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Co-op creates new booster club Members launch fundraising with golf tournament

BY AMY HAUSMAN
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The sports and activities co-op between Friend Public Schools and Exeter-Milligan has created a shiny new organization made up by the parents and guardians of EMF students: the EMF Booster Club.

"The Friend Booster Club and EM Booster Club have created a new organization, the EMF Booster Club, a 501(c)(3) organization, that will provide financial support for all NSAA-recognized EMF activities," said Katie Spohn, Vice-President of the Friend Booster Club.

All parents and guardians of high school students are members of the EMF Booster Club.

"Incoming freshmen and all new students from each school receive a personalized bag for use with extra-curricular activities," Spohn said. "We also pay for Striv, the EMF Network, senior banners, and other needs of the various sports, fine arts, and other extra-curricular activities."

Additionally the Boosters will provide \$30 per student for each of their activities for expenses. EM and Friend have designated a committee chair parent for each activity, and those funds are utilized at their discretion for meals, equipment, and other activity needs. The chair will work with the coach or activ-



DOUG CARROLL/FS

Zach Danekas of Lincoln tries to read one of his putt during the EMF Booster Club golf tournament in Friend on Aug. 12.

ity sponsor to identify needs.

If an organization qualifies for post-season, an additional \$30 is granted per student for each activity.

Corporate sponsorships from local businesses are encouraged and recognized in the athletic programs throughout the year.

As a 501(c)(3) organization, all contributions to the EMF Booster Club are tax deductible.

To launch funding for the year, the Friend Booster Club hosted a fundraising golf tournament and auction on Aug. 12 at the Friend Country Club with 17

participating teams.

"We had tremendous support from the community with many highly sought-after baskets and donations for the auction," Spohn said.

"There were multiple rules, including using a kid's putter on hole 7, appointing members of the EMF Golf team to putt to avoid a stroke on hole 9, and exclusive use of the golfer's 9-iron on hole 3."

The silent auction was open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., when the live auction began. Silent auction items ranged from fresh-baked cinnamon rolls, rosettes, pies, and cream puffs, made-

to-order baked goods, frozen Runzas, fall decorations, televisions, golf experience, themed baskets, and gift cards.

Live auction items, sold by Friend alumni auctioneer Col. William Yokel, included Bobcat stadium chairs, a Yeti Cooler, Husker football ticket basket, a Blackstone tailgate grill, and Bobcat art created by local artists.

The Boosters raised almost \$8,000 from the golf tournament and auction.

Donations may be mailed to EMF Treasurer Kary Archer at 804 Par 3 Drive, Friend, NE 68359.

FPS revives back-to-school carnival

BY KEATON BURGESS
reporter@sewardindependent.com

After a break from the event due to Covid-19, Friend Public Schools and their Parent and Teachers Organization will host an after-school carnival to welcome students back to school.

The carnival will be Sunday, Aug. 20, at 5 p.m. at the park and will have a dunk tank and other activities geared towards elementary students.

Derek Anderson, Superintendent of Friend Public Schools, said parents asked if they could do the carnival again and the school was on board.

Anderson said the carnival was originally put on by the school in years past, but it stopped because of Covid-19.

"They asked if we could resurrect it and we said yes," he said. "It's a good partnership with PAT and we hope we can continue to work together."

Although one of the original ideas was to have the carnival before the school year started, Anderson said they decided to do it after with how busy parents can be before school starts.

"It's a very busy time for families, so we decided to move it back and let everyone get into some sort of a routine and get settled," he said. "Parents and families go to a lot of meetings for activities and such, so this just worked better."

Anderson said he hopes the carnival will help build excitement for the students.

"It's something we used to do, and will hopefully keep it for the future," he said.

Saline county fair stipends payable with 4-H record book

BY AMY HAUSMAN
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With Saline County Fair and Czech Days activities done, and school beginning today there are a few items left to do.

While sitting down to write out thank you cards is one, the big one is completing the Saline County 4-H Achievement and Activity Record Book.

The record book is available for download on the Extension office's website and is due to the Extension office by Sept. 15.

"We prefer to have the record books printed and either brought to the Extension office or mailed," said Becky Vales, 4-H administrative specialist.

The 4-H record book is broken into three brief essay sections and a cumulative record of all the projects accomplishments that have been completed by a child since joining the program.

"The record book serves as a history of 4-H members' histories and documents the projects that may be considered when applying for awards and scholarships," Vales said. "Some of these awards consider the longevity of a member and this is a way for the council to see a 4-H member's growth and what they are learning."

The essay sections provide explanations about leadership experiences, community in-

volvement and service, and career spark.

Leadership experiences and community service may include both 4-H and other experiences. Members outline their duties and responsibilities and what they learned from the experience.

"For younger children, examples of leadership may be as simple as mentoring another child or sibling at home," Vales said.

"Career Spark is when a 4-H project triggers the idea of what a child wants to be when they grow up, such as a bucket calf leading to aspirations to become a veterinarian," Vales said. "With nearly everything a person comes in contact with stemming from agriculture, like fuel for the car, fiber for clothing and food, the spark opportunities are endless."

4-H Clover Kids may also complete a record book about the importance of their experience.

As a reminder, Saline County Fair premiums for purple, blue, red and white ribbons and livestock market premiums paid by the Ag Society require the record book to be completed prior to a stipend being paid.

Download available at go.unl.edu/salinerecordbooksandawards.

FPS student council brings Kona Ice for first day



DOUG CARROLL/FS

From left, Madison Kemp, Camaden Ostdiek, Taylyn Paden, Raylan Kemp and Malachi Segner take advantage of the Kona Ice truck that stopped by the Friend school August 15 for a back to school treat.



Obituaries

Charles E. Ackerman
March 12, 1932 – Aug. 5, 2023

Charles Edward Ackerman, 91, of Milford went home to be with the Lord on Saturday, Aug. 5, 2023.

Charley was born March 12, 1932, on a farm south of Milford, to Jesse and Clara (Burkey) Ackerman. He attended District 47 school through junior high and attended the Assembly of God Church.



As a young boy, he loved his dad's John Deere tractor, helped milk 16 Holstein cows every morning and evening and assisted with farm chores for his neighbor, Floyd Burkey. Charley also purchased a big Chevy truck, flatbed trailer and hauled hay to San Antonio.

On June 20, 1952, he married Margaret McGonigle of Beaver Crossing, whom he met with his church youth group. To this union was born a son, Russell, on March 6, 1956, and a daughter, Rachelle, on Oct. 3, 1961.

As Charley began to enjoy married life, the Army called and on Oct. 16, 1952, he was sent to the front lines in the Korean War. During service, Charley was severely wounded by machine gun fire and was eventually transferred to Fitzsimmons Army Hospital in Denver. He spent five hours in surgery, followed by five months of rehabilitation and was finally given disability discharge to return back home.

In November 1953, he and Margaret moved back to Milford, where Charley drove a truck for Dick Stutzman of Milford Transfer. In June 1954, he became an owner of Ackerman Rock & Gravel when he purchased the business from his uncle, Floyd Roll. Charley owned and operated the business for nearly 30 years. He drove the truck himself and enjoyed hauling sand, gravel, crushed rock and agricultural lime to people in the surrounding counties.

For a short time in 1963, he drove a Continental Trailways tour bus and traveled to all 48 continental states while his father, Jesse, continued the trucking business. Charley returned to Ackerman Rock & Gravel, but his love of travel remained.

Charley and Margaret loved to spend winter weeks in Florida in the early years, and later, each winter in Arizona. Charley was a lifelong Husker football fan, holding University of Nebraska season tickets since 1962 and never missed a game while his health was good. As a die-hard Chicago Cubs fan, he was ecstatic to witness the first World Series championship in nearly 100 years in 2016.

Charley also loved playing golf and even participated in some tournaments along with Margaret. When he retired on Jan. 1, 1995, he spent more of his days filled with the sport and was known for accommodating his beloved dogs on the golf cart during his 18-hole rounds.

He loved his children and grandchildren, Adriana and Alexander, and always made a point to travel to support graduations and key family moments in person. He never missed an opportunity for any celebratory occasion, to send a care package full of clever cards, old family pictures, accompanied with a box of candy.

In March 2015, he and Ruth Lind participated in a highlight of his life when he was honored for his army service through an honorary flight and memorial trip for Korean War veterans in Washington, D.C. it was a moment he proudly cherished and truly felt appreciated for his service.

He is survived by his son, Russell Ackerman, Wilton, Connecticut; daughter and son-in-law, Rachelle and Raymond Neverdahl, Leander, Texas; grandchildren, Adriana and Alexander Ackerman, New York City, New York; brother-in-law, Dale and LaDean McGonigle, Milford; and special friend, Ruth Lind, Columbus; along with many other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 53 years, Margaret; parents, Jesse and Clara Ackerman; sister, Marjorie Kremer; parents-in-law, Clyde and Wilma McGonigle; and daughter-in-law Susan Ackerman.

Visitation will be at the Lauber Funeral Home in Milford on Thursday, Aug. 17, from 5 – 8 p.m. and then Friday, Aug. 18, from 10 a.m. – noon. The funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Friday, Aug. 18, at the United Methodist Church in Milford with burial at the Pleasant View Cemetery, rural Milford. Memorial contributions are suggested to an animal shelter or animal rescue of the donor's choice. Arrangements by Lauber Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

Larry A. Filipi
Nov. 4, 1953 – Aug. 9, 2023

Larry Allen Filipi was born to Lumir Filipi and Alice (Placek) Filipi on Nov. 4, 1953, in Crete. He entered his eternal home on Aug. 9, 2023, after a courageous 10-month battle with pancreatic cancer.



Larry lived every day to the fullest throughout his 69 years. He was raised on a farm outside of Western with his three siblings – Gary, Loren and Donna – where he learned a strong work ethic from a young age. He attended Opossum Hill Country School until middle school and then became a Milligan Rooster, a title he was quite proud of. Throughout school, Larry competed in many sports, but excelled in football, earning many honors. He especially enjoyed playing the game with his brothers.

Following high school graduation (1972), Larry began his lifelong passion of trucking. What began as a bale wagon operator alongside John Kassik at Milligan Farming Service grew into an over-the-road trucking position. Larry spent many years traveling across the Midwest hauling many different products. He finished his trucking career hauling gravel for Saline County, retiring in 2019.

He dedicated his life to his wife of 45 years, Deb, and his daughters, Lindsay and Amber. He found pride in raising his family on the Jansky farm east of Milligan, passing on that farm work ethic to his girls. Later in life, he was proud to be the father-in-law to two incredible men, Mike Densberger and Brock Morrison, and they spent many fun times together. A special side of Larry came out when he became a Papa to his two granddaughters, Briar and Callie, in 2019 and 2022. Over the years, special memories were created through annual family vacations across the country and countless hours tending to his many gardens – one of Larry's favorite hobbies.

Larry was preceded in death by grandparents, Jerry and Emily Placek and Albert and Rosie Filipi; father, Lumir Filipi; big brother, Gary Filipi; niece-in-law, Renee Filipi; father-in-law, Bob Mead; and brother-in-law Dennis Hall. He entered heaven hand in hand with his mother, Alice (Placek) Filipi.

He is survived by his wife, Deb; daughters, Lindsay Densberger and Amber Morrison; sons-in-law, Mike Densberger and Brock Morrison; granddaughters, Briar and Callie Morrison; brother, Loren Filipi and wife Bev; sister, Donna Wentworth and husband Norm; sister-in-law, Judy Filipi; mother-in-law, Darlene Mead; brother-in-law, Terry Mead; sisters-in-law, Cheryl Hall and Linda (Bruce) Pankoke; and numerous nephews (spouses and children) who held a very special place in Larry's heart.

A memorial service was Aug. 14, at the Milligan Auditorium. There were four special music selections, "Sail Away" by The Oak Ridge Boys, "Dream On" by The Oak Ridge Boys, "Roll On" by Alabama and "Philadelphia Freedom" by Elton John. Honorary urn bearers included Gene Filipi, Dan Filipi, Nate Filipi, Troy Filipi, Dustin Filipi, Tyler Wentworth and Kyle Wentworth. A private family inurnment services will be in the Atlanta Cemetery in rural Milligan at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions will be directed to the family to be designated at a later date. Arrangements by Farmer & Son Funeral Home.

Ruby M. Hulse
April 6, 1945 – Aug. 8, 2023

Ruby Maria Hulse, 78, of Friend passed away Tuesday, Aug. 8, 2023, at her home.

Ruby was born April 6, 1945, in Hastings, to Delbert and Ellen (Christensen) Mitchell. She was raised in Friend, where she attended and graduated from Friend Public High School with the Class of 1963.



During her time in high school, Ruby met Duane Hulse, and they were married March 2, 1963, in Friend, and to this union, four children were born: Tammy, Terri, William and Brian.

Ruby was employed at Warren Memorial Hospital as a med aide, was owner of The Pub (1980-1995) and was a school bus driver for Friend Public Schools.

Ruby was a 50-year member of the Congregational Church Women's Fellowship in Friend. She also enjoyed playing cards, bowling, gardening, and camping.

Survivors include her husband, Duane Hulse of Friend; daughter, Tammy (Butch) Roach of Lincoln; sons, William (Alanna) Hulse, Callaway, and Brian (Sunny) Hulse of Lincoln; grandchildren, Travis Hulse, Lincoln, Gail Richters, Lincoln, Samantha Roach, Geneva, Bobbi Jo (Colten) Oliva, Milligan, Kyle Baugh, Greenville, Texas, Amy Baugh (Ethan Kattes), Hickman, T.J. (Jenna Rash) Baugh, Lincoln, Edward Hulse, York, Josie Hulse, Hickman, Cole Eiland, Lincoln, Kellsey Eiland, Omaha, Major Eiland, Lincoln, Madison (Connor) Adams, Lincoln, and Avery Hulse, Lincoln; brother, Robert (Sherri) Mitchell, Tehama, California; sister-in-law, Judith Hulse, Friend; sister-in-law, Velda Busboom, Dorchester; along with great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Ruby was preceded in death by her daughter, Terri (Joe) Baugh; granddaughter, Quinlynn Hulse; sisters, Maxine Bacon, Virginia Hansen and Linda Cantrell; brother, Calvin Mitchell; and her parents, Delbert and Ellen (Christensen) Mitchell; and brothers-in-law, Bill Hulse and John Busboom.

A Celebration of Life service was Aug. 12 at the Friend Congregational Church. A private family inurnment will be held at a later date at the Andrew Cemetery in Friend. Memorial contributions are suggested to the family for a later designation. Arrangements by Lauber Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

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CASA welcomes new executive director

BY HANNA CHRISTENSEN
scireporter@sewardindependent.com

Shelby Pedersen began her work as executive director for Southeast Nebraska Court Appointed Special Services on Aug. 1. She said she is excited to work for a program that does so much good for Nebraskans.

The organization held a meet and greet for Pedersen on Aug. 10 to welcome her to the team. She said she enjoyed having the opportunity to meet more board members, donors and community members.

"The community has been so welcoming to me," she said. "I know I have big shoes to fill. I've known that Marci (Fehlhafer, the former executive director) did a really great job with Southeast Nebraska CASA, but everyone has been really welcoming and open."

Southeast Nebraska CASA advocates for abused and neglected children in the Seward, Saline, Thayer, Jefferson and Gage counties court systems.

Pedersen graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln with a child, youth and

family studies degree in 2017. She said she went into the field because it combined two things she had always wanted to do – help people who need assistance getting out of challenging situations and work with children.

"Since I've worked in this field, for almost eight years, all of it is so impactful, and a lot of it is work that a lot of people don't want to do," she said.

After graduation, Pedersen was a case-worker for the Department of Health and Human Services for three years. Then, she worked as a family advocate at the BraveBe Child Advocacy Center in Lincoln for two and a half years.

Pedersen also volunteered for CASA in Burke County, beginning in early 2020. She and her husband, Reece, got personal experience with the foster system when they were kinship foster parents to two boys during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We had a CASA volunteer from York County, and we saw how important that CASA volunteer was to the kids that we had, but also to us," Pedersen



PHOTO BY SHELBY PEDERSEN

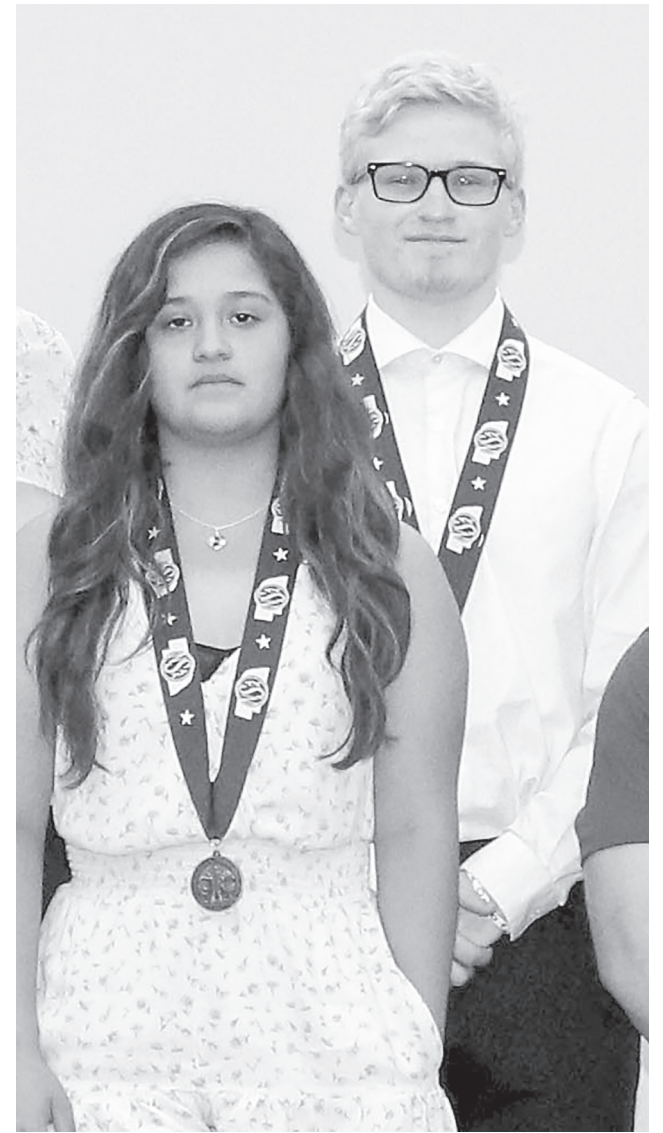
New Southeast Nebraska Court Appointed Special Services Executive Director Shelby Pedersen is pictured with her husband, Reece, and their son, Maverick.

said. "It just kind of feels like a full circle moment for our family for me to get this position with Southeast Nebraska CASA because CASA means so much to us personally."

Pedersen, who was born in York but has now lived in Goehner for three years, plans to continue her predecessor Marci Fehlhafer's mission to ensure every child CASA serves has a CASA volunteer by

2025. "I know how important it is for kids to have one consistent adult in their life and how much of a difference it can make for them," she said.

Pedersen said she wants to continue to get the word out about CASA and encourages anyone who is unfamiliar with CASA to contact the team to learn more.



COURTESY PHOTO

Ariana Tellez, left, and Jacob Cerny created a public service announcement called "Don't Be Late," which won top honors in its division at the Nebraska Broadcasters Association's Pinnacle Awards. They are pictured at the high school journalism competition this spring.

Dorchester PSA takes top spot

Dorchester High finished at the top of the standings for a public service announcement called "Don't be Late."

The team of Jacob Cerny and Ariana Tellez received gold for Best Public Service Announcement - Video in the High School Division at the Nebraska Broadcasters Association's Pinnacle Awards held Aug. 9 at Embassy Suites in LaVista.

The NBA included four high school categories with two divisions each (video and audio)

alongside the collegiate and professional awards. Tellez accepted the award for the team. Cerny was unable to attend the ceremony.

The team also took home second-place honors at NSAA State Journalism in April.

"I thought it was pretty cool to win because it was our first time trying to make something like that," said Cerny, who graduated in May.

They are advised by journalism teacher Sandy Severance.

Bobcats ready to travel in style



LEESA K. BARTU/FS

With the new cooperative formed with Exeter-Milligan and Friend, it was time for a change on the coach bus the students travel in for their activities. The rebranding of the coach bus happened this summer by Exeter-Milligan alumnus A. J. Hansen. The Timberwolves' logo was removed and Friend was added along with new Bobcat logos and a giant Bobcat head on both sides of the bus. Hansen, who along with his wife, Brittany, own Cordova Custom in Cordova, had previously created the Timberwolf decals. He was eager to create the new Bobcat artwork.

Preparing for school at Exeter-Milligan



LEESA K. BARTU/FS

Rachel Johnson and her daughter, Baylor, above left, unpack Baylor's new school supplies in her desk in the kindergarten room at Exeter-Milligan Elementary School during an open house Aug. 10.

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Anniversaries, Graduations, Birthdays, etc.
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It was a great day.
Linda & Gary Gill

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| Friend Christian Assembly "The Church on the Highway" 105 Vine St. • 402-947-4947 www.friendchristianassembly.com Pastor Eric Black Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Adult & Kids Life Groups 10:30 a.m. Worship Service | Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA) 265 Helen St. • 402-576-3431 www.facebook.com/TLCCordova Pastor Michelle Kanzaki Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship Children attend worship for 15 +/- minutes, then go to Sunday Education | First Congregational United Church of Christ 106 W. Tecumseh St. Sunday: 9:00 a.m. Worship Service |
| St. Joseph Catholic Church 405 South Main St. • 402-947-3651 www.lincolndiocese.org/directory/parishes/708-st-joseph-friend Father Leo Seiker Saturday: 5:00 p.m. Mass Sunday: 9:00 a.m. Mass | St. Stephen's Catholic Church 207 N. Union Ave. • 402-266-5581 Rev. Brendan Kelly Saturday: 5:00 p.m. Mass Sunday: 8:00 a.m. Mass | St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church 703 Main St. Rev. Brendan Kelly Sunday: 10:00 a.m. Mass |
| United Methodist Church of Friend 601 6th St. • 402-947-3481 Rev. April Wegehaupt Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship Service | Dorchester United Methodist Church 612 Lincoln Ave. • 402-946-3091 www.dorchesterunitedmethodist.com Rev. April Wegehaupt Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:15 a.m. Sunday School Wednesday: 5:30 p.m. Bible Study | Milligan United Methodist Church 507 N St. www.facebook.com/MilliganUMC Rev. Murry Johnston Sunday: 9:15 a.m. Worship Service Tune in to: 87.9 FM if in parking lot |

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PUBLIC NOTICES Your Right to Know

Frustrated with Fischer's position on tax credits

BY AMY HAUSMAN
amy@friendsentinel.com

On Aug. 3, two UNL journalism students and I met with U.S. Sen. Deb Fischer in a meeting requested by her press secretary staff for time with The Crete News.



Amy Hausman

We were allowed 15 minutes to speak with Fischer about the initiatives she is working on in Washington as one of her many stops across the state to promote support of her work.

Days before our meeting, I received a press release from Fischer's office about her love for interns. Smiling, I assigned the students topics she has been vocal about like nuclear protections, broadband and the farm bill.

Prior to the meeting I confirmed anything was on the table to discuss. The answer was yes.

I had the pleasure of asking Fischer about the Community News and Small Business Support Act, a bipartisan bill introduced July 20 with tax credits for media outlets and small business advertisers.

Claudia Tenney, a conservative Republican from New York, co-sponsor Rep. Suzan DelBene, a Democrat from Washington, introduced a new bill to significantly strengthen local news and journalists by providing tax breaks to small businesses that advertise with local news outlets and payroll tax credits to local news organizations to hire and retain journalists.

The proposed bill draws key elements from the Local Journalism Sustainability Act. However, it puts greater emphasis on the bill's support for local businesses and strengthens the safeguards.

Fischer said this is not an initiative that she would support. In fact at the conclusion of the 20-minute press stop, Fischer wished both UNL journalism students luck in their chosen career paths and cautioned them about newspapers closing.

Fischer strongly encouraged both students to remain in Nebraska for their employment.

I am flabbergasted. Here's why: Not only do I care about keeping the paper alive where we live and the new faces for the industry, I care about our communities' small businesses and the news happening in them.

A favorite boutique of mine is the Freckled Door in Friend. There is a very small staff that makes big things happen with events like teacher appreciation, holiday open houses and many other business growth opportunities that bring commerce to the entire community of Friend.

Cars full of gals make a day of Friend and hit the adorable antique shop and cheer their purchases with margaritas at Rico's. This one store in a town of 1,200 supports economic growth for the city.

Plus, the owner gives back to the community in big ways, supporting the school through the booster club and FFA program. Most people don't realize how frequently small town businesses in general are asked for donations to a slew of worthy causes that are great but cost money.

The Freckled Door business owner does probably 95% of the store's advertising on social media. Just think if that store had an opportunity for a tax benefit to do more good for her store and her hometown.

And every town we cover has a hustler small business owner like that. Most towns have many of them that are our neighbors.

In the bill, small businesses with less than 50 employees can get a tax credit of up to \$5,000 in the first year of the bill and \$2,500 in the next four years to help pay for advertising in local news organizations.

The credit will cover 80% of its ad spending in the first year, 50% in years 2-5. (If it spent \$5,000 on advertising, \$4,000 might be reimbursed in the first year; \$2,500 in the other years.)

The advertising must be spent with a media outlet covering local news and even covers "sponsorships."

So when Fischer says no to this bill that gives payroll tax breaks to local media outlets, she is also saying no to every small business owner.

If that rattles you a bit, and you want to see your community businesses thrive and your local newspaper along for the ride, make it known to our U.S. senator.

It's no different than her wanting me to tell you about the Farm Bill, am I right?

Gosh, that's ironic... a local news source sharing information and serving the public. Wild.

Area schools receive more state aid

BY SEN. TOM BRANDT
Dist. 32

I hope that everyone has been enjoying their summer so far, and are gearing up for the upcoming school year.



Sen. Tom Brandt

By the time this gets published in the paper, most, if not all of the public schools in District 32 will have started their new school year. Best of luck this year to all the students, teachers, administrators and staff that make up our fantastic public schools.

In the last legislative session, we got LB243 approved. This legislation puts a soft cap of 3% on the annual budget growth for school districts. This can be overridden by a super-majority vote of school board members or by a vote of the people.

We also pushed through LB583. What this legislation does is provide state funding of \$1,500

for each student as basic funding. In addition, it increases the special education reimbursement for schools, taking it from 46% to 80%.

Both of these moves were aimed at giving taxpayers much-needed relief on property taxes, especially for those who own property in districts that aren't getting any equalization aid - which is the case for 12 of the 14 schools in District 32.

The idea is, for taxpayers to actually see a drop in their property taxes, the local school board will need to lower their tax levy by roughly the same amount as the new state aid. The additional state aid amount changes from district to district, but it roughly works out to about 10% of the school budget.

Just to be crystal clear, the additional funding to schools is meant to directly help with local property tax relief. For that to work out like it's supposed to, it's up to you - the taxpayer - to make your voice heard.

You need to let your local school administration and the

school boards know that you're counting on them to lower those levies, which in turn means lower property tax bills. If they don't hear from you, you might not get the full benefit of these new changes.

Here's the breakdown on the additional state aid funding for each school district in Saline County:

- Crete Public Schools: \$868,387
- Dorchester Public Schools: \$226,908
- Exeter-Milligan Public Schools: \$228,221
- Friend Public Schools: \$346,313
- Tri County Public Schools: \$699,685
- Wilber-Clatonia Public Schools: \$558,735

The numbers for ALL school districts can be found on the Nebraska Department of Education's website at www.education.ne.gov/fos/state-aid

If you have questions or concerns, feel free to contact me or my legislative staff at (402) 471-2711, or tbrandt@leg.ne.gov.

Letters to the editor

Decibel levels around turbines is a concern

I am writing in reference to the recent article entitled "Are the winds turning?" I wish to comment on the issue of "sound limits for the wind turbines."

We do not have any turbines on our farm west of Wilber (1517 County Road 1500), but they do encircle us being within 1/3 to 1/2 mile of our farmstead. I assure you that when the winds are greater than 10 mph and the turbines are spinning, there is definitely "noise."

As one is working outside, the constant "whooshing" can become irritating.

Milligan 1 claims that the 40 decibels measure does not apply to them. Why should it not? When I direct a "decibels app" from my phone (recognizing it may not be the most accurate), the readings from my south porch will measure as high as in the 50's and 60's.

Earlier this summer, I attended the planning and zoning meeting where NextEra was requesting an increase in the allowed decibels for their proposed windmill project to be raised to 50. There was good discussion at the meeting with some attendees expressing complaints with even the current noise level near their homes.

These issues are what I find to be disturbing:

The County Com-

missioners do NOT currently have any idea what the decibels levels are with the current wind turbines. And they are NOT interested in funding any properly conducted study to determine what those levels are. So, how can anyone vote to increase the approved level to 50 when we don't know if we are not already there?

Several of the County Commissioners do NOT show any interest in addressing the decibels level from a public health matter to residents living in the windmill areas. Public health is apparently one of their responsibilities, so why are they choosing to ignore it? Is this due to conflict of interest?

I find that representatives of windmill companies exaggerate the benefits, and they don't "walk the talk." A representative of NextEra who spoke at the meeting stating that the 50 decibels level is very acceptable and not a problem lives in Florida. And the attorney representing this group who spoke at the meeting was from Omaha! Really?

So, if we are going to live with windmills, then the county commissioners need to act more professionally and address the issue of noise levels and provide proper monitoring and regulation. That is their responsibility to the citizenry impacted. Do you agree?

Ron Dvorak
Wilber

Writer would like more time for presentation

Good morning. I said "good morning" but only to be polite. It is actually a sad morning because Saline County is no longer a government of "we the people, for the people, by the people."

As some of you know, I tried to get a time slot in the agenda to discuss voting in Nebraska presented with a bit of humor. However, I was not granted a time slot and was told that I had to share my presentation during the public forum, and would only be allowed five minutes to do so.

The presentation that I have prepared would take 15 to 20 minutes, depending on interaction with board members.

Five minutes is hardly enough time to even discuss the weather. How much rain did you get? Any wind? Any hail? Any damage? Did you hear what happened in Western, or DeWitt or at such and such a place? POOF - five minutes is shot just like that!

And we're only discussing what has already past. You can not solve issues going forward in five minutes, if it were that easy to resolve, we wouldn't need a board of commissioners willing to look at all options to give our citizens the best. Currently we do not

have such a board. As a board, you (maybe not each member) have effectively shut down any and all input from the citizens of Saline County.

When you encounter an issue that makes you think and you are not sure what your best option is, I'm sure you allow the NACO or NIRMA representatives more than five minutes to explain their possible solution to you. Neither of those two organizations have any concern for the people of Saline County.

They are only interested in keeping this board in power, so they can continue to collect their fees. If this board were to choose a solution that was not what they promoted, but was one that county residents approved, would there be any repercussions from them?

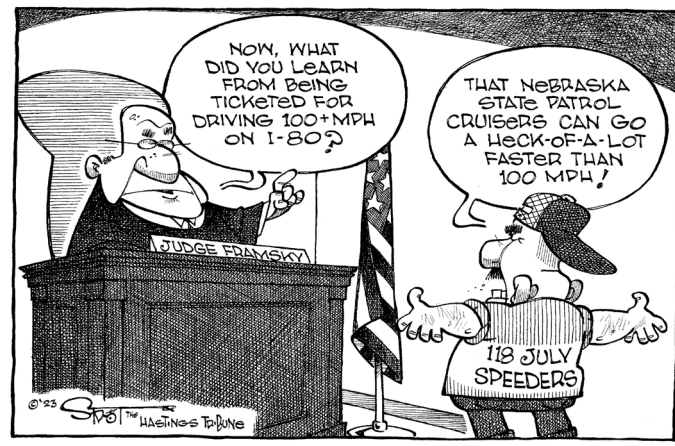
I know you can't make everyone happy with every decision you make, but you really should be listening to all options, and it might take more than five minutes for them to be explained.

Once you make a decision, you should also be able to rationally explain why that decision was made. If not, you are not an asset to this county.

Are you really serving the people of Saline County?

Or are you merely serving the government of Saline County?

Lester Ralston
Crete



Letters to the editor

The Friend Sentinel welcomes your letters to the editor. Letters should be 500 words or less and must be submitted before noon Friday. All letters may be edited for content and should be free of libelous statements. All letters must be signed and include a phone number to verify authenticity.

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Normal deadline is noon Monday.

FPS adds seven new teachers, custodian to staff

Seven new teachers and a new custodian joined the staff at Friend Public Schools for the 2023-24 school year. Teachers are:

Name: Paula Anderson

Position: 9-12 English/language arts
Extracurricular activities: Yearbook sponsor

Previous experience: 13 years in the classroom – three years Morton Middle School, Omaha, one year Dupree, South Dakota, nine years Louisville High School

Originally from: Eagle, graduated from Elmwood-Murdock

College: Chadron State College undergrad, University of Nebraska-Lincoln graduate

Family: Husband Derek, Dane (12, seventh grade), Devin (10, fifth grade), Dylan (7, second grade), Julia (5, kindergarten)

Hobbies (what do you like to do in your free time besides spending time with family and friends?): Read, exercise, gardening, spending time with my family is my favorite

Name: Kary Archer
Position: Fourth grade

Previous experience: Wahoo 5 years, Norfolk 3 years, Freeman 12 years, Crete two years

Originally from: Friend
College: Undergraduate University of Nebraska at Kearney,

master's Doane University

Family: spouse Larry, children Luke (22), Nate (19), Ella (16)

Hobbies (what do you like to do in your free time besides spending time with family and friends?): Read, work outside, bake and watch movies

Name: Lisa Brahmstedt

Position: Paraeducator

Previous experience: Worked at Little Friend Development Center for 13 years

Originally from: Sprague

College: Southeast Community College

Family: Brian, Emily, Evan

Hobbies (what do you like to do in your free time besides spending time with family and friends?): Going to country music concerts and Nebraska football games

Name: Kaydi Daudt

Position: K-12 music teacher

Originally from: Plainview

College: Doane University

Hobbies (what do you like to do in your free time besides spending time with family and friends?): Hike, run, bike

Name: Josie Ryan

Position: Paraeducator English language learners

Previous experience: I worked as a chemical



STEPHANIE CROSTON/FS

New staff at Friend Public Schools for 2023-24 include, from left: (front row) Jaw Lawver, custodian, Josie Ryan and Kaydi Daudt; and (back row) Paula Anderson, Sam Stutzman, Kary Archer, Lisa Brahmstedt and Denee Wehrs.

dependency counselor and was an interpreter.

Originally from: Mexico

College: University of Mexico

Family: I am married to Jerry Ryan.

Hobbies (what do you like to do in your free time besides spending time with family and friends?): Golf, walking, gardening, cooking

Name: Sam Stutzman

Position: Spanish teacher at Friend, Family and Consumer Sciences at Exeter-Milligan

Extracurricular activities: Junior high girls' basketball coach

Previous experience: Yutan 2 years teaching and coaching volleyball, York 2 years teaching and coaching volleyball

Originally from: Friend

College: Nebraska

Wesleyan University, master's at Wayne State College

Family: Husband Graham Stutzman

Hobbies (what do you like to do in your free time besides spending time with family and friends?): Read, take my dog on walks

Name: Denee Wehrs

Position: Language

Previous experience: Taught grade 6 and spe-

cial education in Crete, 26 years at Doane

Originally from: Crete

College: Doane University

Family: Husband Brian, children Taylor and Kade

Hobbies (what do you like to do in your free time besides spending time with family and friends?): Gardening, kayaking, refinishing furniture



DOUG CARROLL/FS

The new staff at Dorchester are, left, Jaci Dunaway, librarian/media specialist, and Amanda Clouse, who is teaching first grade.

Two teachers join Dorchester staff

Name: Jaci Dunaway
Position: Librarian/Media Specialist

Extracurricular activities:

Previous experience: Crete Public Schools (16 years), Lincoln Public Schools (one year)

Originally from: Marysville, Kansas

College: Doane College

Family: Three daughters: Emily (22), Kacey (15) and Macy, (13).

Hobbies (what do you like to do in your free time besides spending time with family and friends?): Watch softball, read and play with my dogs

Name: Amanda Clouse

Position: First grade teacher

Extracurricular activities: Assistant JV volleyball coach

Previous experience: Friend Public School, first and third grades, and teaching third grade at Seward Elementary

Originally from: Henderson

College: Undergrad at University of Nebraska - Lincoln; Master's Degree from Doane University

Family: Husband Jake, and children Emmie, age four, and Knox, one year old.

Hobbies (what do you like to do in your free time besides spending time with family and friends?): Bake, decorate and go to Trader Joes



Tips for parents and kids to stay organized this back-to-school season

Keep a clean workspace

If your child's workspace is cluttered, their brain may feel cluttered, too. Not everything needs to be spotless, but having a sense of physical organization can make everything easier to keep track of and minimize distractions. You don't want your child to have to rummage through their backpack when it's time to turn in homework, so also make sure they also clean out their backpack regularly.

Folders are essential

For your child to finish all their assignments and turn them in on time, they first need to be able to find those assignments. To maximize convenience, it helps to have separate, color-coded folders for each subject.

Every online document should also go in an online folder corresponding with its subject. Ensure your child gives each online assignment document a specific, identifiable name. Documents

with names such as Untitled_1 are nearly impossible to locate.

Keep an updated calendar and to-do list

To ensure nothing is overlooked, it is vital your student has a calendar to turn to each day. Teaching your child to also keep a to-do list can help ensure their daily tasks get completed. Crossing the items off the list will also provide them with a sense of satisfaction.

Have an established routine

Predictable routines help students feel more confident and secure in their environments. The routine doesn't have to be strict, just a simple schedule of what they do when they wake up, get home from school and go to bed can help. Having a secure routine will help them to focus on staying on top of their work.

Allow time for breaks

A go-go-go lifestyle

can be draining and overwhelming if adequate time isn't allocated for rest and fun. A great way to prevent burnout is to make sure they get enough sleep and still have time for fun and relaxation. A fun break can be something as simple as getting ice cream on the way home from school or watching a family movie. Additionally, if your child has been working on homework for a long time, encourage them to take a five-minute brain break in which they can dance to music, stretch, or do anything that helps refresh their minds.

Reinforce positive habits

Getting positive feedback can help kids stick to their good habits and reduce burnout. To get repeated positive behavior, don't let their accomplishments or effort go unnoticed. If they're working on a long project, simply saying "You're doing a great job!" can help motivate them to keep going.

2023-2024 Back to School Section coming September 27.

EMF girls golf starts co-op with new equipment

BY KEATON BURGESS
reporter@sewardindependent.com

The Exeter-Milligan-Friend girls' golf team is starting off its co-op on the right track with new clubs, bags and push carts for the upcoming season.

EMF was one program chosen by PGA REACH Nebraska to receive the new equipment. PGA REACH Nebraska and Drive Fore the Future Foundation teamed up on Aug. 8 at the Pinnacle Bank Championship to surprise four Nebraska high school girls' golf teams with new clubs and pushcarts through the clubs FORE youth program.

According to PGA REACH Nebraska, high school girl's golf programs aren't afforded the proper resources, equipment or training to succeed at a high level. The vast majority of high school girls' golf programs are using substandard equipment, which is why they are trying to donate clubs and equipment to girls'



COURTESY PHOTO

The Exeter-Milligan-Friend girls' golf team receives its new golf clubs, bags and push carts from PGA REACH Nebraska at the Pinnacle Bank Championship in Elkhorn. Pictured are, from left, assistant coach Matt Nicholas, Halona Wootton, Dylen Collier, Abby Klooz, Kmila Benitez, Abbie Milton and Coach Lori Klooz.

golf teams around the state.

Lori Klooz, EMF girls' golf coach, said she found out about the program this past winter and applied. Initially, Klooz heard EMF wasn't chosen.

"They had a significant increase in applicants," she said. "So I thought, 'Well, I'll try

again next year.'"

Roughly three weeks ago, Klooz said she received an email from the PGA REACH program telling her to call as soon as she could.

"They told us they decided to select four more schools, and we were one of those schools," she said.

Klooz said the team

was invited to Indian Creek Golf Course in Elkhorn for the Pinnacle Bank Championship for a clinic put on by a few of the players at the tournament.

"They had some of the players do a little clinic and share some of their tips and insights about golf," she said.

Klooz said she

thought the tournament was a good experience for the girls because it gave the ones who haven't been around golf much the opportunity to see the setup of a professional tournament and the chance to meet tour players.

"One of the players they had a chance to speak with was Patrick Wells who just graduated from Oklahoma and is just starting his professional career," she said. "The girls thought that was really fun."

Although the girls were made aware of the trip, Klooz said the new equipment was a secret.

"They asked me to tell them they were invited to this clinic, but not to tell them about the clubs," she said. "I had to keep that a secret for about three weeks."

After the clinic at the Pinnacle Bank Championship, the girls were taken to the driving range where new sets of clubs were waiting for them. After using the clubs, it was then announced that the clubs were for them to keep.

"I think they (the girls) were a little bit shocked at first," Klooz said. "It didn't really sink in for a few minutes. They were really excited about it."

Klooz thinks the new equipment will be helpful for EMF because it gives the team the opportunity to play with some of the best.

"When you're new to golf and you're not sure how long you're going to play it, a brand new set of clubs would be a huge investment," she said. "This gives these girls a chance to play with good equipment designed for women. We are going to be one of the best-equipped teams on the course."

The EMF girls' golf team will have five girls on the team, four from Friend and one from EM. Klooz said two have previous experience playing golf.

Overall, Klooz said the team is excited for the new equipment.

"I was just excited to start the new co-op off on the right foot," she said.

FCEMF softball kicks off fall season

BY KEATON BURGESS
reporter@sewardindependent.com

Exeter-Milligan-Friend will officially begin the fall sports season as the Fillmore Central-Exeter Milligan-Friend softball team will begin

games on Thursday, Aug. 17, with a triangular at York starting at 4 p.m., and Saturday, Aug. 19, with a triangular at Centennial starting at 10 a.m.

FCEMF is coming off a 15-14 season and will start off against Centura-Central Valley and York.

According to Coach Aaron Lauby, the Panthers return six starters and 10 letter winners and the underclassmen bring depth.

FCEMF brings back an experienced pitching core in senior Amy Lauby and junior Ashley Braun and

Lauby said the offense and defense should be solid.

Lauby thinks the Panthers will field a competitive team and hopes to find themselves deep in the postseason.

MEETINGS

NOTICE

The Saline County Board of Adjustments will meet on Monday, August 21st, 2023, at 7:00 P.M. in the Assembly Room of the County Courthouse. A current copy of the agenda is available for review at the County Clerk's and Zoning Administrator's office.

Lyle Weber
Zoning Administrator
CR/FS/WR — August 16, 2023
ZNEZ

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

The Saline County Board of Equalization will meet on August 22nd, 2023 at 9:15 a.m. in the County Board Room, 2nd Floor, Court House, Wilber NE. Agenda items for said meetings are kept current and can be reviewed in the County Clerk's office during regular office hours. Agenda item requests must be in the County Clerk's office 24 hours prior to the start of the meeting.

The Board of Equalization will hold a Public Hearing to consider motor vehicle exemption requests at 9:25 a.m. A list of organizations seeking an exemption is available in the office of the Saline County Treasurer.

Diann Nettifee,
Saline County Clerk
CR/FS/WR — August 16, 2023
ZNEZ

NOTICE OF MEETING

CITY OF FRIEND, NEBRASKA
Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Friend, Nebraska will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 5, 2023, at the City Hall which meeting will be open to the public. Agenda for said meeting is kept current and is available in the City Clerk's office during regular business hours. Request to be on the agenda must be in the City Clerk's office 24 hours prior to the start of the meeting.

John R. Schwab
City Clerk/Treasurer
FS — August 16, 2023
ZNEZ

MEETING NOTICE

The Exeter-Milligan Public School Board of Education will have a special meeting on Tuesday, August 29, 2023 at 5:30 P.M. in the Exeter site Community Classroom. An agenda is available in the Exeter site office.

FS — August 16, 2023
ZNEZ

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Saline County Board of Commissioners will be held on August 22nd, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. in the County Board Room, 2nd Floor, Courthouse, Wilber, NE. Agenda items for said meetings are kept current and can be reviewed in the County Clerk's office during regular office hours. Agenda item requests must be in the County Clerk's office 24 hours prior to the start of the meeting.

Diann Nettifee,
Saline County Clerk
CR/FS/WR — August 16, 2023
ZNEZ

GENERAL NOTICES

PURSUANT TO LB299, 1996 LEGISLATIVE SESSION, THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF SALINE COUNTY JOB TITLES, AND DUTIES:

County Commissioners: \$36,999.82 annual – official.
Chairman of Board of Commissioners: \$37,999.82 annual – official
Deputies of preceding officials: 80% of official's salary – all functions of their specific offices.
Office Clerks: \$17.50 - \$23.50 per hour – tax collections, licensing and related general office functions.
Office Clerks: \$21.29 - \$21.43 per hour – assessments, valuations and related general office functions.
County Attorney: \$110,988.80 annual – official.
Deputy County Attorney:

\$58,999.98 annual – all functions of County Attorney's office.
Paralegal II: \$23.50 per hour – criminal and civil division functions.
Paralegal I: \$20.61 - \$22.15 per hour – criminal functions and bad check collections.
Child Support Accountant/Clerk: \$21.67 per hour – all child support functions and related office functions.
FT Bailiff: \$55,000.14 annual – court scheduling and assisting judge.
Bailiff: \$35.00 per Diem – court activities.
Highway Superintendent: \$79,684.80 annual – obligations required in the supervision, maintenance and construction of road and bridge projects.
Secretary: \$21.53 per hour – all road and bridge related office functions.
Veterans Service Officer: \$21.60 per hour – supervising and coordinating service and programs of the Veterans Service Center.
County Surveyor: \$38,480.00 annual – official.
Emergency Management Director (Contracted): public awareness, emergency preparedness and disaster response.
County Sheriff: \$110,999.98 annual – official.
Jail Administrator: \$31.50 per hour – supervises management of jail.
Captain/Criminal Investigator/Courthouse Security: \$35.97 - \$40.65 per hour – supervises and coordinates activities and related functions.
Patrol Supervisor: \$31.37 - \$32.37 per hour – supervises and provides guidance to corporal and patrol deputies.
K-9 Deputy: \$30.33 per hour – K-9 handler.
Patrol Deputies: \$26.00 - \$30.23 per hour – provide protection and services to public, maintain order and control crime.
Sheriff's Office/Corrections Clerical Administrator: \$33.25 per hour – performs accounting and office functions of County Law Enforcement Center.
Asst. Sheriff's Office/Corrections Clerical Administrator: \$27.48 per hour – assist clerical administrator all aspects.

Sheriff's Office Receptionist: \$25.11 per hour – receives and directs visitors and phone calls to the County Law Enforcement Center.
Corrections Supervisors: \$26.68 - \$26.78 per hour – supervises corrections officers and inmates.
Corrections Officers: \$20.00 - \$26.78 per hour – supervises inmates.
Communications Supervisor: \$29.27 per hour – supervises 911 communications center.
Communications: \$20.00 - \$23.54 per hour – manages 911 communications center.
Transport Officers: \$30.23 per hour – prisoner transport and monitors work release & electronic monitoring.
Nurse: \$29.27 per hour – health care of prisoners.
Jail Maintenance: \$27.81 - \$28.28 per hour – building and grounds maintenance and housekeeping.
Extension Office Manager: \$21.72 per hour – finance and communications functions.
4-H Secretary: \$19.32 - \$21.62 per hour – 4-H and adult programs and assists extension educators in 4-H related activities.
Extension Board: \$15.00 per Diem – overall functions and guidance to extension office.
Zoning Director: \$28.80 per hour – zoning regulation functions.
Head Custodian: \$24.89 per hour – supervises courthouse building and grounds maintenance and housekeeping.
Custodian: \$16.00 - \$19.05 per hour – courthouse building and grounds maintenance and housekeeping.
Road Crew: \$23.38 - \$23.98 per hour – county road maintenance and related duties.
Bridge Crew: \$23.38 - \$24.27 per hour – county bridge maintenance, construction and related duties.
Bridge Foreman: \$54,912.00 annual – supervises bridge maintenance and construction.
Assistant Highway Superintendent: \$59,999.94 annual – assist highway superintendent.
Mechanic: \$27.14 per hour – maintenance and repair of vehicles and machinery.
Weed Superintendent: \$28.80 per

hour – noxious weed infestation requirements.
Mental Health Board: \$100.00 per hour – attorney, physician and lay representative.
Aging Services Director: – \$64,812.80 annual – Supervise activities and programs of Aging Services office.
Office Clerk: \$19.00 - 19.75 per hour – Assists Program Director with all activities of Aging Services Office.
Diann Nettifee
Saline County Clerk
CR/FS/WR — August 16, 23, 2023
ZNEZ

MINUTES

EXETER-MILLIGAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS SCHOOL BOARD PLANNING SESSION COMMUNITY CLASSROOM IN EXETER, NEBRASKA TUESDAY, JULY 18, 2023

President Erdkamp declared the planning session open at 6:30 pm. Those present were A. Erdkamp, D. Kalhoff, K. Jansky, P. Jurgensen, E. Milton, Superintendent Sheffield, and Principal Kroll. There were no other visitors present. The Nebraska Open Meetings Act was posted.
Motion by E. Milton and 2nd by K. Jansky to verify that the work session of the school board of Exeter-Milligan Public School was duly advertised and all the board members were notified as to the time and place of the work session pursuant to board policy and practice. Motion carried 5-0.
The board traveled to Friend to tour the Friend school facility and returned to Exeter at 7:45 PM
The board discussed current areas of concern and future trends that may impact the district including consolidation with Friend Public Schools.
President Erdkamp adjourned the planning session at 9:08 pm.
/s/ Dan Kalhoff
Secretary
FS — August 16, 2023
ZNEZ

This is a synopsis of the Saline County Board of Commissioners' July 28, 2023, emergency meeting proceedings. A complete set of the proceedings along with an approved list of claims is on file in the Board of Commissioners' Journal, is of public record in the Saline County Clerk's office and on our website: www.co.saline.ne.us

SALINE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

The emergency meeting of the Saline County Board of Commissioners was called to order at 9:04 a.m. on Friday, July 28, 2023 by Chairperson Phil Hardenburger. Present were Hardenburger, Marvin A. Kohout, Russ Karpisek and Janet J. Henning Commissioners, Deputy County Clerk Dee Drake, and County Clerk Diann Nettifee. County Attorney David Solheim was present via phone. Commissioner Stephanie A. Krivohlavek was absent.

Notice of this emergency meeting was posted in the County Clerk's Office, on the Saline County Facebook and notice was given by email to local news media. Hardenburger advised those present of the open meetings act posted at the back of the room and that all proceedings are electronically recorded.

Approved the agenda
Approved Patrick Guinan as legal counsel for Milligan 1 Wind Farm litigation

9:12 a.m. Entered closed session to discuss Milligan 1 Wind Farm litigation, no action taken.

9:39 a.m. Exited closed session with no action taken
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 a.m. The next regular meeting will be on August 8, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. in the Saline County Commissioners' Room, Court House, Wilber, NE.

ATTEST:
Diann Nettifee, County Clerk
Janet J. Henning
Marvin A. Kohout
Russ Karpisek
Phil Hardenburger, Chairperson
Stephanie A. Krivohlavek, Vice Chairperson
CR/FS/WR — August 16, 2023
ZNEZ

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MINUTES

This is a synopsis of the Saline County Board of Equalization's August 8, 2023, regular meeting proceedings. A complete set of the proceedings is on file in the Board of Equalizations' Journal, is of public record in the Saline County Clerk's office and on our website: www.co.saline.ne.us

SALINE COUNTY BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

The regular meeting of the Saline County Board of Equalization opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was called to order at 9:17 a.m. on Tuesday, August 8, 2023, by Chairperson Phil Hardenburger. Present were Hardenburger, Janet J. Henning, Russ Karpisek, Marvin A. Kohout and Stephanie A. Krivohavek, Commissioners and Deputy County Clerk Dee Drake. Notice of said meeting was posted in the County Clerk's office and published in all three county newspapers on August 2, 2023, in compliance with State Statutes. Hardenburger advised those present of the open meetings act posted at the back of the room and that all proceedings are electronically recorded; Approved the agenda as presented; Approved the minutes of the June 20, 2023 and July 25, 2023 meeting as presented; Approved the final list of the 2023 Permissive Exemption applications and statement of reaffirmations; Approved the Tax List Correction 2023-223: Malco Products, SBC; Approved Assessor sending a letter to obtain more information 2023-01 Homestead Exemption Appeal - P. Richards; There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 a.m. The next regular meeting will be on Tuesday, August 22, 2023 at 9:15 a.m., in the Saline County Commissioners' Room, Court House, Wilber, NE.

ATTEST: Dee Drake, Deputy County Clerk Janet J. Henning Russ Karpisek Stephanie A. Krivohavek, Vice Chairperson Phil Hardenburger, Chairperson Marvin A. Kohout I, Diann Nettifee, County Clerk in and for Saline County, do hereby certify that the minutes of the previous meetings held on June 20, 2023 and July 25, 2023 was approved as presented. Diann Nettifee, County Clerk Janet J. Henning Russ Karpisek Stephanie A. Krivohavek, Vice Chairperson Phil Hardenburger, Chairperson Marvin A. Kohout CR/FS/WR — August 16, 2023 ZNEZ

This is a synopsis of the Saline County Board of Commissioners' August 8, 2023, regular meeting proceedings. A complete set of the proceedings along with an approved list of claims is on file in the Board of Commissioners' Journal, is of public record in the Saline County Clerk's office and on our website: www.co.saline.ne.us

SALINE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

The regular meeting of the Saline County Board of Commissioners was called to order at 9:38 a.m. on Tuesday, August 8, 2023, by Chairperson Phil Hardenburger. Present were Hardenburger, Russ Karpisek, Janet J. Henning, Stephanie A. Krivohavek, Marvin A. Kohout Commissioners, Deputy County Clerk Dee Drake and County Attorney David Solheim; Notice of said meeting was posted in the County Clerk's Office and published in all three county newspapers on August 2, 2023, in compliance with State Statutes; Hardenburger advised those present of the open meetings act at the back of the room and that all proceedings are electronically recorded; Approved the agenda; Approved the minutes of the July 18, 2023 regular meeting; Approved the minutes of the July 25, 2023 regular meeting; Approved the minutes of the July 28, 2023 emergency meeting; Under Citizens Forum, Lester Ralston addressed the Board; Under Correspondence it was reported receiving from Blue Valley Community Action a meeting agenda and minutes; August 2023 Reports to the Board of Directors; Upcoming City of Crete Planning Commission meeting, Nebraska Department of Natural Resources- Notice: Shestak Reservoir is open; Received SENDD report and membership packet; Notice of NACO Southeast District meeting; Berggren Architects, PC, jail remodeling; Under Report of Officials, heard reports from Commissioners regarding attending Court Hearing, insurance meeting for employees, Planning and Zoning and County Attorney Standard meeting and tree complaint; Matt Kasik, CEO with Region V Services gave annual report; Aging Partners annual report by Jill Engel and Lori Moldenhauer; At 10:16 a.m. the Board recessed; At 10:25 a.m. the Board reconvened; Brian Blobaum with Blobaum & Busbloom, P.C. gave a report on the county budget; Approved the Saline County District Court, July 2023, Fees and Fines; Approved the Clerk fees for July 2023; Approved the Insurance Renewal for Principal Dental; Supplemental agreement for Speece Lewis Engineers for Structure # C007601725 error in agreement referred to next meeting;

Highway Superintendent reported on current projects; Approved Surplus items for County Attorney's office inventory; Approved Resolution 2023-42 Tax Foreclosure; Approved Resolution 2023-43 Issue Tax Sale Certificates; Approved Joint Public Hearing: Property Tax for Wednesday September 20, 2023 at 6:15 pm in the Saline County Court House assembly room; Scott Bartels gave a report on the Saline County Area Transit; Approved Benefit Management Consultant Agreement; Approved to initiate proceedings to remove the Board of Adjustment members for cause, Public Hearing set for September 5, 2023 at 10:00 am; Approved County Treasurer's Listing of Unpaid Distress Warrants; At 11:31 a.m. the Board entered Public Hearing to discuss Met Tower Application At 11:35 a.m. the Board exited Public Hearing At 11:38 a.m. the Board entered Public Hearing to discuss Met Tower Application At 11:41 a.m. the Board exited Public Hearing Approved MET tower application for SW ¼ section 18-7-2 and SW ¼ Section 14-7-2 for Trans Alta; Approved Resolution 2023-44, transferring \$300,000.00 from Inheritance Fund to the Road and Bridge Fund; Approved Resolution 2023-45, transferring \$2,700.00 from Inheritance Fund to the Grand Fund; Approved Claims as presented: Rebecca Anderson Atty Fees 1,719.50; Anytime Plumb Bldg Maint 164.40; Johnny Barta P&Z 33.34; Lyle Bartels Mlg 15.72; Bear Graphics Spls 92.21; Gerald Brown P&Z 29.41; Consolidated Mgt Spls 153.00; Continuum Eap Dues 3,267.00; CAMC Cntrct 1,780.56; Deluxe Spls 141.27; Dept Treas Taxes 214.83; Dollar Gnl Spls 62.50; Mark Due P&Z 62.16; Eakes Spls 5,944.93; Equifax Cntrct 290.89; Farmers Coop Fuel 454.69; Fillmore Co Spls 99.00; Ronald Fink P&Z 29.41; First Concord Cntrct 62.50; First Concord Ins 1,417.91; First State Bank Spls 204.40; First Wireless Spls 170.00; Friend Comm Hlthcr Cntrct 480.00; Gage Co Sheriff Office Cntrct 32.22; Greatamerica Fncl Cntrct 675.26; Scott Gropp Atty Fees 9,000.00; Hanson Hroch & Kuntz Atty Fees 522.50; David Hermsmeier P&Z 16.31; Bernard Hoesche Mlg 13.10; Home Depot Pro Spls 154.88; Sharon Jelinek Reimb 50.00; Randy Kalkwarf Reimb 121.00; Kiner Sply Spls 304.17; Jeffrey Koll P&Z 29.41; Melanie Kunc Mlg 154.58; Sandra Luse Trng 73.08; Mahloch Law Atty Fees 528.49; Mallory Safety Unif 905.38; Cody Mulbery Reimb 110.15; Keith Muller P&Z 19.59; Ne Assn Cty Clrk Trng 50.00; Ne Law Enf Trng Trng 75.00; Tyson

Osborn Reimb 116.86; Point C Fee 564.25; Point C FSA 331.50; Sack Lumber Spls 275.66; Saline Co Atty Reimb 118.97; Saline Co Dist Crt Reimb 74.00; Seward Co Ind P&P 96.51; Shop Qwik Fuel 127.45; Soarin Grp Cntrct 1,497.00; State of NE Cntrct 56.88; Alan Strouf Mlg 18.34; Summit Spls 6,044.46; Timekeeping Sys Cntrct 81.72; Us Bank Cntrct 332.21; Becky Vales Mlg 168.99; Verizon Comm 2,183.00; Visa P&P 170.35; Visa Unif 412.26; Visa Pstg 218.87; Voss Lighting Spls 89.44; Walker Cntrct 74.64; Walker Cntrct 78.83; Joel Weber P&Z 41.86; Mary Jo Weber P&Z 62.16; Windstream Comm 1,413.58; Ace Irrigation Spls 44,333.32; Beatrice Concrete Gravel 60,605.09; Beaver Hardware Spls 49.86; Blue Valley Door Spls 84.00; Butler Co Landfill Disp 38,083.81; CAMC Cntrct 121.00; Deere Credit Equip 324,392.00; Dollar General Spls 41.75; Eakes Spls 49.48; Matheson Tri-Gas Spls 363.57; Rock On Gravel 9,549.63; Speece-Lewis Eng Fees 14,637.77; Surplus Center Spls 438.75; Village of Dewitt Utlty 75.36; Village of Tobias Utlty 57.60; Uline Equip 861.55; Workwell Cntrct 486.00; Jessica Acosta Prgm 920.00; Samantha Cosaert Prgm 285.00; Delaney Mazza Prgm 606.00; Darlene Pribyl Prgm 433.23; Nereyda Zambrand Prgm 200.00; Kalkwarf & Smith Atty Fees 1,200.00; Anita Stougar Prgm 1,095.00; First Wireless Equip 408,434.80; Charm-Tex Inc Spls 54.20; Eakes Spls 410.80; Summit Spls 2,643.43; Visa Cntrct 498.08; Quill Spls 150.13; Sapp Bros Fuel 6,780.07; iSolved Payroll, Taxes & Payments Payroll & Taxes 260,567.39; Ameritas Life Retire 29,123.59; BC/BS Hlth Ins 105,674.62; Health Savings Account HSA 17,916.94; Principal Dental Dental Ins 2,159.46; Madison Nat'l Life Life Ins 59.97; AFLAC Ins 952.47; VSP Eye Ins 575.40; Empower Def Comp 4,017.00; First Concord Café 952.07; Colonial Supp Ins Ins 137.37; Madison Nat'l Life Dis Ins 197.55; Teamsters Dues 297.00; New York Life Ins 95.64; Globe Life Ins 213.64; Saline County Court Garnish 286.00; Bruce Wingerd Garnish 512.74; At 11:48 a.m. the Board entered closed session to discuss a personnel issue; At 12:17 p.m. the Board exited closed session with no action taken; There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:17 p.m. The next regular meeting will be on Tuesday, August 22, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. in the Saline County Commissioners' Room, Court House, Wilber, NE.

ATTEST: Dee Drake, Deputy County Clerk Janet J. Henning Russ Karpisek Stephanie A. Krivohavek, Vice-Chairperson Phil Hardenburger, Chairperson

Russ Karpisek I, Dee Drake, Deputy County Clerk in and for Saline County, do hereby certify that the minutes of the previous meetings held July 18, July 25, and emergency meeting July 28, 2023 were approved as presented. Dee Drake, Deputy County Clerk Janet J. Henning Marvin A. Kohout Stephanie A. Krivohavek, Vice-Chairperson Phil Hardenburger, Chairperson Russ Karpisek CR/FS/WR — August 16, 2023 ZNEZ

FRIEND CITY COUNCIL MINUTES-REGULAR MEETING JULY 11, 2023 Mayor Knoke called the regular meeting of the City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. Councilmembers present: Phyllis Schwab, David Sladek, & Kristen Milton. Absent Jeremy Collier. Mayor Knoke led the meeting in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. As required by the Nebraska Open Meetings Act, Mayor Knoke announced that a copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act has been posted on the south door of the City Hall meeting room. Motions were made, seconded, and passed unanimously for the following: With Collier absent. -to approve the minutes of the July 11th meeting -to approve the treasurers report -to approve the Hospital finances -to approve the claims and payroll -to adopt Resolution 23-04 -to approve the CRA financial report -to approve the CRA fund report -to approve SDL from American Legion post # 183 -to allow Friend VFD to donate or trade parcel of land for future development -to allow Friend VFD to purchase land from Harlan Schrock -to approve application for fowl by Dan Sandoz -to adjourn. The claims approved were as follows: July Payroll, 36170.66; Ameritas, 3810.26; EFTPS, 9553.36; NE Dept of Rev SWH, 1515.54; Aliscia Alley, re 210.95; Aqua-Chem Inc, su 3810.26; Baker & Taylor Books, su 17.57; Black Hills Energy, fe 804.59; Blue Cross Blue Shield, fe 4443.18; Center Point Large Print, su 93.48; Jacob & Johnathan Clouse, fe 850.00; Collaborative Summer Library Program, fe 262.25, DL Millwright Services LLC, fe 1760.00; Diode Communications, fe 46.45; Earhugger Safety Products, su 172.00; Fairfield Inn & Suites, fe 1079.55; Gale, su 94.46; Great Plains Uniforms LLC, su 253.96; Holiday Inn of Kearney, fe 419.85; Hometown Leasing, fe 93.01; Johnson Services, se 1050.00; LaQuinta Inn & Suites, fe 795.66; Rosemarie Markus, se 50.00; Mastiff System, fe 190.00; Midwest Assistance Program Inc, fe 485.00; Midwest Laboratories

Inc, se 231.37; Mutual of Omaha fe 517.56; NE Public Health Environmental Lab, fe 60.00; Nebraska Power Review Board, fe 123.12; Diane Odoski, re 132.41; Personnel Concepts, se 483.52; Saline County Aging Services, fe 2551.25; Schindler Elevator Corporation, fe 191.46; Marvin Slepicka, fe 2000.00; US Cellular, se 61.49; Vyhnaek Insurance Agency, fe 1900.08; Total Claims Approved: 73474.47. Proposed Ordinance# 23-800 was introduced and read by Mayor Knoke. Second reading. ORDINANCE NO. 23-800 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 150: BUILDING REGULATIONS AND CHAPTER 154 ZONING REGULATIONS OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE CITY OF FRIEND, NEBRASKA TO REGULATE WHEN BUILDING PERMITS ARE REQUIRED AND TO ALLOW FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF ACCESSORY BUILDINGS AS A PRINCIPLE USE, CONSTRUCTION OF DWELLING UNITS, SPECIAL TYPES, AND TO REGULATE SINGLE FAMILY DWELLINGS IN B-1 OR B-2 BUSINESS DISTRICTS, TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HERewith, TO PROVIDE FOR THE POSTING OR PUBLICATION OF THIS ORDINANCE IN PAMPHLET FORM; AND TO PROVIDE FOR A TIME WHEN THIS ORDINANCE SHALL TAKE EFFECT. Proposed Resolution# 23-04 was introduced and read by Mayor Knoke. RESOLUTION NO. 23-04 SIGNING OF THE MUNICIPAL ANNUAL CERTIFICATION OF PROGRAM COMPLIANCE 2023 Aaron Bos from Nebraska Class gave his presentation. No action taken. Friend Neon sign was discussed. It was decided to have an electrician look at it and give a quote to fix. Also, to call Norris and see if they could fix it. Friend Community Healthcare Systems No Report. Building Inspector Mark Stutzman, No report Chief Brent Milton and Asst. Chief Stan Krause discussed options for the new fire hall. No action taken. Police Chief Shawn Gray presented his report. Pool Manager Heather Black reported on the pool. Public Works Supervisor Billy Baugh presented his report. City Clerk John R. Schwab presented his report. No further business to come before the City Council, meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m. Judith Knoke, Mayor ATTEST John R. Schwab, City Clerk/Treasurer A complete copy of the minutes is available for review upon request at City Hall during regular office hours. FS — August 16, 2023 ZNEZ

Marketplace

GARAGE SALE

1412 ROAD K-Geneva Thurs., Aug. 17-20, 2023 9 a.m.-7 p.m.

Cast iron skillets, tractor seats, chicken windmill weights, hummer weights, horse windmill weights, trampoline 13', metal toys, Budweiser mugs, new and old tools, furniture, crafts, Redwing and daisy churns, 40 to 50 fishing lures, fishing rods and wheels, kerosene lamps and lanterns, belt buckles, large chain hoist, windows, lightning rods, steel implement wheels, dogs carriers, steel traps, bear traps, bass traps, cedar chest, adult and children clothing, shoes, eagle bell, metal chicken yard ornament's, shotguns, rifles, black powder guns, hand guns, military guns, John Deere bike and wagon, two red rider wagons, log chains, toys, marbles, misc items. Friday through Sunday, sales are west of the house. Thursday through Sunday sales also down by the creek, follow signs. Sunday afternoon there will be a discount. If need you more information call 402-366-2728.

ESTATE SALE 412 4th St.-Garland Fri., Aug. 18, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Moving Sale! 1525 N 1st-Seward Sat., Aug 19, 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Dining, Bed and Living room furniture. Games, movies, books and more.

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, family status, or national origin, or an intention, to make such preference, limitation or discrimination." Family status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians; pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18. The Friend Sentinel will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-642-6112. <http://www.nol.org/home/NEOC>.

Borchers Ag Inc is looking for seasonal harvest help to run tractor and grain cart or drive truck hauling grain. CDL would be nice but not mandatory. Job would be 6-7 days a week, paid hourly, starting at \$20 an hour and up from there depending on experience and skill. Would be needed for all of September and October. For questions or to apply, call Justin at 402-641-6125.

THE VILLAGE of DeWitt has an immediate opening for a part-time custodial worker. Candidate's responsibilities would include but not limited to: cleaning bathrooms, windows, floors, light dusting, emptying trash and weeding flower beds when needed at the Burkley Library bi-weekly and the Community Center on a monthly basis; and before/after events if needed. Applications may be picked up at the Village Office (209 E. Fillmore Ave, DeWitt) or downloaded at www.dewitt.ne.gov. Position will remain open until filled. Return your application August 18, 2023, to PO Box 208, DeWitt NE 68341 or drop it by the Village Office or drop box. EOE

EXETER-MILLIGAN SCHOOL Board has a vacancy with the term expiring on January 9, 2025. The vacancy occurred due to a resignation that was accepted by the board on August 8, 2023. Those interested in filling the vacancy should contact the superintendent at paul.sheffield@emwolves.net for an application. All applications are due by 4 PM on Wednesday, August 23rd. The vacancy will be filled by school board appointment from the completed applications.

FOR SALE

2003 PONTIAC GRAND AM. Sold as is. \$600. 402-381-7668.

CANTALOUPE, PEACHES, WATERMELON, ETC. Every weekend at Helgoth's stand, located 3 miles South & 1/2 mile East of David City on Hwys 92 & 15. *Apples, Pumpkins & Squash later in Season.

HELP WANTED

Night Nurse (LPN or RN)

Are you a positive leader who loves helping others? We are looking for a night nurse to be a team leader and oversee resident nursing cares. (Mon-Fri Only)

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Stop in or call for an application.



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FOR RENT

FARM GROUND for Rent. The Village of DeWitt has the following ground for rent: DeWitt Prct PT N ½ SW ¼, Section 13-5-4 4.53 acres. This ground is to be used for crops only and possible sludge application from the Village Wastewater Treatment Plant. Sealed bids must be received no later than Friday, September 1, 2023, at 12 Noon. The Village has the right to refuse any and all bids. The bid will be a per acre bid. Said bid will be with the option of 1 year or 3 years, to be agreed upon by the highest bidder and the Board of Trustees of the Village of DeWitt.

Rent Sokol Hall for various social and business functions. Hall is air-conditioned and handicap accessible. Contact Lumir Sukovaty at 402-821-2429 or Leon Slama at 402-239-2857. For kolaches, contact Joan Kotas at 402-821-2971. Paid for in part by the Saline County Visitors Advisory Committee.

FARM

BEGINNING FARMER looking to buy land, preferably 160 acres. Also, looking for an abandon farmstead, preferably 10 acres. Looking around Crete, Dorchester, Wilber area. Call Jay at 402-326-2999.

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FULL-TIME MAINTENANCE POSITION

The City of Friend is accepting applications for a qualified individual to serve as a full-time city maintenance personnel. Applicants must be able to effectively manage time under minimal supervision and work well with the public. This position will perform duties in the day-to-day operations and maintenance of the sewer and water systems, streets, storm drainage, park, swimming pool, city equipment operations, snow removal, weekend on-call rotation, and other tasks assigned for the City of Friend. Candidates must be in good physical condition and possess a valid Nebraska driver's license, High School diploma or equivalent. Municipal or maintenance background desired. Certification as a Class IV Water Operator and Class II Wastewater Operator desired or may be required within 12 months of employment. Salary range will be higher with one or both certifications.

Benefit packages include - Paid vacation, holidays, sick leave, retirement, Employer paid Health, Dental and Life Insurance. Resumes will be reviewed as received, and it will be preferred to receive them as soon as possible. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Applications available at the Friend City Office, 235 Maple St | Friend, NE 68359 or by calling 402-947-2711 with any questions. EOE

Fundraising at the Friend golf course



Layton Dockweiler of Friend gives a high five to Kamille Fishell for her nice tee shot during the EMF Booster Club golf tournament in Friend on Aug. 12.

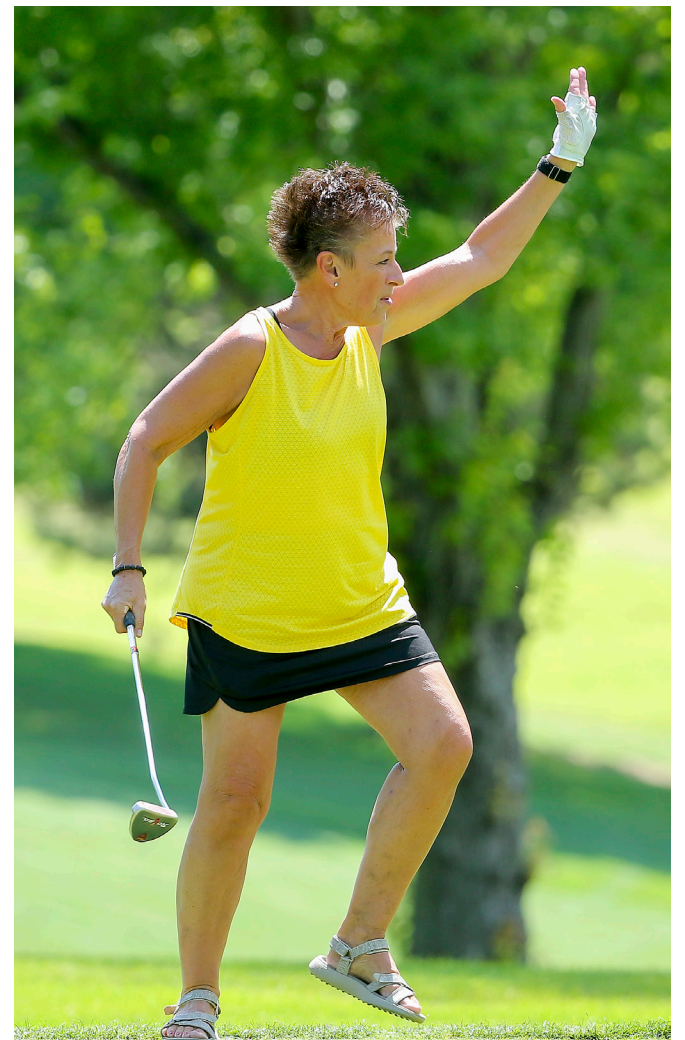


Josh Bartley of Friend chips onto a green during the EMF Booster Club golf tournament in Friend on Aug. 12.

PHOTOS BY DOUG CARROLL/FS



Reed Waller of Holdrege, a graduate of Friend High School, watches one of his drives as Josh Nickel of Friend looks on during the EMF Booster Club golf tournament in Friend on Aug. 12.



Lorri Milton of Friend celebrates after her long putt for par drops in during the EMF Booster Club golf tournament in Friend on Aug. 12.

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now hiring **Part-Time Field Interviewer**

Do you have experience as a canvasser? Are you comfortable going door-to-door? The University of Michigan is looking for candidates in your area to work on the project: Health and Retirement Study (HRS).

For more than 20 years, the HRS has been a leading source for information on the health and economic circumstances of adults over age 50 in the United States. Field Interviewers will travel to a variety of neighborhoods to screen households for eligibility and complete an in-person interview.

- ✓ Project Schedule: November through July 2024
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- Able to work weekdays, evenings, Saturdays, & Sundays
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UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

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Look online Wednesday, Aug. 30 to make your picks!