

THE CRETE NEWS

SERVING SALINE COUNTY SINCE 1871

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County seal now on display

It's an estimated 340 pounds, four years in the making and to be frank, hard to miss.

What is it? The newest feature at the Saline County Courthouse, a concrete seal to represent the county and all it contains.

Nearly five years ago, the Saline County Commissioners approved both a county flag and seal to be created and eventually displayed.

So, in 2016 during the renovations to the courthouse, a five-foot long granite slab was taken from a wall, to be chunked out next with other pieces no longer needed.

After seeing this slab was in better condition than the rest, county administrative assistant, human resources and information technician Tim McDermott, along with others, suggested it be used to create the seal.

"We just thought, 'Why not do something with this?'" McDermott said.

Soon a committee called the vexillology (study of flags) committee was formed, ideas were brainstormed and a design for the flag was mapped out. (See sidebar).

Trump Memorials of Lincoln along with Berggren Architects came onboard to offer assistance throughout the seal's creation, which took place from 2018-2020.

Trump formed the circular shape, sandblasted and lasered the seal into the concrete. Then they sent it to an engineer at Breggren who figured out how to support the over 300-pound display on a wall.

"We got the seal back (from Trump Memorials) in October 2020 and then we had to figure out how to get it from the basement of the courthouse to the first floor," McDermott said. "We tried to think of every possible problem before attempting it."

Finally, someone



PHOTOS COURTESY OF TIM MCDERMOTT
A concrete slab formed in the shape of Saline County's seal was attached near the front entrance of the courthouse in Wilber on Jan. 12.



came up with a hydraulic system and suggested a table of all things be used to get the seal on the wall.

McDermott spent a

Friday afternoon creating the table with leftover scraps from his own garage and on Jan. 12, he, county maintenance supervisor

Dan Johnson and a few Saline County Sheriff's deputies took to the task

SEE COURTHOUSE, 3



A concrete slab formed in the shape of Saline County's seal was attached near the front entrance of the courthouse in Wilber on Jan. 12. Pictured is the final result.

Fire and rescue respond to car engulfed

BY CAITLYN NELSON
for The Crete News

At 5:51 a.m. on Jan. 16, Crete Fire and Rescue was dispatched to an injury accident with a car on fire in front of Smithfield Foods at the intersection of County Road 2250 and County Road I.

Assistant Fire Chief James Yost said the accident was because of icy road conditions. When Crete Fire and Rescue arrived, there were three cars potentially involved. In the west ditch, one vehicle was fully engulfed in flames, with confusion on whether the fire was caused by hitting another vehicle or just happened.

Saline County deputies and mutual aid through Wilber's fire and rescue department were called to the scene. Mutual aid was called off after a tanker arrived. All occupants were checked for injuries and all refused care.

Yost said even though cones were set up around the emergency vehicles attending to the fire, some oncoming vehicles did not slow down or take caution because of the surroundings, which added danger to those responding to the incident.

"When you see a fire truck, slow down or turn around," Yost said.

School board swears in 2021 officials

BY CAITLYN NELSON
for The Crete News

During the Jan. 11 Crete Public Schools board of education meeting, three returning officials were sworn into office, elections were held for president, vice president and secretary, and the board heard a report on the special programs CPS offers.

Julie Kozisek, Justin Kuntz and Scott Piening were sworn into their respective positions to begin the meeting. The board unanimously voted Kuntz as the board president, Bill Lorenz as vice president and Kozisek as secretary. Other items were presented to the board including Cathy Holman as treasurer, keeping the designated meeting times the same and those used for auditing and legal counsel.

Diane Bruha presented the board with

information about special programs CPS has been offering including adult education and citizenship classes which start on Feb. 3.

She said the fall semester of family literacy classes had eight families enrolled. These classes are designed for the family unit and include adult education, parent classes and parent and child activities.

She also reported the special education numbers in the district from June 30 to Oct. 1, which showed a decrease from 357 to 325.

Superintendent Dr. Joshua McDowell told the council at that point in time there were 10 positive cases of COVID-19 in the district with 31 in quarantine. He said he is part of a bi-weekly Department of Health and Human Services update call and has

SEE MEETING, 2

PHS distributes vaccines

BY HOPE MOURAL
for The Crete News

With both federal and state regulations for the COVID-19 vaccine changing at the drop of a hat, Public Health Solutions is distributing vaccines as efficiently as possible.

PHS is currently giving vaccines to its 1A group through Jan. 22 and under instruction, is preparing for the 1B group to begin, which includes those 75 and older and those with chronic health conditions.

Health departments are not able to control dosage amounts given and can only work with what is available.

Public Health hopes those in the 1B category will be vaccinated by their healthcare provider and those who may not have a primary healthcare

provider can attend a clinic hosted by PHS in the future.

Healthcare clinics will contact patients when vaccines become available.

On its website, PHS has a vaccine registration form in both English and Spanish at https://nalhd.sjcl.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_10jup0UzSedUbTD but is not needed to receive a registration.

"This is a chaotic time and we realize the fear of being 'missed' for a vaccine is high right now, but rest assured we are committed to providing vaccines to everyone in our district," PHS public information officer Megan Garcia said.



Council enters power pool agreement, approves subdivision of Cardinal Lane

BY CAITLYN NELSON
for The Crete News

At the Jan. 5 regular Crete City Council meeting, the council approved Crete Hillside Development's application to subdivide the lot on which the new Scooters is located, on Cardinal Lane.

This not only solves issues that arose questioning how the plat should be approached, but also allows other potential businesses to develop in the open land. This subdivision enables the owner of Scooters and Hillside LLC to move forward with plans for separate uses of the property.

The council agreed to enter into an agreement with Nebraska Municipal Power Pool for a financial plan, cost of service and rate design study for electric rates. This study will give information around the construction of a new substation, which will add reliability and take away nuisance outages. Crete's part of the agreement is \$6,330 with Municipal Energy Agency of Nebraska funding the other half of the total fee.

The council approved a resolution that set administrative policy for city permits and other applications. This resolution required the council to formally and publicly support the mayor, city administrator and city attorney to make reasonable approaches in creating rules and regulations and propose legislation to administrate permits for applicants who are and are not in good standing. Those approaches would be communicated to the council. This would facilitate approaches with building and code issues and address contractors who do not comply with city codes.

During the meeting, citizen Jared List encouraged the city and council to think about not cutting Saline County Area Transit's funding, especially during a pandemic. He was concerned that if the council did cut funding in the future that property taxes would increase and citizen support would decrease.

In other business, the council:

- approved Unite Private Networks' request for a right-of-way permit along 13th Street from Hickory Avenue to Tabitha for an underground bore with conduit, fiber and tracer wire;
- approved updates to the city emergency operations plan;
- authorized the fire chief to submit grant applications to Firehouse Subs for video laryngoscopes and to Federal

AIG for hoses; and

- adopted an ordinance related to zoning definitions, accessory uses and structures, home occupation and residential, commercial and neighborhood design.

In officers' reports:

- Library director Joy Stevenson said the library is allowing five visitors at a time, but are limited to 15 minutes. Services are available from the pick-up window including printing and copying.
- The human resources coordinator introduced David Paxton as the hired code enforcement officer. She also announced her departure from her position and that her position and a police officer position are being advertised.
- City administrator Tom Ourada gave the council an update on the city's non-profit, Crete Housing Development

Cooperation, that has been filed and accepted.

- Ourada said the local sales tax for the year was ahead of what it was in 2018-2019 even with deficits in April, May and August.
- He also told the council he is looking into having the city join the Nebraska Community Energy Alliance. This will promote the use of electric vehicles and charging stations in the community and bring grant opportunities.
- A presentation of progress photos of the Tuxedo Park bridge was shown to the council as well as a video of the new snowblower machine collecting snow on city streets.
- Mayor Dave Bauer thanked city crews for efficient snow removal.

The next city council meeting was to be Jan. 19 at the Library Community Room.

Jan. 15 CPS Friday update

BY JOSHUA MCDOWELL
Superintendent, Crete Public Schools

I hope this update finds you warm and safe. Our students and staff have done a fantastic job settling back into the routines that kept us all safe and in school during the first semester. We are wearing face masks, practicing social distancing when possible and doing our best to practice good hand hygiene. These practices have allowed us to remind in school, and now we can allow more spectators and visitors to our home events.



Joshua McDowell

Today (Jan. 15) we have six positive COVID-19 cases and 46 students and staff in isolation/quarantine. If you ever question whether you should isolate, please reach out to our incredible school nurses. They will gladly help you out.

As we move through the second semester, we are excited to intensify our focus on student achievement. Our teacher-led English language arts and math curriculum teams have been meeting throughout the year to go through a process we call unpacking the standards.

In this process, they break down every Nebraska standard and use it to clearly define what we want every student to know and be able to do as a result of our teaching.

After standard unpacking is complete, both teams move into resource selection. Think of resources as textbooks. However, with technology, resources go way beyond textbooks.

Mr. (Sam) Stecher, executive director of curriculum, instruction and assessment, and the two teams hope to present their choice for the new K-5 ELA and math resources at the February board of education regular meeting. The resources we are considering will be available for parents and

guardians to preview at our February parent/teacher conferences.

This week I met with the Superintendent's High School Student Advisory Council for the first time. I love working with our kids! This group did a fantastic job of representing the entire student body. They were insightful, well-spoken and excitedly embraced the opportunity to serve on this team. This group aims to improve communication from the student to the administrative level by empowering our students by making sure they have a voice. Together I know we will continue to enhance the student experience. We will meet in February, March and April.

Finally, I would like to congratulate our three re-elected Board of Education members - Julie Kozisek, Justin Kuntz and Scott Piening.

At the January board of education meeting, Mr. Kuntz was elected president of the board. Bill Lorenz was elected vice president and Dr. Kozisek was elected secretary. Every board member puts in countless hours in committee meetings and regular board meetings to ensure all of our staff have what they need to do the best possible job so our students can have a world-class experience.

As a community, we should all be proud that these elected officials ask tough questions, take on challenging issues, are innovative in their approaches and are dedicated to providing the best experience possible for all students.

Just a reminder that we will always post official school closure messages on our website, www.creteschools.org, first. For all of our school closure information, visit our website and click on "safety."

BY CAITLYN NELSON
for The Crete News

The annexation process for two properties on the south side of Boswell Avenue began at the Dec. 15 Crete City Council meeting. Since then, this item has gone through its second reading and was to be heard for its final reading at the Jan. 19 meeting.

According to Nebraska state law, the

corporate limits of any city can be fixed or determined by the city council, but can also be petitioned for, as in this case.

This petition brings two lots into the corporate city limits and allows them to have different zoning than if they were outside of limits. This also allows services to be extended including water, sewer, power and law enforcement. Special arrangements may be made for these services outside of city limits, but is cheaper within town. City property tax has to be paid when in city limits, though.

"Zoning laws apply in city limits, but they also apply, as in the case of here in a first-class city, two miles out which is called the extra-territorial jurisdiction," City Administrator Tom Ourada said.

When properties are annexed into city limits there is a state statute that is followed, but is handled differently when it is requested, like this case, than if the city instigates the annexation.

The council can waive the statutory requirement to have three readings on anything except annexations.

Crete city council continues annexation

STATE OF THE STATE

Property tax relief remains Ricketts' No. 1 priority

BY LEEANNA ELLIS
editor@enterprise.pub.com

Gov. Pete Ricketts outlined his priorities for the next two years - including property tax relief - Jan. 14 during his State of the State address before the 107th Nebraska Legislature.

Ricketts proposed a two-year budget that controls spending growth to 1.5%, which he said would allow the state to achieve several important priorities.

The proposed budget would deliver \$1.36 billion in property tax relief over the biennium, which includes \$550 million in direct property tax relief through the state's Property Tax Credit Relief Fund and more than \$596 million from the newly-enacted LB 1107 refundable property tax credit.

Ricketts is also proposing roughly \$214 million to provide for property tax payments under the current homestead exemption program.

Ricketts and State Sen. Lou Ann Linehan are also working on a proposed bill to limit the growth of local government

property taxes to 3%. Property taxes have grown by 4.46% annually on average over the last 10 years for an overall increase of 54.65%, Ricketts said.

"Taxes are growing at a rate that Nebraskans cannot manage within their family budgets. It is my belief that if the Legislature fails to enact spending constraints, the people of Nebraska will take matters into their own hands and strip local governments of their property tax authority," he said. "It's happened before in the 1960s when the voters stripped the state of its authority to levy a property tax, and it will happen again. The limits we are proposing here are reasonable and will help ensure that local control of the institutions we cherish endures for years to come."

Other priorities outlined in Ricketts' State of the State included:

- investing \$50 million to locate the new U.S. Space Command to Offut Air Force Base despite the announcement that Alabama will get the headquarters.
- increasing the tax break

for military retirees from 50%, which was granted last year, to 100%. Ricketts is also asking the Legislature to remove barriers that prevent military spouses from taking jobs as teachers.

- fully funding the state school aid formula with an additional \$42.7 million in state aid to K-12 schools over the next two years. Each year of the budget, the formula would provide roughly \$1.1 billion in aid to schools.
- investing \$115 million of the budget for a total of \$230 million into a new, modern correctional facility, which is to be operational by 2025.
- recommending legislation to allow licensed healthcare professionals from other states to work in Nebraska. An executive order in 2020 allowed this flexibility during the pandemic. Ricketts is proposing legislation that would make this change permanent.
- expanding broadband internet to rural Nebraskans. Ricketts is proposing investing \$40 million over the next two years to help 30,000 households get broadband connectivity.

MEETING: School board swears in officials

FROM PAGE 1

been working with Public Health Solutions to stay informed on the most recent announcements.

He said vaccines were given to school nurses already, and there was a survey asking for interest of a vaccine for staff from PHS. While staff are

not required to have a vaccine, 91% of the 209 who responded were interested in receiving a vaccine. McDowell said if no responses meant "no" then about half of the staff at CPS would be interested in the vaccine. Educators are in the next tier to receive vaccinations, but McDowell estimated

the clinic would be held mid-February to March because of the populations that are above educators in the tier.

McDowell also gave an update on the construction to the old Shopko building which was purchased by CPS. The project is on time and on budget as of now and underground work

inside the structure is complete. The next portion of construction will have to wait until a Windstream fiber is moved before exterior work can be done.

The next board of education meeting will be at 6 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 8, at the administration building.

On the Web.
www.cretenewsonline.com

Veterans & Friends
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COURTHOUSE: County seal now on display

FROM PAGE 1

of hanging the seal.

After a few hours and adjustments, the slab

now hangs on the south wall near the entrance of the building, supported by a few pillars hidden behind the wall and a

system made of brackets to keep it steady.

"I'm really thankful and glad it's done," McDermott said. "I think

it's the capstone of the renovation project and it's a relief to have it up."

Meaning behind the seal's design

The Saline County Seal is a representative of the following:

The border plating a derivative of the Nebraska State seal. It proudly places the County of Saline within the borders of Nebraska as one political sub-division.

The county name is prominently displayed encircled toward the top of the center portion of the seal. Its founding date of Feb. 18, 1867 is balanced below as a rocker.

The eight stars represent each of the eight Saline County sub-divisions: Wilber, Crete,

Dorchester, DeWitt, Western, Swanton, Tobias and Friend.

Each of the four elements in the center of the image represents the demographic areas of the population base of the county including family, agriculture, education and industry.

The two supporting and bordered wheat branches show the importance of the foundation that agriculture provides to Saline County. Each branch growing 11 kernels of wheat, for the total of 22, the county number of Saline.

The bald eagle goes without saying, an obvious representation of the pride and connection to the country.

At the base of the shield providing the collective elements of Saline County is the heart of the people who together contribute to the safety, prosperity and supportive wellbeing of the county community.

The rope brand encircling the outer ring of the seal binds us as individual residents together in our united effort in support of our neighbors.

Ramsey to celebrate 70th birthday

Sharon (Vyhnalek) Ramsey of Fairbury will celebrate her 70th birthday this month.

She was born Jan. 25, 1951, in Crete.

Ramsey is married to husband Ron and they have two children including daughter Melissa and her husband Ben of Jansen and son Darcy and wife Donna of Lincoln. She also has three grandchildren.

To celebrate, her family is requesting a card shower. Cards



Sharon Ramsey

may be sent to Ramsey at 811 L Street, Fairbury, NE 68352.

Wilber Crop Clinic canceled

The 2021 Wilber Crop Clinic has been canceled due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the difficulty in delivering this kind of event at the quality level it deserves.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension is the host and organizer of the annual Wilber Crop Clinic, which started in 2004. It is normally held the first Friday in February at Sokol Hall in Wilber.

Planning for a large event that draws 15 agribusiness exhibitors and more than 100 local farmers starts in earnest in December each year. The Wilber Crop Clinic has been free and open to the public throughout its history and it created an environment where social interactions between farmers, exhibitors and speakers is essential.

Creating that type of social environment, while prioritizing the safety of our community during the COVID-19 pandemic, is difficult.

While we will not have the Wilber Crop Clinic this winter, all are encouraged to attend other related online programs like the Nebraska Crop Management Conference on Jan. 27 and the Nebraska Cover Crop and Soil Health Conference on Feb. 11 with information found at croptechcafe.org.

If you did not attend last year's Wilber Crop Clinic, check out the resources and speaker presentations at <http://croptechcafe.org/wilbercropclinic>. Nebraska Extension and local event sponsors for the Wilber Crop Clinic are dedicated to providing ag producers with a great atmosphere in future years.

Brandt introduces bill designed to help low-income households with energy costs

State Sen. Tom Brandt introduced LB306 last week, a bill to expand eligibility to the LIHEAP program as well as allocate 10% of LIHEAP funds for weatherization assistance.

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program helps low-income households stay safe and healthy by providing financial assistance to offset the costs of heating and cooling. LIHEAP particularly helps households that pay a high portion of household income for home energy to meet immediate home energy needs and is essential in keeping the state's most vulnerable population safe from extreme weather conditions.

LIHEAP in Nebraska is solely funded through federal funds and it would use excess program funds for the proposed changes.

"Since its inception in 1981, the LIHEAP program has helped hardworking families in tough times and continues to do so today, especially while the COVID-19 pandemic rages on," Brandt said. "Right now LIHEAP is open to 111,000 households, and the bill I introduced would extend it to approximately 30,000 more families in their time of need."

Those in the utility industry understand the need for this legislation. "I want to thank Sen. Brandt for his leader-

ship on this legislation," said Tim Burke, president and CEO of the Omaha Public Power District. "Reaching more people by expanding the LIHEAP Program during these challenging times is sensible and necessary. Sen. Brandt should be commended for recognizing the need in our communities and sponsoring this worthwhile legislation. We call on all senators to support these efforts to help those in need."

This bill would allow more of the state's population to be eligible for the program by increasing the income eligibility threshold. This will allow more customers access to a program

designed to prevent utility service interruptions and also increase the annual income limit from 130% of the federal poverty level, which is too low, to 150% of the FPL, as 14 other states have.

In addition, this legislation will ensure that not less than 10% of LIHEAP funds be allocated to weatherization assistance programs which will enable low-income families to permanently reduce their energy bills by making their households more energy efficient. This gets to the root of the problem that energy assistance programs try to address, making it easier for customers to pay their energy bills.

Brandt's farm to school program act unveiled

State Sen. Tom Brandt of Plymouth last week introduced LB396 to expand the scale and reach of Nebraska-produced food by creating a state farm to school program administered by the Department of Education with the cooperation of the Department of Agriculture.

The program will provide networking resources for Nebraska schools, local vegetable and fruit growers and meat producers to increase the quantity of quality local food served in our school cafeterias. The bill, which grew out of an Agriculture Committee interim study task force report, LR337, authorizes the creation of a Farm to School Network composed of local producers, school officials, cafeteria managers and other stakeholders that would focus on connecting farmers, market gardeners and nearby educational institutions to help supply the fresh foods and dairy and meat products needed to serve Nebraska children.

"This is Economic Development 101," Brandt said after introducing

the legislation Thursday morning. "Nebraska has been missing out on a huge economic opportunity to grow our local economies. Here in one of the agricultural powerhouses of the world, we're hemorrhaging both our tax dollars and our food dollars from our communities and school districts by purchasing out-of-state food to feed our kids."

The National School Lunch Program is the largest restaurant chain in the country and Nebraska should be aiming to source the bulk of what is served in school cafeterias right from local producers, including beef, chicken, dairy, grains, dry beans and in-season vegetables and fruits. The bill aims to keep these food dollars and property tax dollars at home circulating in our local economies.

With children always needing to eat and schools constituting a stable, institutional market, farm to school is one of the most robust economic development tools a local community can employ. But farm to school

programs, the Plymouth farmer and lawmaker stressed, are about more than just sourcing and serving food.

Through classroom instruction, field trips and hands-on gardening, students learn more where their food comes from and how it is made.

"Farm to school is not only educating a new generation of savvy consumers and healthy eaters," Brandt said, "it's a training ground for the farmers and market gardeners of tomorrow."

"Farm to school benefits our economy, our student's education and health, as well as markets for our farmers," said Justin Carter of the Center for Rural Affairs and an LR 337 task force

member. "Farmers and school administrators have unique needs and they often aren't aware of the other's experience. A state coordinated commitment to form the relationships and consistently address the issues would be immensely helpful."

"Farm to school efforts can keep children focused on the skills they need for success while simultaneously creating an appreciation of Nebraska's diverse agricultural economy and heritage," Alex McKiernan of Robinette Farms said. "Bringing Nebraska foods into Nebraska schools will open our children's minds to the possibilities and opportunities right in their very own communities."

The family of Rollo Schultz thanks everyone for their thoughts, prayers, cards and words of comfort at the time of Rollo's passing. God's blessings!

Thank you for all of the cards, phone calls, well-wishes, gifts and drive-through visits for our 50th wedding anniversary. It was all greatly appreciated. God bless you all!

Jim and Theresa Wissenburg

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With Our Thanks

Thank you to everyone who sent flowers, gifts and cards for our 65th anniversary. They all made it very special.

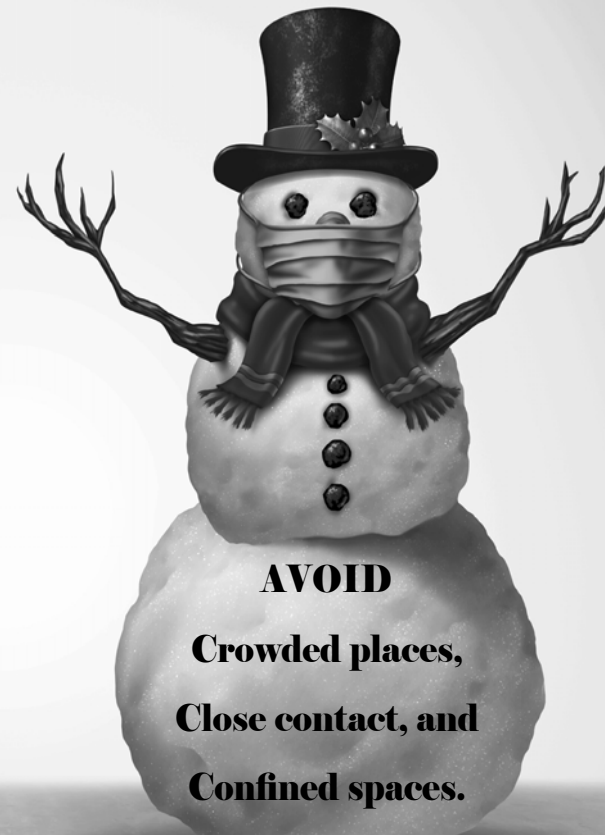
Bob & Marva Kasl

Thank you to my family and friends for the phone calls, food brought to the house, words of encouragement and all other acts of kindness shown to me since my accident. I am thankful and truly blessed!

Leora Riechers

SPREAD JOY, NOT COVID

Even snowmen avoid the 3Cs.



AVOID

Crowded places,
Close contact, and
Confined spaces.

NEBRASKA
Good. As Great Plans.

SLOW THE SPREAD

NAIHD

SEEK THE LORD

Why is God sometimes silent?

BY PASTOR DAN SAFARIK
St. Mark's United Methodist Church, Lincoln

Do you recall the story of the family, who after years of inactivity, started going to church every Sunday?

As a part of their new commitment, they also began reading the Bible and having prayers at the dinner table. One of the children, the youngest son, didn't take to all of this very well. He appeared at the table one day with dirty hands and was met by his mother's insistence that he wash his hands before he could eat dinner.



Dan Safarik

Reluctantly, he left the table for the bathroom and was heard to say as he walked away, "Germs and Jesus! Germs and Jesus! That's all I ever hear in this house and you can't see either one of them!" – from a sermon by Rev. Thomas A. Whiting.

The young boy made an interesting observation. I've wondered about the same kind of thing; I've questioned why we don't see God more directly. Of course, we see God's work in the creation of the

world, but why does God choose to be so invisible and so quiet? At least, if God doesn't make many visible appearances, couldn't God talk to us loud and clear?

I shall never forget one speaker who suggested several important themes that every pastor should preach on. One of the themes, as he put it, was the god-awful silence of God. I don't know if that's the best way to describe the problem but it stuck, and I've wondered about it for myself as well as for my congregation. I can never forget one of my relatives who said they stopped praying because God wouldn't answer.

I've come up with a few reasons to explain why sometimes God seems so silent. First of all, if God was always telling us without a doubt what to do, we'd never have to work it out. We'd never figure it out for ourselves. We wouldn't grow and become more mature.

I'm pretty sure we'd depend on God to bail us out and fix our problems like a genie in a bottle. Prayer is not God doing things for us; prayer is God helping us to do things for ourselves. The kind of 'easy-answer God' we might like would require little if any

faith on our part.

I find in my counseling situations how dependent people quickly become. It is easy to be the knight in shining armor and rescue people constantly. I learned slowly but surely I'm not really helping people in that way.

An old joke has a tourist asking a New York City policeman: "Can you tell me how to get to Carnegie Hall?" To which the officer replies: "Practice, practice, practice." That's the second reason God seems silent in our prayers – we simply don't spend much time at it. Any healthy, satisfying relationship involves time together. How can we expect to hear God if we give Him only a few minutes a day to talk to us?

Thirdly, I think we have to simply admit we don't know all the ways of God. The Bible suggests, "God's ways are past finding out." There is always a certain amount of mystery in our relationship with God. That keeps things exciting. We never know when God will surprise us with His grace and love.

Prayer: Our Lord, we don't always understand it, but we know we have a longing only you can meet. Amen.

Starting up an old habit

BY CAITLYN NELSON
for The Crete News

As I have grown up and filled my plate above and beyond what it should be, I lost not only my attention span, but also one of my favorite hobbies.



Caitlyn Nelson

College didn't help and that hobby went out the window the second I stepped onto campus. I had essentially lost all free time and passion for doing it for my own purposes.

On Wednesday, I started it back up. It was like I couldn't stop. I spent hours engulfed in it to the point I couldn't put it down. Before I knew it, I was in too deep to stop.

I picked up a book to read (for my own pleasure) for the first time in four years.

Technically, I picked it up months ago and have been carrying it in my bag hoping to get the motivation to start it at some point. I finally did.

I always loved reading ever since I was younger. I would read any and every book I had available. I started reading younger than most and read anything and everything I could get my hands on.

It really disappointed me when I got to college and I lost all desire to read because I was

overloaded with reading assignments for books I had absolutely no interest in. It got to a point when I saw a reading assignment I dreaded it. I dreaded even picking up a book, even if it was not one for class.

Since graduation, I was advised to read as many books and articles as I could since I am a journalist and it could only help. I see columns and hear my co-workers talk about novels they have read. I hear about how many books they want to read in a year. It was tough when I hadn't even picked up one in years, much less have the desire to pick one up.

But I did it. I have one. I started and I am not going back.

I learned that I do have a shorter attention span – I am not sure if it's because I live in a face-paced, social media-based world or because I always have so much going on that it is hard to focus on something for very long. It's probably both. But I am re-training my brain to sit, relax and enjoy the company a book has to offer, even if my brain only allows me to do so for 15 minutes a day.

So, if anyone has recommendations of books to add to my list, I would love to hear about them so I can work my way through at least more than one in the next four years.

POLL RESULTS

What is a favorite winter sport of yours?

Hockey: 1

Wrestling: 0

Basketball: 0

Do football playoffs count? 0

POLL QUESTION

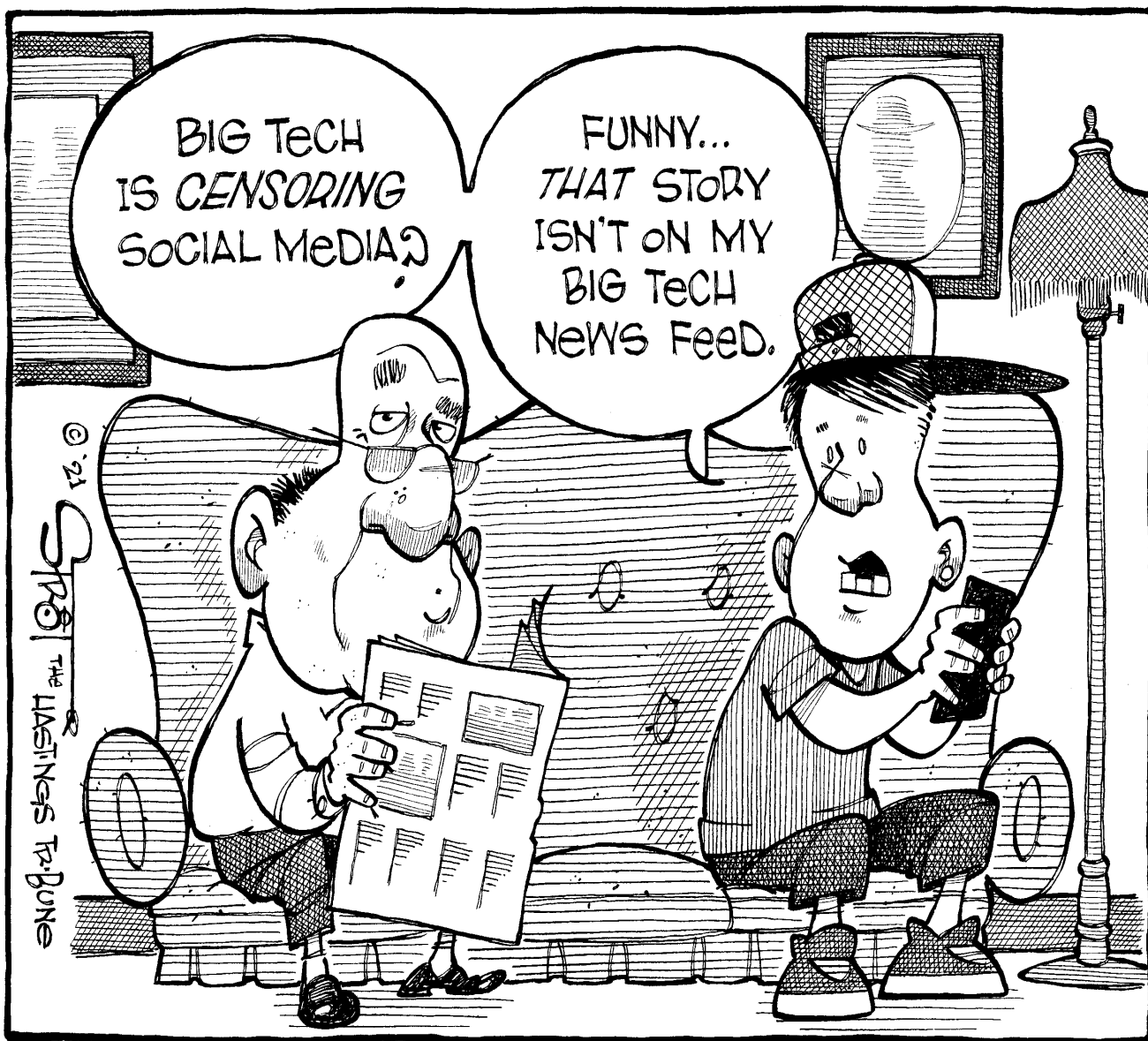
Have you put away your Christmas decorations?

Yes • No • Never

Vote in our online poll at www.cretenewsonline.com and check next week's Crete News for the results.

OUR MISSION

Our journalistic Mission for The Crete News is to bring local, relevant information to our readers in an effort to keep our communities engaged and aware. We are committed to print only the truth and be the trusted source for local news, to shine a light on local government entities, and motivate action when necessary on crucial civic matters. We will document history as it happens, and help readers re-live the history of the past. Our belief is that a strong newspaper is the glue that holds a community together.



State senators begin new legislative session

BY STATE SEN. TOM BRANDT
Dist. 32

I want to start by wishing everyone a Happy New Year for 2021. Here's hoping 2021 will be better for our health and the economy.

The COVID-19 vaccine rollout has begun, but we must remain vigilant with safety precautions. Nebraska is getting ready to move on to the "IB" phase which is those 65+ years old. When Public Health Solutions has a vaccine available, they will offer community clinics or you can contact your personal health-care provider.



Tom Brandt

The legislative session has begun and we are hard at work finishing drafts of bills to introduce by Jan. 20. I am looking to

introduce about 10 bills, and here are a few I have introduced:

- LB306 - expanding eligibility to the LIHEAP program. The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program provides federal financial assistance to those in need to offset the costs of heating and cooling. The bill would increase the annual income limit from 130% of the federal poverty level to 150%. This would open up the program to 30,000 additional households in Nebraska and cost Nebraska taxpayers nothing.

- LB396 - creation of a state-wide farm-to-school program. This bill would expand the scale and reach of Nebraska-produced food by providing networking resources for Nebraska schools, local vegetable and fruit growers and meat and dairy producers to increase the quantity of quality local food purchased by and served in our schools.

- LB324 - This bill makes it easier for the consumer to purchase individual packages of quality farm-raised meat directly from the producer or processor. It also allows the producer and consumer more flexibility when deciding where their meat is processed and creates the Independent Processor Assistance Program.

I will be introducing other bills before Wednesday, Jan. 20, that I'll tell you about next time.

If you have questions or concerns about these bills or others, feel free to give me a call or contact my legislative staff at (402) 471-2711, or send me an email at tbrandt@leg.ne.gov. You can also stay up to speed by subscribing to the Unicameral Update by sending an email to uio@leg.ne.gov or calling (402) 471-2788 and it's free.

— STAFF DIRECTORY —

Kevin L. Zadina, *publisher* • kevinzadina@sewardindependent.com
Pam Hagedorn, *office manager* • creteofficemgr@gmail.com
Barb Nigg, *receptionist* • creteclassifieds@gmail.com
Greg Forbes, *editor* • editor@sewardindependent.com
Stephanie Croston, *assistant editor/sports editor*
• scroston@sewardindependent.com
Caitlyn Nelson, *reporter* • caitlyn@sewardindependent.com
Hope Moural, *reporter* • hope@sewardindependent.com
Nichole Javorsky, *ad consultant* • nichole@sewardindependent.com
Dave Fiala, *graphic artist* • dave@sewardindependent.com
Hailey Behlen, *graphic artist* • hailey@sewardindependent.com

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OBITUARIES

DeLoris M. Oltman

Aug. 20, 1927 – Jan. 11, 2021

DeLoris Marie (Wanek) Oltman (Mrs. Vernon Oltman), daughter of Adolph and Emma (Smejdir) Wanek, was born Aug. 20, 1927, in Wilber. She died Monday, Jan. 11, 2021, at the age of 93.

She attended kindergarten and first grade in the Wilber Public Schools. She continued her education in Crete graduating from Crete High School in May of 1945.

She married Vernon (Bud) Oltman on Aug. 24, 1947. Two children were born to them, Linda Lee and Terry Vernon.

DeLoris devoted her early marriage years to being a mother and home maker. Later she continued her teaching career and obtained more education. She attended both the University of Nebraska and Doane College. In 1969, she graduated from Doane College with a bachelor of arts degree. She taught school in Saline and Lancaster county school districts, the Hallam School District and for 21 years in the Crete Public School system. She taught school for a total of 34 years.

DeLoris was a member of the Crete United Methodist Church until after her marriage. She then became a member of the Hallam Congregational United Church of Christ. She was a member of the Service Circle and taught Sunday School and Bible School for many years. She was a charter member of American Legion Auxiliary Unit 294 and the Hallam County Liners Extension club.

She was preceded in death by her parents and husband. Survivors include her son, Terry and daughter-in-law, Yvonne of Mesa, Arizona; daughter and son-in-law, Linda and Ron Rak of Nathrop, Colorado; grandson, Jason Oltman of Cortland; great-grandson, Kaedon Oltman of Lincoln; and granddaughter Julie Oltman of Lincoln.

A Celebration of Life service was Jan. 18. Memorial contributions are suggested to the Hallam Congregational United Church of Christ. Condolences may be left for the family at www.lincolnfh.com.



Susan M. Johnson

July 16, 1977 – Jan. 7, 2021

Susan Marie (Slama) Johnson, 43, passed away Jan. 7, 2021, at Lakeside Hospital in Omaha.

Susan was born in Friend on July 16, 1977. She attended Evergreen School District 25 from grades K-4, then attended school in Wilber and graduated in 1995.

She went on to graduate from Peru State College in May 1999, earning a bachelor of science degree in Psychology. Susan married Gregg Johnson on Jan. 12, 2002, at the First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Wilber. She was employed at Lincoln Financial Group as an Integrated Absence Claims Specialist.

Susan enjoyed spending time with her family and crafting with her daughters. She always looked forward to family vacations, baking, building her career and going to the casinos.

Susan is survived by her husband, Gregg Johnson; two daughters, Alexis and Graycee of Omaha; parents, Edward and Darlene Slama of Wilber; sister, Jaimie and her husband, Christopher Wasik of Summerville, South Carolina; brother, Edward JC Slama of Crete; sister, Cheri Slama and her husband Marcus Montoya of Wilber. Also, her sister, Christine McClucas of Lemoyne, Pennsylvania; mother-in-law, Diana Johnson of Waverly; and sister-in-law, Lori Krehnke of Davey.

Susan is also survived by many nieces, nephews, aunts, and uncles and cousins. Preceding her in death were her maternal grandparents, Dick and Lil Oliver of Wilber; paternal grandparents, Clarence and Helen Slama of Crete; and father-in-law, Allen Johnson of Waverly.

A service was held in Omaha at Covenant Presbyterian Church on Jan. 16 and a Celebration of Life was held Jan. 17 at Sokol Hall in Wilber.



Vernon J. Thornbrugh

Sept. 5, 1942 – Jan. 13, 2021

Vernon J. Thornbrugh, 78 of Lincoln, formerly of Crete, passed away Jan. 13, 2021.

Vernon was born Sept. 5, 1942, in Iola, Kansas, to Vernon L. and Edith (Turley) Thornbrugh. He grew up in Kansas until moving to McCook in the sixth grade. He graduated from McCook High School in 1960 and entered the Army where he served in Germany.

On Sept. 9, 1962, he was united in marriage to Garrah Lea Smith and she spent a year in Germany with him. They moved to Denver after leaving the Army and Vernon was always in the meat industry. He became a USDA meat inspector in the late 1960s. This job took him to many parts of the country, including Colorado, Wisconsin and Oregon before settling in Crete in 1979. Vernon's favorite pastime was fishing and coaching little league baseball.

Vernon is survived by his wife, Garrah Lea, of Lincoln, and their three children, Shanna (husband Phillip) Pogue of Omaha, Patrick (wife Terri) Thornbrugh of Smithville, Missouri, and Darren (wife Juliana) Thornbrugh of Glendale, Wisconsin; six grandchildren, Jared Thornbrugh, Tara Thornbrugh, Christian Pogue, Brooklyn Pogue, Reed Thornbrugh and Lily Thornbrugh; brother, David (wife Vicki) Thornbrugh of Stratton; sisters, Mary Davis, of Hinkley, Utah, and Ruth (husband John) Troth of Topeka, Kansas. He is preceded in death by his parents and brother, Steven Thornbrugh.

Due to the current Covid situation, a memorial service will be held at a later date. Memorial contributions are suggested to the American Heart Association or flowers may be sent in Vernon's name to St Mark's United Methodist Church in Lincoln. Condolences may be left for the family at www.bmlfh.com.



Blake C. Russell

June 22, 1984 – Jan. 11, 2021

Blake Carl Russell, 36 years young, died suddenly Monday Jan. 11, 2021 at his home in the company of his loving mother. He was born June 22, 1984, in Lincoln, the son of Crystal Richmond and Merle Russell.

He graduated from Crete High School in 2003. He worked as a security guard for Farm-land/Smithfield's plant for 17 years. He enjoyed being a free spirit with his many friends.

Blake is survived by his mother, Crystal Richmond, of Crete; his grandparents; five aunts and uncles and 14 cousins as well as other extended family/relatives.

Cremation, no visitation. Private family memorial services will be held at a later date. Memorial contributions are suggested to the immediate family, Crystal Richmond, in Blake's memory. Condolences may be left for the family at www.kunclfh.com.



REAL ESTATE

Information taken from records filed with the Saline County clerk.

Jan. 7 – 12

John B. Noel to Jamie N. Hoyer and Kevin J. Boyer and Jennifer L. Rausch and Shayne M. Rausch, a tract of land in the NW corner of the SW 1/4 SW1/4 35-8-4. DS \$364.50

Ryan S. Schacht and Marilyn S. Schacht to Joel Bowers and Penny Bowers, Lot 3 and Outlot A, Olive Creek Estates in the SE1/4 SE1/4 16-6-4. DS \$108

Venito Taylor and

Ana Taylor to Andrew Beck and Jenny Beck, Lot 2, Lothrop Lake Estates, City of Crete. DS \$141.75

Bloodgood Farms, Inc., to Michael T. Hedden and Cheryl L. Hedden, Tract 1: A tract of land in the SE1/4 33-8-2, and Tract 2: SW1/4 33-8-2. DS \$3,318.75

Jose G. Ortiz Murillo and Maria G. Juarez de Ortiz to Jose Gerardo Lemus Corona and Elizabeth Acosta-Bonilla, N1/2 of Lot 11 and all of Lot 12 in Block 206, Crete. DS \$90

SALINE COUNTY MARRIAGE LICENSES

Information taken from marriage licenses filed with the Saline County clerk

November/December

Randy James Asher, 33, Wilber, and Stephanie Ann Peloso, 33, Wilber.

Brandon Allen Johnson, 31, Wilber, and Barbra Katherine Reid, 32, Wilber.

Tristian Michael Sheridan, 23, Crete, and Delaney Noelle Lemkau, 24, Crete.

Nicholas Lee Vejraska, 38, Crete, and Jessica

Lynn Meredith, 34, Crete.

Dennis Ernesto Garcia, 39, Crete, and Ana Hilda Gonzalez, 29, Crete.

Taylor Ryan Cerveny, 26, Wilber, and Ashley Ann Bittinger, 25, Wilber.

Caleb Scott Perkins, 26, Crete, and Bailey Nicole Hooper, 24, Crete.

Brett Tyler Hynes, 25, Crete, and Arielle Tamara Young, 21, Crete.

Benjamin John Kastanek, 39, Wilber, and Diana Lynn Waters, 46, Wilber.

POLICE

Information provided by the Crete Police Department.

Dec. 31

12:11 a.m.—A driver in the 1200 block of Norman was cited for registration required.

5:44 p.m.—Citations were issued to a driver in the 900 block of Main for registration required, stop sign violation and no proof of financial responsibility.

Jan. 1

6:29 p.m.—Following a traffic stop in the 1400 block of Main, a driver was cited for a learner's permit violation, driving without headlights and no child restraint.

10:18 p.m.—A citation was issued to a driver in the 1200 block of main for no valid operator's license.

11:07 p.m.—A driver in the 1300 block of Wyoming was cited for driving while intoxicated, driving under suspension and no valid operator's license.

Jan. 2

1:46 p.m.—A citation for speeding was issued to a driver in the 200 block of Main.

2:25 p.m.—An accident was reported in the 1800 block of East 29th.

Jan. 3

12:11 a.m.—A driver in the 1300 block of Norman was cited for driving while intoxicated, open alcohol container in a vehicle

and driving without lights. Another citation was issued for open alcohol container in a motor vehicle.

3:02 a.m.—Following a vehicle stop in the area of Highway 33 and Forest, the driver was cited for registration required.

10:11 p.m.—A driver in the 1200 block of Linden was cited for fictitious plates and registration required.

10:46 p.m.—A citation for registration required was issued to a driver in the 800 block of Main.

Jan. 4

2:01 p.m.—A theft was reported in the 2300 block of State Highway 33.

11:46 p.m.—A driver in the 1200 block of Main was cited for driving while revoked.

Jan. 5

11:20 a.m.—A case of fraud was reported.

12:58 p.m.—A report was taken involving a driver leaving the scene of a property damage accident in the 900 block of East Highway 33.

4:32 p.m.—A theft case was reported.

Jan. 7

12:25 p.m.—Following a vehicle stop in the 1200 block of Linden, a driver was cited for no valid operator's license.

4:54 p.m.—Two citations were issued in Crete for shoplifting and minor in possession of alcohol.

COUNTY COURT

Information taken from Saline County court records.

September-October

Shanna Marie Lathrop, 26, Crete, fictitious plates, no valid registration or insurance, driving without a license, \$225 fine.

Zacarias Garcia Sanchez, 29, Crete, driving while revoked, driving without a license, license revoked one year and 22 days in jail.

Jorge Alarcon Garcia, 34, Crete, speeding, driving without a license and while suspended, \$300 fine.

Jesus Bautista, 18, Crete, minor in possession, possess open alcohol container, \$300 fine.

Luis Mendoza-Chavez, 38, Crete, dog owner liable for damages, dog at large, \$100 fine.

Lar Way, 20, Crete, leave scene of accident, \$150 fine.

Brook Shelly, 28, Hallam, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of marijuana, less than one ounce and driving while suspended, \$500 fine.

Domingo Rafael Ramirez, 26, Crete, driving under suspension and without a license, \$175 fine.

Evan Fisher, 40, Crete, driving under suspension, \$100 fine.

Mark Slezak, 62, Geneva, driving under the influence, posses-

sion of open alcohol container and consume in public area, \$500 fine.

Valentin Ortiz Adame, 27, Crete, driving under the influence (second offense) and left of center, license revoked 60 days and \$500 fine.

Drew Hose, 39, Lincoln, driving under the influence with an open alcohol container in a public area, license revoked one year, \$500 fine and two days in jail.

Terry Stanton, 58, Crete, willful reckless driving, \$149 fine.

Shawn Ryan, 30, Lincoln, possession of marijuana, one ounce or less (third offense), \$500 fine.

Candice Hall, 53, Exeter, theft by unlawful taking, \$50 fine.

Fredy Lucas Garcia, 18, Crete, minor in possession of alcohol and shoplifting, \$50 fine and six months of probation.

Kevin Estuardo de Leon Calderon, 19, Crete, driving without a license and no proof of insurance, \$175 fine.

Elisabeth Nolasco, 23, Crete, false reporting, \$200 fine.

Micaela Garcia Sanchez, 43, Crete, driving without a license and leaving scene of accident, \$100 fine.

Rommell Miranda Lopez, 19, Crete, willful reckless driving, \$250 fine.

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THE CRETE NEWS

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Days Gone By... School purchases moving picture machine

100 YEARS AGO - 1921

Alice Stockdale of Dorchester was appointed as a member of the stenographic force as the secretary of the senate office by the recommendation of Senator Watson.

This fine weather is being turned to good account by the farmers of the county and much farm work usually done in the late fall or early spring is being done now. Farmers are able to haul and spread manure and do other work that a cold winter would not permit. Ed Maryska called The News office Tuesday and informed us that his renter, James Svada, is threshing his oats and that the quality is fine.

The Doane College Independent Debating Club staged its mid-year formal at the parlors of the Congregational Church. A sumptuous feast was followed by an original comedy of college life, which was cleverly presented by the members of the club.

90 YEARS AGO - 1931

Coach Pop Klein's Crete Cardinals, demonstrating the fine art of looping the sphere, to the entire satisfaction of a large assemblage of Beatrice and Crete fans, defeated Beatrice 31-12. Frank Kobes was high point man for the Cards with 13 points.

Thirty or more fifth grade Central pupils, in the charge of their teacher, Miss Cadwaller, tromped into The News office Tuesday afternoon to watch the wheels go round.

Arnold Skrdla was

unconscious for two hours as the result of a concussion of the brain, which he received when the car that he was driving collided with a car driven by Leo Trnik Tuesday. After regaining consciousness he was taken to Lincoln for further treatment.

A vacuum tank and automatic pump have been added to the furnace of the high school to pull out the cold air and water.

80 YEARS AGO - 1941

The school has purchased a new moving picture machine. The entire outfit includes the 16-millimeter projector, sound box, screen and microphone. The microphone will later be used in speech classes. The films are rented and will be shown twice a month.

A serious accident was narrowly averted here Monday morning when the car belonging to Russell Wightman was sideswiped at the intersection of 13th and Hawthorne streets by a car driven by R. Nickelson of Crete.

County Treasurer Stanley Pospisil announced today that 2,322 automobile license tags have been issued so far this year.

Because the county court jury of six men was unable to agree Saturday before County Judge Gerald Hallstead, Leonard Anderson of near Milligan will be given another trial. The question is whether he violated the state compulsory education law when he refused to permit his children to swear allegiance to the

flag and salute it when they were sent to Rural School District No. 48.

70 YEARS AGO - 1951

John Rothmueller, pioneer Crete businessman, retired as president of the City National Bank.

Katherine Buell, associate professor of biology at Doane College, is due to receive her Doctor of Philosophy degree from University of Wisconsin later this month.

H.A. Wergin of Crete has been named campaign director in Saline County for the 1951 March of Dimes campaign which begins all over the nation next Monday. Crete local director is Hubert Filley.

60 YEARS AGO - 1961

Friday was a big day in Crete. Official groundbreaking ceremonies marked the beginning of work on the Crete National Guard Armory, climaxing a stormy period during which time the building was and then wasn't in Guard construction plans.

This edition of The Crete News is on time, thanks to the ingenuity of Crete machinist Jerry Sedlacek. Tuesday night the News printers thought the end had finally come when a loud bang brought the press to a grinding halt. There wasn't time to get new parts, so Wednesday morning Jerry went to work, and shortly after noon the press was turning better than before. This wasn't the first time Jerry has bailed someone out of a spot, and it probably won't be

the last.

In the first of a two-day home stand, the Doane Tigers set a new school record as they pummeled National Kansas City 111-88 and then on the following night were dumped by Nebraska Wesleyan 71-65 in a nip and tuck NCC game.

50 YEARS AGO - 1971

Something new and different is coming to Saline County. A class is being organized for adults 18 years of age and older who have not completed their high school diploma requirements, but would like to. Fairbury Junior College and Blue Valley Community Action Center are cooperating to bring this class.

Crete kids were taking advantage of the city's recreation program to swim in the Butler Pool on the Doane campus, while snow was sitting outside.

Kelton Sieckmeyer and Richard Prokop have received appointments from the FBI for extensive study and training. They are 1970 graduates of Crete High School.

40 YEARS AGO - 1981

Lindsey Sue Novak clocked in at 5:27 a.m. Jan. 16, to become the first baby born in 1981 at Crete Municipal Hospital. She is the first daughter born to Darlene (Burianek) and Lumir E. Novak Jr. of Pleasant Dale.

Glen Severin retired as postmaster Friday after 18 years of what he calls a "well rounded experience" at the Crete

Post Office. The Hallam native said he has performed nearly every type of job at the post office.

Crete veterinarians Dr. Max Hacker and Dr. P.E. Chelboun are thankful they got out of the smoke-filled Holiday Inn in Kearney early Saturday morning with only smoke-filled lungs.

30 YEARS AGO - 1991

Crete Municipal Hospital became one of several beneficiaries of the generosity of the Matejka Family Trust when it received a check for \$100,000.

The Crete Board of Education will conduct business with only five members following the unexpected resignation of Kathy Koerner of Crete, who was elected to the board in the November general election. School board candidates were misinformed about possible conflicts of interest and board members may not hold a teaching position with the Crete School District, according to the School District Attorney. Koerner is a substitute teacher.

Doane senior Darrin Mariska has been selected to the 1990 NAIA Division II Football All-America Scholar-Athlete list.

20 YEARS AGO - 2001

Charges were filed Friday in Saline County Court against a Wilber man in connection with a series of Thursday night burglaries in Wilber.

Saline County will become the first county in Nebraska to receive

the National Weather Service Storm Ready Certification Award. The national award recognizes the readiness of a community and/or county to handle all types of severe weather.

10 YEARS AGO - 2011

Tri County Public Schools were closed at the end of last week in response to two students testing positive for a form of bacterial meningitis. A release, dated Monday, identified the children by age, a fourth grade and a preschool student, from separate families and said they were diagnosed last week. One child is recovering, while one is still ill.

The project to replace the windows of the Saline County Courthouse is moving along with possible bid opening in mid-February.

Teresa Scanlan was crowned Miss America on Saturday, Jan. 15, in Las Vegas. Part of her journey started in Crete at the Saline County Talent Competition last February where she was crowned Miss Southeast in a local competition. From there, she won Miss Nebraska in June and earned her national title last weekend.



PUBLIC NOTICES

MINUTES

Board of Education
Regular Meeting
Monday, January 11, 2021
7:00 PM
Public School Library
506 W. 9th Street
Dorchester, NE 68343-0007

Notice of the time and place of the Dorchester Board of Education meeting was published in a newspaper of general circulation within the district. Newspapers of general circulation in the district include, but are not necessarily limited to, the Crete News, the Lincoln Journal Star, or the Omaha World-Herald. Notice is also posted in at least three prominent places within the school district which may include the following: Dorchester Public Schools, Farmers Coop, First State Bank, and the Village Office. Individual board members received in advance the meeting agenda and meeting materials. Pursuant to Section 84-1412 of the Nebraska Statutes, the public is hereby informed that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is posted in the Board meeting boardroom. Matthew Hansen: Present
Mike Hatfield: Present
Shelly Lehr: Present
Carol Schnell: Present
Kelli Schweitzer: Present
Steve Vyhnalek: Present

1. Call to Order and Announce Open Meetings Act Verification
The meeting was called to order by President Steve Vyhnalek at 7:00 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.
2. Roll Call
School personnel present are Superintendent Daryl Schrunk, Principal Jake Wiese and Linda Woolsey.
3. Receive Visitors and Announce Open Forum for Public Comment
No visitors present.
4. Request for Change of Agenda
No request for change of agenda.
5. Oath of Office for New Board Members
The Oath of Office was taken by new board member, Shelly Lehr.
6. Reorganization of the Board of Education by Nomination and Roll Call or Ballot Vote
Motion to retain Steve Vyhnalek as President, Matt Hansen as Vice-President and Carol Schnell as Secretary passed with a motion by Kelli Schweitzer and a second by Mike Hatfield. Passed 6-0.
Motion to elect Kelli Schweitzer as Treasurer passed with a motion by Kelli Schweitzer and a second by Matthew Hansen. Passed 6-0.
Mr. Schrunk reviewed duties of

board members, officers and committees.

7. Approval of the Minutes of the Last Meeting
Motion to approve the reading of the last meeting minutes passed with a motion by Kelli Schweitzer and a second by Matthew Hansen. Passed 6-0.

8. Financial Report
Motion to approve the financial report passed with a motion by Carol Schnell and a second by Matthew Hansen. Passed 6-0.

9. Reports

9.1. Principal's Report

Mr. Wiese presented information on the One-Act Play 5th place finish at the State Play Production. He attended a virtual NCSA State Principal's Conference and completed his classes for PK-12 certification. Winter MAP Testing was completed in the elementary for Math and Reading. A Elementary Excellence Rally was held on December 22nd. A Secondary Excellence Rally was held on January 8th. A Professional Development Day was held on January 4th with all staff. Upcoming events include many various basketball games and tournaments. The elementary and secondary concerts have been rescheduled for January 18th. Another professional development day will be held on January 27th with Nancy Meyer and Ruby Payne focused on poverty.

9.2. Superintendent's Report

Mr. Schrunk discussed topics for a Board Retreat on March 1st. E-Rate bidding will be done for new switches.

10. Discussion Items

10.1. Review Board of Education Policies

#6004-Curriculum Development,

#6006-Commencement

Ceremony, #6009-Grade

Placement of Transfer Students,

#6010-Special Education

Verification, #6011-Fire Instruction

and Prevention, and #6012-Flag

Display and Patriotic Observances.

Mr. Schrunk reviewed policies

#6004- Curriculum Development,

#6006 - Commencement

Ceremony, #6009 - Grade

Placement of Transfer Students,

#6010 - Special Education

Verification, #6011 - Fire

Instruction and Prevention and

#6012 - Flag Display and Patriotic

Observances. No changes are

required at this time.

10.2. Review the District Annual

Report

Mr. Schrunk reviewed the

Dorchester Public School Annual

Report for 2020-2021.

11. Action Items

11.1. Appointment of Board

Members, Officers and Committees

11.2. Consider Retaining the

following as the official designees

for 2021: 1) Representative for

State and Federal Programs -

Superintendent or designee, 2)

School Attorneys - KSB Law, 3)

Newspaper - Crete News, and 4)

Depository of District Funds -

First State Bank, Dorchester Branch

Motion to approve the district's 2021-2022 negotiated agreement with the certificated staff passed with a motion by Matthew Hansen and a second by Shelly Lehr. Passed 6-0.

12. Board Committee Reports

No board committee reports at

this time.

13. Closed Session (as necessary

per statute)

Closed session is not necessary

at this time.

14. Establish Future Board of

Education Meeting Dates and

Times

The next scheduled board meeting

is Monday, February 8 at 7:00 p.m.

[Girls' BB Sub-districts on Feb. 15].

Upcoming:

Board Retreat = Monday, March

1 at TBD

Board Meeting = Monday, March

15 at 7:00 p.m.

15. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 8:32 pm

passed with a motion by Carol

Schnell and a second by Matthew

Hansen.

Passed 6-0.

Carol Schnell

Secretary of the Board of Education

CR — January 20, 2021

Village of Dorchester Board of Trustees Minutes
January 4, 2021 (condensed)
The regular meeting of the Village of Dorchester Board of Trustees was held Monday, January 4, 2021 at the Dorchester Community Hall and was called to order at 7:15 p.m. Chairperson Andrea Pracheil advised those present of the Open Meeting Act. Answering Roll Call were board members Matt Scholz, Roger Miller, Sarah Wenz, Kelly Vyhnalek and Chairperson Andrea Pracheil. Advance Notice of the meeting was posted at the Dorchester US Post Office; First State Bank, NE; Village of Dorchester office and The Crete News.

Accepted Consent Agenda #1-#4.

Pracheil abstained. 4-0-1 Claims:

Ameritas Life Ins Co ins 514.60;

BH Energy gas 984.32; BCBS ins

10,667.33; BOK Financial bond

fees 750.00 ;Craig Bontrager

svs 1,000.00; City of Crete svs

6,029.64; Craig Acting Svs svs

365.34; Crete Ace Hardware

spls 117.88; Dorchester Vol Fire

Dept g/c 600.00; Dorchester Vol

Fire Dept spls 14.96; Dorchester

Vol Fire Dept spls 18.72;

Dorchester Vol Fire Dept Zoom

subscript 160.39; EFTPS payroll

tax 2,461.84; Esri GIS license

500.00; FSB NE HSA 20,000.00;

General Fire & Safety fire ext

maint 1,265.40; Hoffschneider

Law svs 1,851.20; Home Depot

spls 122.36; Hometown Leasing

lease 125.00; Kelli Hromek svs

133.38 ;Kelli Hromek spls 40.58;

Klein Const svs 200.00; Leo Adaly

CCCCF Pymt 8,190.00; Lincoln

Fin Group ins 50.00; Menards

spl 45.07; NDEE license renewal

150.00; NE Dept of Rev Sales &

Use Tax 2,010.93; NE Pub Health

Env Lab svs 99.00; NPPD Nov

elec 3,063.06 NPPD elec 254.06;

Olsson svs 9,850.00; Olsson svs

4,054.44; Andrea Pracheil reimb

84.62; Safeguard spls 258.81;

Saline Co Clerk 4th qtr law enforce

2,930.00; Saline Co Register of Deeds fee 12.00; Saline Co Treas RE tax 186.96; Selectel Wireless On cell 63.16; Seward Co Ind publ 17.79; Staples spls 123.08; USA Blue Book spls 167.24; USPS postage 330.00 ;Vyhnalek Ins vfd policy 7,300.00; Wages Dec payroll 18,606.66; Walmart spls 177.02 ;Waste Connect svs 4,767.58; Windstream ph-vfd 149.47; Windstream ph-village 247.67; Zoom Video Comm svs 16.03; Ben's Iron snow removal 600.00; Marvin Planning svs 1,500.00; Matheson Tri-Gas spls 88.28; Seward Co Ind publ 49.40; FSB pd off LOC & int 46,935.35. No Sheriff's Report. No Fire Report. Bontrager reported on code compliance. Monthly Covid-19 Review.

Motion by Pracheil, seconded by

Miller to enter closed session with

the Village Board, Atty. Kubert,

code compliance officer Craig

Bontrager, Clerk-Treasurer Riley,

and Deputy Clerk Kasl for the

purpose of discussing strategy

sessions with respect to collective

bargaining, real estate purchases,

pending litigation, or litigation

which is imminent as evidence by

communication of a claim or threat

of litigation to or by the public

body for a period not to exceed

20 minutes. Motion carried at 7:45

pm. Session was opened at 8:03

pm. No formal action was taken

during closed session.

Motions to adjourn. Carried at 8:03

p.m. The next regular meeting is

Monday, February 1, 2021 at 7:00

p.m. at the Community Hall.

Submitted by Gloria J Riley, Clerk

- Treasurer

CR — January 20, 2021

ZNEZ

ESTATES

Mattson Ricketts Law Firm
134 S. 13th Street, Suite 1200
Lincoln, Nebraska 68508

NOTICE OF INFORMAL

PROBATE AND INFORMAL

APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL

REPRESENTATIVE,

AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

County Court of Saline County,

Nebraska

Estate No. PR20-64 of

Nancy J. Schuerman, Deceased

Notice is hereby given that on

December 28, 2020, in the Saline

County Court, in Wilber, Nebraska,

the registrar issued a written

statement of informal probate of

the Last Will and Testament of

Nancy J. Schuerman, deceased,

and appointed Emily J. Brown

as personal representative of the

estate. The address of the

representative is P.O. Box 531, Wilber, Nebraska 68465. Creditors must file their claims with this court on or before the 7th day of March, 2021, or be forever barred. Dated: December 28, 2020. /s/ Joshua K. McDougall Clerk of the County Court CR — January 06, 13, 20, 2021 ZNEZ

GENERAL NOTICES

NOTICE

ORGANIZATIONS

Kalkwarf & Smith Law Offices LLC NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION OF CONNER'S ANTIQUES AND SALVAGE, L.L.C. Notice is hereby given that Conner's Antiques and Salvage, L.L.C., a Nebraska Limited Liability Company, has been organized under the laws of the State on Nebraska, with its initial Designated Office at 1624 South 17th Street, Lincoln, NE 68502-2601. The company is member-managed. The nature of the Company is to engage in the ownership and the management of a business that will complete historical demolition and salvage, buy and sell architectural antiques and collectibles, and do all other business purposes for which a limited liability company may be organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska. The Registered Agent for service of process is Shaylene M. Smith and the Registered Office is 1240 Ivy Ave., P.O. Box 272, Crete, NE 68333. CR — January 13, 20, 27, 2021

Solheim Law Firm 1100 Main Ave, Crete, NE 68333 402-381-3765 NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION OF GOLDEN EAGLE PROPERTIES LLC Notice is hereby given of the organization of Golden Eagle Properties LLC. The street and mailing address of the initial designated office is 688 County Road 2350, PO Box 543, Crete, NE 68333. The name and mailing address of the registered agent for service of process is Steven Delaney, 688 County Road 2350, PO Box 543, Crete, NE 68333. CR — January 20, 27, February 03, 2021

(Hanson, Hroch & Kuntz) Crete, Nebraska NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION NOTICE IS HERBY GIVEN THAT Laura C. Kersten, LLC, a Nebraska Limited Liability Company is organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska, with its registered office at 1107 Grove, Crete, Nebraska 68333, and its registered agent being Laura C. Kersten. The Designated Office Address for the Company is 1107 Grove, Crete, Nebraska 68333. The general nature of its business to engage in and to do any lawful act concerning any and all lawful business, other than banking and insurance, for which a limited liability company may be organized under the laws of Nebraska; including all purposes authorized by law, to the same extent as natural persons might or could do. A limited liability company was formed on December 10, 2020 and will continue in perpetuity. Its affairs shall be conducted by the Members pursuant to an Operating Agreement duly adopted by the Company. Laura C. Kersten 1107 Grove Crete, NE 68333 CR — January 13, 20, 27, 2021

Kalkwarf & Smith Law Offices LLC NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION OF PALO BLANCO UNDERGROUND, L.L.C. Notice is hereby given that Palo Blanco Underground, L.L.C., a Nebraska Limited Liability Company, has been organized under the laws of the State on Nebraska, with its initial designated and registered office at 1239 Main Ave., Crete, NE 68333. The company is member-managed. The nature of the Company is to engage in the ownership and the management of a cable burying and installation company and all other business purposes for which a limited liability company may be organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska. The registered agent for service of process is Shawn Morales at 1239 Main Ave., Crete, NE 68333. CR — January 20, 27, February 03, 2021

Kalkwarf & Smith Law Offices LLC NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION OF CONNER'S RENTALS, L.L.C. Notice is hereby given that Conner's Rentals, L.L.C., a Nebraska Limited Liability Company, has been organized under the laws of the State on Nebraska, with its initial Designated Office at 1112 Grove Ave., Crete, NE 68333. The company is member-managed. The nature of the Company is to engage in the ownership and the management of a real estate rental company and to do all other business purposes for which a limited liability company may be organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska. The Registered Agent for service of process is Shaylene M. Smith and the Registered Office is 1240 Ivy Ave., P.O. Box 272, Crete, NE 68333. CR — January 13, 20, 27, 2021 ZNEZ

HEARINGS

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council of the City of Crete,

Nebraska, will hold a hearing on February 2, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. at the Library community room, 1515 Forest, Crete, Nebraska, for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of citizens relating to the following proposed zoning regulation change: Amendments to District Sign Regulations: electronic information and pole-mounted signs The City Council will conduct a regular session after the hearing to take action as needed. The agenda for the meeting is on file at the City Clerk's Office. Said meeting will be open to the public. Judi Meyer City Clerk CR — January 20, 2021

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING A Public Hearing on proposed Saline County Zoning Regulation changes will be held at the Saline County Board of Commissioners meeting on February 2nd, 2021. The Public Hearing will start at or about 10:00 A.M. and will be held in the Assembly Room in the Saline County Courthouse at 204 S. High St. Wilber, Nebraska. At that time public comment will be heard. Comments can also be sent to the Saline County Zoning Administrator at 402-821-3326 or email at salinewood@diodecom.net any time up to the start of the meeting. Proposed changes can be viewed on the Saline County website or in the Zoning Administrators office at the Courthouse in Wilber. WR/FS/CR — January 13, 20, 2021

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO ALL RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF CRETE, NEBRASKA AND ALL OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS: You are hereby placed on notice that the City Council of the City of Crete, Nebraska, shall hold a public hearing the Library Community Room, located at 1515 Forest Avenue on the 2nd day of February, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. The purpose of this hearing is to hear testimony in favor of, in opposition to and to answer questions in relation to the proposed One Year and Six Year Street Improvement Program for the City of Crete, Nebraska. The Mayor and City Council will conduct a regular session after the hearing to take action as needed. A copy of the program is on file with the City Clerk and is subject to public review and examination. Judi Meyer City Clerk CR — January 20, 2021 ZNEZ

MEETINGS

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Crete, Nebraska, will meet on Tuesday, February 2, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. at the Library Community Room, 1515 Forest Avenue, Crete, Nebraska, until further notice due to Covid. The agenda for the meeting is on file at the City Clerk's Office. Said meeting will be open to the public. The City of Crete assures that no person shall on the grounds of race, color, national origin, age, disability, handicap or sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity of the City receiving Federal financial assistance. To report discrimination, contact the City Clerk's office. Judi Meyer City Clerk CR — January 20, 2021

Village of Dorchester Notice of Public Meeting February 1, 2021, 7:00 p.m., Community Hall Notice is hereby given that the Village of Dorchester Board of Trustees meeting will be held on February 1, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. The meeting is open to the public. Members of the public may attend this meeting or by Zoom electronically. Join Zoom Meeting: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88376809824 1-312-626-6799 Zoom ID: 883 7680 9824 An agenda for such meeting is available for public inspection at the office of the Village Clerk. Except for items of an emergency nature, the agenda shall not be enlarged later than twenty-four hours before scheduled commencement of the meeting. Gloria J Riley Village Clerk – Treasurer CR — January 20, 2021

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING The Saline County Veterans Service Committee will hold a meeting on Wednesday 20 January 2021. The Meeting will be called to order at 2:00 p.m. in the General Assembly Hall, Room 101 of the Saline County Courthouse, at Wilber Nebraska and is open to the General Public. Agenda Items must be in the County Veterans Service Office by the close of Business 19 January 2021. Forrest A. Doyle Saline County Veterans Service Officer CR — January 06, 13, 20, 2021 ZNEZ

Table with columns: Fund, Fund Name, Beginning Balance, Collections, Disbursements, Fund Transfers, Ending Balance. Title: SALINE COUNTY TREASURER'S SUMMARY OF COLLECTIONS, DISBURSEMENTS AND BALANCES SIX MONTHS JULY 1, 2020 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2020. Includes sub-totals for Grand Totals.

I, Debbie Spanyers, Saline County Treasurer, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct statement of collections, disbursements and balances for the six month period ending December 31, 2020; and the amounts enumerated are correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. The County clerk has certified that as of December 31, 2020, there are no unpaid claims. Investments \$11,903,680.19 CASH 284,900.47 BALANCE \$12,188,580.66 Debbie Spanyers Saline County Treasurer

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Cardinals see success at tournament, duals

BY STEPHANIE CROSTON
for The Crete News

Crete's wrestling team finished fifth in a 10-team invitational Jan. 14 and went 1-4 in duals Jan. 16.

Coach Nicco Salvador said the Cardinals were short-handed at Yutan Thursday. With their full team, CHS could have placed as high as third in the team standings, he said.

Kennedy Vicente Vasquez brought home the gold at 220 pounds, going 3-0 on the day and winning the championship match 1-0.

"It was six minutes on their feet," Salvador said. "He had a grinder of a day."

Wyatt Clarke (113 pounds), Zachary Binder (160) and Ivery Hoyos (285) placed second. Conner Lomax (138) was third, and Jaime Ramos (106) and Anthony Frahm (145) were fourth.

"I was really happy with how we wrestled," Salvador said. "We were able to see teams we don't normally see and had some success."

He said everyone wrestled at least one six-minute match, which helps with conditioning.

The Cardinals competed in the Rumble in River Country at Nebraska City Saturday. The day was another grinder for the CHS wrestlers, the coach said, with five duals back-to-back.

Freshman Jeffrey Kuncel had a great day, going 3-2 with three pins. Salvador said

Kuncel is a great example of listening to the coaches and doing things the right way.

His match against Sam Draus of Nebraska City was a dogfight that Kuncel won by pin in the third period.

Lomax, a sophomore, also had a good day at 138 pounds, going 2-3 with two pins. Salvador said Lomax has struggled to translate the practice room to the competition arena.

"He's the best 1-14 kid I've ever seen," Salvador said.

However, with the success he had this week, Salvador said, he hopes Lomax's luck will turn.

Frahm has had a tough senior year, but to see him wrestle well both days was good, Salvador said.

Up next for the Cardinals is a tournament at David City Saturday, Jan. 23. Salvador said the team will spend time watching film, lifting and managing weight. Weight is the biggest issue, since a couple wrestlers are still descending to their final competition weights, he said.

YUTAN INVITATIONAL

Team scores—Yutan 151, Mount Michael Benedictine 114, Fort Calhoun 94, Arlington 86, Crete 84, Lincoln Christian 49, Lincoln Lutheran 39, Johnson County Central 29, Friend 13, Cedar Bluffs 4
126JV—Lesnier Gomez (CRT) pinned by Luke Blocker (LC) 5:34; pinned by Nate Rupp (YUT) 0:49, third
145JV—Emmanuel Valdivinos (CRT) pin Cole Beutler (YUT) 2:42; pin Mason Semler (FRI) 1:24, first
106—Jaime Ramos (CRT) def. by Trey

McCoy (FC) 10-2; pinned by Trey Hill (ARL) 5:37; def. by Janson Pilkington (YUT) 6-3, fourth

113—Wyatt Clarke (CRT) def. Bryce Kolc (YUT) 9-2; def. Taggart Crouse (MMB) 6-4; pinned by Ely Olberding (FC) 1:28, second

126—Jeffrey Kuncel (CRT) pinned by Jake Harris (MMB) 1:53; pinned by Trevor Cooley (ARL) 0:22; pin Aaron Duros (FC) 1:59, fifth

132—Cesar Linares (CRT) def. JaPreece Morehead (JCC) 26-11; pinned by Grant Wells (LL) 5:07; def. by Sebastian Duran (MMB) 3-1; def. Morehead (JCC) 21-6, fifth

132—Justin Morales Cerrato (CRT) pinned by Grant Wells (LL) 4:52; pinned by JaPreece Morehead (JCC) 2:19; pin Wyatt Johnson (ARL) 1:42
138—Conner Lomax (CRT) pin Jacob Graham (JCC) 1:42; pinned by Zach Krajccek (YUT) 2:37; pin Kolton Gilmore (ARL) 1:55; pin Graham (JCC) 2:08, third

145—Anthony Frahm (CRT) def. Bak-hovaddin Ahmedov (LL) 11-9; pinned by Hunter Gilmore (ARL) 3:03; pin Cole Holman (FRI) 3:58; def. by Sean Henkel (YUT) 12-1, fourth
152—Barrett Eggerling (CRT) pinned by Keyden Uhrich (LL) 1:15; pinned by Chris Angel (MMB) 1:20

160—Zachary Binder (CRT) pin John Paul LaPlante (LL) 0:41; pin Michael Oehler (MMB) 4:29; def. by Derek Wacker (YUT) 7-1, second
182—Henry Vicente (CRT) pinned by Lane Ballard (LC) 1:13; pinned by Luke Wooten (MMB) 2:56; pin Josh Fisher (YUT) 4:36

220—Kennedy Vicente Vasquez (CRT) pin Anthony Roth (LC) 2:46; def. Sam Agena (JCC) 6-2; def. Raoul Djidjoho (MMB) 1-0, first
285—Ivery Hoyos (CRT) pin Christian Harrield (JCC) 1:58; pin Juan Ceballos (JCC) 0:10; pinned by John Balch (MMB) 3:19, second

RUMBLE IN RIVER COUNTRY NEBRASKA CITY 72, CRETE 6

113 - Gabe Hartman (NC) def. Clarke (CRT) 13-1; 120 - Hayden Schalk (NC) win by forfeit; 126 - Kuncel (CRT) pin Sam Draus (NC) 5:48; 132 - Jesse Rodriguez (NC) pin Linares (CRT) 2:16; 138 - Andres Pro (NC) def. Lomax (CRT) 9-1; 145 - Bayler Poston (NC) pin Frahm (CRT) 1:33; 152 - Lee Hobbs (NC) def. Binder (CRT) 16-1; 160 - Chance Sjulim (NC) win by forfeit; 170 - Logan Hobbs (NC) win by forfeit; 182 - Brexton Roberts (NC) win by forfeit; 195 - Braeden Chipman (NC) win by forfeit; 220 - Mikah Ruiz (NC) def. Vicente Vasquez (CRT) 23-6; 285 - Gavin Bailey (NC) pin Hoyos (CRT) 0:35; 106 - Jonny Christiansen (NC) pin Ramos (CRT) 0:54

PLATTSMOUTH 63, CRETE 12

120 - Double Forfeit; 126 - Bryce Neuin (PLM) pin Kuncel (CRT) 2:55; 132 - Dominic Cherek (PLM) pin Linares (CRT) 0:37; 138 - Elijah Dix (PLM) pin Lomax (CRT) 3:22; 145 - Mathew Zietek (PLM) pin Frahm (CRT) 2:48; 152 - Josh Adkins (PLM) pin Binder (CRT) 1:13; 160 - Josh Colgrove (PLM) win by forfeit; 170 - Cameron Aughenbaugh (PLM) win by forfeit; 182 - Caleb Adkins (PLM) win by forfeit; 195 - Eli Michel (PLM) win by forfeit; 220 - Vicente Vasquez (CRT) win by forfeit; 285 - Benjamin Yoder (PLM) pin Hoyos (CRT) 2:14; 106 - Ramos (CRT) pin Evan Kindelin (PLM) 0:57; 113 - Cael Nieslen (PLM) def. Clarke (CRT) 7-0

FORT CALHOUN 42 CRETE 36

126 - Kuncel (CRT) pin Aaron Duros (FC) 4:43; 132 - John McKennan (FC) pin Linares (CRT) 5:47; 138 - Lomax (CRT) pin Tristen Hansen (FC) 2:52; 145 - Frahm (CRT) win by forfeit; 152 - Binder (CRT) win by forfeit; 160 - Barrett Eggerling (CRT) win by forfeit; 170 - Double Forfeit; 182 - Mason Touring

(FC) win by forfeit; 195 - Grant Nixon (FC) win by forfeit; 220 - Jesse Hartline (FC) pin Vicente Vasquez (CRT) 1:18; 285 - Hoyos (CRT) win by forfeit; 106 - Trey McCoy (FC) pin Ramos (CRT) 2:31; 113 - Ely Olberding (FC) pin Clarke (CRT) 1:27; 120 - Lance Olberding (FC) win by forfeit

CRETE 40, ELKHORN 33

132 - Alden Mays (ELK) pin Linares (CRT) 1:25; 138 - Lomax (CRT) pin Kade Beguin (ELK) 2:26; 145 - Frahm (CRT) def. Nolan Ienn (ELK) 14-6; 152 - Sean Stara (ELK) pin Barrett Eggerling (CRT) 0:46; 160 - Mason Villwok (ELK) def. Binder (CRT) 11-4; 170 - Double Forfeit; 182 - Brody Schmielau (ELK) win by forfeit; 195 - Hollis Anderson (CRT) win by forfeit; 220 - Vicente Vasquez (CRT) pin Gavin Glover (ELK) 1:45; 285 - Hoyos (CRT) pin Hamed Syed (ELK) 4:37; 106 - Ramos (CRT) pin Gabby Ladehoff (ELK) 0:29; 113 - Gavin Ienn (ELK) pin Clarke (CRT) 4:13; 120 - Landon Karre (ELK) win by forfeit; 126 - Kuncel (CRT) pin Nick Branch (ELK) 3:12

SEWARD 46, CRETE 24

138 - Cameron Schrad (SEW) pin Lomax (CRT) 0:25; 145 - Boone Duncan (SEW) over Frahm (CRT) 14-0; 152 - Breckin Schoepf (SEW) pin Barrett Eggerling (CRT) 0:47; 160 - Binder (CRT) pin Thunder Hayek (SEW) 1:22; 170 - Double Forfeit; 182 - Nolan Hill (SEW) win by forfeit; 195 - Hunter Novacek (SEW) win by forfeit; 220 - Vicente Vasquez (CRT) win by forfeit; 285 - Hoyos (CRT) win by forfeit; 106 - Ramos (CRT) win by forfeit; 113 - Cash Duncan (SEW) pin Clarke (CRT) 3:27; 120 - Double Forfeit; 126 - Xander Foulk (SEW) pin Kuncel (CRT) 2:48; 132 - Conner Rosendale (SEW) pin Linares (CRT) 1:17

DORCHESTER WRAP-UP



STEPHANIE CROSTON | THE CRETE NEWS

TJ Belcher of Dorchester turns up the court against Friend as teammate Blake Hansen follows the play Jan. 12.



STEPHANIE CROSTON | THE CRETE NEWS

Alli Novak of Dorchester looks for the rim in the Longhorns' win over Friend Jan. 12.

Boys' basketball

The Dorchester boys' basketball team is still looking for consistency, Coach Miles Ray said.

The Longhorns lost to Friend 68-33 Jan. 12 and to East Butler 44-24 Jan. 14. A game at High Plains Jan. 15 was postponed because of weather.

In his return to the Longhorns, TJ Belcher led the team with 11 points against Friend and 10 against East Butler. Blake Hansen added 10 points and six rebounds against FHS.

Dorchester (3-8) was sched-

uled to host Cross County Jan. 19 and travel to Shelby-Rising City Thursday, Jan. 21.

The Crossroads Conference tournament is set to start Saturday, Jan. 23. Dorchester is to play Nebraska Lutheran at 3 p.m. at Osceola.

Girls' basketball

Dorchester's girls' basketball team picked up a pair of wins last week, beating Friend 57-19 Jan. 12 and East Butler 45-28 Jan. 14.

Jacee Zoubek and Hailey Schweitzer scored 18 points each

against Friend, and both made four three-pointers. Zoubek scored 14 and Schweitzer 11 against East Butler.

The Longhorns (7-5) are to host Cross County Jan. 19 and travel to Shelby-Rising City Thursday, Jan. 21. The Crossroads Conference tournament starts Saturday, Jan. 23. DHS is slated to play SRC at 1 p.m. at Osceola.

Wrestling

The Dorchester wrestlers are scheduled to compete at Thayer Central Friday, Jan. 22.

Cards fall at Norris

BY STEPHANIE CROSTON
for The Crete News

After weather postponed Jan. 15's game against York, the Crete boys' basketball team headed to Norris Jan. 16 and came home on the short end of a 67-42 score.

Coach Tony Siske said Norris is an experienced team with its top seven players seniors. "They are the exact opposite of us," he said.

Siske was pleased with his team's play however, seeing signs of improvement. CHS still had too many turnovers (17), but the team played good defense at times.

"We had some of our best offensive possessions," he said.

The Cardinal offense was able to get the ball into the post more and swing the ball around the perimeter more effectively, he said.

"We don't like the outcome, but there are definitely positives to take from it," Siske said.

Mason Crumbliss led the team with 12 points. Aidan McDowell continues to play solid basketball and finished with eight points, and Jabin Gardiner scored nine.

Seniors Rodrigo Martinez and Logan Bietz also played well, Siske said.

The Cardinals (3-9) were scheduled to host Seward Jan. 19, travel to Nebraska City Thursday, Jan. 21, and host Elkhorn Saturday, Jan. 23, with tipoff set for 4 p.m.

NORRIS 67, CRETE 42
CHS 7 8 13 14 42
NHS 16 16 19 16 67

CHS—Isaac Kracl 2-8 0-2 4, Aidan McDowell 3-10 2-2 8, Braden Schmeckpeper 0-1 0-0 0, Mason Crumbliss 5-8 0-0 12, Brayton Zeigib 0-2 2-2 2, Rodrigo Martinez 2-3 0-0 5, Logan Bietz 1-3 0-0 2, Cale Bessler 0-1 0-0 0, Jabin Gardiner 4-6 0-4 9. Totals 17-42 4-10 42.

NHS—Totals 24-58 16-20 67.
Three-point goals—CHS 4-21 (Kracl 0-2, McDowell 0-7, Schmeckpeper 0-1, Crumbliss 2-4, Zeigib 0-1, Martinez 1-2, Bietz 0-1, Gardiner 1-3), NHS 3-18. **Rebounds**—CHS 26 (three with 5), NHS 34. **Assists**—CHS 7 (Gardiner 3). **Steals**—CHS 4 (Crumbliss 2). **Blocked shots**—CHS 2 (Crumbliss, Bietz 1). **Turnovers**—CHS 17, NHS 7. **Fouls**—CHS 14, NHS 10.



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THE CRETE NEWS

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FRIEND WRAP-UP

Wrestling

Friend wrestlers competed in tournaments at Yutan and Cross County last week. The Bulldogs won two varsity medals at Yutan with Jesse Duba and Jacob Weber placing third and fourth, respectively, at Yutan.

The Cross County tournament was not as good for FHS, Coach Nathan Baber said. The Bulldogs did not wrestle their best and came home empty-handed.

Friend is scheduled to compete at Thayer Central Friday, Jan. 22.

Boys' basketball

The Friend boys' basketball team split its games last week, beating



Kiarra Fennell of Friend looks for an open teammate against Dorchester Jan. 12.

STEPHANIE CROSTON | THE CRETE NEWS



Dorchester 68-33 and losing to Osceola 69-59.

The Bulldogs got off to a hot start against Dorchester, leading 40-12 at halftime. A slow start against Osceola saw a 15-7 deficit at the end of the first quarter.

Breckan Schluter led FHS with 16 points against Dorchester and 28 against Osceola. Deven Collier and Chase Svehla added 13 each against DHS, and JB Drake notched 14 against OHS.

The Bulldogs (7-6)

were scheduled to travel to Thayer Central Jan. 19 and host Johnson-Brock Friday, Jan. 22, with tipoff at 7:30 p.m.

Girls' basketball

The Friend girls' basketball team fell short in two games last week, losing to Dorchester 57-19 and to Osceola 45-24.

FHS (0-13) was scheduled to travel to Thayer Central Jan. 19 and host Johnson-Brock Friday, Jan. 22, with tipoff at 6 p.m.

STEPHANIE CROSTON | THE CRETE NEWS

Left: Friend's JB Drake shoots over the Dorchester defense Jan. 12.

CHS girls drop road game

BY STEPHANIE CROSTON
for The Crete News

The Crete girls' basketball team had just one game last week after Friday's competition against York was postponed because of weather.

The Cardinals traveled to Norris Jan. 16 and came up just short 47-43.

Coach John Larsen said Crete didn't play well in the first half and trailed 26-16 at halftime.

"We responded with an excellent third quarter but came up just short against a very good team," he said.

Crete outscored Norris 19-11 in the third.

Hannah Newton led the team with 16 points and was 3-3 from three-point range. Brooke Deisley added 10 points, and Lexi Mach grabbed 11 rebounds.

Crete (10-2) had a busy week on the schedule, with Seward Jan. 19, a trip to Nebraska City Thursday, Jan. 21, and a visit from Elkhorn Saturday, Jan. 23, with tipoff at 2:30 p.m.

"We must improve our offensive execution in the next couple of weeks," Larsen said.

NORRIS 47, CRETE 43					
CHS	12	4	19	8	43
NHS	18	8	11	10	47

CHS—Hannah Newton 5-7 4-4 16, Ashlyn Adam 0-1 0-0 0, Leah Jurgens 0-6 0-0 0, Karlee Henning 2-9 1-2 6, Kaitlyn Wendt 0-0 1-2 1, Marin Rasgorshak 2-4 2-2 7, Brooke Deisley 4-9 0-0 10, Lexi Mach 0-7 4-4 4. Totals 13-43 12-14 43.

NHS—Totals 13-40 14-24 47.

Three-point goals—CHS 7-28 (Newton 3-3, Adam 0-1, Jurgens 0-4, Henning 1-8, Rasgorshak 1-2, Deisley 2-7, Mach 0-3), NHS 7-24. **Rebounds**—CHS 31 (Mach 11), NHS 24. **Assists**—CHS 11 (Henning, Deisley 3). **Steals**—CHS 6 (Henning 3).

Blocked shots—CHS 5 (Rasgorshak 3). **Turnovers**—CHS 17, NHS 10.



CAITLYN NELSON | THE CRETE NEWS

Doane's Azallee Johnson looks down court at the rest of the Doane team waiting for an open teammate to pass the ball to. Johnson scored eight points for the Tigers.

Doane athletes post top 10 marks

Doane track and field hosted the annual Scott Nisely Memorial Classic Jan. 16 with four other teams joining Doane in competition.

With a recent change in how athletes will qualify for the national championships in March, Doane athletes posted 16 marks that rank in the Top 16 of the NAIA as of Saturday evening. The Tigers also recorded eight victories on the day.

In men's action, Tanner Sand (SR/Wilber) was a two event winner with a pair of NAIA Top 10 marks. Sand hit personal best marks in winning the long and triple jump. In the long jump, he had a mark of 22-11.25 which ranks seventh in the NAIA. His leap of 45-10 in the triple jump also ranks seventh in the NAIA.

Richard Dover (SR/Norfolk) hit a pair of marks to move him into the NAIA Top 10 of the shot put and weight throw. In the shot put, he had a top throw of 49-10.5 which ranks eighth. In the weight throw, his toss of 57-2 ranks eighth. Both marks were personal bests for Dover.

Additionally in the shot put, Matthew Campbell (SR/Ainsworth) hit a personal best with a throw of 52-9.25 to move into fifth in the NAIA.

In the pole vault, Mike Pulliam (SO/Wilber) hit a personal best with a clearance of 14-9.5 and moved into fourth in the NAIA. Jacob Hruska (JR/Waverly) moved into 13th in the NAIA high jump with a height of 6-4.75. Jacob Heitkamp won the event with a height of 6-11 and currently leads the NAIA with a mark of 2.17m earlier this year.

On the track, Alec Wick (SR/Blair) ran a time of 8:49.55 in the 3,000m run to pick up the victory. His time sits sixth in the NAIA and is a personal best. The time converts due to the type of track on the NAIA TFRRS charts to 8:43.46. Kalen Dockwiler won the 800m with a time of 1:58.73, eighth fastest in the NAIA. His time is a personal best and converts to 1:57.06 on the NAIA charts.

In women's action, Mackenzie Brandl (SR/Stanton) won the 200m dash and followed up with a runner-up finish in the 400m dash with a time of 1:00.66, 11th fastest



COURTESY OF DOANE ATHLETICS

MacKenzie Brandl shoots out of her blocks at the start of the 200-meter dash event. Brandl won the event with a 27.04-second time.

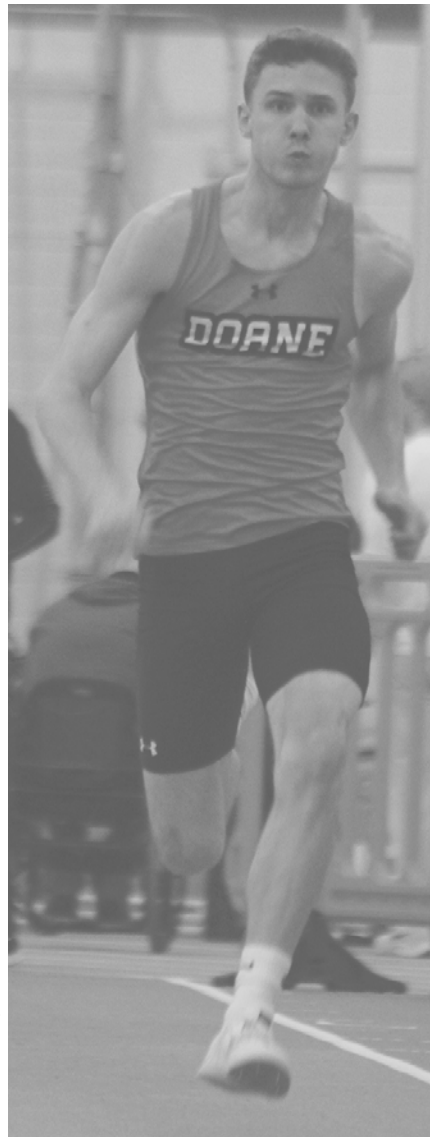
in the NAIA. Her time converts to 59.87 on the NAIA charts. Annika Pingel (JR/Pella, Iowa) posted the seventh fastest time in the NAIA 600m on Saturday with a run of 1:40.58, which converts to 1:39.37.

Lucia McKeag (SO/Ogallala) won the 1000m run with a time of 3:12.69, a personal best. Her time converts to 3:10.61 and ranks 12th in the NAIA.

Jaden Hilkemann (SO/Lincoln) won the 5,000m run with a time of 19:50.13, her second fastest indoor time for the race. Nicole Harms (SO/Sterling) ran a time of 9.21 in the 60m hurdles, 13th fastest in the NAIA and a personal best.

Sarah Theiler (FR/Arlington) hit a personal best in the high jump with a clearance of 5-4.25 and sits fourth on the NAIA charts. Alyssa Downs (SR/Columbus) cleared 11-3 in the pole vault to move into eighth in the NAIA. Madison Sutton (FR/Lexington) posted a personal best throw of 51-0.75 in the weight throw to move into eighth in the NAIA.

Doane will return to action on Friday, Jan. 22, at the Polar Dog Invite hosted by Concordia in Seward. Action is scheduled to start at 4 p.m.



Right: Wilber native Tanner Sand starts his runway approach to the deck and sandpit during the men's triple jump event at the Scott Nisely Memorial Classic on Jan. 16. Sand won the men's event with a jump of 13.97-meters. Sand also won the men's long jump event with a 6.99-meter jump.

CAITLYN NELSON | THE CRETE NEWS

Doane struggles to score in pair of losses

Doane women's basketball (4-14) was unable to overcome a hot-shooting Hastings squad as they fell, 88-54, on the road Jan. 13. The loss dropped the Tigers to 4-13 on the season while Hastings moved to 5-10.

Turnovers benefited the Broncos, as they outscored the Tigers 24-4 in points off turnovers in the opening half and 39-15 for the game. Doane was forced into 28 turnovers while Hastings ended the game with 18. The Broncos also shot 46% from the floor, hitting 11-of-35 behind the arc, while Doane shot 34% and went 3-of-18 from 3-point range.

Haylee Heits (SR/Rulo) led the Tigers with 13 points and Sydney Roth (SO/Deshler) finished with 11 points. Azallee Johnson (JR/Tacoma, Wash.) collected a team-high five rebounds and four steals while Roth dished out a team-best three assists.

Hastings received 20 points from Kaitlyn Schmit with Karli Hale posting 13 points and 10 rebounds. The Broncos finished with a 43-30 rebound advantage in the game.

Northwestern 76, Doane 39

DU hosted Northwestern Jan. 16 in Crete. Although the Tigers gave a strong defensive effort, they were unable to finish on the offensive end and fell to the Red Raiders, 76-39.

The Tigers were led by Heits with 10 points and seven rebounds. Johnson finished with seven points and seven rebounds. Olivia Nall (FR/Tilden) added five points and four of Doane's 13 steals. For the game, Doane shot 24% (11-45) from the field, 16% (3-19) from 3-point range, and 58% (14-24) from the free throw line.

The Red Raiders were led by Devyn Kemble with 26 points, shooting 6-of-13 from the 3-point range. Molly Schany recorded 10 points and 11 rebounds. As a team, Northwestern shot 43% (27-63) from the field, 37% (12-32) from behind the arc, and 62% (10-16) from the charity stripe.

Doane's next game will be against College of Saint Mary on Wednesday, Jan. 20. Tip-off is set for 6 p.m. in Omaha and visiting fans are not permitted due to COVID protocol.

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THE CRETE NEWS

WILBER-CLATONIA WRAP-UP

Wrestling

The Wilber-Clatonia wrestling team finished fifth at Arlington Jan. 16 and brought home five medals. Pedro Hernandez (106) and Thomas Lokken (138) won their weight classes. Colby Homolka (145) and Lane Vesely (160) were third, and Zander Baker (152) was fourth.

The Wolverines also hosted Seward and Platteview Jan. 12 for a small tournament and wrestled well, Coach James Bates said.

WCHS is scheduled to wrestle at Tri County Thursday, Jan. 21, starting at 7 p.m. and travel to Thayer Central Friday, Jan. 22.



DOUG CARROLL | THE CRETE NEWS
Wilber-Clatonia 145-pounder Colby Homolka works to turn Seward's Boone Duncan enroute to a pin in 3:49 Jan. 12 in Wilber.

Freeman Thursday, Jan. 21, and host Malcolm Friday, Jan. 22, with tipoff set for 7:30 p.m.

Girls' basketball

Wilber-Clatonia had one game on the schedule last week, Fairbury.

The Jeffs handed the Wolverines a 45-24 loss Jan. 14.

Coach Matt McElfresh said WCHS trailed 14-10 at halftime and was rebounding well.

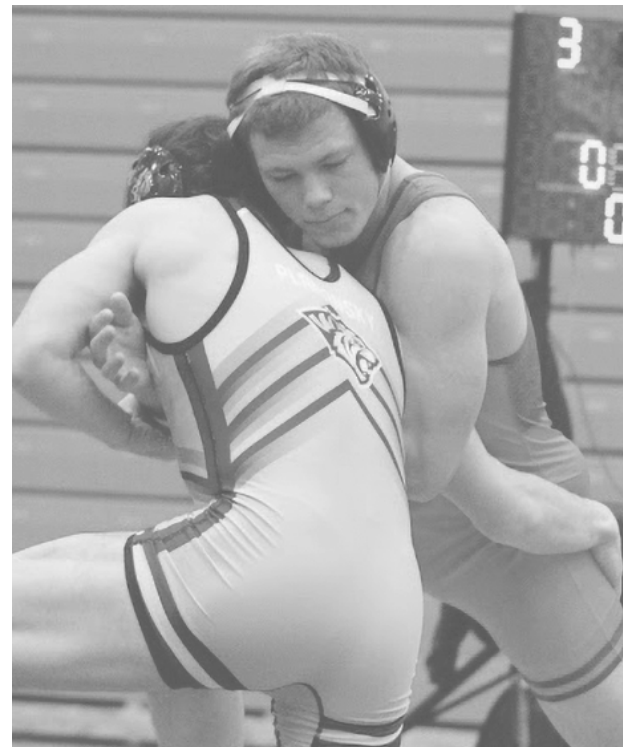
"We haven't put two halves together yet," he said.

The Wolverines (5-8) had a full week with a trip to Centennial Jan. 19, a trip to Freeman Thursday, Jan. 21, and a home game against Malcolm Friday, Jan. 22, starting at 6 p.m.

Boys' basketball

The Wilber-Clatonia boys came up just short in the week's only game, falling at Fairbury 39-36 Jan. 14.

WCHS (8-5) was scheduled to travel to



COURTESY OF DOANE ATHLETICS

Doane University's Garrett Cornwell underhooks his Dakota Wesleyan opponent during the triangular on Jan. 13. Cornwell won by a 5-2 decision in the 184-pound match.

DU wrestlers sweep triangular

Doane wrestling hosted a triangular Jan. 13 in Crete as Dakota Wesleyan and Bethany came to town. The Tigers won both, taking their conference match with DWU, 34-12, and topping Bethany in the nightcap, 46-9. Doane improved to 9-2 on the season in duals and 2-0 in the GPAC.

In the opener against DWU, the Tigers took a 16-0 lead through four matches. Michael Scarponi (SO/Temecula, Calif.) opened with a 7-1 decision at 174 followed by a 5-2 decision victory for Garrett Cornwell (JR/Albion) at 184. Bradley Antesberger (SO/North Pole, Alaska) collected a 16-4 major decision at 197 and Brandon Antesberger (SO/North Pole, Alaska) won by pin in 4:52 at 285.

Doane followed with forfeit wins at 125 and 141 while giving up a forfeit at 133. Doane led 28-6 going into the last three matches.

Tristan Zamilpa (SO/Madera, Calif.) won by a 5-2 decision at 149 and Sam Dunwell (SO/Lana'i City, Hawaii) won by a 5-0 decision at 157. NAIA No. 13 Marcus Urban of DWU won by pin at 165 for the final scoring of the dual.

Doane took on Bethany to close out the action on the night. The match started with the 174 division and Scarponi posted a pin in 2:01 to start the rout. Cornwell collected a 10-2 major decision, and Bradley Antesberger received a forfeit win at 197. Trey Mason of Bethany picked up a 9-3 decision over Samuel Peterson (SO/Bonney Lake, Wash.) at 285.

Daniel Vargas (JR/San Diego, Calif.) collected his second forfeit win at 125 to put Doane up 22-3. Kaden Goff of Bethany defeated Luke Davis (FR/St. Johns, Fla.) by pin in 1:16 at 133 with Davis wrestling up a weight class. Baagii Boldmaa (JR/Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia) collected his second forfeit as well at 141 to give the Tigers a 28-9 lead.

Zamilpa and Dunwell also received forfeits to take a 40-9 lead. In the final match, Benjamin Dobler (FR/Torokszentmiklos, Hungary) won by pin in 2:34 to close out the scoring as the Tigers received six points in seven of their eight victories.

Doane will host Northwestern and Waldorf on Saturday, Jan. 23, starting at 1 p.m. in Fuhrer Field House.

TRI COUNTY WRAP-UP

Boys' basketball

The Tri County boys' basketball team finished the MUDECAS tournament with the runner-up spot in the A Division. The Trojans defeated Southern 54-34 and Diller-Odell 50-41 before losing to Parkview Christian 58-46 in the championship game.

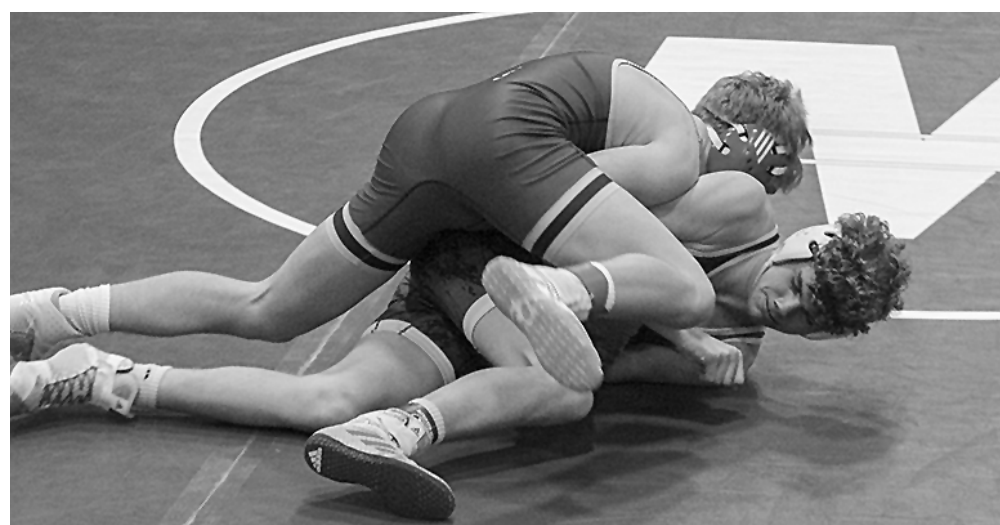
Coach Jeremy Siems said Tri County knew PCHS would be a good challenge and had opportunities to take the lead but the shots didn't drop.

"I'm proud of how we competed," the coach said. "We knew as athletic and tall as they are it would be a battle."

The Trojans (12-3) are scheduled to travel to Fillmore Central Friday, Jan. 22, for the only game of the week.

Girls' basketball

The Tri County girls' basketball team lost its MUDECAS games.



STEPHANIE CROSTON | THE CRETE NEWS

Jack Hopkins of Tri County tries to get off the bottom in a match Jan. 16 in Malcolm.

TCHS fell to Southern 46-13 in the opening round and lost to Johnson County Central 35-26 Jan. 15.

The Trojans (1-13) are scheduled to travel to Fillmore Central Friday, Jan. 22, for the only game of the week.

Wrestling

After weather postponed the Syracuse Invi-

tational Jan. 15, the Tri County wrestlers were looking for something over the weekend.

Malcolm put together a small tournament on Jan. 16, and the Trojans were able to wrestle.

"For the last minute, I was proud of how they came out and wrestled," Coach Jerod Spahr said.

Colton Placek (113), Grant Lewandowski (152) and Brandon Bee-

son (195) finished first.

Lucas Lewandowski (106) and Zaid Martinez (132) were second, and James Kerns (182) placed third.

The Syracuse meet was moved to Jan. 18. Tri County is also scheduled to host Wilber-Clatonia Thursday, Jan. 21, at 7 p.m. and travel to Thayer Central Friday, Jan. 22.

STEIN'S BLOG

Doane track programs are consistent champions

BY GENE STEINMEYER
For the Crete News

My first day on the job this fall presented me with a much different picture of Doane University than the Doane College I had left 22 years ago. Gone were the legendary coaches that dominated the small college athletic landscape.



Gene Steinmeyer

Bob Erickson's only presence was his name on the court. Al Papik is still talked about for the incredible winning streak. I could no longer walk by Fred Beile's office and experience the fog of smoke from his pipe.

Now there are two main locations for Doane athletics. Fuhrer Field House used to house all the athletics. Now, only track and an impressive wrestling

program call it home. Haddix is the home base for all the other sports.

Some programs have maintained their level of excellence and some have struggled. The one constant is the indoor and outdoor track programs. If I were a GPAC track coach, I would hate to see the orange track uniforms show up for a meet.

Some things have changed at track though. No longer is there the intense rivalry with Nebraska Wesleyan. They have fled to a NCAA III conference and competition.

Doane's track and field program stands out as a constant, both men's and women's track. The cycle of dominance started one day in Kansas City. Fred Beile's wife, Ester, woke him up with a copy of the Kansas City Star. The sports headline read that UMKC was eliminating

their track program. That put Fred out of a job, but it brought him to Crete.

One of Fred's early recruits was Ed Fye. Ed loved to run track and ride bulls like his father did professionally. However, Ed never hit the rodeo circuit. After a great athletic career at Doane, he became Fred's assistant coach.

When Fred decided to turn the reins over to someone else, who else could it be but Ed Fye. Ed had given up his crazy days for a great family and home in Crete. Fred's track teams had always been successful. Ed's track teams took it to a whole new level.

Not counting all the national championships, high national finishes and hundreds of All Americans that were coached by Fred and Ed, their record just in the conferences has been remarkable.

I'm not sure I have this exactly right, but I have the men's count of indoor conference championships between Ed and Fred at 28 and the women's total at 23. In outdoor track, the men have 27 conference championships and the women's just behind with 26 championships. Using a calculator, those two coaches over the last 50 plus years have won 104 conference crowns.

Did anyone in Crete realize that track had that type of dominance. That is incredible. What's more incredible is this has continued with two different coaches. Ed Fye is now in the driver's seat. He recruits mostly tough Nebraska kids. He looks high and low for talent in the state not noted for great athletic talent.

As I help Ryan Baumgartner build the women's basketball team into a constant winner, I

realize what a challenge it is. It was a challenge 42 years ago, my first year as the Doane head women's basketball coach and it is more of a challenge now. I'm confident Ryan will be successful.

It looks easy for Ed to maintain that level of success. I know that's

not true. I know how much work Ed and his staff puts into maintaining that excellence. Fred Beile always yelled at his track athletes, "We're burning daylight." He was always in a hurry to get the best out of his athletes. Somehow, Ed Fye has kept that same urgency.



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Tigers fall short in comeback at home

Doane men's basketball struggled to overcome a determined Hastings squad Jan. 13 as the Broncos defeated the Tigers, 89-65.

Anthony Laravie led the Tigers with 17 points while Alec Oberhauser finished with 12 points and seven rebounds, a team-high. Doane was held to 35% (25-of-72) shooting from the floor and 21% (7-of-34) from behind the arc.

Hastings received 26 points apiece from Dashawn Walker and Karson Ganseboom. Walker also led the Broncos with eight rebounds as the team held a 49-35 advantage over the Tigers. Hastings shot 51% (34-of-67) from the floor and 35% (7-of-20) from behind the arc.

Northwestern 79, Doane 77

The Tigers battled back from an early

18-point deficit to Northwestern Jan. 16 but came shy of the upset victory, falling 79-77. The Tigers clawed their way back and took the lead in the closing seconds only to have the Red Raiders score off an offensive rebound and foul with 2.7 left to play.

Northwestern jumped out to a 13-0 lead before Doane was able to get on the board. The Red Raiders led 22-4 with 13 minutes left in the opening half for their largest lead of the game.

An 18-6 run by the Tigers cut the deficit to six points, 28-22, as Tyler Sullivan (JR/Gretna) and Ben Moxness (JR/Scribner) had five points apiece in the run. Northwestern was able to put the lead back to 10 and went into halftime with a 45-38 lead over Doane.

In the second half, the Tigers took their

first lead of the game at the 13:46 mark following a 3-point basket by Joe Burt (JR/Lincoln) and a jumper by Jaxon Harre (SR/Omaha) to go ahead, 54-53. The teams exchanged the lead eight times in the final 14 minutes of the game.

With the game tied at 64-all with 7:18 to play, the Red Raiders went on a 12-4 run to take an eight point lead, 76-68, with 2:46 to go. Doane answered with a 9-0 run to take the lead with 14 seconds left as Burt knocked down two free throws to take the lead. On Northwestern's final possession, Alex Van Kalsbeek collected an offensive rebound and putback to regain the lead. He was fouled on the play and made his free throw to go up two. The Red Raiders stole the Tiger inbound to cap off the game.

Laravie (SR/Omaha) finished with a team-high 17 points and four assists. Burt added 14 points with Harre and Moxness adding 10 apiece. Max Masin (JR/Ponca) collected a game-high seven rebounds to go with nine points and three blocked shots. Laravie, Burt, and Harre picked up two steals apiece. Doane shot 41% (26-63) for the game and 30% (9-30) from behind the arc while converting 84% (16-19) at the charity stripe.

Craig Sterk posted a game-high 25 points to go with seven rebounds and five assists for the Red Raiders. Trent Hilbrands finished with 23 points and five assists while Van Kalsbeek posted 21 points, seven rebounds, and five assists.

Doane (5-15) will have a week to prepare for the



CAITLYN NELSON | THE CRETE NEWS

Anthony Laravie of Doane pushes past the Northwestern opponent during the home game on Jan. 16. Laravie led the Tigers for scoring with 17 points and making the first basket of the game for the Tigers after a 13-point deficit.

final home game of the season as they will host

23, at 4 p.m. in the Hadix Center.

CROP TECH CAFE

Spring chloride and sulfur for winter wheat

BY NATHAN MUELLER

Saline, Jefferson and Gage counties
Cropping Systems Extension educator

As spring approaches and winter wheat begins to green up, farmers still have the opportunity to stimulate spring tillering on late-planted fields or those fields with thin stands with early nitrogen.



Nathan Mueller

If not applied in the fall, two other key nutrients, chloride and sulfur, can be included at green up during the early spring fertilizer pass across the field. In southeast Nebraska, local observations and experience from past

Extension educators and specialists suggest that sulfur and possibly chloride applications are warranted on non-irrigated no-till winter wheat after soybeans. The question is: Do you need to include chloride and sulfur?

Chloride is used by plants for ion balance, plant cell hydration and more. Adequate availability of chloride for wheat has been shown to suppress fungal diseases like tan spot, leaf rust and stripe rust. Through a 2012 meta-analysis of Kansas chloride fertilizer studies, researchers found an 8% yield increase due to chloride applications.

K-State has soil sample interpretations for 0- to 24-inch depth

chloride concentrations and corresponding fertilizer recommendations. K-State Extension specialists stated the probability of a yield response to chloride in rainfed wheat in north central and northeast Kansas seems higher than in western Kansas. Soil and flag leaf tissue analysis interpretations could help determine the current and future need for chloride fertilization in southeast Nebraska.

Chloride concentrations less than 0.18% in the flag leaf at the start of heading can indicate chloride is not sufficient. Results from two 24-inch soil samples that I took from two rainfed wheat fields in southeast Nebraska this fall were 0.7 and 2.6 parts per million

(ppm), both low (<4 ppm) by K-State Extension interpretations.

An application rate of 20 lbs chloride per acre is often sufficient to prevent deficiency. Potash fertilizer has a 45-47% chloride content and is the most readily available chloride fertilizer.

Sulfur deficiency has been documented in areas of southeast Nebraska dating back to 2011. Visible symptoms of sulfur deficiency have been more common in fields with eroded hillsides that are low in organic matter on silt loam and silty clay loam soil.

Likewise, no-till winter wheat fields in north central and northeast Kansas have a longer documented history of

visible sulfur deficiency compared to other regions in Kansas, according to K-State Extension specialists. Sulfur deficiency is noticed in early spring after green up and can be confused with a shortage of nitrogen.

In addition to potential yield benefits of sulfur, end-use quality is improved when wheat has sufficient sulfur. New research from K-State found sulfur application reduced asparagine concentration in the grain, which lowers the potential for acrylamide (probable carcinogen) formation during food processing. Application rates of

15 to 20 lbs sulfur per acre is often sufficient to prevent deficiency. A dry blend of ammonium sulfate (24% sulfur), potassium chloride and urea is a readily available option to use as wheat begins to green up.

I always encourage farmers to conduct their own research to fine-tune initial recommendations and they can get assistance through the Nebraska On-Farm Research Network.

Feel free to contact me at nathan.mueller@unl.edu or (402) 821-1722.

Know your crop, know your tech, know your bottom line at crop-techcafe.org.

LINES BY LEANNE

Three "B"s in child care: Blocks, balls and books

BY LEANNE MANNING

Saline County Extension educator

Some of the best toys for kids have been around for a long time. Blocks, balls, and books are simple, durable, and fun and can help children build skills. They can also be enjoyed by kids of all ages.



Leanne Manning

skills as they lift and move blocks to build things.

Math skills are used as children count, match, and sort, add, subtract, and notice the weight and length of blocks. Thinking and problem-solving skills are used in making a tower or other structure. A child can learn how to work with other children and share ideas when building with blocks.

a ball. Children enjoy games with balls. Some children develop a love of sports and may play ball of one kind or another all their lives.

About books

Children learn so much from books. Infants and toddlers like to look at picture books and to listen to short stories. Board books and cloth books are best for them to handle. Preschoolers enjoy stories and learning about new things. There are books about science and

nature. There are books about magic and music. There are fairy tale and folk tale books.

There are books about people or events, and others are fiction. Child care settings and every home should ideally have a variety of books available for children and a special reading time every day. Once children learn to read, parents and providers can encourage children to take turns reading to one another. Consider taking children on a field trip to the library.

About blocks

Blocks are good toys, because children of different ages can use them in different ways. Infants like to carry them around and dump them into and out of containers. Toddlers like to build towers. As children get older they like to build more elaborate structures with blocks. Children use physical

About balls

Like blocks, balls are fun for children of all ages! Infants love to roll them. Toddlers enjoy rolling a ball back and forth to someone. This teaches them how to take turns – something toddlers need to learn because it leads to sharing.

As children get older, they can learn how to throw, catch, and kick

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ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

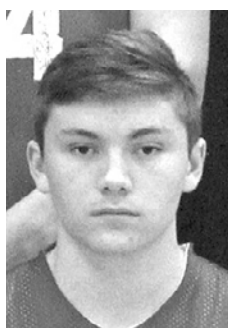


Hailey Schweitzer of Dorchester scored 18 points and was 4-10 from three in a win over Friend. The freshman added 11 points on 3-7 from long range in a win over Osceola.

Honorable Mention

Brooke Deisley - Crete
Kiarra Fennell - Friend
Samantha Rainey - Tri County
Jera Schuerman - Wilber-Clatonia

Breckan Schluter of Friend finished with 16 points, eight rebounds and seven steals in the Bulldogs' win over Dorchester. The freshman notched 28 points in Friend's loss to Osceola.



Honorable Mention

Mason Crumbliss - Crete
Blake Hansen - Dorchester
Grant Lewandowski - Tri County
Pedro Hernandez - Wilber-Clatonia

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Success with houseplants: Fertilization

BY SARAH BROWNING
Lancaster County Extension educator

As with overwatering, over fertilization is a common problem, so an important step in winter houseplant care is understanding whether your plant needs fertilization.

Houseplants, like most other plants, need fertilizer containing three major plant nutrients: nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P) and potassium (K). The amount and frequency of fertilizer required depends on the type of plant, its growth rate, available light, soil media mix, frequency of watering and the type of fertilizer.

During winter, with its short days and low light conditions, some plants rest producing little new growth and need little, if any, fertilization during this period. However, if you have a very brightly lit south or west window, or have provided your plant with supplemental light, it may still be actively growing even in winter. In that case, treat it as an actively growing plant. Newly repotted, unrooted, dormant and wilted plants should not be fertilized.

How do you determine if your plant is actively growing? Look for new leaves being produced, flower buds or flowers. These all indicate the plant is still active and not resting (dormant).

Houseplant fertilization guidelines

Next, determine if the potting soil you used already contains slow-release fertilizer. If

so, refer to the package guidelines for when additional fertilizer should be added. For example, one common potting soil states it feeds plants for up to six months. In that case, additional fertilizer would not be needed any earlier.

Commercial fertilizers for houseplants can be purchased in granular, crystalline, liquid or tablet forms. Both quick-release water-soluble and slow-release products are available. Each should be used according to label instructions regarding frequency of application and dilution.

If you are using a quick release water-soluble product, actively growing plants should be fertilized every two months. You'll apply fertilizer less often if you are using a slow-release product.

Do not fertilize dormant plants since this could cause a harmful buildup of fertilizer salts in the soil.

Signs of overfertilization

Reduced growth, brown leaf tips, dead root tips and wilting may be signs of fertilizer salt buildup in the soil (although they can have other causes, too). Excess salts accumulate on top of the soil over time, forming a yellow to white crust. Also look for a ring of white crusty salt deposits around the rim of clay pots or around the drainage hole.

Soluble salts are minerals dissolved in water. Fertilizer dissolved in water becomes a soluble salt. When water evaporates from the soil,

minerals or salts stay behind. As soil salt concentration rises, plants find it harder and harder to take up water even if the soil is moist. If salt levels are extremely high, water will move out of plant root tips – being pulled into the soil water solution by the high salt level – causing root tips to dry out and die, resulting in the symptoms listed above.

High levels of soil salts damage roots directly, and because it is weakened, the plant becomes more susceptible to attack from insects and diseases. One of the most common problems associated with high salt levels is root rot.

Managing excess fertilizer salts

Repotting with new soil is one way to eliminate excess salt in the soil.

Another method is periodic leaching with a large amount of water to flush excess salt out of the soil. As a standard practice, houseplants should be leached every four to six months. The amount of water needed is twice the volume of the pot. For example, a six-inch pot holds about five cups of water, so 10 cups would be used to leach the pot. If a layer of salts has formed on the soil surface, remove the crust before beginning to leach, but there's no need to remove more than ¼ inch of soil.

To begin the leaching process, put your plant in the bathtub or deep sink where water can drain freely. Pour water onto the soil, a little at



a time, until water starts to come out the bottom drain holes. Don't apply water so quickly you wash soil away from the plant crown; just pour in as much as the container will allow and repeat the procedure until all the water is used.

Using more than the recommended amount of water

will not hurt the plant, but don't use less. Allow all the leachate water to drain away in the sink.

After leaching, you won't need to water the plant for quite a while. Allow the soil to dry down to normal dryness levels before watering again.



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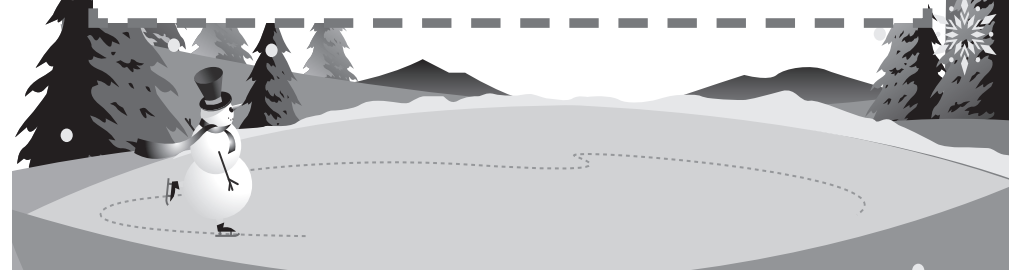
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 of CRETE

Mentee Quote:

“ My plans have changed many times and with my mentor’s help, I have been able to settle on what I would like to do. She motivates me to be the best I possibly can. ”

Established in 1991 by Tom and Nancy Osborne, TeamMates was formed in an effort to provide support and encouragement to all school-aged youth. The goal is to see young people graduate from high school and pursue a post-secondary education. TeamMates has touched the lives of thousands of youth and mentors across the Midwest. Right now, more than 10,000 matches are meeting in schools across Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, Wyoming and South Dakota.

The Mission:

To positively impact the world by inspiring youth to reach their full potential through mentoring.

Values:

- 1. Commitment to Youth** – We are committed to serving youth with compassion and respect.
- 2. Safety** – The safety and protection of the mentee and mentor is first priority.
- 3. Integrity and Trust** – We are committed to integrity and trust in all relationships.
- 4. Inclusion** – We are committed to the inclusion of mentees and mentors from diverse backgrounds.

Mentor Quote:

“ I love being a mentor. I look forward to it every week. ”

Every young person deserves to have a mentor.

Need for Mentors:

TeamMates is always looking for adult volunteers (mentors) who want to build a positive relationship with a student in order to help them reach their full potential. You can start mentoring at any time during the school year. By volunteering just one time a week, mentors build a friendship with the student and provide support, encouragement and guidance. Mentors must be 18 or over and have a high school degree or GED equivalent. Mentors are not tutors or counselors, nor are they there to “fix” anything—they’re there to be friends. Mentors are matched with mentees based on interests and life experiences.

Crete TeamMates would like to thank our generous donors and mentors who have been instrumental in providing life-changing mentoring for the youth in our community. Your partnership is greatly appreciated!

In honor of National Mentoring Month, Crete TeamMates would like to recognize the following mentors and board members for the 2020-2021 school year:

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Samantha Barley
 Dave Bauer
 Jenny Beck
 Jhonny Beltran
 Ronald Benson
 Brittany Beyard
 Gracie Bohmont
 Jenna Bouse
 Brenda Carnes
 Shawn Carr
 Cassidy Daly
 Katy Davis
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Tom Osborne:

“ The most precious gift any one of us can give is our time. ”

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