



News-Times

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York, Nebraska

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150th Anniversary



Inside: Parade The Songs of 1970

What we were listening to 50 years ago today

Weekend Edition

Inside: YNT ALL ACCESS Lady Killer

Tim Rozon and Melanie Scrofano star in 'Wynonna Earp'



LOCAL

Readers have budget, virus and county fair questions

By News-Times Staff

The following questions were asked recently on the Wonderline:

Q: With the city in the middle of formulating the budget for the next fiscal year, I'm curious if they are going to budget revenues as far as the hotel occupation tax the same as was budgeted for this year – as I'm sure the revenue is down right now and might continue to be because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

A: The way the budget is written right now, because the hotel occupation tax has been reduced due to the pandemic, the amount being budgeted for the new fiscal year will be based on 75 percent of the actual in the 2018-19 fiscal year.

Q: Are there any new staff positions currently in the proposed budget for the city?

A: Right now, no. There is the possibility of sharing (50 percent and 50 percent) a human resource person with the county, but that hasn't been decided yet.

Q: Have any people from York County had to have been on a ventilator due to having COVID-19?

A: According to information on the Four Corners Health District Dashboard, no one from York County who has had COVID-19 since the start of the pandemic has had to be on a ventilator.

Q: In the Four Corners Health District, which age group has seen the most COVID-19 cases?

A: According to the before-mentioned information provided by Four Corners Health officials, the age group with the most cases has been those in their 20s. The second highest age group is a tie between those in their 40s and 50s.

Q: In this health district, have there been more males or females affected?

SEE **WONDER** PAGE 6A

YORK



Lael Schwarz plays "Elsa" in York Middle School's belated production of "Frozen Jr."

YORK MIDDLE SCHOOL PRESENTS 'FROZEN JR.'

Students perform the musical that almost wasn't

By Jessica Votipka | FEATURES EDITOR

YORK -- It's been a long time coming, since in-person instruction and large gatherings came to a sudden halt at the onset of the coronavirus, but the York Middle School musical has finally come to fruition.

The hard work of those involved with the musical, set to be performed later in the spring semester 2020, had to be scratched, as performances like YMS's were cancelled by directed health measures.

But YMS's musical refused to exit stage left.

July 30 and 31, YMS actors, cast, crew and directors will finally have their time in the spotlight as they perform "Frozen Jr." in the high school theatre in front of

a limited, coronavirus-friendly audience – primarily immediate family.

"The students and directors had worked very hard and were days away from their performance," said Kenny Loosvelt, YMS Principal. "I am so thankful they were able to perform and show how talented they are."

Directed by vocal music teacher Jessica Wagner and

SEE **FROZEN JR.** PAGE 7A

COURT

Pickup thief gets probation and jail

By News-Times Staff

YORK – Mauricio Warfield, 19, of Minatare, has been sentenced to probation and also sent to jail in a case where he turned himself in for stealing a pickup.

According to court documents, Warfield walked into the York Police Department earlier this year and announced that he stole a vehicle.

Warfield explained to an officer that he stole a white Ford F250 pickup and it was parked outside the police department.

The dispatcher received confirmation regarding the stolen vehicle from the Gering Police Department.

The reporting officer said in court documents that Warfield told him "he stole the vehicle on the street in front of a home. He said he stole the vehicle to go to Lincoln to fight some people." And he said further, "he only turned himself in because his grandmother told him to."

He was arrested and the vehicle was towed.

Warfield was originally charged with theft of property with a value of more than \$5,000, which is a Class 2A felony which carries a possible maximum sentence of 20 years in prison upon conviction. That was last amended to attempted theft by receiving stolen property with a value between \$1,500 and \$5,000, which is a Class 1 misdemeanor that carries a possible maximum sentence of one year in jail and/or a \$1,000 fine.

This week, Judge James Stecker sentenced Warfield to two years of probation and he was ordered to pay \$882.23 in restitution. He

SEE **THIEF** PAGE 5A

COURT

Not guilty plea entered in multi-felony drug case

By News-Times Staff

YORK – Nataly Vasquez Comejo, 37, also known as Laura Hosman, of Providence, R.I., has pleaded not guilty to four felonies in York County after being arrested during a routine traffic stop on Interstate 80.

According to court docu-

ments filed by the York County Sheriff's Department, a deputy was on regular patrol when he saw a speeding vehicle. He said radar indicated it was moving at a rate of 94 mph.

A traffic stop was initiated.

SEE **PLEA** PAGE 5A

COUNTY

County will seek reimbursement funds for COVID-related expenses

By Melanie Wilkinson
MANAGING EDITOR

YORK – The county commissioners have already declared a disaster, regarding the effects of the pandemic and subsequent otherwise unforeseen

expenses in responding to the situation.

This declaration enables the county to ask for federal and state reimbursements to cover some of those

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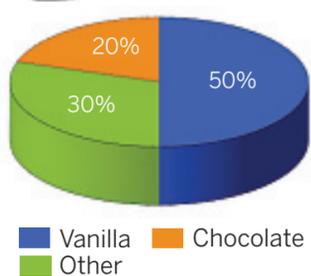
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POWDER POLL

Poll Question: What's your favorite ice cream flavor?



Voice your opinion at yorknewstimes.com

OVERVIEW

York Family Aquatic Center to close Aug. 9

YORK – York Parks and Recreation Director Cheree Folts says the family aquatic center's last day of 2020 will be Aug. 9, due to staff availability. She explained that "COVID-19 prevented York Parks and Recreation from having lifeguard class which caused a staff shortage of at least 10 lifeguards. We depend on high school lifeguards to extend our

season into late August and this year we do not have the available staff to keep the FAC open. The pool will open for the York Elementary School's swim unit. Soggy Doggy Day will be moved to Aug. 20 from 5:30-7 p.m. The cost for each dog will be \$5. And York Parks and Recreation would like to thank York and the surrounding communities for their support during the crazy 2020 pool season."

WEATHER

SATURDAY
82°/56°

Afternoon thunderstorms with a high of 82. A 50% chance of rain. Winds from the northwest at 12 mph. Saturday night clear with a low of 56. Winds from the north-northwest at 10 to 15 mph.

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