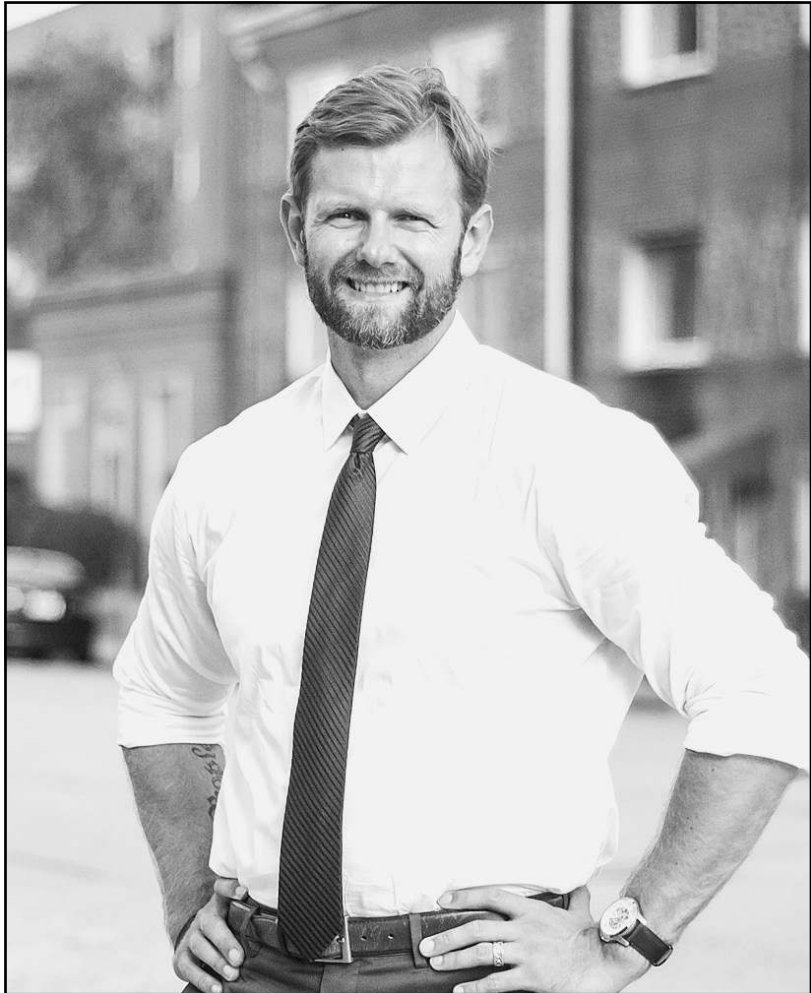




Mark Gudgel, former VHS graduate, and, son of Duane Gudgel and Darlene Meyer of Valentine, and owners of Plains Trading on Main Street.

Former Valentine native announces his mayoral candidacy

Omaha - Local school teacher Mark Gudgel announced he is running to be elected Mayor of Omaha. The Gudgel for Mayor campaign debuted its website and is hosting a number of online and socially-distanced outdoor events to launch the campaign this week.

Gudgel presents a vision of Omaha that prioritizes retaining Omaha's young people and students by expanding and creating new opportunities throughout the city. The candidate is using almost two decades of experience as a public servant and humanitarian to offer an alternative to many current issues facing the city.

The campaign website, gudgel-formayor.com, outlines a vision for the future of Omaha accompanied by six campaign planks. Together they develop a theme of growth aimed at ending Nebraska's "brain drain" and empowering current students to obtain their education, start businesses and careers and begin families in Omaha.

"We must do everything in our power to make Omaha the city our children want to call home," Gudgel said.

Gudgel emphasizes strengthening relationships with existing Fortune 1000 companies and developing programs to support new business creation in the wake of COVID-19. The site also lists plans to improve Omaha's infrastructure, address the looming budget crisis and expand sustainability measures.

Gudgel is meeting with Omaha citizens in Zoom events to raise awareness in the midst of a pandemic.

A small number of in-person gatherings have also been planned, including a launch party.

"Meeting people and building support while keeping everyone safe is difficult, but it's the sort of challenge that requires a teacher's creativity and passion to solve. Our campaign is powered by teachers and 2020 has taught us teachers can find a solution to any problem," Gudgel said.

His mayoral campaign stresses his role as a public servant as an ideal fit for the mayor's office. Gudgel is a 17-year veteran of public schools, teaching English and coaching cross country and women's basketball at Omaha North High Magnet School for the past six years. Previously, Gudgel founded and served as executive director of the Educators' Institute for Human Rights for six years, supporting teachers in Rwanda as the nation continued recovering from genocide. He earned his doctorate in Character Education and has taught as an adjunct professor in Nebraska Wesleyan's M.Ed. program.

Gudgel's background as a teacher and public servant marks him as an outlier amongst traditional mayoral candidates in the city of Omaha. His grassroots funding and organization also presents a different style of campaign for the city. Gudgel and his campaign hope their youth-oriented vision for "serving all of Omaha" will resonate with Omaha's voters. The Omaha mayoral primary election will be held on April 6, 2021.

Cherry County receives dividend check

LINCOLN – Cherry County has received another membership dividend, this time in the amount of \$10,533, from the Nebraska Intergovernmental Risk Management Association (NIRMA), the county's property, liability and workers' compensation coverage and risk management services provider. The dividend was part of a \$1 million distribution shared with 81 Nebraska counties and eight county-associated agencies.

With this latest distribution, Cherry County has now received a total of \$115,918 in dividends since becoming a member of NIRMA in 2003. NIRMA is able to issue these dividends, in part, due to favorable claims development, investment income earned on behalf of its members, as well as the members' ongoing loss prevention efforts.

NIRMA is member-owned and governed by the 83 counties and 22 county-associated public entities it serves. This marks the 33rd time since 1991 and the 25th consecutive year the program has been able to return funds, now totaling \$23 million, to its members and ultimately their local property taxpayers.

NIRMA was created by 32 counties in 1988 as the state's first governmental risk management and self-insurance program, and for 32 years has provided affordable insurance coverages and comprehensive risk management and loss prevention services to Nebraska counties and related public agencies.

Public invited to comment on Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

LINCOLN – The public is invited to review and comment on the 2021-2025 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan: Guiding Success in Nebraska Outdoor Recreation until November 6, 2020.

This Plan is required by the National Park Service to be updated every five years to maintain eligibility for Land and Water Conservation grant funds for communities and state park outdoor recreation projects. The Land and Water Conservation Fund has contributed more than \$49 million in funding Nebraska outdoor recreation facilities since 1964.

The Plan evaluates the supply and demand for outdoor recreation opportunities and summarizes state and regional demographics. It also provides guidance on how to proceed with future development of park lands sustainably through the goals and Land and Water Conservation Fund priority projects identified. Communities and outdoor recreation professionals are encouraged to use the data and guidance within the Plan when planning for outdoor recreation projects over the next five years.

To view the Plan, visit: bit.ly/SCORP21-25. To provide comments, fill out the comment form at outdoornebraska.gov/lwcf or email comments to hannah.jones@nebraska.gov.

Enjoy fall color at state parks

Leaves have begun to turn, allowing Nebraskans to enjoy the show as Nature puts on her autumn attire. A great place to view fall color is Nebraska's state parks, where you can take in the sights from nature trails, campsites, overlooks and water trails.

In the northwest, check out Chadron and Smith Falls state parks, and take a drive to the northern or eastern parts of the state to see Niobrara, Ponca and Indian Cave state parks, Summit Lake State Recreation Area, and Rock Creek Station.

Those traveling to central Nebraska will find amazing fall colors at Calamus State Recreation Area and Ashfall Fossil Beds State Historical Park. You can also enjoy great scenery this fall at Johnson Lake and Medicine Creek state recreation areas in southwest Nebraska.

Peak times for color vary, so be sure to call the park you're interested in before making a trip. Buy your park entry permits online, and visit our website to learn more about the places you're interested in.

Learn how to make dump supper with UNL Extension

Can you "dump" supper in one pot, walk away and come back to a perfectly cooked meal? Let us teach you how.

Come join University of Nebraska Food and Nutrition Extension Educator Pat Jones for a Dump Pot Workshop. This workshop will cover the Dump recipe basics for the electric pressure cooker.

Please join us October 15 at 6:30 p.m. at the Extension office. Limited seating so please register by calling 402-376-1850. Registration deadline is October 13.



Valentine's Miller Field was a hub of activity as planes were refilling with fire retardant and refueling to help put out The Puzzle fire in St. Francis, Friday, October 2, 2020. A video is available on Midland News' Facebook page.

Neighbor helping neighbor in the Puzzle Fire

Don't you wish sometimes that you could control the weather? Not all the time. Just a time or two, here or there. This year there are probably many firefighters, homeowners, and insurance agents wishing they could make it rain, raise the humidity a bit, maybe even throw in a nice big snow to stop the fires that are burning across the U.S.A.

Closer to home, the Puzzle Fire in St. Francis, SD, had Merriman, Cody, and Kilgore volunteer firefighters helping through mutual aid. Merriman Fire Chief Clifford Cady, and Cody Fire Chief Jordan Pitkin were unavailable for comment, however, Kilgore Fire Chief Todd Rothluetner was available for comment and said Kilgore sent two rigs with five guys, Cody and Merriman each sent one rig with three guys, Friday, October 2, 2020.

"We were all there the one day. No idea on how many acres, we were just on one corner of it."

They're all home safe and sound. Chief Rothluetner said, "We have red flag warnings - please heed the warnings. Keep your cigarettes in the ashtrays, that's the worst thing. It's going to be high wind and low humidity."

It's also hunting season and Rothluetner said, "Good 'ol Smoky Bear - watch your Ps and Qs. Don't burn your trash. We're in a critical situation right now. Don't do anything that you have to burn. Don't park in the tall grass when you're grouse hunting."

Great advice for everyone.

While Merriman, Cody, and Kilgore were out fighting the fire on the ground that Friday, Miller Field was a pretty busy place with SEAT planes flying in refueling and filling with Phos-Check fire retardant, also

known as slurry.

SEAT Manager Justin Nickless, a Fire Management Specialist with the Nebraska Forest Service said there were four SEAT planes flying. "Plane 875 is on Nebraska contract, 813 is on call out of Laramie, and 832 and 834 are out of Casper, Wyoming. We had other SEATs in the zone, but they were released this summer."

SEAT stands for Single Engine Air Tanker.

A helicopter from Custer, SD, with the U.S. Forest Service called Blackhills Helitack was also called for mutual aid.

Piloting the helicopter was CW4 John Wurtz, with the South Dakota National Guard. He said the fire was 26 miles north west of here, or six miles south west of Rosebud.

The chopper filled their Bambi basket from a stock dam to help knock the flames down. Flying with him was another pilot and two crew chiefs who look for the fire; Eddie said that the size of the fire that Friday was approximately two to three thousand acres, but was unsure. "When we left, it was fairly contained."

Justin said no one flew out Saturday, but they were on Stand-by. Kilgore was dispatched Saturday, and were there with a rig for about half a day Rothluetner said.

Another helicopter came in Sunday from Custer, SD and spent some time fighting The Puzzle Fire.

The chopper spent the night possibly in anticipation of the conditions that are expected Monday.

"This is a good reminder that the fire season is running later than usual. There are a lot of large fires burning in Colorado and Wyoming. There's a big potential due to the temperatures, humidity and fuels drying out, which is why the SEAT

plane is here," Justin said.

"The Wyoming fire crossed into Colorado and there are only about 20 miles separating both of them."

As for The Puzzle Fire, Justin said they're not sure if any structures are involved. "I heard something about 60 structures and only one being threatened Friday, but I honestly don't know. I don't know how close that got. They were also doing a burnout to add a buffer. They put in a control line and remove the fuels from the fire. It's a standard tactic to use, which would have caused smoke today [Sunday]."

There was a bit of rain fall Friday late in the day that Nickless said may have helped our area overnight, but by the next morning, it would have evaporated.

"But Monday is high fire danger. They forecasted 30 mph wind gusts and relative humidity in the teens, so that's pretty dry. So be careful if you're planning outdoors activities, hunting, or field work. Be aware of the conditions and plan early in the morning before the heat of the day. It's hard with the ranching community. It's their job to be out taking care of things. And hunters are here enjoying their vacation - be careful when you're out there. The majority of these fires are going to be human caused, or by machinery. I think they're suspecting arson in St. Francis...that was the suspected cause."

Justin will find out if the SEAT Base will remain in Valentine. It's contract is good through October 11, and if it does get to stay longer, several of the county's fire chief's will be able to rest a little easier.

Instead of wishing for a weather change, let's pray there is one!

COVID-19 update

North Central District Health Department (NCDHD) has been made aware of 21 additional cases across the district: 4-Knox, 3-Brown, 5-Holt, 1-Cherry, 5-Antelope, 1-Rock, 1-Pierce, and 1-Boyd.

Case count updates as of 10/2/2020 at 3:00 p.m.: 797 Total Cases (TC), 345 Recoveries (R), and 16 Deaths (D).

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, and (A) for active:

Antelope: TC: 110, R: 34, D: 1, A: 75
Keya Paha: TC: 2, R: 1, A: 1

Boyd: TC: 31, R: 11, A: 20
Knox: TC: 207, R: 105, A: 102
Brown: TC: 59, R: 12, D: 2, A: 45
Pierce: TC: 125, R: 75, D: 8, A: 42
Cherry: TC: 89, R: 44, D: 4, 41
Rock: TC: 63, R: 30, A: 33
Holt: TC: 111, R: 33, D: 1, A: 77

Election information for Cherry County can be found online

by Elsie Hamling, Cherry County Deputy Clerk

I just thought I would send a link to all of you directing you to all of the Election Information we have to share.

<https://co.cherry.ne.us/web-pages/election/election.html>

We have received lots of ques-

tions and I love chatting with as many voters as possible but I thought it would be good to share all of the information we have at the moment.

Sample Ballots can be viewed and Election District lookup information is available as well so someone knows exactly what should appear

on their ballot.

After the October 13 date (date ballots will be mailed out to all registered voters) they will be able to see the sent date and the status of their ballot on its way back to our office as well.

Take care!

It's Fire Prevention Week

-see page 12

Cody-Kilgore

Celebrates Homecoming

-see page 5

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News to know

Sasse on President Trump's positive COVID-19 test

U.S. Senator Ben Sasse issued the following statement after President Trump and First Lady Melania Trump tested positive for coronavirus.

"Melissa and I are praying for the President and First Lady. This nasty virus is putting our country through the ringer, but Americans are going to beat this. We're going come out stronger on the other side."

State Troopers don Pink Patches for October

LINCOLN — Troopers with the Nebraska State Patrol (NSP) may be wearing a pink patch in October to honor and support those fighting breast cancer.

The Pink Patch Project is a national effort that involves law enforcement agencies throughout the country, including many in the state of Nebraska. This is the third year that NSP has participated in the project.

"The Pink Patch Project is a phenomenal way for law enforcement agencies to support a cause that has touched the lives of so many people," said Colonel John Bolduc, Superintendent of the Nebraska State Patrol. "I'm proud to wear a pink patch to honor breast cancer fighters, including our own Barb Klinetobe, who we lost earlier this year after a career of 40 years as an NSP dispatcher."

Throughout October, troopers have the option to replace the standard NSP patch with a pink patch. NSP's pink patch features the NSP logo in pink and black.

Pink NSP patches are also available for purchase by NSP civilian employees and members of the public at local NSP offices. All proceeds from sales of the pink NSP patches will go to benefit research and treatment of breast cancer.

Smith signs "Police Pledge"

Washington, D.C. – Congressman Adrian Smith (R-NE) signed the "Police Pledge," standing with our nation's law enforcement officers. Smith signed the pledge to demonstrate his opposition to "defund the police" movements and his support for law enforcement officers who work every day to keep our communities safe for all Americans.

"Police officers and sheriff's deputies put their lives on the line every day in order to protect us. We owe it to them to provide them with the resources necessary to do their jobs safely and securely. I stand with our law enforcement officers and will not turn my back on those who keep us safe."

Check out the

news @

www.

valentineneews.

com

Remembering Justice Ginsburg and Judge Laurie Smith Camp

On September 18, America lost one of its foremost jurists and sharpest legal minds, Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

Justice Ginsburg's life is proof of the American Dream. The daughter of Jewish immigrants from Poland and Ukraine, she excelled as a student and attended Cornell University, where she studied government and met her future husband, Martin Ginsburg.

When she was accepted to Harvard Law School, she was one of just nine women in a class of 500 men. A famous story says that the dean of the law school invited all nine women to dinner and demanded to know why they felt they deserved to take the place of a man.

This would not be the last time she faced discrimination due to her gender. Even though she tied for first in her class at Columbia Law School, where she transferred

after her first year at Harvard, she was rejected for a Supreme Court clerkship simply because she was a woman. Little did they know that they were turning down a future Justice.

She overcame countless ob-

stacles throughout her life before becoming just the second woman to serve on the nation's highest court, after Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, who served from 1981 until her retirement in 2006.

While on the Supreme Court, Ginsburg developed an unlikely bond with another Justice, Antonin Scalia, whose legal philosophy

could not have been more different than her own. Their close relationship was possible because it was rooted in something deeper than politics – a strong friendship.

We lost another pioneering jurist this week as well, Judge Laurie Smith Camp. Judge Smith Camp was one of Nebraska's finest and a friend of mine. She was the first woman to serve as a federal judge in Nebraska, and the U.S. Senate voted 100-0 to confirm her to the federal bench in 2001, something that doesn't happen very often these days.

Her unanimous approval is a testament to her incredible talent. Despite her position as one of the highest-ranking public servants in Nebraska, she was profoundly generous with her time. She was a role model to all and a mentor to many.

She shared her knowledge and her experiences with countless women in Nebraska and across our country. I valued her friendship, advice, and wit. She shared all of these with attendees at my Bridging the Gap event in 2016.

I always admired the dignity with which she carried herself, her love for the law, and her dedication to professionalism as she ably and purposefully led Nebraska's District Court. In addition to her duties as a federal judge, Judge Smith Camp was also the current president of the Omaha Bar Association.

Since her passing, I have heard from so many Nebraskans whose lives she touched. One particularly moving note described her as "one of the kindest, most thoughtful people I have ever met."

Judge Smith Camp was also a regular speaker at events promoting women's participation in the legal profession. Through her example, she inspired countless young women to become lawyers, advocates, and politicians.

Justice Ginsburg did the same. Both of these extraordinary women blazed a trail that today's young women and girls can follow.

I join with both of their families in mourning their passing and in celebrating their exceptional lives.

NOTE FROM WASHINGTON D.C.

by Deb Fischer

POLITICAL SATIRE

by Paul Fell



Gambling's real human toll

Nebraskans are known for being honest, hard-working people who are fiscally responsible. This is a big part of how we've grown the Good Life and prospered through the years. Nebraskans are not only industrious, but we are also open-hearted and generous, charitably giving to churches and nonprofits. These strong civic and family values are at the core of who we are.

It's important that we never lose sight of them and guard against efforts to undermine them. Attempts to legalize Indian casino gambling are a perennial threat to our values. Nebraskans have repeatedly rejected attempts to bring casinos to our state for a variety of reasons. These include more poverty due to gambling losses and the human toll of increased child abuse, neglect, and crimes such as theft.

First, casino gambling transfers wealth from lower-income families to the well-off instead of helping working families expand their household incomes and build real wealth. Through the mirage of easy winnings, casinos discourage financial responsibility and spread false hope. As with families, casinos also take money away from Main Street businesses and nonprofits, as people spend their discretionary income at the slots instead of investing it in the community.

Second, casinos often come with false promises of economic opportunity and tax relief. Supporters of gambling make grand claims that casinos will relieve poverty and generate huge revenues for

the state. In reality, casinos fail to deliver on these promises. A study in the American Indian Law Journal examined casinos operated by over 20 Native American tribes in the Pacific Northwest between 2000 and 2010. Originally touted as a solution to poverty, these casinos actually raised the mean poverty rate from 25 percent to 29 percent. For example, the Siletz tribe in

FROM THE GOVERNOR

by Pete Ricketts

Oregon saw its poverty rate balloon from 21 percent to 38 percent after a local casino opened.

The Open Door Mission in Omaha has seen firsthand the poverty caused by compulsive gambling. Before casinos came to Council Bluffs, only about nine percent of the homeless people Open Door serves came to them due to gambling. After the casinos, about 36 percent of those served say their homelessness is due to gambling addiction.

Over the years, pro-gambling advocates in Nebraska have been quick to insist that our state is losing revenues from gambling to Iowa, where casinos are legal. Casino supporters in Massachusetts used the same ploy to convince their state to legalize casinos in 2011. Yet in November 2019, the Boston Globe reported that casino revenues in Massachusetts have

repeatedly fallen far short of projections. "During the years of debate over whether to allow casinos in Massachusetts, proponents invariably returned to this point: The state was losing out on a revenue jackpot enjoyed by Connecticut and other states where gambling was legal. But with the Massachusetts gaming industry up and running at three sites, the bonanza casino operators promised when they applied for licenses here has yet to materialize."

The article went on to add that "The early shortfalls contrast sharply with the upbeat sales pitches casino companies made when they were seeking public support and regulatory approval." The Globe's story highlighted the national director of Stop Predatory Gambling, Les Bernal, who cautioned against the exaggerated revenue estimates of casino backers. "They deliberately oversell how much revenue they're going to bring into the state, because there's no merit to the business."

These cautionary tales warn against believing the talking points of Indian gambling interests. Any revenues casinos bring to the state are dwarfed by the costs of dealing with the problems they unleash, such as forgery, fraud, and bankruptcy. Dr. Earl Grinols of Baylor estimates that for every \$1 a community gains from casino gambling, it incurs \$3 in social costs.

Third, the human toll of casinos is very real. Problem gamblers who frequent casinos often experience

Continued on back page

Prison report: Too many prisoners, too few staffers

Overcrowding, understaffing, another report from state Inspector General for Prisons Doug Koebernick. Unfortunately, nothing new.

Throw in the ill effects of COVID-19 – inmates and staff quarantined and at least one inmate dead – as well as an increasing number of attacks – inmate on inmate and inmate on staff – and things aren't looking good at the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services. Did I mention increasing discovery of contraband?

Sounds like a broken record... but wait, there's more! Total monthly average overtime has increased in the past three years for officers and staff. That's the wrong direction, Koebernick cautioned. The state has serious choices to make on addressing these continuing problems.

But that seems to be an uphill battle for state lawmakers who face opposition from a "law and order" attorney general and a governor who is more than willing to veto what seem to be good ideas. Prison reform has, unfortunately, taken a back seat to property tax relief and pandemic recovery and partisan-fueled quibbling and backstabbing on the legislative floor.

Koebernick's report said total monthly overtime hours in 2017 averaged 35,051. In 2020, that number is projected to be 42,290. From January 2018 to June 2019, the overtime for nonprotective staff grew 57 percent.

If that's not enough, other problems include: turnover, assaults, suicides and suicide attempts, and double bunking. The report said the number of incidents of inmates being under the influence of K2, a synthetic marijuana, is "quite high" at the penitentiary.

While contraband issues vary from prison to prison, K2 is a significant issue at Community Corrections Center-Lincoln and the penitentiary. Illegal alcohol seems more prevalent at the penitentiary and Tecumseh. Weapons are more of a problem at Tecumseh and the penitentiary, and cell phones are found more often at the penitentiary. The Lincoln Correctional Center has seen less of a problem with contraband, Koebernick said, but recent reports indicate an increase in K2 and cell phones.

The penitentiary has responded with modified operations conditions several times because of inmate assaults and a high number of inmates under the influence of K2 (11 in one incident, 15 in another). Department Director Scott Frakes ordered a lockdown and significant contraband search at the peniten-

tiary in early September.

During a subsequent visit, Koebernick said he heard discontent then and later among staff that parts or all of some housing units were not searched. The department would not answer questions about the search complaints, he said, for "safety and security reasons."

"It is difficult to comprehend how not searching entire housing units is a strategy that leads to a more safe and secure facility, for

staff, inmates, and ultimately the public," Koebernick said. In the report, he suggested that searches of staff, visitors and items at each entry to a facility could be increased and the review times could be more varied.

Let's face it. Contraband comes in from outside the facility and staff and visitors are prime suspects with staff being even more so because of frequency of trips and sometimes-lax screening of their possessions.

As to overcrowding, there are more than 5,550 inmates and the number is increasing. Seven years ago, three options to address overcrowding -- including a no-cost option, a low-cost option or adding capacity through building more beds – were offered to Governor Dave Heineman. He chose the no-cost option to move inmates out of prisons in a shorter time.

If that had happened, the state would be in much better shape as far as overcrowding and staffing would have been positively impacted. As it is now, Koebernick's report said, the problem has reached a point at which the department has hit a limit on the number of quality people who can be recruited.

It may also be impossible to adequately staff proposed new construction of 100 minimum-custody beds at the penitentiary and 384 high-security beds at the Lincoln Correctional Center. One bright spot in the report, while staff turnover increased significantly from 2010-2017, it decreased in 2018 and 2019.

A recent audit by the American Correctional Association showed restrictive housing at the penitentiary does not provide the minimum square footage in either total cell space (80 square feet) or unencumbered space (35 square feet), but a space-waiver has been granted. Koebernick has again called for an end to double bunking.

Saying a wound doesn't exist won't make it go away. Putting a Band-Aid on it doesn't help. Just do the next right thing!

A V-shaped recovery

In a typical year, the six months from the start of spring to the start of fall fly by: we celebrate summer breaks, family vacations, weddings, and graduations; crops are planted and grown, and harvest begins. These last six months could not have felt more different. Almost every portion of our lives was somehow impacted by the coronavirus and our efforts to fight it. To get back to "normal," we have work to do.

It may seem like a long time ago, but just six months ago the U.S. economy was at record heights. Unemployment was the lowest in 50 years at 3.8 percent, more jobs had been created than lost for the 113th month in a row, and consumer confidence was near an all-time high. Now, because of shutdowns to stop the spread of COVID-19, industries such as restaurants, hotels, transportation providers, and theatres, which were leading beneficiaries of a strong consumer confidence and a thriving economy, are among the most threatened in our economy.

Last week, the Select Revenue Subcommittee, on which I serve, held a hearing about the plight of restaurants during the pandemic. In the hearing I asked the restaurateurs participating how they had felt about the economy prior to this pandemic. All agreed restaurants were benefiting greatly from the strong economy, and one even noted the first quarter of 2020 was the busiest quarter in the 115-year history of their restaurant.

We know what we must do to return to the strong economy of six months ago – provide a bridge for hurting small businesses, safely develop therapeutics and vaccines as quickly as possible, and find the best possible pathway to safely reopening schools and businesses. Earlier this year we came together on three separate bipartisan packages of legislation with this aim, most notably the CARES Act.

Through these bills we funded a massive effort with the goal of developing and distributing a safe, effective vaccine in record time and created economic bridges like the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) to help small businesses stay open and keep employees on their payrolls.

Unfortunately, rather than answer bipartisan calls to finish work on new relief legislation, Speaker Pelosi has prioritized moving

another partisan package, which passed the House on party lines, filled with unrelated items over negotiating seriously with President Trump. Legal-

izing banking for marijuana businesses and overriding state voter identification requirements won't defeat COVID or help our economy. If we can't agree on a comprehensive COVID package, we should at least be able to move pieces of the package which we know are necessary and have bipartisan support.

However, the authorizations for programs like PPP are expiring. Six months of major lockdowns have taken their toll on these businesses. While millions of Americans have returned to work and our economy has shown signs of rebounding strongly, there is bipartisan desire to give our small businesses one last push to ensure they outlast this virus. At our hearing with the restaurants, every witness agreed moving an extension of PPP as soon as possible should be a top priority. In response to that call, this week I signed onto a discharge petition calling on the Speaker to bring up standalone legislation extending PPP as soon as possible.

Small business owners like the ones from last week's hearing aren't interested in partisan fights. They need results. It is our duty in Congress to do our jobs and work together. I will continue to push policies which keep businesses open and get our economy back to where it was before.

WASHINGTON ROUND-UP

by Adrian Smith

Nebraska Award Winning Newspaper

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The *Valentine Midland News* welcomes Letters to the Editor. We ask that letters be a maximum of 600 words in length.

Letters will be edited for clarity, brevity and good taste and will be subject to acceptance or rejection at the editorial staff's discretion.

Letters that may be libelous as well as unsigned letters will not be published.

Letters sent via e-mail must be accompanied by a signed hard copy. Letters must be signed with the author's true name, address and phone number for purposes of authentication.

An individual may only submit two letters per 30 days. Letters containing offensive, libelous material or misleading information will either not be run, or be edited.

Precedence will be given to letters from subscribers, and readers in the local area, with regard to current issues.

The *Valentine Midland News*, its owners, publisher, editor and staff members assume no responsibility, legal or otherwise, for opinions other than their own.

LUNCH MENUS

Cody-Kilgore School

Monday, October 12 - Breakfast: (Cody) Breakfast pizza, cereal, toast, fruit, juice & milk **(Kilgore)** Donut, cereal, toast, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch: (Cody)** Chicken fajita, chips & dip, bread, fruit & salad bar & milk. **(Kilgore)** Hamburger, bread, lettuce, relish tray, fruit & milk. **Tuesday, October 13 - Breakfast: (Cody)** Pancakes, cereal, toast, fruit, juice & milk **(Kilgore)** French toast, cereal, toast, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch: (Cody)** Lasagna, roasted veggies, garlic toast, bread, fruit & salad bar & milk. **(Kilgore)** Glazed chicken patty, broccoli, bread, lettuce, relish tray, fruit & milk. **Wednesday, October 14 - Breakfast: (Cody)** Biscuits & gravy, cereal, toast, fruit, juice & milk **(Kilgore)** Chocolate chip muffins, cereal, toast, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch: (Cody)** Beefy nachos, green beans, bread, fruit & salad bar & milk. **(Kilgore)** Cooks choice, lettuce, relish tray, fruit & milk. **Thursday, October 15- Breakfast: (Cody)** Ring donut, cereal, toast, fruit, juice, milk **(Kilgore)** Yogurt, cereal, toast, fruit, juice & milk. **Lunch: (Cody)** Fish patty, mac & cheese, coleslaw, beanie weanies, bread, fruit & salad bar, & milk. **(Kilgore)** Cooks choice, lettuce, relish tray, fruit & milk. **Friday, October 16- No School!!**
*** All menus subject to last minute change!!

Valentine High School

Monday, October 12 - Breakfast: Bagel w/cream cheese, cereal choices w/Goldfish Grahams, Smucker's peanut butter & jelly Uncrustable, peaches, juice & milk choices. **Lunch:** Baked ham & cheese sub, pizza pasta bake w/garlic breadstick, grilled chicken sandwich, corn, baby carrots, fresh & canned fruit of the day, and choice of milk. **Tuesday, October 13 - Breakfast:** Chocolate iced long john, cereal choices w/Goldfish Grahams, Smucker's peanut butter & jelly Uncrustable, applesauce, juice & milk choices. **Lunch:** Baked combo sub, chicken ranch pasta w/dinner roll, cheeseburger, broccoli, candied carrots, fresh & canned fruit of the day, and choice of milk. **Wednesday, October 14 - Breakfast:** Sausage biscuits sandwich, cereal choices w/Goldfish Grahams, Smucker's peanut butter & jelly Uncrustable, pineapple tidbits, juice & milk choices. **Lunch:** Baked turkey & cheese sub, oven roasted hot dog, chicken & noodles w/dinner roll, baby carrots, tator tots, fresh & canned fruit of the day, and choice of milk. **Thursday, October 15 - Breakfast:** Pancake sausage stick, cereal choices w/Goldfish Grahams, Smucker's peanut butter & jelly Uncrustable, pears, juice & milk choices. **Lunch:** Baked ham & cheese sub, popcorn chicken bites, BBQ rib sandwich, broccoli, baked beans, cinnamon bun, fresh & canned fruit of the day, and choice of milk. **Friday, October 16 - Breakfast:** Cinnamon roll, cereal choices w/Goldfish Grahams, Smucker's peanut butter & jelly Uncrustable, orange slices, juice & milk choices. **Lunch:** Baked ham & turkey sub, cheese pizza, pepperoni pizza, taco burger, baby carrots, green beans, fresh & canned fruit of the day, and choice of milk.
**Menus are subject to change without notice!!

Valentine Middle School

Monday, October 12- Breakfast: Iced long john, cereal choices w/toast, peaches, juice & milk choices. **Lunch:** Baked ham & cheese sub, pizza pasta bake w/garlic breadstick, grilled chicken sandwich, corn, baby carrots, fruit of the day, and choice of milk. **Tuesday, October 13 - Breakfast:** Sausage biscuit sandwich, cereal choices w/toast, applesauce, juice & milk choices. **Lunch:** Baked combo sub, chicken ranch pasta w/dinner roll, cheeseburger, broccoli, candied carrots, fruit of the day, and choice of milk. **Wednesday, October 14 - Breakfast:** Strawberry stuffed french toast, cereal choices w/toast, pineapple tidbits, juice & milk choices. **Lunch:** Baked turkey & cheese sub, oven roasted hot dog, beef goulash w/garlic breadstick, baby carrots, baked beans, fresh & canned fruit of the day, and choice of milk. **Thursday, October 15- Breakfast:** Chocolate chip breakfast round, cereal choices w/toast, pears, juice & milk choices. **Lunch:** Baked ham & cheese sub, popcorn chicken bites, BBQ rib sandwich, broccoli, baked beans, cinnamon bun, fruit of the day, & choice of milk. **Friday, October 16 - Breakfast:** Cinnamon roll, cereal choices w/toast, orange slices, juice & milk choices. **Lunch:** Baked ham & turkey sub, cheese pizza, taco burger, pepperoni pizza, green beans, baby carrots, fruit of the day, and choice of milk.
**Menus are subject to change without notice!!

Valentine Elementary School

Monday, October 12- Breakfast: Iced long john, cereal choices w/toast, peaches, juice & milk choices. **Lunch:** Pizza pasta bake w/garlic breadstick, grilled chicken sandwich, corn, baby carrots, fruit of the day, and choice of milk. **Tuesday, October 13 - Breakfast:** Sausage biscuit sandwich, cereal choices w/toast, applesauce, juice & milk choices. **Lunch:** Chicken ranch pasta w/dinner roll, cheeseburger, broccoli, candied carrots, fruit of the day, and choice of milk. **Wednesday, October 14 - Breakfast:** Strawberry stuffed french toast, cereal choices w/toast, pineapple tidbits, juice & milk choices. **Lunch:** Oven roasted hot dog, beef goulash w/garlic breadstick, baby carrots, baked beans, fresh & canned fruit of the day, and choice of milk. **Thursday, October 15- Breakfast:** Chocolate chip breakfast round, cereal choices w/toast, pears, juice & milk choices. **Lunch:** Popcorn chicken bites, BBQ rib sandwich, broccoli, baked beans, cinnamon bun, fruit of the day, & choice of milk. **Friday, October 16 - Breakfast:** Cinnamon roll, cereal choices w/toast, orange slices, juice & milk choices. **Lunch:** Taco burger, pepperoni pizza, green beans, baby carrots, fruit of the day, and choice of milk.
**Menus are subject to change without notice!!

Human cases of West Nile Virus for 2020 reported to DHHS

Lincoln — Three people have recently tested positive for West Nile virus according to the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). Each of the following health departments have reported one human case - Three Rivers Health Department which covers Dodge, Saunders and Washington counties, Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department and Douglas County Health Department.

"West Nile virus is a mild illness for most, but can be serious for others so it's good to be in the habit of protecting yourself against mosquitos," said Dr. Tom Safranek, Special Assistant to the CEO. "These are the first human West Nile cases so far this season. Our surveillance data shows that West Nile virus isn't circulating widely in the mosquito population, but with Nebraskans taking advantage of mild weather to be outdoors basic prevention is still important."

Preventive tips:
Use mosquito repellent when spending time outside. Repellents containing DEET, picaridin, IR3535, 2-uncanone, and some lemon eucalyptus and para-menthane-diol products provide longer-

lasting protection.

Wear long-sleeved shirts, pants and socks when outside.

Limit time outdoors when mosquitoes are most active – at dusk and dawn.

Drain areas of standing water, where mosquitos lay eggs.

West Nile virus is transmitted through mosquito bites. Mosquitos acquire it by feeding on infected birds and pass it to people and animals. Last year there were 28 human cases in Nebraska and one death.

Most people with West Nile virus will have no symptoms or only mild flu-like symptoms such as a fever and headache. Those over 50 and anyone with weakened immune systems are at increased risk for a more severe infection.

Severe infections typically occur five to 15 days after exposure and can present as rapid onset of a high fever, body aches, vomiting, fatigue, neck stiffness, disorientation, and tremors. Symptoms consistent with a more severe infection should be reported to a doctor.

DHHS began annual West Nile virus surveillance in June. Subscribe to the DHHS West Nile virus webpage for the latest updates - www.dhhs.ne.gov/wnv

CNCAP holding clinic in Valentine

Central Nebraska Community Action Partnership (CNCAP) has scheduled a clinic for immunizations and the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program in Valentine on Wednesday, October 7 from 10:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. at the Cherry County Fairgrounds. Immunizations, including flu shots, will be available but must be pre-scheduled.

Immunizations are available to individuals from birth through 18 years of age receive vaccinations to reduce their risk of contracting childhood illnesses and diseases. Vaccines for Polio, Varicella (Chicken Pox), Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis, Rubella, Measles, Mumps, Haemophilus Influenza Type B, pneumonia (Pneumonia), Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) (Gardasil), Meningitis, Meningitis B, Rotavirus, Hepatitis A and Hepatitis B are available.

- All children ages 0 through 18 years of age.
- Medicaid enrolled
- Native American or Alaskan Native
- Uninsured-children with no health insurance
- Underinsured-children with health insurance which does not cover any immunizations

A donation of \$18 is requested for clients receiving one shot and \$25 for two or more

The Nebraska WIC Program is dedicated to improving the health and nutritional status of pregnant, breastfeeding and postpartum women, infants and children under the age of five. Income eligible participants receive basic health monitoring and nutrition education as well as food checks redeemable at local grocery stores to help supplement their diets. Participants receive breastfeeding education and support. WIC also offers their Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Program to all pregnant and breastfeeding mothers to ensure a positive breastfeeding experience.

Recipients must meet eligibility requirements, reside in Nebraska and fit one of the categories of pregnant, breastfeeding or postpartum women, infant or children. Income guidelines are generous at 185% of poverty

For safety precautions, we ask that you please wear a mask to the clinic. For more information regarding the WIC and Immunization programs at CNCAP or to make an appointment please call 308-745-0780 ext 131 or 308-202-0363 and leave a message.

Valentine Senior Center News

ACTIVITIES

Please note that the Valentine Senior Center will be closed for meals and services on Thursday, October 8 and Friday, October 9.

Center closed until further notice to all congregate meals and services. Home-delivered and curbside meals are available as well as the loan of medical equipment.

Beginning September 1, the Valentine Senior Center is closed on Fridays at 1:00 p.m. Hours are Monday-Thursday 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Friday 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

HOME DELIVERY OR CURBSIDE PICKUP of meals is available

through the Senior Center, the requirements of being homebound, or recovering from surgery or an illness is waived. The suggested contribution for persons age 60 and over is \$4.50. Please call the Center for more information, 402-376-1400.

MEMORIAL: In memory of Bill and Junior Empey form Lois Gaskins.

VOLUNTEERS FOR THE WEEK: Bernard and Lovella Miles, Cherry Hafer, North Star Services, Perry and Lindy Ayers, Becky Pettigrew, Marie Arendt, Dave Frasch, Mary Belle Osburn, Dan and Jerilyn Colburn.

Call 24 hours a day,
seven days a week
1-800-ACS-2345 • www.cancer.org

NEED help with cleaning?
Call Traci Kellum
208-553-6733
Get a free no obligation quote!

90th Birthday Card Shower
October 7
Ruth Heinert Stiefel
Mom, Grandma & Great Grandma
Greetings may be sent to: 90666 Lakeview Rd, Crookston, NE 69212

9th ANNIVERSARY Sale
Saturday, October 10
Stop in & register for door prizes.
7:00-8:00 a.m. ~ 50% OFF
8:00-11:00 a.m. ~ 40% OFF
11:00 a.m.-close ~ 30% OFF
Fall & Winter
Thank you to the public for their support.
Nails by Becky The Klothesline
218 N. Main Valentine, NE 402-376-3339 402-376-5057

PUMPKIN PATCH
Craft & Vendor Fair
Saturday, Oct. 10
10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Cherry County Fairgrounds
Valentine, NE
Concessions Available
Artists from across the region will provide a wide variety of craft items.
Sponsored by the Cherry County Ag Society

During the month of
OCTOBER
FREE custom whitening trays & professional gel with a paid cleaning, exam & Xrays
Mention this ad when scheduling to receive the October Special!
Dr. Adam Anderson, D.D.S. & Dr. Kelly Anderson, D.D.S.
275 N. Main St. Valentine, NE
402-376-1942
102 SE 2nd St. Mullen, NE

HEALTHCARE WITH HEART... CHERRY COUNTY CLINIC
Physicians Schedule
For the week of Oct. 5-9

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

For the week of October 12-16

Monday	Family Practice	Dr. Kelli Garwood	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

Valentine Senior Center

Thursday, October 8- Center closed for meals and services.

Friday, October 9- Center closed for meals and services.

Monday, October 12- Spaghetti and meat sauce, lettuce, garlic bread, apricots.

Tuesday, October 13- Creamed chicken on a biscuit, beets, peas, applesauce.

Wednesday, October 14- Goulash, carrots, green beans, bread pears.

HOME DELIVERY OR CURBSIDE PICKUP

Please call with your meal reservation by 9:00 a.m. the day of the meal or up to a week in advance, 402-376-1400.

Counseling Services

Janice I. Tetherow
MA, CPC, LIMHP, DCC

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- Licensed Independent
- Mental Health Practitioner
- Distance Certified Counselor

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442 N. Cherry St. • Valentine, NE
402-376-1000

The Sandhills Area Foundation invites you to



Saturday, October 24
5:30 PM
Cherry County Fairgrounds

Premier Auction items include:

- *Exclusive 2020 deer hunt at Spike Box Ranch,
- *Custom gun case, 3 guns and ammo (*donated by Danielski Farms*),
- *3 night Black Hills stay with golf at Boulder Canyon Country Club (*donated by Dick and Lois Schneider*)

Sandhills Family Feud winner will receive
3 night Black Hills Stay for 16
(*donated by Tom and Edith Schneider*)

\$50/person \$360/table of 8
(each ticket includes two complimentary drinks)

tickets available from all board members or
email sandhillsareafoundation@gmail.com for ticket delivery

Area Church Services

First Baptist Church
2nd and Green St. • 376-1659
Pastor Johnathon Moore
"Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say rejoice"
Summer Worship Schedule
SUNDAY MORNING
Sunday School Classes (all ages) 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service 11:00 a.m.

WEDNESDAY
Next Generation 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Crossroads Assembly
404 E. Hwy 20 • 376-2905
Pastor Paul Maunu
SUNDAY
Bible Classes (all ages) 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Nursery 10:30 a.m.
Children's Church 10:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY
Youth Services 6:30 p.m.
(6th thru 12th grade)
THURSDAY
Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

Berean Bible Church
702 East 7th St. • 376-3714
Pastor Scott McClellan
Worship Schedule
SUNDAY

Early Church Service 9:15 a.m.
Late Church Service 10:45 a.m.
Sunday School will be offered at both services for the kids.
WEDNESDAY EVENING
Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
FRIDAY MORNING

Men's Bible Study 6:30 a.m.

Zion Ev. Lutheran Church Wisconsin Synod
3rd and Haley • 376-1643
Pastor Thadeus Flitter
Sunday Services 10:00 a.m.
Lutheran Radio Service KMYR AM1260 8:15 a.m.
KVSH 940 AM 8:30 a.m.
The Twister FM 99.5, 12:30 p.m.

Zion Ev. Lutheran Grade School
224 N. Govt. St. • 376-2745
Sarah Dewey, PreK Teacher
Suzanne Schultz, K-3 Teacher
Ethan Doble, 4-8 Teacher/Principal

St. Mary's Catholic Church-Nenzel
Sunday 10:30 a.m. MDT
Our Savior Lutheran Church Missouri Synod
130 East 3rd St. • 376-2932
SUNDAY
Worship/Communion 9:00 a.m.

Sunday School/Adult Bible Study 10:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY
After School Bible School 3:45 p.m.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
339 West 4th St. • 376-2671
Jeremy Johnson-Branch President 660-988-7189
SUNDAY SERVICES
Sacrament 10:00 a.m.
2nd hour block 11:10 a.m.

Seventh Day Adventist
8th and Haley • 376-2364
Pastor Fred Grant
402-389-0836
SATURDAY
Sabbath School 9:45 - 10:45 a.m.
Worship Service 11:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.

Victory Bible Church Merriman
Pastor Dave Morrison
Sunday Service 6:00 p.m.
Thursday Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

Grace Ev. Lutheran Church Missouri Synod
100 E. 2nd Ave. • Merriman, NE
Pastor Travis Sherman
Sunday Services 4:00 p.m. MST

St. Nicholas Catholic Church
400 West 5th • 376-1672
Fr. Abraham Kaduthodiyil
Saturday 6:00 p.m.
Sunday 9:00 a.m.

Lakeview Christian Reformed Church
North from Crookston; right at Lakeview School; then right after the cemetery.
Pastor Mark Langenbach
Sunday Services 10:00 a.m.

Sandhills Church of Hope
314 W. Nebraska St., Cody
402-823-4136
Pastor Kurt Busenitz
Sunday Worship Services 8:30 a.m. MT (Cody)
11:30 a.m. MT (Cutcomb)
Kids Club After School Program Wednesday(Cody)
Seasonal Bible Studies also available

Grace Lutheran Church (Affiliated with the Church of the Lutheran Confession)
810 West 3rd
Paul D. Nolting, Pastor
Pastor's Residence 376-3248
Summer Schedule
Easter to Labor Day
Church Services 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday(Cody) Live stream at valentinelutheran.com

Winter Schedule
Labor Day to March
Bible Class 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Church Services 10:30 a.m.
Radio Program - KVSH
Sunday 8:05 a.m.

Grace Ev. Lutheran School & Preschool

Wood Lake Union Church
Rev. Don Letellier • 967-3390
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Prayer Service 8:00 p.m.

St. John's Episcopal
"The Church on Main Street"
372 N. Main St.
376-1723
Pastor Steve Meysing
Worship Schedule

Oct. 11-Morning Prayer 10:30 a.m.
Oct. 18-Holy Eucharist 10:30 a.m.
Nov. 1-Morning Prayer 10:30 a.m.
Nov. 22-Holy Eucharist 10:30 a.m.

Pantry Hours
Thursdays 10:00 a.m.- Noon
Except Holidays

Eli Wesleyan Church
Paul McNare • 308-689-3500
Sunday Services 10:30 a.m.

Hunts Chapel United Methodist Church
Pastor Judith Miller-Qualley
Cody at 9:30 a.m. MT

Valentine Presbyterian Church
Pastor Guy Helms
325 N. Victoria St. Office: 376-1305
AA - Monday, Thursday, Saturday 7:00 p.m.
Al-Anon - Mondays 6:00 p.m.
Sundays: Worship 10:30 a.m.
LOGOS Middle & High School

United Methodist Church
804 E. 5th St., Valentine
402-376-3473
Pastor A.G. Turner
Sunday Worship Opportunities
In person at 9:30 a.m. CT
Livestream on
www.valentineumc.com and
www.facebook.com/valentineumc
at 9:30 a.m.
Coffee-Friendship Hall 10:30 a.m.
beginning July 12
Sunday School Opportunities
Adults: 8:30-9:30 a.m. beginning July 12
Office Hours
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 8:00 a.m - 1:00 p.m.
Tuesday 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Closed-Friday, and weekends



Obituaries

William D. Empkey, 87

William D. Empkey, 87, passed away in Kennewick, WA at his Parkview Estates apartment September 22, 2020. He was comforted by his daughter Karen Darby and her husband Todd at his passing. William D. Empkey was born on September 2, 1933 in Cody, the son of Walter and Mary Empkey. He was raised in Cody and had many fond memories of his childhood. In the spring of 1950 he graduated from Cody High School. He served in the Navy during the Korean War from May 21, 1951 to July 2, 1954. The ship he served on was the USS Hollister DD 788 where he obtained the rank of Machinist's Mate Second Class. It was through his Navy adventure that he developed a fondness for the sea that would last a lifetime and would eventually call him back.

William (Bill) began working for the Nebraska Dept. of Roads in 1955 where he had a 43 year career. He held the position of Project manager at the time of his retirement in 1998. One of the most challenging and rewarding projects of his career was the Highway 20 bridge over the Niobrara River, near Valentine. On November 23, 1956 Bill married Stella Evelyn Sorensen at Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Rapid City, SD. In the early years of Bill's career they lived in several small towns in Nebraska. Eventually they settled in Ainsworth and raised their family there. Stella passed away on February 5, 1971. Bill was married and divorced several times after Stella's passing. He was married to Lavonne McDermott, Mary

Burns, Edna Anderson, and Glee Swanson.

Bill's greatest devotion was to his children. In the spring of 2016 he moved permanently to Washington state to be near his children and grandchildren. Many fond memories were created by his participation in family vacations, holidays, and events. He created a special bond with his youngest grandson that will be remembered forever.

William D. Empkey is survived by his children, Gary (Melanie) Empkey, Karen (Todd) Darby; grandchildren, Zachary (Katie McGrath) Empkey, Aaron Empkey; sister, Marilyn Peterson.

Preceding him in death were his wife, Stella in 1971; son, Douglas D. Empkey; parents, Walter and Mary Empkey; brother, Walter Empkey; half-siblings, Rose Empkey, Charles Empkey, Chloe Holst, Violet Pennock, Robert Empkey, Ruth Krajieski, Edna Flammang, Margaret Stukel, Gertrude Haffield, Frances Lindsey, Florence Coble, Arlene Carter Snyder, and Donna Farmer.

With respect to his last wishes he will receive a Naval burial at sea. The committal ceremony will be conducted on a United States Naval vessel while it is deployed.

Life Tributes Cremation Center of Kennewick, WA is in charge of the arrangements.

Memorials to American Legion Post 79, PO Box 379, Ainsworth, NE 69210 or American Legion Post 319, PO Box 319, Cody, NE 69211.

George M. Farley, 89



George was born in Bassett October 4, 1930, to Floyd and Grace (Duggar) Farley. George attended Grade School in Rock County and lived and

on the ranch, milking cows, feeding bucket calves, and working in the hayfield. Despite the early hours, hard workdays, and long cattle drives, George always stopped for coffee every morning and every afternoon. His family gathered around the kitchen table sharing conversations, coffee, cookies, and lifetime memories.

George continued working on the ranch and windrowing hay until April 2015 when he suffered a stroke. He spent five years in the Bennett County Nursing Home where he passed away September 26, 2020.

Grateful for having shared his life include his wife, Elsie of Cody; daughter, Karen (Bob) Coyle of Martin; son, James (Kristi) Farley of Cody; four grandchildren: Rocky (Denise) Farley of Cody, Georgia (Cody) Miller of Encampment, WY, Andy (Jessica) Coyle of Nenzel and Hilary (Jeremy) Wright of Lincoln; seven great-grandchildren: Brett (Kaycee) Miller, Bailey Miller, Rachel and Ashley Farley, Brooklyn Coyle and Taylor and Harley Hopkins; and numerous nieces and nephews.

George married Elsie Jackson on August 20, 1950. They recently celebrated their 70th Wedding Anniversary this year. He worked at Bennett County Coop for one year and then they moved to the old Hoffman Ranch north of Cody where they spent six years. During this time, they welcomed daughter Karen and son James. They then moved to Harrington Vetal area where they resided for nine years. They welcomed their youngest son Ron. George was a member of the Vetal Fire Department and School Board Member for Vetal and Tuthill Elementary Schools.

In 1968 the family purchased the old Stoner farm. Together they all shared and worked ranch life. George was completely content and devoted in his endeavor to teach and grow his children. He installed a hard work ethic in his children and grandchildren, and they all share fond memories of working

Graveside services were held at Prairie Lawn Cemetery in Cody on Thursday, October 1, 2020. Pastor Bob Dainton officiated and special music was provided by Stuart Livermont. Holmes Funeral Home of Valentine was entrusted with the arrangements.

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Getting Over It

"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past."
Isaiah 43:18 NIV

Sometimes our reaction to bad events, and our inability to "get over" the event exacerbates the problem. We all have losses that hit us hard, whether the loss is something material, such as money, or something more personal, like a loved one. We should learn from our material losses so as not to repeat them, for instance, learning that it's not wise to panic when the stock market is down and sell your stocks at a loss. And when the loss is something more serious, like losing a family member, we need to take time to grieve and process our feelings. Failing to do so may keep us from ever really getting over it. Sometimes the things we need to get over are things which caused us to get angry or resentful. We can harbor feelings of bitterness or desires for revenge for years, or even decades, which can be incapacitating and inhibit us from

getting on with our lives. We may not be able to forget the harm that was done to us, but forgiving the person who we believe wronged us is usually a good thing to do for our own emotional and spiritual wellbeing. Asking God to help us forgive the other person is often the only way to get over our bitterness. Life will go on whether we get over the bad experience or not. The real question is the quality of our life, and that may depend on our getting over it sooner rather than later.
— Christopher Simon

These weekly church messages are provided to you by the following concerned and responsible citizens and businesses.

Ron's Quik Lube
- Service Jobs
- Exhaust & Brakes
140 S. Western St. Valentine, NE
402-376-1165

Nelsen Plumbing
Heating, Wiring
also Digging & Trenching
402-376-1097

For insurance call
Dave Major
402-376-2810
State Farm Insurance Companies
Home Offices: Bloomington, IL

Scentsy
Steve Daugherty
Valentine, NE
402-376-4547



Valentine Livestock Auction Inc.
Thursday Sale Day
Valentine, NE
1-800-682-4874
402-376-3611 office

Anderson Electric Inc.
Ken Anderson
Licensed & Insured
89928 Pine Heights Dr. 402-376-3711
Valentine, NE 402-376-6140 cell

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402-376-2840
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Hwy. 20 Valentine
402-376-2060 800-557-3732
8 a.m.-6 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
Sat. 8 a.m.-12 p.m.

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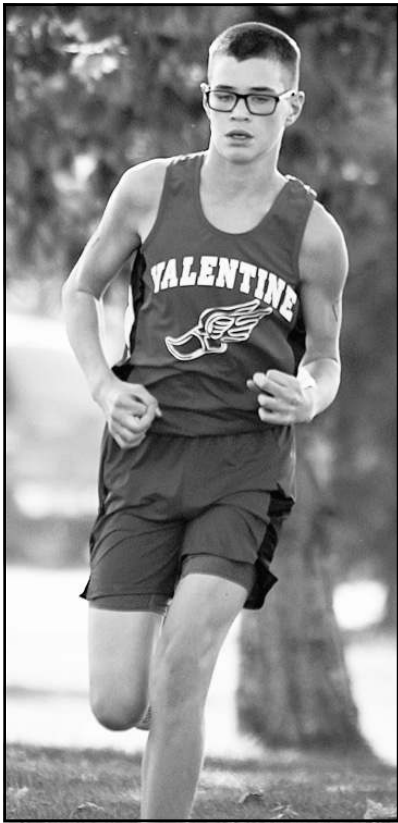
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Voter Information
Nebraska General Election
November 3, 2020
DATES TO REMEMBER FOR EARLY VOTERS
October 23 Last day to request a mail-in ballot
October 27 USPS recommendation date if you are returning your mail-in ballot by mail
November 3 Mail-in ballots have to be returned by close of polls
The polls will be open November 3rd
8:00 am (CST) – 8:00pm (CST)
7:00 am (MST) - 7:00 pm (MST)

3 WAYS TO RETURN MAIL-IN BALLOTS
› By mail
› Drop box located outside each Election Office
› Drop it off in person at your county election office

Every polling site will receive kits to protect poll workers. Social distancing standards will apply.

For more election information, visit
sos.nebraska.gov



Seventh grader Issac Cronin won the middle school boys!!



Eighth grader Aiden Hand was the top runner for middle school girls placing fifth.



Grant Springer was the top runner for the VHS boys placing 15th.



Royalty Candidates: Faith Buer, Brysen Limbach, Haley Hesse, Hank Lancaster, Samantha Phillips, and Christopher Williams.

Badgers Homecoming candidates announced

The Badgers will be crowning their Homecoming King and Queen on Friday October 9, 2020, during halftime (weather permitting) of the football game against Bridgeport Bulldogs with kick off at 7:00 p.m.

- and community if you want - will take part in Spirit Days: Monday, Celebrity Look Alike; Tuesday: Patriotic; Wednesday: Let's go to the Beach; Thursday: 80s Rock; and Friday: Wear your Red Loud and Proud!

To celebrate the week students The Student Council will hold its annual Homecoming Parade at 2:30 p.m. on Main Street and a pep rally at Badger Memorial Field. Mask are recommended, but not required. We want to keep all Badgers safe and in school. Go Badgers!



Photos by Amanda Long

MaKenzie Long was the top runner for VHS girls placing ninth.



Austyn Kieborz had a PR.

VHS XC competes at Gordon

The VHS and VMS cross country team competed at Gordon, Thursday, September 24, 2020.

The results are as follows:

Austyn Kieborz, 21:45, PR; Jack Lancaster, 22:17, Kadon Wenig, 27:18.

Sadie Johnson, 28:24; Alexis Long, 30:46; MaKenzie Long, 25:13, ninth place.

Isaac Cronin, 9:53, first place; John Gison, 10:49, eighth place; Doc Lancaster, 13:14; Colton, Pila-kowski, 12:02.

Aiden Hand, 10:53, fifth place; Brooklyn Johnson, 11:50, 14th place.; Kate Johnson, 14:05; Christen Larsen-Malard, 11:44.

Southwest Conference will be held Thursday, October 8, 2020.



Photo by Mary Reagle

Lady Badgers host Hershey

Above, Izzy Salters with a right side hit in the Badgers home court during Parents Night. Thursday, October 1, 2020 the Lady Badgers hosted Hershey. They lost in three sets.

Valentine - 16, 21, 16 = 0

Hershey - 25, 25, 25 = 3

Badgers win over Chase County and Hershey, Homecoming this Friday



Photos by Amanda Long

#24 Kenny Shelbourn along with #7 Brysen Limbach for the tackle.



#15 Hank Lancaster blocking for #24 Kenny Shelbourn

Friday, September 25, 2020, the Badgers played Chase County and came away winners with a score of 14-0.

Ryan O'Kief had 157 passing yards.

Brysen Limbach had 95 rushing yards, and Chris Williams had 78 receiving yards.

The Badgers put 14 points on the scoreboard in the second quarter, the first on a 75 yard pass with a good PAT, and a 24 yard pass, and another good PAT.

Friday, October 2, 2020, the Valentine Badgers traveled to Hershey where they won by a score of 33-6.

Scoring by quarters:

Valentine - 0, 19, 7, 7 = 33

Hershey - 0, 6, 0, 0 = 6

Hershey began the scoring in the second quarter on a interception return, putting 6 on the scoreboard.

Badger Brysen Limbach re-

ceived a 69 yard pass from Ryan O'Kief for 6, and the PAT was no good.

Hank Lancaster received a 41 yard pass from Ryan O'Kief for 6 more points and the kick was no good.

Hank Lancaster received a 23 yard pass from Ryan O'Kief, and the PAT by Chris Williams was good giving them a 19-6 score at the half.

In the third quarter Ryan O'Kief made a three yard run TD, and the kick by Williams was good.

In the fourth quarter, Jonah Perrett received a 23 yard pass from Ryan O'Kief, and the kick was good by Williams to end the game 33-6.

The Badgers will play this coming Friday, October 9, which is HOMECOMING!!



Nick Sherbeyn #8 pushing past Chase County.



Chris Williams, #7 for the touchdown!!

SPORTS & YOUTH IN THE NEWS



C-K announces Homecoming Royal Court

The Cody-Kilgore Royalty was announced Thursday evening. Selected for the honor were, back row L to R: Juniors Riley Jones and Cactus Millar, Senior Attendants Blake Schneider and Emmalea Olson, Sophomores Kassidy Roseberry and Parker Andrews. Middle row, L to R: Freshmen Abigail Busenitz and Drew Farrell, Queen Elle Ravenscroft and King Jesus Garza. The evening finished with a bonfire and fireworks at the football field.

Cody-Kilgore Unified Schools Receives EducationQuest Grant

LINCOLN – Cody-Kilgore Unified Schools is among 24 Nebraska high schools selected to receive a College Access Grant from EducationQuest Foundation. The school will receive \$2,500 a year for four years to develop or enhance programs designed to increase the number of students who pursue education beyond high school. In total, EducationQuest will award \$810,000 in grant funds to

the 24 selected schools over the next four years. The amount each school receives is based on their enrollment. The high schools will use the grants to fund programs and activities such as college visits, financial aid sessions, scholarship searches, career exploration, ACT test preparation, and completion of college applications. The grant program also promotes involvement with families and businesses to help

ensure the program's success. The recipient schools have set goals to increase their college-going rates by approximately 10 percentage points over the next four years. EducationQuest awards College Access Grants to Nebraska high schools every two years and has awarded 143 grants to 101 high schools since the program began in 2006.



Photos by Emmy Covey

The Cowboys are intent in stopping the Sioux County Warriors on this play.



The Cowboys take their place at the line of scrimmage along with the Sioux County Warriors.



Photo by Ms. Richie

The Cody-Kilgore football team, The JH Cowboys, beat The Sioux Co. Warriors 58-0 on homecoming day. Brady Skinner, #8, stretched out for the extra yard, while Ethan Pitkin, #11, blocked for Brady.

Homecoming 2020 Cowboy victory

The Cody-Kilgore Cowboys celebrated a victory on Homecoming, September 25, 2020. This young, athletic football team overcame the Sioux County Warriors with the final score of 59-20. It was a well-fought match. The Cowboys had to work for their homecoming win.

Many freshmen were able to play their first minutes in a Varsity Football game. A fortunate freshman, Jacob Knox, added an additional 12 points to the scoreboard. This player has great potential. Foreign Exchange students, Yaniss Marra from France and Koen de

Vecht from the Netherlands also made an appearance on the field. Koen is a kicker for the Cowboys and Yaniss is on a kick return. Homecoming 2020 is one for the books. Congratulations, Cowboys!



Photos by Emmy Covey

Colby Cady #12 pushes the set to the outside for hitter Abi Donnor, to attack the ball.

Cowgirls play tough at Homecoming

The Cody-Kilgore Cowgirl's volleyball team played their Homecoming game September 25, 2020. The Cowgirls lost to the Sioux County Warriors in three sets. The scores were 18-25, 15-25, 23-25. The Cowgirls have a record of 4-8 and the Sioux County Warriors 10-2. The Cowgirl's seniors, Elle

Ravenscroft, Shaelyn Welch, and Abi Donner, lead their team in the battle between the Warriors and Cowgirls. The young group of Cowgirls has been learning to work with each other while playing tough teams. The Cody-Kilgore Volleyball team consists of Seniors Elle Ra-

venscroft, Shaelyn Welch, Abi Donner. Juniors Annalise Busenitz, Colby Cady. Sophomore Kassidy Roseberry, and Freshmen Sadee Adamson, Abigail Busenitz, Aubree Johnson, Nadaya Johnson-Mooney, Kyla Star Boy, Mikah VanderWey.

Cody-Kilgore Calendar

October 9: Teacher Inservice, HS VB/FB @ Minitare.
October 10: HS VB Tournament @ Anselmo-Merna.
October 14: End of first quarter
October 15: HS VB MNAC Conference.
October 16: JH VB/FB vs. Crawford, HS VB/FB vs. Crawford.
October 17: HS VB MNAC Conference.



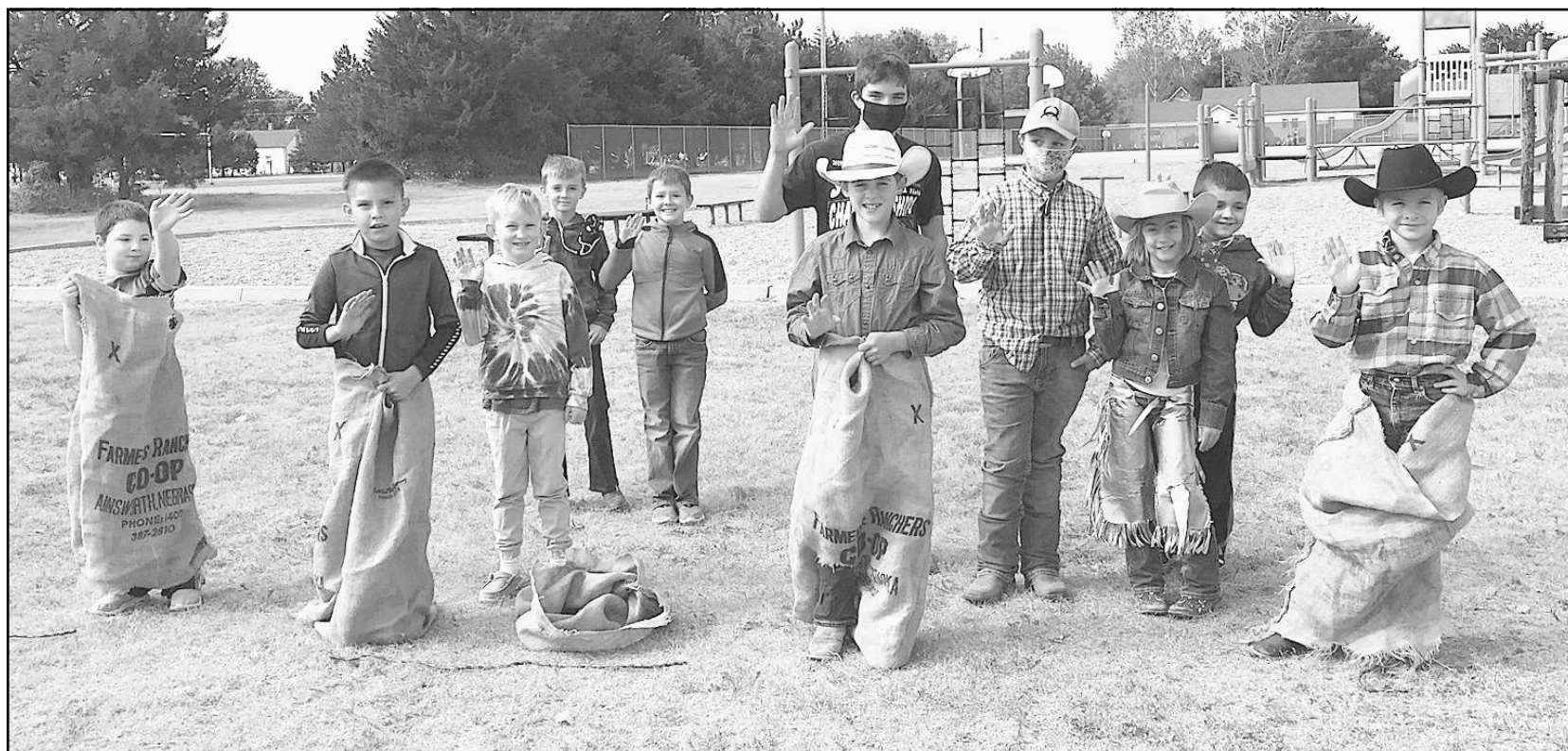
Jr High Cowgirl Volleyball Homecoming 2020

The Cody-Kilgore Jr High Cowgirls had a good game against the Sioux County Warriors on Friday. With the A-team winning two sets 25-20 and 25-13. The B-team losing two sets 21-25 and 11-25. Pictured is Rachel Farley blocking a hit from the Warriors.

RDAP

Rape/Domestic Abuse Program of Valentine

1-888-534-3495



It is Old West time for VES students!!



Mr. Nollette and his FFA students brought Old West activities to the VES students during recess time.

Kindergarten through fourth grade had fun with a gunny-sack and stick horse barrel races and roping the calf.

Elementary students enjoyed interacting with the high school students and this kind of old-fashioned fun still can't be beat!

Much appreciation to Mr. Nollette and his FFA students! It was a great Old West Days!



Cherry County youth to celebrate National 4-H Week: October 4-10

Every year, National 4-H Week sees millions of youth, parents, volunteers and alumni come together to celebrate the many positive youth development opportunities offered by 4-H. The theme for this year's National 4-H Week, *Opportunity 4 All*, is a campaign that was created by National 4-H Council to rally support for Cooperative Extension's 4-H program and identify solutions to eliminate the opportunity gap that affects 55 million kids across America.

With so many children struggling to reach their full potential, 4-H believes that young people, in partnership with adults, can play a key role in creating a more promising and equitable future for youth, families and communities across the country. In 4-H, we believe every child should have an equal opportunity to succeed. We believe every child should have the skills they need to make a difference in the world.

"We believe youth perspectives are so important and a solution to eliminating the opportunity gap, because young people come with new ideas and new ways of seeing the world," explains Jennifer Sirangelo, President and CEO of National 4-H Council. By encouraging diverse voices and innovative actions, 4-H believes that solutions can be found to address the educational, economic and health issues that have created the opportunity gap.

Cherry County is celebrating in a big way this year by focusing on the four H's in the Clover! A check-list of simple challenges has been created for current members to complete around "Head, Heart, Hands, and Health." There will also be a 4-H program featured with each daily theme (see the alerts 4-H Newsletter or Facebook posts for more information). There will be fun prizes up for grabs for those who rise to the challenge!! Here is a run-down of the week - although

Monday and Tuesday have passed, activities can still be done:

• Monday, October 5, **HEAD**
Challenge: Set a goal for the 4-H year and/or pick your projects

Program highlight: The Diamond Clover program is a great planning and recognition tool!

• Tuesday, October 6, **HANDS**
Tuesday Challenge: Plan a service project for the year (enroll in Citizenship), or complete a simple project on this day.

Program highlight: Nebraska Gives Back Program

• Wednesday, October 7, **GREEN**
SPIRIT DAY

Challenge: Wear something with 4-H on it wherever you go!!!

Program highlight: Everything!! Tell someone new about 4-H.

• Thursday, October 8, **HEART**
Challenge: Thank someone

Program highlight: Participate in our first "Cabin Fever Night" of the fall/winter and make a supply of homemade thank you notes on the die cut machine for the year. Stop by 6:30-8:00 p.m. at the Extension Office.

• Friday, October 9, **HEALTH**
Challenge: Move your body for 60 minutes OR eat five servings of fruits and vegetables.

Program highlight: Cherry County Marathon Kids registration opens TODAY!

Can't get all the Cherry County challenges done in one week?? That's OK, youth will have the whole month of October. Download and complete the activity checklist on the Cherry County 4-H website under "Enrollment" and either e-mail it to mgarwood3@unl.edu by Friday, October 30, or drop off at the Extension Office by 4:30 p.m. that day. Checklists with all tasks complete will be entered in a drawing for a chance to win an Under Armor 4-H Backpack or other 4-H swag. All youth who complete at least one item on the checklist and turn it in will receive a small 4-H themed prize.

Extra chance to win!!! Along with the theme *Opportunity 4 All*, Cherry County youth are challenged to invite someone new to the 4-H program. If you send a new family to the Extension Office, located at 365 North Main, Valentine, to pick up a recruitment packet by October 30 at 4:30 p.m., you will be entered an additional time in the grand prize drawing. They can also call our office by that date/time to request a packet. One lucky NEW member who enrolls by November 6, will receive a 4-H hammock.

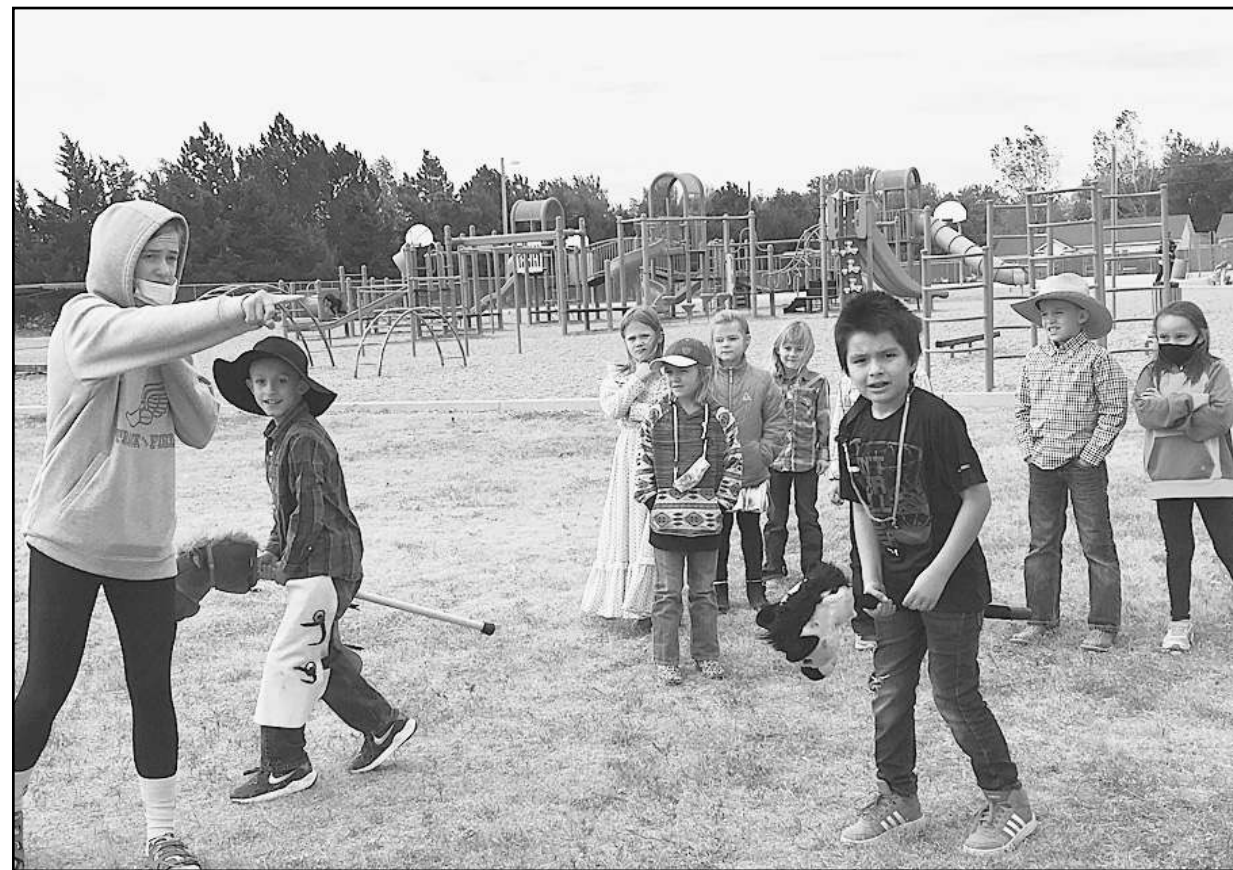
All 4-H members across the world can join this year's celebration on social media using #Opportunity4All and #NE4H. Post photos of you working on your checklist, especially your 4-H outfits on spirit day!

For both new and returning members, enrollment will open on ne.4honline.com on October 15, 2020! All adult leaders should also enroll as soon as possible.

"Now, more than ever, the skills and relationships gained through the 4-H program will ensure the future of our communities, country and world," said Michelle Garwood, Cherry County 4-H Educator. "Our youth need to be able to engage in respectful and productive discourse, solve complicated and ever-changing problems, and genuinely care for others. Programs we offer like public speaking, Quilts of Valor, robotics, Citizenship Washington Focus, nutrition, Sandhills Leadership, and so much more provide those growth opportunities. There truly is something for everyone in 4-H."

In Cherry County, around 200 4-H youth and 50 volunteers from the community are involved in 4-H.

To learn more about how you can get involved, visit <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/cherry/>, call 402-376-1850, or e-mail mgarwood3@unl.edu.



Middle Niobrara NRD Accepting Tree Orders

The Middle Niobrara NRD is taking tree orders for the 2021 planting season. The District has a list of seedlings available including shrubs, hardwoods and conifers. We can also special order many different fruit trees available to fit your planting and landscaping needs. Get your order in by November 6.

An order form can be picked up at the MNNRD office in Valentine or by visiting our website at www.mnnrd.org.

For all questions or help with ordering call the MNNRD Office at 402-376-3241 or stop in and see us at 303 East Hwy 20 in Valentine.

Ainsworth Grand Theater

215 N. Main • Ainsworth • 402-387-1948

Ghost

Rated PG-13 • 128 Minutes

Friday, October 9

Show Time - 7:00 PM

Saturday, October 10

Show Time - 7:00 PM

Sunday, October 11

Show Time - 4:00 PM

PUBLIC POWER builds better communities.

- Not-for-profit
- Transparent
- Involves citizens in decision-making

Valentine is a public power community, proudly served by



CHERRY COUNTY NEBRASKA NIOBRARA RIVER FARM & RANCH AUCTION

NOV. 17TH • 10AM MT

Held at the American Legion Gordon, Nebraska

4,020[±] ACRES

In 3 Tracts & Combinations



Niobrara River Farm & Ranch is 4,020+/- deeded acres laying along the banks of the famed Niobrara River. The river meanders through the property for three miles and provides excellent wildlife habitat and recreation. The property has one irrigated pivot and the balance is native Sandhill Range. A great summer grass unit or can be fitted for a year-round cattle operation with superb hunting.

FARM & RANCH: Three miles of Niobrara River Frontage • Two creeks and a spring fed dam • 134 certified irrigated acres, 125 currently irrigated

WATER & IRRIGATION: Pipeline water with 5 tanks • Three windmills • One solar well • 2000 Zimmatic 7 tower pivot • 100HP 3 phase electric motor • 650gpm sprinkler package • 1300ft pivot

CATTLE OPERATION: Owner rated 350 cow/calf summer grazing unit - NOT GRAZED IN 2020 • Shipping Corrals • 6 main pastures • Crossed fenced • Electricity

HUNTING: Whitetail and Mule deer • Upland bird • Antelope



Scott Shuman - Broker 20110609

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Cherry County Board of Commissioners meeting minutes

The Cherry County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on September 30, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. in the Sheriff's Conference Room of the Cherry County Courthouse, as per notice published every Wednesday in the Valentine Midland News, with the agenda being on file in the office of the County Clerk. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chairman Storer. Roll call was taken. Present for the meeting were Cherry County Commissioners Tanya Storer, Martin DeNaeyer, James Ward, and Cherry County Clerk Brittny Petersen. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the location of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was acknowledged by Chairman Storer.

The Board of Commissioners regular meeting minutes from September 8, 2020 were read. It was moved by DeNaeyer and seconded by Ward to approve the minutes as read. Roll call vote: Ayes – Storer, DeNaeyer, Ward. The motion carried.

The Board of Corrections meeting minutes from September 8, 2020 were read. It was moved by Ward and seconded by DeNaeyer to approve the minutes as read. Roll call vote: Ayes – DeNaeyer, Ward, Storer. The motion carried.

The Board of Commissioners emergency meeting minutes from September 18, 2020 were read. It was moved by DeNaeyer and seconded by Ward to approve the minutes as read. Roll call vote: Ayes – Ward, Storer, DeNaeyer. The motion carried.

Ashley Garrelts, Sandhills Task Force Project Coordinator, and Bob Atkeson, Natural Resources Conservation Service Engineer, met with the Board to provide engineering plans for a fish screen project located in Eby Lake. The plans include replacing existing culverts, widening the existing road, and relocation of fish barrier screens. The Board requested that a written agreement between the project-adjacent landowners, Sandhills Task Force, and Cherry County regarding control of water levels be created and reviewed by the Cherry County Attorney prior to approving the plans. No Board action was taken.

The Valentine Public Library Interlocal Agreement was reviewed by the Board. The agreement reflects a 2.5% increase as approved with the 2020-2021 Cherry County budget. Storer moved and DeNaeyer seconded to approve the Valentine Public Library Interlocal Agreement renewal for 2020-2021. Roll call vote: Ayes – Storer, DeNaeyer, Ward. The motion carried.

DeNaeyer moved and Ward seconded to adopt Resolution #09-30-2020-01 Signing of the County Annual Certification of Program Compliance Form 2020. Roll call vote: Ayes – DeNaeyer, Ward, Storer. The motion carried. DeNaeyer moved and Ward

seconded to approve claims. Roll call vote: Ayes – Ward, Storer, DeNaeyer. The motion carried. September 30, 2020 Cherry County Claims Listing Claims were presented in the amount of \$221,282.42 and disallowed in the amount of \$-.

A warrant was ordered drawn on the General Fund in the amount of \$221,282.42

GENERAL AFLAC, Withholdings/Insurance, \$1,940.14; Ameritas Life Insurance/Retirement. Withholdings/Retirement. \$15,717.32; Ameritas Life Insurance/Dental, Withholdings/Insurance, \$2,806.16; Cherry County Health Account, Health Claims Funding, \$41,305.44; Colonial Life, Supplemental Insurance Premiums, \$4,615.64; Credit Management, Garnishment, \$320.24; Credit Management, Garnishment, \$367.95; Credit Management, Garnishment, \$320.18; EFTPS, Withholdings/Taxes, \$28,851.67; Journal Entry, Refund, (\$63.40); Legal Shield, Services, \$36.85; MassMutual, Withholdings/Retirement, \$100.00; Meritain Health, Health Insurance Premiums, \$16,634.24; NE Department of Revenue, Withholdings/Taxes, \$4,237.48; Eric Scott, Clerical Salary/Rent/Telephone/Equipment, \$3,966.85; Vision Service Plan, Withholdings/Insurance, \$596.79; General Fund Payroll, Gross Wages & Salaries, \$137,019.56

GROSS TOTAL \$258,773.11 Adjustment for employees' share of withholdings (\$37,490.69)

NET TOTAL \$221,282.42 Claims were presented in the amount of \$126,033.82 and disallowed in the amount of \$-.

A warrant was ordered drawn on the Road Fund in the amount of \$126,033.82

ROAD AFLAC, Withholdings/Insurance, \$1,841.26; Ameritas Life Insurance/Retirement, Withholdings/Retirement, \$7,964.10; Ameritas Life Insurance/Dental, Withholdings/Insurance, \$1,306.96; Assurity Life Insurance Company, Withholdings/Insurance, \$14.50; Cherry County Treasurer, Taxes/Withholdings, \$95.13; Cherry County Health Account, Health Claim Funding, \$22,113.81; Colonial Life, Supplemental Insurance Premiums, \$2,255.83; EFTPS, Taxes/Withholdings, \$17,521.62; Legal Shield, Services, \$110.65; MassMutual, Withholdings/Retirement, \$300.00; Meritain Health, Health Insurance Premiums, \$8,259.30; NE Department of Revenue, Taxes/Withholdings, \$2,531.92; Vision Service Plan, Withholdings/Insurance, \$220.40; Road Fund Payroll, Gross Wages & Salaries \$83,553.46

GROSS TOTAL \$148,088.94 Adjustment for employees' share of withholdings (\$22,055.12)

NET TOTAL \$126,033.82 Claims were presented in the amount of \$5,527.15 and disallowed in the amount of \$-

A warrant was ordered drawn on the Visitor Promotion Fund in the amount of \$5,527.15

Visitor Promotion Fund AFLAC, Withholdings/Insurance, 97.37; Ameritas Life Insurance/Retirement, Withholdings/Retirement, \$386.25; Ameritas Life Insurance/Dental, Withholdings/Insurance, \$108.56; EFTPS, Taxes/Withholdings, \$946.69; NE Department of Revenue, Taxes/Withholdings, \$108.67; Vision Service Plan, Withholdings/Insurance, \$28.17; Visitor Promotion Fund Payroll, Gross Wages & Salaries, \$4,879.45

GROSS TOTAL \$6,555.16 Adjustment for employees' share of withholdings (\$1,028.01)

NET TOTAL \$5,527.15 Claims were presented in the amount of \$1,306.95 and disallowed in the amount of \$-.

A warrant was ordered drawn on the Health Claims Fund in the amount of \$1,306.95

HEALTH CLAIMS FUND Cherry County Clerk, Health Insurance Claims, \$1,306.95

TOTAL \$1,306.95 Claims were presented in the amount of \$3,206.51 and disallowed in the amount of \$-

A warrant was ordered drawn on the Emergency Management Fund in the amount of \$3,206.51

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Ameritas Life Insurance/Retirement, Withholdings/Retirement, \$315.33; EFTPS, Taxes/Withholdings, \$636.70; NE Department of Revenue, Taxes/Withholdings, \$82.85; Emergency Management Fund Payroll, Gross Wages & Salaries, \$2,802.89

GROSS TOTAL \$3,837.77 Adjustment for employees' share of withholdings (\$631.26)

NET TOTAL \$3,206.51

Cherry County Tourism Board members, Jon Davenport, Joan Rupe, Greg Nollette, Richard Mercure, and Anne Clark, and Cherry County Tourism Director Regina Osburn met with the Board to provide a business plan for a potential Cherry County Event Center. Acquisition of a space, additional employees, funding sources, and rental fees were discussed. Cherry County Attorney Eric Scott joined the discussion regarding bankruptcy and title issues with the property that is being considered for the proposed project. No Board action was required at this time.

Leslie Muehlich, Right-of-Way Agent, and Darrell Lurz, Highway Project Manager, from the Nebraska Department of Transportation provided appraisal reports, preliminary plans, and negotiation plans for an improvement project located on a portion of Highway 83/ Main Street in Valentine. Reduction in available parking due to compliance with current federal regulations was the focus of discussion. If the Board can place a value on the loss of parking, Leslie informed the Board that a settlement

has the potential to be negotiated. No Board action was taken.

No comments from the public were received during the allotted time.

Mike Bateman from Murphy Tractor discussed used equipment and new product lines that are available from John Deere. The Board requested training for motor grader equipment, when available.

The Board reviewed correspondence from NDEE RE: Ries Cattle Company Inc. Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation, Notice of Application for Major Modification Received and a dividend distribution memo from NIRMA in the amount of \$10,533.

Timothy Hanson, Nebraska Registered Land Surveyor, submitted a Plat of Survey at the request of Roger Brashear for Paul Schock to the Board for their review. The Plat of Survey includes the addition of 3 lots to the existing Pines Reserve subdivision, located in Section 33, T32N, R30W of the 6th P.M., Cherry County, Nebraska. It was confirmed with Cherry County Zoning Administrator Jessica Coyle via telephone that a Cattle Country Easement is not required for the approval. Ward moved and DeNaeyer seconded to approve the Plat of Survey of Lots 8-10, the Pines Reserve, and authorize Chairman Storer to sign the approval. Roll call vote: Ayes – Storer, DeNaeyer, Ward. The motion carried.

Cherry County Assessor Betty Daugherty informed the Board that the reappraisal contract between Cherry County and Central Plains Valuation, LLC includes a maintenance program for properties in Cherry County and pick-up work for new construction and has been reviewed by the County Attorney. Storer moved and Ward seconded to approve the residential reappraisal contract. Roll call vote: Ayes – DeNaeyer, Ward, Storer. The motion carried.

At 2:00 p.m., as advertised, the Board recessed from regular session to convene as a Board of Equalization. At 2:44 p.m. the Board returned to regular session.

At 2:45 p.m., as advertised, the Board recessed from regular session to convene as a Board of Corrections. At 4:25 p.m. the Board returned to regular session.

After reviewing statutes and consulting with the State Auditor's Office, the Board took no action on the agenda item regarding approval of the 2020 annual inventory of County personal property.

At 4:30 p.m., with no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Storer declared the meeting adjourned.

These minutes are not the official record and may be corrected. A copy of the approved official minutes is available to the public in the Cherry County Clerk's Office. 18089-7 ZNEZ

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c. Total Print Distribution (Line 15f) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a)	1485 1392
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☒ I certify that 90% of all my distributed copies (electronic and print) are paid above a nominal price.

17. Publication of Statement of Ownership
☒ If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. Will be printed in the 10/07/2020 issue of this publication. ☐ Publication not required.

18. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner
Date
9-25-20

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

18087-7 ZNEZ

Notice of bids

Valentine Community Schools is accepting bids for snow removal for the 2020-2021 school year. Snow removal includes Valentine Elementary, Valentine Middle, and Valentine High School. Bids should include an hourly rate and kind of equipment that is to be used.

*All snow removal areas need to be clean by 7:00 a.m. and all snow moved to designated areas

Snow Removal Areas for Valentine High School:
1. Parking lot
2. Parking area near east entrance
3. Kitchen driveway area
4. West Gym entrance area
5. Sidewalk areas as determined Snow Removal Areas for Valentine Middle School:

1. Parking area on east side of building
2. Parking area on west side of gymnasium including street parking
3. Street parking on north side of gym and middle school building
4. Perimeter sidewalks
5. North entry area
6. East entry area

7. South entry area
8. North gym entry area
9. Sidewalk areas as determined Snow removal areas for Valentine Elementary School:

1. Parking lot
2. East entry area
3. North entry area
4. South entry area
5. Both West entry areas
6. Perimeter sidewalks including west sidewalk between 4th and 5th street

7. South entry sidewalk to the court area
8. Tennis and basketball courts
9. Sidewalk areas as determined All offers should be delivered to the office of the Superintendent at 431 North Green Street by 4:00 p.m. on October 13, 2020. The offers will be considered at the meeting of the Board of Education to be held October 14, 2020. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all offers. The decision of the Board will be final. Questions should be directed to Mike Halley, Superintendent 402-376-1780.

18061-23, 30, 7 ZNEZ

Notice

In the County Court of Cherry County, Nebraska
Estate of Arlene Parks, Deceased
Estate No. PR 20-29

Notice is hereby given that on the 18th day of September, 2020, in the County Court of Cherry County, Nebraska, the Registrar issued a written statement of Informal Probate of the Will of said Decedent and that Larry D. Parks and Floyd E. Parks were informally appointed by the Registrar as Co-Personal

Representatives of the Estate. Creditors of this Estate must file their claims with this Court on or before the 23rd day of November, 2020, or be forever barred.

Kay E. Morrison
Clerk of the County Court
Warren R. Arganbright
NSBA #10117
PO Box 67
Valentine, NE 69201
402-376-2088

18071-23, 30, 7 ZNEZ

Cherry County Board of Corrections meeting minutes

The Cherry County Board of Commissioners met as a Board of Corrections on September 30, 2020 in the Sheriff's Conference Room of the Cherry County Courthouse, as per notice published every Wednesday in the Valentine Midland News, with the agenda being on file in the office of the County Clerk. The meeting was called to order at 2:45 p.m. by Chairman Storer. Roll call was taken. Present for the meeting were Cherry County Commissioners Tanya Storer, Martin DeNaeyer, James Ward, and Cherry County Clerk Brittny Petersen. The location of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was acknowledged by Chairman

Storer.

The Board of Corrections meeting minutes from September 8, 2020 were read and approved during regular session.

Cherry County Justice Center Administrator Sharon Hesse discussed a food service billing issue involving Summit Foods. Said company has provided an offer to Cherry County to resolve the issue. It was a consensus of the Board to authorize Administrator Hesse to resolve the Summit Foods billing issue.

Time requirements and the threshold for an extra dispatcher were discussed for providing dispatching services to other counties.

The Board requested that Administrator Hesse perform a cost analysis in the scenario involving Cherry County providing dispatching services for Sheridan County. The State Patrol currently provides these services to Sheridan County. No board action was taken.

Cherry County Justice Center employee pay scale changes/increases were discussed and the current pay scale and employee pay rates were reviewed by the Board.

Ward moved and DeNaeyer seconded to adopt an amended Cherry County Justice Center Pay Scale changing the starting wage to \$13.00 per hour and adding a call-in incentive of \$3.00 per hour extra for

shifts covered with 24 hours or less notice that must be approved by the Justice Center Administrator. Roll call vote: Ayes – DeNaeyer, Ward, Storer. The motion carried.

The availability of mental health services to Cherry County employees was discussed.

At 4:25 p.m., with no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Storer declared the meeting adjourned.

These minutes are not the official record and may be corrected. A copy of the approved official minutes is available to the public in the Cherry County Clerk's Office. 18091-7 ZNEZ

Cherry County General Election 2020 Sample Ballots

NOT ALL RACES LISTED ON THESE SAMPLE BALLOTS WILL BE VOTED ON IN ALL PRECINCTS.

THESE BALLOTS REPRESENT ALL OF THE POSSIBLE CONTESTS FOR BALLOTS IN CHERRY COUNTY, NEBRASKA IN THE 2020

GENERAL ELECTION.

Races on an individual's ballot vary by district

To View your Election Districts and the status of your ballot please visit: ne.gov/go/votercheck

BALLOTS WILL BE MAILED TO ALL REGISTERED CHERRY

COUNTY VOTERS ON:

OCTOBER 13, 2020
REMINDER TO CHERRY COUNTY VOTERS:

The Cherry County Fairgrounds is no longer a polling place. All ballots will be delivered by non-forwardable mail to every regis-

trant in Cherry County. Return envelopes, with postage included, will be provided. In accordance with §32-908, on Election Day, the Cherry County Clerk's Office will be open at 8:00 a.m. CT and close at 8:00 p.m. CT. If not returning by mail, ballots may be hand delivered

to the Clerk's Office or the Ballot Dropbox outside of the Courthouse until 8:00 p.m. CT on November 3, the statutory close of the polls. Ballots will only be counted if they are received in the Clerk's Office by 8:00 PM CT on November 3, regardless of postmark date.

TO CHECK YOUR VOTER REGISTRATION ADDRESS PLEASE CALL THE CLERK'S OFFICE AT 402-376-2771

ADDITIONAL ELECTION INFORMATION MAY BE FOUND AT: <https://co.cherry.ne.us/webpages/election/election.html>

NONPARTISAN TICKET	SCHOOL TICKET	SCHOOL TICKET
Custer Public Power District For Board of Directors - At Large Six Year Term Vote for up to TWO Wayne V. Licking Bradley Bartak	Cody-Kilgore Unified Schools For Board of Education Member Vote for up to THREE Bree Hill Adam Naslund Shannon Ravenscroft Kevin L. Heath Ben Risse Landon Miller	Theford Public Schools For Board of Education Member Vote for up to THREE Bridget Licking Matt D. Blackford James J. Jones
KBR Rural Public Power District For Board of Directors - Cherry Subdivision Six Year Term Vote for ONE James R. Lee	Gordon-Rushville Public Schools For Board of Education Member Vote for up to THREE Zack Kearns Krista Wegner Candie Johnson Ross Janssen Nick Rosane Seth Tausan	Valentine Community Schools For Board of Education Member Vote for up to THREE Shane W. Kime Clinton L. Assarsson Jo Hand
Educational Service Unit No. 13 District 04 Vote for ONE Kimberly Marx		
Educational Service Unit No. 16 District 04 Vote for ONE Robert L. Jones		
Educational Service Unit No. 16 District 08 Vote for ONE Sooky Marks	Hyannis Area Schools For Board of Education Member Vote for up to THREE Chris Gentry Rod Boots Kevin Anderson	
Educational Service Unit No. 16 District 12 Vote for ONE Claudia Melvin		
Educational Service Unit No. 17 District 06 Vote for ONE Jan Knispel	Mullen Public Schools For Board of Education Member Vote for up to THREE Michael J. French Travis W. Hampton Dane Peterson	
Educational Service Unit No. 17 District 08 Vote for ONE Jody Dexter		
VILLAGE TICKET		PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION
For Village of Crookston Board Member Vote for up to THREE Steven V. Kennedy Tiffany Hill Cyndi Weaver Linda Quick Richard Quick	PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS Proposed Amendment No. 1 A vote FOR this constitutional amendment would eliminate a provision in the Nebraska Constitution that states that slavery or involuntary servitude may be used as a punishment for conviction of a crime. A vote AGAINST this constitutional amendment would leave the language regarding slavery or involuntary servitude unchanged in the Nebraska Constitution. A constitutional amendment to eliminate slavery or involuntary servitude as a punishment for crime.	Initiative Measure 428 A vote "FOR" will amend Nebraska statutes to: (1) reduce the amount that delayed deposit services licensees, also known as payday lenders, can charge to a maximum annual percentage rate of thirty-six percent; (2) prohibit payday lenders from evading this rate cap; and (3) deem void and uncollectable any delayed deposit transaction made in violation of this rate cap. A vote "AGAINST" will not cause the Nebraska statutes to be amended in such manner. Shall Nebraska statutes be amended to: (1) reduce the amount that delayed deposit services licensees, also known as payday lenders, can charge to a maximum annual percentage rate of thirty-six percent; (2) prohibit payday lenders from evading this rate cap; and (3) deem void and uncollectable any delayed deposit transaction made in violation of this rate cap?
For Village of Kilgore Board Member Vote for up to THREE Todd W. Rothleutner Deb Hand	For Against Proposed Amendment No. 2 A vote FOR this constitutional amendment would amend the Nebraska Constitution to authorize the Legislature to extend the maximum length of time for the repayment of indebtedness related to tax-increment financing from 15 years to 20 years if more than one-half of the property in the project area is designated as extremely blighted. A vote AGAINST this constitutional amendment would leave the maximum length of time for repayment of indebtedness unchanged at 15 years. A constitutional amendment to authorize the Legislature to allow cities and villages to pledge property taxes as part of a redevelopment project for a period not to exceed twenty years if, due to a high rate of unemployment combined with a high poverty rate as determined by law, more than one-half of the property in the project area is extremely blighted.	Initiative Measure 429 A vote "FOR" will amend the Nebraska Constitution to state that laws may be enacted to provide for the authorization, regulation, and taxation of all forms of games of chance to be conducted by licensees within licensed racetrack enclosures in Nebraska. A vote "AGAINST" will not cause the Nebraska Constitution to be amended in such manner. Shall the Nebraska Constitution be amended to state that laws may be enacted to provide for the authorization, regulation, and taxation of all forms of games of chance to be conducted by licensees within licensed racetrack enclosures in Nebraska?
For Village of Merriman Board Member Vote for up to THREE Randy Hutchison William J. Creegan Jeremiah Hanson Gailund G. Valentine	For Against PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION Initiative Measure 431 A vote "FOR" will enact a statute which: (1) imposes a 20% annual tax on gross gaming revenue from games of chance operated at licensed racetrack locations; (2) distributes 75% of such gaming tax revenues to the State for credit of 2.5% to both the Compulsive Gamblers Assistance Fund and General Fund, and 70% to the Property Tax Credit Cash Fund; and (3) distributes 25% of such gaming tax revenues to the county where the licensed racetrack is located, or, if the racetrack is located partially within a city or village, distributes this percentage evenly between the county and city or village. A vote "AGAINST" will not cause such a statute to be enacted. Shall a statute be enacted which: (1) imposes a 20% annual tax on gross gaming revenue from games of chance operated at licensed racetrack locations; (2) distributes 75% of such gaming tax revenues to the State for credit of 2.5% to both the Compulsive Gamblers Assistance Fund and General Fund, and 70% to the Property Tax Credit Cash Fund; and (3) distributes 25% of such gaming tax revenues to the county where the licensed racetrack is located, or, if the racetrack is located partially within a city or village, distributes this percentage evenly between the county and city or village?	Initiative Measure 430 A vote "FOR" will enact a statute which: (1) allows games of chance to be conducted by authorized gaming operators within licensed racetrack enclosures in Nebraska; (2) establishes a Nebraska Gaming Commission to license and regulate such gaming; and (3) amends and repeals existing sections of law to harmonize provisions consistent with the enactment of such statute. A vote "AGAINST" will not cause such a statute to be enacted. Shall a statute be enacted which: (1) allows games of chance to be conducted by authorized gaming operators within licensed racetrack enclosures in Nebraska; (2) establishes a Nebraska Gaming Commission to license and regulate such gaming; and (3) amends and repeals existing sections of law to harmonize provisions consistent with the enactment of such statute?
For Village of Wood Lake Board Member Vote for up to THREE Grant Moreland Ronald E. Pinney Bryce Porter	For Against	

Official Ballot, General Election, November 3, 2020		
Cherry County, Nebraska	State of Nebraska	Publication Ballot
INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTER The following are instructions on how to vote your ballot. Please follow these instructions precisely, otherwise, your ballot may not be counted. 1. Verify that there are initials of an election official at the bottom of the ballot. 2. Verify that there are no voting marks on the ballot. 3. Use a black pen to mark the ballot. 4. TO VOTE, you must darken the oval (●) completely. Circling or placing other marks outside of the oval will not suffice. 5. To vote for a WRITE-IN candidate, write in the name on the line AND darken the oval completely. 6. Do NOT cross out or erase. If you make a mistake, contact the County Clerk's office at (402 - 376 - 2771) for instructions. 7. Place voted ballot into the manilla return envelope and complete, SIGN and seal envelope. 8. Any person physically unable to sign the envelope must make his/her "mark" and must have an individual witness. Failure to complete and sign the Return Identification Envelope will cause the ballot to be rejected. 9. Do NOT place more than ONE (1) voted ballot into the return identification envelope. 10. Return Ballot by: a. Hand Delivery - deliver the ballot to the office of the County Clerk/Election Commissioner. b. Mail - return ballot by mail with return postage that has been provided. 11. Ballot MUST be in the possession of the County Clerk's office by 8:00 p.m. Central Time/7:00 p.m. Mountain Time on Tuesday, November 3, 2020. PRESIDENTIAL TICKET For President and Vice President of the United States Vote for ONE ○ Donald J. Trump President Michael R. Pence Vice President } Republican ○ Joseph R. Biden President Kamala D. Harris Vice President } Democratic ○ Jo Jorgensen President Jeremy Cohen Vice President } Libertarian President Vice President UNITED STATES SENATORIAL TICKET For United States Senator Six Year Term Vote for ONE ○ Ben Sasse Republican ○ Chris Janicek Democratic ○ Gene Siadek Libertarian State of Nebraska CONGRESSIONAL TICKET For Representative in Congress District 03 - Two Year Term Vote for ONE ○ Adrian Smith Republican ○ Mark Elworth Jr. Democratic ○ Dustin C. Hobbs Libertarian COUNTY TICKET For County Commissioner At Large Vote for ONE ○ Martin K. DeNaeyer Republican NONPARTISAN TICKET For Member of the Legislature District 43 Vote for ONE ○ Tom Brewer ○ Tanya Storer Judge of the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court - Six Year Term Shall Judge Thomas E. Stine be retained in office? ○ Yes ○ No Judge of the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court - Six Year Term Shall Judge Dirk V. Block be retained in office? ○ Yes ○ No Judge of the District Court District 08 - Six Year Term Shall Judge Mark D. Kozisek be retained in office? ○ Yes ○ No Judge of the County Court District 08 - Six Year Term Shall Judge Kale B. Burdick be retained in office? ○ Yes ○ No Mid-Plains Community College For Board of Governors - District 03 Vote for ONE ○ Kirk R. Crawley Mid-Plains Community College For Board of Governors - At Large Vote for ONE ○ Ted A. Klug Jr. Publication Ballot NONPARTISAN TICKET Western Community College For Board of Governors - District 01 Vote for ONE ○ Sandra C. Elliott ○ Kimberly A. Marcy Western Community College For Board of Governors - At Large Vote for ONE ○ Tom Perkins Middle Niobrara Natural Resources District For Board of Directors - Subdistrict 01 Vote for ONE ○ Tim Nollette Middle Niobrara Natural Resources District For Board of Directors - Subdistrict 03 Vote for ONE ○ Leonard Danielski Middle Niobrara Natural Resources District For Board of Directors - Subdistrict 05 Vote for ONE ○ Gregory J. Wilke Upper Loup Natural Resources District For Board of Directors - Subdistrict 01 Vote for ONE ○ Rebecca Connealy Upper Loup Natural Resources District For Board of Directors - Subdistrict 02 Vote for ONE ○ Judy Ridenour Upper Loup Natural Resources District For Board of Directors - Subdistrict 03 Vote for ONE ○ Miles Maseberg		

COUNTY TICKET

**For County Commissioner
At Large
Vote for ONE**

Martin K. DeNaeyer
Republican

NONPARTISAN TICKET

**For Member of the Legislature
District 43
Vote for ONE**

Tom Brewer

Tanya Storer

Judge of the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court - Six Year Term

Shall Judge Thomas E. Stine be retained in office?

Yes

No

Judge of the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court - Six Year Term

Shall Judge Dirk V. Block be retained in office?

Yes

No

**Judge of the District Court
District 08 - Six Year Term**

Shall Judge Mark D. Kozisek be retained in office?

Yes

No

**Judge of the County Court
District 08 - Six Year Term**

Shall Judge Kale B. Burdick be retained in office?

Yes

No

**Mid-Plains Community College
For Board of Governors - District 03
Vote for ONE**

Kirk R. Crawley

**Mid-Plains Community College
For Board of Governors - At Large
Vote for ONE**

Ted A. Klug Jr.

Valentine City Council special meeting minutes

A special meeting of the City Council of the City of Valentine, Nebraska was held September 28, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. in the City Library Meeting Room, the same notice of meeting was given according to law. All of the proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the meeting was open to the public. A public information council agenda packet was available at the public information table. Notice of the Open Meetings Act was provided as required by law.

The Council and those in attendance recited the pledge of allegiance.

Council President Kyle Arganbright opened the meeting

with the following Council members in attendance: Neil Wescott, Dave Otradovsky, Kalli Kieborz. Also in attendance were City Manager Shane Siewert and City Clerk Deanna Schmit recorded the minutes.

5:30 p.m. Pursuant to advertisement in the Midland News and Nebraska State Statutes Sections 13-501 to 13-513, a Public Hearing was opened to receive comments on the City of Valentine proposed 2020-2021 fiscal year budget.

5:31 p.m. Public Hearing closed. Councilmember Otradovsky made a motion, seconded by Kieborz, to affirm adoption of the 2020-2021 fiscal year budget and

adoption of Resolution No. 0910201 setting the property tax request for fiscal year 2020-2021 in the amount of \$433,318.84. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business before the council, Council Chairperson Arganbright declared the meeting adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

A complete version of the minutes may be viewed at the office of the City Clerk, 323 N Main Street, Valentine, Nebraska during normal business hours.

Deanna Schmit
City Clerk
18088-7 ZNEZ

Cherry County Board of Equalization meeting minutes

The Cherry County Board of Commissioners met as a Board of Equalization on September 30, 2020 in the Sheriff's Conference Room of the Cherry County Courthouse, as per notice published September 16, 2020 in the Valentine Midland News, with the agenda being on file in the office of the County Clerk. The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Chairman Storer.

Roll call was taken. Present for the meeting were Cherry County Commissioners Tanya Storer, Martin DeNaeyer, James Ward, Cherry County Assessor Betty Daugherty, and Cherry County Clerk Brittny Petersen. The Open Meetings Act Poster was acknowledged by Chairman Storer.

Assessor Daugherty provided a brief overview regarding the statutes which address changing the taxable status for government subdivisions. She informed the Board that the Wood Lake School has been purchased by a private individual and that the Middle Nio-

brara NRD building was no longer being used by a private business.

Mike Murphy Middle Niobrara NRD General Manager offered information regarding the building that was previously being leased to Heartland Auto. The building is currently being used to store NRD equipment and will be utilized as an educational facility in the future.

Ward moved and Storer seconded to change the taxable status of the former Wood Lake School Parcel ID: 160274303 to taxable retroactive, per statute, to January 1. Roll call vote: Ayes – Ward, Storer, DeNaeyer. The motion carried.

Ward moved and DeNaeyer seconded to change the taxable status of Middle Niobrara NRD Parcel ID: 16024146 to non-taxable retroactive, per statute, to January 1. Roll call vote: Ayes – Storer, DeNaeyer, Ward. The motion carried.

Assessor Daugherty and the Board addressed the public present at the meeting regarding recent

Board of Equalization proceedings and filings of Form 425 – Report of Destroyed Real Property and Form 422 – Property Valuation Protest. Sub-classing soil types due to water issues, granting waste acres, and a County valuation decrease of \$15 million for 2020 taxes were discussed. Assessor Daugherty provided an overview of how property assessment values are based on sales within Cherry County in accordance with statutory requirements.

Mr. Murphy briefly discussed the Cherry County Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations projects that the NRD is spearheading.

At 2:44 p.m., with no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Storer declared the meeting adjourned.

These minutes are not the official record and may be corrected. A copy of the approved official minutes is available to the public in the Cherry County Clerk's Office.
18090-7 ZNEZ

Notice

In the County Court of Cherry County, Nebraska
Estate of Kenneth C. Kime, Deceased
Case No. PR 20-30
Notice is hereby given that on September 22, 2020, in the County Court of Cherry County, Nebraska, The Cherry County Court issued a Registrar's Statement of Informal Probate of Will and Informal Appointment of Co-Personal Representatives, and Dallas Kime, whose address is 6980 SW 29th Circle, Lincoln, NE 68523 and Shane Kime, whose address is 39886 Red Deer Lane, Valentine, NE 69201, were informally appointed by the Court

as Co-Personal Representative of the Estate of Kenneth C. Kime.
Creditors of this Estate must file their claims with this Court on or before November 30, 2020, or be forever barred.
Kay E. Morrison
Cherry County Court Registrar
365 N. Main Street
Valentine, NE 69201
Steven P. Vinton #17817
Bacon, Vinton & Venteicher, L.L.C.
416 10th Street, PO Box 208
Gothenburg, NE 69138
308-537-7161

18080-30, 7, 14 ZNEZ

New Books at the Library

“Never Ask Me”
by Jeff Abbott

“Betty”
by Tiffany McDaniel

“Atomic Love”
by Jennie Fields

“Playing Nice”
by J.P. Delaney

“Little Disasters”
by Sarah Vaughn

“A Hundred Suns”
by Karin Tanabe

“Fast Girls”
by Elise Hooper

“The Lions of Fifth Avenue”
by Fiona Davis

Cherry County Court News

Carlos I. Salazar, Jr., Norfolk. Speeding 6-10, \$25 fine, \$49 costs - Deputy Lopez.
Jake C. Stoner, Kilgore. Speeding 6-10, \$25 fine, \$49 costs - Deputy Lopez.
Lawana A. Landis, Middleburg, PA. Speeding 6-10, \$25 fine, \$49 costs - Deputy Lopez.
Jesse A. Rogers Hamilton, Omaha. Speeding 6-10, \$25 fine, \$49 costs - Deputy Lopez.
Jean M. Myers, Longmont, CO. Speeding 16-20, \$125 fine, \$49 costs - Trooper Schmitt.
Bradley J. McKewon, Omaha. Speeding 6-10, \$25 fine, \$49 costs - Trooper Schmitt.
Shaun J. Guden, Berwick, PA. Speeding 11-15, \$75 fine, \$49 costs - Trooper Hand.
Jose R. Prado-Gomez, Lexington. Speeding 11-15, \$75 fine, \$49 costs - Trooper Cramer.
Robert W. Coufal, David City. Over bag limit-fish/small game, \$200 fine, \$50 costs.
Leigha R. Kills In Water, Ft. Thompson, SD. Possess marijuana over 1 oz., \$500 fine, \$50 costs - Officer Ormesher.
Chancey J. Mulligan, Thedford. DUI-.08 breath-3rd offense, \$1,000 fine, 30 days jail, 12 mo. probation, license revoked 2 years, \$50 costs - Officer Ormesher.
Grant Degeldere, Thief River Falls, MN. Attempt of a class 4 felony, \$1,000 fine, \$50 costs - Officer Ormesher.
Edward W. Harrison, Valentine. DUI-.08 breath-1st offense, \$500 fine, 6 mo. probation, license revoked 60 days, \$50 costs - Officer Ormesher.

Kevin T. Kilmer, Valentine. Attempt of a class 4 felony, \$1,000 fine, \$50 costs - Officer Ormesher.
Wendy K. Murphy, Valentine. Speeding 6-10, \$25 fine, \$49 costs - Trooper Schmitt.
Matthew E. Forgione, Brookhaven, GA. Speeding 11-15, \$75 fine, \$49 costs - Trooper Schmitt.
Federico M. Sanchez, Grand Island. Speeding 16-20, \$125 fine, \$49 costs - Trooper Cramer.
Danny L. Petersen, Jr., Valentine. DMV-HM shipping papers, \$100 fine, \$49 costs - Trooper Hadaway.
Cameo R. Irwin, Corsica, SD. Speeding 6-10, \$25 fine, \$49 costs - Trooper Norrie.
Hannah C. Keen, Hastings. Speeding 11-15, \$75 fine, \$49 costs - Deputy McCormick.
Emanuel Luxon, Rosebud, SD. Criminal mischief, 30 days jail, \$50 costs - Officer Slama.
Jesus F. Garza Torres, Cody. No license on person, \$25 fine, \$49 costs - Officer McCormick.
Taylor W. Monroe, Valentine. DUI-.08 breath-1st offense, \$500 fine, 7 days jail, license revoked 6 mo., \$50 costs - Officer Ormesher.
Shane L. Linabery, Valentine. Trespass-2nd degree/defy order, \$250 fine, 2 days jail; disturbing the peace, 2 days jail, \$50 costs - Officer Ormesher.

Meeting Notices

Sand Hills AA
Sand Hills AA Group meetings Monday, Thursday and Saturday at 7:00 p.m.
Due to Covid-19 an on online/call-in meeting is available during the regularly scheduled meeting. To participate in the meetings contact a member below or send an email to area41district14@gmail.com; Jackie 402-389-0219, Randy 402-376-4539, Kathy 307-640-1982, Faren 402-322-3655, Russ 308-645-7255.

Camels AA
Camels AA Group meeting Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.
Due to Covid-19 an on online/call-in meeting is available during the regularly scheduled meeting. To participate in the meetings contact a member below or send an email to area41district14@gmail.com; Jackie 402-389-0219, Randy 402-376-4539, Kathy 307-640-1982, Faren 402-322-3655, Russ 308-645-7255.

Leo Brinda Unit 90 American Legion Auxiliary
Leo Brinda Unit 90 of the American Auxiliary will hold their monthly meeting, Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. in the basement of the Vets Club.

Meeting Notices

Valentine City Council
Notice is hereby given that the regular meeting of the Council of the City of Valentine, Nebraska will be held on the second Thursday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the Valentine Public Library, 324 North Main Street, Valentine, Nebraska. The meeting will be open to the attendance of the public. An agenda for the meeting, kept continuously current, is available for public inspection in the City Clerk's office at 323 North Main Street, Valentine, Nebraska.

Deanna Schmit, City Clerk
18098-7, 14, 21, 28 ZNEZ

Cherry County Board of Equalization

During the regular meeting of the Cherry County Board of Commissioners, the board will convene as a Board of Equalization on October 13, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. CST in the Sheriff's Conference Room of the Cherry County Courthouse for the purpose of certifying levies and to consider any other property valuation issue that may come fore the Board. The agenda shall be kept continually current and is available for public inspection at the Cherry County Clerk's office during normal business hours.

18095-7 ZNEZ

Valentine Community Schools

Notice is hereby given that the Valentine Community Schools Board of Education will hold a regular meeting on Wednesday, October 14, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. at Valentine High School.
The agenda shall be readily available for public inspection at the superintendent's office during normal business hours.
Signed, Kent Lopez, Secretary
By Lisa Rodgers-Mathis
18084-30, 7 ZNEZ

Cherry Co. Ag Society

The Cherry County Agricultural Society will hold their regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the 4-H Building at the Fairgrounds on Monday, October 12, 2020.

18101-7 ZNEZ

Nenzel Village Board

Notice is hereby given that the regular meeting of the Nenzel Village Board of Trustees will be held on Thursday, October 15, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. MT at the Nenzel Community Building. The meeting will be open to the public. An agenda is kept continuously current and is available for public inspection at the office of the Village Clerk.
Terri Nollette
Village Clerk
18097-7 ZNEZ

Cherry County Board of Commissioners

The Board of Cherry County Commissioners will meet the second and last Tuesday of each month, at 10:00 a.m., in the Sheriff's Conference Room of the Cherry County Courthouse, located at 365 N. Main St., Valentine, for the purpose of conducting any and all county business that will come before the Board A current agenda will be on file in the office of the County Clerk.

18099-7, 14, 21, 28 ZNEZ

Cherry County Board of Corrections

The Cherry County Board of Corrections will meet the last Tuesday of each month at 2:30 p.m. in the Sheriff's Conference Room of the Cherry County Courthouse, located at 365 N. Main St., Valentine. A current agenda will be on file in the office of the County Clerk.

18100-7, 14, 21, 28 ZNEZ

KBR Rural Public Power

Power
Notice is hereby given that a meeting of KBR Rural Public Power District Operation Roundup will be held on Thursday, October 8, 2020, at 4:00 p.m., at the KBR RPPD office in Ainsworth. An agenda of the items to be discussed at the meeting is available at the District Office and is kept continually current.

Robert Beatty
General Manager
KBR Rural Public Power
18094-7 ZNEZ

MNNRD

The Middle Niobrara Natural Resources District will hold their regular Board of Directors Meeting on Friday, October 9, 2020, at 3:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Middle Niobrara NRD office, 303 E Hwy 20, Valentine, NE. If you have any questions, please call the office at 402-376-3241. Individuals with disabilities may request auxiliary aids and service necessary for participation, by contacting the Middle Niobrara NRD at the address or phone number listed above. Agenda kept current at MNNRD office.

18096-7 ZNEZ

Niobrara Council

The Niobrara Council will hold a public meeting Thursday, October 22, 2020, at the Peppermill, 502 E. Hwy. 20, Valentine, NE at 1:30 p.m. The agenda is available for public inspection at the Niobrara Council, 365 N. Main St., Ste. 1, Valentine, NE during normal business hours.

18092-7 ZNEZ

Niobrara Council

The Niobrara Council will hold a public meeting Thursday, September 17, 2020, at the Peppermill, 502 E. Hwy. 20, Valentine, NE at 2:00 p.m. The agenda is available for public inspection at the Niobrara Council, 365 N. Main St., Ste. 1, Valentine, NE during normal business hours.

18102-7 ZNEZ

ESU #17

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of Educational Service Unit #17 will meet for a regular meeting on October 12 at 10:00 a.m. at the Administration building in Ainsworth. The Agenda will be posted at the Administration building, at area schools, and on the ESU #17 website.

18093-7 ZNEZ

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Valentine, NE (402) 376-2833

Many, many thanks for the commitment of all the valuable resources that helped fight our large grass fire south of Eli on the afternoon of Monday, September 28th, 2020. There were around 15 fire departments with between 40-50 rigs that responded, plus the Cherry Co. Road Dept., all the neighbors who came from near & far, and several, generous behind the scene drink & sandwich donors and delivery drivers. So many who showed up, reached out, offered help, and prayed shows why there is no better part of the country to make a living than these Sandhills. We are forever indebted to all these individuals who unselfishly came and cared so please take to heart our GRATITUDE and THANKS! Be cautious out there and support your local volunteer fire departments.

SINCERELY,
REX & EVELYN
ADAMSON,
BRAD & KIM
ADAMSON,
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Thank You

Help Wanted

RehabVisions is looking for a full time (40 hours/week) Administrative Assistant for a hospital therapy department in Valentine, NE.

In this role, you must keep patient satisfaction at the forefront of all activities. Must possess exemplary organizational skills, strong computer skills, exceptional communication skills, and the ability to multitask while managing a demanding workload with accuracy.

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- Managing flow of patient care from intake to discharges
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Required skills and abilities:

- Care and compassion for patients
- Customer service oriented
- Critical thinking skills essential
- Working knowledge of therapy related medical terminology
- Exceptional communication and interpersonal skills
- Team-oriented
- Well-organized with attention to detail
- Excellent computer skills
- Proficient with Microsoft Office, experience with Excel
- Experience with EMR
- Multitasking skills

Must be a self-starter with excellent time management skills, ability to initiate tasks and follow through to completion, proactively identify and solve problems, and prioritize multiple responsibilities to meet deadlines with minimal supervision.

Strong knowledge of HIPAA guidelines and medical terminology preferred.

One year of office administrative experience preferred.

Job Type: Full-time

Benefits:

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Experience: Administrative Assistant: 1 year (Preferred)

Benefit Conditions: Only full-time employees eligible

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HOMECOMING WEEK



Girls Golf Districts were held October 5

Back row: Coach Muirhead, Mekalyn Bancroft, Becca McGinley, Shauna Radant, Nicole Williams, Kaetryn Bancroft, and Coach Wrage. Front row, L to R: Kaylee Hanson, McKenna Elliott, Kaylee Wenig, Courtney Morgan, Jaycie Cox, Renee Fisbeck, and Maddy Pilakowski.



Volleyball at Gordon-Rushville-October 8

Back row: Coach Albertus, Coach Sherbeyn, Coach Buckendahl. 3rd Row: Hailey Witte, Ashlee Bacon, Taylor Battershaw, Taycee Reimers, Lainey Egelhoff, Malika Monroe, Kailee Kellum, Zoe O'Keefe, Caitlynn Mack. 2nd Row: Ariana Blume, Sadie Osnes, Emma Richards, Lindsey Boes, Tessa Krolikowski, Grace Kelber, Ava Reagle, Haylee Richards, Finley Mosner, Jenna Purdum. Front Row: Kinsey Buechle, Haley Hesse, Xandra Conroy, Sami Phillips, Izzy Salters, Hanna Fischer, Jessa Klabenes



Cross Country at Gothenburg-October 8

Back row: Grant Springer, Austyn Kieborz, Jack Lancaster, Tyson Welch, Coach Gass. Middle: Riece Rivera, Alivia Patterson, Grace Maunu, MaKenzie Long, Kadon Wenig, Lex Larsen. Front: Alexis Long, Sadie Johnson, Mataya Morrison

GOOD LUCK



Football vs. Bridgeport-October 9

Back row: Coach Beebout, Seth Vavra, Grant Boes, Logan Mayhew, Traven Fletcher, Blaine Sage, Broden Westover, Kolton Murray, Brayden Grubham, Benjamin Butcher, Steven Fullerton, Jonah Perrett, Coach Shelbourn. Middle row: Coach Bish, Dane Pilakowski, Bryan Keller, Ashton Lurz, Kenny Shelbourn, Mitch Kluender, Conner Fowler, Logan Harp, Payton Witte, Lee Major, Cole Simon, Logan Witte, Coach Little. Front row: Nick Ohlmann, Connor Kreutner, Coby Higgins, Brysen Limbach, Nick Sherbeyn, Gavin Sandoz, Nathan Perrett, Hank Lancaster, Dylan Haase, Logan Muirhead, Tyler Whiting. Not pictured: Chris Williams

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NFPA announces “Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen” as theme for Fire Prevention Week 2020

The National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA), the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week™, October 4-10, 2020. This year's focus on cooking

fire safety is supported by findings from NFPA's newly released U.S. Home Cooking Fires report, which shows that cooking is the leading cause of U.S. home fires and home fire injuries; nearly half (49 percent) of all U.S. home fires are caused by cooking activities.

“Cooking continues to be a major contributor to the home fire problem,” said Lorraine Carli, vice president of NFPA's Outreach and Advocacy division. “This year's Fire Prevention Week campaign works to better educate the public about where potential cooking hazards exist, along with basic but critical ways to prevent them.”

According to the report, approximately 173,000 cooking fires occur in homes each year, resulting in 550 civilian deaths, 4,820 reported civilian fire injuries, and more than \$1 billion in direct property damage. Unattended cooking is the leading cause of U.S. home cooking fires and associated fatalities. A survey conducted this year by the American Red Cross underscores the prevalence of this behavior, with nearly 70 percent of respondents saying they've left the kitchen while

cooking on the stove; 55 percent of U.S. adults say they have walked away from their grill while cooking.

Carli notes that focusing on these and other cooking safety issues during Fire Prevention Week is particularly timely because of the pandemic. “As the public continues to remain at home in response to COVID-19, cooking will continue to occur at increased levels, presenting a greater risk for associated fires. Fire Prevention Week serves as an ideal opportunity to share tips and guidelines for safely cooking at home.”

Key messages around this year's campaign, “Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen,” include:

Never leave cooking unattended; keep a close eye on what you're cooking.

Remove anything that can catch fire, such as oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, and dish towels, well away from the stovetop and other cooking equipment.

Be alert while cooking. If you are sleepy, taking medication that makes you drowsy, or under the influence of alcohol or other substances, avoid cooking.



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Fire Prevention Week October 4-10

A big thank you to all the area Volunteer Departments and Firemen for all you do.



SERVE UP
Fire Safety
IN THE KITCHEN!

Did you know cooking is the No. 1 cause of home fires and home fire injuries?
Fire Prevention Week™ is Oct. 4-10.
Learn more at fpw.org.

KIDS-DO YOU LIKE HELPING OUT IN THE KITCHEN and cooking up tasty snacks for your friends and family?

Preparing yummy treats can be lots of fun, but it's important that kids who like to cook know how to be safe in the kitchen. These tips can help you figure out what you're old enough to do on your own—and when it's time to ask an adult for help. **Getting Started:** Before you get cooking, you need to get a grown-up's permission. If

you plan to use a recipe, look it over with a grown-up first to decide what you can do on your own and what you need help with. And once you get started, never be afraid to ask for help. Even the best chefs rely on their assistants to help them out in the kitchen.

Helping Out is Fun: From mixing up cake batter to cutting shapes out of cookie dough, helping out a grownup in the kitchen can be lots of fun. So if you're not old enough yet to cook on your own, not to worry; being the chef's helper is the most important job in the kitchen.

Cooking for All Ages: All kids are different—and a grown-up should always decide what is safe for you to do in the kitchen—but here are some guidelines that you can use.

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- ### How to make a Home fire Escape Plan
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 - Visit each room. Find two ways out.
 - All windows and doors should open easily. You should be able to use them to get outside.
 - Make sure your home has smoke alarms. Push the test button to make sure each alarm is working.
 - Pick a meeting place outside. It should be in front of your home. Everyone will meet at the meeting place.
 - Make sure your house or building number can be seen from the street.
 - Talk about your plan with everyone in your home.
 - Learn the emergency phone number for your fire department.
 - Practice your home fire drill!

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Lois Lux and families
Rhonda and Tim Sutherland and families
Debb and Mark Gracey and families
Dee and John Hoefs and families
Russ and Gayle Peterson and family

Thank You

Thanks to the Valentine 911 operators and EMTs. Your prompt and professional response was greatly appreciated. We cannot thank you enough.

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ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE EMPLOYMENT SPECIALIST

MISSION, SD

The Division of Economic Assistance is dedicated to family success and committed to excellence. We are seeking qualified candidates who share our vision of Strong Families, South Dakota's Foundation and our Future.

This position assesses and analyzes current life circumstances to develop and enhance employment opportunities for low income families participating in the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program; identifies and addresses barriers to employment; assists in job search and job retention activities; provides counseling and solutions to promote employment; develops curriculum for and presents workshops and public presentations; identifies customer's interests, strengths, skills, abilities, and challenges; determine appropriate training; and sets realistic goals to match customers with appropriate jobs.

- Bachelor's Degree Preferred
- Full-time, Monday-Friday
- Starting Salary Range \$17.48 - \$18.36 per hour
- Comprehensive benefit package: including health insurance, life insurance and paid time off.

For more information and to apply, please visit <http://bhr.sd.gov/workforus> or contact any South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation local office.

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-Dana, Dee Jaye, Laura & Ashleigh

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The request

A Facebook request was the first hint of their deep need. Friend requesting Uncle and Aunt was the wisest move for the niece and nephew; and it was also the scariest. They had heard all their 20 something years that these people were bad and couldn't be trusted. At some point the young adults felt it couldn't be worse than their current situation. Hungry most of the time and longing for normal, the siblings reached out to these "family-strangers".

Aunt and Uncle had no children of their own and welcomed them with open arms. They invited the young adults to their home for meals and sleepovers. Aunt made cakes and cookies to celebrate birthdays and special occasions or even for no occasion! Their home had a room for each sibling and they had beds at last. It was clean and warmly inviting. They learned

that a Savior, Jesus, loved them even more than their new family did. Nephew knew he needed the Savior and he trusted Jesus. Aunt and Uncle provided guidance, daily bible study and prayer and much laughter. Fun together was a new experience!

Niece learned how to wash and style her hair. She was taught how to care for herself and her clothes. Nephew had an instinct and determination for reaching beyond, preparing for his future. He wanted a family one day and he knew it was up to him to find a job and further training. He wanted to complete his high school education and get that diploma!

At some point Niece decided the

POINTS TO PONDER

Pam Keech Bryan

"rules" (taking care of herself and helping around the house) were too much. She resisted. After several cautions, they reached a conclusion that Niece would move back with her folks. That was a hard day for her new family. This year their Grandfather died. At the funeral, an invitation was given to anyone wanting to trust Jesus and enter Kingdom Life. Niece quietly prayed to receive Jesus as her Savior. When asked if she wanted to move back in, the answer was, "YES!" She was now different, having a clearer eye and better understanding of life and responsibilities.

We know this family well. Truly they are yielding to a magnificent

calling. It requires a strong dose of "everyday faith." It's the real time enactment of what Jesus meant about laying down one's life.

Everyday faith is usually demonstrated quietly while no one else may see. Faith that looks intently to a Savior for the "little" things, the mundane is the kind of faith that releases control. It's faith that demonstrates trust in a Father who knows "what" and "how" and for "how long" and yes, even "why" much better than His child does. It's the kind of faith that releases the strands of daily experience to be woven into a life tapestry. Completely unaware, they go about their days exuding their Savior's fragrance.

"Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends," John 15:13.

Free COVID-19 tests at Cherry County Hospital

FREE COVID-19 testing available at Cherry County Hospital during the following dates:

Tuesday, October 6
8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Tuesday, October 13
8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, October 21
1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, October 28
1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Register at www.TestNebraska.com OR sign up upon arrival.

Letter to the Editor

Community owned. Customer focused. Locally controlled.

Dear Editor,

These words describe the benefits offered by an establishment in your community; one whose services you utilize every single day: your local municipal electric utility.

We celebrate these advantages and more during Public Power Week, October 4-10.

Valentine is a public power community. The city owns and operates its own electric utility; an investment that had YOU, the citizens in mind.

Public power utilities do not serve stockholders. They are owned by the community and run as a division of local government.

The utility's priorities are customer focused and based on what's best for the community.

You get a say in those priorities because decisions are made right at home in Valentine. Meetings are open to the public with an opportunity for you to provide comments. You get a voice in who is making those decisions through local elections.

Heartland Consumers Power District is proud to supply electricity to Valentine and to work with the dedicated employees who power through even the toughest times to keep the lights on.

I encourage you to discover all the advantages offered by your local public power utility by visiting <https://www.hcpd.com/about/public-power/>.

Russell Olson, CEO
Heartland Consumers Power District

Sicangu Community Development Corporation is named as finalist for an international prize

MISSION, SD - The Sicangu Community Development Corporation (SCDC) was selected from more than 1,300 applicants as a finalist for the Food System Vision Prize. The Rockefeller Foundation, in partnership with SecondMuse and OpenIDEO, announced last week that SCDC's "7Gen Food System" was one of the 10 awardees for the Food System Vision Prize, and one of only three finalists based in North America.

The Top 10 Finalists, whose visions focus on Canada, China, India, Kenya, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Peru and the U.S., were chosen among 76 semi-finalists. They were selected based on their potential to inspire real, positive, and bold transformation of a specific food system that is actionable, concrete and believed to be attainable by 2050. These visions aim to

tackle challenges tied to six themes: environment, diets, economics, culture, technology and policy.

The vision of the Sicangu Community Development Corporation's 7Gen Food System focuses on rethinking and rebuilding the food systems on the lands of the Sicangu Lakota, more commonly known as the Rosebud Indian Reservation, in South Dakota. Sicangu CDC Director Wzipan Little Elk said, "The vision outlines a regenerative agricultural system that creates economic opportunities for our people while also increasing accessibility of locally produced, healthy foods and re-establishing the Lakota as primary stewards of our lands."

This vision is part of the larger 7Gen Plan that SCDC and its partners are developing and implementing. The 7Gen Plan creates a

roadmap for 175 years of Lakota prosperity that will support lasting systems change and nation-building activities.

Matte Wilson, Sicangu CDC Food Sovereignty Initiative Director discussed next steps. "In September we will join the other finalists for a virtual accelerator phase during which we'll receive support to further refine our vision and find pathways for implementation and impact." The accelerator will focus on stakeholder engagement, storytelling, communications and action planning through virtual programming, one-on-one mentorship and customized support. Each finalist is eligible to become a "Top Visionary" and to receive a prize of \$200,000. Top Visionaries will be announced in December 2020.

More information about the finalists and their visions can be

found at the Food System Vision Prize website: <https://www.food-systemvisionprize.org/>

About the Sicangu Community Development Corporation

Sicangu CDC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization located on the Rosebud Reservation in Mission, South Dakota. As Lakota, we believe we are all related, and it is our duty to create a better world for future generations. At Sicangu CDC, we do this by empowering people, strengthening families, and building community - Lakota style. The Sicangu CDC is focused on revolutionizing the food, housing, education, and healthcare systems of the Sicangu. For more information please visit our website www.sicangucdc.org or Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/sicangucdc>.

Correction

In last week's edition of the Valentine Midland News, the story of Leo Chubb, Hometown Hero, a reader shared the following correction: I am writing in reference to the article on Leo Chubb in the September 23 issue of the News. You did a fine job on the article and I thoroughly enjoyed reading it. Leo is a most deserving Hometown Hero.

I did notice an error in the write-up which you may want to correct (or not). One of the Valentine drivers for Ross Transfer was printed as "John Kolesky." It actually was Andy Koralewski.

Thanks for your attention, Bill Barnes, VHS class of 1961 and former long-time next door neighbor to the Andy Koralewski family.

My apologies, and thank you for sharing the correct information!

~Editor

Continued from Page 2

►Note from Washington, D.C.

mental health issues and thoughts of suicide. The stress of gambling debts can provoke gambling addicts to steal from loved ones or to engage in domestic violence. The engrossing, addictive aspect of gambling can also lead problem gamblers to neglect their duties to care for their children or elderly dependents. Right now, Nebraska ranks as the fourth-least gambling-addicted state in America. If Indian casino gambling is ever introduced to our state, that could quickly change.

Nebraskans interested in learning more about the costs of gambling can read the most recent report from the Nebraska Gamblers Addiction Program by going to: <https://problemgambling.nebraska.gov/sites/problemgambling.nebraska.gov/files/> It documents the financial distress, suicidal tendencies, and self-professed shame encountered by Nebraskans with gambling disorders. Gambling has a downside, and it's not pretty. We need to honestly confront the facts about what legalizing casinos would do to the Good Life.

If you want to know more about why I am so strongly opposed to gambling, I invite you to email pete.ricketts@nebraska.gov or call 402-471-2244. It's an old adage to "count the costs" before you begin to build. When it comes to casinos, the costs far outweigh the benefits—both financially and in terms of the well-being of Nebraskan families.

Valentine Police Department Week in review September 20-26, 2020

On 09/21/20 at 7:04 p.m, an officer conducted a traffic stop near the 200 block of North Edna Street. Following an investigation, a 43 year old Valentine man was arrested on drug charges.

On 09/23/20 at 11:11 p.m., an officer was called to Little's Trailer Court for a disturbance. A 37 year old Valentine man was arrested for assault. Officers responded to 85 calls for service this week.

Dana Miller, Chief
Valentine Police Department
402-376-3055
dmiller@cityofvalentine.com

Valentine Police Report			
09-20-20 to 09-26-20			
CALLS			
Accident Non-Injury	1	Hit and run accident called in. Runner has not been found. Your help is needed in identifying the culprit.	
Accident-Injury	1	Accident with injuries called in. Thanks EMS for the help!	
Animal Complaint	3	Bandit the dog went to coffee. Had to call his human to come get him.	
Assist Citizen	9	Fielded questions about "mopeds and mini-bikes." In the words of Aziz Ansari.... "grape; grapefruit."	
Assist Other Law	3	Officers assisted the Cherry County EMS, Valentine Middle School, Ord Police Department, Nebraska Probation, Cherry County Sheriff's Office, and Nebraska CPS this week.	
Assist Other Agency	5		
Business Check	26		
Cherry County Court	1		
Civil Matter/Standby	1	Verbal dispute reported. Yes, there was yelling going on. Calmer heads prevailed.	
Complaint	2	In case anyone out there has questions about the new cigarette law; 21 is the legal age to both smoke and purchase.	
Criminal Trespass	1		
Disturbance	3	Complaint of loud radio called in. It was loud.	
Domestic Disturbance	1	Report of an assault and child abuse leads to an arrest.	
EPC	2		
Follow Up Investigation	8		
Run Away	1	Subject's phone kept calling the Department all by itself. Runaway reported. Subject later returned home and is safe.	
Special Assignment	1		
Suspicious Person/Vehicle	3	Subject called to let us know they don't have a driver's license. Thanks for the heads up. We were not concerned...But now, we are.	
Theft	1	Help needed identifying suspects who stole a wallet and keys.	
Training	1		
Traffic Stop	3	Traffic stop leads to arrest for drugs.	
Traffic Other	1	Complaint of vehicle driving erratically. They drove just fine when we were behind them watching.	
Welfare Check	4		
Total Calls		87	

Gov. Ricketts highlights election security

LINCOLN – Governor Pete Ricketts highlighted the State's preparations for the fall election on November 3 during a press briefing at the State Capitol. He also provided an update on the expansion of Medicaid. Coverage started for the newly expanded Medicaid program on October 1, 2020.

Gov. Ricketts: Election Security

Secretary Evenen, the Elections Division, and Nebraska volunteers did a great job of overseeing a smooth election in May. They're again making preparations to ensure visits to the polls are as safe as possible for Nebraska voters.

Given the pandemic, our elections team is prepared for an unusually large number of absentee ballots to be mailed in. They're carefully reviewing incoming ballots to verify their legitimacy. We also want to remind folks to turn in their own ballot to the election commissioner. Do not give it to a political operative to turn in for you.

Secretary of State Evenen: Election Security

The polls will be open as they were in the primary election. We will keep our voters and poll workers safe. This is a great time for young Nebraskans to step up once again and serve as poll workers. This gives a break to our older poll workers who are in high-risk health categories.

We expect higher than normal participation in early voting. The USPS says that ballots must be in the mail by October 27, to be received by November 3. Only ballots received by the close of polls on election day will be counted.

If you don't feel comfortable putting your ballot in the mail, you can deliver it to secure ballot collection lock boxes outside of your county office in every county in the state. You may also deliver your ballot personally to your county election

official.

Mail-in ballots have their own security issues. We're redoubling our efforts to ensure that ballots are cast by the registered voter and not by someone else.

DHHS CEO Smith

Heritage Health Adult expands the Medicaid program to Nebraskans whose income is at or below 138 percent of the federal poverty level.

- For a single person: \$17,609
- For a family of four: \$36,156

Heritage Health Adult expands coverage to lower income adults, age 19-64, who previously may not have been eligible for Medicaid unless they had other personal or family situations that qualified them. With expansion, eligible Nebraskans will receive Basic benefits through a managed care program that will coordinate physical health, behavioral health, and pharmacy benefits.

The newly eligible groups—those whose ages are 19-20, pregnant women, and those determined to be medically frail—will also be able to receive Prime benefits, which are dental and vision services and over-the-counter medications.

To learn more about Medicaid expansion or to enroll:

- Visit www.ACCESSNebraska.ne.gov or call ACCESS Nebraska toll free at 855-632-7633.

In addition to weekday hours, DHHS now has extended phone hours on Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to noon.

DHHS Interim Director Brunssen

DHHS continues to provide great customer service. To support Medicaid expansion, around 100 additional staff across the state have been hired and trained, with the majority of them in our eligibility operations unit to receive and process applications. Technology has been updated across the state in preparation for Heritage Health Adult. Our managed care partners have been adding additional providers to their networks to provide care for the newly eligible Medicaid population.

DHHS has received approval on four State Plan Amendments, our "contract" with our federal partners, to expand Medicaid in Nebraska. We've worked to communicate to the public via multiple channels (TV, radio, print media, billboards, and social media). We've also held well over 100 meetings this summer and fall with community partners to spread the word about Medicaid expansion.

Since August 1, 2020, when Heritage Health Adult applications opened, over 10,500 Nebraskans have been determined to be eligible. DHHS teammates across the state stand ready to help out in any way, whether it's answering questions about the program or helping folks apply.



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