

IF THE DATE ON THE SUBSCRIPTION LABEL MATCHES THIS MONTH, PLEASE REMEMBER TO RENEW!



Crofton Journal

Crofton NEBRASKA \$1.00

Crofton, Nebraska • "Best Little Town By A Dam Site"

Thursday, Feb. 25, 2021

1 Section • 10 Pages • \$1.00

Volume 114, Number 8



Jared Janssen (at left on #3) won a third-place medal at the state tournament.



Robbie Fischer (at left, on #5) won a fifth-place medal at the state tournament.

Warriors selected for All-State band

By: Quinn Schieffer
CCS Journalism

Several Crofton Junior High and High School band members have been selected for Class C All-State Band. Class C takes place at Kearney High School on March 20.

There are four different ensembles that are conducted at Class C: Junior High Band, Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, and Percussion Ensemble. The students will join together in their respective ensembles and practice pieces throughout the day. "Class C is so fun because I get to spend a weekend with the band," said junior Jada Schmidt. The final concert will be performed at 5:00 p.m. Each student is allowed two attendees.

In the junior high band, the selections are as follows: Cameryn Fiscus 3rd chair clarinet, Jack Schieffer 1st chair saxophone, Rylie Arens 3rd chair trumpet, Grant Schieffer 5th chair trombone, and Sophia Wortmann 1st chair timpani.

For high school, the Wind Ensemble is filled first, then students next in line are placed in Symphonic Band. Students selected for Wind Ensemble are Quinn Schieffer as 5th chair flute and Kelsey Schieffer as 6th chair clarinet.

Jenna Jackson is 1st chair, Hope Steffen is 4th chair, and Ellie Tramp is 6th chair for alto saxophone. Elizabeth Wortmann is 3rd chair for tenor saxophone. Karley Schieffer is 4th chair trumpet, Allie Dahl is 8th chair trombone, Sabrina Kaiser is 5th chair baritone, and Austin Guenther is 4th chair tuba. For battery (percussion), Nate Stevens is 3rd chair, and Jada Schmidt is 4th chair.

Students placed in Symphonic Band include Brooklynn Fiscus as 2nd chair flute, Megan Tramp as 1st chair clarinet, Nolan Babcock as 2nd chair baritone saxophone, and Carter Guenther as 3rd chair tuba. Zac Arens is 1st chair timpani, and Kaylee Mauch is 2nd chair battery.

Schools that attend Class C along with Crofton include Palmyra, Freeman, Stanton, Battle Creek, Sandy Creek, Elkhorn Valley, Ponca, Hartington Cedar Catholic, Norfolk Catholic, Morrill, Wilber-Clatonia, Homer, Conestoga, Laurel-Concord Coleridge, Johnson County, Christ Lutheran, Wisner-Pilger, Hershey, Lutheran High Northeast, Ravenna, Neligh-Oakdale, Perkins County, Centennial, Creighton, Thayer Central, North Bend Central, Summerland at Orchard, and Bridgeport.

Fischer, Janssen bring home medals

The Crofton-Bloomfield varsity wrestling team, affectionately dubbed the "WarBees," traveled to the State Wrestling tournament this past week, and brought home two medals for the team's effort.

Robbie Fischer, at 106 pounds, and Jared Janssen, at 220 pounds both brought home medals - Fischer with a fifth-place overall and Janssen with a third-place. Overall, the team scored 42.5 points to finish in the top 15 as a team at the 14th spot.

Though the team qualified eight wrestlers at the Class C-1 District tournament last week, the teammates faced some tough first round draws, and ended up after the first round with only two Warriors still in the Championship rounds - Fischer and Janssen. Fischer progressed through the first round with a bye from his opponent, and Janssen was able to beat his opponent with a 17-1 technical fall.

"We were incredibly proud of how we wrestled at districts and sending eight of our wrestlers to state. I was also very happy to see how we competed down in Omaha. Six out of eight kids won matches and we had three make it to the heartbreak round and one in the semis," said Coach Caden Alexander.

Hudson Barger and Jared Janssen both recorded their 100th wins in Omaha as juniors.

"Freshman Robbie Fisher medaled fifth, with his two losses being close matches to the state runner-up and the eventual third place medalist. The future looks bright for Robbie," said Alexander.

Junior Jared Janssen lost in the semis to the eventual state runner-up, and wrestled back for third place. "Jared was the only Junior on the medal stand with the other five being seniors, so look for him to be a couple steps higher next year," said Alexander.

The team returns six state qualifiers and sits in fourth in class C for returning state points. "We're also bringing in several quality freshman next year that will push us even further as a team," said Alexander.

Individual results at the State Tournament included:

C106: Robbie Fisher (41-6) placed 5th and scored 15.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Robbie Fisher (Crofton-Bloomfield) 41-6 won by forfeit over Garrett Wedemeyer (Ravenna) 30-21 (For.); Quarterfinal - Trenton Arlt (Oakland-Craig) 46-3 won by decision over Robbie Fisher (Crofton-Bloomfield) 41-6

(Dec 5-3); Cons. Round 2 - Robbie Fisher (Crofton-Bloomfield) 41-6 won by fall over Ace Hobbs (Mitchell) 23-15 (Fall 0:41); Cons. Round 3 - Robbie Fisher (Crofton-Bloomfield) 41-6 won by fall over Trevin Edwards (Loomis/Bertrand) 38-3 (Fall 4:49); Cons. Semi - John Alden (O'Neill) 40-4 won by deci-

sion over Robbie Fisher (Crofton-Bloomfield) 41-6 (Dec 6-5); 5th Place Match - Robbie Fisher (Crofton-Bloomfield) 41-6 won by decision over Travis Meyer (Fillmore Central) 40-9 (Dec 7-2)

C113: Hudson Barger (34-14) place is unknown and scored 3.0

team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Cole Kunz (Central City) 46-2 won by fall over Hudson Barger (Crofton-Bloomfield) 34-14 (Fall 1:07); Cons. Round 1 - Hudson Barger (Crofton-Bloomfield) 34-14 won by fall over Colton

SEE WRESTLING on Page 12



William Poppe at 138.



Leaning back, Tyson Sauser at 145.



In down position, Garret Buschkamp.



Calvin Dather at 182.



On right - Paxton Bartels at 285.



On right - Jared Janssen at 220.

Lady Warriors in for District finals game

The Crofton Lady Warrior girls basketball team will have a chance to make it to the State Tournament again this year with their entry into the district finals to be held this Friday, Feb. 26 in Columbus.

The Lady Warriors won their two sub-district games, pushing them to the finals this weekend against the number 16 seed, Freeman for a 7 p.m. tipoff at Columbus High School.

The Lady Warriors won their first game against Laurel-Concord-Coleridge, 71-41, on Feb. 16, and also beat North Central on Feb. 18 by a score of 56-24.

The team was the number one seed in the C2-5 Subdistrict games.

With a win over Freeman, the Lady Warriors will make a return trip to Lincoln for a game likely on Wednesday, March 3. Brackets will be released this Saturday, Feb. 27.

Vaccinations reach 200,000 registrations

The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) COVID-19 Vaccination portal reached and exceeded the milestone of 200,000 Nebraskans registered for the COVID-19 vaccine as of Thursday evening.

"This is a significant moment in Nebraska's effort to mitigate COVID-19 and ensure access to the vaccine," said DHHS Chief Information Officer Lori Snyder. "It means the systems we have put in place are reaching Nebraskans and making the process of getting the vaccine as easy and equitable as possible for residents."

Launched the last week of January, Vaccinate.NE.Gov is the State's official COVID-19 vaccine registration portal. Those who have registered for vaccination with their local health department do not need to register a second time using the state site as information will be transferred between local

health departments and DHHS. Nebraska is updating its Vaccine Phasing guidance to provide further information and expectations as to when the general population will be eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. Health departments are currently in Phase 1B, vaccinating those over 65 years old or working in critical infrastructure. Comorbidity categories are not included in Phase 1B. As Phase 1B continues, Nebraska is finalizing plans to vaccinate the general population.

To follow Nebraska's COVID-19 vaccination progress, please visit the COVID-19 Vaccination dashboard.

This week, the State announced its official COVID-19 vaccination campaign: Finish Strong Nebraska! For more information and to register on our vaccine portal, you can visit FinishStrong.Ne.Gov

INSIDE THIS WEEK

Thursday, Feb. 25, 2021
12 pages
Volume 114, Issue 8

To Subscribe
402-388-4355

Obituaries Inside

Linda Strom, 69
Nancy Werhun, 74

Page 4



Fever, persistent dry cough, difficulty breathing

CONFIRMED KNOX CO. POSITIVES:

1,010

(As of February 22, 2021)

WHO TO CALL FOR HELP:
Avera Clinic,
Crofton
402-388-2343

SAFE PRACTICES

- Wash hands regularly and thoroughly
- Keep a safe social distance or quarantine
- Cover your cough or sneeze

Congress shall make no law ... abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press... - The First Amendment

Legislative Update

By: Senator Tim Gragert
Nebraska District 40

The Legislature passed the one-third mark this week in the 90-day legislative session. The Appropriations Committee also presented their preliminary recommendations for the biennial budget. This provides a starting point for discussion of the various budget actions suggested so far. After the Appropriations Committee finishes its committee work, it will develop formal recommendations to be presented to the Legislature by mid to late March, at which time floor debate will take place.

Although we are in the middle of a pandemic, the state's financial status is surprising good, having improved significantly since last year. Current projections reflect a balance of \$49 million above the minimum reserve at the end of the 2022-23 fiscal year, a noticeable improvement from the previous projection of a \$170 million shortfall. The committee's proposal includes \$130 million per year for funding legislation advanced to the floor. At this point, it does not contain funding for the Governor's major initiatives, which will compete for this funding.

The Government, Military, and Veterans Affairs Committee received testimony this past week on two controversial issues introduced by Senator Julie Slama. LB 76 would reinstate the winner-take-all system for electing presidential candidates, awarding all electoral votes to the candidate who received the highest number of votes in the state. LR 3 is a proposed constitutional amendment, giving voters a say on whether to require a photo ID prior to voting.

Only two states, Maine and Nebraska, allow their electoral votes to be split. Since 1991, Nebraska has awarded three of its five electoral votes to the winner of the popular vote in each of its three congressional districts. The other two electoral votes go to the statewide winner. This method has resulted in the awarding of one electoral vote to President Barack Obama in 2008 and one to President Joe Biden in 2020. Since 1991, there have been more than a dozen attempts to change our system back to winner-take-all, but all have been unsuccessful. Proponents of LB 76 say now is the time to return to the system used in 48 other states. Opponents argued that our current system attracts more attention to Nebraska in the presidential race and to change it would signal to voters their votes don't matter as much.

LR 3 CA states that voter identification is necessary in order to combat voter fraud, preserve the relative power of each eligible citizen's right to vote, modernize election infrastructure, and ensure the integrity of the election process. Thirty-five other states require voter identification. Opponents argued it will make it more difficult for some to vote, and it isn't necessary, as there is little evidence of voter fraud in Nebraska.

Last year the Legislature passed LB 1107, creating a property tax credit that Nebraskans can claim when filing their state income taxes. The credit is based on the amount of property taxes paid to schools. The credit will provide up to \$125 million in property tax relief for the 2020 tax year, increasing to \$375 million annually when fully phased in. This is in addition to the \$275 million that is appropriated annually to the Property Tax Credit program, reflected on property tax statements.

In order to determine the amount eligible for the refundable income tax credit, the Nebraska Department of Revenue

has created a tool for taxpayers to look up the amount of school district property taxes paid. The look-up tool can be found at revenue.nebraska.gov. If a taxpayer claims a different amount of credit than what they are entitled to, their refund may be delayed. Therefore, taxpayers are encouraged to use this tool.

If you are opposed to or in support of legislation or if you have any questions, please contact me with your thoughts and opinions. I can be reached at District #40, P.O. Box 94604, State Capitol, Lincoln, NE 68509. My email address is tgragert@leg.ne.gov and my telephone number at the Capitol is (402) 471-2801.

From the Mayor's Desk

February 23, 2021

In my previous article, I explained the history and the need for the update of our wastewater treatment plant, commonly called the sewer.

Each council member had all of the history and information concerning this project. Apparently there were still too many questions about the process of this project. A spokesman confirmed that three of the members would not vote.

At this writing, I still have had no one approach me to ask questions, except one, perhaps the spokesman for all, whose questions were who had said that we have to do anything with the sewer, and did I tell Miller and Associates that JEO had stepped aside.

So let me answer the first. The DEQ is the Department of Environmental Quality. It has now changed its name a bit and the letters are DEE. This agency is involved both on the state and federal level in any project which can influence the environment. The city of Crofton was given a court order to come into compliance with some of the dictates of that agency.

Just for the sake of clarity, every council member, mayor, administrator, lawyer, and sewer maintenance worker since 2016 when that order was given is aware, or should be aware, of that order.

Now the public must be made fully aware. The DEE and the state jurisdiction that ordered the compliance has given us a deadline. That deadline was extended once under Kirkham-Michael. It is now July 2022. How can we meet a deadline of compliance that near if we cannot decide on an engineer to help do it?

I will answer that second question as well.

If there is a suspicion that I lie, then let me say that is unlikely. Even on my best day it is difficult for me to not blurt out everything I know. But more seriously, that is not part of my nature.

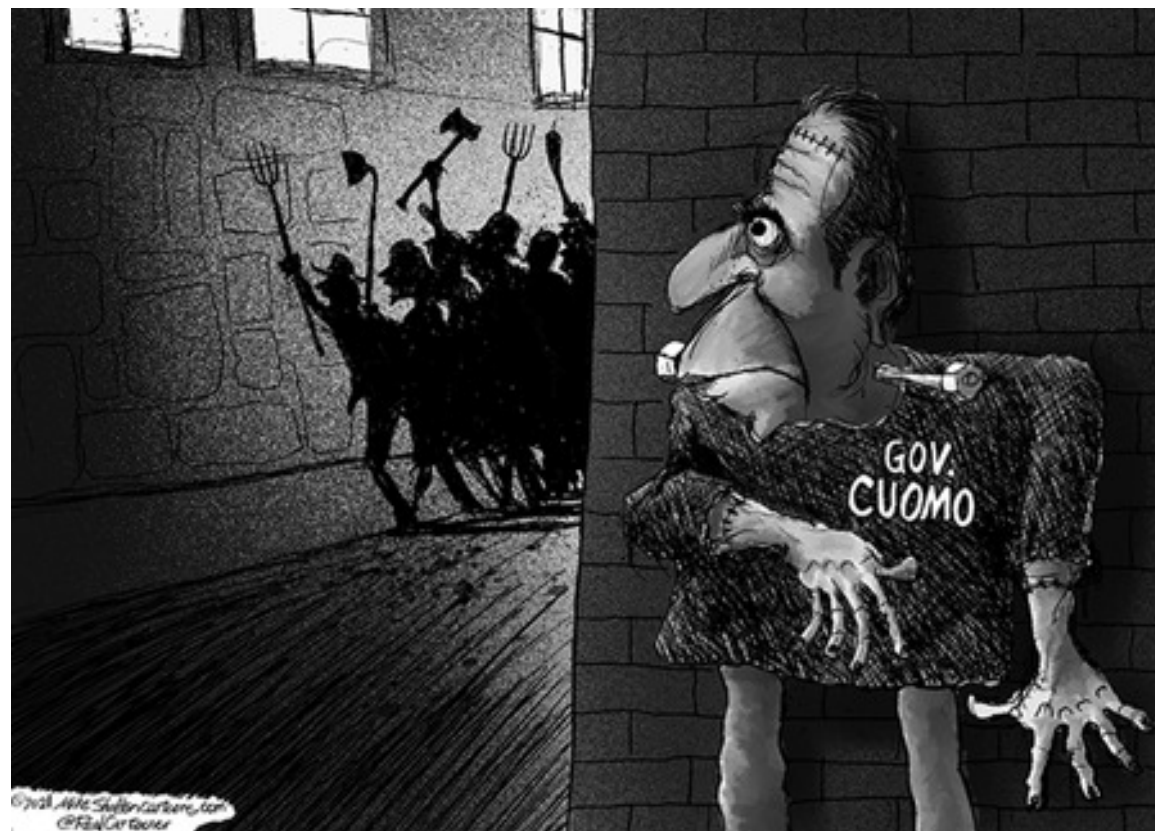
If the question was a hint that we have to "negotiate," then we are way past that. A formal letter came to the mayor and the council from JEO stating that they are not interested in pursuing anything other than possibly finishing what K-M started. And that in the interest of time, meaning ours, knowing we are up against a deadline, that they would step out of the deal. I think probably I talked with Miller immediately, hoping to move the project forward as soon as possible.

I had hopes of voting the acceptance of the Miller proposal, but no one contacted me with questions or comments until the flat refusal to vote at the meeting. That meeting was February 16.

The only questions I have had asked since then, are about who said we had to build, and did I tell Miller that JEO had stepped out. So again.

The sewer work is state mandated by court order, punishable by up to \$10,000 a day fines till finished. Yes, I am trying to get an engineer on the job who is interested in giving us the choice of the best option for our city.

I have talked with both engineers since that meeting. JEO has emphasized again that they are not interested in a lagoon project, partly because, like Kirkham-Michael, there are not a lot of engineers that are proficient in this field.



Geo-Caching Coordinates

N 42° 48.077 W 097° 32.669

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 June honoree
- 4 Say it's so
- 8 Pretzel topper
- 12 Past
- 13 Travel permit
- 14 Done with
- 15 Brock of baseball
- 16 Alaskan city
- 18 Heron's kin
- 20 Army address
- 21 Dalai —
- 24 Slow, in music
- 28 Right to vote
- 32 Cash advance
- 33 201, in old Rome
- 34 Heat to near boiling
- 36 GOP org.
- 37 Priestly vestments
- 39 Cheap ride section
- 41 "Yum!"
- 43 Novelist
- 44 Steal from
- 46 Cowboy's workplace
- 50 Spur on
- 55 Tic-tac-toe win
- 56 Nerd's kin
- 57 Hostels
- 58 Hooting bird
- 59 Big wind

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- 35 Most loved
- 38 Painter's motion
- 40 Genetic letters
- 42 Thee
- 45 Telly watcher
- 47 Cranny
- 48 Batman's hood
- 49 Actress Celeste
- 50 Early bird?
- 51 PBS funder
- 52 Cartoon frame
- 53 Yucatan year
- 54 Wildebeest

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19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45
46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54
55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

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S	A	L	T	S	A	L	T	S	A	L	T	S	A	L	T	S	

Solution time: 24 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

Please order 48 hours in advance. Thank you!

Verdigre Bakery
Pete and Mary Pavlik
405 Main St., Verdigre, NE
Kolaches, cakes, pies, sweet rolls and other specialties may be ordered by calling
402-668-2233

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NIORRARA EDITOR:
Valorie Zach

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Letters Welcome

The Crofton Journal and Niobrara Tribune welcome letters to the editor for publication. Letters should be signed and generally no more than 300 words long.

A phone number is also required to verify the letter prior to publication. (Phone numbers will not be published.)

Send letters to the addresses or e-mail above.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Crofton

Thursday, February 25

Knox Co. Board of Supervisors Meeting, Knox Co, Courthouse, 9:30 a.m.

Knox Co. Board of Equalization Meeting, Knox Co. Courthouse, 10 a.m.

Basketball: Boys Varsity Sub-districts vs. TBA, Location TBA
Fitness Class, City Auditorium, 7 p.m.

Friday, February 26

Basketball: Girls Varsity District Final vs. Freeman, Columbus High School, 7 p.m.

Saturday, February 27

Battle Creek Speech Invite
FFA 212/330 Conference, Kearney, NE

Sunday, February 28

Knights of Columbus Breakfast, St. Rose Hall, 8-11 a.m.

Monday, March 1

Crofton City Council Meeting, City Auditorium, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 2

Basketball: Boys Varsity District Final vs. TBA, Location TBA (away)

Wednesday, March 3

FFA District CDE's, Northeast Community College, Norfolk
LifeServe Community Blood Drive, Crofton City Auditorium, 12:30-6 p.m.
Appointments can be made at

Thursday, March 4

Basketball: Girls Varsity State vs. TBA, Location TBA
Fitness Class, City Auditorium, 7 p.m.

Friday, March 5

No School- Winter Break
Basketball: Girls Varsity State vs. TBA, Location TBA

Niobrara

Wednesday, Feb. 24: Stations of the Cross, 6 p.m.; Lent Service, Faiths United Parish, 6:45 p.m.;

Thursday, Feb. 25: St. William Catholic Church Parish Council meeting after 5:30 p.m. Mass; Boys' Basketball D1-5 Sub-Districts at Niobrara

Saturday, Feb. 27: Boys' Basketball District Finals; Speech at Elgin/Elgin Pope John

Monday, March 1: NVC Speech at Elgin

Wednesday, March 3: St. Wenceslaus/St. William CFF: First Reconciliation Service will be at 5 p.m. (Stations of the Cross at 5:45) First practice for Living Stations of the Cross (grades 7-12 only)

Thursday, March 4: Teacher Workday; No School

Friday, March 5: No School

Wednesday, March 17: Stations of the Cross at 5:45 p.m. St. Wenceslaus/St. William, practice for "Living Stations of the Cross," all grades, CFF.

Wednesday, March 24: CFF/YD Presentation of "Living Stations of the Cross," at 7 p.m.

All parents/parishioners are welcome.

Sunday, April 25: Panel Discussion on Flood Resiliency for Verdigre, 2 p.m. at ZCBJ Hall, Verdigre

Meetings

Niobrara Firemen, first Monday of the month at 7 p.m.

Niobrara EMTs, third Monday of the month at 7 p.m.

Village Board, first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m.

School Board, second Monday of the month at 7 p.m.

Niobrara Promoters, second Thursday of the month at 7 p.m.

American Legion, fourth Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.

Niobrara Senior Citizens, second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at noon at Lutheran Fellowship Hall

Letter to the Editor

Shortness of Breath? Brain Fog? Fatigue?

Good Samaritan Society Rehabilitation is offering a COVID-19 Recovery Program to address ongoing side effects that linger after infection.

According to the North Central District Health Department website, Knox County Nebraska has had 1,093 positive cases of COVID-19.

Fortunately, more than half of these cases are considered recovered and most people do recover within a few weeks. Recovery for others can be gradual and symptoms can persist for months causing everyday activities of daily living to be more difficult. Aging individuals are at a higher risk of injury from falls post infection. Long term symptoms from COVID-19 are due to the damage the virus causes to vital organs including the heart, lungs, kidneys and brain. Center for Disease Control website reports complications include weakness, fatigue, shortness of breath, cough, joint pain and chest pain. Other symptoms can include difficulty with concentration and memory.

Therapy should be one of the first considerations following COVID-19, Influenza or other long term illnesses. Rehabilitation plays an important role in recovery. Physical therapists, Occupational therapists and Speech language Pathologists can be the best providers in helping individuals get better and improve function following COVID-19.

Bloomfield Good Samaritan Society staffs myself, Lindsey Smith, PTA, Kelsey Stevens Johnson, OTR/L and Melodie Look, MS, CCC-SLP to provide structured rehabilitation. Speech therapy can provide breathing exercises to improve breath support for speech and swallowing and cognitive exercises to address changes in attention and memory. Physical and occupational therapy can provide muscle strengthening exercises to address muscle weakness and difficulties with walking, balance, dressing, bathing, housekeeping and more.

To get started in Bloomfield Good Samaritan's Outpatient Therapy program, please call 402-373-5531 or have your doctor fax a prescription to 402-373-4806. After a comprehensive assessment, a determination will be made as to which therapies are most important for your recovery.

Amber Jansen, PT, DPT



Front row: Sarah Vennard, Paige Nohr, Hope Tucker, Athena Vau, Gaia Vau Back row: Rebecca Climer, Alexis DeRoos, Rachel Phillips, Frances Phillips, Dorothy Schoenberner, Sierra Tomsu Not pictured: Lilly Phillips, Brooklynn Tucker

Girl Scouts begin selling cookies

The Crofton Girl Scouts will be selling seven varieties of cookies as their annual fundraiser through the month of March. The Crofton troop meets twice a month under the leadership of Dorothy Schoenberner, Rebecca Climer and Rachel Phillips. There are four age groups: Daisies (Grade K-1), Brownies (Grade 2-3), Juniors (Grade 4-5) and Cadets (Grade 5-7). The girls will be spending the month of March working on badges in areas such as food, safety, gardening, and disaster preparedness. They will also have lessons on self-care and cake-decorating. When the snow melts, they'll be busy with cleaning up Crofton's South Park. Persons wishing to purchase cookies can contact any of these young ladies.

Senior Newsline

By: **Mary Sawatzke**
Center Manager

Are You A Homeowner Age 65 or Older?

The Nebraska homestead exemption provides property tax relief to homeowners age 65 or above if they meet certain guidelines.

A homestead is the residence or mobile home and up to one acre of land surrounding it. It must be occupied by the owner of record from January 1 through August 15 in each year. The homeowner must be 65 or older before January 1 of the application year.

The amount of tax relief that a homeowner receives is a sliding scale based on annual income. Income from all sources will be counted. Annual income can be reduced if the homeowner has out of pocket medical and dental expenses that total more than 4% of household income. The maximum income allowed for a single individual to qualify for homestead exemption is \$43,800.99. For a

married couple, the maximum is \$52,000.99.

The percentage of exemption that a homeowner receives will apply to the taxable value of the home up to \$40,000.00 or 100% of the average assessed value of a home in the county whichever is greater. There is a cap on the value of the property of \$95,000.00 or 200% of the average assessed value of a home in the county whichever is greater. If the value of the home exceeds the maximum value allowed in the county by more than \$20,000.00, no tax relief will be allowed.

Applications for the homestead exemption are available through the County Assessor's Office. Applications must be completed and returned to the Assessor's Office by JUNE 30, 2021.

If you need assistance with completing an application, you can contact your County Assessor's Office or you can contact Legal Aid of Nebraska. Legal Aid of Nebraska can be contacted toll free at 1-800-527-7249 Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to Noon and 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Central Standard time.

If you are under 65 but suffer from a disability, or are a disabled veteran or widow/widower of a qualified veteran, check with your

county assessor's office for other homestead exemption options.

Thank you all who took part in our soup fundraiser! Our next fundraiser is a pie sale! I will need orders by March 12 - pickup will be Thursday, March 18, 3-6 p.m. Apple, Cherry, Pumpkin or Peach, 10" pies, Lemon Meringue or Sour Cream Raisin.

Our meals are served M,T,W,F at noon and TH at 5:30 p.m. Please call two hours before mealtime to reserve your meal 402-388-2365.

Thursday, Feb. 24: 5:30 Baked Chicken, Steamed Potato, Mixed Veggies, Peaches, Dessert

Friday, Feb. 25: Chef Salad with Ham, Cheese, Onion, Tomato, Peppers, Egg along with Mixed fruit & Dessert

Monday, March 1: Lasagna, Broccoli, Lettuce Salad, Plums, Garlic Bread, Dessert

Tuesday, March 2: Creamed Chicken/Biscuit, Pea Salad, Cooked Carrots, Pineapple, Dessert

Wednesday, March 3: Baked Potato Bar w/Beef, Cheese, Onion, Chili, Sour Cream, Broccoli, Pears & Dessert

Thursday, March 4: 5:30 Pork Steak, Baked Potato, Corn, Tropical Fruit, Dessert

This menu is subject to change. Make it a great week!

Kalkowski was top finisher for WSC men's track at SD Invite

Cade Kalkowski of Niobrara was a top finisher for the Wayne State College Men's Indoor Track and Field team Saturday at the South Dakota Last Chance Invite in Brookings, S.D. at the Sanford-Jackrabbit Athletic Complex. The Wildcats finished fifth as a team

with 46.5 points.

Kalkowski came in third in the weight throw at 67" 3/4."

Wayne State will compete in the NSIC Indoor Championships in Mankato, Minn. On Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Feb. 25-27.

River Report

Feb. 22 : Gavins Point Dam, 21,000 cubic feet per second flowing in; 19,000 cubic feet per second flowing out; 0.2 weekly change.

Fort Randall Dam: 14,000 cubic feet per second flowing in, 16,200 cubic feet per second flowing out. -0.0 weekly change.

The Bazile Creek near Niobrara was at 3.1 feet. Flood Stage is 9 feet. The Missouri River at Niobrara was at 17.96 feet. Flood stage is 21 feet. The Missouri River at Verdel was 21.38 feet. Flood stage is 24 feet.

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Legion Commander to visit parts of Nebraska

The American Legion National Commander, James W. Oxford, will be visiting parts of Nebraska starting Thursday, March 11 through Monday, March 15, 2021. Oxford was elected as National Commander at the 2019 American Legion National Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana. He is the first National Commander to serve a two-year term.

Oxford's visit will include a tour at the Victory Park Apartments in Lincoln, a "Meet & Greet" with South Omaha Post 331 and Bellevue Post 339, attending annual District Conventions in Valparaiso and Crofton, and capped off with a banquet dinner in Norfolk at the

Norfolk Lodge. The banquet is open to the public and tickets can be purchased through Norfolk Post 16 until March 1, 2021. Additional information on Commander Oxford's visit can be obtained by calling the Nebraska American Legion Headquarters at 402-464-6338.

Since its inception in 1919, The American Legion has been a key advocate for veterans' benefits, patriotic American values, instilling values in young people through numerous programs, and a strong nation defense with focus on quality-of-life issues for those serving in today's armed forces.

Meeting for Knox Planning Commission to be held

The Knox County Planning Commission will hold a regular meeting and public hearings on Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. in the Board of Supervisor's Room at the Knox County Courthouse, 206 Main, Center.

A public hearing will be held at 7:30 p.m. regarding the application by Joan Stewart for Conditional Use Permit #CU0042 for twelve cabins built in two phases in Pt. 13-33N-3W and Pt. 14-33N-3W in Herick Township.

A public hearing will be held at 8:00 p.m. regarding the application by Travis Barney for Conditional Use Permit #CU0043 for an RV Park/Campground in Pt. 18-33N-

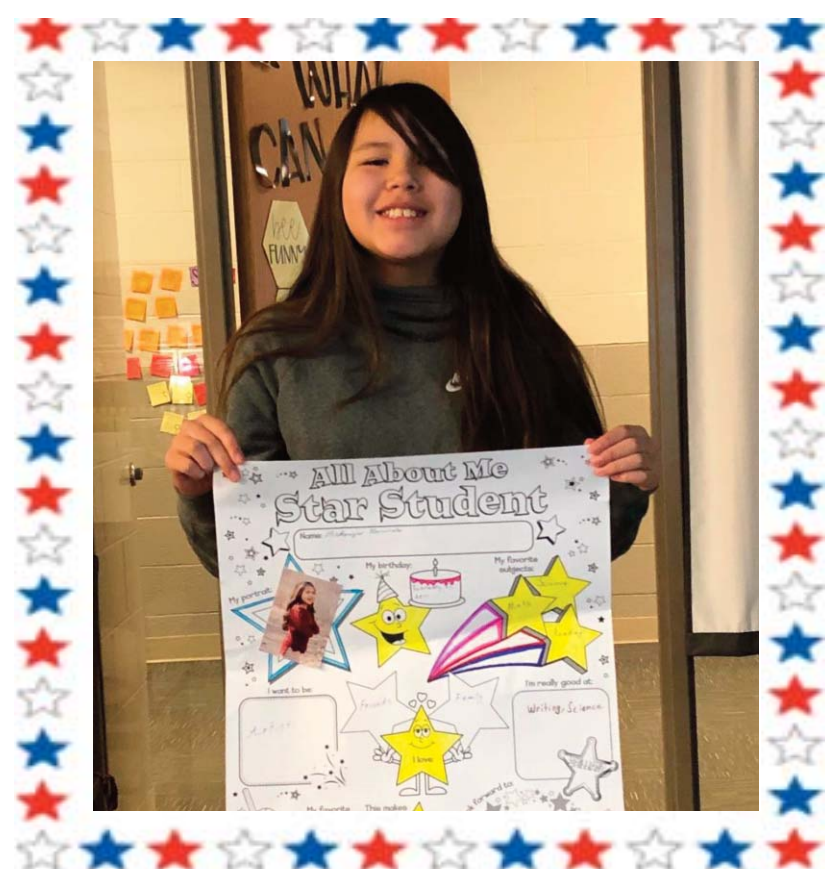
2W in Frankfort Township.

A public hearing will be held at 8:00 p.m. regarding the application by Travis Barney for the Preliminary Plat of Cedar Ridge Estates in Pt. 18-33N-2W and 13-33N-3W.

The agenda is kept continuously current and is available for public inspection by contacting the Zoning Administrator.

For more information, contact Liz Doerr, Knox Co. Zoning Administrator, zoning@knoxcountyne.org, PO Box 165, Center, NE 68724, 402-841-8466 or 402-288-5618.

The meeting is open to the public. All interested parties are welcome to attend.



Fourth Grade Star Student

This week's Fourth Grade Star Student is McKenzie Runnels.

Her parents are Kayleen Johnson and Kameron Runnels. Her grandmother is Kathi Washington.

Her birthday is Feb. 11, 2011, and she loves spending time with her friends and family. Her favorite

subjects in school are science, math and reading. When she grows up she wants to be an artist or a journalist because she is really good at writing! Her favorite sports are volleyball and soccer and McKenzie enjoys watching funny videos in her spare time!

NIOBRARA PUBLIC SCHOOLS is currently conducting **CHILDFIND** activities to locate children with disabilities. The federal government has ruled that all children from birth to 21 years of age, who have academic, physical, social, emotional, or other difficulties are guaranteed to a free, appropriate education. We at Niobrara Public Schools do not want to overlook or miss any child with a disability. If you know of a child who may have a disability that is not receiving services, please help us to help them by contacting:

NIOBRARA PUBLIC SCHOOLS,
Box 310, Niobrara, NE 68760
or call Mrs. Lauri Spencer or Mrs. Mykah Moeller at the school at **402-857-3323.**
Thank you for caring about our youth.

Veteran Stories: In the Army Cadet Nurse Corps

NOTE: In our ongoing series called, "Veteran Stories," this week we feature Eva Buschkamp, who enrolled in the Army Cadet Nurse Corps and the Navy as well during World War II.

Before she passed away in 2013, Eva Buschkamp left her family a very special gift. She wrote down many of her life experiences, and how she felt about those times, good and bad, so her children, grandchildren and future generations in the family would understand the experiences of her life. From these remembrances, family members have gleaned a little history of her experiences during World War II.

Eva was born on Oct. 3, 1923 to Joseph and Josephine Stevens in Fordyce. She grew up on their farm southwest of Fordyce and graduated from Holy Trinity High School in Hartington in 1940. She attended Sacred Heart School of Nursing in Yankton, and during her second year of training, she joined the U.S. Army Cadet Nurse Corps. This program was established in 1943 to train nurses during World War II, because there was a severe shortage of nurses on the home front and on the front lines of battle during this time. More than 59,000 American nurses were a part of this program.

Eva recalled that the official dress for the Cadets was gray, with a top coat and purse. She was classified 1A, and prepared to enter active service if needed. She continued to work at Sacred Heart Hospital in OB and surgery, through her senior year. "In surgery, we washed all the instruments and gloves and packaged them and all the IVs were washed and autoclaved," Eva recalled. "We had no disposable (items) in those days." She eventually travelled with her senior class by train to Pierre, S.D. for State Board testing. The event lasted two days, and Eva passed with flying colors. She graduated in May 1944. Because she wasn't old enough to become a registered nurse, she continued to work at Sacred Heart. Help was scarce during the war, so the nurses worked long hours, including scrubbing floors and stripping beds. "We were all classified as 1A, so we couldn't move or change jobs unless we let the government know," she recalled, in case they were called up on active duty.

Because they weren't being called up by the Army, eventually, Eva and one of her classmates decided to enlist in the Navy. They traveled to Omaha to the naval base for physicals, but they were never called up for active duty in the Navy either because the Navy quotas were filled at that time. Eva

Being a rural advocate at home, in the Capitol

By Trenton Buhr
Center for Rural Affairs
Democracy needs input from citizens to thrive, but figuring out how to share your voice and have an impact on government can be challenging.

Whether you are interested in federal, state, or local policy, you can interact directly with elected officials by writing, calling, or visiting your representatives. While testifying in person is the most effective way, we understand not everyone is comfortable in that setting. Other options include writing letters to the editor or sharing information on social media.

Traveling to the Capitol or to a representative's office can be difficult for rural residents, and the pandemic has created additional barriers. The good news is that most advocacy can take place remotely.

However you choose to engage, provide an authentic constituent voice while making sure to keep your message simple, civil, and fo-



Eva Buschkamp joined the Army Cadet Nurse Corps, and eventually, the U.S. Navy as a nurse during World War II. She eventually moved to Aberdeen, Washington and was head nurse in the OBGYN department at the hospital there.

In 1945, she returned back home to work at Sacred Heart Hospital. In 1946, Eva married Harold Buschkamp in Constance. The next year, they moved to a farm they purchased four miles north of Crofton. Eva and Harold had four children over the years. They operated a dairy, raised a herd of registered Polled Hereford cattle and were involved in numerous dairy organizations. In 1977, they moved to a house they built in Crofton. Eva worked as a bookkeeper at Farmers Coop and also in the special education department, the library and kindergarten at Crofton Public School. Later, she worked as librarian at St. Rose School for 13 years.

Both Harold and Eva were deeply involved in St. Rose Church. Eva was the first president of the newly formed St. Rose School Board when it was established. She was president of the St. Rose Guild and Catholic Daughters of America, serving as State District Deputy of the CDA. She was also treasurer of Rural North Central Deanery for 12 years, and was a proud member of the Crofton American Legion Post 128.

Harold passed away from cancer in 1986 at the age of only 63. Eva died at the age of 90 on Dec. 3, 2013. She and Harold are buried at St. Rose cemetery.

CONTACT US: If you or your parents, grandparents or other relatives from Crofton, living or deceased, served in the armed forces, we would like to tell your story in the Journal as part of this series. If you have a story to tell or digital photos to share, email bowview@gpcom.net with a subject line notation of "Veteran Stories" to let us know the details.

cused. The audience needs to know who you are, why the issue matters to you, and what action you want taken. In the case of legislation, this means urging the representative to vote yes or no on a specific proposal.

Whatever your medium, stay focused on the topic at hand. Any policy proposal has important history and context, but limited time and space means you can only go into so much detail or risk missing your main point. Commenting on an issue should also be timely. Try to speak to representatives or place your story in the media at a key moment, such as before a hearing or floor debate.

The Center for Rural Affairs can help you keep track of issues important to you, find opportunities for you to advocate and craft your message. If you haven't already, visit cra.org to take a look at our current legislative priorities and keep track of our legislative updates to know what proposals are affecting rural areas.

Historical Niobrara

Compiled by the Niobrara Historical Society
From Niobrara Tribune Files

Feb. 28, 1901

A runaway on the street Wednesday caused quite a lot of people to get out and see the fun. A team belonging to Peter Boltzmann started at the lumber yard and ran east along Main Street and out to the east edge of town where they were caught by Roy Green and brought back. No damage was done.

Niobrara has been very fortunate in having no small pox cases up to now. Tuesday Ed Overcoker of the Hubbard House was taken down with it. The case was immediately quarantined as well as those who had been in contact with him. The town board had a meeting last evening and passed a resolution forbidding public gatherings.

Vac Vlasnik put a new cigar case in his place of business. It is a good one.

Feb. 23, 1911

The Masquerade Ball given by the Northwestern Band was very successful. A large number of people were present, many from neighboring towns.

A special agent from Chicago was here Saturday investigating the Hubbard House disaster. He said the acetylene plant was carrying an overload of gas for the amount of lights being used, which was the cause of the escape of gas, and the contact with air when Mr. Kindall opened the cellar door, caused the disaster.

Louis Bayne and family arrived from Dorsey Tuesday. Mr. Bayne will take charge of the Brown Jewelry Store, which he purchased some time ago.

J.W. Rock sent his daughter a dozen Plymouth Rock hens and a rooster in W.F. Jones' car. It will make the claim more homelike.

Feb. 24, 1921



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Bowling Results

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Larry's TV 18-6, Eagle Lanes 16-8, Special T's and More 14-10, Alley Oops 14-10, Bubba's 13-11, Flower Power 11-13, Holy Bowlers 9-15, Bye 0-24.
High Team Series: Bubba's 1880, Flower Power 1707, Special T's and More 1668
High Team Game: Bubba's 636, Flower Power 630, Larry's TV 597
High Individual Series: Laree Pritchett 503, Jan Graham 494, Sandi Fischer 482
High Individual Game: Lee Ann Crawford 205, Jan Graham 188, Becky Riha 183



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
is hosting a

BREAKFAST SUNDAY

Sunday, February 28th
8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
St. Rose Parish Hall
in Crofton, Nebraska

SERVING: Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs, and Biscuits and Gravy.

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☆☆☆ **CUSTODIAN NEEDED** ☆☆☆

A Custodian is needed for the Knox County Courthouse and two Annex buildings in Center, NE. The position is full-time with starting wage of \$16.50 per hour plus health, dental/vision, and life insurance benefits. Applicants must be able to lift and carry 50 lbs. Mowing and light snow removal are also required.

Job specifications and application forms are available at the Knox County Clerk's office. **Applications must be submitted to the Knox County Clerk's Office by 12:00 p.m. on Friday, March 5, 2021**, in-person or by mailing to Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk, PO Box 166, Center, NE 68724-0166, emailing to clerk@knoxcountyne.org, or faxing to 402-288-5605. **For questions, please call the County Clerk's Office at 402-288-5604.**

The Knox County Courthouse Building and Grounds Committee and the County Board of Supervisors reserves the right to reject any or all applications and reserves the right to accept any application that in their judgment best serves Knox County's needs. Knox County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

MONTHLY SERVICES AND EVENTS CALENDAR

At Avera Creighton Hospital, we're making a positive impact in the lives and health of our community.

OUTREACH SERVICES

Audiology
Dr. Rumsey – March 9

Cardiology
Dr. Dehning – March 4, 11, 18, 25
Dr. Hartzell – March 16
Dr. Velagapudi – March 2, 30

Ear, Nose and Throat
Dr. Moeller – March 5

Endoscopy
Dr. Strehle – March 1, 15, 29

Foot & Ankle
Dr. Luer – March 23

Mental Health
Teri Petersen, APRN – March 16

Nephrology
Dr. Weitzmann – March 18

OB/GYN
Dr. Bray – March 4, 18

Orthopedics
Dr. Meyer – March 17

Pain Clinic
Josh Becker, CRNA – March 8, 29
Logan Kopf, CRNA – March 1, 22

Pulmonology
Dr. Hansen – March 10

Surgery
Dr. Kampshoff – March 8, 22

CAMPUS SERVICES AND EVENTS

Health Care Provider CPR Class
No class in March

MRI March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
Call 402-358-5700 to schedule


Sleep Studies March 10
Call 402-358-5774 to schedule

Available Daily

- 64-Slice CT and Ultrasound
- 3-D Digital Mammogram

Available Upon Request

- Nuclear Medicine; Telehealth



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Crofton & Niobrara Area CHURCH LISTING

Funeral Services

Linda Strom, 69

A Celebration of Life service for Linda Ruth (King) Strom, 69, of Lynch, was held Saturday, Feb. 20, 2021 at 11 a.m. at the Lynch Community Hall. Reverend Grant H. Graff officiated. Burial will be at a later date.

Honorary pallbearers include her children and great grandchild, Mykah Strom Moeller, Wyatt Strom, Bryson Wessendorf, Parker Strom, Mariah Strom, Brook Strom, Piper Strom, Paige Strom, Ruby Strom, Jacie Strom, Weston Strom and Bodee Moeller.

Strom was born March 29, 1951, to LeRoy and June (Riggs) King at Pender, Neb., and died Saturday, Feb. 13, 2021, at Niobrara Valley Hospital in Lynch.

She lived with her family at Walthill, Neb. for her first few years until her family relocated to Oklahoma where she spent most of her childhood on various ranches where her father worked. She returned to Nebraska to live in Walthill with her grandparents and graduated from Walthill High School.

It was in Walthill that she would meet her future husband, Dan Strom, who was then working for Great Plains Communications. Together they united in marriage at Elk Point, S.D. on Dec. 21, 1972. After marriage the couple decided to move to the family farm near Bloomfield, Neb. Three children were born to this union, Chad, Brock, and Waylon.

In 1980, the Stroms had the opportunity to purchase a bar in Lynch, Neb. This would become the D & L Corral and was owned and operated by Dan and Linda for 16 years. Lynch is where they called home and raised their boys. After selling the bar, she worked as a nurse's aide at the Butte Nursing Home and then the BTR Quick stop in Lynch.

Strom enjoyed attending church at the United Methodist Church in Lynch. In her free time she loved spending time with her family, card club, garage sales, having coffee and visiting with friends.

Her greatest pride and joy in her life were her children and her grandchildren. She loved them with a fierceness beyond measure. They were her whole world and her reason to battle cancer as long and hard as she did. She faced her disease head on and with a strength and determination that could only be admired. She was an inspiration to all that witnessed her fight. Through all of her trials she remained a source of encouragement to everyone around her. Her battle was finally won on Feb. 13, 2021, when Jesus called her home. She passed peacefully into Eternity with her husband and family by her side at Niobrara Valley Hospital in Lynch at the age of 69 years.

She was preceded in death by her brother, Denny King; nephew, Justin King; mother, June King; and father, LeRoy King.

Linda Ruth (King) Strom is survived by her husband, Don Strom, of Lynch; sons, Chad (Audra) Strom, Verdel; Brock (Alisha) Strom of Lynch; and Waylon (Michela) Strom of Battle Creek; brother, Rex (Tami) King of Bristow; 11 grandchildren, one great-grandchild and one more on the way.



Nancy Werhun, 74

Memorial services for Nancy Werhun, age 74, of Bloomfield, will be held at a later date.

Nancy Lee Werhun was born May 7, 1946, in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania to Frank and Helen (Redinski) Bialogowicz and she died on Friday, January 29, 2021 at Faith Regional Health Services in Norfolk.

She was baptized at the Good Shepherd Polish National Catholic Church in Plymouth, Pennsylvania. She graduated in 1964 from Lehman High School in Dallas, Pennsylvania.

She was married to Richard Werhun in 1968 in Lake Harvey, Penn. In 1970, they moved to New Jersey where she managed the Knotty Nix and Rony Rags embroidery factory. During this time, they raised two children.

In 1984, they moved to Lawrenceville, Georgia where she was a hotel manager and then a department manager in a Winn Dixie Grocery Store. During her time in Georgia, she joined the Corvette Racing Association circuit where she drove and raced for 10 years.

After retiring, Werhun moved to Bloomfield, in 2005 to be near her daughter and her grandchildren. She was an avid animal lover. Her dogs and cats were a special part of her life. She enjoyed spending time with family, reading, and watching all sports, especially Michael Jordan and the Chicago Bulls basketball games. But her favorite pastime was attending her two grandchildren's activities, especially their sporting events. She enjoyed cooking for her grandchildren and cherished the time that they spent with her.

She was preceded in death by her parents; sisters, Carol Mangan, Gene Klein, and Patricia Watson; and son, Anthony Werhun.

Nancy Werhun is survived by her daughter, Kimberly Bruegman, of Crofton and grandchildren, Amber and Cody Bruegman of Bloomfield.

Brockhaus Funeral Home in Bloomfield is in charge of arrangements.



All Hail!

The Psalmist foresaw the day when the Lord will be in charge and rule the earth.

That day will come.

We await it expectantly and pray for its arrival.

Hear more about the future this week in church.

And He rules over the nations.

Psalm 22:23-31

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 Romans 4:13-25 Mark 8:31-38

Revised Common Lectionary © 1992 by the Consultation on Common Texts for Sunday, February 28, 2021 Second Sunday in Lent

ST. ROSE OF LIMA CATHOLIC CHURCH

1316 W. 5th - Crofton - 388-4814

F. James Keiter, Pastor

Daily Mass Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday - 8:10 a.m.

Saturday Mass - 5:30 p.m.; Sunday Mass - 8:30 a.m.

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412 Main St. - Crofton

Rev. Karl Watkins - Home: 605-666-4681/Cell: 641-430-4681

Sunday Service - 10:00 a.m.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Kansas & 3rd Sts. - Crofton - 402-254-6606

Pastor Amanda Jertson Talley

Sunday Service (starting July 12) - 11:00 a.m.

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

Constance - 357-3506 - Fr. James Keiter

Saturday Mass - 7:30 p.m.

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

54659 Hwy. 12 - 4 miles west of Crofton

402-373-2661, 402-982-9033 - Pastor Dave Carhart

Awana - Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Youth Group - Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.; Worship - 10:30 a.m.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

Fordyce - 357-3506 - Fr. James Keiter

Sunday Mass - 10:30 a.m.

ST. BONIFACE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Menominee - 357-3506 - Fr. James Keiter

Sunday Mass - 7:30 a.m.

BLESSED REDEEMER EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Howe Creek - Sunday Service - 8:30 a.m.

(1st & 3rd Sunday of each month)

OUR MOST MERCIFUL SAVIOR EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Santee - Sunday Worship - 10:30 a.m.

ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

Lynch - Sunday Service - 10:30 a.m.

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

Lindy - 373-2279

Pastor Thomas Jacobson

Sunday Service - 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.

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Apple St. PO Box 308 - Niobrara - 857-3513

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NIORBRARA-VERDEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Apple St. PO Box 308 - Niobrara - 857-3457

ST. WILLIAMS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Niobrara - Father Kizito Okhuoya

Saturday Mass - 5 p.m. (Memorial Day-Labor Day); Sunday Mass - 10:30 a.m.

ST. WENCESLAUS CATHOLIC CHURCH

214 4th Ave. - Verdigre - Father Kizito Okhuoya

Sunday - 8:30 a.m. - St. William, Niobrara

Wednesday - 8:30 a.m., Verdigre

Thursday - 5:30 p.m. St. William, Niobrara - Adoration 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Friday - 8:30 a.m. - Verdigre - Adoration until 3 p.m.

BAZILE CREEK CHURCH

Rt. 12 and Center Road

Service Facilitators - Jim and Bea Canning

Non-denominational Service - 10:30 a.m. Sunday

VALLEY COMMUNITY CHURCH

In good weather, services will be in shelter house at Wildwood Park

Sunday 10:30 a.m.

Contact # (402) 668-2228, (402) 358-1110, (402) 750-1984

DORSEY COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rural Lynch, Pastor Mike Pinkelman

402-336-1689, 402-668-2228

Sunday 8:45 a.m.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

St. Helena - 357-3506 - Fr. James Keiter

Saturday Mass - 5:00 p.m.

ST. PETER & PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH

Bow Valley - 357-3506 - Fr. James Keiter

Sunday Mass - 9:30 a.m.

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

Wynot - 357-3506 - Fr. James Keiter

Sunday Mass - 11:30 a.m.

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CROFTON, NE

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The Church Page in the Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune is supported by these businesses and organizations each week. The advertisements are sold on a year or long-term contract at a reduced rate. Call 402-388-4355 if interested.

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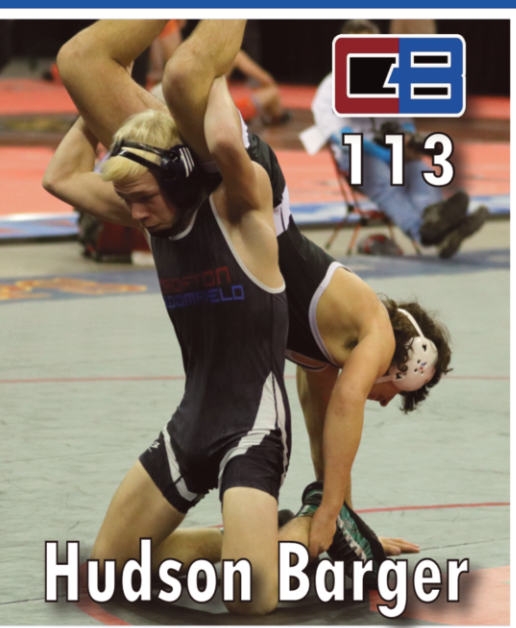
CROFTON/BLOOMFIELD

WARRIORS BEES

WRESTLERS Great Job At State Tournament!

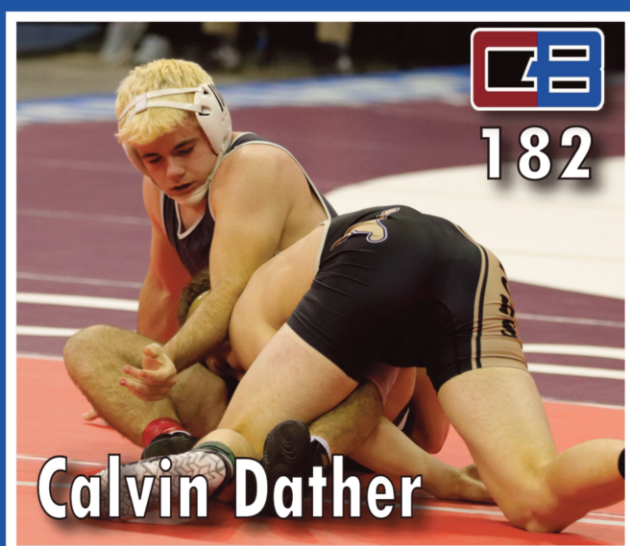


STATE WRESTLING TOURNAMENT KEEPSAKE PAGE



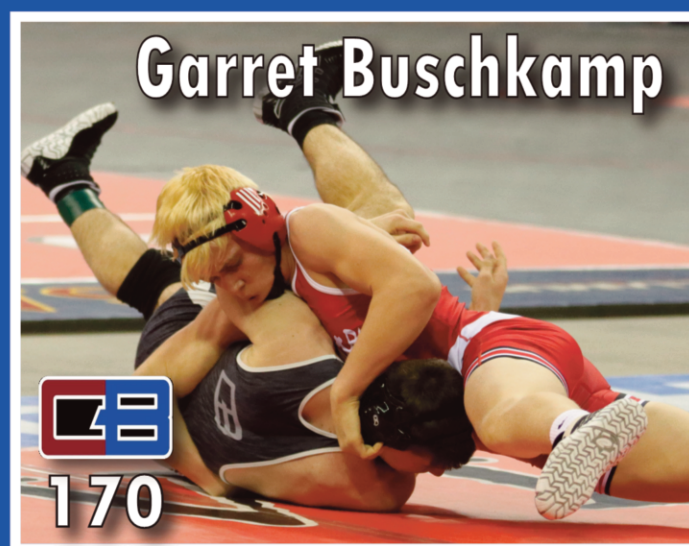
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Hudson Barger



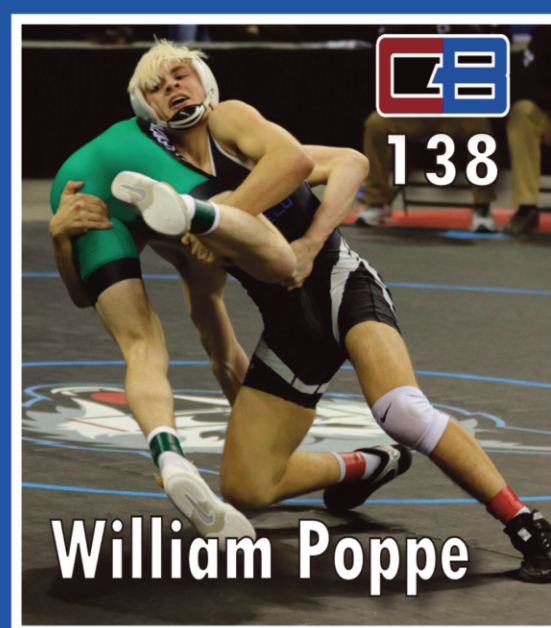
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Calvin Dather



Garret Buschkamp

170



138

William Poppe



5TH 106

Robbie Fischer

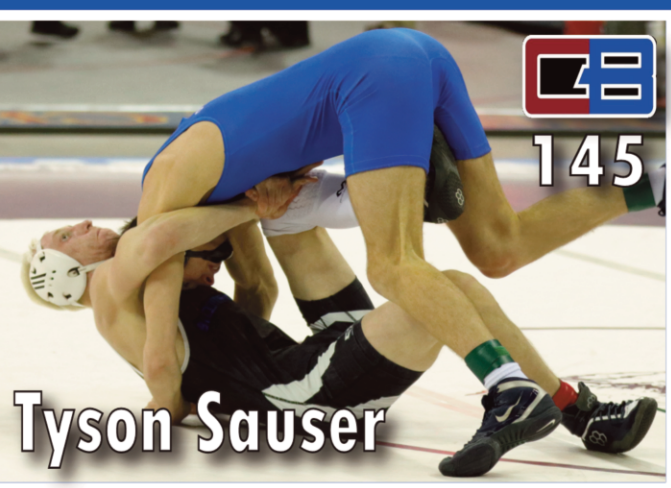


CLASS C CHAMPIONSHIPS



3RD 220

Jared Janssen



145

Tyson Sauser

STATE WRESTLING TOURNAMENT

February 18-20 • CHI Center • Omaha, NE

MEDALISTS INCLUDE:

Robbie Fischer (106) - 5th Place

Jared Janssen (220) - 3rd Place



285

Paxton Bartels

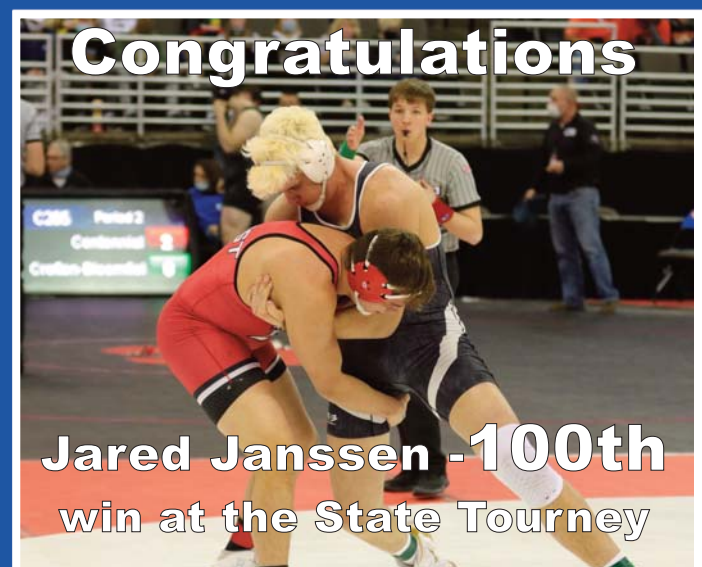


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CLASS C CHAMPIONSHIPS



Congratulations

Jared Janssen -100th win at the State Tourney

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TOP: Chase Pritchett, a 6'0" junior, goes airborne as he shoots for the hoop during Monday's game with Boyd County at Niobrara. BOTTOM: Tierre Kitto, a 6'2" junior, tries for a basket while being surrounded by Boyd County defenders. Tribune photos

Cougars compete in Sub-Districts this week

The N/V Cougar boys defeated Boyd County in the first round of the D1-5 Sub-District at Niobrara Monday night, 60-53.

Scoring was as follows: Chase Pritchett, 10; Tierre Kitto, 4; Rane Vesely, 18; Preston Crosley, 7; Max Hollman, 21.

The Cougars were set to play Os-

mond, on Tuesday night. Osmond is the No. 1 seed in the Sub-District, and ranked in the top five in power points in D1. The N/V Cougars played them early this year and lost by 17, but it was an eight-point game to start the fourth quarter, noted N/V Cougar Coach Matthew Quick.



N/V Student Fan Section during first round of Sub-District...

Niobrara and Verdigre student fans cheered on the N/V Cougar Boys during the first round of the D1-5 Sub-District at Niobrara on Monday night. They chose the theme "Frat Boy," to incite Cougar spirit. Tribune photo



N/V Lady Cougar, senior Emily Parks, tries to get a shot off during Sub-District action at Hartington last week. Courtesy photo

Season comes to end for N/V Lady Cougar basketball on Monday, Feb. 15

The Lady Cougar basketball team began post-season action on Monday, Feb. 15, when they squared off against the Bloomfield Queen Bees at Hartington Cedar Catholic High School, in the Class D1-4 sub-district.

The Lady Cougars got off to a fast start in the first quarter, then struggled to score much in the second quarter, but then bounced back in the second half to earn a close 49-46 victory in the first round of sub-districts.

(Key: p=points, r=rebounds, s=steals, a=assists, b=blocks)

Scoring was as follows: Josilyn Miller, 22p, 3r, 6s, 1a; Bree Breithaupt, 10-, 4r, 2s, 2a, 1b; Senna Swalley, 8p, 4r, 2s, 2a; Chaney Konopasek, 4p, 16r, 5a, 4a, 1b; Emily Parks, 3p, 5r, 2s, 1a; Summer Vesely, 2p, 6r, 1s, 2a, 1b; Serina Babcock, 2r, 1s, 1a; Harley Stark, 1r, 1a.

N/V was 19/46 from two-point range, 3/20 (15 percent) from three-point range, and 2/4 (50 percent) from the free throw line. Bloomfield was 12/29 (41 per-

cent) from two-point range, 3/17 (18 percent) from three-point range, and 13/21 (62 percent) from the line. The Lady Cougars held a 41-33 rebounding advantage and turned it over 19 times compared to 25 times for the Queen Bees.

"We came out in the first quarter and our press really bothered them and we were able to score some easy baskets and jump out to a 12-4 lead after one quarter," said Coach Pat Svec.

"But to their credit, they made some adjustments in the second quarter and took it right at us and closed the gap to 19-17 at half time.

"And the second half was basically a wash. We scored 30 points and they scored 29. We did a really nice job on the offensive boards, collecting 15 offensive rebounds. But we didn't convert on as many of those as we would have liked, but we were more aggressive getting after our missed shots. They got to the line 21 times compared to our four, so we

didn't do ourselves any favors by not getting to the free throw line.

"But the girls managed to shoot fairly well from two-point range and collected 19 steals in the game. They also dished out 14 assists on 22 made shots, so they shared the ball well. It was an exciting game to the end and earned us a date with the No. 1

"I'm proud of how our girls battled and played hard until the final buzzer."

Pat Svec
N/V Lady Cougar Coach

seed, Hartington CC on Tuesday night," Svec said.

After defeating Bloomfield in the first round of sub-districts, the Lady Cougars took on the No. 1 seeded Hartington CC Lady Trojans on Tuesday, Feb. 16, on the Lady Trojan's home floor. The Lady Cougars played a great first half, trailing 19-26, but the Lady Trojans used some tremendous shooting from two-point range to pull away in the second half to earn a 71-50 victory over the Lady Cougars.

Scoring was as follows: Chaney Konopasek, 14p, 4r, 1s, 6a; Josilyn Miller, 12p, 4r, 4s; Emily Parks, 6p, 7r, 2s, 1a; Senna Swalley, 6p, 2s;

Summer Vesely, 4p, 3r, 1s, 1a; Bree Breithaupt, 3p, 5r; Abby Frank, 3p, 1r; Serina Babcock, 2p, 1a; Michaela Ravenkamp, 1a.

N/V was 9/27 (33 percent) from two-point range, 8/24 (33 percent) from three-point range and 8/16 (50 percent) from the free throw line. Hartington CC was 23/31 (74 percent) from two-point range, 4/18 (22 percent) from three-point range and 13/22 (59 percent) from the line. The Lady Trojans held a 32-24 rebounding advantage over the Lady Cougars and turned it over 19 times compared to 17 for the Lady Cougars.

"At halftime, we thought we were in a really good position," said Svec. "But CC came out and took it right at us in the second half.

"By the end of the third quarter, they had turned their three-point lead into a 16-point lead. We went from 2/10 from the field and they converted on 8/10 two-point attempts in the third quarter.

"They got to the rim and made their shots while we struggled to put the ball through the hoop.

"The girls gave a tremendous effort, but the experience of CC after their post-season run last year came through for them in the second half. I'm proud of how our girls battled and played hard until the final buzzer."

CROFTON ELEMENTARY Kindergarten REGISTRATION REGISTER NOW!

For 2021 - 2022 Students

Crofton Elementary School is currently accepting registration and enrollment information for students who plan to enter Kindergarten for the 2021 - 2022 school year. Students who turn five [5] by July 31st are eligible. Students who are 6 years of age by January 1st of the then-current school year must attend.

Please contact Mark Wragge, elementary principal, or Suzy Pautler, school secretary, at 402-388-4357, or by email (mwragge@croftonwarriors.org or spautler@croftonwarriors.org), if you did not receive a registration packet or if you have any questions. Thank you.

SAVE THE DATE!
"K" ROUND-UP FRIDAY, APRIL 30TH
(Regular "K" classes will NOT be held on this day.)

Registration packets were mailed to parents/guardians the week of February 1st.



Nielsen Angus Bulls for Sale by Private Treaty Starting March 15th

Sires Represented:
GDAR Ludup 7104,
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AAR Knockout 8732

For More Information Contact:
Grant at 402-569-3345 or
402-394-7493

Happy Birthday!
Help **Lois Leader** celebrate her **85th Birthday** on **Wednesday, March 3rd!**

85
& more beautiful than ever

Cards can be sent to:
Lois Ann (Guenther) Leader
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Crofton, NE 68730

Phone Call Greetings:
402-388-4714

BAZILE CREEK RINGNECKS PHEASANTS FOREVER
18th Annual Banquet & Auction
American Legion Pavillion
Knox County Fairgrounds • Bloomfield, NE

Saturday, March 6th For more info, email or call steve@bloomfieldag.com,
Steve Barney 402-373-2452
Cory Miller 402-373-2497

Social Hour • 5:00 p.m.
Dinner • 6:30 p.m.
Auction/Raffle • 7:00 p.m.

News from the Past

Crofton Journal 3/11/71

Reception for New Pastor Sunday Nite

The St. Rose Parish will hold a reception at the parish hall Sunday evening, March 14, 1971 at 8:00 p.m. to welcome the new pastor, Rev. Daniel E. Galas. Rev. Galas, who was ordained in 1957, is not a newcomer to this parish. He served here as associate pastor from June 1964 to June 1966, coming here from St. Frances, Randolph, Nebraska. He was transferred to St. Ludgers, Creighton, Nebraska; to St. Andrews in Bloomfield and was presently pastor at St. John's Parish in Pender. The evening will be spent playing cards and socially. Lunch will be served.

Eagle Scouts Attend Recognition Dinner

Joe Hansen, Dr. J.W. Carlson and Gary Evans accompanied Eagle Scouts Tony Hansen, Rodney Steffen, Norbert Steffen and Roger Hoebelheirich of Troop 148, Diamond Dick District, Crofton to a Eagle Scout Recognition Luncheon held at the Officers Club, Offutt Air Base Saturday, March 6, 1971 for Eagle Scouts and their leaders from Nebraska and Iowa. This recognition was for scouts who had achieved the Eagle rank in 1970 and was sponsored by the Commander of Offutt Air Force Base. Guest speaker was Allen J. Beerman, Nebraska's Secretary of State. The Eagle Scouts and guests were given a tour of the Air Force Museum Flight Center and other facilities.

Devils Nest Progress Stated

Sixteen miles of road have been constructed at Devils Nest, the vast recreational complex in northeast Nebraska, since the open house last summer, July 12th. These roads make what is going on at Devils Nest free access possible to lot purchasers and sub-contractors in Unit I, the first residential area in the Nest to be developed. A three-mile stretch of highway across virgin prairie, east to Miller's Creek Landing Road connects directly to the State Recreation system. Street surfacing within the Nest is presently gravel, but blacktopping and other hard surface streets will be started this summer.

Devils nest Development Company has a CAT Motor Patrol Road Grader for street and road maintenance and a 15-yard gravel truck, fully equipped with V snow plows, sand and gravel equipment to aid lot owners during the snow season.

The sales department has moved into a new \$100,000 building near the lake shore with accommodations for the general public. C.W. (Mickey) Moore, General Sales Manager, is on duty seven days a week and the public is invited to stop by if there be any questions regarding the Nest and future plans.

Public opinion has persuaded Devils Nest officials to place new emphasis on the marina club house. Bids are now being taken for construction of the Marina No. 2 House. This building will be 6,000 square feet, comprising four stories and standing just east of the present information center. This new club house will have total view of the marina basin, the commercial village, plus a view of Lewis and Clark Lake. Mr. Dayton announced that a sanitation sewer system and sewage disposal plant complex will be started in late spring.

"The restoration program is probably the most pleasing aspect of all the development being accomplished. This work has taken the special interest and skills of Nebraska State Forestry Department, Game & Wildlife Departments, the Conservation Service and, of course, local county agents," Dayton added. One hundred and sixty acres of virgin prairie soil have been plowed to make a home for tree planting in the Nest. There will be approximately 110,000 species of both broad leaf and needle trees. The trees will provide winter beautification, natural snow fences, wind breaks, food and shelter for wildlife and soil erosion benefits. In addition, Devils Nest has designated approximately 40 acres for the special planting of wild prairie flowers. Three universities and six private colleges have provided advice and seeds for this project. Mel Steen, conservation consultant to Devils Nest, has been spearheading this

effort. It is the intention of the company to provide much of the flora that greeted early settlers to the area.

Devils Nest Development Company is dedicated to saving the trees, propagating wild life and in general, bringing Devils Nest back to the wild state it was previously, for the enjoyment of the public and pride of the surrounding communities.

Crofton Journal 3/7/96

Local to March in Irish St. Pat's Parade

The wearin' of the green is a St. Patrick's Day tradition, but celebrants will be seeing red March 17 when 204 University of Nebraska band members strut their stuff in the streets of Dublin, Ireland to help make Irish eyes smile.

The Cornhusker Marching Band performance will cap a three-year fund-raising effort to send the musicians to one of the world's best known and most loved parades. Among those making the trip will be Jill Schumacher of Crofton, a member of the UNL Marching Band Flag Team. Jill is the daughter of Joe and Gerri Schumacher. "They are excessively excited and really pleased," Jay Kloecker, band director, said of band members, many of whom took part time jobs to finance their trip. Others worked at odd jobs, such as selling pies at Lincoln's Village Inn Restaurant to handcrafting Christmas decorations for sale and even participating in medical experiments at a laboratory to pinch pennies for the trip.

They will march in one of the world's largest parades that annually draws 400,000 spectators and is globally televised. The band will play traditional Irish tunes, "Too-Ra-Loo-Ra-Loo-Ra" and "Danny Boy" and show their own brand of homegrown pride. "Hail Varsity" and "There is No Place Like Nebraska" will thunder through the streets of Dublin.

The 204 band members and 10 staff members will leave Lincoln March 14 and return March 22. Their itinerary includes three days in Dublin, where a 60-member UNL wind ensemble will perform in a concert at the arts center at the former Royal Dublin Hospital. Then all band members will attend a band pageant in Limberick in southern Ireland.

FFA Students Earn Berths in State VoAg Contest

Three teams from Crofton High School qualified to compete in the State VoAg Contests after earning top scores in the District VoAg Contest, Tuesday, March 5 in Norfolk. The State FFA Convention and VoAg Contest is held in April in Lincoln. CHS advisor Steve Kyriess saw three of his teams grab state berths.

The Metals Team consisting of Billy Maibaum, Ryan Tramp, and Kevin Donner placed second and earned a blue ribbon for a state berth. Maibaum got a blue ribbon for his second place finish in Arc category. Tramp got a blue ribbon for second in Oxy Acetylene, and Donner got a red ribbon for third in MIG Wire.

The Farm Management team of Kevin Potts, Phil Pinkelman, Richard Suing and Andy Guenther earned a blue ribbon for their third place finish, which sends them to State. Pinkelman scored a blue ribbon in individual competition while Suing and Guenther each garnered red ribbons.

The Livestock Management team of Craig Schieffer, Robert Bollich, Paul Stark, Tom Guenther, Neil Wieseler and Chad Arens qualified for State by placing fourth and getting a blue ribbon. In the individual competition, Arens tied for first in swine, Schieffer got a red ribbon in beef, Bollich a red ribbon in dairy, and Guenther a red ribbon in poultry. Stark competed in sheep and Wieseler was in horse.

Two other CHS teams competed at the District competition. The Agronomy/Entomology team of Ryan Schmidt, Dean Guenther, Karl Kast, Brent Mueller, Josh Haberman and Brett Kramer earned a red ribbon. Haberman got a red ribbon in the individual contest.

The Envirothon team of Katie Pinkelman, Terri Kramer, Seth Schurman and Brent Drotzmann tied for eighth.



Ostermeyer takes the ball to the hoop against Reis Kirschenmen.



Konechne shoots over Tea opponent.

Warriors fall to Titans and Cardinals

By: Jada Schmidt
CCS Journalism

The Warriors had two players scoring double digits against the Tea-Area Titans on Tuesday, February 9.

Juniors Jayden Eilers and Mayson Ostermeyer each had 11 and 10 points respectively. Eilers grabbed eight rebounds and added two assists. Junior Roy Knapp scored eight points, and sophomore Simon McFarland snatched seven rebounds.

The Titans had four players scoring double digits. Jeff Worth finished with 16 points and five assists. Caden Ellington added 15 points and nine rebounds. Cael London and Garrett Kolbeck scored 18 and 13 points respectively, and Austin Lake had nine assists.

The Titans managed to end with an 80-31 win over the Warriors.

Vs. Randolph

The Warriors traveled to Randolph to take on the Cardinals on Friday, February 12.

Eilers led the Warriors in scoring 20 points and also grabbed six rebounds.

McFarland also had six rebounds and added eight points for the Warriors score. Ostermeyer finished with nine points and junior Paul Konechne ended with five rebounds.

Collyn Beal led the Cardinals in scoring with 21 points. Justin Haeselhorst followed closely behind with 20 points and finished with eight rebounds and assists. Tristan Mosel grabbed 10 rebounds and nine points.

The Warriors ultimately fell to the Cardinals with a final score of 49-59.

Vs. Boone Central

The Warriors competed in their last non-dis-

trict game of the season against the Boone Central Cardinals in Albion on Friday, February 19.

The Warriors fell to the Cardinals with a final score of 33-74.

The leading scorer for the Warriors was junior Roy Knapp, who contributed 16 points. He was followed by junior Mayson Ostermeyer who added eight points and led rebounding with four. Juniors Paul Konechne, Jimmy Allen, and Knapp each made two assists, and Konechne and Oystemyer also took two steals.

For the Cardinals, senior Ryan Kramer set a school record, scoring 38 points. Calvin Webster added 9 points to the scoreboard, and Garrett Rasmussen followed closely behind with 8 points. Rasmussen led rebounding with seven, and Kramer grabbed five. Alex Christo made six assists, and Dustin Andreasen made five. Christo also took three steals.



Drive-thru supper off without a hitch...

Delivery staff, many hands and some warm clothing helped volunteers deliver meals to cars during the St. Rose Unity Supper drive-through dinner last week. The annual supper serves as one of the school's major fundraisers each year.



Niobrara Public Schools

KINDERGARTEN Round-up

Friday, March 19, 2021
 Runs from 8:00 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Children are eligible to attend Kindergarten if they turn 5 on or before July 31st of the calendar year in which the school year for which the child is seeking admission begins.

*State law requires that students have a physical administered by a licensed physician and an eye exam before a child enters Kindergarten. All immunizations do not need to be done before Kindergarten Round Up.

*If you are a resident of another district, option enrollment papers must be completed and turned into Niobrara Public Schools by March 15, 2021.

*Both breakfast and lunch will be served in the school cafeteria. Students are invited to eat as the school's guest.

Call 402-857-3322 for more information!

We look forward to meeting you and your child!

Niobrara Public Schools' Kindergarten Room

Round Them Up!

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What if **America** didn't NOTICE?

Public notices help expose:

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2020 Pork Exports Shatter Previous Records

Beef Exports Thriving

USAgNet

U.S. pork exports reached nearly 3 million metric tons (mt) in 2020, topping the 2019 record by 11%, according to data released by USDA and compiled by the U.S. Meat Export Federation (USMEF). Pork export value also climbed 11% to a record \$7.71 billion. Exports set new annual records in China/Hong Kong, Central America, Vietnam and Chile, and achieved strong fourth quarter growth in Japan and Mexico.

U.S. beef exports finished 2020 lower year-over-year, falling 5% in both volume (1.25 million mt) and value (\$7.65 billion). But beef exports finished the year with very strong momentum, with fourth quarter volume up 4.5% from 2019 and posting one of the best months on record in December. Beef ex-

ports to China were record-large in 2020 and a new volume record was also achieved in Taiwan.

"Obviously the surge in demand from China, especially in the first half of 2020, was a driving force behind the record performance for U.S. pork exports," said USMEF President and CEO Dan Halstrom. "But China was not the only success story in 2020, as exports achieved growth in a broad range of markets. Diversifying export markets is a top priority for USMEF and the U.S. industry, and that strategy paid dividends - especially in the fourth quarter, when exports to China/Hong Kong were down 9% from 2019 but shipments to the rest of the world nearly offset that slowdown."

Beef exports were heavily impacted by foodservice restrictions in many major markets but trended

higher late in the year, bolstered by very strong retail and holiday demand.

"Consumers across the world responded to the COVID-19 pandemic by seeking high-quality products they could enjoy at home, and U.S. beef and pork definitely met this need," Halstrom said. "We expect these retail and home-delivery demand trends to continue even as sit-down restaurant dining recovers, creating robust opportunities for U.S. red meat export growth."

December pork exports totaled 259,654 mt, down 8% from the very large year-ago volume, with value down 10% to \$687.2 million. December muscle cut exports were also down 8% at 219,224 mt, valued at \$590.2 million (down 11%). For the full year, pork muscle cut exports were record-large at 2.51 mil-

lion mt, up 15% from 2019, valued at a record \$6.67 billion (up 12%).

December beef exports totaled 119,892 mt, up 8% from December 2019 and the largest in nearly 10 years. Export value was \$744 million, up 9% from a year ago and the second highest total on record. December exports of beef muscle cuts were the second largest ever at 93,941 mt, climbing 11% year-over-year in both volume and value (\$659.8 million). For 2020, beef muscle cut exports were down 2% year-over-year at 976,953 mt and fell 5% in value to \$6.77 billion.

U.S. lamb exports reached a record 20,045 mt in 2020, up 27% year-over-year, though export value fell 9% to \$23.8 million. Export growth was led by leading market Mexico, where volume climbed to 18,927 mt (up 38%) valued at \$17.4 million (up 25%).

The basics of Lilacs

Pam Bergstrom
Nebraska Forest Service
Forester

I am dedicating this article to one of my friends. Why? Because he can't stand lilacs! As for me, I think they are a fascinating shrub that is long lived, has a beautiful fragrance, and is tough enough to grow here in Nebraska. For me, growing up in rural Nebraska, the smell of lilacs was a sign that either Mother's Day was coming, school was about to let out, or first cutting alfalfa was right around the corner. Today, the smell of a lilac takes me back to simpler days and I have a feeling I'm not the only one.

Something that fascinates me is the fact lilacs are not native to North America. What?! But they were planted just about everywhere! Sorry to burst your bubble, but lilac is not a native shrub, it was brought over from Eastern Europe in the late 1700s for landscaping and also as a source of good luck. You see, lilac is an important shrub to eastern Europeans because it was thought to bring good luck to those who planted it and was often planted near the kitchen or the living room of homes to also protect those who dwelled inside the house. In Russia, if you find a lilac with 5 flower petals you are to make a wish and then eat the flower. If you do so, your wish will come true! Now, I wouldn't recommend putting lilac into your diet, but one flower shouldn't hurt you.

And, if you are in the market for lilacs you are bound to find one that fits your needs! You see, there are over 2,000 lilac varieties. However, the Lower Elkhorn NRD only provides the common lilac and the flower colors varies from pink to lilac to white and even a few blues.

The first thing about planting lilacs is to find a place that is well drained of water and in full light with at least 8 hours in the sun for the optimal production of flowers. They can grow in a wide variety of soils, but sand seems to stress them out, especially when it comes to the summer when it gets hot and dry. After you plant your lilac, make sure you give it plenty of water to get rid of any air bubbles and to also keep the roots moist. After that initial watering, it is best to check the soil to see if moisture is still present within the soil particles. When it is dry, give

the shrub a good gallon of water slowly to let the water soak down. Check the soil moisture once a week and to keep the soil moist, it is best to put down wood chips around the shrub, but remember to keep one inch away from the base of the shrub and only pile the mulch 4-6 inches high. Stay away from putting rocks or rubber down around the shrub as this will only attract heat and also put pressure on the roots.

What about pruning? Lilacs can be long lived and if you have seen older lilacs they have shoots that are long and sometimes hollow in the center. The best thing to do about those types of branches is to prune them down to the ground while the shrub is still dormant in the late winter/early spring. This will inspire new growth to occur, but it will also infringe on the production of flowers. If you want to still have the flowers in the spring, then you will do your pruning right after the shrub has bloomed. A word of advice is after you have pruned one shrub bush; disinfect your pruning equipment with either bleach, rubbing alcohol, or disinfectant wipes before going to the next shrub or tree. Think of it this way, you want the doctor to sanitize all his equipment before going onto the next patient, right? So you need to sanitize your equipment so you don't spread diseases.

Lilacs aren't without disease or insect problems. The biggest disease problem is more of a cosmetic problem, think of it as acne. It is called powdery mildew and it happens when we have humid weather and the lilac is shaded. The best way to avoid powdery mildew is to purchase cultivars or varieties of lilacs that are not susceptible to powdery mildew and make sure there is plenty of space between plants and the shrub is in full sunlight. Once the shrub gets it, it may abort some of the more heavily infested leaves, but won't die from it.

The insect that causes the most problems with lilac is simply called the lilac borer. As a larvae, it will burrow into larger stems of the shrub and tunnel through that stem causing the stem to become weak and fall over or die. This doesn't kill the shrub, but it can reduce the amount of flowers the shrub produces. This is why it is important to prune out the older, larger stems of the shrub.

U.S. Department of Agriculture extends general sign-up for conservation reserve program

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is extending the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) General Signup period, which had previously been announced as ending on Feb. 12, 2021. USDA will continue to accept offers as it takes this opportunity for the incoming Administration to evaluate ways to increase enrollment. Under the previous Administration, incentives and rental payment rates were reduced resulting in an enrollment shortfall of over 4 million acres. The program, administered by USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA), provides annual rental payments for 10 to 15 years for land devoted to conservation purposes, as well as other types

of payments.

Before the General CRP sign-up period ends, producers will have the opportunity to adjust or resubmit their offers to take advantage of planned improvements to the program.

"The Conservation Reserve Program provides a tremendous opportunity to address climate change both by retiring marginal cropland and by restoring grasslands, wetlands, and forests," said Robert Bonnie, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Secretary. "CRP has a 35-year track record of success beyond just climate benefits, by providing income to producers, improving water quality, reducing erosion, and

supporting wildlife habitat and the hunting and fishing opportunities that go along with it. By extending this sign-up period, we'll have time to evaluate and implement changes to get this neglected program back on track."

As one of the largest private-lands conservation programs in the United States, CRP provides both economic and conservation benefits by taking land out of agricultural production. Program successes include:

- Sequestering in soils and plants over 12 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e), or about the same amount that the entire state of Delaware emits annually.
- Preventing more than 2 billion tons of soil from being blown away by wind erosion over the life of currently enrolled acres.
- Reducing phosphorous reaching streams by almost 85 million pounds, nitrogen by nearly 450 million pounds, and sediment by over 160 million tons in 2020 alone.
- Creating more than 2.3 million acres of restored wetlands while protecting more than 177,000 stream miles with riparian forest and grass buffers, enough to go around the world seven times.
- Establishing over a half million acres of dedicated pollinator habitat and nearly 15 million more acres of diverse plantings that provide forage for pollinators.
- Increasing populations of ducks and other game birds, prairie chickens, and such grassland songbirds as Baird's Sparrow. CRP in the Northern Great Plains supports an estimated 8.6% of the grassland bird population.
- Increasing habitat that supports economic opportunities, such as job creation, related to hunting and fishing activities.

This sign-up for CRP gives pro-

ducers an opportunity to enroll land for the first time or re-enroll land under existing contracts that will be expiring Sept. 30, 2021. All interested producers, including those on Indian reservations and with trust lands, are encouraged to contact their local USDA Service Center for more information.

All USDA Service Centers are open for business, including those that restrict in-person visits or require appointments. All Service Center visitors wishing to conduct business with FSA, Natural Resources Conservation Service, or any other Service Center agency should call ahead and schedule an appointment. Service Centers that are open for appointments will pre-screen visitors based on health concerns or recent travel, and visitors must adhere to social distancing guidelines. Visitors are also required to wear a face covering during their appointment. Our program delivery staff will continue to work with our producers by phone, email, and using online tools. More information can be found at farmers.gov/coronavirus.

U.S. ethanol exports surpass 1.3 billion for 2020

USAgNet

Growth Energy CEO Emily Skor released the following statement after the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) released information regarding U.S. ethanol exports for 2020, which totaled 1.334 billion gallons in 2020, down 9.8 percent from 2019 and hovering around 2017 levels.

"In a year where gasoline demand has taken an unprecedented dive due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we're optimistic to see worldwide ethanol demand continue to provide U.S. producers with market opportunities.

"One of our main objectives at Growth Energy is building strategic global partnerships with countries around the world in order to grow demand here at home and to underscore to international leaders the economic and environmental benefits of ethanol. As we look ahead, a global movement is afoot to achieve aggressive clean energy goals, and the 2020 ethanol export number reflects that the world is seeing biofuels as a part of the solution as an affordable, low-carbon, high-octane fuel."

Canada took over as the top export market for U.S. ethanol, with

326.4 million gallons (mg) for the year. Canada continues to be a global leader in the use of biofuels, which is expected to grow with their Clean Fuel Standard as well as provincial moves to higher biofuel blends.

Brazil dropped to the second U.S. export market, at 188.8 mg, a 40% difference from 2019, due to tariff issues between the U.S. and Brazilian government.

In India we saw an 9.1% increase at 189.6 mg. The fourth largest export market in 2020 was South Korea at 105.8 mg, followed by the Netherlands at 77.5 mg.



Chinkapin Oak, *Quercus muehlenbergii*

Chinkapin Oak

Chinkapin Oak, *Quercus muehlenbergii*
Height: 50-60'
Spread: 40-50'
Sun: Full Sun
Water: Moist to Dry, well-drained soils; Very drought tolerant

Chinkapin oak grows naturally throughout much of the eastern and midwestern United States, ending in the southeastern corner of Nebraska. Along the Missouri bluffs it grows on dry wooded hillsides, low slopes and even limestone outcroppings. As a shade tree it is a sturdy, well-formed oak and a re-

liable grower, even in the poorest of sites. The handsome leathery leaves offer a unique texture to any landscape; they're shiny on top with "saw-toothed" serrated edges. In autumn, the leaves turn yellow before falling, revealing its picturesque branching structure and ash-gray bark. The small, chestnut brown acorns are relished by a variety of birds and mammals. This native oak is the larval host for a variety of native butterflies and moths, whose caterpillars become an important supply of protein for nesting birds to feed their young.

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AGENDA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
 Crofton City Council
 Monday, March 1, 2021
 6:30 p.m.
 The Mayor will open the meeting and call for roll of members
 The Mayor will direct the public to the Notice of posted Open Meeting Act and ask for recital of the Pledge of Allegiance.
 The Council will discuss and possibly act upon:
 Approval or amendment of Minutes of previous meetings.
 Approval of claims / Financial Reports Speed Display Sign
 Ryan Loecker regarding City Insurance.
 Pre-printed deposit slips
 Sewer - Urgency of Court-ordered Compliance Date / approval of engineer Zoning Committee members
 Ordinance for change of regular meeting date/time
 Ordinance change 314 & 315
ANNOUNCEMENT
 The next regular City Council Meeting is on March 1, at 6:30 p.m.
 Adjournment.
 The board may enter executive session whenever appropriate and needed.
 A copy of the agenda will be regularly updated and made available to the public at the city office during regularly scheduled business hours.
C8-F25

NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION
 Name of LLC: BBB Farms, LLC
 The street and mailing address of the initial Registered Agent of the Company is: Mark Becker, 87273 528th Avenue, Creighton, NE 68729.
 The street and mailing address of the principal place of business of the Company is: 87273 528th Avenue, Creighton, NE 68729.
Ross K. Den Herder, Attorney
Den Herder and Hosmer Law Office
329 Broadway Avenue
Yankton, SD 57078
(Phone) 605-665-0494
(Fax) 605-260-2222
C8-F25, M4, M11

SANTEE COMMUNITY SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 1, 2021
 I. Call The Meeting To Order-Roll Call
 II. Public Comment on Agenda Items
 III. Business Affairs-Consent Agenda
 III.A. Approve minutes of the February 10, 2021 regular board meeting
 III.B. Treasurer's Report
 III.C. Outstanding Payables
 IV. Reports
 IV.A. Superintendent
 IV.A.1 Progress Plan Update
 IV.A.2 Principal
 IV.A.3 National Indian Education Association Convention and Trade Show
 IV.B. Committee Reports
 V. Action Items
 V.A. Guardian Services-Security Estimate for New Building
 V.B. Dakota Computing Estimate for New Building Addition
 VI. Discussion Items
 VII. Coming Events
 VIII. Adjourn
N50-F25

NOTICE OF BOARD MEETING
 Niobrara Public School
 Agenda-Monday March 8, 2021
 6:00 p.m. Regular Board Meeting
 Call meeting to order.
 Open meeting law posted.
 Pledge of Allegiance
 Approval of Agenda/roll call
 Public Comment
 Approval of Minutes
 Presentation of Bills
 Approve Financial Report
 Correspondence
 Agenda Items:
 Consider, discuss, and take necessary action on personnel for the 2021-2022 School Year.
 Teacher Reports
 Administrative Reports
 Work Session
 Other
 This agenda contains a list of subjects known at the time of its distribution on February 22, 2021. A copy of the agenda reflecting any changes will be kept in the Superintendent's office and will be readily available for public inspection during normal office hours. Except for items of emergency nature, the agenda will not be enlarged later than twenty-four hours before the scheduled commencement of the meeting. The Board reserves the right to change the order of business discussed.
C8-F25

NOTICE OF MEETING
 The Lower Niobrara Natural Resources District will hold a public meeting on Monday, March 1, 2021 at 2:00 P.M. at the Community Center in Butte, Nebraska. An agenda of the minutes to be considered at such time, date, and place is kept continually current and is available for public inspection during normal business hours at the District Office in Butte.
C8-F25

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING
 A REGULAR MEETING OF THE NIOBRARA VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES WILL BE HELD AT 7:30 P.M., TUESDAY, March 2, 2021 AT THE ROBERT OLSON CIVIC CENTER LIBRARY; THIS MEETING WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. AN AGENDA FOR THE MEETING IS KEPT CONTINUOUSLY CURRENT & AVAILABLE AT THE OFFICE OF THE VILLAGE CLERK, BUT THE AGENDA MAY BE MODIFIED AT THE MEETING.
MONA WEATHERWAX
VILLAGE CLERK
VILLAGE OF NIOBRARA
C8-F25

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS
CALL ORDER: 355
CONTRACT ID: M30035
STATE PROJECT NO. MC0035
 LOCATION: District 3 GRADING IN COUNTIES: Antelope, Boone, Burt, Cedar, Colfax, Cuming, Dakota, Dixon, Pierce, Platte, Stanton, Thurston, Wayne, Madison
 The Nebraska Department of Transportation will receive sealed bids in Room 104 of the Central Office Building at 1500 Highway 2 in Lincoln, until 1:30 p.m. on March 18, 2021. At that time the bids will be opened and read.
 Bids will be opened and the bid totals will be read via Webex. The Webex information will be available on the BidX Letting webpage a minimum of two days prior to the opening, and can be found by selecting the applicable letting from: <https://www.bidx.com/ne/lettings>
 Plans, specifications, and additional letting information may be found at the Nebraska Department of Transportation's Web Site at: <http://dot.nebraska.gov/business-center/business-opp/hwy-bridge-lp/N50-F25, M4, M11>

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS
CALL ORDER: 350
CONTRACT ID: M30036
STATE PROJECT NO. MC0036
 LOCATION: District 3 EROSION CONTROL IN COUNTIES: Antelope, Boone, Curt, Cedar, Colfax, Cuming, Dakota, Dixon, Knox, Pierce, Platte, Stanton, Thurston, Wayne, Madison
 The Nebraska Department of Transportation will receive sealed bids in Room 104 of the Central Office Building at 1500 Hwy. 2 in Lincoln, until 1:30 p.m. on March 18, 2021. At that time the bids will be opened and read.
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 Plans, specifications, and additional letting information may be found at the Nebraska Department of Transportation's Web Site at: <http://dot.nebraska.gov/business-center/business-opp/hwy-bridge-lp/N50-F25, M4, M11>

NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION OF Five Diamond Cattle Co., LLC
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Five Diamond Cattle Co., LLC, a Nebraska limited liability company (the "Company"), has been organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska, with its initial designated office at 89025 525 Ave., Niobrara, NE 68760. The Company's initial agent for service of process is Jacob W. Bathke at 89025 525 Ave., Niobrara, NE 68760. The general nature of its business is to engage in any and all lawful acts and business for which a limited liability company may be organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska. The Company was commenced on February 10, 2021, and its period of duration is perpetual. The affairs of the Company are to be conducted by its members. The initial members are Jacob W. Bathke and Shane K. Bathke.
Andrew J. Marshall, #24267
Marshall Law Firm, LLC
Its Attorney, 709 Main St. -
P.O. Box 287, Creighton, NE 68729
(402) 358-5211, C7-F18, 25, M4

NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION
 Name of LLC: OutBack Motors, LLC
 The street and mailing address of the initial Registered Agent of the Company is: Ryan Loecker, P.O. Box 400, 1201 W 2nd Street, Crofton, NE 68730.
 The street and mailing address of the principal place of business of the Company is:
 P.O. Box 400, 1201 W 2nd Street, Crofton, NE 68730.
Ross K. Den Herder, Attorney
Den Herder and Hosmer Law Office
329 Broadway Avenue
Yankton, SD 57078
(Phone) 605-665-0494
(Fax) 605-260-2222, C7-F18, 25, M4

NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that CAMP BIG MUDDY, LLC, A Nebraska Limited Liability Company, is organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska, with Anthony W. Hoffman as its registered agent for services of process of the company, and with an office at 1 Ridge Road, Crofton, Nebraska, 68730. The initial designated office for the company is at 1 Ridge Road, Crofton, Nebraska, 68730. The general nature of its business is to engage in and to do any lawful act concerning any and all lawful business, other than banking or insurance, for which a limited liability company may be organized under the laws of Nebraska; and for all other purposes authorized by law, to the same extent as natural persons might or could do. The limited liability company was formed on January 19, 2021 and has perpetual existence. Its affairs shall be conducted by the Members pursuant to the Operating Agreement duly adopted by the Company.
BRENT M. KELLY
Attorney for Members
Brent Kelly Law, LLC
P.O. Box 910
47640 E Hwy 20, Suite 1
Atkinson, Nebraska 68713
(402) 925-2268, C6-F11, F18, F25



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Crofton City Council Proceedings

MINUTES
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
 Crofton City Council
 City Auditorium
 Tuesday, February 16, 6:30 pm
 Mayor called meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.
 Roll call taken. Council members present: Roeder, Evans, Murphy, and Peitz.
 Mayor notified public of the Notice of Open Meeting Act present. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
 Mayor advised Miller Engineering from Kearney, Nebraska will work with the sewer system project. Mayor gave history on what has brought us to this point. In 2018, the original three engineers who presented bids were Miller, Stockwell, and Kirkham Michael. At this time Miller Engineer said not to refurbish the old plant. Stockwell was more into roads at the time. Kirkham Michael said they could refurbish and make the old plan work so they received the job. Since that time Kirkham Michael has had two engineers leave, so they have decided in everyone's best interest to turn this project back to us and have given us a list of things they have done. Mayor then contacted Miller Engineer as they were well known from the first go-around. JEO was also contacted to submit a bid. JEO also visited our present plant and was aware of Miller's option of a lagoon. We have now received a letter from JEO advising they are removing themselves for consideration of the sewer project.
 Miller Engineering then came to Crofton to see what would be the best option. DEE is involved and they say what we need to do. We will be out of compliance July 2022. Miller would do a presentation for the public so there could be question and answers before any final decisions were made. To get to this point, Miller presented a charge of \$3,730.00 to begin the ground work such

as determine flow rates & concentrations, evaluate land sites for the feasibility of a lagoon, prepare alternative options associated with the costs for lagoon vs. renovations, help with funding options and help with funding for this project.
 Mayor asked for comments from the Board. Murphy was advising why JEO had declined to do the sewer. Mayor read letter to the public. Murphy was questioning different thing so Mayor said "then you don't want to do anything tonight." Murphy said "We do not want to do anything."
 Mayor moved to the public hearing on the variance for Brett Schmidt. Mr. Chase advised reasoning for the Zoning Committee to deny Brett's first building permit. City has 25' set backs but Brett's property is unique in location and along Highway 12. Therefore, he only has 12-15' to work with. Houses down from him has less than 25' also. His building will not cause obstructions to see at the intersection.
 Opened the public hearing at 7:08 p.m. for comments from the public. The Board of Adjustments had no comments. There were no comments or questions from the public. Public hearing closed at 7:09 p.m.
 Mike Chase commented that the variance is up to the Board. By granting the new setting Board was reminded that this can set new precedents for others. Mr. Chase commented that zoning regulations can be changed.
 Murphy made motion to grant the variance for Brett Schmidt. Roeder seconded motion. Voting Aye: Evans, Murphy, Peitz, Roeder.
 Murphy made motion to adjourn the meeting. Peitz seconded. Voting aye: Roeder, Evans, Murphy, and Peitz.
 Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.
Arlene Steffen, City Clerk
Sharol Lawhead, Mayor
C8-F25

HOCUS-FOCUS
 BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Sweater has decoration. 2. Door knob is missing. 3. Boots are taller. 4. One shovel is gone. 5. Fence is higher. 6. House is missing.

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Court News

COUNTY COURT
 All court costs \$49.00, unless otherwise stated
 ocation/Before Reinstatement, \$100. \$ 50 c.c.
COUNTY TREASURER
School Learner's Permit
 Molly E. Miller, Bloomfield
School Permit
 Zavien Dizon Buol, Pierce
Learner's Permit
 Kourtney L. Duncan, Creighton
 Chelsea J. Valburg, Niobrara

Sheriff's Report

From the Knox Co Sheriff's Office
 On the morning of February 20, 2021, the Knox County Sheriff's Office received a report from Bob Krohn that someone had drove thru his fence at the corner of 870 Rd and 542 Ave. Upon investigating the accident, it appeared that a vehicle was traveling North on 542 Ave and drove through the T-intersection entering the north ditch and going thru the fence. The vehicle also knocked down the T-intersection sign. Parts of the vehicle were left at the scene.
 On February 21, 2021 at about 8:40 P.M., The Knox County Sheriff's Office received a report of a one vehicle rollover Northwest of Verdigre at the T-intersection of 883 Rd and 518 Ave intersection. The driver and sole occupant, Sean Ehrenberg of rural Orchard, NE was traveling East on 883 Rd in his 2011 white Dodge Charger and could not get slowed down to make the turn onto 518 Ave because of the snow on the road. The vehicle went sideways into the east ditch, rolled once though the fence and landed on its wheels. The accident occurred at about 11:00 P.M. on February 20, 2021. Seatbelts were not in use and airbags did not deploy. The vehicle was totaled.
 On February 17, 2021 the Knox County Sheriff's Office investigated an accident on McKinley Street in Wausa. A West bound 2001 brown Buick Park Avenue owned and operated by Richard Kleinschmit of Wausa was hit by a South bound vehicle turning East onto McKinley Street from Sharon Street. The Buick was struck by a blue 1995 Chevrolet pickup owned by Brian Wakeley, driven by Blair Wakely all of Wausa. Both vehicles received about \$1000 damage.
 On February 18, 2021, the Knox County Sheriff's Office investigated an accident just West of Center on the Bazile Creek Bridge. A West bound 2014 Ford Fusion driven and owned by Lawrence Jensen of Winnetoon, was crossing the one lane bridge, when an East bound 1999 GMC Jimmy driven and drove by Morgan Avery of Center, collided on the bridge due to icy road conditions. They collided on the bridge and the GMC ended up hitting the bridge railing. Both vehicles were towed from the scene. No injuries were reported.

The Garden Bug
Planting roses
 In choosing a site to plant a rose bush, pick an area that receives six or more hours of direct sunlight. Some roses will grow in partial shade, but most roses bloom best in full sun. Roses are also heavy feeders and need rich soil to grow well, so work organic matter into the soil before planting.
 Avoid planting roses under trees, as falling branches will damage them, and avoid any areas that see high winds regularly. - Brenda Weaver
 Source: www.thespruce.com

Prescription opioids can be addictive and dangerous.

"Addiction is hard. You have to reach out for help."

- Britton

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- SAMHSA National Helpline: 1-800-662-HELP
- Health Center Locator: findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov
- Behavioral Health Treatment Services Locator: findtreatment.samhsa.gov
- Opioid Treatment Program Directory by State: dpt2.samhsa.gov/treatment/directory.aspx

What you need to know about treatment and recovery:

- Opioid use disorder is a chronic and relapsing disease that affects the body and brain.
- Treatment can help people struggling with opioid use disorder and can prevent overdose deaths.
- No single treatment method is right for everyone, but combining behavioral therapy with medication is proven to be the most effective approach.

Resources are available to help you learn about preventing prescription opioid misuse and overdose. Visit cdc.gov/RxAwareness.

Call 911 right away if you suspect an overdose. Give naloxone if available.

Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



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Please check your ad carefully the first day of publication. The Crofton Journals' responsibility for errors is limited only to the cost for the first insertion.

If you find an error, please contact The Crofton Journal immediately to ensure corrected information can be published.

Real Estate

ST. HELENA STORE SOLD - list with the broker how has sold 119 businesses. Marv Hegge Real Estate, Crofton, Neb., 402-640-3966, 402-388-2601. C6-F11, 18, 25, M4

BUILDING LOTS FOR SALE. 402-357-3311. Close to the school. Cell Phone - 605-659-1776. C16 - tfn.

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Notices

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Help Wanted

LABORERS AND welders needed at Creighton Post and Pipe in Creighton, Neb. Call 402-358-3400. N50-F25, M4

HELP WANTED: Nights and closing shifts at Lewis & Clark Mini-Mart, up to \$15 per hour. Apply in store, and ask for Dani. C4-tfn

Thank You

THANK YOU to everyone who participated in or helped with the Soup Cook-off and Cornhole Tournament. Your support is very much appreciated.

Niobrara Promoters N50-F25

MY SINCERE thanks to everyone who sent cards, E-cards, phone calls, gifts and visits on my 90th birthday. It made my day very happy.

Kathryn Sundell N50-F25

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Crofton Community School has an opening for a full-time custodial position with excellent benefits package. Position open until filled.

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PIZZA NIGHT
 Saturday, February 27

We will once again be hosting "Pizza Night" to be held on Saturday, February 27th from 5-9 p.m.

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2020 Tracker SXS 500, Red.....\$10,555	
2021 Tracker SXS LE 800, Timber.....\$15,528	PRE-OWNED SUVs
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	2017 GMC Acadia SLT AWD, White.....\$25,495
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Crofton Speech Team after their victory at the Crofton Invitational.

Crofton Speech Team keeps gold at home

By: Ashley Tramp
CCS Journalism

The Crofton Speech Team were the champions at their home meet on Saturday, February 20.

Quinn Schieffer in Humorous Pros and Hope Steffen in Informative Speaking were both champions. The runners up in their events consisted of Austin Guenther in Extemporaneous Speaking and Carter Guenther in Persuasive Speaking. Connor

Arens in Extemporaneous Speaking, Austin Guenther in Persuasive, Karley Schieffer in Poetry, and Anastasia Suing in Informative Speaking all placed third.

"It was fun and exciting! I was glad to see our team's hard work pay off," said senior Anastasia Suing. Kelsey Schieffer in Extemporaneous Speaking, Rowdy Hegge in Entertainment Speaking, Sabrina Kaiser in Serious Prose, and the Oral Interpretation of Drama consisting of Roy Knapp, Hope Steffen, Gavin Potts,

Quinn Schieffer, and Allie Dahl all placed fourth.

In Humorous Gavin Potts placed fifth. Kelsey Schieffer in Poetry and Karley Schieffer in Serious Prose placed sixth. Students that placed seventh were Elizabeth Wortmann in Humorous and the Duet of Roy Knapp and Allie Dahl.

The speech team competed in the Mid-State Conference Speech Meet on Wednesday, February 24.



Senior Hope Steffen champion in Informative Speaking



Senior Quinn Schieffer champion in Humorous Prose

WRESTLING from Page 1

Kirby (Cross County/Osceola) 20-19 (Fall 0:57); Cons. Round 2 - Jose Escandon (Gibbon) 30-4 won by decision over Hudson Barger (Crofton-Bloomfield) 34-14 (Dec 12-8)

C138: William Poppe (42-9) place is unknown and scored 2.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Tommy Lokken (Wilber-Clatonia) 43-6 won by fall over William Poppe (Crofton-Bloomfield) 42-9 (Fall 1:40); Cons. Round 1 - William Poppe (Crofton-Bloomfield) 42-9 won by decision over Jack Chapman (Milford) 38-14 (Dec 4-0); Cons. Round 2 - William Poppe (Crofton-Bloomfield) 42-9 won by decision over Ashton Lurz (Valentine) 38-10 (Dec 8-1); Cons. Round 3 - Logan Burt (Tekamah-Herman) 33-4 won by fall over William Poppe (Crofton-Bloomfield) 42-9 (Fall 0:24)

C145: Tyson Sauser (32-15) place is unknown and scored 1.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Brady Thompson (O'Neill) 44-2 won by fall over Tyson Sauser (Crofton-Bloomfield) 32-15 (Fall 2:37); Cons. Round 1 - Tyson Sauser (Crofton-Bloomfield) 32-15 won by decision over Colby Homolka (Wilber-Clatonia) 26-9 (Dec 8-1); Cons. Round 2 - Quenton Ackley (Ravenna) 31-10 won by fall over Tyson Sauser (Crofton-Bloomfield) 32-15 (Fall 1:20)

C170: Garret Buschkamp (28-15) place is unknown and scored 0.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Ryan Gabriel (Ord) 39-8 won by fall over Garret Buschkamp (Crofton-Bloomfield) 28-15 (Fall 0:45); Cons. Round 1 - Owen Wander (Syracuse) 31-20 won by decision over Garret Buschkamp (Crofton-Bloomfield) 28-15 (Dec 6-0)

C182: Calvin Dather (21-25) place is unknown and scored 0.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Michael Andel (Aquinas Catholic) 41-7 won by fall over Calvin Dather (Crofton-Bloomfield) 21-25 (Fall 1:15); Cons. Round 1 - Brody Bogard (Amherst) 34-17 won by fall over Calvin Dather (Crofton-Bloomfield) 21-25 (Fall 3:31)

C220: Jared Janssen (40-8) placed 3rd and scored 17.5 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Jared Janssen (Crofton-Bloomfield) 40-8 won by tech fall over Drew Bogard (Amherst) 27-11 (TF-1.5 5:01 (17-11)); Quarterfinal - Jared Janssen (Crofton-Bloomfield) 40-8 won by decision over Andrew Cone (Logan View) 37-11 (Dec 5-0); Semifinal - James Escamilla (David City) 47-4 won by decision over Jared Janssen (Crofton-Bloomfield) 40-8 (Dec 7-2); Cons. Semi - Jared

Janssen (Crofton-Bloomfield) 40-8 won by fall over Drew Bogard (Amherst) 27-11 (Fall 3:11); 3rd Place Match - Jared Janssen (Crofton-Bloomfield) 40-8 won by

(Mitchell) 33-3 (Dec 4-3)

C285: Paxton Bartels (31-20) place is unknown and scored 4.0 team points.

Fehlhafer (Centennial) 52-5 won by fall over Paxton Bartels (Crofton-Bloomfield) 31-20 (Fall 2:25); Cons. Round 1 - Paxton Bartels (Crofton-Bloomfield) 31-20 won by decision over Steven Fullerton (Valentine) 7-5 (Dec 5-1); Cons. Round 2 - Paxton Bartels (Crofton-Bloomfield) 31-20 won by fall over Bridger Rice (Ord) 35-7 (Fall 2:20); Cons. Round 3 - Dahlas Zlomke (Battle Creek) 44-4 won by fall over Paxton Bartels (Crofton-Bloomfield) 31-20 (Fall 0:31)



Robbie Fischer at 106.



Bridging, Hudson Barger at 113.

decision over Nathan Coley Champ. Round 1 - Carson

MEDICINE MONDAY

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MARIJUANA

THC has lifelong negative effects on brain development.

Know the Risks

While some U.S. states have legalized medical and/or recreational use of marijuana, NO state allows minors to purchase or use marijuana or THC-containing products. It can be smoked or vaped (in an e-cigarette or vape mod). THC, the chemical in marijuana that gives a "high," can also be found in some products like candy and soft drinks. Chronic use can lead to dependence, and THC affects brain cells related to learning, memory, coordination and addiction. This is an even greater danger in those under 25, whose brains are still developing. Chronic marijuana use has been linked with depression, anxiety and an increased risk of schizophrenia.

Know the Facts

- In our region, almost **15% of 10th graders** and **26% of 12th graders** have tried marijuana. **Almost 12% of 12th graders** report using it regularly (at least once in the past 30 days).
- Kids are starting at **younger ages** in our region. **Almost 6% of 8th graders** have already tried marijuana.
- **Marijuana can be easier to obtain than alcohol**, according to recent surveys of young people.
- **Parents' attitudes matter.** In our region, about **10% of 12th graders** report that their parents "don't see smoking marijuana as wrong or very wrong" in recent surveys.
- Youth report the top reasons to use are **to fit in, to self-medicate** and **to reduce anxiety** or cope with feelings of **depression**. Rural youth report that boredom also plays a part in the choice to use marijuana.
- **Signs of use** include bloodshot eyes, unsteadiness, unusual silliness and laughter, tiredness and use of incense, scented candles or room sprays.

Focus on Prevention

With marijuana use, sharing the facts and dispelling misconceptions ("But it's legal in some places!") is the best first step. While adult opinions may vary about marijuana, your kids need to know this is still an illegal substance, and one that can permanently affect their brain development. Be open and supportive as you have conversations about the topic, but make sure they understand your expectations clearly. Talk about self-confidence, fitting in with friends and how anxiety or depression might impact their choices. If they are having feelings of depression or anxiety, reassure them that there are ways to address those and consider discussing this with your family doctor.



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