

# AINSWORTH STAR-JOURNAL

10 Pages

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75¢

## COVID-19 Vaccinations Continue in Brown County

A spokesperson for the Ainsworth Family Clinic reported on Monday, January 18th that 30 doses of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine have been given to residents 75 years and older, who are in Phase 1B of the health department's vaccination roll-out timeline.

The spokesperson said the initial vaccination of those in Phase 1A, which included healthcare personnel and long-term care facility patients and staff, has been completed and they are waiting to receive and administer the required second dose.

The COVID-19 vaccine timeline is now in Phase 1B, which includes people 75 and older and other people as indicated by the attached graphic.

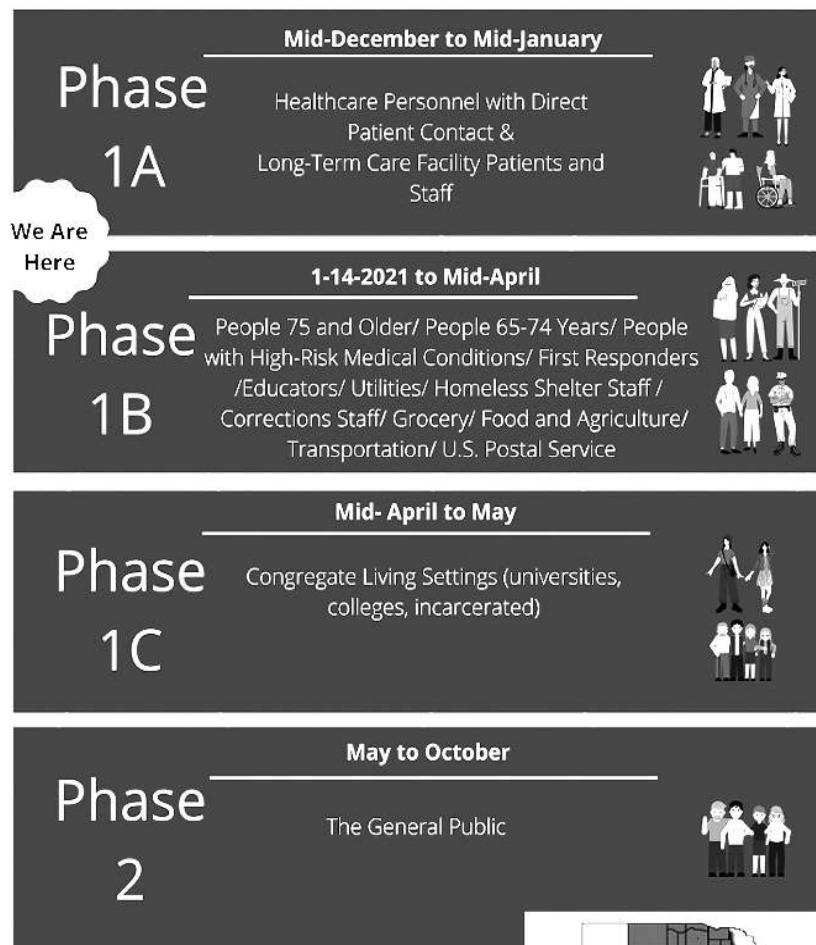
Residents of Brown County wishing to receive a COVID-19 vaccination are encouraged to register with either the North Central District Health Department (NCDHD) on its website (<https://ncdhdne.wordpress.com/>) or call the Ainsworth Family Clinic at 402-387-1900. Those residents calling the clinic will be added to the NCDHD list.

NCDHD uses the registry to provide Ainsworth Family Clinic with a list of individuals wishing to be vaccinated. The clinic will then contact individuals from the list to make appointments for vaccinations.

The Moderna vaccination, once prepared for injection, has a limited administration time of a maximum of six hours according to CDC information.

### NCDHD Tentative Vaccine Timeline

NCDHD will notify the public as it transitions to each phase.



## Penny Jacobs is Hired as Administrator of Sandhills Care Center

The Ainsworth/Brown County Care Center Interlocal Board is excited to announce the hiring of Penny Jacobs as the new administrator to the Sandhills Care Center.

Jacobs was selected from a pool of six applicants and comes with a wealth of experience. She plans on starting the position on February 8th.

Penny Jacobs, a Phoenix, Arizona transplant from northeastern Iowa, has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Accounting from the University of Northern Iowa and a Master of Business Administration (MBA) with an emphasis in Health Care Management from the University of Phoenix.

Jacobs has more than 25 years of senior living experience. She is

licensed as a Nursing Home Administrator in Arizona, Nebraska, and Iowa and as an Assisted Living Manager in Arizona.

Jacobs has worked in a variety of capacities in her career, including financial management, business development and human resources. She has led the teams at four facilities, including Ainsworth Care Center (2013-2014).

In her spare time, Penny and her husband enjoy fishing, taking day trips, and watching movies. Penny is excited to be returning to Ainsworth and is looking forward to re-establishing friendships.

Jacobs replaces Stephanie Clifton who resigned in November 2020 due to personal reasons.



## Ainsworth High School's Lifetime Rec Students Receive CPR Training



Kaitlyn Nelson practices the CPR steps while being trained by school nurse Leanne Maxwell.



Using the CPR manikin, Lila Lewis took her turn to learn the proper way to give CPR.

Ainsworth High School's Lifetime Rec students were given Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) training recently. Training these students adds 12 more members to the community who can help save a life when someone is in cardiac arrest.

School Nurse Leanne Maxwell, assisted by teacher Stephen Crile, instructed the students on the correct way to administer CPR. The students were told to call 911, determine unresponsiveness and then provide CPR. Each student practiced administering on a manikin. The manikin has a light that flashed with each compression administered correctly.

The 12 students were instructed on adult and child CPR, how to use an automated external defibrillator and how to perform the Heimlich Maneuver when someone is choking.

## Ainsworth High School FFA to Host Blood Drive February 2nd

The Ainsworth High School FFA blood drive will be Tuesday, February 2, 2021, at the Catholic Church from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Appointments are encouraged to be able to provide responsible social distancing. Appointments can be made by calling the school at 402-387-2082 or visiting [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org).

"As an organization dedicated to helping others, the Red Cross is pleased to provide more information about COVID-19 to our valued donors," said Dr. Erin Goodhue, executive medical director of direct patient care with the Red Cross Biomedical Services. "If you are feeling healthy and well, please schedule an appointment to not only help save lives but also learn about your potential exposure to COVID-19."

The Red Cross is not testing donors to diagnose illness, referred to as a diagnostic test.

Donation appointments can be made by calling the school at 402-387-2082, downloading the free Blood Donor App, visiting [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org), calling 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enabling the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device.

**COVID-19 Antibodies Testing**  
For a limited time, the American Red Cross is testing all blood, platelet and plasma donations for COVID-19 antibodies, providing do-

nors insight into whether they have been exposed to this coronavirus. At the same time, there continues to be an urgent need for blood donations as hospitals resume surgeries and treatments that require blood products.

Antibody testing will indicate if the donor's immune system has produced antibodies to this coronavirus, regardless of whether they developed symptoms. Donations will be tested using samples pulled at the time of donation and sent to a testing laboratory where they will also undergo routine infectious disease testing. A positive antibody test result does not confirm infection or immunity.

COVID-19 antibody test results will be available within 7-10 days in the Red Cross Blood Donor App or donor portal at [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org). The test has been authorized for emergency use by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

### Blood Drive Safety Precautions

To protect the health and safety of Red Cross staff and donors, individuals who do not feel well or who believe they may be ill with COVID-19 should postpone their donation.

Each Red Cross blood drive and donation center follows the highest standards of safety and infection control, and additional precautions

— including temperature checks, social distancing and face coverings for donors and staff — have been implemented to help protect the health of all those in attendance. Donors are asked to schedule an appointment prior to arriving at the drive and are required to wear a face covering or mask while at the drive, in alignment with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention public guidance.

### About Blood Donation

All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients. A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

Blood and platelet donors can save time at their next donation by using RapidPass® to complete their pre-donation reading and health history questionnaire online, on the day of their donation, before arriving at the blood drive. To get started, follow the instructions at [RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass](http://RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass) or use the Blood Donor App.

## Don't Need Your Stimulus Check? Consider Giving It to Your Hometown

By Al Steuter

Millions of Americans across the country have been receiving their Economic Impact Payments, just one element of Congress' expansive Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, better known as the CARES Act.

For business owners struggling to stay afloat, those who have been furloughed or laid off, or have contracted or are caring for family members with coronavirus, these checks will help alleviate the many stresses compounding on American families as we navigate these uncharted waters.

But for the luckiest among us - those who are comfortably retired, still employed, still healthy (people like myself) - I urge you to consider reinvesting that money, or a portion of it, into the charitable causes and communities closest to you. My wife and I are electing to support a couple of local charitable causes with our stimulus check, among them the Brown County Community Foundation Fund unrestricted endowment.

In Nebraska, the past couple of years have been punctuated by crises and disasters we could not have anticipated. Last spring, it was catastrophic floods impacting dozens of communities, thousands of homes, small businesses, farms, ranches, schools, healthcare facilities, and more.

This year, the COVID-19 pandemic has us all feeling uncertain about the future.

But one certainty we can always count on? Change. And that's precisely what community unrestricted endowments are designed to address.

Community unrestricted en-



Al Steuter lives in rural Brown County, NE. He is immediate past chair of the Nebraska Community Foundation statewide board of directors and a retired member of the Brown County Community Foundation Fund Advisory Committee, still serving in an ex-officio capacity.

dowments are a critical development tool for Greater Nebraska hometowns like those in Brown County. Since 1995, local volunteers have been working to build our unrestricted endowment account, which now totals over \$1 million. All contributions to the endowment are invested and every year, we use a portion of the payout to make grants that respond to opportunities and challenges as they arise. For instance, in Brown County,

our unrestricted endowment allowed us to keep the Sandhills Care Center, a vital facility for our aging population, open and caring for residents. As I type this, many communities across the state are using unrestricted endowment payout to make grants to local food banks, nonprofits addressing domestic violence, resources for virtual learning, and other needs areas that have come to the forefront as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Importantly, donating your stimulus check isn't just beneficial to your community - it benefits you, the individual making the gift. Within the CARES Act, there are several charitable tax provisions that incentivize charitable giving. They include:

A new deduction for charitable donors who do not itemize when filing their tax returns. If you do not itemize but make a gift to charity, you will be allowed to take a special tax deduction, up to \$300, to reduce your tax liability.

An increase in the deduction limit up to 100% of a donor's annual income for cash gifts (previously the deduction was capped at 60% of annual income). If you make a gift you will be able to deduct more this year.

Even in the age of physical distancing, the power of community will get us through. If you need your stimulus check to make ends meet, by all means, that was the intended purpose. But for the fortunate ones among us, think of this as an opportunity to do your part in building a stronger, more resilient community, better prepared for the next unanticipated event the future inevitably holds.

Phil Fuchs said the Care Center has the funds available for its 25% matching funds of \$16,200.00.

Mayor Joel Klammer recommended the appointment of Bruce Papstein to the KBR Solid Waste

Continued On Page 7

## Ainsworth City Council Passes Resolution for USDA Financial Assistance to Purchase New Generator for Care Center

During their regular meeting on January 13th, the Ainsworth City Council held a public hearing and then passed a resolution authorizing Brown County and Sandhills Care Center to apply for USDA grant funds for the purchase of a new generator for the Sandhills Care Center.

The City of Ainsworth and Brown County have an interlocal agreement to own and operate the Sandhills Care Center. Only one

governmental entity can apply for USDA funds, so the Council passed a resolution to allow Brown County to apply for the funds.

The present generator provides electricity to only the lobby, kitchen and nursing station in case of a power outage.

The new generator would provide electricity to the whole care center facility in case of a power outage.

The cost of the new generator is

\$64,500.00. The USDA grant would be for \$48,300.00 and the Care Center would provide the other \$16,200.00.

Phil Fuchs said the Care Center has the funds available for its 25% matching funds of \$16,200.00.

Mayor Joel Klammer recommended the appointment of Bruce Papstein to the KBR Solid Waste

# FOR THE RECORD

## Obituaries

### Wayne S. "Spud" Bower, 84

A Memorial Service will be held at a later date for Wayne S. "Spud" Bower, age 84, of Ainsworth, NE. Wayne Bower died Friday, January 15, 2021 at the Sandhills Care Center in Ainsworth.

Survivors include his wife, Lucinda "Cindy" Bower of Ainsworth; daughter, Tamela (Diego) Ayala of Lincoln, NE; son, Thomas (Betty) Bower of Ainsworth; three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; brother-in-law, Dale Kirkpatrick of Ainsworth; along with nieces, nephews and other family members

Hoch Funeral Home of Ainsworth is in charge of the arrangements. To leave an online condolence for the family, please visit [www.hochfuneralhome.com](http://www.hochfuneralhome.com).

### Larry Gene Huff, 80

Larry Gene Huff, 80, of Iuka, KS passed away January 4, 2021 at the Grand Plains Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation in Pratt, KS.

Larry was born November 16, 1940 at the family home in Decatur County, KS as the oldest of three children to Bert B. and Dorothy Mae (Whalin) Huff.

On October 30, 1960 Larry married Verna Lea McDaniel at the Methodist Church in Johnstown, NE.

A full obituary can be viewed at Baker Funeral Home website in Wichita, KS, [www.BakerFHwichita.com](http://www.BakerFHwichita.com).

## Sheriff's Report

### Brown County Report

#### January 10 - 16, 2021

#### Sunday, January 10th

Assisted an individual with a report of juveniles driving recklessly on South Street. Extra patrols were provided to the area.

#### Monday, January 11th

Assisted an Ainsworth resident with a report of a scam letter they received.

Provided an attempt to locate a possible suicidal subject. The subject was located by authorities in another county.

#### Tuesday, January 12th

Booked a subject into the Brown County Jail on a court ordered commitment.

Provided traffic control for 80 head of cattle crossing Hwy. 20 at Moon Lake Road.

Investigated a two-vehicle accident without injury on Ulrich Street. Received a report of cattle out on Norden Road. The owner was contacted and cattle were put back in.

#### Wednesday, January 13th

Assisted an Ainsworth resident with a report of dogs running-at-large on 1st Street. The owners were contacted.

Received a report of possible child abuse or neglect in Brown County. Investigated a vehicle/deer accident without injury on Hwy. 20 in the Long Pine hills.

Responded to a report of a possible abandoned vehicle parked along Hwy. 20, east of Ainsworth. Upon arrival the vehicle had been removed.

Responded to a report of a possible disturbance in Long Pine. Assisted an individual with a report of threatening phone and text messages. This is an ongoing investigation.

Responded to a report of a possible disturbance in Ainsworth. Assisted an Ainsworth resident with a report of possible gun shots being fired.

#### Thursday, January 14th

Assisted Health & Human Services with providing a welfare check. The Ainsworth and Johnstown Fire Departments responded to a report of a fire west and north of Ainsworth.

Assisted an individual with a report of suspicious phone and computer activity.

Booked a subject into the Brown County Jail on an arrest warrant for assault by strangulation or suffocation and domestic assault. The subject was released on bond.

Assisted an Ainsworth resident with a report of a stray dog. The owner was located and reunited with their dog.

Responded to a report of an alarm going off at an Ainsworth business. The responsible party was contacted and the building was secured.

#### Friday, January 15th

Investigated a report of a possible theft of a phone. This is an ongoing investigation.

Received a report of cattle out north of Ainsworth. The owner was contacted and the cattle were put back in.

Responded to a report of possible disturbance on Wilson Street.

#### January 16th

Assisted an Ainsworth resident with information on city ordinances dealing with noise complaints.

Received a report of a lost dog in Ainsworth. The dog was located and the owner claimed it.

Investigated a report of a possible drug activity in Ainsworth. This is an open investigation.

Investigated a report of the possible sexual assault of a juvenile. This is an ongoing investigation.

#### Weekly Summary

2 - Burn Permits were issued by all Brown County Fire Departments.

4 - Handgun Permits were applied for.

17 - Incident Reports were taken.

8 - Paper Service were served.

126 - Phone Calls were received.

2 - 911 Emergency Calls were received.

6 - Titles were inspected.

## Ask a Master Gardener

By Brenda Goeken

### Question: Should I be worried about the emerald ash borer?

If you have any ash trees on your property, yes you should be concerned. The emerald ash borer is an invasive beetle that is small and metallic green. Adults are about one half inch long and about one eighth inch wide and the larvae are cream colored and grow to about one inch. The emerald ash borer only attacks ash trees and unlike other borers they attack trees of any age, size or health. So far none have been found in our area but they will eventually get here.

Since the emerald ash borer will always be with us, all ash trees will eventually be affected so your options are to either replace the ash trees or wait and treat them. Treatment should be started only when a case has been confirmed within 15 miles. Emerald ash borer treatments do not give a tree immunity but must be given every one to two years depending on the treatment.

Owner applied treatments are limited and usually involve drenching the soil around the base of the tree. The pesticide can then be taken up by other flowering plants and would be harmful to pollinators. The most

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common treatment by arborists include trunk injections. This means that holes will be drilled in the trunk. An additional complication in our area is, to my knowledge, we don't have local arborists. I could be wrong and if I am, I would know about anyone locally that is an arborist.

If you are planning on planting trees this spring or fall, I suggest not planting any ash.

You can send me questions about gardening, lawn, landscape, trees, houseplants or upcoming classes to either [bgoekensales@hotmail.com](mailto:bgoekensales@hotmail.com), my Facebook page Brenda Goeken Sales or call me at 402-382-8639 and I will answer them and maybe in the newspaper.

## Twenty-Four Hours Can Make a Big Difference in Temperatures



Wednesday, January 13th, 57° felt like 57° with winds at 10 miles per hour

On January 13th, 14th and 15th, area residents saw some very strong winds in our area. Trash cans were blowing across the streets, grills blew off decks and gravel could be heard blowing against windows throughout the day.

The National Weather Service out of North Platte, NE reported the following as some of the highest winds in our area of Nebraska:

On Thursday, January 14th the Co-Op Observer one mile north of



Thursday, January 14th, 39° felt like 26° with winds at 32 miles per hour

Valentine recorded 71 MPH around 4:05 p.m.

Seventy MPH winds were recorded on Wednesday, January 13th from the ASOS around 9:01 p.m. in Valentine.

At 6:15 p.m. on Thursday, January 14th, Ainsworth's Weather Observer reported 63 MPH.

At 3:23 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday, we found a drop of 18 degrees in the temperature, which was reported to feel like a drop of 31 degrees.

## Weather Report

By Gerald Osborn, Weather Observer

DATE	HI	LOW	PRECIP.	01-15-21	35	24	Trace
01-11-21	50	25	.00"	01-16-21	39	19	.00"
01-12-21	58	28	.00"	01-17-21	42	29	.00"
01-13-21	59	35	.00"	7 Day Avg.	47.7	27.7	.07+"
01-14-21	51	34	.07"				

## Kat's Korner

By Kathy S. Worrell

### "46th President to Be Inaugurated January 20th"

Wednesday, January 20th, President elect Joe Biden will be inaugurated as the 46th President of the United States of America. Due to the recent rioting at the United States Capitol, thousands and thousands of National Guard members throughout the United States have been called upon to help protect those during the Inaugural activities outside the U.S. Capitol building.

Our country is currently split between the Republicans and the Democrats. New leadership has already stated that they will be offering so many new (some free) programs.

As a U.S. Citizen and Taxpayer, I question how all these programs Biden is talking about will get paid for? Nothing is FREE - someone has to pay for them. Actually, I probably already know the answer - TAXPAYERS! I'm not sure how one can keep paying more and more taxes, and yet, continue to survive by trying to take care of yourself, while trying to make ends meet on what one makes, if we have to pay even more taxes.

I've seen where Biden hopes to raise the minimum wage to \$15.00 an hour. Yes, that sounds good to those who are working. But the way I see it, one will end up spending more than that when you go to the stores to purchase items. Business owners will have no choice but to raise the cost of their merchandise to try and make up the difference in what wages they are already paying.

Time will only tell on how "We the People" will be governed by this new administration. I know I have run this quote before, but I feel we are getting closer to the truth of it!

By Ronald Reagan

"Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction.

We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream.

It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like in the United States where men were free."

Another clipping I saw the other day said,

By John F. Kenney

"Let us not seek the Republican answer or the Democratic answer, but the right answer.

Let us not seek to fix the blame for the past.

Let us accept our own responsibility for the future."

God Bless the United States of America and please keep it a Free Nation with the many freedoms and opportunities we still have today!

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## Legislative Notes

By Senator Tom Brewer - 43rd District

I have spent a lot of my life fighting for this country. The fact that the United States is a beacon of freedom in the world is what always made me proud to wear the uniform. We believe that people ought to be free. The right to keep and bear arms is one of the most sacred rights enshrined in our federal and state constitutions.

The past twelve months have presented steady reminders of why this right is so important. More and more, people of all political stripes have decided to take responsibility for protecting themselves and their families. Month after month, 2020 set records for new gun sales. According to the National Shooting Sports Foundation, about 8.5 million people became first-time gun owners in 2020.

In Article I, Section 1, our Nebraska Constitution recognizes "the right to keep and bear arms for security or defense of self, family, home, and others, and for common lawful defense, hunting, recreational use, and all other lawful purposes, and such rights shall not be denied or infringed by the state or any subdivision thereof."

This version of the constitutional language was placed there by voters not in some ancient time, but in 1988 by initiative measure 403. Unfortunately, many of my colleagues in the Legislature have been reluctant to fully honor this promise. Because of that, state law prohibits most people from carrying defensive weapons concealed.

To carry a concealed handgun legally, folks have to pay hundreds of dollars for a required course and permit application fee. In my first year in office, I introduced LB 502 to make Nebraska a "constitutional carry" state. That bill was shot down by anti-gun senators. The same year, Senator Mike Hilgers introduced his LB 68, to end the patchwork of local gun control measures that are layered on top of state and federal law. Despite heroic efforts by Senator Hilgers, that bill died

on Select File, mostly because of urban senators who claimed that the bill violated the principle of local control.

During floor debate on LB 68, anti-gun Senator Adam Morfeld stood on the floor and said, "I am in support of responsible policy that allows for local control to react to the varying circumstances of their locality or city or county. [...] Maintaining that local control is critical because the reality in Ainsworth is a lot different than the reality in north Lincoln or north Omaha[.]"

On Day 4 of the 2021 legislative session, I introduced Legislative Bill 236. It proposes more local control, and recognizes that many counties in Nebraska have taken our gun rights more seriously than state lawmakers. In 2020, nearly a dozen Nebraska counties, most of them rural, passed "Second Amendment Sanctuary County" resolutions. I appreciate that these county officials are standing up and declaring that they will honor their duty to uphold our God-given, constitutionally recognized rights. LB 236 would give counties the power to declare that permitless carry of concealed weapons is lawful in their jurisdictions for anyone who is not a felon or otherwise prohibited from possessing weapons. I do not believe Nebraskans ought to have to pay hundreds of dollars to exercise a constitutional right. If LB 236 is passed into law, I believe that rural Nebraska counties will lead the way and show our more timid urban neighbors that freedom is the best policy.

Please contact my office with any comments, questions, or concerns. Email me at [tbrewer@leg.ne.gov](mailto:tbrewer@leg.ne.gov), mail a letter to Sen. Tom Brewer, Room #1101, P.O. Box 94604, Lincoln, NE 68509, or call us at (402) 471-2628.

## Capitol News

By J.L. Schmidt, Statehouse Correspondent, NE Press Association

### Early Indications of Heavy Lifting Are Not Surprising

Based on early bill introductions, the 2021 Nebraska Legislature is setting itself up for some heavy lifting sooner than later.

Controversial measures range from Omaha Sen. Justin Wayne's proposed constitutional amendment (LR2CA) to legalize cannabis use to southeast Nebraska Sen. Julie Slama's proposed voter ID requirement (LR3CA). The lawmaker from Peru also offers a return to the winner take all presidential election vote (LB76).

Throw in Omaha Sen. Tony Vargas Covid-related meatpacking requirements (LB241) and Bayard Sen. Phil Erdman's renewed shot (LR11CA) at a statewide "Consumption Tax," and you've got a full plate that has to include a new two-year state budget. Expect bills dealing with policing based on the 2020 summer of discontent as well as corrections reform to address the second-most-crowded prison system in the country.

Wayne's proposal comes as no surprise given the state Supreme Court's rejection last year of an attempt to put authorization of medical marijuana on the ballot and the voter-approved passage of measures to allow recreational use in South Dakota and some other states. The court ruled ballot language included too many topics.

It's fitting that Slama -- a law school student who was first appointed by the Governor and then defeated another Republican in a divisive election that saw the party fined several times by the Public Service Commission for questionable mailings and robocalls -- would offer the divisive, heavily partisan issues.

Slama said the proposed constitutional amendment, which requires voters to bring their photo to the polls, would simply combat voter fraud while preserving public confidence in the legitimacy of elected government.

John Cartier, director of voting rights for Civic Nebraska, said such a measure disproportionately affects minority and low-income Nebraskans and erodes trust in the electoral system. Introduction of the measure for the ninth time in 10 years comes on the heels of mobs storming the U.S. Capitol over debunked claims of widespread voter fraud and further promotes mistrust.

Since Nebraska is a majority Republican state, the winner-take-all electoral system traditionally gives all five votes to the Republican.

Since it was changed a few years ago, Democrats have earned one vote (Obama in 2008 and Biden in 2020) based on election results in the Second Congressional District.

Critics of the bill, such as ACLU of Nebraska, say it would hurt voter turnout by signaling to voters of all political parties that their votes for the nation's highest offices matter less.

The title of Vargas' proposal pretty much says it all. It's to be known as the Meatpacking Employees COVID-19 Protection Act. The senator from South Omaha represents a number of packing plants, many of which were the scene of community spread, infections and deaths. Vargas' retired father died of the virus at his home in New York State.

He attempted to introduce a similar bill toward the end of last year's pandemic delayed session but couldn't muster the support to override rules that would have allowed it. He noted that had the packing plants quickly adopted the safeguards suggested in that bill -- spreading workers 6 feet apart, providing face masks, screening workers for the virus before they begin their shift, and staggering shifts -- lives could have been saved. The bill provides a penalty for failure to comply.

Erdman's consumption tax, which first reared its head decades ago as the transaction tax, died last session before receiving debate by the full Legislature. The tax would apply to all purchases of services and new goods, except for fuel, beginning no later than January 1, 2024.

The proposed constitutional amendment would prohibit the state and all political subdivisions from imposing an income tax, a property tax, an inheritance tax, an estate tax, and a tax on retail sales of goods and services except for a consumption tax and to require the Legislature to enact a consumption tax.

Erdman said consumption taxes are fair, simple and transparent. Replacing Nebraska's current tax system with a consumption tax would reduce administrative costs, promote individual saving and investment and help encourage businesses to locate and expand in Nebraska, he said.

Opponents argue that it is not as balanced as the current multi category approach, which allows fluctuating revenue from several sources to buoy lagging collections in others.

Things have just barely begun. There's a reason they call this the "long" session.

## AHS Speech Team Travels to Compete in the Valentine Icebreaker Tournament



AHS speech participants in the Valentine Icebreaker Tournament included: (Front Row - Left to Right): Dakota Stutzman, Josie Ganser, Ellie Welke, Brandt Murphy, Cody Scott, and Makenna Pierce; (Middle Row - Left to Right): Maren Arens, Libby Wilkins, Alyssa Erthum, Sophie Wilson, Eden Raymond and Taylor Allen; and (Back Row - Left to Right): Cody Kronhofman, Logan Hafer, Ben Flynn, Allison Taylor, Shelly Saner and Cole Bodeman.

The AHS Speech team kicked off their competitive season on Saturday, January 16th at the Valentine Icebreaker Tournament.

Placing in the tournament were:  
Varsity  
Extemporaneous: 4th place - Libby Wilkins;  
Poetry: 1st Place - Alyssa Erthum and 4th Place - Cody Kronhofman.  
OID: 1st Place - Cody Kronhofman, Maren Arens, Eden Raymond and Dakota Stutzman; 2nd

Place - Josie Ganser, Logan Hafer, Brandt Murphy, Cody Scott and Ellie Welke.

Duet: 3rd Place - Ben Flynn and Libby Wilkins.

Entertainment: 1st Place - Maren Arens.

Informative: 2nd Place - Ben Flynn.

Persuasive: 3rd Place - Alyssa Erthum.

Novice  
Entertainment: 2nd Place - Cole

Bodeman.  
Informative: 3rd Place - Makenna Pierce.

Persuasive: 2nd Place - Sophie Wilson and 3rd Place - Cole Bodeman.

Serious: 2nd Place - Taylor Allen.

Next Saturday, January 23rd, the team will compete in the Broken Bow Invitational, which will be conducted virtually.

## The February Book Club will Feature the 2021 One Book One Nebraska Title

The One Book One Nebraska title for 2021 will be the featured Book Club selection for the month of February at the Ainsworth Public Library.

"*Prairie Forge: The Extraordinary Story of the Nebraska Scrap Metal Drive of World War II*" by James J. Kimble will take readers across the entire state of Nebraska during the scrap metal drive early in America's involvement in World War II.

When Henry Doorly initially developed a plan to urge citizens to donate scrap metal to help with arms production, he had no idea that his plan would expand from Omaha to the entire state and then be used as a model for a national scrap drive.

The book covers every county's participation in the Nebraska Plan, and how it fit into the large effort on a national level.

The library will have copies available after January 19th. A book discussion on the title will be held on February 16th at 2:00 p.m. Please stop by and get a copy to read!

The One Book One Nebraska reading program is entering its seventeenth year. It encourages Nebraskans across the state to read and discuss one book, chosen from books written by Nebraska authors or that have a Nebraska theme or setting.

The One Book One Nebraska is sponsored by Nebraska Center for the Book, Humanities Nebraska, The Backwaters Press, and the Nebraska Library Commission.

## New Odometer Mileage Reporting Requirements Implemented in Nebraska

When selling or transferring a vehicle with a model year that is 10 years old or newer, the odometer mileage must be reported to the new owner. A new federal regulation will gradually raise that requirement to 20 years for newer vehicles beginning this year.

Previously, any vehicle more than 10 years old had been exempt from reporting mileage upon sale or transfer. Now, for 2011 models and newer, that requirement will be in place until a vehicle is more than 20 years old. This change was made by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and is enforced in Nebraska by the passage of LB 944.

"There are simple guidelines for compliance with the new requirements," said Rhonda Lahm, Director of the Nebraska Department of Motor Vehicles. "If the vehicle is a 2011 model or newer, the seller must enter the current mileage in the Odometer Reading section of the title upon sale of the vehicle. If the vehicle is a 2010 model or older, the mileage recording is not required."

The following types of vehicles remain exempt from odometer disclosure requirements:

- Vehicles that are a 2010 model or older.

- Non-motorized vehicles (i.e. trailers).

- Mopeds.

- Vehicles with a registered gross weight above 16,000 pounds now or previously.

- Low-speed vehicles.

Vehicles from states not yet in compliance with the new rule may also be exempt from new requirements in some cases.

Additional information regarding the change is available on the DMV website at: [dmv.nebraska.gov/sites/dmv.nebraska.gov/files/doc/2021\\_Odometer\\_Information.pdf](http://dmv.nebraska.gov/sites/dmv.nebraska.gov/files/doc/2021_Odometer_Information.pdf).

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St. Pius X Catholic Church Fellowship Hall  
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For More Information or to Make an Appointment Contact 402-760-1749 or register online at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org)

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# NEWS

## Community Senior Center News

387-0777

**Delivery Lunch Menu Only**  
**Call In Reservations**  
**By 10:00 A.M. Daily**  
**Taco or Chef Salad Available**  
Wednesday, January 20th: Liver and onions with beef, cubed potatoes, corn, pears, bread, milk and cake.  
Thursday, January 21st: Hot beef sandwich, mashed potatoes, baked beans, applesauce, bread and milk.  
Friday, January 22nd: Tater tot casserole, peas, tropical fruit, apple muffin and milk.  
Monday, January 25th: Enchilada casserole, corn, Mexican rice, mandarin oranges, tortilla shell, milk and cookie.  
Tuesday, January 26th: Baked chicken, mashed potatoes, carrots, pears, dinner roll and milk.  
Wednesday, January 27th: Country steak, cheesy hash browns, green beans, fruit cocktail, bread and milk.

## Johnstown News

By Becky Schelm  
402-382-5651

Thought for the week: "Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that."

Martin Luther King, Jr. Wind on Wednesday and Thursday was the weather for the week. We got a little moisture on Tuesday and Thursday. We can be thankful we didn't have any snow with the wind. Many things got rearranged with the wind.

There was a fire reported on Thursday evening during the high winds. The Johnstown Firemen were called for assistance. The fire started with sparks from a former fire and it was controlled very fast.

Taylor Gambill of Burwell visited his grandparents, Dick and Shirley Gambill on Saturday. They had a late Christmas.

Arvin and Joyce Schmidt are busy getting ready for their annual bull sale which is January 29th at the ranch. They were among the many ranchers that sold cattle at Bassett on Wednesday.

Bud and Ruth Trobee spent

several days with Bob and Ruth Trobee in Lincoln. Bob took them to Omaha for a doctor's appointment. The Johnstown Trobees stayed an extra day because of the strong wind plus snow in that area.

Thursday evening O'Neill basketball teams came to town. It was a special night since it was parent's night. Many parents were at the game to be honored. Frank and Jennifer Beel were honored three times with CeeAnna as a member of the cheer group, Moriah is in girl's wrestling and Katrina is playing basketball. Katrina got to start that evening since she was a senior. Grandma Becky was there to watch the game, the cheers, and the pom squad perform. Yes, I was a proud grandmother.

with many Facebook greetings, calls, cards and texts. Carol's brother, Jim, made her favorite angel food cake and had a nice dinner for her. Carol celebrated her day with a drive to the Turtle Butte area north of Wewela, SD (the area in which their Dad, Mervin Marsh, was raised). It is always great to see God's beautiful creation!

Carol received a birthday call from her niece, BethAnn, of Flagstaff, AZ. The sad news was also received that BethAnn's mother, Kendra, has a fast growing malignant tumor on her neck and throat glands. Chemo and radiation are needed.

Carol's Aunt Alice also called. She is doing well. They got off quarantine a few days ago as an employee tested COVID-19 positive.

## Local News

Our weather has been very changeable the past few days with extremely strong winds. Carol Woods' brother, Jim Marsh, experienced blizzard conditions on Thursday and received over four inches of snow with rain first. Earlier this past week, a lot of geese were flying over to land on the pond near Carol. Carol had a very nice birthday

Call 402-387-2844

Today To Place Your Ad On The Church Directory Page

Ainsworth Star-Journal



## Olivia Beel Earns Highest 4-H Award

BKR 4-Her Olivia Beel has earned the highest achievement award in Nebraska 4-H. The Diamond Clover Program consist of six levels of activities, including leadership and community service, that need to be accomplished before winning each level of the award. Each level must be awarded before moving on to the next level.

Diamond Clover is the highest level a Nebraska 4-Her can achieve. In order to earn the award, Olivia attended a Nebraska 4-H Camp, participated in the BKR speech and presentation contests, showed her small animals and livestock, exhibited at the county fairs, served as the President of the BKR 4-H Council, assisted in 4-H promotions, participated in the Nebraska 4-H Speech Contest, assisted younger 4-H members with their 4-H projects and helped with the Can-Care-a-Van event in Brown County.

"This program helped me learn how important it is to do things that benefit my community," said Olivia Beel.

# AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

## Deep Calling unto Deep

"Deep calls to deep in the roar of your waterfalls; all your waves and breakers have swept over me." Psalm 42:7 NIV



There is something deep within us which longs for communion with God. As the psalmist tells us: "As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God." (Psalm 42:1-2 NIV) There is something deeply mysterious, but also deeply comforting in this, to know that in our innermost being there is something which seeks its creator. Perhaps a better metaphor is that our souls contain a lock for which God is the key. How wonderful that God speaks to us in the depths of our souls, from the depths of His being. How blessed we are to taste and see and hear God so directly. These experiences of God within us are usually powerful and transformative. Our bodies, our minds, and our souls can hardly

contain the experience of God, and so our hearts overflow with gratitude. The experience often drives home the frailty and puniness of our human bodies, and makes us aware of the deeper treasure within: "But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us." (2Corinthians 4:7 NIV) That God calls to us and we to Him in the depths of our souls gives our faith a firm foundation and makes us feel at home in an otherwise uncaring world. —Christopher Simon

**United Methodist Church** • Pastor David Randall  
310 North Woodward • Ainsworth, NE 69210 • 402-387-2782  
Sunday Morning Worship..... 10:30 a.m.  
Wednesday, Kids Zones and Preteen Youth Group ..... 3:30-5:00 p.m.  
Wednesday, Jr. and Sr. High UMYF ..... 7:00 p.m.  
Wed., Adult Choir ..... 8:15 p.m.

**Parkside Berean Church**  
247 N. Richardson Dr. • Ainsworth, NE 69210  
402-387-1413  
Sunday School ..... 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday Morning Worship..... 11:00 a.m.

**St. Pius X Catholic Church** • Father Mike Wetovick  
915 East 3rd Street • Ainsworth, NE 69210 • 402-387-1275  
Saturday Mass ..... 6:15 p.m.  
Sunday Mass ..... 10:30 a.m.

**Faith Christian Fellowship of Long Pine** • Pastor Stephen Pierce  
102 East 6th St. • PO Box 110 • Long Pine, NE 69217  
Sunday Church Service ..... 10:30 a.m.

**Zion Lutheran Church** • Pastor Georg Williams  
318 East 4th Street • Ainsworth, NE 69210 • 402-387-1512  
Worship with Lord's Supper..... 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday School and Bible Class ..... 10:00 a.m.

**United Methodist Church** • Pastor David Randall  
Johnstown, NE 69214 • 402-722-4239  
Sunday Morning Worship..... 9:15 a.m.  
Sunday School ..... 10:00 a.m.

**Congregational UCC**  
236 West 3rd Street • Ainsworth, NE 69210 • 402-387-2145  
Sunday Morning Worship..... 11:00 a.m.

**Ainsworth Evangelical Free Church** • Pastor Dan Johnson  
East Highway 20 • Ainsworth, NE 69210 • 402-387-0755  
Sunday Worship In-Person ..... 9:15 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.  
Nursery & Children's Classes ..... 10:30 a.m.  
Wednesdays - High School Student Ministry ..... 7:00 p.m.  
For current info and worship online: Ainsworthfree.org

**St. Peter ELCA Lutheran Church** • Bassett, NE  
Sunday Worship ..... 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday School ..... 10:00 a.m.

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church** • Fr. Randall Goeke  
212 Clark Street, Bassett, NE  
Sunday Morning Worship..... 10:00 a.m.  
Tuesday Ecumenical Bible Study ..... 10:00 a.m.  
Wednesday Church School for Youth..... 4:00 p.m.

**Elsmere Bible Church** • Pastor Les Canfield  
Sunday Morning Services ..... 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday School ..... 10:00 a.m.  
Church Service ..... 11:00 a.m.  
Wednesday Evening, Bible Study ..... 7:00 p.m.

**St. John's Lutheran Church** • Pastor Donald Windsperger  
Hwy. 7 • Brewster, NE 68821 • 605-840-8779  
First & Third Sunday Worship ..... 2:00 p.m.  
Second & Fourth Sunday Worship..... 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday School (Except Summer) ..... 3:00 p.m./10:00 a.m.  
Lord's Supper ..... 1st Sunday each Month

**Assembly of God Church** • Pastor Gary Graesser  
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Sunday School All Ages ..... 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Morning Worship..... 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday Evening Service..... 7:00 p.m.  
Wednesday Children's Bible Club..... 3:30 p.m.  
Wednesday Adult and Youth Bible Studies ..... 7:00 p.m.

**Church of the Nazarene** • Pastor Russell Thayer  
253 North Elm Street • Ainsworth, NE 69210 • 402-387-2012  
Sunday School ..... 9:45 a.m.  
Sunday Morning Worship..... 10:45 a.m.  
Wednesday Caravans (Children Ages 4-4th Grade) ..... 3:15 p.m.  
Wednesday Teens..... 7:00 p.m.

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**Tired of Cooking and Need a Break?**  
The Mission Committee of the Ainsworth United Methodist Church is cooking again. This time they will be serving a fabulous Chicken Parmesan Dinner. The meal will include a hearty helping of Chicken Parmesan, garlic bread and a dessert treat.  
**Sunday, January 31st**  
**Due to Covid-19, we will have Curbside pickup only. Pickup will be from 4:30-5:30 p.m. in the West parking lot. Please enter from the North.**  
Call the Church office by **January 25th** to reserve your meal (402-387-2782) or complete this form and mail it to:  
**Ainsworth United Methodist Church**  
310 N. Woodward St., Ainsworth, NE 69210  
Name and phone number of person picking up the dinner(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
**Total Meals Ordered:** \_\_\_\_\_  
*This form must be turned in to the Church office by Monday, January 25, 2021. As always, the meal is free, but all Free-Will Donations are appreciated.*

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Our family healthcare team is prepared to help your family through winter illness as we continue to support your preventive health needs. Please report a COVID-19 infection to your healthcare provider if not diagnosed in clinic. We want to provide the best care by providing early treatment. Review your immunizations with our team to keep you and your family healthy!  
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## Ainsworth Lady Bulldogs Split Games, Season Record Stands at 9-4

The Ainsworth Lady Bulldogs split two basketball games this past week, defeating Boyd County on January 12th, 56-43, and losing to O'Neill on January 14th.

**Boyd County Lady Spartans**  
The Lady Bulldogs traveled to Spencer on January 12th and defeated the Lady Spartans, 56-43.

In the first quarter, Ainsworth scored 17 points and Boyd County put up 14 points.

Ainsworth extended its lead to eight points by halftime, scoring 13 points in the second quarter with Boyd County scoring eight points.

In the third quarter, Ainsworth scored 19 points while Boyd County put up 12 points.

In the final quarter, Ainsworth substituted, giving their younger players some floor time, and scored seven points to take the win, 56-43.

Bria Delimont led the Lady Dawgs with 14 points. While she was the only Ainsworth player in double scoring figures, six other Ainsworth players put points on the score board.

Ainsworth had 38 rebounds and was led by Kaitlyn Nelson with nine and Aubree Rice with eight.

Ainsworth had 14 steals, one blocked shot and 18 turnovers.

Boyd County was led in scoring by Amelia Hoffman with 20 points and Lauryn Hoffman had 15 points.

The Lady Spartans had 23 rebounds, 16 steals and 24 turnovers.

**Quarter Scores** 1 2 3 4 F  
Ainsworth 17 13 19 7 56  
Boyd County 14 8 12 9 43

**O'Neill Lady Eagles**  
Ainsworth hosted the number five rated O'Neill Lady Eagles on January 14th and suffered a 32-52 loss.

O'Neill had only one loss on the season and showed why they are rated.

Ainsworth was able to play with O'Neill in the first two quarters, trailing by only 10 points at half-time.

The third quarter was a different story with O'Neill putting up 12 points while Ainsworth was able to score only one point.

The final quarter was even with Ainsworth scoring 10 points and O'Neill scoring nine points.

Kendyl Delimont scored 13 points for the Lady Dawgs. Ainsworth shot only 22% from both the two-point and three-point range.

Kendyl Delimont also led Ainsworth in rebounding with eight. Bria Delimont had seven rebounds.

Ainsworth had six steals and three blocked shots while recording 28 turnovers.

O'Neill's Alyssa Eichelberger led the Lady Eagles with 17 points. Lauren Young scored 13 points and Meg Schluns made 10 points.

O'Neill had 39 rebounds, 16 steals and turned the ball over only 12 times.

**Quarter Scores** 1 2 3 4 F  
Ainsworth 13 8 1 10 32  
O'Neill 19 12 12 9 52

The Lady Dawgs face three tough opponents this week in CWC, North Central and Ogallala.

Ainsworth traveled to Chambers on January 19th to play the undefeated Lady Renegades.

Ainsworth is then home for two games. They host the North Central Lady Knights on January 21st. North Central was 12-4 with a



Freshman Kendyl Delimont led the Lady Bulldogs with 13 points and eight rebounds in their 32-52 loss to the O'Neill Lady Eagles.



O'Neill's aggressive play held Kaitlyn Nelson to only two points and four rebounds.

January 15th game that they were expected to win.

On January 21st, Ainsworth will host the 6-6 Lady Indians.

## Ainsworth Wrestlers Complete in the West Holt Invitational Wrestling Tournament

Ainsworth wrestlers competed in the West Holt Invitational Wrestling Tournament at Atkinson on Friday, January 15th.

Team results: 1. O'Neill - 183.5; 2. Burke/Gregory, SD - 171.5; 3. Neligh-Oakdale - 131.5; 4. Burwell - 101; 5. Summerland - 74; 6. Ainsworth - 51; and 7. West Holt - 46.

Ainsworth wrestlers brought home four medals from the tournament. Zach Parker and Caden Swanson each placed third in their weight classes while Isaac Hood and Braxton Jefferis placed fourth in their weight classes.

**Zach Parker**  
113 lbs. - 3rd Place  
Round 1 - Lost by a fall in 5:47 to Braydon Olson of West Holt.

Round 2 - Lost by a fall in :54 to Jackson Bauld of Burke/Gregory.

Round 3 - Won by a 10-9 decision over Ashton Burival of O'Neill.

**Corbin Swanson**  
120 lbs.

Quarterfinal - Lost by a fall in 5:33 to Kegan Payne of Neligh-Oakdale.

Cons. Round 1 - Won by fall in :53 over Peyton Yates of O'Neill.

Cons. Semi - Lost by a fall in 3:00 to Cody Booth of Neligh-Oakdale.

**Landon Holloway**  
126 lbs.

Quarterfinal - Won by a fall in 4:32 over Alex Thiele of Summerland.

Semifinal - Lost by a fall in :43 to Owen Hansen of Burke/Gregory.

Cons. Semi - Lost by a fall in 1:40 to Griffin Claussen of Neligh-Oakdale.

**Caden Swanson**  
138 lbs. - 3rd Place

Champ. Round 1 - Received a bye.

Quarterfinal - Won by a 9-8 decision over Ashton Higgins of Neligh-Oakdale.

Semifinal - Lost by a 4-8 decision to Caleb Davis of West Holt.

Cons. Semi - Won by a 5-2 decision over Eli Thiele of Summerland.

3rd Place Match - Won by a fall in 1:47 over Kullen Cartella of O'Neill.

**Kaleb Zorkowski**  
145 lbs.

Champ. Round 1 - Received a bye.

Quarterfinal - Lost by a fall in 1:48 to Brady Thompson of O'Neill.

Cons. Round 2 - Received a bye.

Cons. Round 3 - Won by a fall in 2:26 over Spencer Kester of Summerland.

Cons. Semi - Lost by a fall in :23 to Jhett Eklund of Burke/Gregory.

**Riggin Blumenstock**  
152 lbs.

Champ. Round 1 - Received a bye.

Quarterfinal - Lost by a fall in 1:39 to Levi Druke of O'Neill.

Cons. Round 2 - Received a bye.

Cons. Round 3 - Lost by a fall in :43 to Cody Mayfield of Burwell.

**Isaac Hood**  
170 lbs. - 4th Place

Quarterfinal - Won by a fall in 1:05 over Hagen Hodges of Burwell.

Semifinal - Lost by a fall in 2:52 to Tucker Even of Burke/Gregory.

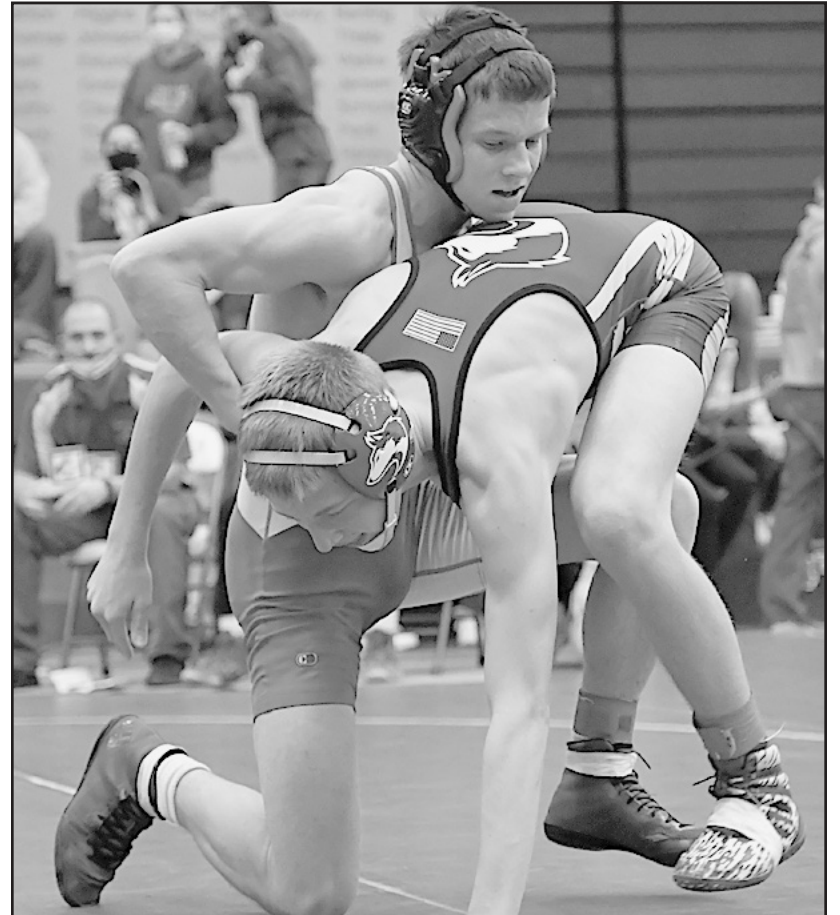
Cons. Semi - Won by a fall in 3:46 over Kendrick Schroeder of Summerland.

3rd Place Match - Lost by a 2-3 decision to Servando Gonzalez of O'Neill.

**Braxton Jefferis**  
285 lbs. - 4th Place



Wrestling in the 170 lb. weight class, Isaac Hood took fourth place at the West Holt Invitational.



Caden Swanson wrestled to third place in the 138 lb. weight class at the West Holt Invitational.

Round 1 - Lost by a fall in 2:33 to Hunter Mayfield of Burwell.  
Round 2 - Lost by a fall in 1:27 to Logan Mueller of Summerland.  
Round 3 - Lost by a 2-3 decision to Tucker Shabram of O'Neill.  
The next competition for the Ainsworth wrestlers will be the Southwest Conference Tournament in Valentine on January 23rd.

## Ainsworth Community Schools Calendar of Events/Lunch Menu

Dates and Times Subject to Change Due to COVID  
January 2021

**Wednesday, January 20th**  
11:00 a.m.: Mock Trial - Round 1, Ainsworth vs Region 5 - Virtual.  
**Thursday, January 21st**  
2:17 - 2:41 p.m.: FCCLA Meeting, Room 133.  
4:30 p.m.: JV and Varsity Girls and Boys Basketball with North Central at Ainsworth  
<https://youtu.be/LSp1bGjHpw>  
4:30 p.m.: JV Boys at Community Center (2 Quarters).  
<https://youtu.be/a-wlRrWdB8>  
4:30 p.m.: JV Girls Basketball with North Central at Ainsworth.  
6:00 p.m.: Varsity Girls Basketball with North Central at Ainsworth.  
7:30 p.m.: Varsity Boys Basketball with North Central at Ainsworth.  
**Friday, January 22nd**  
6:00 p.m.: FFA Proficiency Worknight.  
**Saturday, January 23rd**  
All Day: High School Wrestling, Southwest Conference Tournament at Valentine.  
8:00 a.m.: Speech Meet at Broken Bow Invite.  
9:00 a.m.: Middle School Boys Basketball at West Holt Tournament.  
2:00 p.m.: JV and Varsity Girls and Boys Basketball with Ogallala at Ainsworth.  
<https://youtu.be/KHFQyXXyfm0>  
2:00 p.m.: JV Girls Basketball with Ogallala at Ainsworth.  
3:30 p.m.: Varsity Girls Basketball with Ogallala at Ainsworth.  
5:00 p.m.: Varsity Boys Basketball with Ogallala at Ainsworth.  
No JV Boys.

**Monday, January 25th**  
All Day: UNK Honor Band/Choir.  
All Day: Varsity Girls and Boys Basketball 1st Round SWC, TBA.  
**Tuesday, January 26th**  
11:00 a.m.: Mock Trial - Round 2, Ainsworth vs Region 6 - Virtual.  
7:00 p.m.: FFA Meeting.  
**Wednesday, January 27th**  
All Day: FCCLA STAR at O'Neill.  
All Day: 1st - 8th Grade Written Spelling Bee (Classrooms).

**Lunch Menu**  
(Served Daily - Fruit and Veggie Bar, Fresh and Canned Fruit of the Day and Milk)  
Wednesday, January 20th: Fresh baked turkey and cheese sub, oven-roasted hot dog, BBQ pulled pork sandwich, fresh baby carrots and BBQ baked beans.  
Thursday, January 21st: Fresh baked ham and cheese sub, Italian dunkers with marinara dipping sauce, cheeseburger, fresh broccoli florets, mixed vegetables and rice crispy treat.  
Friday, January 22nd: Fresh baked ham and turkey sub, cheese pizza, pepperoni pizza, toasted sausage breakfast sandwich, steamed broccoli florets and fresh baby carrots.  
Monday, February 25th: Fresh baked ham and cheese sub, creamy macaroni and cheese with dinner roll, spicy chicken sandwich, green beans and fresh baby carrots.  
Tuesday, February 26th: Fresh baked combo sub, hot pepperoni sub, chicken nuggets with dinner roll, steamed carrots and fresh broccoli florets.  
Wednesday, February 27th: Fresh baked turkey and cheese sub, home-style spaghetti with garlic breadstick, mini corn dogs, fresh baby carrots, peas.

**City of Ainsworth**  
Pet Licenses Due By  
**January 31, 2021**  
You MUST PROVIDE  
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FROM YOUR VETERINARIAN.  
Purchase at Ainsworth City Clerk's Office

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**NIORRARA RIVER**  
JANUARY 29 & 30  
MEADVILLE, NE

**POLAR BEAR FESTIVAL**  
FRIDAY, JANUARY 29, 2021  
• 5:00 p.m. - Social Club  
• 7:00 p.m. - Polar Bear Kick-Off Party

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 2021**  
SERVING: PULLED PORK SANDWICHES (12 P.M. UNTIL GONE)  
• 12:00 p.m. - "Liquid Courage Shots" & Registration  
• 2:00 p.m. - **POLAR BEAR DIP**  
in Niobrara River and coronation of the Polar Bear King and Queen at the Meadville Park  
**Masks Recommended ~ Please use social distancing**  
*If you're sick, we will see you next year!*  
~ALL DIPPERS MUST REGISTER BEFORE THE DIP!~  
FREE Will Donations Will Be Taken for Keya Paha Fire & Rescue  
FOR MORE INFORMATION: MEADVILLE OUTLAWS - 402-497-2440  
KASEY (OWNER) - 402-760-1634

**Congratulations On Your Academic Accomplishments!**  
We Saw You Made The 2nd Semester Honor Roll or Roll of Excellence at Ainsworth Community Schools  
For That Honor, Choose A Free Meal (Up To \$10.00 - One Meal Per Student)  
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# SPORTS

## Ainsworth Bulldogs Win Two Games, Extend Record to 5-7

The Ainsworth Bulldogs won two basketball games this past week, defeating Boyd County 51-40 and O'Neill 60-57.

Coach Jake Nelson said at the beginning of the season he had a young team and looked for the players to mature during the season and come into their own by the end of the season.

It seems his prediction is starting to come true with a big win over the O'Neill Eagles on January 14th.

**Boyd County Spartans**  
The Dawgs traveled to Spencer on January 12th to play the 1-10 Boyd County Spartans.

Ainsworth jumped out to a big lead, 21-9, in the first quarter and continued to build on their lead.

Scoring 15 points in the second quarter, Ainsworth took a 36-20 lead into halftime.

The third quarter had Ainsworth and Boyd County playing fairly even at 11-10 with Ainsworth on top.

Ainsworth got playing time for younger players and allowed Boyd County to slightly close the gap.

Carter Nelson led the Dawgs in scoring with 17 points with Caleb Allen scoring 11 points and Cash Reynolds adding 10 points to put three Dawgs in double scoring figures.

Ainsworth made only one three-pointer against the Spartans in 14 shots, but shot 66% from two-point range, making 19 of 29 and 71% from the charity stripe, making 10 of 14 free throws.

Ainsworth out-rebounded the Spartans 36-25, with Trey Appelt and Reynolds each pulling down 10 rebounds and Nelson grabbing nine.

Turnovers plagued the Dawgs

with 21 while Boyd County turned the ball over only 15 times.

Ainsworth had 12 steals and Boyd County had 10 steals.

Quarter Scores	1	2	3	4	F
Ainsworth	21	15	11	4	51
Boyd Co.	9	11	10	10	40

### O'Neill Eagles

The Dawgs hosted O'Neill on January 14th with the Eagles sitting at 5-5 on the season and the Dawgs at 4-7.

In a fast paced game, Ainsworth took a slight two point lead at the end of the first quarter, 14-12.

O'Neill came back in the second quarter and took the lead, but Ainsworth persevered and tied the game at halftime at 31 each. It was a big scoring quarter for both teams with O'Neill putting up 19 points to Ainsworth's 17 points.

Coming out in the third quarter, Ainsworth fell behind, scoring 14 points to O'Neill's 18 points.

In the final quarter, Ainsworth battled back and with one minute left in the game, Ainsworth tied the score at 56.

With 35 seconds left in the game, O'Neill fouled Carter Nelson who made both of this free throws to give Ainsworth the lead, 58-56.

An O'Neill player made the front end of a 1-1 free throw attempt to bring the Eagles within one point, 57-58.

Ainsworth then proceeded to turn the ball over with 23 seconds left, but O'Neill then gave the ball back to Ainsworth on a turnover with 17.8 seconds left.

Ainsworth's Traegan McNally was then fouled and made the front end of a 1-1 to give Ainsworth a two point lead, 59-57.

With just seconds left, Caleb Allen made another free throw to give Ainsworth a three point lead and the Dawgs held on for a 60-57 win.

All five of Ainsworth's starters scored in double figures. Allen and Nelson led the Dawgs with 14 points each. Reynolds and McNally each scored 11 points and Trey Appelt rounded out the scoring with 10 points.

With a tight game and limited bench, Ainsworth fans saw the five starters play the whole game without substitutions.

Ainsworth made nine of 23 attempts from three point range while shooting 59% from both two-point range (22 of 59) and the charity stripe (13 of 22).

Appelt had a good game under the basket, pulling down 11 rebounds for the Dawgs.

Ainsworth managed only three steals but had five blocked shots. The Dawgs recorded 23 turnovers.

Ainsworth played a clean game and had only nine personal fouls to keep the Eagles from the free throw line.

O'Neill was led in scoring by Landon Classen with 17 points and Keegan Moore with 16 points.

O'Neill had only six turnovers against the Dawgs but had 20 personal fouls with one player fouling



Receiving feeds from Carter Nelson, Cash Reynolds made some early baskets for Ainsworth against O'Neill and ended the game with 11 points.

Quarter Scores	1	2	3	4	F
Ainsworth	14	17	14	15	60
O'Neill	12	19	18	8	57

The Dawgs will have three games this week with the first on Janu-

## More Fans In The Stands!

With basketball about two-thirds of the way through the season, McAndrew Gymnasium is seeing more fans in the stands.

Early in January, NSAA updated its Winter Activity Spectator Guidelines allowing up to 50% capacity for facilities.

### WINTER ACTIVITY SPECTATOR GUIDELINES January 4, 2021

#### Attendance:

- Facilities are limited to 50% capacity (per NSAA regulation).
- Members outside of the household will be allowed to attend.
- Six feet of separation between groups is recommended.
- Spectators MAY now stay for all games.
- A pass list is no longer required and 50% of capacity of the facility is allowed. This will be on a first-come, first-serve basis. Once

the McAndrew Gym reaches 505 people, attendance will be shut off. Please plan on arriving early.

#### Face Coverings:

- Face Coverings are required of all spectators.
- Face coverings must cover both the mouth and the nose.

NSAA rules state that face coverings must be worn during the entire time in the building. Social distancing does NOT allow spectators to drop his/her mask.

#### Self-Checks:

- Symptom check done before arriving. Do not come if experiencing any symptoms.
- Temperature checks done upon entering.

#### Seating:

High School Gym - Home Spectators - west and southeast side of the bleachers. Visitor Spectators - northeast side of the bleachers.

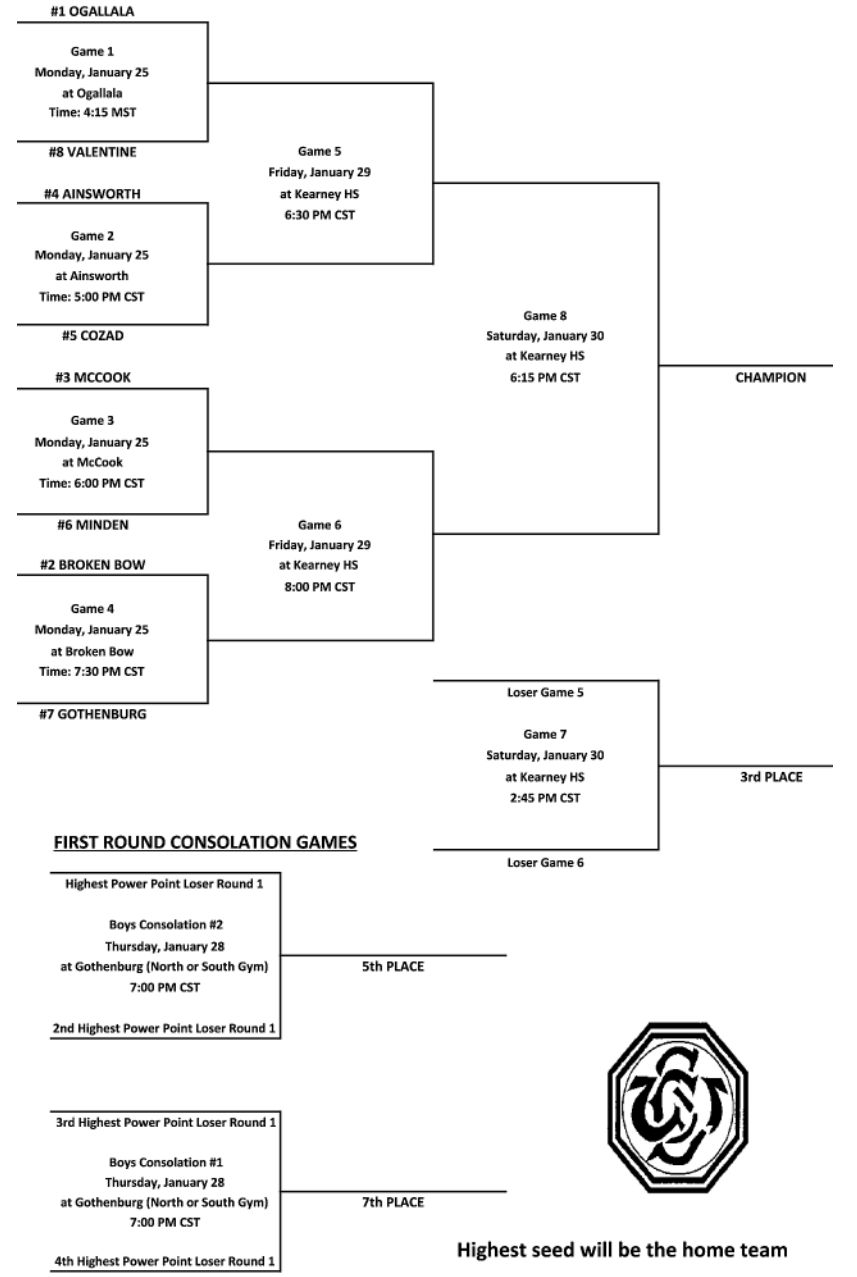
Community Center - Home Spectators - north half of bottom bleachers plus west and north half of walking track. Visitor Spectators - south half of bottom bleachers plus east and south half of walking track.

#### Concession Stand:

- A limited concession stand will be available.
  - Food and drink will be allowed in the gym. Masks must return over the face as soon as possible.
- Note that these guidelines are subject to change.

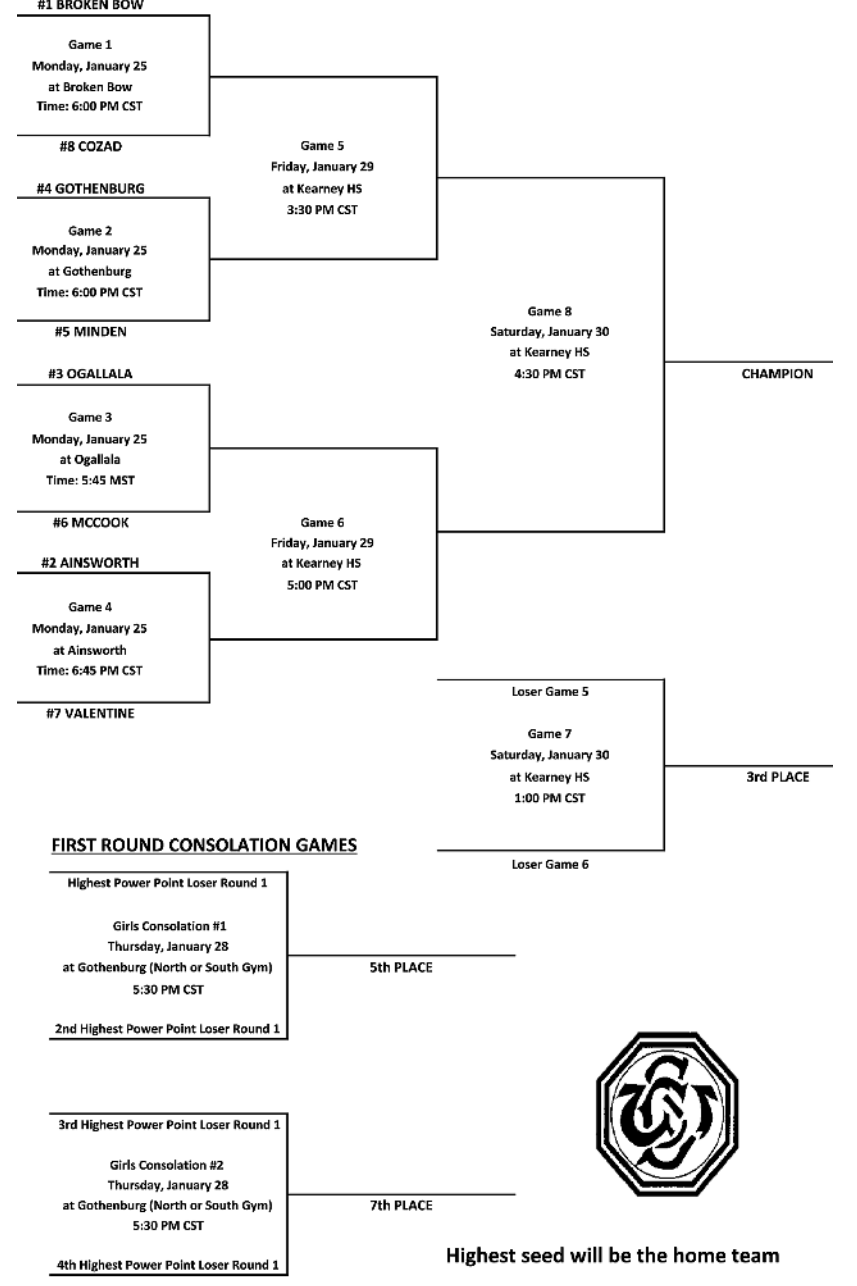
## Both Ainsworth Basketball Teams to Host First Round SWC Games

### 2021 SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE BOYS BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT



Caleb Allen scored 14 points against a tough O'Neill defense.

### 2021 SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE GIRLS BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT



## 2020-2021 Ainsworth Middle School & High School 1st Semester ROLL OF EXCELLENCE & HONOR ROLL

### ROLL OF EXCELLENCE - 4.0 GPA

- Fifth Grade:** Teigen Marbry, Easton McMillin and Landon Stephen.  
**Sixth Grade:** Willa Flynn, Jaylee Good, Puridy Haley, Kiley Orton and Kinsey Walz.  
**Seventh Grade:** William Biltoft.  
**Eighth Grade:** Emma Kennedy and Brianna Starkey.  
**Freshmen:** Trey Appelt, Kendyl Delimont, Korah Dunbar and Jocelyn Good.  
**Sophomores:** Ally Conroy, Cameryn Goochey, Lauren Ortner, Emma Sears and Dakota Stutzman.  
**Juniors:** Caleb Allen, Maren Arens, Alyssa Erthum, Benjamin Flynn, Maia Flynn, Thomas Ortner, Eden Raymond, Summer Richardson, Tylan Schlueter, Haley Schroedl, Allison Taylor and Elizabeth Wilkins.  
**Seniors:** CeeAnna Beel, Katrina Beel, Moriah Beel, Logan Hafer, Danica Heinert, Matthew Jeffers, Brandt Murphy, Molly Salzman, Caden Swanson and Madison Welch.

### HONOR ROLL - 3.5 - 3.99 GPA

- Fifth Grade:** Mickal Crisman, Haley Happold, Ryan Kerrigan, Bateson Raymond, Bear Rea, Raelynn Reagan, Jaxon Rucker and Dylan Titus.  
**Sixth Grade:** Holden Beel, David Cook, Londyn Dunbar, Addison Held, Hunter McLeod, Kinley Olson, Jonathan Strand and Braeyden Ziemba.  
**Seventh Grade:** Addah Booth, Zaily Daniels, Christopher Fernandez, Jace Johnson, Angeles Manoatl Sedeno, Payton Moody, Kelby Rice, Adysson Sears, Kaitlyn Sease and Sam Titus.  
**Eighth Grade:** Jaden Appleman, Jordan Beatty, Hannah Beel, Preselyn Goochey, Morgan Kinney, Ryan Salzman and Logan Schroedl.  
**Freshmen:** Taylor Allen, Tessa Barthel, Rigglin Blumenstock, Cole Bodeman, Makenzy Cheatum, Kadence Fletcher, Lura Hodge, June Iturbide, Katherine Kerrigan, Gracie Kinney, Karli Kral, Traegan McNally, Zachary Parker, Kyla Pyle, Mason Titus and Kieley Walz.  
**Sophomores:** Moriah Cheatum, Ian Finley, Levi Goshorn, Sydney Olinger and Saylen Young.

- Juniors:** Benjamin Barrow, Bria Delimont, Shawna Fernau, Madelyn Goochey, Gavin Olinger, Shelly Saner and Sophie Wilson.  
**Seniors:** Josie Ganser, Adriana Hood, Cody Kronhofman, Valarie Morris, Nathan Petty, Molly Salzman, Shaley Starkey and Colton Troxel.

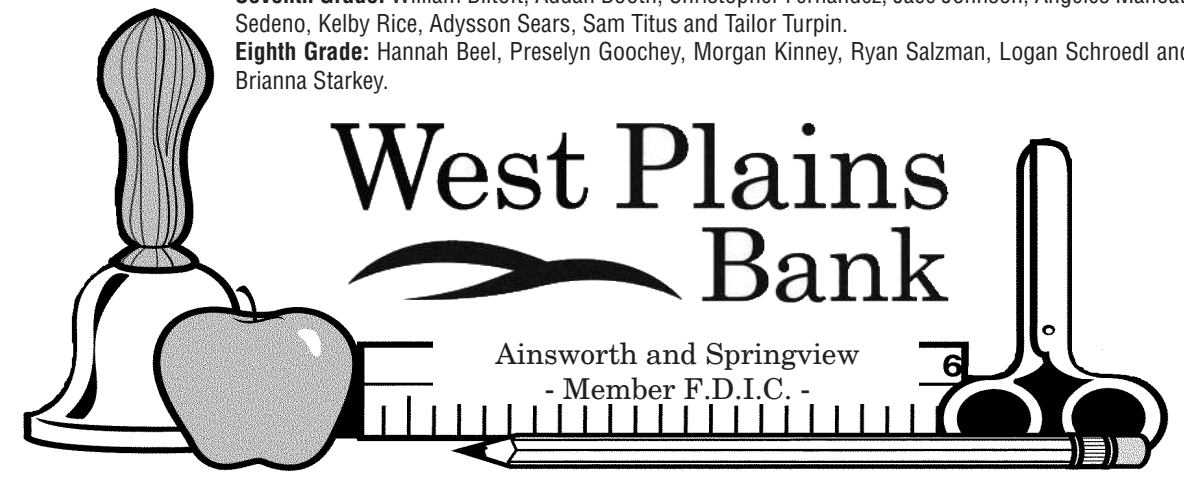
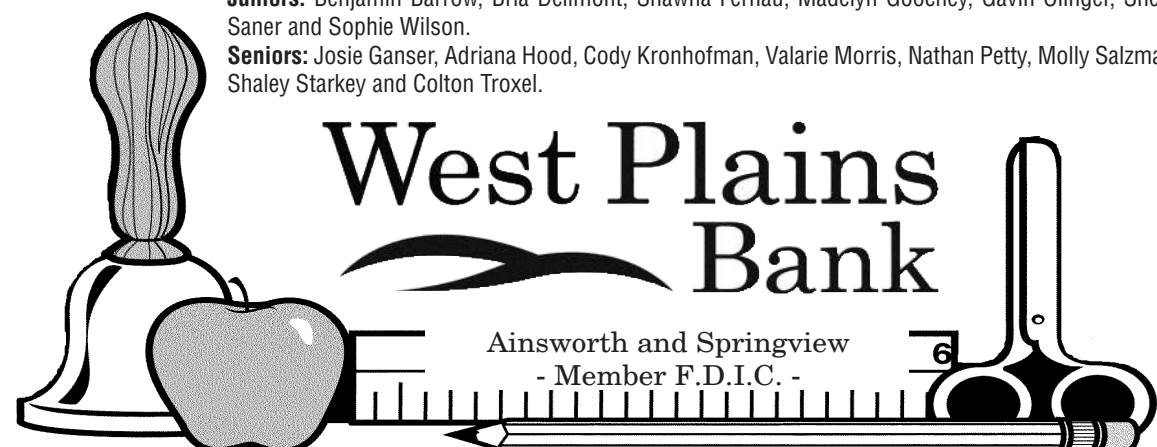
## 2020-2021 Ainsworth Middle School 2nd Quarter ROLL OF EXCELLENCE & HONOR ROLL

### ROLL OF EXCELLENCE - 4.0 GPA

- Fifth Grade:** Landon Stephen.  
**Sixth Grade:** Willa Flynn, Jaylee Good, Addison Held and Kiley Orton.  
**Seventh Grade:** Payton Moody.  
**Eighth Grade:** Emma Kennedy.

### HONOR ROLL - 3.5 - 3.99 GPA

- Fifth Grade:** Mickal Crisman, Zaine Evans, Haley Happold, Ryan Kerrigan, Carson Koch, Teigen Marbry, Easton McMillin, Bateson Raymond, Bear Rea, Raelynn Reagan, Jaxon Rucker and Dylan Titus.  
**Sixth Grade:** Holden Beel, David Cook, Londyn Dunbar, Puridy Haley, Kinley Olson, Kinsey Walz and Braeyden Ziemba.  
**Seventh Grade:** William Biltoft, Addah Booth, Christopher Fernandez, Jace Johnson, Angeles Manoatl Sedeno, Kelby Rice, Adysson Sears, Sam Titus and Tailor Turpin.  
**Eighth Grade:** Hannah Beel, Preselyn Goochey, Morgan Kinney, Ryan Salzman, Logan Schroedl and Brianna Starkey.



## Ainsworth City Council Passes Resolution for USDA Financial Assistance to Purchase New Generator for Care Center

Continued from Front Page

Committee with Brad Fiala as the alternate. The Council approved the appointments.

### Oath of Office

Ainsworth City Attorney Rod Palmer gave the Oath of Office to new council member Vance Heyer. Heyer won a seat on the Ainsworth City Council during the November General Election.

### Waste Water Improvement Project

The Waste Water Improvement Project is winding down and the Council reviewed some change orders and completion certificates.

The change orders were approved by the council, but completion letters and certificates were tabled until the February meeting to ensure everything was in order.

City Administrator Lisa Schroedl said she was sure the City of Ainsworth will have enough funds for the \$1.274 million project.

### Facade Grant

The council approved a \$3,981.16 facade grant from LB840 funds. The grant was recommended for approval by the LB840 Loan Committee.

### LB840

The council along with the LB840 Citizen Advisory Review Committee (CARC) has been discussing confidentiality of LB840 applicant information.

All applicant information has been confidential to this point, but the CARC recommended that once the grant or loan is approved by the council, the name of the applicant, amount of the loan or grant and whether the money is for a loan or grant would be considered public information.

Graig Kinzie said it would be more beneficial to let the public know which of the six categories

the money would be used for such as facade, professional recruitment or business development or expansion rather than the applicant's name.

After discussion with members of the public and CARC members, the council voted to amend resolution #21-02 to make the name of the applicant, whether the application is a loan or grant, amount of the loan or grant and which category the loan or grant applies to be considered public information after the council approves or denies the application on the recommendation of the LB840 Loan Committee.

All other information on the application will remain confidential.

The next regular meeting of the Ainsworth City Council will be on February 10th in the Ainsworth Conference Center at 5:00 p.m.

## Ainsworth FFA Hosts District X Leadership Development, Qualifies Members for State Convention

On Wednesday, January 13th, Ainsworth Community Schools (ACS) hosted District X Leadership Development Events. These competitions highlight skills in public speaking and agricultural leadership activities.

With help from the ACS Staff and Judge Volunteers, Ainsworth welcomed over 300 students into the school for competition that showcased the hard work that FFA members have been working on throughout the school year.

The Ainsworth FFA Chapter is proud to share its members' achievements. Qualifying for the State Convention as District Champions were members Benjamin Flynn, Libby Wilkins, and Maren Arens. Ben Flynn qualified in Natural Resource Speaking with his topic on Aquaculture in Nebraska. Libby Wilkins qualified through her work in Extemporaneous Speaking on topics of agriculture. Maren Arens qualified through the competition of Employment Skills. Also earning the qualifications

to enter state competition includes individual Alyssa Erthum and the Senior Parliamentary Procedure Team. Alyssa Erthum qualified in Employment Skills. The Senior Parliamentary Procedure Team will also be attending the State Convention. Members include Libby Wilkins, Benjamin Flynn, Logan Hafer, Maia Flynn, Tylan Schlueter and Alyssa Erthum. Alternates include Haley Schroedl and CeeAnna Beel.

Earning purple ribbons were the two members in Senior Public Speaking, Josie Ganser and Katrina Beel. Josie Ganser discussed genetic engineering and its impact on modern agriculture. Katrina Beel used her speech as an opportunity to discuss women in agriculture.

Several members of the Ainsworth FFA Chapter received blue ribbons. Kiele Walz received a blue ribbon in Natural Resource Speaking with her discussion on feral horses. Logan Hafer competed in Extemporaneous Speaking. Josie Ganser and Ellie Welke com-

pleted an Ag Demonstration on Bull Testing. Libby Smith and Shaley Starkey showcased their Ag Demonstration on canine oral health. Makenna Pierce used her experiences to talk about agricultural education in urban America as a topic in Junior Public Speaking. Moriah Cheatum also competed in Junior Public Speaking with her speech on feral hogs. Tatum Nickless competed in Cooperative Speaking with her speech on rural revitalization that cooperatives provide. Finally, the Conduct of Chapter Meetings competed in parliamentary law. The team consisted of Trey Appelt, Airyan Goochey, Makenzy Cheatum, Terrin Barthel, Riggan Blumenstock, Lura Hodge, and Bailey Bowen.

The Ainsworth FFA Chapter congratulates its members on their hard work, and would like to extend its gratitude toward all of the volunteers who helped make the Leadership Development Events a success this year.

## NCDHD Reports 17 New COVID-19 Cases in District; Starting Into Phase 1B Vaccinations

North Central District Health Department (NCDHD) has been made aware of 17 new cases in the district since the last reporting on January 14, 2021: 1 - Antelope; 2 - Boyd; 0 - Brown; 1 - Cherry; 5 - Holt; 0 - Keya Paha; 4 - Knox; 3 - Pierce; and 1 - Rock.

NCDHD transitioned into Phase 1B to provide COVID-19 vaccine to individuals who are 75 years and older. If you believe you qualify for Phase 1A but were not vaccinated, please visit the NCDHD webpage and sign up on the Phase 1A survey.

Visit the NCDHD website for sign-ups for individuals 75+, businesses in Phases 1B, and a survey for individuals in the general public who can receive a vaccine at a moment's notice.

For assistance completing the survey, please call the following agencies in your area: Elgin Public Library, Elgin Senior Center, Neligh Public Library, Neligh Senior Center, Ainsworth Public Library, Ainsworth Senior Center, Boyd County Senior Center, Valentine Public Library, Valentine Senior Center, Stuart Township Library, Atkinson Public Library, Atkinson Senior Center, O'Neill Chamber of Commerce, Bloomfield Public Library, Creighton Public Library, Eastern Township Library, Lied Lincoln Township Library, Verdigre Public Library,

Crofton Senior Center, Osmond General Hospital, Osmond Library, Plainview Library, Plainview Senior Center, Pierce Public Library, Pierce Senior Center, Rock County Public Library, and Rock County Senior Center.

NCDHD recognizes federal partners added the 65 years and older and those with underlying health conditions categories into Phase 1B. NCDHD respectfully requests this population wait until February to sign up on the statewide registry.

NCDHD will release media for the statewide registry once updates are available.

NCDHD will notify the public as NCDHD transitions to each phase. The speed of transition depends heavily on vaccine availability. Below is a tentative timeline for district COVID-19 vaccinations:

- Late December to Mid-January: Phase 1A - Healthcare personnel providing direct patient care and/or are exposed to infectious materials and long-term care facility staff and residents.
- Mid-January to Mid-April: Phase 1B - Vaccine will be allocated to those 75 years and older, 65 years and older, those with pre-existing conditions, first responders, those in the education sector, and those working with critical infrastructure (i.e. food/agriculture facilities, utilities, transportation, postal workers, etc.).

- Mid-April to May: Phase 1C - Vaccines will be allocated to vulnerable populations (disabled, homeless, etc.) and those in congregate settings (incarcerated, colleges/universities, etc.).
- May to October: Phase 2 - Vaccine will be made available to the public.

NCDHD COVID-19 testing sites offer a 15-minute rapid test and/or the gold standard PCR test. The rapid test is only offered to individuals who are currently exhibiting symptoms associated with COVID.

All testing is offered free of charge at the below locations:

- O'Neill: Monday - Thursday from 8:30-10:30 a.m. at the north parking lot of the O'Neill Armory, located at the corner of 4th and Hynes Ave.
- Bassett: Tuesdays from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at the Rock County Fair Grounds.
- Pre-registration for testing at [www.testnebraska.com](http://www.testnebraska.com) is highly encouraged, but not required.
- The last patient will be scheduled 15 minutes before the scheduled end of the clinic.
- Valentine: Testing will be on Tuesdays at the Valentine United Methodist Church, located at 804 E. 5th St. Valentine, NE. Rapid tests are not available at this location. This test site is hosted by Cherry County Hospital.

Case count update as of January 18, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.: 4,020 Total Cases (TC), 2,121 Recoveries (R), 64 Deaths (D), and 221 total cases reported in the last 14 days. A reminder that Total Case (TC) numbers are represented first, and of those total cases the number of Recovered (R) persons is represented second, and total case related Deaths (D) is represented third.

Antelope: TC: 525, R: 259, D: 7; Keya Paha: TC: 42, R: 8, D: 0; Boyd: TC: 177, R: 84, D: 3; Knox: TC: 1,026, R: 531, D: 7; Brown: TC: 269, R: 120, D: 4; Pierce: TC: 666, R: 348, D: 20; Cherry: TC: 391, R: 218, D: 7; Rock: TC: 146, R: 87, D: 2; and Holt: TC: 778, R: 466, D: 14.

## Commission Enacts Special Landowner Deer Season

The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission adopted wildlife regulations that enacted a Special Landowner Deer Season and allowed the purchase of a bonus or a preference point with regard to big game hunting at its January 13th meeting in Lincoln.

The Special Landowner Deer Season and purchase of a bonus or a preference point were created by the passage of LB 126 and LB 287, respectively, in the Nebraska Legislature's 2020 session.

The Special Landowner Deer Season will allow a qualifying landowner as many as four permits to designate themselves or immediate family to hunt on his or her property on the Saturday, Sunday and Monday before the opening of the November firearm deer season. No more than two permits will be issued to persons older than age 19 and two permits to persons younger than 19.

Points are awarded when hunters are unsuccessful in several of Nebraska's big game drawings. Preference point based drawings allow hunters with the most points the best chance at drawing permits. Bonus point drawings, on the other hand, give hunters an additional

entry in the drawing for each point or year that they were unsuccessful in drawing. Allowing the purchase of a bonus or a preference point will allow hunters to accumulate points in years that they do not want to draw.

Additional wildlife regulations adopted at the meeting clarify draw units, how forfeited permits may be handled, staggering the sale of over-the-counter permits, and alter the residency qualifications for one auction elk permit.

The commissioners approved

the 2021-2025 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, which evaluates the supply and demand for outdoor recreation opportunities and summarizes state and regional demographics. It also provides guidance on future development of park lands through the goals and Land and Water Conservation Fund priority projects. Communities and outdoor recreation professionals are encouraged to use the data and guidance within the Plan when planning for outdoor recreation projects.

**SOUP IS BACK at The Connection Soup and Sandwiches (Plus More)**  
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11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
For More Information or to Volunteer by Serving or Assisting with Food, Please Call Janell Hart at the Church of the Nazarene at 402-387-2012

**Not Too Late To Buy Your ... Plat Map....**  
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Natalia McCain  
Bachelor of Science in Nursing  
University of Nebraska Medical Center

# PUBLIC NOTICES

**NOTICE IN THE COUNTY COURT OF BROWN COUNTY, NEBRASKA ESTATE OF CAROL L. CHRISTENSEN, Deceased Estate NO. PR21-1**  
Notice is hereby given that on January 4, 2021 in the County Court of Brown County, Nebraska, Tina L. Moylan, whose address is 10310 North 142nd Street, Waverly, Nebraska 68462 was informally appointed by the Registrar as Personal Representative of this estate. Creditors of this estate must file their claims with this Court on or before March 13, 2021 or be forever barred.

/s/ Roxanne Philben, Clerk of the County Court  
148 West 4th Street  
Ainsworth, NE 69210  
Avery L. Gurnsey #15678  
Attorney for Applicant  
214 Clark Street  
P.O. Box 425  
Bassett, NE 68714  
(402) 684-2524  
18345-2-4 ZNEZ

**NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION O'HARE LAND, LLC**  
Notice is hereby given that O'Hare Land, LLC, a Nebraska Limited Liability Company, with its designated office at 87823 428th Ave, Ainsworth, Nebraska, 69210, has been dissolved under the laws of the state of Nebraska effective December 31, 2020. Any claims against the Company must be sent to the designated office and must include the amount claimed due and a detailed description of the nature of the claim along with the claimant's contact information. Claims must be received at the designated office by January 20, 2026 or be forever barred.

/s/ Roxanne Philben, Clerk of the County Court  
Todd Flynn, #21945  
Todd Flynn Law Office,  
P.C., L.L.O.  
PO Box 247  
Ainsworth, NE 69210  
(402) 382-3420  
tflynnlaw@threeeriver.net  
18339-1-3 ZNEZ

**IN THE COUNTY COURT OF BROWN COUNTY, NEBRASKA ESTATE OF GEORGE A. KICKEN, DECEASED ESTATE NO. PR 20-30**  
Notice is hereby given that on the 30th day of December 2020 in the County Court of Brown County, Nebraska, the Registrar issued a written statement of Informal Probate of the Will of said Decedent and that Delores G. Kicken whose address is 546 N. Elm Street, Ainsworth, NE 69210 was informally appointed by the Registrar as Personal Represent-

tative of the Estate. Creditors of this Estate must file their claims with this Court on or before March 6, 2021 or be forever barred.

/s/ Roxanne Philben, Clerk of the County Court  
Rodney J. Palmer, #13210  
Palmer Law Group, L.L.C.  
353 N. Main Street  
P.O. Box 127  
Ainsworth, NE 69210  
(402) 387-2212; Fax (402) 387-2250  
pklawrod@threeeriver.net  
Applicant's Attorney  
18340-1-3 ZNEZ

**IN THE COUNTY COURT OF BROWN COUNTY, NEBRASKA ESTATE OF VERGIL A. HEYER, DECEASED ESTATE NO. PR 20-28**  
Notice is hereby given that on the 21st day of December, 2020, in the County Court of Brown County, Nebraska, the Registrar issued a written statement of Informal Probate of the Will of said Decedent and that Vance Heyer whose address is 844 E. 2nd Street, Ainsworth, NE 69210, 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 22nd, 2021 or be forever barred.

/s/ Roxanne Philben, Clerk of the County Court  
Todd Flynn, #21945  
Todd Flynn Law Office,  
P.C., L.L.O.  
PO Box 247  
Ainsworth, NE 69210  
(402) 382-3420  
tflynnlaw@threeeriver.net  
18330-3-5 ZNEZ

**IN THE COUNTY COURT OF BROWN COUNTY, NEBRASKA ESTATE OF JOANNE M. HALL, DECEASED ESTATE NO. PR 20-29**  
Notice is hereby given that on the 21st day of December, 2020, in the County Court of Brown County, Nebraska, the Registrar issued a written statement of Informal Probate of the Will of said Decedent and that Scott J. Leal whose address is 916 W. F Street, North Platte, NE 69101, 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 22nd, 2021 or be forever barred.

/s/ Roxanne Philben, Clerk of the County Court  
Todd Flynn, #21945  
Todd Flynn Law Office,  
P.C., L.L.O.  
PO Box 247  
Ainsworth, NE 69210  
(402) 382-3420  
tflynnlaw@threeeriver.net  
18329-3-5 ZNEZ

**NOTICE**  
Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the Ainsworth Irrigation District will set as a Board of Equalization on February 8, 2021, beginning at 10:00 a.m. in the conference room of the Ainsworth Irrigation District office east of Ainsworth, NE for the purpose of equalizing assessments on lands within the Ainsworth Irrigation District. From the time of publishing this notice, the assessment books for the Ainsworth Irrigation District, will remain in the office of the secretary at the Ainsworth Irrigation District office east of Ainsworth, NE for the inspection by all persons interested, said place being designated by the secretary of the Ainsworth Irrigation District for such purposes. Dated this 5th day of January 2021.

/s/ Steve Bartak, President - Steve Bartak  
18363-3-4 ZNEZ

**Ainsworth Irrigation District Notice of General Election**  
Notice is hereby given to the qualified electors of the Ainsworth Irrigation District of Brown and Rock Counties, Nebraska, that an election will be held in Division No. III, on the 2nd day of February 2021, for the purpose of electing a director for said division. The post will be for a period of three years and is currently held by Steve Bartak. The voting place is to be the Operation and Maintenance building of the Ainsworth Irrigation District, east of Ainsworth, NE. Polls in the above voting place will be opened at 8:00 a.m. in the morning and kept open until 6:00 p.m., the same day. Dated this 5th day of January 2021.

Ainsworth Irrigation District  
/s/ Steve Bartak  
Steve Bartak - President

ATTEST:  
/s/ Mark Miles  
Mark Miles - Secretary-Treasurer  
18364-3-4 ZNEZ

**Public Notice**  
Notice is hereby given that the Brown County Sheriff's Office intends to file an application to USDA Rural Development for financial assistance in the amount of \$50,000.00 for assistance with the Brown County Sheriff's Office New Technology Project. A meeting will be held on February 2, 2021 at the Brown County Courthouse, during the Commissioner's meeting, regarding the proposed project and to provide opportunity for public comment. 18365-3-4 ZNEZ

**IN THE COUNTY COURT OF BROWN COUNTY, NEBRASKA ESTATE OF GERALD W. DAVIS, DECEASED ESTATE NO. PR 20-18**  
Notice is hereby given that a Petition for Complete Settlement, Probate of Will, Determination of Heirs, and Determination of Inheritance Tax will be filed and is set for hearing in the County Court of Brown County, Nebraska, located at Ainsworth, Nebraska, on the 17th day of February 2021, at 9:00 o'clock a.m.

Edna Mae Davis,  
Personal Representative of  
the Estate of Gerald W. Davis,  
Deceased  
/s/ Rodney J. Palmer, #13210  
Palmer Law Group, L.L.C.  
353 N. Main Street  
P.O. Box 127  
Ainsworth, NE 69210  
(402) 387-2212; Fax (402) 387-2250  
pklawrod@threeeriver.net  
Attorney for Personal  
Representative  
18366-3-5 ZNEZ

**NOTICE TO BIDDERS**  
Brown County is accepting sealed bids for material and erection of a 24' 6" x 30' 0" single span bridge. The bridge is located near Camp Witness 2.7 miles north and 0.5 miles east of Long Pine, NE. The bridge is on Red Wing Road and crosses Long Pine Creek in the Northwest Quarter of Section 17, Township 30 North, Range 20 West. The new bridge superstructure shall be designed to an HL-93 Load Rating. Each abutment shall consist of five H-Pile (HP10x42) with an estimated length of 50'-0". A test pile shall be driven at each abutment to determine the bearing length to support the superstructure dead load and live loads. The upstream and downstream wings at both abutments are to be 9'-9" long and will be supported with one H-Pile (HP8x36) 25'-0" long. The sheet pile used in the abutment back walls and wings shall be a minimum of 7 gauge thick with a minimum length of 18'. The superstructure plans and Load Rating shall be signed and sealed by a professional engineer licensed in the state of Nebraska. The AASHTOWare Bridge Rating (BrR) software program shall be used to Load Rate the superstructure. The Nebraska Trucks Type 3, Type 3S2, Type 3-3, as well as Single Unit Trucks SU4, SU5, SU6, SU7, and P3 Permit vehicle shall be included in the Bridge Load Rating. The contractor will be responsible for removal of the existing timber piling and preliminary dirt work for the erection of the abutments. Brown County will perform the backfilling and final grading after the bridge construction is complete. The bidder to whom the contract is awarded will be required to submit a payment bond with a corporate surety agent and company in a sum not less than the contract price, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. 52-118(l). No contract shall be entered

/s/ Travis Hobbs,  
Brown County Clerk  
18367-3-4 ZNEZ

**VILLAGE OF JOHNSTOWN MEETING MINUTES**  
Friday, January 1, 2021, Village of Johnstown regular meeting was held at the Village Office on Main Street, Johnstown, Nebraska at 7:05 p.m. The December 4, 2020 regular meeting minutes, Village and Program Income Treasurer's report and claims: Ainsworth Star-Journal, \$16.04; ThreeRiver Telco, \$84.75; KBR P.P.D., \$192.92; Doug's Mobile Service, Garbage Truck repairs, \$1,684.50; KBR Solid Waste Fees, \$373.88; Steve Goeken, Garbage Services, \$174.00; CVA, Fuel, \$72.45; Palmer Law Group, CDBG, \$15.00; Bomgaars, Supplies, \$54.00, and Payroll, \$369.40 were all approved. Discussion was on solid waste, COVID-19 vaccines, tobacco license to L-Bow Room, and garbage truck repairs. Next regular meeting will be Friday, February 5, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Adjourn at 7:34 p.m. /s/ Gay Magary, Village Clerk  
18368-3 ZNEZ

## Ainsworth Board of Education

(Minutes are unofficial until approved by the Board of Education) January 11, 2021  
The Board of Education of School District #10 held a Regular Meeting on January 11, 2021. Board members present were Jim Arens, Frank Beel, Scott Erthum, Mark Johnson, Jessica Pozehl, and Brad Wilkins. Also present was Superintendent Dale Hafer, Principals Steven Dike, Curtis Childers and AD Jared Hansmeyer. There were several guests in attendance. The meeting was called to order by Board President, Jim Arens at 7:00 p.m. Notice of the meeting was in the *Ainsworth Star-Journal* and on the radio station KBRB.  
Jim made the motion to adjourn the 2020 Board of Education seconded by Mark Johnson.  
Roll call vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.  
The oath of office was administered to re-elected members Brad Wilkins, Scott Erthum and Mark Johnson.  
Motion was made by Brad Wilkins and seconded by Frank Beel to elect Jim Arens as Board President for 2021, Mark Johnson as Board Vice President for 2021, and Scott Erthum as Board Secretary/Treasurer for 2021. Roll call vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.  
Motion to approve the board committees as presented for 2021. This motion, made by Scott Erthum and seconded by Jessica Pozehl. Roll call vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.  
Motion to approve the appointment of Laurie Witte, Dedra Stoner, and Dale Hafer as recording secretary(s) of the board. This motion, made by Mark Johnson and seconded by Brad Wilkins. Roll call vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.  
Motion was made by Mark Johnson and seconded by Jessica Pozehl to approve the following consent agenda items: Minutes of the December 14th meeting, claims in the amount of \$126,385.65 from the General Fund, \$792.79 from Section 125, \$23,352.95 from Depreciation, \$21,309.02 from Hot Lunch. Roll call vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.  
Activity Account ..... \$882.79  
Ainsworth Community Schools..... 15.00  
Ainsworth Flowers & Gifts..... 112.20  
*Ainsworth Star-Journal*..... 250.63  
Amazon Capital Services..... 247.26  
Andrew Paddock ..... 1,966.56  
Apple Computer, Inc. .... 3,283.00  
Black Hills Energy ..... 4,612.09  
Bomgaars ..... 82.06  
Brown County Hospital ..... 719.24  
Buckles Automotive ..... 38.12  
CDW Government, LLC..... 1,938.07  
Central Valley Ag ..... 1,287.83  
Curtis Childers ..... 9.19  
City of Ainsworth ..... 525.40  
Colonial Research

Chemical..... 679.20  
Dana F. Cole & Company, LLP ..... 10,300.00  
E S U #17-Main ..... 73,689.75  
ESU13 ..... 349.53  
Caren Fernau..... 87.48  
Joseph Finley..... 11.42  
Floor Maintenance..... 793.19  
Melissa Freudenburg..... 367.09  
General Fund Clearing  
Account..... 300.00  
Elizabeth Goshorn..... 40.00  
H & R Food Center..... 52.78  
Hampton Inn Norfolk ..... 356.00  
Island Supply Welding Co. . 116.94  
Jason Nelson..... 165.00  
Jaymar Business Forms, Inc. 163.83  
Jerry Johnson..... 894.76  
Shari Johnson..... 60.00  
Heather King ..... 408.06  
Amanda Kock ..... 288.00  
KSB School Law ..... 702.50  
Labor Law Center, Inc. .... 226.92  
Michelle Appelt ..... 321.20  
NPPD ..... 4,746.35  
NE State Fire Marshall ..... 120.00  
Kayla Nilson ..... 108.78  
Office Products Center..... 1,011.99  
One Source..... 16.00  
Paper 101..... 266.29  
Pizza Hut..... 85.60  
Precision Autobody ..... 80.00  
Prestige Group, Inc. .... 3,500.00  
Quill Corporation ..... 56.82  
Red & White ..... 53.42  
Julie Ruhter ..... 311.37  
Hannah Schmitz ..... 596.52  
School Specialty Supply ..... 83.19  
Seven Springs, Inc. .... 126.00  
Smart Apple Media ..... 160.35  
Ashley Smith ..... 619.45  
Sparqdata Solutions..... 4,160.00  
Staples Advantage..... 118.67  
Three River Telco..... 661.58  
Travis Electric, Inc..... 436.98  
Visa ..... 6.00  
Visa ..... 2,015.01  
Wageworks ..... 140.00  
Kara Welch ..... 132.56  
Wex Bank ..... 429.60  
Wage Works, Inc. .... 792.79  
Ainsworth Community Schools..... 5,349.33  
Conditioned Air  
Mechanical ..... 18,003.62  
Lunchtime Solutions..... 15,361.83  
Floor Maintenance ..... 3,272.52  
Ainsworth Community Schools..... 2,674.67  
Elementary Principal Curtis Childers reported on the following: Monthly Mission "Being Responsible for Our Actions" and With Our Actions, Second Semester MAPS Testing, 5th & 6th Grade schedule altered, K-12 PBIS & Enrollment.  
High School Principal Steven Dike on the following: Enrollment, FFA, MAP Testing and Art Hastings Mural Competition.  
Activities Directors Scott Steinhauer and Jared Hansmeyer reported on the following: Holiday Tournament, Wrestling, Speech, Middle School Girls & Boys Basketball, FFA, FCLA, Choir & NSAA

Guidelines.  
Superintendent Dale Hafer reported on the following: Financial Report, Strategic Planning, Facilities, Bus Leasing Information, Negotiations, COVID Updates and Board Professional Development.  
Motion to approve the payment of the invoice from Conditioned Air Mechanical for \$18,003.62 using depreciation funds. This motion, made by Brad Wilkins and seconded by Frank Beel. Roll call vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.  
Motion to approve the use of depreciation funds to reimburse the general fund \$5,349.33 for replacement of 2 bottle filling stations. This motion, made by Frank Beel and seconded by Scott Erthum. Roll call vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.  
Motion to approve the enrollment option request for Emma McMurrey to attend Ainsworth Middle School. This motion, made by Frank Beel and seconded by Scott Erthum. Roll call vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.  
Motion to approve the Negotiated Agreement for 2021-22 as presented. This motion, made by Mark Johnson and seconded by Frank Beel. Roll call vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.  
Motion to enter into closed session at 7:50 p.m. to discuss Principal's Contracts in order to protect the public interest and prevent needless injury to individual's reputation. This motion, made by Mark Johnson and seconded by Jessica Pozehl. Roll call vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.  
Motion to exit closed session at 8:14 p.m. This motion, made by Mark Johnson and seconded by Scott Erthum. Roll call vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.  
Motion to approve the Principal Contracts for Curtis Childers and Steve Dike as presented. This motion, made by Mark Johnson and seconded by Jessica Pozehl. Roll call vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.  
Motion was made by Scott Erthum and seconded by Mark Johnson to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m. Roll call vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.  
The Board will meet Thursday, February 11, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. in the District Office for a regular board meeting. Current agendas and/or discussion topics will be available for public inspection in the office of the Superintendent.  
18362-3 ZNEZ

# Check Your Sky's Quality with Orion!



The Dark Sky Wheel, showing the constellation Orion at six different limiting magnitudes (right), and a photo of Orion (left). What is the limiting magnitude of

the photo? For most observing locations, the Orion side works best on evenings from January-March, and the Scorpius side from June-August



**David Prosper**  
Have you ever wondered how many stars you can see at night? From a perfect dark sky location, free from any light pollution, a person with excellent vision may observe a few thousand stars in the sky at one time! Sadly, most people don't enjoy pristine dark skies - and knowing your sky's brightness will help you navigate the night sky.  
The brightness of planets and stars is measured in terms of apparent magnitude, or how bright they appear from Earth. Most visible stars range in brightness from 1st to 6th magnitude, with the lower number being brighter. A star at magnitude 1 appears 100 times brighter than a star at magnitude 6. A few stars and planets shine even brighter than first magnitude, like brilliant Sirius at -1.46 magnitude, or Venus, which can shine brighter than -4 magnitude! Very bright planets and stars can still be seen from bright cities with lots of light pollution. Given perfect skies, an

observer may be able to see stars as dim as 6.5 magnitude, but such fantastic conditions are very rare; in much of the world, human-made light pollution drastically limits what people can see at night.  
Your sky's limiting magnitude is, simply enough, the measure of the dimmest stars you can see when looking straight up. So, if the dimmest star you can see from your backyard is magnitude 5, then your limiting magnitude is 5. Easy, right? But why would you want to know your limiting magnitude? It can help you plan your observing! For example, if you have a bright sky and your limiting magnitude is at 3, watching a meteor shower or looking for dimmer stars and objects may be a wasted effort. But if your sky is dark and the limit is 5, you should be able to see meteors and the Milky Way. Knowing this figure can help you measure light pollution in your area and determine if it's getting better or worse over time. And regardless of location, be it backyard, balcony, or dark sky park, light pollution is a concern to all stargazers!  
How do you figure out the limiting magnitude in your area? While

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## FOR RENT

**Low Income Rental Housing**  
Colonial Estates, located on North Main, have comfortable one and two bedroom apartments. Call for availability.  
Rent is based on income adjusted for children, elderly, disabled and medical expenses. All apartments come with refrigerator, stove, heat, AC, washer and dryer, lawn care, snow removal, garbage pickup and utilities. One bedroom are ground level walkouts, and the two bedroom are garden apartments.  
Persons age 18 years and older may apply. This institution is an "Equal Opportunity Provider"  
Ask for Phil at  
402-760-1973  
or 402-273-4395

## SERVICES

**CLIMATE CONTROLLED** storage available for rent. 132 South Hall Street in Valentine. View layout of the building here, see building layout and prices for storage rooms. <https://sites.google.com/site/tradecentervaleentine>. Access the building from South Hall street from the front or in the alley behind. Contact Kevin Keech, cell/text: 402-389-0123, email [mrkeech@gmail.com](mailto:mrkeech@gmail.com). (1-4p)

## CARD OF THANKS

My 80th birthday will always be remembered. I want to thank everyone for the phone calls and the cards. My girls for the dinner and Jamie, Maverick and Dakota for the strawberries and cheese cake they brought out. Thanks again. Love ya all.  
Edna Mae (3p)

## LIVESTOCK

**MIKE SITZ ANGUS BULL SALE** - Monday, February 1 - 1:00 CT. Selling 90 Top-Coming-Two's, Burwell Livestock Market, Burwell, NE, and DVAuction. The very top of the 2019 bull crop; moderate framed, easy fleshing, virgin bulls, strong in maternal traits. View DVAuction Bull Videos and catalog online at [www.mikesitzangus.com](http://www.mikesitzangus.com) or [www.dvauction.com](http://www.dvauction.com), or call for a catalog: Mike Sitz, Burwell, 308-348-2273, or Joel Johnston, 308-348-2010. (3)

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**THE COVID** crisis has cost us all something. Many have lost jobs and financial security. Have \$10K in debt? Credit Cards, Medical Bills, Car Loans. Call National Debt Relief! We can help! Get a Free debt relief quote. Call 1-866-834-5927.

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**BRIDGEPORT GUN** Show, Jan. 30-31, Sat., 9-5, Sun., 9-3 at PWCC. Raffle for \$500 in Gun Show Bucks. Meals by Country Catering. Information, 308-233-2501.

## Help Wanted

### RN Full-Time Night Charge Position

Substantial Night Shift Differential  
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Come join our caring and compassionate Nursing Team and make a difference in the lives of many. Successful candidate must be dedicated to continuous quality improvement and inspired to always put our patients first. Charge nurse differential, self-scheduling, every 3rd weekend with weekend differential and a substantial night shift differential.

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## Supporting Local Businesses Means Supporting the Community and Your Friends!

"I spent an hour in the bank with my dad, as he had to transfer some money. I couldn't resist myself and asked...Dad, why don't we activate your internet banking?"

"Why would I do that?" He asked.

"Well, then you won't have to spend an hour here for things like transfer.

You can even do your shopping online. Everything will be so easy!"

I was so excited about initiating him into the world of Net banking.

He asked "If I do that, I won't have to step out of the house?"

"Yes, yes"! I said. I told him how even grocery can be delivered at door now and how Amazon delivers everything!

His answer left me tongue-tied.

He said, "Since I entered this bank today, I have met four of my friends, I have chatted a while with the staff who know me very well by now.

You know I am alone...this is the company that I need. I like to get ready and come to the bank. I have enough time, it is the physical touch that I crave.

Two years back I got sick, The store owner from whom I buy fruits, came to see me and sat by my bedside and cried.

When your Mom fell down few days back while on her morning walk. Our local grocer saw her and immediately got his car to rush her home as he knows where I live.

Would I have that 'human' touch if everything became online? Why would I want everything delivered to me and force me to interact with just my computer?

I like to know the person that I'm dealing with and not just the 'seller'. It creates bonds of Relationships.

Does Amazon deliver all this as well?" Technology isn't life. Spend time with people ... Not with devices."



Writer: Unknown

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Classified Display Ads: \$6.50 Per Column Inch  
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Card of Thanks, Memorials/Poetry ... 15¢ Per Word/\$3.75 Minimum  
After First Insertion, Advertising Will Be Assumed Correct If Not Notified Within Three (3) Days.

**DEADLINES ON ALL LEGALS - 3:00 P.M. FRIDAYS**

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A high quality farm with 79.6± acres just outside of Ainsworth.

**Ainsworth Pivot Irrigated Farm • Ainsworth**  
A 118± pivot irrigated farm located SW of Ainsworth.

**Keya Paha County Grass • Springview**  
A 440± acre parcel of Sandhills pasture located NW of Springview.

**Buffalo Flats Irrigated Farm and Wildlife • Long Pine**  
A high quality and productive pivot and gravity irrigated farm.

**Ainsworth Pivot • Ainsworth**  
A pivot irrigated farm with 162± acres.

**Brown County Range and Irrigated Grass • Ainsworth**  
A 533± acre cattle ranch, just outside of Ainsworth, with good water and protection.

**REDUCED! Brown County Log Home and Acreage • Ainsworth**  
A nice log home with 1,589 sqft. sitting on 4.5± acres.

**Evergreen Creek Wildlife and Range • Johnstown**  
A 480± acre secluded wildlife haven located NW of Johnstown, NE.



**Plum Creek Paradise**  
A recreational hideaway with 235± acres near Johnstown, NE.

View additional property details at:  
[LashleyLand.com/agent/april-good](http://LashleyLand.com/agent/april-good)

**Residential Properties For Sale**

**325 N. Walnut • Ainsworth**  
A 1 1/2 story home with 3 bedrooms and 2 baths.

**PENDING! 505 N Main • Ainsworth**  
A vacant corner lot that is ready to build upon

**Center Street • Johnstown**  
A 2 bedroom home with beautiful woodwork that sits on 2.2± acres.

**520 N. Maple • Ainsworth**  
A 60x150 residential lot with a garage and an additional building.

**687 N. Pine • Long Pine**  
A 1 1/2 story home with 3 bedrooms and 2 baths.

**AINSWORTH HOUSING AGENCY**  
The Ainsworth Housing Agency is taking applications for one-bedroom apartments. We are elderly/disabled preferred, but can take others if you meet the income guidelines. Background checks are performed and approved prior to admittance. Lawn maintenance and snow removal is included.  
Call Kathy at 402-387-2550 for more information.

## HELP WANTED

**NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT** of Transportation has an exceptional opportunity for an entry level Highway Construction Technician I to join our team in Ainsworth. Experience is preferred but not necessary, NDOT will train the right person to conduct on-site construction inspection and survey for transportation projects. At the Nebraska Department of Transportation, we reward our employees' hard work with a friendly and supportive work environment that encourages creativity and innovation. We provide training and career development, advancement opportunities, ample paid time off, work-life balance, and a comprehensive benefits package that includes a matching retirement contribution. Contact the District Office at 402-387-2471 for more information. Apply at [www.state-jobs.nebraska.gov](http://www.state-jobs.nebraska.gov) (2-3)

## AINSWORTH LITTLE PAWS PRESCHOOL CO-TEACHER (Temporary To Full Time)

Central Nebraska Community Action Partnership is looking for an individual to work 40 hours per week as a Co-Teacher in Ainsworth. This position will be temporary from January through April and then move to full-time starting August through April each school year. Starting wage will be \$11.22-\$12.24 per hour (depending on qualifications). Benefits available include health, dental, life and vision insurance, an exceptional PTO plan, holiday pay, EAP, FSA, retirement and a flexible four day work week.

Qualified individuals must possess: a high school diploma or equivalent, a valid Nebraska Driver's License and a working phone. Prefer prior employment or volunteer experience working directly with income qualifying families.

This individual will work in a classroom with children ages 3-5 assisting the Teacher with daily activities, planning activities, cleaning and completing paperwork.

If you need an application please contact: CNCAP, Human Resource Department at (308) 745-0780 ext. 105 or apply online at [www.centralnebraskacap.com](http://www.centralnebraskacap.com). This position will remain open until filled. EEO/AA

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**Residential Property For Sale**

**NEW LISTING** - 234 N Walnut Street, Ainsworth. Four bedroom, two bathroom, two-car attached garage, newly installed 13' x 15' shed, unfinished basement, Central AC and heat. **Listing Price: \$79,000.**

If You Are Thinking Of Buying or Selling Your Home, Land or Commercial Property...Give Us A Call!

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After Hours, Call:  
John Pierce - Broker/Agent - 402-760-2209

Passport Photos  
Taken by appointment with John Pierce

# NEWS

## Legislative Bill Introductions Include Property Tax Relief, Education, Broadband

**By Sarah Merza  
Nebraska News Service**

Nebraska state senators introduced various bills in the first eight days of the 2021 legislative session. Property tax relief was at the top of the list for many senators during last year's session, and that focus will continue into the 2021 session. Bills related to property tax relief included the following:

**LB292**, introduced by Sen. Curt Friesen of Henderson, would allow the county treasurer to accept partial payments for the discharge of current or delinquent real property taxes, personal property taxes, or both.

**LB22CA**, introduced by Sen. Lou Ann Linehan of Elkhorn, would amend the state constitution to limit the total amount of property tax revenue raised by political subdivisions.

**LB454**, introduced by Friesen, would adopt the School Property Tax Stabilization Act for stabilization payments to each eligible school district. This bill would also change agricultural land valuation to 75% of its actual value except for school district taxing.

**LR13CA**, introduced by Sen. Tom Brewer of Gordon, would amend the Nebraska Constitution to limit funding for schools that come from property taxes.

Several of the bills introduced related to education were:

**LB281**, introduced by Sen. Joni Albrecht of Thurston, would require instructional programs about child sexual abuse prevention for

students and staff.

**LB322**, introduced by Sen. Matt Williams of Gothenburg, would adopt an act to establish a state-wide, anonymous reporting system called the Safe2HelpNE report line to support threat assessment teams. It would also reduce the risk and incidents of violence resulting in harm to someone, others or school property.

**LR21CA**, introduced by Sen. Tom Briese of Albion, would amend the state constitution to require the state to pay classroom expenses related to public elementary and secondary schools.

**LB396**, introduced by Sen. Tom Brandt of Plymouth, would adopt the Nebraska Farm-to-School Program Act. The program would connect elementary and secondary schools with local farmers to provide schools with minimally processed foods. Brandt's proposal includes encouraging students to develop healthy eating habits while improving the income of Nebraska farmers.

Bill related to health care included:

**LB52**, introduced by Sen. Steve Lathrop of Omaha, would mean no one could be liable in a civil action for injury or death resulting from COVID-19 exposure.

**LB314**, introduced by Sen. Rich Pahls of Omaha, would change provisions related to telehealth insurance coverage, making the reimbursement rate for a telehealth consultation, at a minimum, be the same as for a comparable in-person

consultation.

Additional bill introductions included the following:

**LB241**, introduced by Sen. Tony Vargas of Omaha, would adopt the Meatpacking Employees COVID-19 Protection Act. The Act would mandate 6 feet of workspace, personal protective equipment and paid sick leave for all meatpacking workers.

**LB388**, introduced by Friesen, would adopt the Nebraska Broadband Bridge Act to facilitate and fund the development of broadband networks in unserved and underserved areas of the state.

**LR2CA**, introduced by Sen. Justin Wayne of Omaha, would amend the Nebraska Constitution to legalize cannabis for persons 21 and older and require legislation.

**LB481**, introduced by Sen. Terrell McKinney of Omaha, would adopt the Marijuana Conviction Clean Slate Act, decriminalizing the possession of marijuana and synthetic cannabinoid offenses and drug paraphernalia offenses.

**LB472**, introduced by Sen. Wendy DeBoer of Bennington, would require law enforcement officers to intervene to prevent or stop another officer from using excessive force against a person.

**LB230**, introduced by Sen. Megan Hunt of Omaha, would prohibit discrimination in public accommodations, employment and under the Nebraska Fair Housing Act based on sexual orientation or gender identity.

**LB266**, introduced by Sen. John McCollister of Omaha, would adopt the Renewable Energy Standards Act to encourage the development of renewable electric power generation and encourage the use of renewable electric power to meet consumers' needs.

**LB349**, introduced by McKinney, would create El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz, Malcolm X Day scheduled for May 19th to recognize his contribution to society.

## USDA Announces Quality Loss Assistance Now Available for Eligible Producers Affected by 2018, 2019 Natural Disasters

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) announced that sign-up for the Quality Loss Adjustment (QLA) Program began January 6, 2021. Funded by the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2020, this new program provides assistance to producers who suffered eligible crop quality losses due to natural disasters occurring in 2018 and 2019. The deadline to apply for QLA is Friday, March 5, 2021.

"Farmers and livestock producers nationwide experienced crop quality losses due to natural disasters in 2018 and 2019," said Bill Northey, USDA Under Secretary for Farm Production and Conservation. "We have worked diligently over the past couple of years to roll out meaningful disaster assistance programs to help alleviate the substantial financial loss experienced by so many agricultural producers and are pleased to offer quality loss assistance as added relief. Many of the eligible producers have already received compensation for quantity losses."

**Eligible Crops**

Eligible crops include those for which federal crop insurance or Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage is available, except for grazed crops and value loss crops, such as honey, maple sap, aquaculture, floriculture, mushrooms, ginseng root, ornamental nursery, Christmas trees, and turfgrass sod.

Additionally, crops that were sold or fed to livestock or that are in storage may be eligible; however, crops that were destroyed before harvest are not eligible. Crop quality losses occurring after harvest, due to deterioration in storage, or that could have been mitigated, are also not eligible.

Assistance is based on a producer's harvested affected production of an eligible crop, which must have

had at least a 5% quality loss reflected through a quality discount; or for forage crops, a nutrient loss, such as total digestible nutrients.

**Qualifying Disaster Events**

Losses must have been a result of a qualifying disaster event (hurricane, excessive moisture, flood, qualifying drought, tornado, typhoon, volcanic activity, snowstorm, or wildfire) or related condition that occurred in calendar years 2018 and/or 2019.

Assistance is available for eligible producers in counties that received a qualifying Presidential Emergency Disaster Declaration or Secretarial Disaster Designation because of one or more of the qualifying disaster events or related conditions.

Lists of counties with Presidential Emergency Disaster Declarations and Secretarial Disaster Designations for all qualifying disaster events for 2018 and 2019 are available. For drought, producers are eligible for QLA if the loss occurred in an area within a county rated by the U.S. Drought Monitor as having a D3 (extreme drought) or higher intensity level during 2018 or 2019.

Producers in counties that did not receive a qualifying declaration or designation may still apply but must also provide supporting documentation to establish that the crop was directly affected by a qualifying disaster event.

To determine QLA eligibility and payments, FSA considers the total quality loss caused by all qualifying natural disasters in cases where a crop was impacted by multiple events.

**Applying for QLA**

When applying, producers are asked to provide verifiable documentation to support claims of quality loss or nutrient loss in the case of forage crops. For crops that have been sold, grading must have been completed within 30 days of harvest, and for forage crops, a laboratory analysis must have been completed within 30 days of harvest.

Some acceptable forms of docu-

mentation include sales receipts from buyers, settlement sheets, truck or warehouse scale tickets, written sales contracts, similar records that represent actual and specific quality loss information, and forage tests for nutritional values.

**Payments Calculations and Limitations**

QLA payments are based on formulas for the type of crop (forage or non-forage) and loss documentation submitted. Based on this documentation FSA is calculating payments based on the producer's own individual loss or based on the county average loss. More information on payments can be found on farmers.gov/quality-loss.

FSA will issue payments once the application period ends. If the total amount of calculated QLA payments exceeds available program funding, payments will be prorated.

For each crop year, 2018, 2019 and 2020, the maximum amount that a person or legal entity may receive, directly or indirectly, is \$125,000. Payments made to a joint operation (including a general partnership or joint venture) will not exceed \$125,000, multiplied by the number of persons and legal entities that comprise the ownership of the joint operation. A person or legal entity is ineligible for QLA payment if the person's or legal entity's average Adjusted Gross Income exceeds \$900,000, unless at least 75% is derived from farming, ranching or forestry-related activities.

**Future Insurance Coverage Requirements**

All producers receiving QLA Program payments are required to purchase crop insurance or NAP coverage for the next two available crop years at the 60% coverage level or higher. If eligible, QLA participants may meet the insurance purchase requirement by purchasing Whole-Farm Revenue Protection coverage offered through USDA's Risk Management Agency.

**More Information**

For more information, visit farmers.gov/quality-loss, or contact your local USDA Service Center.

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**REMINDER OF MAY 1 REPORTING DEADLINE OR PERSONAL PROPERTY PERSONAL PROPERTY RETURNS ARE DUE IN THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE ON OR BEFORE MAY 1, 2021**

**PROPERTY REPORTED AFTER MAY 1ST WILL RECEIVE A MANDATORY PENALTY**

**WHO MUST FILE:** If you hold or own any taxable personal property on January 1st at 12:01 a.m. of the year, for which the assessment is being made, you must file a Nebraska Personal Property Return.

**WHAT PROPERTY IS TAXABLE?** All depreciable tangible personal property is taxable, except licensed motor vehicles, livestock and certain rental equipment.

**WHAT IS DEPRECIABLE TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY?** Tangible personal property which is used in a trade or business or used for the production of income, and which has a determinable life of longer than one year.

If you have any questions regarding personal property taxation, please call our office at 402-387-1621.

Office Hours Are Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
(With the Exception of Holidays.)  
We are open over the noon hour for your convenience.  
Terri J. Van Houten  
Brown County Assessor

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Amy Rice, Enrolled Agent, with France & McNally, will be in the Ainsworth office to help you with your tax questions and filing requirements on:

January 18, 2021	January 19, 2021
February 9, 2021	February 10, 2021
March 3, 2021	March 4, 2021

Please call or email to schedule an appointment  
Office Address: 309 N Main St., Ainsworth

**CONTACT**

Office: 308.784.1040 Cell: 308.529.8253  
amy@france1040.com

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**FREE Online Alcohol Training**

North Central District Health Department (NCDHD) and the Area Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition (ASAP) are announcing that Responsible Beverage Server Trainings (RBST) will be ONLINE. RBST helps alcohol servers create an environment that promotes safety and responsibility where alcohol is sold, served or consumed. This training educated alcohol servers and sellers of the legal liabilities involved with alcohol sale, proper ID checking procedures, and how to professionally and legally deal with underage or intoxicated patrons.

There is no cost for the training, however preregistration is required. Please contact Whitney Abbott at 402-336-2406 if interested in having your staff trained.

Funding from Region 4 Behavioral Health and the Drug-Free Communities grant SP020880 have made these training possible.

**A.S.A.P.**  
Area Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition  
Ainsworth, Brown, Butler, Cherry, DeWitt, York, Polk, York, Pottawatomie and Hamilton Counties

**NCDHD**  
North Central District Health Department

**HEALTHCARE WITH HEART... CHERRY COUNTY CLINIC Physicians Schedule**

**For the week of January 18-22**

Monday	Family Practice	Cassie Schill, PA-C	In all day
Tuesday	Family Practice	Cassie Schill, PA-C	In all day
Wednesday	Family Practice	Cassie Schill, PA-C	In all day
Thursday	Family Practice	Cassie Schill, PA-C	In all day
Friday	Family Practice	Cassie Schill, PA-C	In all day

**For the week of January 25-29**

Monday	Family Practice	Dr. Kelli Garwood Cassie Schill, PA-C	In all day In all day
Tuesday	Family Practice	Cassie Schill, PA-C	In all day
Wednesday	Family Practice	Dr. Kelli Garwood Cassie Schill, PA-C	In all day In all day
Thursday	Family Practice	Dr. Kelli Garwood	In all day
Friday	Family Practice	Dr. Kelli Garwood Cassie Schill, PA-C	In all day In all day

To schedule an appointment please call 376-3770. 512 N. Green St. • Valentine, NE