



Paula Buchanan, sister of James Buchanan, embraces Terry Petracek in a hug on April 21 during the open house honoring Petracek's 50 years of service to the Crete Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department. Petracek dedicated his years of service to James Buchanan, a close friend whose death moved Petracek to find his calling and join the department.

AMY HAUSMAN/CN

# Petracek honored for 50 years of service to CVFD

BY AMY HAUSMAN  
amy@friendsentinel.com

The Crete Fire Station was packed for a standing room only tribute to Terry Petracek on April 21 in honor of his 50 years of service to the department.

Known for his sense of humor and wisecracks, Petracek began his speech announcing that 50 years ago the department made a mistake and voted him on to the department and have had to deal with him ever since.

But as Petracek continued he shared with Crete an emotional story of why.

Petracek joined at the age of 18, and during the ceremony, shared the emotional reason for his

long-term commitment to the community.

In April 1970 just after graduation, Petracek and two classmates, Jim Buchanan and Tom Bauer, were in a vehicle accident south of Crete. Buchanan was pinned underneath the pickup and died at the scene. A young man, Petracek, was untrained in life saving techniques and felt helpless and guilty for causing a loss of life.

At the ceremony recognizing his length of service, Petracek dedicated his 50 years to Buchanan's memory and was joined by Buchanan's sister, Paula. She thanked Petracek and remarked that his purpose in life was to be with the department.

Petracek spent 50 years responding to calls; not sitting on the sideline. Petracek is consistently a top responder each year and has earned the following positions within the department:

- Rescue First Lieutenant, 17 years
- Rescue Captain, 14 years
- Treasurer, five years
- President, two years

Petracek is the fourth volunteer from the department to achieve the 50-year milestone.

He was honored by the department with a 50 years of service leather fire helmet with shield and plaque, a coveted award for volunteers. He was also recognized by the Nebraska State Volunteer

Firefighters Association, Sen. Deb Fischer and the governor.

Locally, the Crete City Council passed a resolution on April 16 placing a golf ball and tee emblem on the department's rescue rigs in honor of Petracek. City administrator Tom Ourada hopes that people know the avid golfer it stands for and Petracek's commitment as a volunteer.

Petracek has been diagnosed with lung cancer and is currently fighting the battle for his life. A sold out fundraising golf scramble, called Flipping Birdies to Cancer, will be held to support Petracek and his wife Joy on May 11 at College Heights Golf Course.

## PHS to host first event geared toward Mayan descendants

BY HANNA CHRISTENSEN  
scireporter@sewardindependent.com

Public Health Solutions is teaming up with the Maya Pixan Ixim Community Center to offer its first event targeting Mayan descendants on Monday, April 29.

It is free, there is no registration required and it is for anyone who wants to know more about the Mayan culture, customs, traditions, reasons for migrating and the current challenges the Mayan communities face in the United States.

Comunidad Maya Pixan Ixim is an Omaha-based organization with the goal of improving the health and well-being of the Maya people. The Mayans are one of the most representative living millenary indigenous cultures of the Americas, said Johanna Pesante-Daniel, the health equity, diversity and inclusion coordinator at Public Health Solutions.

From 2:30 – 4 p.m., CMPI will give a presentation to Public Health Solutions staff and partner organizations such as the City of Crete, Crete Public Schools and Crete Area Medical Center.

"Mayan descendants, or the indigenous people from Guatemala, we

consider them a hard-to-reach population because many of them speak very little Spanish, and they are very shy. Sometimes, they don't know where resources are and where they can look for help," Pesante-Daniel said. "We are trying to do something that can build trust and build a relationship with them."

From 5:30 – 7 p.m., the event will be open to all community members and especially geared toward those of Mayan descent. CMPI will greet and meet with attendees, offer information about its programs and services and close its visit with a cultural presentation.

CMPI reached out to Public Health Solutions because Saline County has a large population of Mayan descendants. Pesante-Daniel said the two organizations are working on several projects together that will serve this population in the future.

"I am eager to learn more in depth about their culture, their traditions and building rapport with this population in our community," Pesante-Daniel said. "Ultimately, what we want is to better serve them and provide them with services that are culturally and linguistically appropriate for them."

## Deadline approaching to purchase Cardinal Weekend tickets

The deadline for purchasing Cardinal Weekend tickets is May 1.

Buy these tickets at the Cardinal Welcome Center, at 930 Main St., and on May 31 you can renew old friendships, have a meal and spend the evening socializing and having fun.

Alumni, friends, family, spouses, teachers, staff and administrators are all welcome to attend.

Many community open houses are scheduled June 1, with the Isis Theater, the Crete Public Library and the Crete Youth Cabin, to name a few. A detailed schedule of the community open houses will be available at the Chamber of Commerce office at 1302 Linden St., the Crete News office, Crete Cardinal Welcome Center and on social media. Anyone is

welcome to attend these open houses.

Also on June 1, a golf tournament will be offered for alumni at College Heights Country Club. There is still room for those who wish to participate or sponsor a hole. For more details, contact Crystal (Vernon) Kent at crystal.kent@creteschools.org.

Contact Marilea Thiem at (402) 826-5588 for more general information or see the Foundation Facebook Page.



DOUG CARROLL/CN

### Flushing Them Clean

Brenden Hooper with the city water department flushes one of Crete's fire hydrants April 16 as part of a city-wide operation to flush the hydrants clean and check their condition.



# No Labels Nebraska Party gains official party recognition

The Nebraska Secretary of State’s Office verified recently that organizers with the No Labels Nebraska Party have collected enough signatures to be recognized as an official political party in Nebraska.

However, voters will not be able to register with the political party until after the May 14, 2024, primary. Voter registration for the No Labels Nebraska Party will begin May 15, 2024.

“County election offices did an exemplary job verifying the validity of signatures in a timely manner,” Secretary of State Bob Evnen said.

No Labels Nebraska Party organizers filed sample new political party petitions with the Secretary of State’s Office in November 2023. Organizers submitted completed petitions for review on March 19, 2024. The Secretary of State’s Office had 20 business days to verify signatures as per Neb. Rev. Stat. §32-717.

According to Neb. Rev. Stat. §32-716, organizers of a new political party in Nebraska need to collect signatures totaling not less than one percent of the total votes cast for governor at the most recent general election for such office. The total number of signatures required for this petition was 6,728.

No Labels Nebraska Party organizers collected 16,175 valid signatures from Nebraska voters.

The No Labels Nebraska Party will be the fifth recognized political party in Nebraska, joining the Republican Party, Democratic Party, Libertarian Party and the Legal Marijuana NOW Party.

# American Historical Society of Germans from Russia becomes FamilySearch Affiliate Library

If you want to be part of the popular ancestry search trend, you may not need to look any further than the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia in Lincoln, which is now a FamilySearch Affiliate Library.

This means it has access to more genealogy resources to help you make more family discoveries.

There are only a few hundred affiliate libraries in the country. The designation means local patrons will now have greater and more convenient access to the wealth of genealogical resources available through FamilySearch.

The popular web service has over 6 billion searchable names and 2 billion images of historical genealogical records – and you get the helpful assistance of library staff.

FamilySearch adds over 300 million free genealogical records and images online yearly from all over the world and manages the FamilySearch Library in Salt Lake City. It has amassed billions of birth, marriage, death, census, land and court records from more than 130 countries to help you discover and make family connections.

“Libraries are wonderful local gathering places for learning,” Paul Nauta, FamilySearch Public Relations manager, said. “We are excited to have the AHSGR as our newest FamilySearch Affiliate Library. It will help FamilySearch expand opportunities for fun, personal discoveries and family connections to the local community.”

# Statewide grant application process is open

Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation looking to award \$75,000

The Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation application process for the 2024 Statewide Grants Program is now open.

Applications may be found on the NSHSF website and must be received by Tuesday, April 30. Any Nebraska local historical or educational organization may apply to support efforts such as developing school curriculum, preparing exhibits, processing and preserving artifacts and undertaking activities such as lectures and museum festivals.

The goal for 2024 is to award a total of \$75,000.

The Statewide Grants Program was developed in July 2020, with the guidance of Michael J. Smith, former CEO of the Nebraska State Historical Society, now called History Nebraska, to fulfill a funding need for local historical and educational organizations in Nebraska.

The grants from this program help organizations such as museums, historical societies and libraries with core education, preservation and interpretive programs about community history.

NSHSF has awarded almost \$90,000 to 126 organizations across the state since its inception. These funds have been used to update technology, support festivals, purchase display cases, facilitate classroom visits and more.

Many of these organizations are also included in the NSHSF WanderNebraska travel adventure program which will kick off its third year on May 24. This year’s program features 193 sites across the state of Nebraska and will run through Nov. 30. All the WanderNebraska locations will be included on the website.

# County election offices begin mailing out early voting ballots for Primary Election

Beginning April 8, county election offices are sending out early voting ballots for the May 14 statewide primary to voters who completed early voting applications and fulfilled the new voter ID requirement.

Voters have two options to fulfill the new voter ID requirement during the early voting application process:

- Voters can write their driver’s license or state ID number on their early voting application, or
- Voters can submit their early voting application with a photocopy of their acceptable photo ID.

County election offices are working with voters who did not successfully complete the new voter ID requirement.

“With the new voter ID law now in effect, Nebraskans who cast a ballot in the May 14th primary will be making history,” Secretary of State Bob Evnen said. “Voters are following the new voter ID requirement, and county election officials are doing a tremendous job working with voters. They are ensuring every voter can cast their ballot securely and independently while adhering to the new voter ID law.”

County election offices are reporting a smooth process so far with voter ID in the early voting application process. Most voters are writing their Nebraska driver’s license or state ID on the early voting application. Once the voter completes the voter ID requirement on their application, the requirement is fulfilled, and they will be mailed their early voting ballot.

Registered Nebraska voters can still request an early voting ballot by sending their completed early voting application to their county election office. Contact information for each county can be found here.

Voters must return their early voting ballots (either by mail or by secure drop box) by 8 p.m. on Election Day – Tuesday, May 14.

**Acceptable forms of ID**

Evnen reminds voters to have a voting plan for the primary election. Be prepared to vote with one of the following acceptable IDs:

- Nebraska driver’s license
- Nebraska state ID
- U.S. passport
- Military ID
- Tribal ID
- Hospital, assisted-living facility or nursing home record
- Nebraska political subdivision ID (state, county, city, school, etc.)
- Nebraska college or university ID (public or private)

The ID must have the voter’s name and photo. IDs can be expired. The new law does not require Nebraska voters to re-register to vote.

Nebraskans can get a free state ID from the Nebraska Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). If the person was born in Nebraska and needs a free certified copy of their Nebraska birth certificate to get a free state ID, they can contact the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). A birth certificate is not a valid form of voter ID.

Voter ID educational material is available in English and Spanish at voterID.nebraska.gov.

**What’s next?**

April 15 – First day to vote in person at the county election office.

April 29 – Last day to register to vote online (by midnight), at the DMV, at DHHS, at the Department of Education, via agent, via deputy registrar or by mail (voter registration application must be postmarked by April 29, 2024.)

May 3 – Last day to register to vote in person at the county election office (6 p.m. local time).

May 13 – Last day to vote in person at the county election office.

May 14 – Election Day AND last day county election offices will accept early voting ballots via mail or secure drop box.

ATTENTION TAXPAYERS!

The first half of the 2023 Real Estate and Personal Property Taxes shall become delinquent on May 1, 2024.

Payments must be received in our office or postmarked on or before April 30, 2024, to avoid interest charges.

Taxes may be paid using a card at [www.nto.us](http://www.nto.us) with a 2.35% convenience fee being added to your transaction. Taxpayers may also make payment using the county’s drop box located on the west side of the Courthouse.

DEBBIE SPANYERS  
SALINE COUNTY TREASURER

(402) 821-2375

CR/FS/WR – April 17, 2024

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	Dr. K. Miller .....	May 6
	S. Sveen, APRN .....	May 13
	B. Behrens, PA-C .....	May 3
	Dr. S. Nagengast .....	Thursdays
Dermatology	Dr. G. Heidrick .....	May 9, 14, 23, 28
	L. Hanseling, APRN .....	May 9, 14, 23, 28
	Dr. A. Kafka .....	May 9
	Dr. B. Bixenmann .....	May 3
	S. Hirschbrunner .....	May 6, 13, 20
General Surgery	Dr. C. Peterson .....	May 10
	Dr. J. Tilford .....	May 23
	Dr. B. Seifert .....	May 8
	C. Scholtes, PA-C .....	May 1, 8, 22
	Dr. M. Bokemper .....	May 1, 15, 29
Gynecology/Women's Health	Dr. J. Rixen .....	May 6
	Dr. A. Reilly .....	May 28
	Dr. M. Williamson .....	May 7, 21
	Dr. K. Otto .....	Tuesdays
	A. Lovell, LIMHP .....	Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays
Nerve Conduction Studies, EMGs	T. Lang, LIMHP .....	Thursdays & Fridays
	Dr. R. Martin .....	May 13
	Dr. R. Neamu .....	May 16
	Dr. D. Henslee .....	May 22
	Dr. M. Goettsch .....	May 22
Neurology		
Nutrition		
Oncology		
Orthopedics		
Ophthalmology		
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Podiatry		
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Closed Monday, May 27 for Memorial Day.

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# T-ball coaches wanted

BY HANNA CHRISTENSEN  
scireporter@sewardindependent.com

As T-ball season approaches, Crete is looking for about 10 more parents to step up to the plate as volunteer coaches.

Crete Parks and Recreation director Liz Cody said coaches should love working with kids, want to have a good time and provide kids with a positive experience.

Micro T-ball introduces children ages 3-4 to baseball and will have games on May 22 and 29 and June 5 and 12. Regular T-ball introduces 5-6-year-olds to baseball and will have games on May 23 and 30 and June 6 and 13.

Cody said the children enjoy getting outside and learning the fundamentals of the game.

“It’s oftentimes their first chance to participate in something that will prepare them for team sports in the future,” she said.

This will be Amanda Lopez’s fourth year coaching T-ball. She and her husband, Paul, have coached city-sponsored T-ball and soccer for both of their daughters through the years.

She said her favorite part of

coaching is bonding with the kids. “Sometimes, we’ll see some of the kids we’ve coached out at like Walmart or wherever, and it’s like, ‘hi, how’s it going?’ And, they’ll remember you,” she said. “It’s really cool because some of them are in my daughter’s classes and some aren’t, but it’s just that cool bond. It was just fun.”

Lopez said coaches do not need prior baseball experience to volunteer.

Coaching micro T-ball is mostly about teaching the kids the very basics of the game. There are no outs and there are often not kids on every base, as it is mostly about working with them at the level they are at, Lopez said.

Once they move on to regular T-ball, Lopez starts putting the kids on bases and running plays with them. They typically do games of three to four innings.

Coaches must be 16 and older and able to commit to one game per week with possibly one or two added practice dates during the season. Coaches with children on the team will have their children’s \$25 registration fees waived.

“The time commitment is honestly not bad because you’d be sit-

ting there anyways with your child watching the game, so it’s essentially the same amount as just putting your child in,” Lopez said.

Lopez said the games are very relaxed, and parents can come out on the field if their child is struggling.

“I think it’s better for the child because it’s more of a family atmosphere and more fun as opposed to a strict playing-to-win type of thing,” she said.

Lopez advises parents to not be afraid to try coaching. There is a reason she has kept coming back.

“It’s so much fun. The first year, the first time we were out on the field with the kids and they’re all like running around scattered, it’s intense,” she said. “But, by the time you’re hitting that second game, that third and fourth game, it’s coming together and it’s awesome.

“It’s a really cool feeling to be able to help structure them through it.”

Register to be a volunteer coach by May 3. Applications are available at city hall or online, or register by reaching out to recreation coordinator Dan Dunaway at dan.dunaway@crete.ne.gov. There will be a coaches’ meeting on May 9.

# Dorchester Legion chooses Boys State representatives



Owen Vyhnalek



Will Vyhnalek

The American Legion Post 264 has chosen Owen Vyhnalek of Dorchester and William Vyhnalek of Friend, sponsored by Dorchester August-Vanek American Legion Post, to join nearly 270 other high school juniors from across Nebraska participating in the American Legion Cornhusker Boys State program.

Owen, son of Steve and Sarah Vyhnalek, attends Dorchester High School, where he plays football, basketball and track and field. He also participates in one-act and quiz bowl.

He is also a member of Future Business Leaders of America, National Honors Society, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Tabor Lodge 74, St. John’s Lutheran Church

and Sons of American Legion.

Will, a junior at Friend Public School, is the son of Scott and Lori Vyhnalek. He is a member of the National Honor Society, serves as an officer in the Exeter-Milligan-Friend FFA Chapter, and is a member of the quiz bowl team. He also plays football and basketball and participates in track.

Outside of school, he plays Legion baseball, is on the EMF trap team, and is a member of the Cloverleaf Kids 4-H Club. Will is a member of the Friend United Methodist Church and Igniting Youth Group and the Dorchester Sons of American Legion Post 264.

# Arbor Day: A time to celebrate trees

BY SARAH BROWNING  
Extension educator

In 2024, National Arbor Day will be celebrated April 26.

Arbor Day is a Nebraska creation. Early Nebraska settlers missed the trees they left behind. Their first sight and experience of the Great Plains must have been a shock and brought home the tremendous value of trees for environmental protection, wildlife habitat, food and fuel production and beauty.

Often, the first sod broken was the site to plant trees. Fragile seedlings often were transported many miles to plant on barren homesteads.

Arbor Day founder J. Sterling Morton’s great love for trees and his conviction that planting trees could help develop Nebraska were great factors in the holiday’s observance in Nebraska. His efforts also resulted in Nebraska being named the Tree Planter State and

the spread of Arbor Day nationwide.

### The power of trees

Climate change is biggest challenge facing the future of our planet, but planting trees can help us create a better future in several ways. Every new tree planted is a step in the right direction. However, the value trees provide - making our communities attractive, healthy and economically vital - often goes underappreciated.

- Buildings and paving in community areas lacking trees result in “heat islands” which can experience temperatures as much as 12° F degrees higher than similar areas with a vibrant tree canopy. This creates health problems for residents, making directly heat-related problems more common and worsening existing illnesses or diseases.

- Climate change makes the frequency of extreme heat events more common, but trees

are a low tech, yet very effective, way to combat heat effects. Shade trees also reduce the need for heating and cooling system usage, thus reducing the use of fossil fuels and reducing emissions which contribute to further global warming. A medium-sized tree, 25 to 40 feet tall, reduces annual heating and cooling costs by 8 to 12%.

- Trees take in carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas and contributor to global warming. They use carbon dioxide to make sugars for growth and release oxygen back to the environment. Wood in trees is a tremendous carbon sink, being about 50% carbon. It takes years for wood to break down after the tree dies and the carbon to be released to the environment or soil.

- Trees add value to retail shopping areas. Healthy, attractive, well-maintained trees create a positive and welcoming environment for customers. A study published in the Journal

of Arboriculture found customers were willing to pay 9% more when shopping in retail areas with high quality tree coverage and were willing to travel further to reach the shopping center. So, why don’t all our commercial retail spaces have beautiful healthy trees? Not the few half-dead, contractor trees found in most developments?

### Forestry grants

The Nebraska Forest Service recently received \$1.875 million in grant funding to improve community forestry in disadvantaged communities. In 2024, \$100,000 are available to communities with populations of 8,000 or smaller.

Grants will be awarded in amounts from \$2,000 to \$25,000. The deadline for applications is May 15. Visit the Nebraska Forest Service, <https://nfs.unl.edu/IRA>, for more information on identifying disadvantaged communities and for grant applications.

# Deadline is May 1 for Czech Festival awards

Now is the time to remember volunteers who contribute to the success of the annual Wilber Czech Festival.

The Nebraska Czechs of Wilber honor people who have, by their contributions or efforts, contributed significantly to the preservation, enhancement or development of the Czech heritage with the Knights of Blanik and Ladies of Libuse community awards.

The recipient may or may not be of Czech descent and may or may not be a resident of Wilber

or Nebraska. Since the awards were developed in 1969, 514 people have been honored with these awards.

Nominations for 2024 are currently being accepted. Submissions should include a short resume about the efforts of the individual being nominated. All nominations must be dated and signed to be considered. The 2024 deadline is May 1, 2024.

Send nominations to: Nebraska Czechs of Wilber, PO Box 652, Wilber, NE 68465.

# BVCA announces scholarship recipient

Blue Valley Community Action Partnership announced the recipient of a Blue Valley Community Action Partnership Scholarship for the 2023-2024 school year is Jordan Bococle of Crete.

The scholarship is awarded to individuals with diverse backgrounds. The selection committee, which is composed of members

of the BVCA Partnership Board of Directors, takes into consideration such items as financial need, volunteerism, the applicant’s aspirations and goals for furthering their education. Scholarships can be used for tuition, books and fees associated with enrollment. All scholarships are in the amount of \$1,000.

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at Bryan Hospital and "on call" at Crete Hospital on Saturday, April 27th from 4:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m. at the Crete VFW.

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Thurs., Apr. 25 - Liver and Onions

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Sat., Apr. 27 - Prime Rib

NOTICE

The Saline County Courthouse will be closed Friday, April 26th, 2024 to observe Arbor Day.

Diann Nettiffee

Saline County Clerk



Scholarship season is amongst us

BY AMY HAUSMAN  
amy@friendsentinel.com

It finally feels like spring is here to stay for a minute.

And that means graduation is around the corner and high school guidance counselors are in the thick of scholarships, many of which are from local donors.

My son, Fred, was the recipient of a community-based local scholarship and it has significantly impacted his opportunity. Due to receiving the scholarship, he is able to financially afford to be in the Greek system and as a sophomore earned an executive role in his house as the PR manager.

That role aligns with his major in business, which will most likely focus on marketing. It is opening all sorts of doors for Fred, which started at home due to donations from local businesses.

Donating to community scholarship funds is vital for several reasons. First, it opens doors to education for students who might otherwise struggle financially to pursue higher education. Many bright minds face financial barriers



I'm Extra, Extra  
Amy Hausman  
amy@friendsentinel.com

that prevent them from accessing opportunities.

Community scholarship funds provide a pathway for these individuals to fulfill their potential and contribute meaningfully to society.

Second, investing in community scholarship funds fosters social and economic mobility. By supporting students from diverse backgrounds, these funds help level the playing field and ensure that merit, rather than financial means, determines success.

This not only benefits individual students, but also strengthens the fabric of communities by empower-

ing individuals to break the cycle of poverty and pursue their dreams.

Moreover, community scholarship funds have a ripple effect beyond the individual recipients. When students receive scholarships, they often become role models and inspire others in their community to strive for academic excellence. Additionally, donating to community scholarship funds is a strategic investment in the future workforce.

By supporting the education of talented individuals, community scholarship funds help cultivate a skilled workforce equipped to tackle the challenges of tomorrow and drive economic growth.

Donating to community scholarship funds is a powerful way to give back and make a tangible difference in the lives of others. Whether through large endowments or small contributions, every donation has the potential to transform a student's life and shape the future of a community.

It has made a brighter future for my son. Your donations make a real difference and are appreciated by your neighbors.

Dealing with doubts is part of our lives

BY PASTOR DAN SAFARIK  
St.Mark'sUnitedMethodistChurch,  
Lincoln



Seek the Lord  
Rev. Dan Safarik  
St. Mark's UMC, Lincoln

We have doubts about a lot of things in life. Doubting can be a good thing.

Take the story of a certain tour guide who was known for exaggeration. One day, he led his group through a primitive corner of Africa. They come to an area noted for its dangerous wild animals. As they walked, the tour guide showed them a place where he once had to outrun an angry leopard. He then showed them a place where he once had to out swim a hungry crocodile. And another place where he had to outwit a charging rhinoceros.

Finally, he showed them a place where he had once escaped from a ferocious lion.

"How did you get away from the lion?" someone asked.

The guide looked straight up and pointed to a limb, some 20 feet above his head.

"Don't tell us you jumped way up there to grab that limb," the tourist commented.

The guide replied, "I missed it going up, but I caught it coming down."

Doubting stories like that is a good thing.

We have a lot of other doubts. We have doubts about the future. We have doubts about some politicians. We sometimes have doubts about the presence of God. Doubts are a part of life. I'm glad the story of doubting Thomas is in the Bible. You can read it at John 20:25-29.

After Jesus was raised from the dead, He appeared to His disciples but Thomas was not there. Thomas said he wouldn't believe Jesus was resurrected until he saw and touched the mark of the nails in Jesus' hands and side. Thomas had to not only see Jesus' scars; he had to touch them also. That's why they called him doubting Thomas. He wouldn't believe the witness of the other disciples.

When Jesus re-

turned a second time to see the disciples, Thomas was there. When Thomas saw and touched Jesus for himself, he believed Jesus was resurrected. He said, "My Lord and my God." Thomas was all in when he was convinced.

Thomas made one important mistake. It wasn't his doubting. His mistake was withdrawing from the fellowship of the disciples. He sought loneliness rather than togetherness. We know of Thomas' mistake because the first time Jesus came to be with the disciples, Thomas was not there.

We know that Thomas loved Jesus. He loved Jesus enough that Thomas agreed to go to Jerusalem to die with Jesus when the other disciples hesitated. (John 11:16) Thomas was devastated after Jesus died and he just wanted to be alone. It is often in the time of our sorrows, we should seek the fellowship of Christ's people, for it is there that we are likely to meet Jesus face to face.

Eventually Thomas was able to fight his way through his doubts to the conviction that Jesus Christ is Lord. It is honest doubts that eventually lead to solid beliefs.

During World War II, an unknown Jewish person was forced to flee from his home. He had to hide in a basement. Later someone found this message scratched on the wall, "I believe in the sun when it is not shining. I believe in love even when I do not feel it. I believe in God even when He is silent."

Prayer: *Our Lord, we are grateful for doubting Thomas. His story is often our story. May his solid commitment to You also be ours. Amen.*

My predictions for early NFL draft picks

BY KEATON BURGESS  
reporter@sewardindependent.com

With the NFL on this Thursday, April 25, things are definitely getting exciting.

Where will the top prospects go? What order will they go in?

For this column, I will be predicting who the top five teams in the draft will take.

The Chicago Bears select Caleb Williams:

This one seems like a given at this point. The Bears traded Justin Fields to open up space at the quarterback position to draft the generational talent that Williams is. Personally, I'm not so sure I feel that Williams is some generational talent



Keaton's Corner  
Keaton Burgess  
reporter@sewardindependent.com

like most do, but I still think he's a great quarterback and a great fit.

The Washington Commanders select Jayden Daniels:

At this point, it seems it will be one of two players for the Commanders- Daniels or Drake Maye. This team needs a quarterback after trading Sam Howell this

offseason, and talks have been that Daniels to the Commanders is almost a lock. Daniels is an explosive quarterback with a deadly pass and an explosive running element.

The New England Patriots select Drake Maye:

Just like with the Commanders, the Patriots need a quarterback, and Maye is the next best option. Sure, the Patriots need WAY MORE than just a quarterback, but I think they can worry about getting wide receivers and offense linemen later in the draft. In the first round, they should be worrying about a quarterback.

The Arizona Cardinals select Marvin Harrison Jr.:

Just like Caleb Williams, I don't believe that Harrison is the best wide receiver in this class, but I understand the hype around him. There's been a lot of talk about the Cardinals trading back in this spot, but I don't feel there's a good enough reason to do that. The Cardinals desperately need a receiver, and they get a franchise guy right here.

The Los Angeles Chargers select Malik Nabers:

After trading their No. 1 and No. 2 wide receivers in Keenan Allen and Mike Williams, the Chargers are also in desperate need of a receiver. Malik Nabers will provide an explosive weapon to Justin Herbert and the offense.

Legislature adjourns with special session likely to tackle property tax relief issue

BY SEN. TOM BRANDT  
Dist. 32

The 108th Legislature adjourned Sine Die to wrap up our 60 day session on April 18.

We ended the day with farewells from departing senators, as well as an address from Gov. Pillen. All together, we passed 370 bills this session, including appropriation bills.

The major tax reform bill, which would have sent more funds directly to schools to lower their property tax ask, ultimately failed on the final day. There was just too much opposition from lobbying groups that were going to lose their sales tax exemptions.

To have true property tax relief, we need to broaden the tax base. There is a good likelihood that we will be in a special session this summer to tackle this issue again.

LB937 was passed on final reading, and included numerous tax credit bills. Two of those bills were mine, which would increase the amount of tax credits for production of biodiesel, and the other would fix a loophole on the excise



Legislative Update  
Dist. 32 Sen. Tom Brandt  
tbrandt@leg.ne.gov

tax for denaturing ethanol to help the ethanol board.

Other legislation in this package included tax credits for film production, short-line railway improvements, family caregivers, reverse osmosis systems, diapers, and sustainable aviation fuels.

LB1402 was able to garner enough support to break the filibuster. This legislation would appropriate \$10 million of state funds for the use of scholarships for kids to attend private schools. I adamantly opposed this bill, as not only does it conflict with the Nebraska Constitution, it also undermines the will of the people. About 117,000 signa-

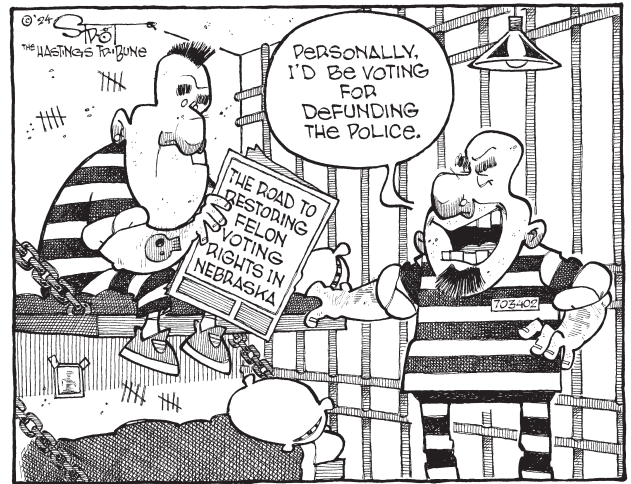
tures were gathered by volunteers all across Nebraska last year to repeal LB753, which would have also funded private school scholarships.

Simply put, LB1402 was an end run around the decision of the will of the people. I expect the legality of LB1402 to be challenged in court.

Finally, I would like to thank my staff for all their hard work this session. My Administrative Assistant, Beth Dinneen, kept the office running smoothly and fielded numerous calls and emails from constituents. My Legislative Aide, Travis Waldron, did a fantastic job working on our legislation, as well as keeping me informed on all the other bills this session.

Staff truly do so much of the work behind the scenes, and I can't thank them enough for it.

If you have questions or concerns regarding any legislation this session, feel free to contact me or my legislative staff at (402) 471-2711, or tbrandt@leg.ne.gov. You can also stay up to speed on all bills by subscribing to the Unicameral Update by sending an email to uio@leg.ne.gov or calling (402) 471-2788. The Unicameral Update is free of charge.



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THE CRETE NEWS

SLEEP OUT

RECAP

YOUTH

APRIL 17<sup>TH</sup>

HOMELESSNESS

MATTERS

SCAN TO

DONATE

DAY

# Raising awareness to the homeless children in Crete

## Spending the night outside on Youth Homelessness Matters Day, April 17

BY AMY HAUSMAN  
amy@friendsentinel.com



**I'm Extra, Extra**  
Amy Hausman  
amy@friendsentinel.com

Welp, I made it through the night in one piece!

If you did not see me or hear about it, on April 17, I slept out for Youth Homelessness Matters Day to raise visual awareness of the homeless children identified in the Crete Public Schools district. And let me tell you, as cold, rainy and windy as the night was, my heart was warmed by a community that I am proud to call my home.

For 24 hours, I stood at Kalkwarf and Smith's Law Office waving in my pajamas and rhinestone sunglasses at the cars passing by on 13th Street. Lining the sidewalk I walked up and down were 300 white flags representing the 300 children identified as homeless in the Crete Public School district.

Now most people's perception of homelessness is sleeping on the streets, and that is true, but is not the typical scenario in Crete. Homelessness simply means not having stable, permanent housing. Many of the homeless children in Crete live in substandard housing, doubled-up housing, are unaccompanied youth or living temporarily in a motel.

The City of Crete is growing at an exponential rate and housing is a hot topic. Our city council is actively working on this issue, but it takes time. People are moving into the area faster than projects can be approved and built by contractors.

But nearly every council meeting includes an update on a development and actionable steps with the goals in the comprehensive plan.

They are doing good things, but one person

can make a difference. And that is what I set out to do.

Standing on the curb visiting with people stopping by, I learned of children sleeping in hallways on the floor, families in garages or storage units and other living situations that leave children wondering where they will sleep that night.

And although it is not the stereotypical cardboard box, it is still homelessness.

These children are provided assistance through the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, a federal law that defines homelessness broadly to include individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.

This encompasses people living in emergency shelters, transitional housing, motels, cars, parks, public spaces, or those who are temporarily staying with others due to loss of housing or economic hardship. The definition also covers unaccompanied youth, including those living on their own without a parent or guardian.

McKinney-Vento aims to address the unique challenges faced by homeless students, ensuring they have equal access to educational opportunities. The program offers a range of services to support homeless students and referrals to

community resources for housing, healthcare, and other essential needs.

Now this is really important to understand: The Crete Public School district is helping children with this designation and provided an update at the March board of education meeting. They make sure these kids have school supplies to be able to come to school ready to learn.

But that number was too high for my comfort level and I felt called on to really show Crete what that means.

I had the most incredible experience. Janet Jeffries and her daughter, Liz, came and played the accordion for me. A woman walking stopped and shared that she was homeless as a child and donated. Other media outlets, who can be very competitive, came out to share the experience.

Another previously homeless person taught me how to use a newspaper to heat up ramen noodles in an empty chip bag and that they make the best blankets.

It was a good thing it rained that night because my face was wet from tears.

A young boy gave up playing fortnight by his own choice to bring me hot chocolate. Somehow my crazy idea reached this kid and that is a win.

A frequently asked question was if I was scared. And the answer to that is absolutely not. I was across the street from the Catholic church at a law firm with law enforcement driving by about every 10 minutes.

My only fear was not making my financial goal.

I set out to raise \$25 per child, a financial goal of \$7,500 for new shoes and backpacks for the first day of school in

DOUG CARROLL/CN

Amy Hausman, editor of The Crete News, slept out for Youth Homelessness Day Matters on April 17 with a fundraising goal of \$7,500 for the approximately 300 children identified as McKinney-Vento in the Crete Public School district. Although the financial goal was unmet, the awareness caused by the project has been substantial.

the fall. My thought was once that was covered, the district would have more funding available to help these children with other needs like hygiene products or emergency dental care.

Things that we take for granted but if we knew about would want to help with.

As of today, I made it to \$4,650, which with how quickly I pulled this thing together is not too

bad. But although I slept out for Youth Homelessness Matters Day, this is something that can be donated to year long.

You can make a difference with a tax deductible donation by scanning the QR code and selecting the McKinney-Vento option. Donations may also be made by checks payable to CRETE PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION with "MCKINNEY-VENTO" designated

on the memo line. Checks can be taken to the Cardinal Welcome Center.

Thank you Crete for helping me to break the cycle of poverty and homelessness by providing stability, support and access to educational opportunities for these children.

I can't wait to see how we tackle this together in the future.

# PSC members discuss broadband issues

BY ERIC KAMLER  
Public Service Commissioner

It has been a very busy and productive past several months at the Nebraska Public Service Commission.

As spring arrives, I wanted to share another quarterly update on the work over the past three months since I wrote the winter 2023/2024 District 4 update. I am your commissioner for the Fourth District of the Public Service Commission, which covers 31 counties, including Seward and Saline.

Telecommunications and broadband issues have been the bulk of the activity of this past quarter. Earlier this year, the commission approved a grant and contract award for the 211 Information and Referral Network to again be operated by United Way of the Midlands.

The PSC also voted to issue the 2023 Nebraska Broadband Bridge Program Grant Awards to internet providers for rural broadband expansion buildout. A Reverse Auction Grant process was approved to redistribute roughly \$21 million of unused Nebraska Universal Service Fund dollars to companies who will better utilize the funds for more rural broadband expansion.

The PSC also voted unanimously to simplify the application for the rural cell phone tower expansion grant program to allow a faster distribution of those grant dollars.

We hosted a hearing for complaints of poor service from Fron-

tier, Lumen and Windstream.

Hearings were also held, and the PSC approved rural broadband project grant extension requests by Lumen on six rural projects. I voted to oppose all but two of the extensions, seeing the requests as too long for customers to wait for broadband service.

We voted unanimously to launch the newly created \$1 million/year Precision Ag Grant program which is targeted toward Nebraska ag companies and their expansion using precision technology.

We approved the 2024 Nebraska Universal Service Fund budget and company distribution amounts. This is a fund built by collected phone bill fees to distribute for rural broadband expansion. I was the only commissioner to vote no to this year's budget as I had recommended changes to how funds were allocated that I felt would have been a more efficient use of those dollars.

I will attempt again next year to implement the proposed budget changes.

Hearings were also held, and the PSC collected input from several broadband providers on modifications and improvements to the Nebraska Universal Service Fund on how to better deploy those funds for more efficient rural broadband expansion.

On the 911 front, the PSC voted to approve an additional 911 outage investigation into the Jan. 13 Windstream 911 system outage. This was attached onto the already ongoing

911 outage investigation of Windstream from their fall 2023 outages.

On transportation issues, my fellow commissioners and I approved several applications for transportation companies to enter service and held a hearing on proposed rules to modify driver requirements for railroad employee transportation companies.

We also scheduled a workshop to collect input from transportation companies to review industry compliance and enforcement policies for out of compliance transportation companies.

Also on transportation issues, for the first time in 12 years, the Nebraska Legislature approved funding for the hire of a state railroad track safety inspector. This will be in addition to the several existing Federal Railroad Association track inspectors in Nebraska. The PSC will begin the hiring process as soon as possible.

On Natural Gas Department issues, the PSC approved a review of gas supply costs of both Black Hills Energy and NorthWestern Energy and hosted quarterly status meetings with both companies to help ensure consistent and affordable natural gas to customers.

If you have any questions or have an issue that relates to any of the industries the PSC works with that I or our staff can assist with, please reach out to our office at (402) 471-3101 or by email at eric.kamler@nebraska.gov.

COURTESY PHOTO

**Off they go**

Through the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, the Natural Resources class at Tri County High School had the opportunity to hatch, raise and release trout this semester. On April 8, students traveled to Schramm State Park to release nearly 40 trout fry after successfully hatching and maintaining aquatic habitat requirements. Students were required to check the pH, ammonia, nitrate and nitrite levels and apply amendments to ensure a healthy habitat. In addition to releasing the trout, students had the opportunity to do some fishing, tour the education center, macro dip for aquatic life and view the eclipse. Pictured, Ethan Jobman, right, helps one of the group leaders from Game and Parks collect the trout the students raised so they can be released.

# APACE concert is April 24

The APACE choir spring concert will be Wednesday, April 24, at 1:30 p.m. in the Heckman Auditorium on the Doane University campus. The event is free to the public.



# AG & RURAL LIFE

## First generation farmer plowing new paths

BY HANNA CHRISTENSEN  
scireporter@sewardindependent.com

Although Zemua Baptista’s parents never farmed, the agricultural community that surrounded him as he grew up in Friend inspired him to lay down his roots in production agriculture.

Baptista, 26, said he has always been intrigued by farming. He knew from a young age that it was what he wanted to do in the future.

“It just fascinates me watching something grow, starting from the time you put it into the ground and seeing it make its way to maturity, as far as that goes,” he said. “And then raising animals, you know, having calves that are born and seeing them grow and go through the life cycle and everything that comes with it.”

He was heavily involved in sports in high school, which he said helped foster the strong work ethic it takes to be a farmer.

Growing up, all the jobs he had were farming-based. He said he learned the most through his job on Bob Rohrig’s farm as a teenager. The pair still works together every now and again.

Baptista then graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln with a bachelor’s degree in ag economics and a minor in animal science.

Straight after graduation, he bought his first piece of land and started a



DOUG CARROLL/CN

First-generation farmer Zemua Baptista poses with some of his cow-calf pairs on his farm near Ulysses April 22.

boiler operation. He now has eight chicken houses that hold about 42,000 chickens each.

Baptista Farms, about five miles outside of Seward County, spans 80 acres and is home to about

50 cattle. He and his wife, Bella, also grow corn and soybeans.

As a first-generation farmer, Baptista had to build everything from the ground up and find his own way. He said the road

was difficult at times, but, overall, he is happy to be a farmer.

“Agriculture is a very capital-intensive industry, so to say it was easy would be an understatement,” he said. “It took a lot of going

around to different banks and finally finding somebody that would actually take the chance.”

Baptista said he loves that the farming community is so close-knit.

“Everybody’s usually

pretty willing to lend a hand, so you’re never really alone,” he said. “I mean, there’s always people out there that are willing to help you if you just ask.”

## Geocharged: Making waves with waste

BY HANNA CHRISTENSEN  
scireporter@sewardindependent.com

Husband and wife duo Lisa and Darek Kouma, who live on a farm just west of Staplehurst, turned an idea into reality with their creation of Geocharged and the help of Lisa’s twin sister, Angela Schukar.

Although they did not know what it would become at the time, the Koumas invested in a foundation of their product several years ago when they put up four commercial poultry barns to be part of Costco’s rotisserie chicken project in Fremont.

The barns house about 55,000 chickens at a time and produce around 1,000 tons of chicken manure every year.

Not long after, they learned about biochar from a friend. Biochar is a carbon-rich residue that can be made by partially combusting organic waste, such as wood, in the presence of little oxygen. Lisa said biochar, which they refer to as “nature’s sponge,” is a wonderful fertilizer and soil amendment.

So, the couple decided to co-compost their chick-

en manure with biochar to create their own biochar product.

“Chicken manure is one of your most nutrient-rich maneuvers that you can get,” Darek said. “To put in perspective, cattle manure, when applied on commercial farm acres, they’ll do 20 to 30 tons an acre and chicken manure they’ll do three to five tons.”

The Koumas started seeing success, and Schukar decided to join the team and help them expand their product into a business. They saw their plants grow bigger and healthier after using biochar and recorded as much as three and a half times more yield in some of them.

“All these benefits just started showing up, and it was really a kind of a trial and error in how we developed the process of making it,” Lisa said. “God just closed some doors and opened up new doors for us and really took us into the right direction.”

The trio continued honing their product and sold it to family and friends for about a year before getting it on Amazon in 2022.

For the past year, Geocharged has been offered in 60 store locations

including ones in Nebraska, Iowa, South Carolina, Wyoming and Kansas. It is available at ACE Hardware Pac ‘N’ Save and Rumery Lawn & Landscape in Seward, Green Thumb in Crete and Beaver Hardware and Supply in Beaver Crossing.

Home Depot began selling Geocharged online about a month ago, and it will soon be in one of their South Carolina stores.

Darek said they have gotten great feedback from store managers and customers about its efficacy.

“We’ve never seen where it was outperformed or outshined, so we are really excited to hear that,” he said.

The Koumas did not go into this blindly. Before venturing into entrepreneurship, Lisa was a laboratory science tech and Darek did precision agriculture for Central Valley Ag. He did soil sampling and monitored nutrient value in the soil.

Darek, who grew up on a generational farm in Seward, said biochar alone is like an empty sponge. When it is mixed with chicken manure, it absorbs nutrients and moisture. When it is mixed with soil, it helps prevent leaching and runoff and

provides the plants with nutrients. It is extremely porous, which makes it a great habitat for microorganisms and good bacteria to thrive in.

“It carries that plant all season. It’s not a quick release like your synthetics,” Darek said. “Biochar retains (its nutrients) all season, and the biochar stays behind so every application is a fertilizer and a soil amendment.”

Geocharged also has environmental benefits. It counters greenhouse gases, helps prevent leaching and runoff, does not create smoke when it burns, prevents heavy metals from going up into plants and repurposes organic waste.

“In the ag industry, they’ve started using, for some years now, stabilizers with the nitrogen to help hold and retain it in the soil that is available for the plant, also to help prevent the leaching and the runoff,” Darek said. “I look at biochar as a stabilizer as well, except their stabilizer is only treating and helping retain the nitrogen.”

“Biochar working as a sponge is like a stabilizer for all your nutrients – it’s the nitrogen, the phosphorus, potassium.”

Biochar has been

around for a long time, but it is just now getting more attention. Due to its eco-friendliness, Darek said there are new government programs helping farmers get biochar products at little to no cost to them.

Geocharged is also drought-resistant and insect and weed-seed-free, and its organic, natural nature makes it safe to handle.

“We have our kids out there, and they’re mostly barefoot everywhere. They’re digging in the garden or helping us throw some Geocharged, and you don’t have to worry about something absorbing through their skin and causing health issues,” Lisa said. “And, by comparison, natural fertilizers that kind of really put off an odor, my dogs were eating it. They don’t eat Geocharged.”

The Koumas said they have not come across any other people mixing biochar with chicken manure. A common issue people have with using chicken manure as fertilizer is that it yellows plants and burns produce, however, biochar eliminates that. It also eliminates the manure smell.

The Koumas have used

Geocharged on their gardens, bushes, plants, flowers and trees and think of it as an “easy button” for growing.

“It’s a premium quality product. I’d put it up against anything,” Darek said. “We’re not willing to put something in there to cheapen it up.”

Derak said building this business has been a journey. They did not know how to get a product in stores when they started, but they found success by taking things one step at a time and celebrating every small win.

Last spring, the trio hand-scooped, filled, weighed and packaged 25,000 10-pound bags at their farm.

They are excited by the progress they have made and are looking forward to all that is to come in the future.

“We never thought we’d be chicken farmers, let alone a fertilizer company. Now, we’ve been on Amazon for almost three years and we’ve sold to almost all 50 states with great repeat buyers and great reviews,” Darek said.

Learn more by visiting [geocharged.com](https://geocharged.com) or messaging Darek at (402) 641-5511.



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# AG DAY

## Fun for Kids

AMY HAUSMAN/CN

Just some crazy kids (preschoolers, high schoolers and goats included) learning the in's and out's of farm life. Left, Arya Maslonka embraces a month old baby goat also known as a kid, April 19 for Ag Day at Crete Elementary.





Khashden Leonard and Olivia Sell play in the hen pen on the playground for Ag Day on April 19. Each year the preschool classrooms focus on learning about animals on the farm and their roles. To conclude the week they are visited by the high school's FFA students. .



AMY HAUSMAN/CN  
Motley Smith cheeses with Lexi McCaffree's two weathers on Farm Day on April 19. McCaffree shows sheep and used the day to help socialize her sheep.



Crete FFA student Liam Boldt helps Liam Pineda hold a baby chick on April 19 during Ag Day.



AMY HAUSMAN/CN  
Mason Connell learns how to milk a cow on April 19. A variety of hands on stations were setup on the playground bringing agriculture to life.



AMY HAUSMAN/CN  
FFA student Wyatt Gallagher helps Dylan Jorge look inside the cab of a John Deere on April 19 for Ad Day. Akers Equipment Solutions of Crete brought two tractors for students to explore.



AMY HAUSMAN/CN  
Cameryn Lehr feeds turkey chicks with the help of FFA student Alex Eltze on April 19. Eltze has participated in Ag Day with the preschoolers before and says it is one of his favorite days the whole year.



AMY HAUSMAN/CN  
Volunteer Jackie Rodriguez shows Cohen Yost one of the two goats she brought to Ag Day on April 19.





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 Rev. Lyn Seiser

Fellowship.....9:30 a.m.  
 Worship.....10:30 a.m.

### MINISTERIOS PENTECOSTES MARANATHA

515 E. First St. • Cell: (402) 314-5172; (402) 310-7204

Martes.....7 p.m.  
 Jueves.....7 p.m.  
 Viernes.....7 p.m.  
 Sabado.....7 p.m.  
 Domingo.....5 p.m.

## NEW HAVEN BAPTIST CHURCH

2140 Hawthorne Ave. • (402) 826-3370  
 newhavencrete.org  
 Pastor Dan Botterbrodt

Sunday School/all ages.....10 a.m.  
 Worship.....11 a.m. & 1 p.m.  
 Bible Study.....Wed., 7 p.m.

## PLYMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Ninth & Ivy Sts.  
 plymouthuccchurchcrete.com  
 Pastor Larry Tolen

Worship.....10:30 a.m.

## RADIANT SPRINGS CHURCH

1910 W. 12th St. • (402) 826-1040  
 radiantsprings.com

Lead Pastor Dr. Brent Braunberger  
 Hispanic Pastor Luis Gomez

Worship.....10 a.m.  
 Hispanic Worship.....12:30 p.m.  
 Discovery Clubs/Youth.....Wed., 6:30 p.m.

## SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

13th & Ivy Sts. • (402) 826-2044  
 sacred-heart-crete.org  
 Father Chris Stoley

Monday-Friday: Mass in English.....8:15 a.m.  
 Lunes-Viernes: en español.....5:30 p.m.  
 Saturday Mass.....5 p.m. (Eng.) & 7 p.m. (Span.)  
 Sunday Mass.....9 a.m. (Eng.) & 11:30 a.m. (Span.)

## ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS)

11400 W. Panama Road (rural Crete)  
 (402) 826-3883; Cell 402-418-8760  
 stjohnkramer.org  
 Pastor Maynard Toensing

Worship (Communion 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays).....9 a.m.  
 Adult Bible Study/Sunday School.....10:15 a.m.

## TRINITY MEMORIAL EPISCOPAL CHURCH

E. 14th St. & Juniper Ave. • (402) 560-0024  
 Deacon Christine Grosh

3rd Sunday of the Month  
 Worship with Holy Communion.....4 p.m.

## CLATONIA HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH

550 Washington St.

Worship.....Sat., 7:00 p.m.

## ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH (WELS)

11412 W. Highway 41 • (402) 989-4775  
 stjohnszion.org  
 Pastor Steven Kahrs

Worship.....8:30 a.m.

## DENTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Conestoga Parish UMC  
 9335 W. Third St. • (402) 219-4213  
 Pastor Ed Millican

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

## ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

7105 Cass Ave. • (402) 797-2105  
 dentonstmarys.com  
 Father Craig Doty

Vigil Mass.....Sat., 5 p.m.  
 Mass.....8 a.m., 10 a.m. & 12 p.m.

## BETEL WORSHIP CENTER CENTRO DE ADORACIÓN BETEL

707 Washington Ave. • (402) 418-1934  
 Pastor Marco T. Flores  
 Bilingual Service/Servicio Bilingüe

Worship.....Sunday 11 a.m.  
 Adoración.....Domingo 11 a.m.  
 Prayer/Bible Study.....Tuesday 7 p.m.  
 Oración/Estudio del la Biblia.....Martes 7 p.m.  
 Worship.....Thursday 7 p.m.  
 Adoración.....Jueves 7 p.m.

## DORCHESTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

612 Lincoln Ave. • (402) 946-3091  
 Rev. April Wegehaupt

Worship.....9:30 a.m.  
 Sunday School.....10:15 a.m.  
 Bible Study.....Wed., 5:30 p.m.

## HALLAM CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

205 N. Harrison St. • 402-787-2440  
 Pastor Peggy McClain

Worship.....10:30 a.m.  
 Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.  
 Choir Meeting.....2nd & 4th Sun., 9:30 a.m.

## HALLAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

500 Main St. • (402) 486-3677  
 Pastor Pam Savery

Worship.....9:45 a.m.

## MARTELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

2700 W. Martell Road • (402) 486-3677  
 Pastor Pam Savery

Worship.....11 a.m.

## PRINCETON COUNTRYSIDE ALLIANCE CHURCH

24005 S. 12th Street • (402) 798-7318

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

## BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS)

101 Maple St. • (402) 795-3885  
 pleasantdalelutheran.com  
 Pastor Timothy Gall

Worship.....9 a.m.  
 Sunday School/Bible Study.....10:30 a.m.

## PLEASANT DALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Conestoga Parish UMC  
 201 Main St. • (402) 219-4213  
 Pastor Ed Millican

Worship.....9 a.m.  
 Sunday School.....10:15 a.m.

## ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)

2244 N.W. 126th St. (rural Lincoln) • (402) 796-2433  
 Pastor Andrew Kitzing

Worship.....9 a.m.  
 Sunday School/Bible Class.....10:15 a.m.

## SPRAGUE COMMUNITY CHURCH

18800 Market St. • (402) 794-4835  
 Pastor Keith Morris

Worship.....9 a.m.

To add your church or to update existing information, please contact 402-643-3676 or office@sewardindependent.com



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# OBITUARIES

**David “Dave” L. Krenk**  
Feb. 21, 1961 – April 13, 2024

With a mix of tears and laughter (mostly laughter, because that’s how he would have wanted it), we bid farewell to the one and only David “Dave” Leonard Krenk, who at the age of 63, decided to give the afterlife a try, leaving behind a trail of sarcasm and dad jokes that will echo through eternity.

Born on Feb. 21, 1961, to JoAnne (Prasek) and Leonard Krenk, Dave spent his formative years in Crete, where he learned to strum the strings of life with his guitar in hand, entertaining crowds as a member of the band Open Road. Dave graduated from Crete High School in 1979 and from there, his academic journey may have taken a few detours, including a brief stint at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln where he humorously admitted to “flunking out” after just one semester. He enlisted in the Army National Guard and joined the 43rd Army Band as a trombone player. Shortly after this, he earned his degree in electrical engineering from Southeast Community College.

Dave’s career path took him from Crete Lumber to Duncan Aviation to the laboratories of Li-Cor Biosciences (where his daughters never quite understood what he did there). He even dabbled in both residential and commercial real estate because he figured it may be the only job where his dry humor and quick wit could be considered a selling point. However, he eventually found a new niche at HOA Solutions where it was never a dull moment when he was organizing their inventory and building electrical panels.

Outside of the office, Dave was a man of many passions. He earned his private pilot’s license at the age of 17 and enjoyed soaring through the skies as a pilot with the Crete Skydiving Club (because why jump out of a perfectly good airplane when you can fly it? Just kidding, as no stranger to danger, he definitely did both). He also had a knack for photography, capturing moments that would otherwise be lost to time. Particularly, he enjoyed photographing American flags, eagles, landscapes and his grandchildren.

A master craftsman in his own right, Dave found solace in the art of woodworking, creating pieces that would make even the most seasoned artisans green with envy. He had the ability to create designs in his head and somehow “just make it.” He was incredibly detailed in his shop work and never found a shop that he could not bring back to life with his ability to organize and arrange (ask his son-in-law how many times it took for him to finally get his organized).

Insead of McGyver, he was nicknamed MacDaver because he could (and would) fix or build anything before you even knew it was needed. We’d like to think that heaven’s just one big workshop now with Dave at the helm, organizing celestial toolboxes and labeling everything in sight (because everyone who knew him KNOWS everything he owned was labeled with his name in big black capital letters).

Dave wasn’t just a master craftsman, he was also a connoisseur of music, with a particular fondness of classic rock. He could name most every member of every band, a skill that particularly came in handy during intense games of trivia or watching Jeopardy from the comfort of his La-Z-boy (which, no one ever dared to sit in when he was home).

In addition to his antics, Dave was also a devoted mentor, spending 10 years volunteering with Team-Mates, where he shared his kindness and wisdom with the youth of Lincoln, leaving them with invaluable life lessons and, undoubtedly, a few well-timed humorous remarks. Dave always seemed to find people to mentor through his various acts of service including his son-in-law, Ryan, and co-worker, turned friend, and eventually deemed his “illegitimate son,” Jesse Griggs.

But above all else, Dave cherished his role as a husband to Susan, father to his two daughters, Renee and Erin (Ryan) Arens, and his most recent prized title – Grandfather to Olivia (4) and Lincoln (1). He is also survived by his mother, JoAnne (Prasek) Krenk; sister, Teresa (Rick) King and numerous family members and friends. Preceding him in death were his father, Leonard Krenk; grandparents, Lillian and Ernest Krenk, Joseph and Emma Prasek as well as his in-laws. His love knew no bounds, and his legacy of laughter and humor will forever echo in the hearts of those who had the privilege of knowing him. So, here’s to you, Dave – may your jokes be forever witty and your punchline always land.

In lieu of flowers and per Dave’s final instruction, the family requests memorial contributions be made to the family for the following: Nebraska National Guard Museum, Nebraska Public Media or Team-Mates Main Office (Lincoln).

A celebration of Dave’s life was April 19 at Trinity United Methodist Church in Lincoln.

Rest in peace, David Leonard Krenk. May your wings continue to soar in the great beyond, where the skies are clear, and the afterlife be filled with endless dad jokes and the occasional validating eye roll from above. Arrangements by Kuncel Funeral Home in Crete.



**Bruce W. Brugger**  
March 9, 1940 – April 13, 2024

Bruce Walter Brugger, former bus driver for Crete Public Schools, left this earthly life Saturday, April 13, 2024, at 84 years of age.

The son of Supt. Walter and Edith (Bruce) Brugger of South Dakota, he was born March 9, 1940. He became the oldest living brother to his sisters, Georgene (Gene) Eggebraaten of Crete, and Donna (Stephen) Pucket of North Platte, and brother, Wayne (Judy) Brugger of Val Rico, Florida.

He graduated from Rutland High School and the University of South Dakota. He taught English and drama and coached in South Dakota and Colorado schools.

Bruce fell in love with Europe in 1967 and married a beautiful Dutch girl. He owned a bed and breakfast, taught school, worked at airports, and attended school to become a horticulturist. He was an excellent folk dancer and immersed himself in the customs and languages of England, Holland and Germany.

He returned to the states in the 1990s, eventually moving to Crete after the death of his father.

Bruce is survived by his three siblings and their spouses; 14 nieces and nephews; many great-nieces and nephews, cousins and busloads of beautiful school children he loved.

The funeral service was April 18. Arrangements by Kuncel Funeral Home in Crete.



# COUNTY COURT

**Information taken from records filed with the Saline County court.**

Alejandra Fernandez Agramonte, 23, Crete, attempt of a class 4 felony, \$200 fine, one year probation and two days jail.

Angelo Alvarez Carpio, 23, Crete, theft-shoplifting \$0-500 second offense, \$150 fine, 18 months probation and five days jail on four different time periods.

Dustin Gustafson, 40, Crete, possess or use drug paraphernalia, \$100 fine.

Aaron M. Sands, 39, Carter Lake, Iowa, driving under suspension before reinstated, \$100 fine.

Henry Vicente Perez, 19, Crete, driving under suspension when license revoked on points, \$100 fine.

Lorena Badillo Ferretiz, 49, Crete, Driving during revocation/impound first offense, \$200 fine and revoked license one year.

Carlos Palencia Recinos, 25, Crete, criminal mischief \$0-500, \$100 fine and \$61.05 restitution.

Guillen Colon Coyatos, 20, Crete, theft-shoplifting \$0-500, \$100 fine.

Jose Amazan Cabrera, 23, Crete, theft-shoplifting \$0-500, \$100 fine.

Walter O. Diaz Solis, 36,

Crete, theft-shoplifting \$0-500, \$100 fine.

Jaime Castaneda Andrade, 61, Crete, failure to acquire a building permit, \$100 fine.

Thomas B. McVicker, 29, Crete, no valid registration-car/pickup/stepvan, \$24 fine; no proof of insurance, \$50 fine.

Juliet Ortiz Rodriguez, 27, Grand Island, theft-shoplifting \$0-500, \$50 fine.

Suliveth Alvarez Salcido, 29, Crete, theft-shoplifting \$0-500, \$100 fine.

Altay Vidal Rios, 27, Crete, no proof of insurance, \$100 fine.

Fernando Rivas Blandon, 23, Crete, DUI .15+, \$500 fine, two days jail, one year probation, revoked license one year and ignition interlock device ordered.

Alberto D. Perez Perez, 25, Crete, theft-lost property \$0-500, \$50 fine.

Phillip Jaramillo, 33, Crete, criminal mischief \$0-500, \$200 fine and 26 days jail.

Edwin Aguilera Gonzalez, 24, Crete, DUI-alcohol first offense, \$500 fine, one year probation, revoked license 60 days, two days jail and ignition interlock device ordered.

# POLICE

**Information provided by the Crete Police Dept.**

**April 5**

8:16 a.m.—A driver in the 1400 block of Main was cited for having no operator’s license and no registration.

5:05 p.m.—A citation for shoplifting was issued to a person in the 1800 block of East 29th.

7:14 p.m.—A driver was arrested for DUI-alcohol, assault and disturbing the peace in the 1100 block of East 20th.

**April 6**

7:30 p.m.—A report was received of a two-vehicle, non-injury accident in the 1300 block of Boswell.

8:16 p.m.—Following a vehicle stop in the 1300 block of Linden, the driver

was cited for driving under suspension.

**April 7**

12:25 p.m.—A report was received from the 1300 block of Hawthorne of a two-vehicle accident, and one of the drivers left the scene.

Between 1:51 and 7:36 p.m.—Eight reports of shoplifting were received from the 1800 block of East 29th.

**April 8**

2:10 p.m.—A report was received of damage to a telephone pole in the 500 block of Ivy.

4:40 p.m.—A person was arrested for assault, MIP-alcohol and other charges.

5:58 p.m.—A citation for speeding was issued to a driver in the 300 block

of Main.

**April 9**

10:12 a.m.—A report of child abuse was received.

4:03 p.m.—Damage to a vehicle was reported.

5:47 p.m.—A case of adult abuse was reported.

**April 10**

1:33 p.m.—A hospice death was reported.

6:10 p.m.—A citation for assault was issued to a person in the 400 block of East 22nd.

**April 11**

9:32 a.m.—A report of a two-vehicle, non-injury accident was received in the 1000 block of Juniper.

# TRAFFIC

**Information taken from records filed with the Saline County court.**

Yormay Hernandez Scull, 38, Crete, no operator’s license/waiverable, \$75 fine.

Jesus Maganda Sandoval, 22, Schuyler, speeding 16-20 mph county/state, \$125 fine.

Lizey Gonzales Perez, 39, Crete, no operator’s license/waiverable, \$75 fine.

Luis A. Oliva Rizo, 38, Crete, speeding 16-20 mph county/state, \$125 fine.

Brad A. Wanek, 49, Beatrice, no valid registration-car/pickup/stepvan, \$25 fine.

Wilber Monteagudo Reyes, 21, Crete, expired in-transit decal, \$50 fine; no operator’s license/waiverable, \$75 fine.

Jose G. Gonzalez Martinez, 46, Carter Lake, Iowa, no operator’s license/waiverable, \$75 fine.

Jackson T. Abe, 25, Fairbury, speeding 11-15 mph county/state, \$25 fine; improper turn, \$25 fine.

Kayla M. Williams, 36, Martell, speeding 16-20 mph county/state, \$125 fine.

Luis M. Rodriguez-Villa,

36, Grand Island, speeding 6-10 mph county/state, \$25 fine; no operator’s license/waiverable, \$75 fine.

Mario Vargas Ramirez, 48, Grand Island, speeding 6-10 mph county/state; no operator’s license/waiverable, \$75 fine.

Pamela M. Lowery, 40, Crete, speeding 11-15 mph county/state, \$75 fine.

# There are people that define toughness

BY GENE STEINMEYER  
For the Crete News

Dale Albert was one year ahead of me at Wilber-Clatonia High School.

Dale played football and was an excellent offensive tackle. I played on the second team defensive line. In practice, I usually lined up on the right tackle. Our coach, Frank Elliot, moved me to the other side which put me directly over Dale Albert.

I could hold my own against the right tackle, so I thought I would have the same success against Dale. That was a bad assumption. I tried to hit Dale head up on the first play. Instead of plugging the hole Dale was trying to open, I flew so far backwards, I blocked the linebacker.

Coach Elliot quickly moved me back to the other side.

Dale also was one of the toughest athletes I ever met. After one game his senior season, Dale’s ankle wasn’t right. Wilber’s doctor, Robert Travnick, x-rayed the ankle. A fracture showed up on the x-ray. He put



**Stein’s Blog**  
Gene Steinmeyer

Dale in a cast.

That meant Dale would have to be out of action for at least a month. Dale tried crutches but didn’t like using them. He then walked on the cast, even though it wasn’t a walking cast. About halfway through the second week, the cast was pretty much useless.

Dale cut it off by himself and resumed playing again. He never went back to Dr. Travnick.

That guy was tough.

As a coach, you appreciate athletes that can play hurt. People in our profession like to say it’s the difference between pain and injury. Some of my best players of the past had very little pain tolerance. It didn’t take

away from their talent, but you had to put up with their complaining.

That wasn’t true about Mari Maaske, a point guard who earned first-team All American status her senior season at Doane College. She accomplished that despite hardly practicing at all the final month of the season as we nursed her through a stress fracture.

The doctor told her if she could tolerate the pain, she could play. She was told there was a risk the bone could snap at any moment. Realizing it was the last month of her college career, Mari chose to play.

Mari not only played, but she led Doane to their first Final Four appearance in history. Her final game was memorable. Mari scored 15 of Doane’s final 19 points to tie the game with just seconds left. Doane lost that game on a last second shot.

For the next six weeks, Mari was in a boot to heal the stress fracture.

Dale and Mari were tough. But tough is what Myron Roker went through 80 years ago.

Myron wasn’t an athlete. He was a foot soldier in the 324th Infantry during World War II. They spent 204 days of combat fighting their way through France and into Germany.

During that time, Myron was shot in the calf and had a shrapnel injury to his shoulder. He never left his unit. That’s the definition of tough.

I just released a book called Everyone Has a Story. Myron’s story is in the book. At a recent book signing, the 100-year-old Myron Roker attended. He is a little hard of hearing and only sees through one eye, but his mind is as sharp as a 16-year-old.

Days before the signing, Myron fell at home. He broke two ribs and had four stitches in his head. The stitches were covered with a Veteran of World War II hat, but Myron never missed a beat.

He talked to reporters and well wishers for over two hours. Then he sat by himself and had a cheeseburger. There’s nothing wrong with his appetite.

Myron Roker is the poster child of tough.

PUBLICNOTICES

Your Right to Know





COURTESY PHOTOS

Honors night

Crete Public Schools Foundation Board Member Gary Williams, Hollis Anderson, CPS Foundation Director Marilea Thiem and CPS Foundation President Ann Teget pause for a photo. CPS Foundation awarded \$108,200 to students.



CPS Foundation Director Marilea Thiem takes a picture with student Lizbet Sanchez, CPS Foundation President Ann Teget and Lizbet's mom. Lizbet received the largest scholarship that the Foundation awards. It is the Dean and Deanne Prochaska Memorial Scholarship, which is \$10,000 or \$2,500 a year for four years.



Betty Misle Mellen gives student Jenna Andindi the Julius Misle Memorial Scholarship.

Aging Services holds

Saline County Shuffle

Crete police warn

against drug-

impaired driving

BY DOUG CARROLL  
doug@sewardindependent.com

“Everybody go outside! We’re not starting in here!”

With those words, Lori Moldenhauer, program manager for Saline County Aging Services, kicked out the large crowd visiting inside the Wilber Legion building so the sixth annual Saline Shuffle could get started April 13.

Maddie Maly, Community Outreach Coordinator and the event’s organizer, said this year’s event had a great turnout.

“This year we moved it to April - it’s usually been in March - and the weather is a lot better today. “This is great!”

Moldenhauer said there were probably 130-140 people that took part in the shuffle.

“Last year it was so cold that everyone just stayed inside until the last moment and left as soon as they were done, but this year people got to visit both before and after the race, which was fun,” said Moldenhauer.

Eight-year-old Harper Watson of Wilber agreed.

“I’ve done the shuffle multiple times,” Watson said. “It’s kind of fun and



DOUG CARROLL/CN

Six-year-old Elsie Splichal of Wilber tries to keep her mother, Carly Hamilton, from passing her as they near the finish line of the Saline Shuffle.

something to do, I guess.”

“I never thought that when I reached 80 that I would be able to do this”

said first-time participant James Prokop of Wilber

after finishing his walk.

Moldenhauer said

funds raised by the event will be used to purchase new workout equipment for aging services.

Drugged driving is on the rise in Nebraska. To help keep drug-impaired drivers off the roads, the U.S. Department of Transportation’s National Highway Traffic Safety Administration is teaming up with members of the Crete Police Department to spread the message that drug-impaired driving of any kind is dangerous and illegal.

According to NHTSA, between 2009 and 2018, of those drivers killed in crashes and tested for marijuana, the presence of marijuana had nearly doubled.

In 2018, 46% of drivers who were killed in crashes and were tested for drugs, tested positive.

This is why it’s so important to spread this lifesaving message: Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over. It doesn’t matter what term is used. If a person is feeling a little high, buzzed, stoned or wasted, he or she should not get behind the wheel.

Think driving while high isn’t dangerous? It has been proven that THC can slow reaction times, impair cognitive performance and make it more difficult for drivers to keep a steady position in their lane.

“It doesn’t matter what the day is; marijuana im-

pairment is a threat when you’re behind the wheel of a vehicle,” Capt. Jon Pucket of Crete said. “We are asking our community members to obey the law and to make safe choices when behind the wheel.”

Get home safely

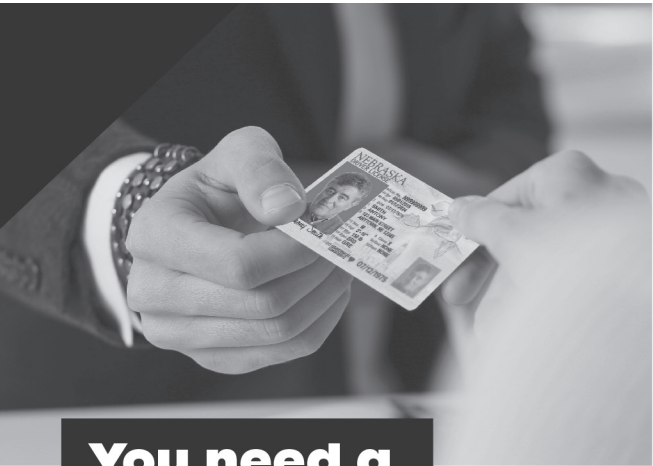
Those who plan to celebrate should have a plan in place and refrain from driving. Here are a few tips to help prepare for a safe night.

- If you have used an impairing substance such as marijuana, do not drive. Passengers should never ride with an impaired driver. If you think a driver may be impaired, do not get in the car.

- If you are drug-impaired, pass the keys to a driver who has not used marijuana and can safely drive you to your destination. Like drunk driving, it is essential that drug-impaired drivers refrain from driving a vehicle. It is never OK to drive while impaired by any substance.

- Do you have a friend who is about to drive while impaired by drugs? Take the keys away and arrange to get them home safely. Don’t worry about offending someone — they’ll thank you later.

- If you see an impaired driver on the road, contact law enforcement.



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# Cardinals mix up lineups at Elkhorn North, defeat LNW, NC

BY KEATON BURGESS  
reporter@sewardindependent.com

The Crete girls' tennis team had a successful week at three competitions, including a meet at Elkhorn North, and hosting Lincoln Northwest and Nebraska City for duals.

At Elkhorn North on April 17, the No. 1 doubles team of Sierra Crist and Jordyn Adam went 3-1, defeating Makenna Higgins and Audrey Reimer of Beatrice 8-4, Savannah Schofield and Savana Sweeney of Omaha Gross Catholic 8-6 and Lily Goaley and Emma Welsch of Omaha Mercy 8-2.

In No. 2 doubles, Crete's Hailey Kersten and Lauren Kraus went 1-3, defeating Kathryn Busenbark and Madelyn Vukov of Ralston 8-4.

In No. 1 singles, Hadley Swiercinsky went 1-3 as well, picking up her lone win against Jorjer Boller of Beatrice 8-4. In No. 2 singles, Sierra Bond went 2-2, picking up wins against Eibhlin Kelly of Mercy 8-1 and Jayda Engelbart of Lincoln Standing Bear 8-3.



KEATON BURGESS/CN

Reagan Bessler of Crete returns a hit against Lincoln Northwest on April 18.

The Cardinals then hosted LNW on April 18 and went 3-0 in doubles and 3-3 in singles.

The No. 1 doubles team of Reagan Bessler and Crist defeated Sylvia Kamradt and Kailee Row-

land 8-2, Caitlynn Boyle and Ansley Kuntz defeated Cassidy Hanson and Ashlyn Siegel 8-3 in No.

2 doubles, and the No. 3 doubles team of Bond and Adam defeated Lillyn Keifer and Ali Gable 8-6.

In singles, Crist and Bond both won their matches at No. 1 and 2, respectively, with Crist defeating Sylvia Kamradt 8-2 and Bond defeating Rowland 8-1.

Ella Heusinkvelt also picked up a win at No. 6 singles, winning against Gable 8-6.

Against Nebraska City on April 19, Crete swept the dual, going 3-0 in doubles and 6-0 in singles.

Crist and Bessler defeated Rachel Dia and Malayna Madsen 8-1 in No. 1 doubles, Kuntz and Boyle defeated Adisen Stukenholtz and Alma Widen 8-0 in No. 2 doubles, and Adam and Ashaya Steele defeated Laney Vanerdewyk and Mary Bruggeman 8-2 in No. 3 doubles.

In singles, Crist, Swiercinsky, Bond, Steele, Kraus and Heusinkvelt all picked up wins.

Crete was set to host Norris on April 22, play at Grand Island against St. Paul on April 23, and host its invite on Friday, April 26, at Doane University starting at 8 a.m.



STEPHANIE CROSTON/CN

Lauren Eggerling of Crete leaves the blocks in the 400-meter dash April 20 at York. She finished second in the event.

## Cardinals continue to improve, prepare to host meet

BY KEATON BURGESS  
reporter@sewardindependent.com

The Crete track and field team is performing better at the right time in the season as they continue to put up personal best marks and times towards the end of the season.

The Cardinals performed well at York on April 20 as almost all of the boys' distance runners ran their best times, according to Coach Stan Croft.

"The weather turned out better than expected," Croft said. "We had some good times and we competed well. We are improving and getting better across the board."

The girls' team placed fourth and was led by Lauren Eggerling placing second in the 400m dash with a time of 1:01.4. Eggerling was also part of the third place 4X100m and the fourth place 4X400m relay teams alongside Le Nelson, Lesli Kratochvil and Collette Andelt in

the 4X100m really and Kratochvil, Andelt and Sophie Heusinkvelt in the 4X400m relay.

Marin Rasgorshek placed third in the shot put at 37-8.75 but fouled on all throws in the discus.

Andelt also placed fourth in the 200m dash in 28.32 seconds, Kratochvil was fifth in the 100m dash in 13.34 seconds and third in the long jump at 15-4.

Lauren Maly continued to place in the 100m hurdles and high jump, placing fourth in the hurdles at 17.84 and third in the high jump at 4-8.

The 4X800m relay team of Trinity McMillan, Kynleigh Draeger, Addison Dittmer and Monserrat Lemus-Santoyo also placed fourth in 11:15.43 to round out the running events.

In the field events, Heusinkvelt followed up teammate Kratochvil in the long jump, placing fifth at 15-0 and was fifth in the pole vault at 9-2, and Adi Ziemann and Camry

Draeger were fifth and sixth respectively in the triple jump at 30-0.5 and 29-3.

For the boys, the field events all had solid days, including Logan Bessler placing second in the discus at 149-3.

Other field event placers include Corbin Coe finishing fourth in the high jump at 5-10, Carter Rezny placing fifth in the long jump at 19-1.5, Glen Clouse placing fifth in the triple jump at 37-4.5 and Jayden Boyle finishing sixth in the high jump clearing 5-10.

In the running events, Coe claimed third in the 300m hurdles with a time of 42.67, Luis Alarcon-Chavez finished seventh in the 200m dash in 24.13, and Garrett Dittmer led the distance squad, placing eighth in both the 3200m and 1600m runs, with times of 10:54.81 and 4:50.73.

Crete will host its meet next on Thursday, April 25, starting at 11 a.m.



DOUG CARROLL/CN

Crete High School's Liam Clarke eyes a putt during the Cardinals' golf dual against Fairbury April 15.

## Cardinals finish as runner up

BY KEATON BURGESS  
reporter@sewardindependent.com

The Crete boys' golf team competed and placed second at the Fairbury Invite on April 19 and had four of the five boys place within the top 10.

The Cardinals shot a 320 as a team, one stroke behind first-place Norris. Reece Vertin placed third, shooting a 78, Liam Clarke fourth with a 79, Max Littrel sixth with an 80, Wyatt Clarke eighth with an 83, and Ty Yeager was just outside of the top 10 at 11th with an 86.

"I was very happy with a team score of 320 and having all five of our kids in the top 11 is impressive," Coach Drew Rische said. "It was nice to see Reece, Liam, Max and Wyatt all earn medals and having our fifth guy, Ty Yeager, only one stroke out. Knowing that your fifth guys on any given day can contribute to the team score gives everyone confidence and the ability to play a bit looser. We will continue to clean things up over the weekend."

Crete was scheduled to play at Beatrice on April 22 and host an invite on Friday, April 26, starting at 9 a.m.

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# Cardinals pick up fourth win on season

BY KEATON BURGESS  
reporter@sewardindependent.com

The Crete girls' soccer team picked up its fourth win of the season as it defeated South Sioux City 2-0 on April 20. The Cardinals also lost to Conestoga 2-1 on April 15 and Norris 9-0 on April 18.

Against SSC, Crete scored its two goals in the first half and went on to hold SSC scoreless for the remainder of the game.

Against Conestoga, the game was scoreless in the first half, but Crete allowed two goals to its one for the loss.

Against Norris, Crete kept the game within reach in the first half on a windy day, but Norris got the wind to its back in the second half and pulled away.

Stats were unavailable at press time.

Crete (4-8) is scheduled to play at York on Thursday, April 25, starting at 5 p.m. to wrap up the regular season and start subdistrict play on Saturday, April 27.



Kacey Dunaway of Crete winds up to launch a kick downfield against Norris on April 18.

KEATON BURGESS/CN

# CM drops two on diamond

BY STEPHANIE CROSTON  
scroston@sewardindependent.com

Last week was a lighter week for the Crete-Milford baseball team, but the Cardinals weren't able to bring home a win.

CM started the week with an 11-1 loss at Seward April 15 and then lost to Blair 7-3 at home April 18. The game scheduled for April 16 at Waverly was canceled because of weather.

Everett Heath got the start on the mound for CM at Seward and pitched three innings, striking out three. Cole Stutzman and Mason Stone pitched in relief.

Triston Lenhoff led the offense with a 2-3 day at the plate, hitting a double and driving in the team's run in the first inning. Ethan Placzek was 2-2, and Stutzman singled to round out the hits.

At home against Blair, the Bears used a six-run fifth inning to build a 7-0 lead before CM's offense got rolling. The team scored one in the sixth and two in the seventh.

Carson Kotil, Kenner Svitak, Nick Wendt and Placzek had two hits each for CM, with Kotil hitting a double. Wendt and Placzek each drove in a run, as well.

Jeffrey Kunel was the



Kenner Svitak of Crete-Milford hits a ground ball against Seward April 15.

STEPHANIE CROSTON/CN

CM starter and threw four innings. He and Wendt, who came on in relief, had three strikeouts each.

The Cardinals (7-14)

were to play at Nebraska City April 23, at Plattview Thursday, April 25 and host Aurora Friday, April 26, at 6:30 p.m.

The final regular season game is Monday, April 29, at home against Hastings at 4:30 p.m.

# Longhorns compete well at Friend Invite

BY KEATON BURGESS  
reporter@sewardindependent.com

The Dorchester track and field team competed at the Friend Invite on April 16 and saw good times and marks, according to Coach Brandon Bruha.

"We had a pretty good meet last week. We had the most PR's we have had all season," Bruha said. "The weather wasn't the best either. There was sun in the morning and then it started raining around noon and the wind really picked up. Our athletes did a good job of blocking everything out and performed well."

For the girls, Amber Kotas and Bailey Theis placed first and second in the shot put with throws of 38-6.5 for Kotas and 38-6 for Theis. Theis also finished seventh in the discus at 98-10.

In the running events, Addison Lehr picked up a third-place finish in the 300m hurdles with a time of 55.44 followed by teammate Stephanie Korinek placing fifth in the same event in 57.18 seconds. Korinek also finished fifth in the 100m hurdles in 18.56 seconds.

After a bit of time off the track, Baylor Behrens finished fifth in the 100m



Dorchester's Addison Lehr, right, and Stephanie Korinek compete in the 300-meter hurdles at the Friend track meet.

DOUG CARROLL/CN

dash in 13.74 seconds and Kayli Carey finished sixth in the 200m dash in 28.89 seconds.

The 4X100m relay of Hailey Schweitzer, Behrens, Carey and Jace Yager placed fourth in 55.19 seconds.

For the boys, Chase Tachovsky placed in three events, finishing second in the 400m dash in 53.19 seconds, fourth in the 200m dash in 23.9 seconds and fifth in the 100m dash in 11.69 seconds.

Dorchester was scheduled to compete at McCool Junction on April 22. The team's next meet will be at Osceola for conference on Saturday, April 27, starting at 9 a.m.

# Cardinals defeat Titans, lose to SSC

BY KEATON BURGESS  
reporter@sewardindependent.com

The Crete boys' soccer team bounced back from two straight losses in the Central Conference tournament with a 4-1 win against Norris on April 18, but lost to South Sioux City 2-0 on April 20.

Crete led Norris 3-1 at the half against a young Titans squad, according to Coach Derek Spence. Crete held Norris scoreless in the second half and scored another goal to put the game out of reach.

"I was proud of the boys tonight for overcoming some adversity and still getting the win," Spence said. "We were missing five starters out for various reasons, but guys were able to step up and bring home the win."

Against SSC, Crete was missing multiple starters

again in the game and couldn't keep with the Cardinals.

Spence said both teams went back and forth during the first half with both teams having chances. SSC capitalized in the first half by scoring off of a crossed ball in front of the goal.

Spence said Crete changed its formation in the second half and more opportunities opened up for them, but SSC held Crete off and scored a late goal to put the game away.

"I thought the men played hard both games this week with several players out," Spence said. "We are hoping to gradually get those players back on the squad this week."

Crete (10-3) was scheduled to play at Grand Island Northwest on April 23 and host York on Thursday, April 25, starting at 7 p.m.



KEATON BURGESS/CN

Jamie Ramos of Crete works to turn his opponent at districts on Feb. 10. Ramos recently signed with SCC for wrestling

# Ramos signs with SCC for wrestling

BY KEATON BURGESS  
reporter@sewardindependent.com

Crete wrestler Jamie Ramos has made his decision, and that decision is to continue his wrestling career at Southeast Community College in Beatrice.

Ramos said he decided to continue wrestling because he enjoys the sport.

"I have a lot of love for the sport, and I have been wrestling since I was a 3-year-old," Ramos said. "I love how it pushes me and it builds my character as a person. I find the sport of wrestling to be so much fun and I couldn't end my career in high school."

As for why he signed with SCC, Ramos said the school was affordable and cheap and thinks it will be good for him to get better in both academics and athletics.

"I thought the campus was pretty cool and it's not too far away from where I live," Ramos said. "I liked the staff and the dorms look pretty homey which is good."

Ramos said he feels Crete wrestling has prepared him well for college wrestling.

"I feel Crete wrestling has helped build character, and gave me a mindset that taught me to not give up when things get hard," Ramos said.

Ramos will study Criminal Justice, starting in the fall of 2024.



# Crete trap finishes regular season

BY STEPHANIE CROSTON  
scroston@sewardindependent.com

The Crete trap team finished its regular season competitions April 20 at Nebraska City.

The Crete white team won second place in the senior handicap with a 196. Team members are Mason Snider, Brooklyn Ridley, Skye Hoyer, Frank Matejka and Coy Maas.

Individual medal winners were Paxton Behrens, junior male, fourth with a 46; Maas, senior handicap male, second with a 44; Ridley, senior handicap female, third with a 40; and Hoyer, senior handicap 20-21 yards, fourth with a 42.

Next up is the East Cornhusker Trap Conference meet Saturday, April 27, in Papillion. The state shoot is Friday through Sunday, May 2 through 4.



COURTESY PHOTO  
Medal winners for the Crete trap team at Nebraska City April 20 include, from left, Skye Hoyer, Mason Snider, Brooklyn Ridley and Frank Matejka IV. Coy Maas is not pictured.

# Tigers split team for home meet, Kansas

The Doane men's track and field team competed in two meets this week, hosting the Jim Dutcher Memorial Classic and traveling to the Kansas Relays.

In the Tigers home meet, JaDae Moore was a two-event winner. He won the 100m title with a time of 10.84 and took the 200m crown in a time of 22.18. Connor Bradley won the 400m with a time of 49.88. Emmanuel Yego won the 800m in a time of 1:56.61.

Michael Grigsby placed second in the 1500m with a time of 4:07.15. Jakob Tadlock won the 10,000m with a time of 34:27.67. In the 110m hurdles, Sander Zutterman took second with a time of 15.85. Zach Fox took second in the 400m hurdles with a time of 56.42.

Doane won both relay races in the meet. The 4x100m relay team of Daniel Concepcion, Rian Green, Andrew Mahoney, and Jackson Eurek won with a time of 43.20. The 4x800m relay team of Nate O'Brien, Grigsby, Eli Marez, and Yego won with a time of 7:58.87.

In the field events, Dylan Starr and Carter Reckling each met the NAIA automatic qualifying standard in the high jump. Starr placed 3rd with a clearance of 2.08m while Reckling tied for 4th with a clearance of 2.05m. Mike Pulliam and Drew Garrison tied for 1st in the pole vault with marks of 4.25m.

Cameron Leeling won the long jump with a leap of 6.39m and Trevor Malone won the triple



Andrew Harms of Doane wins the Decathlon 110m hurdles on April 19.

jump with a mark of 14.25m.

Trey Dickey was a double-winner with titles in the discus and hammer throw. He met the NAIA automatic qualifying standard in the discus with a mark of 50.22m and met the provisional standard in the hammer throw with a mark of 54.44m. Colton Dillon took third in the shot put with a mark of 14.88m.

Mason Crumbliss placed second in the javelin with an NAIA provisional qualifying standard of 56.88m. Addison Croghan took fourth in the decathlon with 6,007

points, moving into 12th in the NAIA (Top 16 qualify for nationals).

In Kansas, Nelson Ruto took eighth in the 10,000m run with a time of 31:58.13. Zach Turner placed seventh in the 110m hurdles with a time of 15.33. He ran a time of 14.33 in the prelims for an NAIA automatic qualifying mark. In the 400m hurdles, he ran a time of 53.16 in the prelims but did not run in the finals. His prelim time met the NAIA automatic qualifying standard.

Thomas Oliver posted an NAIA automatic qualifying time in the 3,000m

steeplechase with a time of 9:12.19. In the hammer throw, Trey Dickey placed ninth with a mark of 51.61m.

At home for the girls, Neryah Hehl won the 100m dash with a time of 12.19 seconds. Katie Vogt won the 200m with a time of 25.49. She took second in the 400m and met the NAIA automatic qualifying standard with a time of 55.90.

Emily Lytle placed eighth in the 800m for Doane, running a time of 2:31.39. Jadyn Scott placed 14th in the 1500m with a time of 5:50.80. In the 5000m, Delaney Ca-

tron took fifth place with a time of 20:57.71.

Calla Wittland won the 10,000m run with a mark of 41:46.11. In the 400m hurdles, Alyssa Plock recorded a time of 1:18.99 to place sixth. Danie Parriott took second in the 3000m steeplechase with a time of 12:15.89. The women's 4x800m relay took second place with a time of 10:14.22. Running for the Tigers were Emily and Madison Lytle, Laura Hasemann, and Parriott.

Josie Garrett took second in the high jump with a mark of 1.65m while Sarah Theiler took third based on attempts

as she also cleared 1.65m.

The duo met the NAIA provisional qualifying standard. Kennedy Stanley took second in the pole vault with a mark of 3.40m. Garrett was the team's top finisher in the long and triple jump. She took fourth in the long jump with a mark of 5.26m while winning the triple jump with an NAIA automatic qualifying mark of 11.72m. Rosalyn Roggasch took second in the triple jump with an NAIA provisional mark of 11.56m.

Molly Vander Hamm won the javelin with an NAIA provisional mark of 39.99m. Alivia Baucom took second in the shot put with a throw of 13.88m and second in the discus with a mark of 44.80m. Both marks for Baucom met the NAIA automatic qualifying standards. Macy Fuller took second in the hammer throw with a mark of 52.05m, meeting the NAIA automatic standard. Chaney Nelson took fourth in the heptathlon with 4,209 points.

Down in Kansas, Kaylee Pribyl took 6th place in the pole vault with a mark of 3.80m, which meets the NAIA automatic qualifying standard. Fuller met the NAIA provisional standard in the hammer throw with a mark of 50.16m and placed fifth.

In the coming week, Tiger athletes will compete at either the Drake Relays in Des Moines, Iowa, or the Nebraska Wesleyan Invite in Lincoln.

# Doane takes down DW, prepares for final games of regular season

Doane baseball closed out their four-game set at Dakota Wesleyan on April 21 and posted a pair of wins, 2-1 and 6-4. The Tigers improved to 33-9 on the season and 19-5 in GPAC play.

In game one, Dakota Wesleyan plated a run in the first inning to take an initial 1-0 lead. In the fourth inning, Joe Osborn doubled to drive in Nate Mensik and Carson Baker to put Doane in front, 2-1.

Dakota Wesleyan put the tying run on base with a two-out hit in the sixth and seventh innings, however, Doane starter

Kaden Crawford was able to close the door on the DWU rally each time.

Crawford threw a complete game for Doane as he went 7.0 innings, allowing one run on five hits and a walk while striking out a season-high nine batters. The nine strikeouts ties his career high.

Doane had six hits in the game, all from different batters. Osborn was joined by Justin Nevells with a double in the game.

In the second game, Doane struck first as Osborn scored on an errant throw following a

bunt single by Nevells. Dakota Wesleyan took the lead in the second inning with a two-run home run.

Doane regained the lead in the fourth inning on a two-out double by Mensik. Aaron Vulcano and Brayden Jones scored on a hit for a 3-2 Doane lead. DWU tied the game in the bottom of the fourth on a double.

Mensik put the Tigers back in front, 4-3, in the sixth inning with a double to plate Dane Kelsey. In the seventh inning, Logan Amick had a pinch-hit single with the bases loaded to drive in Noah Winkelman and

Dane Kelsey. DWU had a solo home run in the bottom of the seventh to pull within two runs, 6-4.

In the ninth inning, Dakota Wesleyan started the inning with a leadoff double. Following two outs recorded in the infield, DWU drew a walk to bring the winning run to the plate. Isaiah Miller stuck out the final batter to end the game.

Broc Songster started for the Tigers and went 5.0 innings, allowing three runs (one earned) on four hits while striking out four. Miller picked up the save as he went 4.0 innings, allowing

one run on two hits and a walk while striking out three.

Doane finished with eight hits in the game, led by Mensik going 2-for-4 with three RBI. Osborn was 2-for-5 with a run scored. Kelsey scored twice to lead the Tigers.

Next up for Doane is the final four games of the regular season. The Tigers play host to Morningside on April 26-27 in Crete. First pitch on Friday is set for 1:00 p.m.



# PUBLIC NOTICES

## HEARINGS

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council of the City of Crete, Nebraska, will hold a hearing on May 7th 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at the City Hall located at 243 East 13th Street, Crete, Nebraska, to hear testimony in favor of and in opposition to and to answer questions in relation to the following proposed Zoning Map amendment.

**Lots 7-8 Block 99 C2 to R3**  
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.  
Nancy Tellez  
City Clerk  
CR — April 24th, 2024  
ZNEZ

**VILLAGE OF DORCHESTER PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
**MONDAY, MAY 6, 2024, 5:45 P.M.**  
**FARMERS COOPERATIVE MEETING ROOM**  
**(607 FRANKLIN AVE., ENTRANCE #2)**

Notice is hereby given that the Village of Dorchester Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, May 6, 2024 at 5:45 p.m. for the amendment to the Zoning Regulations, amending: Section 5.06 by amending the Use Category General Commercial by adding and allowing Firearms and Ammunition Sales as a Conditional Use in the R-2 Residential District.  
Jennifer M. Kasl,  
Village Clerk – Treasurer  
CR — April 24, May 01, 2024  
ZNEZ

**VILLAGE OF DORCHESTER BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
**MONDAY, MAY 6, 2024 6:30 P.M.**  
**FARMERS COOPERATIVE MEETING ROOM**  
**(607 FRANKLIN AVE., ENTRANCE #2)**

Notice is hereby given that the Village of Dorchester Board of Trustees will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, May 6, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. to decide: Whether or not to approve a Conditional Use Permit to allow Blue River Firearms to operate a Firearms & Accessory Sale Showroom on the premises located at 1106 Washington Ave.  
Jennifer M. Kasl,  
Village Clerk - Treasurer  
CR — April 24, May 01, 2024  
ZNEZ

**VILLAGE OF DORCHESTER PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
**MONDAY, MAY 6, 2024, 5:45 P.M.**  
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Jennifer M. Kasl,  
Village Clerk - Treasurer  
CR — April 24, May 01, 2024  
ZNEZ

**VILLAGE OF DORCHESTER BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
**MONDAY, MAY 6, 2024, 6:30 P.M.**  
**FARMERS COOPERATIVE MEETING ROOM (607**

**FRANKLIN AVE., ENTRANCE #2)**  
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Jennifer M. Kasl,  
Village Clerk - Treasurer  
CR — April 24, May 01, 2024  
ZNEZ

## MEETINGS

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**  
The next regular meeting of the Saline County Board of Commissioners will be held on April 30, 2024 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 — April 24, 2024  
ZNEZ

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**  
The public meeting of the Railroad Transportation Safety District will be held on May 13th, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. on second floor of Crete City Hall, 243 E. 13th, Crete, NE. Agenda items for said meetings are kept current and can be reviewed in the County Clerk's office, 204 S. High Street, Wilber, NE, 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 — April 24, May 01, 2024  
ZNEZ

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**  
The Saline County Board of Equalization will meet on April 30, 2024 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 — April 24, 2024  
ZNEZ

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**  
**MAY 8, 2024**  
**SALINE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Saline County Agricultural Society will meet in regular session on Wednesday, May 8, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the Exhibition Building at the Saline County Fairgrounds, Tuxedo Park, Crete, Nebraska. An agenda for said meeting is available for public inspection during normal business hours at the Saline County Extension Office in Wilber.  
Wess Kohout  
Secretary  
CR — April 24, 2024  
ZNEZ

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**  
**APRIL 29, 2024**  
**CITY OF CRETE, NEBRASKA**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that

the Cemetery Board of the City of Crete, Nebraska will meet on Monday, April 29, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. at the City Hall, 243 East 13th Street, Crete, Nebraska. The agenda for the meeting is kept current and available for public inspection at the office of the City Clerk. Said meeting is 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.  
Nancy Tellez  
City Clerk  
CR — April 24, 2024  
ZNEZ

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**  
Notice is hereby given that the Board of Education of Saline County School District No. 76-0044, a.k.a. Dorchester Public School will hold the Regular Board Meeting on Monday, May 13 at 8:00 P.M. or as soon thereafter at the Dorchester Public School Library. The agenda for such meeting is being kept continuously current and is available for inspection at the office of the Superintendent, Dorchester Public School.  
Steve Vyhnalek  
President of the Board  
CR — April 24, 2024  
ZNEZ

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**  
**MAY 8, 2024**  
**CRETE HOUSING AUTHORITY**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Housing Authority of the City of Crete will hold its regular meeting Wednesday, May 8, 2024 at 8:30 a.m. in the Centennial Terrace Community Room located at 1600 Grove Avenue. The meeting will be open to the public. An agenda for this meeting may be reviewed at the office of the Housing Authority.  
Dwayne Bennett  
Secretary  
CR — April 24, 2024  
ZNEZ

## GENERAL NOTICES

KALKWARF & SMITH LAW OFFICES, L.L.C.  
**NOTICE OF DIVORCE ACTION IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SALINE COUNTY, NEBRASKA**  
TO: JACQUELINE MEYERS, whose whereabouts are unknown and upon whom personal service of summons cannot be had, and who is the Defendant in said proceedings: You are hereby notified that on or about February 6, 2024, James C. Meyers Jr., filed a Complaint for Dissolution of Marriage against you in the District Court of Saline County, Nebraska, at Case No. CI 24-24, the object of which is to obtain a dissolution of your marriage. You are required to answer said Complaint on or before May 13, 2024, or said Complaint will be taken as true.  
CR — April 10, 17, 24, 2024  
ZNEZ

**LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE**  
The last day to register to vote in the 2024 Primary Election is May 13, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Office of the Saline County Clerk, Courthouse, Wilber, Nebraska  
Diann Nettifee  
Saline County Clerk  
CR/FS/WR — April 24, May 01, 08, 2024  
ZNEZ

**NOTICE OF PARTIAL TERMINATION OF NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT**  
Notice is hereby given that a Partial Termination of Notice of Commencement was recorded

with the Saline County Register of Deeds on April 10, 2024, at Instrument No. 2024-00479 partially terminating the Notice of Commencement recorded with the Saline County Register of Deeds on December 12, 2023, at Instrument No. 2023-01837, against the real property legally described as follows:  
Lots 1, 2, 3 and 4, Block 2, Burlington Estates, City of Crete, Saline County, Nebraska.  
The Partial Termination of Notice of Commencement was filed by the contracting owner, Cardinal Ventures, LLC, a Nebraska limited liability company, whose address is 2215 Lothrop Lake Circle, Crete, NE 68333. The contracting owner is the fee simple owner of the above-described property. The Notice of Commencement is terminated as of May 13, 2024. All lien claims for which a notice of lien is not recorded by the termination date may be defeated by a transfer of the real estate.  
CR — April 24, May 01, 08, 2024  
ZNEZ


**NOTICE**  
The Saline County Courthouse will be closed on Wednesday, May 8th, 2024, from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. for employee training.  
Diann Nettifee  
Saline County Clerk  
CR/FS/WR — April 24, May 01, 2024  
ZNEZ

**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE OF TAX LIEN IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SALINE COUNTY, NEBRASKA**  
COUNTY OF SALINE,  
STATE OF NEBRASKA,

Plaintiff,  
VS.  
Joyce Miller & Betty Mathis, John Doe & Mary Doe, Tenants in Possession of (Legal Description): Lot Eight (8) and Nine (9), Block Two (2), Original Town of Western, Saline County, Nebraska. Address: 100 East Short Street, Western, NE 68464, Real names unknown; All persons having or claiming any interest in said real estate, real names unknown,  
Defendants.  
COURT CASE NO.: CI2430  
TO: Joyce Miller & Betty Mathis, Et. Al.  
(Legal Description): Lot Eight (8) and Nine (9), Block Two (2), Original Town of Western, Saline County, Nebraska. Address: 100 East Short Street, Western, NE 68464  
YOU, AND EACH OF YOU, ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that on February 23, 2024, the County of Saline filed a Complaint in the District Court of Saline County, Nebraska, against you and each of you which cause appears as Case No. CI2430 of the Records of the Clerk of the District Court of Saline County, Nebraska, the object and prayer of which Complaint is in accordance with a Resolution adopted on the 8th day of August, 2023, by the Board of Commissioners for the County of Saline, In The State of Nebraska, for the foreclosure of tax liens on the real estate more specifically described above.  
The Complaint alleges that the several parcels of real estate described herein and in the Complaint For Tax Foreclosure were subject to taxation and/or to levy of special assessments for State and governmental subdivisions for the several years

as enumerated in the Complaint and the Exhibits thereto attached and by reference made a part thereof, that unless the same are paid by you or any of you, a Decree will be entered in said Court foreclosing and forever barring you and each of you from any and all claims upon, interest or estate in, right or title to, lien upon, or equity of redemption in or to said herein described real estate, and that the same or so much as may be necessary to satisfy the Plaintiff's lien, together with costs, shall be sold in accordance with the law, and said Complaint asks for such other relief as equity requires and as to the Court may seem just and equitable.  
YOU AND EACH OF YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that you are required to answer said Complaint on or before June 15, 2024 (30 days from last publication date) or Plaintiff will proceed to obtain a default judgment against you and each of you.  
COUNTY OF SALINE, IN THE STATE OF NEBRASKA, Plaintiff,  
David C. Solheim, Saline Co. Attorney  
/s/ David C. Solheim NSBA # 24782  
Saline County Attorney  
Saline County Courthouse - Fourth Floor  
204 South High Street - P.O. Box 713  
Wilber, NE 68465  
Tel: 402-821-2531 Fax: 402-821-2046  
E-mail: salinecoatty2019@gmail.com  
CR — April 24, May 01, 08, 15, 2024  
ZNEZ

EARLY VOTER (ABSENTEE) DEADLINES Request by mail: 6:00 p.m., Friday, May 3, 2024 Request in person: 5:00 p.m., Monday, May 13, 2024 Request by Agent: 7:00 p.m., Election Day, May 14, 2024 Mail applications to: Saline County Clerk 204 S. High Street Wilber, NE 68465		Application form may be printed at our website at: <a href="http://co.saline.ne.us">co.saline.ne.us</a> Applications must be signed and mailed, scanned and emailed, or brought into our office. Cannot accept written email. Office Hours for Voting: Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For further information, call 402-821-2374
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 <b>Nebraska Secretary of State Early Voting Ballot Application</b>		<b>EARLY</b>											
<b>Request an Early Voting Ballot</b>		<b>Return completed application to:</b> _____ County Election Office _____, NE Fax: _____ Email: _____											
<b>Applications must be physically signed.</b> You can take a picture or scan your request and email it to your county election official. You can also mail or fax your application to your county election office. You can start requesting a ballot 120 days before any election. You must submit your application to have a ballot mailed to you by the close of business on the second Friday before the election. If you have any questions, please contact your county election official. You can find contact information for your county election official at: <a href="http://sos.nebraska.gov/elections/election-officials-contact-information">sos.nebraska.gov/elections/election-officials-contact-information</a> Check the status of your early voting ballot at: <a href="http://ne.gov/go/votercheck">ne.gov/go/votercheck</a>													
<b>Voter Information</b> Please print.	Last _____ First _____ 1 Middle (name or initial) _____, Suffix (Jr, III, if any) _____ Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) <table border="1"><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>7</td><td></td><td></td><td>7</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>						7			7			
			7			7							
<b>Address Where Voter Lives</b> (Use the address you are registered to vote at if you are temporarily living away from your residence. You will put your temporary address in section 4)	2 Street Address _____ Apartment or Lot (if any) _____ City, State, ZIP _____												
<b>Identification</b> If you do not provide identification or a reasonable impediment certification with this application, a ballot will not be issued.	3 Must provide one (1) of the following: <table border="1"><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <input type="checkbox"/> Nebraska Driver's License or State ID Number <input type="checkbox"/> Enclosed photocopy of other acceptable photo identification (see page 2 for more information) <input type="checkbox"/> Enclosed Reasonable Impediment Certification (see page 2 for more information)												
<input type="checkbox"/> Send Voter's Ballot To (if different from voter's residential address) OR <input type="checkbox"/> I request to take the ballots with me, (or to the person I am acting as agent for, up to two people).	4 <input type="checkbox"/> Same as above <b>OR</b> Mailing Address _____ Apartment or Lot (if any) _____ City, State, ZIP _____												
<b>Contact Information</b> Your county election office uses this information to contact you if they have any questions about your application.	5 Check box(es) if private. <input type="checkbox"/> Phone Number _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Email Address _____												
<b>The Voter Requests an Early Voting Ballot for the Following Election</b>	6 <input type="checkbox"/> Statewide Primary Election <input type="checkbox"/> Special Election on _____ (Date)												

I hereby declare, under penalty of election falsification, that the above information is true.  
**WARNING:** The penalty for election falsification is up to two years imprisonment and twelve months post-release supervision, a fine of up to ten thousand dollars, or both.

<b>Signature of Person Completing this Form</b> X _____	<b>Date</b> _____
<b>Printed Name of Agent*</b> (if applicable) _____	<b>Relationship to Voter</b> _____

\*An agent is a person who requests a ballot for another voter. An agent may request ballots for up to two (2) voters per election.

**NONPARTISANS ONLY**  
You cannot use the following section to change or affiliate with a political party. Check whether you are affiliated with a political party online at [ne.gov/go/votercheck](http://ne.gov/go/votercheck). You can update your party affiliation at [ne.gov/go/NEReg2Vote](http://ne.gov/go/NEReg2Vote) no later than the 3rd Friday before an election.  
Any voter who is registered as Nonpartisan (no party) may request a ballot for certain offices from one political party. If you choose not to request a partisan ballot, you will be given a nonpartisan ballot only.  
As a voter who is **not** registered with a recognized political party in Nebraska, I request a partisan ballot from the following party:  
(Select only one)  
☐ Republican ☐ Democratic ☐ Libertarian ☐ Legal Marijuana NOW

Nebraska Revised Statute §32-941	Updated January 2024	Page 1
CR/FS/WR – April 17, 2024		ZNEZ

## STATEWIDES

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# PUBLIC NOTICES

APRIL 24, 2024

THE CRETE NEWS

PAGE 5C

## MINUTES

### BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING MONDAY, APRIL 8, 2024 8:00 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 regular board meeting was called to order by President Steve Vyhnalek at 8:00 pm with all board members present. He confirmed the advanced notice of the meeting date and agenda. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.  
2. Roll Call

School personnel present are Superintendent Curt Cogswell, Principal Jake Wiese, and Jen Feeken

3. Receive Visitors and Announce Open Forum for Public Comment  
Matt Smith was present.  
4. Request for Change of Agenda  
No request for a change of agenda.  
5. 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.  
Matthew Hansen: Yea, Mike Hatfield: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Carol Schnell: Yea, Kelli Schweitzer: Yea, Steve Vyhnalek: Yea

6. Financial Report  
Motion to approve the financial report passed with a motion by Matthew Hansen and a second by Mike Hatfield.  
Matthew Hansen: Yea, Mike Hatfield: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Carol Schnell: Yea, Kelli Schweitzer: Yea, Steve Vyhnalek: Yea

7. Reports  
7.1. Principal's Report  
Mr. Wiese reported that professional development has included training on Hope Science and on Dating Violence (Hope Crisis Center). The School Nutrition Audit was on March 14. The Elementary Excellence Rally was held on March 15. The school participated in the Statewide Tornado Drill.  
7.2. Superintendent's Report  
Mr. Cogswell reported that last month students performed the musical "Into the Woods". We had six students that made it into the CRC Honor Choir/Band. Karma Ridpath was awarded the NRCSA Elementary Teacher of the Year.

8. Discussion Items  
8.1. April Policy Review  
Board policies 6010, 6011, 6012, 6013, and 6014 were reviewed. Policy 6010 Special Education Identification, Evaluation, and Verification was reviewed. This policy is our all-encompassing special education policy that addresses a child's right to a free, appropriate public education. Policy 6011 Fire Instruction and Prevention states that the school district will provide instruction in fire danger and fire prevention. Policy 6012 Flag Display and Patriotic Presentations states that we will display the American Flag on the school grounds and recite the Pledge of Allegiance at the beginning of each day. Policy 6013 Controversial Issues addresses teaching controversial issues. Policy 6014 School Attendance on Activity Days states that a student must attend half their scheduled classes during the day to participate in student activities.

8.2. Legislative Bill Review  
Mr. Cogswell discussed some of the current bills being looked at in the legislature including the Sports and Space bill and LB388 Property Tax Relief.

8.3. Junior High Sports  
Mr. Cogswell shared that because of the number of girls in junior high next year, our sixth-grade girls would be able to participate in junior high athletics next year.  
8.4. Student Services  
Mr. Cogswell shared ideas on ways to coordinate student services next year.  
9. Action Items  
9.1. Classified Pay for 2024-2025  
Motion to approve the classified staff pay for the 2024-2025 school year passed with a motion by Mike Hatfield and a second by Shelly Lehr.

Matthew Hansen: Yea, Mike Hatfield: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Carol Schnell: Yea, Kelli Schweitzer: Yea, Steve Vyhnalek: Abstain  
9.2. Accept Resignation

Motion to accept the resignation of Mr. Steve Jirsa Passed with a motion by Carol Schnell and a second by Matthew Hansen.

Matthew Hansen: Yea, Mike Hatfield: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Carol Schnell: Yea, Kelli Schweitzer: Yea, Steve Vyhnalek: Yea

9.3. Consider approving contract Motion to approve the contract of Olivia McBeth to fill our music teaching position opening for the 2024-2025 school year Passed with a motion by Matthew Hansen and a second by Carol Schnell.  
Matthew Hansen: Yea, Mike Hatfield: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Carol Schnell: Yea, Kelli Schweitzer: Yea, Steve Vyhnalek: Yea

10. Board Committee Report  
No board committee reports/  
11. Closed Session (as necessary per statute)  
Closed Session not needed.

12. Establish Future Board of Education Meeting Date and Time  
The next scheduled board meeting is Monday, May 13th at 8:00 pm.  
13. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 9:26 pm passed with a motion by Carol Schnell and a second by Matthew Hansen.

Matthew Hansen: Yea, Mike Hatfield: Yea, Shelly Lehr: Yea, Carol Schnell: Yea, Kelli Schweitzer: Yea, Steve Vyhnalek: Yea

Mike Hatfield, Secretary of the Board of Education  
CR — April 24, 2024  
ZNEZ

### MINUTES-APRIL 16, 2024 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING CITY HALL

#### 243 East 13th St., Crete, Nebraska, 68333

April 16th, 2024 (Condensed, entire copy available at the office of the City Clerk).

Mayor Dave Bauer called the meeting of the City Council to order at 6:00 p.m. Answering roll call were the following Council Members: Crisman, Strehle, Newmyer, Papik, and Fitzgerald. Absent: Frans

The following actions were taken at the meeting:  
Approved the Consent Agenda items: Unanimous  
Meeting Minutes  
City Council April 2, 2024  
Public Works April 2, 2024  
Parks & Recreation April 2, 2024  
Public Safety April 2, 2024  
Treasurer's Report

Claims against the City \$659,427.85  
Approved Karson Cowan, as a new volunteer member of the Fire Department. Unanimous  
Adopted Resolution 2024-05 Recognizing Terry Petracek's 50 year of service to Crete Fire and Rescue. Unanimous

Mayor Bauer recognized Terry Petracek for his dedication and commitment to the Crete Fire and Rescue Department. Upon receiving the recognition Terry Petracek addressed the mayor and city council.  
Appointed Jessica Wilkinson as Library Director. Unanimous  
Approved pension plan changes. Unanimous

Approved payment of claims to Crete Ace Hardware in the amount of \$2,468.99. Aye: Crisman, Newmyer, Strehle, and Fitzgerald. Abstained: Papik  
Adopted Resolution 2024-04 Authorizing the termination of Emergency Dispatch Service Interlocal Agreement with Beatrice and the City of Crete. Unanimous  
Approved the Master Fee Schedule amendment. Unanimous  
Approved the Mutual of Omaha Insurance contract changes. Unanimous

Approved the SCADA System. Unanimous

Approved the Drug and Alcohol Policy for Part-Time and Seasonal employees. Unanimous

Approved not to accept the liquidated damage proposal. Unanimous

Approved to ratify LARM's insurance action on North 15th St. Unanimous

Approved to ratify LARM's insurance action on South 15th St. Unanimous

Tabled to consider the Family Learning Community Network Commitment Agreement. Unanimous

Officers' Reports  
Assistant Director & Outreach Services Librarian, Laura Renker stated the following:  
Had the "A Tree Grows in Crete" program with the help of Parks and Recreation Director Liz Cody. Celebrated National Library Week with the Eclipse Program and had the telescope available.

Carol Vlasin was recognized for her volunteer efforts with the 2024 Outstanding Library Volunteer Award from the Nebraska Library Association.

6 outdoor games have been added Had another successful puzzle race party with 19 teams.

Will be having a family puzzle race party in June.  
Chief of Police, Gary Young stated the following:  
The records management system at Southeast Communications in Beatrice was shut down until today due to an update. Young thanked city IT staff Mike Kalkwarf and Emerson Aschoff, who have worked with Beatrice to help with getting it up and running.

Testing for sergeants will be on

April 30th 2024.

Jaden Acevedo will be going to the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Academy this month. Fire Chief, Todd Allen stated the following:

Thanked the Mayor and City Council for the resolution for Terry Petracek. The department will be hosting an open house on Sunday, April 21st from 1-3 p.m.

Members will take a rig to Officer Barlett's funeral in Ceresco. Their ambulance has been requested by the manufacturer to go to fire school for demonstrations in May.

Allen introduced Karson Cowan as the newest member to the department.  
Parks and Recreation Director, Liz Cody stated the following:  
Welcomed back pool manager Luke Bonifas and swim coach Kourtney Martin for their 2nd year

Swim team parent's meeting is Wednesday, April 17th in the Crete Carrier Community Room  
Swim team registration and T-Ball registration are both open until May 3rd and parent volunteers are needed. If interested in coaching please contact Recreation Coordinator Dan Dunaway.

Seasonal staff hiring is underway with Human Resource Coordinator Savannah Anderson's diligence they have received over 55 applicants.

They always appreciate receiving inquiring about concerns in the park, such as possible safety hazards. Council member Strehle mentioned the bridge to the baseball area has a tripping hazard.

City Council member Tom Crisman thanked Officer Audrey Arbuckle for serving on the district's American Legion post selection board and introduced them to K9 Hunk. Thanked Chief Gary Young for assisting them with that and letting everyone know what a great dedicated officer she is and doing that on her own time.

City Council members Ashley Newmyer, Dale Strehle, Dan Papik and Anthony Fitzgerald welcomed the new Library Director Jessica Wilkinson and Fire Department member Karson Cowan.

City Administrator, Tom Ourada stated the following:  
The City of Crete received a Freedom of Information Act request from Kathryn Doll of Blair, who wanted to know the city's relationship with Welcoming America. The city responded to that and redacted any personal information. The city gets these requests from time to time.

There is a subdivision request for the Planning Commission. It is still incomplete but there is interest in the northeast area of Crete. Reminded of the nuisance hearings on Thursday, April 25th 2024.

The bid opening is on April 26th 2024 for the city farm property. They are close to purchasing an ADA playground structure for City Park and are working out funding details.

Meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m.  
**APRIL 16, 2024  
Claims Paid**

AKRS EQUIPMENT PARTS \$190.66; AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES SUPPLIES \$118.36; BAUER INSURANCE INC INSURANCE \$2,890.00; CITY REVENUE FUND SALES TAX \$70.16; CITY REVENUE FUND UTILITY \$27.57; CRETE LUMBER & FARM SUPPLY CO SUPPLIES \$45.15; CULLIGAN WATER SERVICE UTILITY \$8.00; EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS SUPPLIES \$46.90; KIDWELL SERVICE \$242.16; NITZEL, HOWARD REPAIR \$308.75; SAPP BROS PROPANE \$377.44; SOUTHWICK LIQUID WASTE INC SERVICE \$300.00; U.S. BANK SUPPLIES \$8.58; UNION BANK & TRUST FEES \$2.00; VERIZON WIRELESS UTILITY \$42.88; NORRIS PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT UTILITY \$879.88; WINDSTREAM UTILITY \$157.60; CITY PAYROLL FUNDS WAGES \$2,350.12; AIRPORT FUNDS SUBTOTAL \$8,066.21; BESSLER FAMILY EYE CARE CONSUMER DEPOSIT REFUND \$285.00; BETSY GONZALES MOLINA CONSUMER DEPOSIT REFUND \$137.14; BU D PAW & TAR HTOO CONSUMER DEPOSIT REFUND \$110.00; CARDINAL VENTURES LLC CONSUMER DEPOSIT REFUND \$110.00; CITY REVENUE FUND CONSUMER DEPOSIT APPLIED \$2,639.03; CRIST PROPERTIES LLC CONSUMER DEPOSIT REFUND \$230.00; DEBRA STEUER CONSUMER DEPOSIT REFUND \$110.00; FILOMENA LOPEZ FRANCO CONSUMER DEPOSIT REFUND \$260.00; JOHN ROWDEN CONSUMER DEPOSIT REFUND \$110.00; KYLE BOND CONSUMER DEPOSIT REFUND \$110.00; LARRY & JOANNE BRANNAGAN CONSUMER DEPOSIT REFUND \$110.00; MARISELA LOPEZ & WILFRIDO RODRIGUEZ CONSUMER DEPOSIT REFUND \$110.00; PASCUAL TERCERO CONSUMER DEPOSIT REFUND \$102.11; ROLANDO AGUILAR DEMECIO CONSUMER DEPOSIT REFUND \$97.78; SALVADOR DEL GADILLO JR CONSUMER DEPOSIT REFUND \$114.95; SARAH BEGAY CONSUMER DEPOSIT REFUND \$110.00; SUSANA MENDEZ DE PEREZ & GERARDO PEREZ G CONSUMER DEPOSIT REFUND \$110.00; TAMMY SCHNELL CONSUMER DEPOSIT REFUND

\$110.00; TRANGLE CONSUMER DEPOSIT REFUND \$315.00; YAMISLEYDIS BARCELO TORRES CONSUMER DEPOSIT REFUND \$51.17; YUSLEIDY JIMENEZ CONSUMER DEPOSIT REFUND \$7.82; CONSUMER DEPOSIT FUNDS SUBTOTAL \$5,340.00; AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES SUPPLIES \$35.93; AQUA-CHEM INC FUEL \$2,283.95; BEATRICE CONCRETE CO ROCK \$199.48; BLACK HILLS ENERGY UTILITY \$136.59; CAPITAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS INC SERVICE \$72.12; CAPITAL ONE TRADE CREDIT PARTS \$783.65; CASELLE, INC. SERVICE \$1,682.61; CITY REVENUE FUND UTILITY \$12,550.53; CRETE ACE HARDWARE SUPPLIES \$305.55; CRETE AREAMEDICAL CENTER DRUG SCREENING \$316.00; CRETE LUMBER & FARM SUPPLY CO SUPPLIES \$9.66; DITCH WITCH UNDERCON SUPPLIES \$504.12; EXECUTIVE ANSWERING SERVICE \$86.55; IOWA PUMP WORKS SUPPLIES \$7,790.00; KIDWELL SERVICE \$2,825.20; LINCOLN WINWATER WORKS MAINTENANCE \$852.26; MAX I WALKER UNIFORM & APPAREL UNIFORMS \$165.34; MCI VERIZON UTILITY \$17.44; MIDWEST LABORATORIES INC LABS \$2,536.53; MYGOV LLC SUBSCRIPTION \$1,795.50; NAPA AUTO PARTS REPAIR \$211.48; NE DEPT OF ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY RETEST JOHN WIRUTH \$125.00; NEBRASKA CITY UTILITIES PARTS \$1,132.68; OLSSON CONSULTING \$1,966.70; ONE CALL CONCEPTS INC SERVICE \$128.40; OURADA, TOM MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT \$75.04; PHYSICIANS LABORATORY SERVICES INC DRUG TESTING \$78.00; RAILROAD MANAGEMENT CO III LLC LICENSE #304034 \$758.28; SAPP BROS, INC - LINCOLN SUPPLIES \$262.75; SOLOMON CORPORATION REPAIR \$1,048.13; U.S. BANK SUPPLIES \$2,126.49; UNION BANK & TRUST HSA FEES \$30.00; UNITE PRIVATE NETWORKS LLC UTILITY \$726.00; UPS POSTAGE \$32.01; USABUEBOOK SUPPLIES \$7.91; VERIZON WIRELESS UTILITY \$453.96; VESSCO INC PARTS \$1,669.45; WASTE CONNECTIONS OF NEBRASKA INC UTILITY \$40,366.28; WESCO RECEIVABLES CORP PARTS \$3,983.95; WINDSTREAM UTILITY \$488.47; DEPT OF ENERGY UTILITY \$24,714.22; NE DEPT OF REVENUE SALES TAX \$36,548.94; NORRIS PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT UTILITY \$8,881.96; QUADIENT FINANCE USA INC POSTAGE \$797.50; XPRESS BILL PAY FEES \$875.87; CITY PAYROLL FUNDS WAGES \$93,393.60; UTILITY FUNDS SUBTOTAL \$255,832.08; AKRS EQUIPMENT PARTS \$85.16; ALL COPY PRODUCTS INC LEASE \$292.68; AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES EQUIPMENT \$848.86; ART ON DISPLAY SERVICE \$249.00; BADGER BODY & TRUCK EQUIPMENT REPAIR \$157.00; BAKER & TAYLOR BOOKS \$472.39; BARCO MUNICIPAL PRODUCTS INC SUPPLIES \$118.80; BEATRICE CONCRETE CO SUPPLIES \$7,079.13; BLACK HILLS ENERGY UTILITY \$1,566.79; CAPITAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS INC SERVICE \$522.79; CASELLE, INC. SERVICE \$933.39; CASEY'S GENERAL STORE #1575 LL OVERPAYMENT \$615.00; CENGAGE LEARNING INC/GALE BOOKS \$30.39; CENTER POINT LARGE PRINT BOOKS \$167.79; CHARPEN PROPERTIES LLC LB840 CHARPEN PROPERTIES LLC \$3,570.24; CITY OF BEATRICE SERVICE \$73,759.07; CITY REVENUE FUND PARK&REC \$4,492.07; CITY REVENUE FUND SALES TAX \$139.42; CITY REVENUE FUND UTILITY \$12,749.98; CLINE WILLIAMS LLP SERVICE \$96.00; COLLECTION ASSOCIATES SERVICE \$213.29; COOK'S ILLUSTRATED RENEWAL \$35.95; CRETE ACE HARDWARE SUPPLIES \$2,163.44; CRETE AREA MEDICAL CENTER DRUG SCREENING \$94.00; CRETE FOODMART SUPPLIES \$83.54; CRETE LUMBER & FARM SUPPLY CO PARTS \$22.99; CRETE VETERINARY CLINIC FEES \$1,182.78; CRIST TOWING SERVICE \$667.00; CULLIGAN WATER SERVICE RENTAL \$249.25; EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS SUPPLIES \$63.67; ENDICOTT CLAY PRODUCTS CO VETERANS BRICKS \$64.80; EXECUTIVE ANSWERING SERVICE \$28.85; FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES MEETING \$139.95; FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF OMAHA SUPPLIES \$847.39; GRAINGER EQUIPMENT CO PARTS \$2,480.92; HEATH SPORTS UNIFORMS \$50.25; HISTORY NEBRASKA SUBSCRIPTION \$35.00; INTERL INSTITUTE OF MUNI CLERKS MEMBERSHIP \$200.00; JAY'S OIL CO PARTS \$140.00; JONES AUTOMOTIVE MAINTENANCE \$13,509.41; KEN'S USAVE PHARMACY SUPPLIES \$18.56; KIDWELL SERVICE \$5,004.64; LEAGUE OF NEBR. MUNICIPALITIES DIRECTORIES \$737.50; MATHESON TRI-GAS INC SUPPLIES \$152.06; MCI VERIZON UTILITY \$48.00;

MYGOV LLC SUBSCRIPTION \$19,750.50; NAPA AUTO PARTS PARTS \$506.18; NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SUBSCRIPTION \$54.00; NE LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING CENTER TRAINING \$142.00; NORRIS PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT UTILITIES \$10.09; ONE SOURCE THE BACKGROUND CHECK SERVICE \$228.00; PAPER TIGER SHREDDING SERVICE \$35.00; PHYSICIANS LABORATORY SERVICES INC DRUG TESTING \$26.00; PITNEY BOWES GLOBAL FINANCIAL SERVICES LEASE \$95.37; QUADIENT LEASING USA INC LEASE \$379.38; RAMOS, ZORAIDA MILEAGE \$34.63; SAPP BROS, INC - LINCOLN FUEL \$447.93; SATURDAY EVENING POST RENEWAL \$15.00; SEWARD COUNTY INDEPENDENT NOTICE \$159.43; SIEDHOFF TOWING SERVICE \$200.00; SIGN SOLUTIONS USA LLC SUPPLIES \$278.00; STATE FIRE MARSHAL TRAINING DIVISION TRAINING \$100.00; STRYKER SALES LLC MAINTENANCE \$424.00; SUMMIT FIRE PROTECTION INSPECTION \$249.00; TELLEZ, NANCY MILEAGE \$192.82; THE WEEK RENEWAL \$179.00; TRANSUNION RISK & ALTERNATIVE SERVICE \$183.20; U.S. BANK SUPPLIES \$3,115.82; UNION BANK & TRUST HSA FEES \$82.00; UNION BANK & TRUST UBT 2023 BAN INTEREST \$42,117.75; UNITE PRIVATE NETWORKS LLC UTILITY \$374.00; VERATHON INC SUPPLIES \$897.73; VERIZON WIRELESS UTILITY \$1,007.73; VOSS LIGHTING SUPPLIES \$357.50; WASTE CONNECTIONS OF NEBRASKA INC UTILITY \$620.89; WINDSTREAM UTILITY \$1,424.38; CANON FINANCIAL SERVICES SERVICE \$255.00; NE DEPT OF REVENUE MOTOR FUEL TAX \$347.00; NEBRASKA GOV SERVICE \$10.00; ONE BILLING SOLUTIONS SERVICE \$5,636.56; QUADIENT FINANCE USA INC POSTAGE \$652.50; SPECTRUM UTILITY \$186.70; CITY PAYROLL FUNDS WAGES \$173,213.42.  
Tax Funds  
Subtotal - \$390,189.56  
All Funds Total \$659,427.85.  
CR — April 24, 2024  
ZNEZ

This is a synopsis of the Saline County Board of Commissioners' April 16th, 2024, regular meeting proceedings. A complete set of the proceedings 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](http://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 9:34 a.m. on Tuesday, April 16th, 2024, by Chairperson Phil Hardenburger. Present were Hardenburger, Marvin A. Kohout, Janet J. Henning, Russ Karpisek, and Stephanie A. Krivohlavek Commissioners, County Clerk Diann Nettifee, County Attorney David Solheim was absent; Notice of said meeting was posted in the County Clerk's Office and published in all three county newspapers on April 10th, 2024, 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 Agenda as presented; Approved the minutes of the April 2nd, 2024 regular meeting; Citizens Forum; None; Correspondence; Clerk reported correspondence received; Report of Officials; Commissioners reported on various activities and meetings they attended; No action taken to discontinue auto deductions for non-county issued insurance policies; 10:23 a.m. Meeting in recess; 10:36 a.m. Meeting reconvened; Approved March Sheriff Fees - \$3,838.82; Approved March District Court Fees - \$41,207.54; Approved March Clerk Fees - \$16,088.48;

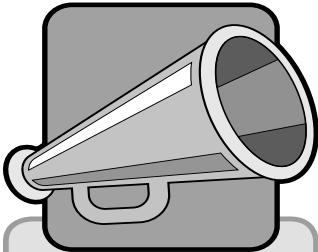
Approved Region V Services/ Apace Interlocal Agreement; Approved Windstream request to occupy ROW along County Road L west of County Road 2200; Approved Windstream request to occupy ROW along County Road 1300 north of County Road I; Approved General Assistance Application #2024-01- \$1,027.00; Approved Claims including General Assistance #2024-01 - \$1,027.00; All Funds

Rebecca Anderson Atty Fees 3,553.00; Soarin Grp Cntrct 6,203.80; Matt Baumann Reimb 700.00; Gary Baxa Ext Brd 48.50; Black Hills Utly 1,705.03; Certified Pmts Equip 1,125.00; City of Wilber Utly 8,450.37; CAMC Cntrct 454.18; Eakes Spls 2,713.37; Ecobal Cntrct 7.88; Eickman Law Atty Fees 598.50; ES&S Elect 2,518.11; ECC Spls 175.00; Equifax Cntrct 202.79; Fairbury Winnelson Spls 322.88; Food Mesto Spls 20.37; Friend Comm Hlthtr Cntrct 580.00; Greatamerica Cntrct 277.43; Scott Gropp Atty Fees 427.50; Heath Sports Unfm 38.00; Helena Bldg Maint 498.52; Jefferson Co Em Mgt Cntrct 4,425.00; Jk Elec Bldg Maint 5,920.00; Kalkwarf & Smith Atty Fees 1,539.00; Kay

Kottas Ext Brd 39.12; Sandra Krivohlavek Ext Brd 37.78; Justin Kuntz Atty Fees 760.00; Delaney Mazza Cln 438.00; Microfilm Img Cntrct 150.00; Mid American Ded 10,975.86; Mid-American Cntrct 573.50; Midwest Crt Rpt Cntrct 70.20; MIPS Cntrct 4,315.74; Nathan Mueller Mlg 109.88; Amber Mulbery Mlg 58.96; NACO Trng 40.00; NE Assn Cty Hwy Supr Dues 160.00; NE Dept of Revenue Trng 540.00; Nebraska.Gov Cntrct 67.00; Austin Nicholson Ext Brd 18.35; Aaron Niederklein Ext Brd 23.04; NIRMA Fees 7,055.72; Tyson Osborn Reimb 30.33; Point C Cntrct 492.50; Priority Print Spls 655.90; Quill Spls 53.44; Region V Sys Cntrct 7,569.00; Sack Lumber Spls 49.28; Saline County Atty Reimb 39.50; Saline Co Crt Reimb 523.66; Saline Co Dist Crt Reimb 217.00; Saline Co Sheriff Reimb 798.71; Sapp Bros Fuel 9,755.32; Seward Co Ind P&P 3.64; Shredding Sol Cntrct 281.07; Sid Dillon Equip Rpr 136.45; Stephanie Flynn Law Atty Fees 387.50; Anita Stougard Mlg 1,221.44; Summit Spls 15,361.26; USPS Pstg 3,500.00; UPN Comm 6,514.72; Univ of NE Cntrct 10,558.39; Verizon Comm 297.77; Theresa Vernon Ext Brd 29.74; Visa Equip Rpr 250.38; Visa Spls 130.95; Visa Unfm 1,518.28; Walker Spls 76.46; Walker Spls 82.03; Ross Weber Ext Brd 57.21; Madeline Werner Mlg 450.97; Wilber Legion Aux Reimb 288.81; 41 Auto Spls 26.47; Beatrice Concrete Gravel 16,830.38; Beaver Hardware Spls 543.49; City of Crete Utly 318.45; City of Friend Utly 44.35; Crete Ace Spls 216.97; Crete Auto Equip Rpr 511.03; Crete Lumber Spls 639.99; Larkins Ace Spls 68.50; Linde Spls 91.64; Medical Ent Spls 105.00; Midwest Steel Spls 530.00; NMC Equip Rpr 5,500.27; Pomp's Tire Equip Rpr 673.73; Powerplan Equip Rpr 1,293.24; CNH Spls 91.00; Saline Co Reg of Deeds Flng 40.00; SW Gravel Gravel 5,025.93; Summit Spls 4,531.60; Total Toot Spls 229.00; Truck Equip Spls 29.91; Village of Dewitt Utly 71.33; Village of Dorchester Utly 104.17; Village of Swanton Utly 68.23; Village of Tobias Utly 57.20; Village of Western Utly 83.50; Visa Spls 282.41; Waste Conn Utly 240.42; Kathy Homolka Mlg 296.14; Madonna Cntrct 4,627.60; Jessica Acosta Prgm 1,070.00; Aging Partners Prgm 1,350.00; City of Crete Rent 120.00; Debra Collins Prgm 1,503.00; Samantha Cosaert Prgm 285.00; Marcia Emal Prgm 119.75; Madison Maly Mlg 119.53; Postmaster Pstg 2,000.00; Darlene Pribyl Prgm 176.93; Purfords Prgm 161.00; Tabitha Prgm 856.25; Visa Prgm 132.65; Visa Prgm 401.78; Visa Prgm 1,051.37; Wilber Care Center Prgm 1,608.00; Sarah Yokel Prgm 98.72; Nereyda Zambrand Prgm 320.00; Braden Dvorak Mlg 128.64; Amanda Fanning Mlg 192.96; APCO Comm 11,717.22; Centurylink Comm 1,122.61; Barnas Spls 1,272.79; Charm-Tex Spls 895.44; City of Crete GA 257.46; Verizon GA 769.54; iSolved Pysl & Txs 268,571.48; Ameritas Life Retire 32,827.15; Health Savings Acct Hlth Sv Acct 10,367.47; Principal Dental Dental Ins 2,416.11; Madison Nat'l Life Life Ins 319.55; AFLAC Ins 971.96; VSP Eye Ins 578.41; Empower Def Comp 3,026.61; Point C Café 977.07; Colonial Supp Ins Ins 177.43; Madison Nat'l Life Dis Ins 558.15; Teamsters Dues 433.00; New York Life Ins 95.64; Globe Life Ins 213.64; Saline County Court Garnish 557.58

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:16 a.m. The next regular meeting will be on Tuesday, April 30th, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. in the Saline County Commissioners' Room, Court House, Wilber, NE.

ATTEST:  
Phil Hardenburger, Chairperson  
Stephanie A. Krivohlavek, Vice Chairperson  
Marvin A. Kohout  
Russ Karpisek  
Janet J. Henning  
Diann Nettifee, County Clerk  
CR/FS/WR — April 24, 2024  
ZNEZ



## PUBLIC NOTICES

*It's Your Right to Know*

- School District Budgets
- Local Tax Changes
- Public Hearings
- Property Auctions
- More!



# PUBLIC NOTICES

## MINUTES

This is a synopsis of the Saline County Board of Equalization's April 16th, 2024, 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](http://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 9:18 a.m. on Tuesday, April 16th, 2024, by Chairperson Phil Hardenburger. Present were Hardenburger, Janet J. Henning, Russ Karpisek, Stephanie A. Krivohlavek, and Marvin A. Kohout, Commissioners, and Diann Nettifee, County Clerk. Notice of said meeting was posted in the County Clerk's office and published in all three county newspapers on April 10th 2024, 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 agenda as presented; Approved minutes of the April 2nd, 2024 meeting; 9:25 a.m. Opened Public Hearing; 9:28 a.m. Closed Public Hearing; Approved application of Exemption for Motor Vehicle for Friend Christian Assembly; There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:27 a.m. The next regular meeting will be on Tuesday, April 30th, 2024 at 9:15 a.m., in the Saline County Commissioners' Room, Court House, Wilber NE.

ATTEST:  
Phil Hardenburger, Chairperson  
Stephanie A. Krivohlavek, Vice Chairperson  
Marvin A. Kohout  
Russ Karpisek  
Janet J. Henning  
Diann Nettifee, County Clerk  
CR/FS/WR — April 24, 2024  
ZNEZ

## ESTATES

SOLHEIM LAW FIRM  
1100 MAIN AVE  
CRETE, NE 68333  
402-381-3765

**NOTICE  
IN THE COUNTY COURT FOR  
SALINE COUNTY, NEBRASKA  
CASE NO. PR 22 - 58  
ESTATE OF  
ROGER R. MILLER,  
DECEASED**

Notice is hereby given that the Personal Representatives filed a final accounting and report of administration, or waivers thereof, a petition for formal closing and complete settlement, including determination of heirs and formal probate in intestacy, and request for determination of inheritance tax. These matters have been set for hearing in the Saline County Court, 204 S High St, Wilber, NE 68465, on May 7, 2024, at 9:00 AM.  
/s/ Josh McDougall  
Registrar  
Saline County Court  
204 S High St.  
Wilber, NE 68465  
402-821-2131  
CR — April 10, 17, 24, 2024  
ZNEZ

**HANSON, HROCH & KUNTZ  
NOTICE  
IN THE COUNTY COURT OF  
SALINE COUNTY, NEBRASKA  
ESTATE OF  
ARLEN R. SKINNER**

Estate Number PR23-41  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Personal Representative has filed a Formal Closing Petition seeking complete settlement, formal probate of the Will of said deceased, for determination of heirs, and for determination of inheritance tax, and approval of Final Accounting, which have been set for hearing in the County Court of Saline County, Nebraska on the 14th day of May 2024, at 9:00 a.m.  
/s/ Joshua K. McDougall Clerk of the County Court  
CR — April 17, 24, May 01, 2024  
ZNEZ

**KALKWARF AND SMITH  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
NOTICE  
ESTATE OF  
LARRY KASPAR**

Case Number PR24-12  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on the 8th day of April, 2024, in the County Court of Saline County, Nebraska, Steve Swanson, whose address is 1815 Prospect Street, Lincoln, NE 68502, was appointed as Personal Representative of the Estate.  
Creditors of this Estate must present their claims on or before the 17th day of June, 2024, or be forever barred. You have the right under Neb. Rev. Stat. Section 30-2413 (Reissue 1995) to demand notice of any order or filing pertaining to the Decedent's

Estate or the right under Neb. Rev. Stat. Section 30-2221 (Reissue 1995) to waive such notice.  
/s/ Joshua K. McDougall  
Clerk of the Count Court  
CR — April 17, 24, May 01, 2024  
ZNEZ

## TRADE NAMES

**APPLICATION FOR  
REGISTRATION OF  
TRADE NAME**

Trade Name: Carbon Connections  
Name of Applicant: Nickel and Sons Inc  
Address: 416 Co Rd 400, Friend, NE 68359  
Applicant is: Corporation  
If other than an individual, state under whose laws' entity was formed: NE  
Date of first use of name in Nebraska: 8/5/1997  
General nature of business: Soil products, soil consulting, soil testing, application of soil products.

/s/ Dave Nickel  
Dave Nickel - President  
CR — April 24, 2024  
ZNEZ

## BIDS

### **NOTICE TO BIDDERS SALE OF FARM PROPERTY**

Notice is hereby given that the City of Crete, Nebraska, is soliciting bids for the sale of 71.04 acres of land with improvements North,

Northwest of Crete, Nebraska with the property description Crete Precinct, East 1/2 of Southwest 1/4 section 21, township 8, range 4, 71.04 acres, Crete, Nebraska. Bids submitted must offer at least the minimum of \$356,000.00, the 2022 appraised value. Bids will be submitted to the City Clerk's office prior to April 26, 2024, at 11:00 a.m., at the City Hall, 243 East 13th Street, Crete, Nebraska. All bids must be submitted with a Five Percent (5%) security bond.

The unsuccessful bidders will have their bonds returned after the bids are opened. The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any technicalities in bidding. The City will split closing costs for this property transfer fifty-fifty.  
Nancy Tellez  
City Clerk  
CR — March 27, April 03, 10, 17, 24, 2024  
ZNEZ

## 2023 Annual Water Quality Report – City of Crete

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. All Community water systems are responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested.



ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT  
for the period of  
January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023



This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the City of Crete water system to provide safe drinking water.

If you would like to observe the decision-making processes that affect drinking water quality, please attend the regularly scheduled meeting of the Crete City Council. If you would like to participate in the process, please contact Nancy Tellez, City Clerk, at (402) 826-4313 to arrange to be placed on the agenda of the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Crete City Council.

This report will not be mailed but copies of this report are available to the public upon request. This report is also available on the City of Crete web-site at <http://www.crete.ne.gov>

### **Para Clientes Que Hablan Español:**

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre el agua que usted bebe. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426- 4791).

### **SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT AVAILABILITY**

The Nebraska Department of Environmental and Energy (NDEE) has completed the Source Water Assessment. Included in the assessment are a Wellhead Protection Area map, potential contaminant source inventory, and source water protection information. To view the Source Water Assessment or for more information please contact the person named on the back cover of this report or NDEE at (402) 471-3376 or go to <http://dee.ne.gov>

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

### **SOURCES OF DRINKING WATER**

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and groundwater wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. The source of drinking water used by the City of Crete is ground water

### **CONTAMINANTS THAT MAY BE PRESENT IN SOURCE WATER INCLUDE:**

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally- occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

### **DRINKING WATER HEALTH NOTES**

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

### **THE CITY OF CRETE IS REQUIRED TO**

#### **TEST FOR THE FOLLOWING CONTAMINANTS:**

Coliform Bacteria, Antimony, Arsenic, Asbestos, Barium, Beryllium, Cadmium, Chromium, Copper, Cyanide, Fluoride, Lead, Mercury, Nickel, Nitrate, Nitrite, Selenium, Sodium, Thallium, Alachlor, Atrazine, Benzo(a)pyrene, Carbofuran, Chlordane, Dalapon, Di(2-ethylhexyl)adipate, Dibromochloropropane, Dinoseb, Di(2-ethylhexyl)-phthalate, Diquat, 2,4-D, Endothall, Endrin, Ethylene dibromide, Glyphosate, Heptachlor, Heptachlor epoxide, Hexachlorobenzene, Hexachlorocyclopentadiene, Lindane, Methoxychlor, Oxamyl (Vydate), Pentachlorophenol, Picloram, Polychlorinated biphenyls, Simazine, Toxaphene, Dioxin, Silvex, Benzene, Carbon Tetrachloride, o-Dichloro-benzene, Para-Dichlorobenzene, 1, 2-Dichloroethane, 1,1-Dichloroethylene, Cis-1, 2,-Dichloroethylene, Trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene, Dichloromethane, 1,2-Dichloropropane, Ethylbenzene, Monochlorobenzene, 1,2,4-Trichloro-benzene, 1,1,1-Trichloroethane, 1,1,2-Trichloroethane, Trichloroethylene, Vinyl Chloride, Styrene, Tetrachloroethylene, Toluene, Xylenes (total), Gross Alpha (minus Uranium & Radium 226), Radium 226 plus Radium 228, Sulfate, Chloroform, Bromodichloromethane, Chlorodibromomethane, Bromoform, Chlorobenzene, m-Dichlorobenzene, 1,1-Dichloropropene, 1,1-Dichloroethane, 1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane, 1,2-Dichloropropane, Chloromethane, Bromomethane, 1,2,3-Trichloropropane, 1,1,1,2-Tetrachloroethane, Chloroethane, 2,2-Dichloropropane, o- Chlorotoluene, p-Chlorotoluene, Bromobenzene, 1,3-Dichloropropene, Aldrin, Butachlor, Carbaryl, Dicamba, Dieldrin, 3-Hydroxycarbofuran, Methomyl, Metolachlor, Metribuzin, Propachlor

## TEST RESULTS (COLLECTED IN 2023 UNLESS NOTED)

While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

Some people who drink water containing endrin in excess of the MCL over many years could experience liver problems.

There are no additional required health effects violation notices.

### **HOW TO READ THE WATER QUALITY DATA TABLE:**

The EPA and State Drinking Water Program establish the safe drinking water regulations that limit the amount of contaminants allowed in drinking water. The table shows the concentrations of detected substances in comparison to the regulatory limits. Substances not detected are not included in the table. The state requires monitoring of certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Therefore, some of this data may be older than one year.

- No violations occurred in the Calendar Year 2023

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

AL (Action Level) The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level) - The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water.

N/A- Not applicable.

Microbiological	Highest No. of Positive Samples	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source of Contamination	Violations Present		
No Detected Results Were Found in The Calendar Year 2023							
Contaminant (Lead and Copper)	Range	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Likely Source of Contaminant		
Copper, Free 2020-2022	0.0146-0.489	1.3 ppm	0.312 ppm	0	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing.		
Lead 2020-2022	0 - 4.94	15 ppb	3.82 ppb	0			
Regulated Contaminants							
Contaminant	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	Units	MCLG	MCL	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
*Arsenic (6/13/22)	6.21	4.13-6.21	ppb	0	10	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (7/12/2021)	0.137	0.136 - 0.137	ppm	2	2	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (7/12/2021)	0.286	0.275 - 0.286	ppm	4	4	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Fertilizer discharge
Nitrate-Nitrite (12/05/2023)	2.3	0. – 2.13	ppm	10	10	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Endrin (8/16/2021)	85	0.0 - 85	ppb	2	2	No	Residue of banned insecticide
Radiological Contaminants							
Contaminant	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source of Contamination
COMBINED RADIUM (-226 & -228)	06/10/2019	4	4	pCi/L	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits
GROSS ALPHA, INCL. RADON & U	02/01/2022	13	13	pCi/L	15	0	Erosion of natural deposits
RADIUM-226	06/10/2019	2.17	2.17	pCi/L		0	Erosion of natural deposits
RADIUM-228	06/10/2019	1.83	1.83	pCi/L		0	Erosion of natural deposits
Unregulated Water Quality Data	Collection Date	Highest Value		Range		Unit	Secondary MCL
Sulfate	07/11/2022	67.1		67.1		mg/L	250

#### **Units in the Table:**

ND - Not detectable.

ppm: (parts per million) - One ppm corresponds to 1 gallon of concentrate in 1 million gallons of water.

mg/L: (milligrams per liter) - Equivalent to ppm

ppb: (parts per billion) - One ppb corresponds to 1 gallon of concentrate in 1 billion gallons of water.

ug/L: (micrograms per liter) - Equivalent to ppb

pCi/L: (picocuries per liter) - Radioactivity concentration unit.

RAA (Running Annual Average) An ongoing annual average calculation of data from the most recent four quarters.

LRAA (Locational Running Annual Average) An ongoing annual average calculation of data from the most recent four quarters at each sampling location

90th Percentile - Represents the highest value found out of 90% of the samples taken in a representative group. If the 90th percentile is greater than the action level, it will trigger a treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

TT: (Treatment Technique) - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

CR – April 24, 2024

ZNEZ



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**GARAGE SALE**  
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# Scenes from around the area



DOUG CARROLL/CN  
Dorchester's Baylor Behrens, right, prepares to hand off to anchor leg Mackenzie Yager in the 400-meter relay at the Friend track meet April 16.



KEATON BURGESS/CN  
Lainey Rodgers of WC attempts to clear a height at the Tri County invite on April 17.



KEATON BURGESS/CN  
Pierce Damrow of Tri County kicks up the sand as he finishes third in the long jump at Tri County's invite on April 17.



DOUG CARROLL/CN  
EMF's Sophia Weber races in the rain at the Friend track meet April 16.

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## SIDELINE SUMMARY

*This week in sports...*

### CRETE

#### Crete/Milford Baseball

The Crete/Milford baseball team started the week with an 11-1 loss at Seward April 15 and then lost to Blair 7-3 at home April 18. The game scheduled for April 16 at Waverly was canceled because of weather.

#### Golf

The Crete boys' golf team placed second at the Fairbury invite on April 19. Reece Vertin led the Cardinals with a 78 over 18 holes.

#### Tennis

The Crete girls' tennis team had a successful week at three competitions, including a meet at Elkhorn North, and hosting Lincoln Northwest and Nebraska City for duals. At Elkhorn North on April 17, the No. 1 doubles team of Sierra Crist and Jordyn Adam went 3-1, defeating Makenna Higgins and Audrey Reimer of Beatrice 8-4, Savanah Schofield and Savana Sweeney of Omaha Gross Catholic 8-6 and Lily Goaley and Emma Welsch of Omaha Mercy 8-2.

#### Track & Field

The Crete track and field team competed at York on April 20. The girls' team placed fourth and was led by Lauren Eggerling placing second in the 400m dash with a time of 1:01.40. Eggerling was also part of the third place 4X100m and the fourth place 4X400m relay teams alongside Le Nelson, Lesli Kratochvil and Colette Andelt in the 4X100m really and Kratochvil, Andelt and Sophie Heusinkvelt in the 4X400m relay.

#### Boys' Soccer

The Crete boys' soccer team defeated Norris 4-1 on April 18 but lost to South Sioux City 2-0 on April 20.

#### Girls' Soccer

The Crete girls' soccer team picked up its fourth win of the season as it went on to defeat South Sioux City 2-0 on April 20. The Cardinals also lost to Conestoga 2-1 on April 15 and Norris 9-0 on April 18.

### DORCHESTER

#### Track & Field

The Dorchester track and field team competed at the Friend Invite on April 16 and saw good times and marks according to Coach Brandon Bruha. For the girls, Amber Kotas and Bailey Theis placed first and second in the shot put with throws of 38-6.5 for Kotas and 38-6 for Theis. Theis also finished seventh in the discus at 98-10.

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### EXETER-MILLIGAN-FRIEND

#### Golf

The EMF golf team competed at two meets on the week, Sandy Creek on April 16 and David City on April 27. Carter Milton won the David City invite, shooting a 69.

#### Track & Field

The EMF boys' track and field team hosted a meet on April 16 and competed at MUDECAS on April 20. The boys' team placed fourth at its home invite.

### TRI COUNTY

#### Track & Field

The Tri County track and field team hosted its home meet on April 17 and competed at MUDECAS on April 20. At its home meet, Abbie Drewes and Dustin Kapke swept the hurdles, winning both the 100/110m and 300m hurdles.

### WILBER-CLATONIA

#### Tennis

The WC tennis team competed at Lincoln Northstar on April 15 and went 0-3 in doubles and 0-3 in singles. The Wolverines also played at Standing Bear for a dual and went 1-2 in doubles and 0-6 in singles.

#### Track & Field

The WC track team competed at Tri County on April 17. Jorge Vazquez won the shot put and placed second in the discus.