ers Public Health Department Board of Health since its inception and has been president of the board in the past.

Sukstorf said that these experiences qualify him for his sixth term and that hav-

ing business experience is important for the position.

“You got to run it like a business just like you're running any other business,” Sukstorf said. “I enjoy the job very much and I enjoy serving the people of our county.”

Originally from Valley, Thiessen has lived in Saunders County for 20 years. He was on the Valley Volunteer Fire Department for 12 years as a volunteer fire-

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Hrdlicka, Morgan vie for supervisor seat

By Elsie Stormberg
elsie.stormberg@wahoonepaper.com

WAHOO – After about 10 years of being on the Saunders County Board of Supervisors, District 6 Supervisor Ed Rastovski is not running for re-election. In his place,

Tom Hrdlicka and Kyle Morgan are running for the spot. Hrdlicka is a life-long resident of Wahoo. As a small business owner, he's owned his maintenance service company

As Hrdlicka's son begins taking over operations at Allsweep, Hrdlicka said



Tom Hrdlicka



Kyle Morgan

Allsweep for over 30 years. Hrdlicka has also been on the Wahoo Public School Board of Education for the past four years.

Shortly after selling the

this will give him the time and concentration he needs in order to be successful at this job. He also feels that growing up in Wahoo has allowed him to grow with the community and the county.

“We're sort of grown up together,” Hrdlicka said. Morgan moved to Wahoo in 2010 with his wife Molly, who is from Wahoo originally. The couple had taken over ownership of the Wheel House until selling it in March 2015. While they owned the business, Morgan began the appraisal credential process.

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Death Notices

- Grant Alan Porter, 68, Wahoo
- William Gene Witte, 79, Omaha

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