



**KSNB-TV / KNHL-TV**

**QUARTERLY LIST OF PROGRAMMING PROVIDING  
SIGNIFICANT TREATMENT OF COMMUNITY ISSUES**

**Gray Television Licensee, LLC.  
3rd Quarter, 2020**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2020  
Issues Programming**

**PROGRAMS PROVIDING MOST SIGNIFICANT  
TREATMENT OF COMMUNITY ISSUES**

**On KSNB ( & KNHL DT2)**

<b>LOCAL4 TODAY AT 5AM</b>	Monday thru Friday	5:00a-6:00a
<b>LOCAL4 TODAY AT 6AM</b>	Monday thru Friday	6:00a-7:00a
<b>LOCAL4 NEWS AT 11:30</b>	Monday thru	
Friday	11:30a-12:00p	
<b>LOCAL4 NEWS AT 5PM</b>	Sunday thru Friday & Sunday	5:00p-
5:30p		
<b>LOCAL4 NEWS AT 6PM</b>	Monday thru Saturday	6:00p-
6:30p		
<b>LOCAL4 NEWS AT 10PM</b>	Monday thru Sunday	10:00p-
10:35p		

**Also on KSNB DT2 (KNHL DT1, KOLN/KGIN DT3)**

<b>PURE NEBRASKA</b>	Monday thru Friday	10:30-11p
<b>NEBRASKA NEWS</b>	Monday thru Friday	
11:00-11:30p		

All of the above programs are locally produced News programs presenting a mix of news, weather, sports and issue-responsive stories of local importance.

**Webchannel/Mobile/Streaming/Aps:** Central Nebraska has a place to go for local news and information online and on the go. As more people turn to alternative means for information on a daily basis, people can count on KSNB-TV (KSNBLocal4.com) to be the local news and information leader on all platforms. Local4's website is an important source of local news stories of all kinds, emergency information, severe weather, amber alerts, community information, public service, and other resources. Local4's various digital platforms also feature live streaming throughout the day whether a scheduled newscast, or breaking news or weather of local importance, and also meet online closed captioning requirements.

Regular Syndication Program:

<b>Full Court Press w/Greta Van Sustren</b>	Sunday	6:30-
7:00am		

**Regular NBC Network News Programs Carried by KSNB:**

<b>EARLY TODAY</b>	Monday thru Friday	4:00-
4:30am		
<b>EARLY TODAY</b>	Monday thru Friday	4:30-
5:00am		
<b>TODAY SHOW</b>	Monday thru Friday	7:00-
11:00am		
<b>NBC NIGHTLY NEWS</b>	Monday thru Sunday	5:00-
5:30pm		
<b>SATURDAY TODAY SHOW</b>	Saturdays	7:00-9:00am
<b>SUNDAY TODAY SHOW</b>	Sundays	7:00-8:00am

**MEET THE PRESS**

Sundays

8:00-9:00am

All of the above programs are network news programs presenting a mix of news, weather, and issue-related Feature stories.

***All KSNB Newscasts are closed captioned for the hearing impaired. Station conducts all weekly random EAS tests as well as monthly scheduled test in preparation of needed emergency announcements. Station airs Public File and Children's Programming Report spots as required.***

**Examples of stories providing treatment of significant community issues this Quarter.**

### **ALCOHOL & DRUGS**

#### **Your Health (On-Going Series) Local4 News at 5pm Everyday**

Your Health is an ongoing new series giving daily reports on the latest in medical advancement and studies. These reports include health information and drug and alcohol related problems from national, international and local studies, reports, reputed organizations and the government and covers issues targeting several demographics: from women, to the elderly, youth and minority groups Your Money - This segment features tips and advice from financial experts as well as market reports and investing new

#### **Signatures to be Submitted for Medical Marijuana Ballot Initiative :30 07/02/20 Local4 6am Thursday**

Nebraskans for Medical Marijuana will deliver over 182,000 signatures on Thursday afternoon for their official ballot initiative petition to the Secretary of State. The group said they've gathered the signatures from all 93 counties in the state to establish legal protections for medical marijuana patients with serious health conditions. If approved by a majority of voters in November, the initiative would allow patients to access and use medical marijuana as recommended by their physician or nurse practitioner.

#### **Trooper Arrest 16 Impaired Drivers During July 4<sup>th</sup> Weekend :30 07/07/20 Local4 Midday Tuesday**

Nebraska State Patrol troopers removed 16 impaired drivers from the road during the weekend surrounding Independence Day. In addition to the 16 arrests for driving under the influence of alcohol, troopers also issued citations for driving under suspension (16), minor in possession (2), open container (9), no proof of insurance (6), no seat belt (5), improper child restraint (2), and speeding (292), including 17 for driving at 100 miles per hour or more.

#### **Man Found Asleep in Driver's Seat Blocking Traffic :30 07/28/20 Local4 Midday Tuesday**

A Grand Island man was recently arrested by the Lincoln Police Department after officers found him asleep behind the wheel, blocking traffic. Responding officers found a gray BMW

stopped in the westbound lane of traffic and as they approached, they saw an unresponsive man in the driver's seat with a vial in his lap. Officers found \$1,370 in cash, including bills rolled up with cocaine residue on them belonging to the driver. Baggies and a large bag with 3.2 grams of cocaine were also found, according to police. LPD said officers were able to wake the driver up and believed that he appeared to be on drugs. The vial in the driver's lap is believed to have contained cocaine.

**Troopers Find 2300 Pounds of Marijuana During Motorist Assist :30**  
**08/17/20 Local4 Midday Monday**

Neb. Troopers with the Nebraska State Patrol have arrested one person after discovering nearly 2,300 pounds of marijuana during a motorist assist on Interstate 80. When a trooper stopped to assist, the trooper became suspicious of criminal activity. The driver, Nolan Amado, 33, of Buckeye, Arizona, was arrested for possession of marijuana – more than one pound, possession with intent to deliver, and no drug tax stamp. Amado was lodged in Dawson County Jail.

**NSP Kicks Off Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over Campaign :30**  
**08/21/20 Local4 10pm Friday**

The Nebraska State Patrol is starting its Drive Sober or get Pulled Over campaign on Friday. Troopers will end their 100 Days of Summer campaign with this initiative to promote road safety. "With Labor day being a high traffic volume weekend, just trying to culminate, and get out our message of drive sober or get pulled over just to try to keep people safe," said Lt. Dean Reidel at Troop C of the Nebraska State Patrol. Troopers will be working on overtime from now until Labor Day to strictly enforce rules and arrest impaired drivers, and since the start of the pandemic they've seen an increase in drivers breaking the laws of the road.

**Meth Arrest Leads to Discovery of Stolen ATV :30**  
**08/31/20 Local4 6pm Monday**

Friday morning, troopers arrested Roger Weichman, 49, of Newman Grove, for possession of methamphetamine after contacting him in a pickup that was stopped in rural Pierce County. During the ongoing investigation, troopers located an ATV that had previously been reported stolen from Knox County. Additional potentially stolen items were located in the vehicle, which was discovered on Saturday.

**Deputies Investigating After Bomb Threat at Buffalo County Courthouse :30**  
**08/31/20 Local4 Midday Monday**

BCSO said at 8:45 a.m. on Monday, deputies received a non-specific threat that there was a bomb at the Buffalo County Courthouse. Deputies said the courthouse was evacuated and searched, but nothing unusual was located. Members of the Kearney Police Department, Kearney Volunteer Fire Department and Buffalo County Emergency Management helped in this case.

**Former State Fair Official Charged with Felony Theft :30**  
**09/02/20 Local4 Midday Wednesday**

The Nebraska Attorney General's office Monday charged former Nebraska State Fair Finance Director Patrick Kopke with felony theft. Kopke, who at one point told the board of directors that the fair was going bankrupt, is now facing three charges of felony Theft by Unlawful Taking. Specifically, he is accused of stealing what the charges describe as "movable property" from the state fair on three separate occasions in 2019. The dates listed were Feb 7-8, July 12 and Sept 3. Each charge carries a max penalty of 20 years in prison for a conviction. Kopke is scheduled to be in Hall County Court to face the charges Sept. 9.

**Advocates to File New Medical Marijuana Amendment Language for 2022 :30**

### **09/28/20 Local4 Midday Monday**

After the most recent attempt was stopped by the Nebraska Supreme Court, advocates for medical marijuana in Nebraska plan to submit new petition language on Monday.

At 1 pm, Nebraskans for Medical Marijuana will file new petition language with Secretary of State Robert Evnen that the committee intends to qualify for the November 2022 ballot in Nebraska, according to a release. In early September, the Nebraska Supreme Court removed the 2020 medical cannabis initiative from the ballot, ruling that the initiative did not meet the single-subject requirement for ballot initiatives.

## **ANIMAL WELFARE / PET SAFETY**

### **Star Over Rover (On-Going)**

#### **Local4 Today at 6am Weekly**

Interview on News 5 Today on Wednesdays we feature an animal weekly that is in need of a good home plus tips/advice on how to better take care of your own pets.

### **Heartland Pet Connection (On-Going)**

#### **Local4 News at 11:30 (News at 11:30am) Fridays**

Interview on News 5 at 11:30am on Wednesdays with the Heartland Pet Connection. Tips and advice

on how to take care of your pets. An animal that is in need of a good home is also featured.

### **Start Over Rover Continues Closed-to-Public Adoptions :30**

#### **07/01/20 Local4 6pm Wednesday**

Start Over Rover in Hastings has remained operational during the general lock down from the COVID19 pandemic, allowing individual adoptions to take place by appointment. During the period between March and now, they still had animals coming in needing to be rescued. By doing by-appointment only adoptions, they were still able to keep the outflow of animals going.

### **Dog Killed with Knife and Bat :30**

#### **07/02/20 Local4 5pm Thursday**

Witnesses reported the dog had “nipped at” an adult female at the residence, causing the dog owner to become upset with his dog. The investigation revealed a baseball bat and knife were used by the suspect during the incident resulting in the death of the dog. The animal remains were transported to the Kearney Area Animal Shelter. Twenty-one-year-old, Khaleem Baringer has been arrested for Cruelty to an Animal (Class IIIA Felony) and Use of a Weapon to Commit a Felony (Class II). He is currently being held at the Buffalo County Jail.

### **Tips to Help Keep Dogs Safe During the Fourth of July :30**

#### **07/04/20 Local4 6pm Saturday**

With the Fourth of July being a night of celebration, it is good to remember your furry friends before you start lighting off fireworks. Local veterinarians gave a few easy tips to help them get through the night. If you're going to leave the dog at home, the American Kennel Club suggests making a comforting area away from windows for the dog to hide. If your dog is coming to the festivities, they said to make sure it is in a proper fitting leash and is constrained.

**Register Now for Kearney Puppy Plunge :30****08/06/20 Local4 Midday Thursday**

Kearney Park & Recreation is accepting registrations for the Puppy Plunge at Centennial Pool on Thursday, August 13. Dogs 50 pounds and under are invited to be in the pool from 5:30 to 6:15p.m.; dogs over 50 pounds from 6:30-7:15p.m. and 7:30-8:15p.m. The cost is \$8 per dog, per time. Registration is accepted at the Kearney Park & Recreation office at 2005 1st Ave. or call (308) 237-4644. Current vaccination records will be required the day of the event to allow entry into the pool. Proceeds benefit the Kearney Area Animal Shelter and the Kearney Dog Park. Please call the Kearney Park & Recreation Office if you have any questions.

**Bison Continue to Roam Phelps County :30****08/28/20 Local4 Midday Friday**

The bison belong to Valley View Feeders feedlot. Feedlot owners have asked for the assistance from a company that specializes in handling the bison to help return them to the feedlot. About a dozen were caught Thursday evening west of Atlanta. Meantime, Phelps County Sheriff Gene Samuelson is asking people not to take matters into their own hands or form search parties as they investigate reports that one county resident may have shot and killed one of the buffalo. Law enforcement reminds the public that shooting livestock is a felony. One landowner said nineteen bison were roaming in her pasture.

**Over 400 Animals Adopted During Annual Clear The Shelters Campaign :30****09/02/20 Local4 Midday Wednesday**

The annual Clear the Shelters Campaign ended for the month of August and hundreds of animals were adopted. In total, 409 animals were adopted from the five area shelters Local4 partnered with for the event. This year, instead of holding the adoption drive on its usual one-day event, the shelters decided to hold the campaign for the entire month to allow for social distancing. Thank you to all who adopted during this drive and are now giving these rescue animals a forever home.

**Therapy Dog Relieving Stress, Anxiety in Students and Staff :30****09/23/20 Local4 6am Wednesday**

Ralph, more commonly referred to as "Ralphie" is a boxer, basset hound mix who spends the majority of his time by Kaylee Greisen's side. Greisen, who goes by "Mrs. G" is the school counselor at Watson Elementary and brought Ralphie in to help assist in her job. According to Mrs. G, Ralphie, only three weeks into his tenure at Watson, has already made an incredible impact on the staff and students at Watson. Ralphie will let the students read to him, snuggle up next to them, lay down and let them pet him, or simply lay near them. Students always leave her office with a smile thanks to Ralph, according to Mrs. G.

**CONSUMER PROTECTION****Your Money (On-Going)****Local4 News at 5pm**

Special consumer and money information keeps viewers "On the Money". This segment features tips and advice from financial experts as well as market reports and investing news.

**Salad Recall :30****07/01/20 Local4 Midday Wednesday**

Walmart is recalling 12-and 24-ounce bags of Marketside Classic Iceberg Salad. The items have best-if-used by dates of May 19 to July 4 and were sold at select stores in Iowa,

Minnesota, Michigan, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin. The Food and Drug Administration has linked more items to a multi-state outbreak of Cyclospora infections that has hospitalized 23 people.

### **Scammers Use Pandemic to Target Medicare Recipients :30**

**07/02/20 Local4 5pm Thursday**

A Medicare spokesperson said fraudsters use someone's Medicare number to bill Medicare or Medicaid for services unneeded or never delivered. A Medicare spokesperson tells us scammers are also offering unapproved coronavirus tests to trick clients out of their personal information.

### **FDA Adds to List Warning of Potentially Toxic Hand Sanitizers :30**

**07/06/20 Local4 Midday Monday**

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration warned of a recent increase in hand sanitizers labeled as containing ethanol but instead have methanol, which can be toxic when absorbed through the skin and life-threatening when ingested.

### **BBB Scam Alert: Don't Plant Mystery Seeds from China :30**

**07/28/20 Local4 6pm Tuesday**

Recipients should hold on to the seeds, and the original packaging, until someone from the state department of agriculture or APHIS contacts them. Under no circumstances should anyone plant the seeds. The package bears the name "China Post" and may be labeled as jewelry, small electronics, or some other item.

### **Phone Scammers Using COVID-19 Pandemic to Get Your Money :30**

**07/29/20 Local4 Midday Thursday**

Experts at the Better Business Bureau say scammers are preying on fear during COVID-19 pandemic. " People are calling pretending to be the IRS and they are going to expedite your virus benefits and in order to do that they need your bank account number so they can deposit the money into your bank account," says Steve Baker, BBB Investigator.

### **Adams County Receives Inadequate Shipment of Masks From State :30**

**08/11/20 Local4 Midday Tuesday**

Adams County Emergency Manager Ron Pughes says requests for new CDC-approved face masks from the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services date back to February during the onslaught of the COVID-19 pandemic. Now, in the middle of August, it's a request Pughes says he's still waiting to see fulfilled correctly. When each shipment arrives, the county examines the masks to make sure they are on the approved list provided by the CDC. However, to this point, none of the shipments have met that standard and had been shipped back to the state.

### **Food Recall Issued Over Potentially Dangerous Levels of Mold :30**

**07/07/20 Local4 6pm Monday**

Sunshine Mills, Inc. has issued a recall on some of its dog food due to potentially high levels of the mold byproduct Aflatoxin, which is harmful if consumed in "significant quantities." The Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry found the contamination during a routine sampling. The products were shipped nationally, and retailers have been notified to pull the products from their inventory.

### **Water Emergency in Minden :30**

**09/07/20 Local4 Midday Monday**

The City of Minden has declared a Stage 3: Water Emergency and will continue through Tuesday, at Noon. Overnight on Sunday, the computer controlling the City's water towers lost communication with the City's water plant. Therefore, the City temporarily used all of the treated water. The water emergency is being issued to allow the City to regain its supply of treated water in the towers. As a result of this declaration, there is no outdoor water usage allowed. Lawn watering, plant watering, filling of pools, and washing of motor vehicles, etc is prohibited.

**Hickman Woman Loses \$25,000 in Grandparent Scam :30****09/17/20 Local4 Midday Thursday**

Lancaster Sheriff's Office said the woman received a call that her granddaughter was in jail in Florida and believed she was speaking to her granddaughter's lawyer over the phone. Deputies said the woman had mailed the scammer \$25,000 and had plans to send \$150,000 but thankfully her bank realized something was wrong and put a hold on her account, then contacted LSO. Investigators believe this is a scam out of Canada.

**Road Repair Projects Happening in Kearney :30****09/17/20 Local4 Midday Thursday**

Numerous streets will be closed in Kearney for road repairs. After the street milling is completed the street will be reopened to traffic until the asphalt overlay construction is ready to begin. All vehicles will need to be removed from the street prior to any construction. Citizens are urged to be mindful of construction activities while they are in the downtown area.

**Trump Orders Clampdown on TikTok and WeChat Citing National Security :30****09/18/20 Local4 6am Friday**

The U.S. will ban the downloads of the Chinese apps TikTok and WeChat on Sunday, with a total ban on the use of the latter, citing national security and data privacy concerns. The government said its order, previously announced by President Donald Trump in August, will "combat China's malicious collection of American citizens' personal data." Some security experts have raised concerns that ByteDance Ltd., the Chinese company that owns TikTok, would maintain access to information on the 100 million TikTok users in the United States, creating a security risk.

**Construction to Close 42<sup>nd</sup> and Baltimore in Hastings :30****09/25/20 Local4 Midday Friday**

The 42nd Street construction project will temporarily close the intersection at 42nd Street and Baltimore Avenue in Hastings beginning on Oct. 5. The project is being constructed by Werner Construction, which will include the installation of sanitary sewer, water main, storm sewer, grading and new concrete paving on 42nd Street from 1,300 feet west of U.S. Highway 281 to Baltimore Avenue. The intersection was kept open to traffic since the project began on June 15. With the paving along 42nd Street nearly complete, crews will move to complete work on the intersection. Residents are encouraged to use alternate routes during construction, and cooperation during this period of inconvenience is appreciated.

## **CRIME AND PERSONAL SAFETY**

### **Cozad Man Dies at Johnson Lake :30**

**07/01/20 Local4 6am Wednesday**

The Gosper County Sheriff's Office says 38-year-old Juan Gonzalez was driving north on Johnson Lake Drive when he drove through a bridge guard rail at the outlet bridge and went into the lake. Witnesses nearby called 911 around 9 pm. First responders and Lexington's Dive and Rescue were able to locate the 2006 Jeep quickly. Alcohol is believed to be a contributing factor.

### **Vandals Strike Over 80 Cars in Kearney :30**

**07/01/20 Local4 Midday Wednesday**

Kearney police are investigating a rash of vandalism to cars. They have received more than 80 reports of parked cars hit by a baseball bat or similar object. The cars have damage to mirrors, back windows and other body damage. In a post on their Facebook page, KPD says they believe the vandalism occurred after midnight Tuesday and possibly between the hours of 3 a.m. and 6 a.m.

### **Snapchat Photo Leads to Arrest of Kearney Pizza Robbery :30**

**07/01/20 Local4 Midday Wednesday**

A Snapchat photo with a caption referring to a robbery led Kearney police to arrest a man accused of stealing from a pizza delivery person. Jaimee Williams, 26, Kearney, is charged with Robbery and Use of a Firearm to Commit a Felony. Kearney police said Williams robbed a Domino's delivery person at gunpoint June 24 at a residence in northeast Kearney. Court records indicate that Williams' phone was used to order the pizza that night. When the delivery person arrived at the address a man with a handgun robbed him of \$64 cash.

### **Man Killed in Wednesday Crash Near Alda :30**

**07/01/20 Local4 5pm Wednesday**

One man is dead after a Wednesday afternoon two vehicle crash southwest of Grand Island. The Hall County Sheriff's Office confirmed that 21-year-old Alexander Schneberger of Wood River was injured in the accident and pronounced dead at CHI Health St. Francis Hospital in Grand Island. According to HCSO, Schneberger was having vehicle trouble on the side of Alda Road just south of Guenther Road when another car hit his truck, causing it to flip into the ditch.

### **Teen Driver Hits and Kills Woman in Kearney :30**

**07/02/20 Local4 Midday Thursday**

A Kearney woman has died after being struck by a car earlier this week. According to Kearney police the incident happened around 9:25 p.m. Wednesday in the 900 block of West 35th Street. The report said a man and woman were walking on the sidewalk when they were hit by a 2000 Buick Park Ave that had left the road. Police said the driver of the vehicle was a 16-year-old female.

### **Death Threat Part of Witness Tampering Arrest :30**

**07/02/20 Local4 6pm Thursday**

Grand Island police have arrested a woman after she allegedly threatened a potential witness in an upcoming sex trafficking case. Police say Latika Goodwin, 34, who is listed as homeless, threatened the life of a man if he would not change his testimony. The man set to testify in a sex trafficking case against Hassan Aden. Aden was arrested in May, along with another man. The two were alleged to be involved in the trafficking of two victims in 2018 and 2019. Goodwin was arrested for tampering with a witness, which is a felony.

### **GI Man Arrested for Domestic Violence After Stand Off :30**

**07/02/20 Local4 Midday Thursday**

Police say they were called to the 900 block of East 11th street shortly after 6:00 AM after a report of a partially clothed woman fleeing a house and screaming. Police said Mark Simons, 54, fired a handgun at the woman as she was leaving the house.

**NSP Responds to Truck Crashed into Train :30****07/30/20 Local4 6pm Saturday**

Nebraska State Troopers and Buffalo County Sheriff's Officers responded to a truck crashed into a train near Gibbon Friday. The crash happened at a crossing near Highway-30 and Eagle Road. NSP tweeted that the driver was lucky to walk away and reminds drivers to be aware of trains at crossings.

**Grand Island Man Arrested on Kidnapping Charges Out of Kansas :30****07/08/20 Local4 Midday Wednesday**

A man with serious out-of-state charges was taken into custody in Grand Island Tuesday night. Castellanos Mesa had a warrant out for his arrest in Cowley County Kansas for numerous charges including aggravated kidnapping, aggravated robbery, aggravated battery, stalking and domestic violence among other charges.

**Grand Island Man Arrested for Domestic Assault :30****07/09/20 Local4 Midday Thursday**

A Grand Island man, reportedly with a prior history of domestic assault, is in the Hall County Correctional Center after injuring a woman. According to Grand Island police reports, the woman reported to police Wednesday that the man had punched her and hit her with a flashlight and a staple gun. Injuries listed as a result included a fractured nose, fractured arm and cuts to her head and arms.

**Centennial Public School Superintendent Arrested :30****07/10/20 Local4 6am Friday**

The superintendent for Centennial Public Schools has been arrested for child abuse and third-degree sexual assault, according to the Seward County Sheriff's Office. According to SCSO, on Monday, July 13, 2020, an investigation resulted in the arrest of the Superintendent of Centennial Public School in relation to charges involving a high school-aged student. Timothy Dewaard, 56, of Utica, NE was arrested for Child Abuse and 3rd Degree Sexual Assault. Dewaard received a \$50,000 bond and was released on bond 7/14/2020.

**Body Found in Lake at Mormon Island :30****07/14/20 News2 6pm Tuesday**

A 60-year-old Grand Island man was reported missing by his family early Tuesday. According to police, the man left his house on a bicycle Sunday night to go fishing and never returned. The Hall County Sheriff's Office and Nebraska Game and Parks were the agencies working the case. They don't suspect foul play, instead an accidental drowning.

**Hastings Driver Flees After Hitting Child on Bike :30****07/16/20 Local4 Midday Thursday**

A Hastings driver was arrested Wednesday night after hitting a child on its bike, then fleeing the scene. Police said the vehicle was driving westbound when it entered the intersection at Ash Ave. and struck a seven-year-old child on his bike. Police said the driver, Tyler Lamborn, 20, of Hastings stopped briefly but didn't get out of the car and then sped away. Police were able located Lamborn later in the evening.

**UNLPD Investigating Death of 20-Year-Old Fraternity Member :30**

**07//27/20 Local4 Midday Monday**

University of Nebraska-Lincoln's police department is investigating the death of 20-year-old UNL student Luke Weiland. Weiland was found deceased in the room of his Delta Tau Delta fraternity house by friends Friday afternoon. The friends said they hadn't seen or heard from Weiland since 10 p.m. the night before and became worried, which is why they checked his room.

**Vehicle and Garage Destroyed in Afternoon Fire :30****07/29/20 Local4 6am Wednesday**

Grand Island Fire Battalion Chief Bryan Stutzman said the fire destroyed a detached garage behind the home, facing out on North Adams as well as a vehicle. He said there was also some heat damage to nearby siding. The cause of the fire is still under investigation. Nobody was injured in the fire.

**Grand Island Police Use Deadly Force During Domestic Disturbance :30****08/11/20 Local4 Midday Tuesday**

Police said one family member reported being assaulted and both family members wanted the man removed from the house. Americo C. Reyes Jr, a 40-year-old man from Grand Island, was observed brandishing various objects as weapons inside the house. According to police, two different less lethal options were deployed with no adverse effects on him. Reyes was given multiple commands to drop the knife and when he charged at the officers, the officers used deadly force to stop the threat and save themselves from serious injury. Officers immediately attempted first aid. Reyes was pronounced dead at the scene when GFD paramedics arrived on scene. An autopsy has been ordered.

**Cause of House Fire Still Under Investigation :30****08/11/20 Local4 10pm Tuesday**

An investigation is underway to determine the cause of a fire that damaged a Hastings home. Hastings Fire and Rescue was called out to a structure fire on the 1000 block of North St. Joseph Avenue around 6:20 p.m. Tuesday. No one was home at the time of the fire. Flames were so strong the fire department had to pull back and fight from the outside.

**One Arrested, One Injured In Weekend Crash :30****08/25/20 Local4 6am Tuesday**

The Merrick County Sheriff's Office said one person was arrested and another person was injured after an accident on Saturday. They said deputies responded to the 1800 block of Pintail Lane in Central City to investigate a one-vehicle injury crash. The Hamilton County driver, who's in their 40s, was booked for first offense DUI and refusal to submit to chemical test. The sheriff's office said a passenger in the vehicle was taken to Bryan Merrick Medical Center with severe injuries. That person was later taken to a trauma center. No word on their condition.

**Grand Island Fire Crews Respond to Fire, Gas Leak Simultaneously :30****08/24/20 Local4 6am Monday**

The Grand Island Fire Department responded to a structure fire around 8 p.m. in a detached garage at 823 West 17th. Firefighters were actually on their way back to Fire Station 2 when they saw smoke and heard screaming, so they called the fire in. When the truck arrived on scene, flames were seen coming out of both windows from the garage. At the same time as this fire, crews were also called out to a bad gas leak after a minivan ran into the back of Shots Bar, hitting a gas meter.

**Crash on Highway 34 Sends Two to Hospital :30****08/28/20 Local4 Midday Friday**

The Hamilton County Sheriff's Department is investigating after two people were taken to the hospital following a crash on Highway 34. The accident happened just before 8 a.m. Friday morning about a mile and a half east of Philips at Highway 34 and F Road. At least two vehicles were involved. One person was taken to Memorial Community Health in Aurora and another person was taken to CHI Health St. Francis in Grand Island. The Hamilton County Sheriff's Department, Aurora and Philips Fire Departments, as well as the Nebraska State Patrol were on scene following the incident.

**Grand Island Trailer Total Loss Following Early Morning :30  
08/31/20 Local4 6am Monday**

Grand Island Fire crews responded to a trailer fire early Monday morning. Fire officials say the trailer is a total loss with about \$10,000 in damages. Of the five people living in the trailer, one person was transported to CHI Health St. Francis but was released shortly after.

**Man Robbed/Assaulted at Home South of Kearney :30  
09/04/20 Local4 Midday Friday**

Police responded to the CHI Health Good Samaritan emergency room for an assault/armed robbery report on Thursday. A man said he had been assaulted and robbed at a residence in south Kearney on Wednesday around 1:30 p.m. He had serious injuries to his face and head. KPD said investigators were able to identify two suspects in this case: 43-year-old, white male, Billy P. Herl Sr. and 22-year-old, white female, Jenny F. Cleaveland. Both suspects are believed to be homeless and have been seen panhandling at several intersections in Kearney over the past week.

**Investigator Mario Herrera Passes Away Following August Shooting :30  
09/07/20 Local4 Midday Monday**

A heartbreaking update to an officer involved shooting in Lincoln nearly two weeks ago, as loved ones shared that Investigator Luis "Mario" Herrera has passed away. Family members shared the devastating news on Monday that Investigator Herrera had died. Lincoln Police confirmed the passing of Investigator Herrera Monday morning, as the department grieves for their fellow officer.

**Public Responds, GI Police Find Hit & Run Suspect :30  
09/09/20 Local4 5pm Wednesday**

A 13-year-old girl injured in a Saturday morning car crash in Grand Island is in critical condition with back and internal injuries. Late Wednesday afternoon, Grand Island Police arrested the man they believe caused the accident and fled the scene. GIPD arrested 21-year-old Luis Ruiz, of Grand Island. He's facing charges including felony leaving the scene of an accident without rendering aid and misdemeanor willful reckless driving. Other charges may be pending.

**Justice Postponed for January :30  
09/10/20 Local4 6pm Thursday**

Trenton Esch appeared in Custer County District Court, where he's facing several felony charges stemming from the July 11 murder of 62-year-old Crystal Esch. On Thursday, District Judge Karen Noakes moved Esch's pre-trial to January to complete police reports and collect information. His jury trial was previously scheduled to begin on October 26. Court records show there were restraining orders against Trenton Esch, brought by the victim.

**Custer County Accident Claims One Life :30  
09/14/20 Local4 6am Monday**

One person was killed, and two others injured in a car-semi accident that occurred late Friday evening in Custer County. According to a post on the Custer County Sheriff's Department Facebook page, officials responded to the head-on collision of a 1999 Pontiac Grand Prix and 2015 Freightliner truck hauling vehicles on Highway 2 one mile west of Berwyn.

### **Women Assaulted in Home Robbery :30**

**09/16/20 Local4 Midday Wednesday**

Two Grand Island women received minor injuries early Wednesday morning after three men broke into their home and stole some items. While police believe events leading up to the incident may have happened earlier, it was reported around 4 a.m. Wednesday in the 4000 block of Anne Marie Avenue. The three men, at least one known to the women by name, assaulted them in the process of the breaking in and stealing items. GIPD officials say it was not a random act and the motive is not yet known.

### **Mormon Island Child Rape Case to Trial Court :30**

**09/17/20 Local4 Midday Thursday**

One of the two men charged with raping a 15-year-old boy at Mormon Island this summer is headed to trial court. Angel Landera, 28, Grand Island, is charged with two counts of first-degree sexual assault on a child and one count of human trafficking of a minor. Landera is next scheduled in court October 6 for a hearing at which he would plead guilty or not guilty to the charges. Landera is also a registered sex offender. The max penalty for conviction on the charges is life in prison.

### **Jake Gardner, Accused of Manslaughter for Scurlock's Death, Has Died By Suicide :30**

**09/20/20 Local4 5pm Sunday**

Jake Gardner, accused of manslaughter for the shooting death of James Scurlock this summer, has died by suicide according to Gardner's attorney, Stu Dornan. A warrant for Gardner's arrest was issued after a grand jury indicted him for manslaughter and other charges related to the death of James Scurlock. Gardner did not turn himself in after the warrant was issued. Gardner was in Oregon. He was supposed to turn himself in today.

### **Guide Rock Man Sentenced for Possession of Child Porn :30**

**09/21/20 Local4 Midday Monday**

Sixty-five-year-old Robert Rose's laptop was seized during the search warrant and it was forensically examined by the Nebraska State Patrol. On Rose's laptop, investigators found more than 600 images and videos of children under the age of 18 years old, including infants and toddlers, nude and/or engaging in sexually explicit conduct. Rose admitted to obtaining these images from the internet. Rose was sentenced Friday to four years imprisonment for Possession of Child Pornography.

### **Three Teens Headed to Prison for February Attack at YRTC :30**

**09/21/20 Local4 5pm Monday**

The assaults were part of a brutal attack on three YRTC employees on February 7, 2020. One employee fell to the ground where he was kicked and stomped in the head. And one of the YRTC employees suffered a concussion. Julian Tapia, 17, was convicted of one count of first-degree assault and three counts of second-degree assault. He's been sentenced to 8-21 years in prison. Jabreen Sidney, 17, was sentenced to 5-15 years in prison for first degree assault. Brendan Lee, 18, was convicted on three counts of aiding and abetting a felony. He was sentenced to two years for each count, but will serve those sentences concurrently, or at the same time.

### **Grand Island Man Sentenced in Wire Fraud :30**

**09/22/20 Local4 6pm Tuesday**

United States Attorney Joe Kelly announced that Tyler Goehring, 27, formerly of Grand Island, Nebraska, was sentenced in Lincoln, Nebraska, to 5 years of probation by Chief United States District Judge John M. Gerrard for wire fraud. Goehring was also ordered to serve 4 months of community confinement and 4 months of home confinement. He must also pay restitution in the amount of \$44,666.71. Without the approval or authorization of American Airlines, Goehring upgraded tickets for himself, his fiancée, friends and family members without paying for the costs of the ticket upgrades.

### **Kenesaw Man Convicted in Violent May Robbery in Bladen :30**

**09/22/20 Local4 Midday Tuesday**

Casey Cassell, 19, Kenesaw, Monday pleaded no contest to felony Robbery and a judge scheduled his sentencing for the crime for November 16. Cassell and two juveniles were accused of breaking into a Bladen man's home on May 5 to steal property and weapons. The man was beaten, but later fired a weapon at the suspects, although no-one was wounded, and the suspects dropped most of what had been stolen. Cassell's robbery conviction carries a max penalty of 50 years in prison.

### **Shelton Church Fire Suspect Pleading Insanity :30**

**09/23/20 Local4 5pm Wednesday**

The man accused of burning down a rural Buffalo County church is planning to take an insanity plea in his defense against felony arson charges. 40-year-old Mathew Poehler is accused of starting the fire which burned down Zion Lutheran Church, about ten miles northwest of Shelton on December 11, 2019. Poehler pleaded not guilty to the arson charge in June. The court later granted his attorney's request for an evaluation to determine whether or not he is competent to stand trial.

### **Hastings Police Looking for Three Suspects Following Overnight Stabbing :30**

**09/23/20 Local4 Midday Wednesday**

Hastings police are looking for three people involved in a stabbing overnight that sent one man to the hospital. A man was reported to have been knocking on a door asking for help. When police arrived, the man was lying in the yard with two stab wounds. The man said two men and one woman confronted him and tried to rob him before stabbing him twice. The victim, Aaron Brannigan, 41, of Hastings was taken by ambulance to Mary Lanning Healthcare and was then transferred to Bryan West in Lincoln.

### **Arrests Made in Kearney Assault :30**

**09/25/20 Local4 Midday Friday**

Billy P. Herl Senior and Jenny F. Cleaveland were identified as suspects by the victim on the day of the crime. Kearney police had been called to the emergency room at CHI Good Samaritan Healthcare where the victim, who had injuries to his face and head, said he had been assaulted and robbed at his south Kearney home on September 2. Herl and Cleaveland were arrested Tuesday in Teller County, Colorado. Both are charged with Robbery, 1st Degree Assault, use of a Weapon to Commit a Felony, Theft and Possession of a Firearm by a Prohibited Person.

### **Grand Island Man Arrested for Attempted Arson :30**

**09/25/20 Local4 Midday Friday**

Jason Lemburg was arrested shortly after midnight Friday. Grand Island police say he wanted to get his 20-year-old daughter out of the house in the 700 block of West Charles Street. When she wouldn't leave with him, and others in the home would not cooperate with Lemburg, he threatened to burn the home and "kill them all". When police arrived on scene,

they could detect the strong odor of gasoline that Lemburg had allegedly spread around the area. He also had gas-soaked paper towels and a blow torch with him. He had not ignited any of the materials before police arrived. Lemburg was arrested for attempted arson and making terroristic threats.

**Grand Island Man Arrested for Suspicious Package at Hall County Building :30**  
**09/25/20 Local4 5pm Friday**

Sheriff's deputies Friday arrested the man they believe sent a suspicious package to the Hall County Election Commissioner earlier this month. They served an arrest warrant on Clinton Garno, 31, Grand Island. Court records show the Hall County Attorney charged Garno today with 38 counts of terroristic threats, one charge for each of the people who had to evacuate the Hall County Administration Building September 14. The max penalty for a conviction on that charge is three years in prison.

**Grand Island Teen Sex Trafficking Suspect Back in Jail :30**  
**09/28/20 Local4 Midday Monday**

The student at the center of a Grand Island human trafficking and child porn investigation has been removed from his parent's house and put in jail for alleged violations of his bond. Max Rookstool, 18, is charged with one count of first degree sexual assault, two counts of human trafficking, two counts of human trafficking of a minor, 11 counts of visual depiction of sexually explicit conduct and one count of unlawful distribution of images or videos of another person's intimate area. Court records show that in August, Rookstool allegedly sent social media messages to juvenile males asking that they have sex with a person identified as "Max" or that they they physically assault "Max."

**Thieves Get \$250 Thousand in Jewels From Grand Island Store :30**  
**09/28/20 Local4 Midday Monday**

Grand island police are following up on leads as they look for the people responsible for a quarter-of-a-million-dollar jewel heist over the weekend. It happened late Friday or early Saturday. The people cut a hole in a cement wall of a church in the 400 block of West 3rd Street that adjoins the Oro-Mex Jewelers store. Once in the jewelry store, they were then able to cut open two safes and take jewelry and other items valued at a total of \$250 thousand. In addition to the items taken, \$50 thousand in damage was done to the building while cutting the hole in the wall.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT / JOBS / MONEY MATTERS**

**Your Money (On-Going)**  
**Local4 News at 5pm**

Special consumer and money information keeps viewers "On the Money". This segment features tips and advice from financial experts as well as market reports and investing news.

**Fireworks Stands Expect Increase in Sales Due to Pandemic :30**  
**07/01/20 Local4 6am Wednesday**

With the city of Hastings cancelling the annual public Fourth of July Fireworks Show due to health concerns regarding the pandemic, many fireworks stand owners say they anticipated an increase in transactions. Also, with the holiday being a weekend, they think more people will be buying more fireworks to share with family and friends.

**Axe Throwing Business Now Open in Grand Island :30**  
**07/02/20 Local4 6pm Thursday**

Axe Holes located on 2300 N. Webb Rd. held a soft opening last week and if you haven't guessed it, axe throwing is their main attraction They have seven lanes and 14 targets. The business also offers archery tag, complimentary cornhole and giant Jenga.

**Husker Harvest Days Cancelled :30**  
**07/02/20 Local4 5pm Thursday**

Husker Harvest Days has been cancelled. Farm Progress, the Husker Harvest Days parent company, announced on Monday that the 2020 event will be cancelled. Earlier this month, show management stated that Husker Harvest Days would still go on as planned, practicing social distancing guidelines and other health measures. However, Farm Progress officials said that the situation across the country had quickly changed.

**Nebraska Unemployment Program Requirements to Change Monday :30**  
**07/07/20 Local4 10pm Tuesday**

Changes in unemployment requirements are expected to stretch an already overworked system in Nebraska. This time it revolves around those looking for work in order to keep getting a check. As more and more businesses have been opening up -- fewer people are filing initial claims for unemployment. That number has stabilized to around 4,500 applications each week. Compare that to the early days of the pandemic when nearly 27,000 people filed in one week.

**Nebraska Musicians Looking Forward to Return of Live Performances :30**  
**07/08/20 Local4 6pm Wednesday**

Between limits on gatherings, businesses closing and event cancellations, the pandemic has taken a heavy hit on Nebraska musicians. During a normal year, Whiskey Bent plays anywhere from 90 to 100 shows. About half are cancelled this year, including the band's 10-year anniversary concert. Whiskey Bent was also scheduled to play the last day of the Nebraska State Fair and four county fairs, all of which are cancelled or postponed.

**Rowe Sanctuary Reflects on Time Closed, Looks Ahead with Hope :30**  
**07/09/20 Local4 Midday Thursday**

This year tourists got just one week of Crane viewing as COVID-19 forced Rowe to close its doors in early March. Shortly after, trails reopened for visitors but without viewing stations and the main building, open Rowe suffered another year of a financial hit. Rowe has plans to reopen its main building on Monday, July 13 with reduced hours, a mask requirement, and a recommendation that social distancing be enforced. The Director says this entire situation is a learning process and, if need be, Rowe is prepared to re-close its doors if things worsen regarding the coronavirus.

**Archway Returns to Hosting Events :30**  
**07/10/20 Local4 Midday Friday**

The Archway in Kearney is getting back to one of its staples: hosting events. The series of events typically runs each year with one performance per month, however after being shut down due to the coronavirus, and not reopening until June 1, the series got delayed. This is the first event The Archway is hosting since reopening.

**GI Club Remains Closed During Phase 3 :30**  
**07/12/20 Local4 5pm Sunday**

The staff at the Brickhouse Club in Grand Island has been closed for four months and is looking to back to some normalcy. They have lost a lot of money and staff and are looking forward to having a packed club hopefully sooner than later.

**National Coin Shortage Impacts Central Nebraska :30**  
**07/15/20 Local4 6pm Wednesday**

Local businesses and retailers are feeling the effects of the national coin shortage sweeping the country. The shortage has gotten bad enough, the Federal Reserve created a coin task

force to fix the issue. Five Points Bank of Hastings president Terry Anstine said the issue stemmed from three factors: banks were closed leaving consumers with nowhere to bring their coins, national banks got rid of expensive coin counting machines and younger generations are using debit cards to pay for most purchases.

### **CHI Health Hosts Drive-Thru Hiring Fair Wednesday :30**

**07/22/20 Local4 6am Wednesday**

One of Nebraska's largest employer, CHI Health, is hosting a drive-thru hiring fair on Wednesday. It will take place for both CHI Health hospitals in the Tri-Cities. Those interested in a position or career advancement can check it out to receive an informative packet. Human Resources recruiters will be on site to answer any questions.

### **Hastings Airport to Get Money from Feds :30**

**07/28/20 Local4 Midday Tuesday**

The Hastings Municipal Airport has been slated to receive funds in the latest allocation from the United State Department of Transportation. Hastings will receive \$166,666 to be used for work on a building to house snow removal equipment. The grant is part of \$273 million dollars going nationwide from the F.A.A. through their airport improvement program and Cares Act money.

### **Hastings Celebrates New Workforce Housing :30**

**08/04/20 Local4 6pm Tuesday**

The North Park Commons in Hastings has seen some major development and Tuesday the City celebrated new housing being nearly done. The apartments and townhomes were made possible through a state grant that creates more housing for the working class. A common issue across Nebraska is there isn't enough housing for people to live where they work and with the state trying to fill thousands of jobs creating that housing is a top priority.

### **Hastings Reflects on Allen's Legacy :30**

**08/05/20 Local4 6pm Wednesday**

Allen's Superstore will soon be sold to another regional company. But before that happens, the community of Hastings is reflecting on the impact the Allen's family has had. For 62 years, Allen's Superstore has been a place for children to play and a place to find just what you need. Mayor Corey Stutte feels a connection from his childhood and also to Bob Allen who served as mayor of Hastings. The keys will be handed over to B&R Stores which is a regional company that owns Russ's Market. They agreed to keep the store name and most of the employees.

### **Hastings YMCA Facilities Fully Open :30**

**08/24/20 Local4 6pm Monday**

Since partially closing in March to allow for safe daycare services, the Hastings 18th Street YMCA is now fully open. The YMCA's facilities no longer have closed areas and are both operating under normal hours. The Hastings YMCA is still implementing additional cleaning and safety measures. To put more space between members, every other cardio machine is unplugged. Weight machines are spaced out. In addition to the equipment, staff is cleaning the Adventure Challenge more often by spraying a sanitizing solution all over the maze.

### **Imagination City Children's Museum Struggling During Pandemic :30**

**08/30/20 Local4 10pm Sunday**

The city is no longer buzzing with kids at the Imagination City Children's Museum in Grand Island. Business has been very slow since they re-opened back in June. After three months of being closed, and with a decrease in business because of COVID-19, these obstacles have put a strain on their finances. The owners have had to cut museum hours to save money, and halted their project to expand the museum to the building next door. "We personally have been using some of our own money to stay afloat," Co-Owner Laura Johnson said.

**Long Time Director of The Grand Island Public Library Set to Retire :30**  
**09/01/20 Local4 Midday Tuesday**

Steve Fosselman, Library Director at the Grand Island Public Library will be retiring on Friday, September 11 after 29 ½ years. Steve began his career at the Grand Island Public Library in February of 1991. Prior to that, he was the Director of Southwest Iowa Regional Library System 1984-1991, and the Director of Spencer, Iowa Public Library 1977-1984. Steve is a graduate of the University of Iowa with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in 1975 and a Master of Library Science in 1976.

**Entertainment Industry Calls on Congress to Pass Financial Support :30**  
**09/01/20 Local4 6pm Tuesday**

Sure Sound and Lighting Inc. has had to keep their doors closed since March. Normally, they would be traveling the country running productions for festivals, fairs and concerts. Now they need the federal government to step in and help keep them afloat. Other venues across the country will be doing the same as a way to urge congress to pass the Restart Act to provide more funding to keep businesses from closing and paying employees.

**Nebraska State Fair a Success Despite Changes for Pandemic :30**  
**09/07/20 Local4 10pm Monday**

The 2020 Nebraska State Fair came to an end on Monday after its typical 11-day run. With so many other changes due to the pandemic, attendance was much lower than in the past but was actually higher than fair officials had expected. The 11-day run gave food trucks and vendors an opportunity to make some sales. For some, they say the smaller crowds were actually pretty nice. Giving vendors an opportunity to sell and 4H and FFA kids a chance to show was just one of the big reasons the fair decided to go on.

**Small Town Famous Prepares for New Downtown Hastings Store :30**  
**09/05/20 Local4 10pm Saturday**

Jacque Cranson's T-shirt business has grown into a whole store of unique products with a new store in downtown Hastings in the works. For three years, Small Town Famous has printed shirts and more on 1st Street and Denver Avenue. Cranson would sell shirts at tournaments and craft shows in Omaha and across the state. People would want more Nebraska oriented products, so she obliged. When she moved to Hastings with her husband, she originally rented the building space for storage but the little store was born. Now they are expanding to a much larger store on 2nd Avenue, one that caught her eye five years prior.

**YWCA Grand Island Hires Coordinator for New COVID-19 Womens Program :30**  
**09/10/20 Local4 10pm Thursday**

The YWCA Grand Island has hired their first-ever women's empowerment coordinator. This new service will help women who have lost their jobs during COVID-19 by offering resume and cover letter assistance, interviewing skills, and other resources. There were over 3,500 unemployment claims made in Grand Island between February and March this year, and nationally 60% of claims came from women between March and April.

### **Grand Island Plant Donates to State Fair Foundation :30**

**09/11/20 Local4 Midday Friday**

The Nebraska State Fair 1868 foundation received a \$20,000 donation last weekend from the CNH Industrial plant in Grand Island. In a press release issued Friday, the foundation said the CNH donation was to “assist in furthering the Foundation’s good works.” The CNH plant manufactures farm equipment including combines and various hay & forage equipment.

### **Husker Harvest Days Turns Virtual, Begins Tuesday :30**

**09/15/20 Local4 Midday Tuesday**

Husker Harvest Days has been a Grand Island event since 1978 but this year the streak will be broken as a virtual show will take its place, beginning Tuesday. The virtual event will have field demonstrations, which were pre-recorded, videos and content from every exhibitor, product roll outs, machine demonstrations, cattle handling demonstrations and more. Organizers for the two groups wanted to ensure nothing was lost by going virtual.

### **Bigfoot Museum Unveils New Exhibit :30**

**09/15/20 Local4 5pm Tuesday**

On Tuesday, the Bigfoot Lady Harriet McFeely unveiled an American flag that was found vandalized in Garrison. It wasn’t just ripped up; the ends are braided and McFeely believes it has ties to Bigfoot. The man who owned the flag as well as some researchers for the museum presented some of their findings to a small group. The flag will soon be in display for the public in the museum where people can learn more about the backstory of the flag and the research being done on it.

### **Sherri’s Gym Gets New Location :30**

**09/16/20 Local4 10pm Wednesday**

During a time where local businesses struggling is a common topic, one Grand Island gym is flourishing. Sherri’s Gym just moved into a new location in the Conestoga Mall, with an open house Wednesday night. During a time where local businesses struggling is a common topic, one Grand Island gym is flourishing. Sherri’s Gym just moved into a new location in the Conestoga Mall, with an open house Wednesday night. The new location will host practices for their teams and classes for any child who wants to learn dancing or tumbling.

### **Tri-City Bars, Restaurants Expect Increase in Sales :30**

**09/17/20 Local4 6pm Thursday**

For sports fans it has been a rough year getting to catch a game. With more games taking place and the Huskers making a return, local sports bars and restaurants are expecting a lot of people wanting to come watch the games. Even now they are seeing small crowds around their screens to see what games are on. Now the Husker football team will be hitting the field again, places like Balz are expecting a full house. They are thankful they will be able to have 100% capacity under Phase 4 because they have had to turn people away with past restrictions.

### **Vendors Look Forward to Junk Jaunt to Bring in Revenue :30**

**09/23/20 Local4 5pm Wednesday**

Junk Jaunt usually brings in people from all across the country to central Nebraska to buy their favorite antiques. The organizers worked closely with health departments to get approval. From Wood River all the way to Broken Bow there are stores, vendors, and garage sales along the 500-mile jaunt route. Many have been impacted financially due to the pandemic, so they are excited to welcome customers to check out their sales. The General Coordinator Dianne Wiberg said vendors must adhere to the local directed health measures for safety and they will be responsible for having their customers follow the rules. The Junk Jaunt board carefully discussed the event and felt it would be safe to still hold it this year.

### **Pandemic Could Affect Ag Industry for Years to Come :30**

**09/23/20 Local4 5pm Wednesday**

A new study from the Nebraska Farm Bureau and the Platte Institute shows COVID-19 had a major impact on Nebraska agriculture - both good and bad. Nebraska has the lowest unemployment rate in the nation with four percent. A quarter of the state's GDP, and a quarter of the state's labor force are in agriculture, according to a UNL study from 2012. It's also expected that federal assistance will make up 50 percent of this year's net farm income. But when the PPP loans came out, 19 percent went to agriculture, impacting 22,000 jobs.

### **Barn Market Makes a Return to Give Vendors a Place to Sell :30**

**09/24/20 Local4 6pm Thursday**

Last year the Anders family wanted to step away from the Barn Festival to focus on Brian Anders' health. They announced it would be their last show and considered selling parts of the property. After Brian passed away in March and the pandemic hit, Marla Anders began to hear from her vendor friends about how they had been impacted. When she heard of how the vendors across the country have been struggling, she got the idea to have a slightly different event. The smaller 'Barn Market' is made up of pop up vendors.

### **Steady but Slow Recovery for Nebraska Economy :30**

**09/24/20 Local4 Midday Thursday**

Nebraska's leading economic indicator rose again during August, according to the most recent report from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. The August leading indicator rose 0.85 percent, the fourth-consecutive monthly increase. The rate of improvement, however, remains modest. Initial claims for unemployment insurance dropped during August. There also was a drop in the value of the U.S. dollar. A weaker dollar improves the competitive position of Nebraska businesses that export.

### **State Fair Parking Lot Improvements :30**

**09/24/20 Local4 Midday Thursday**

The 2019 Nebraska State Fair was severely burdened by an exceptionally wet August. The Fair was forced to rely on buses to bring exhibitors, volunteers, attendees, and even some staff members to the Fairgrounds from off-site parking locations. Fundraising for Phase One of the Rock the Lot project was approved by the Nebraska State Fair 1868 Foundation Board of Directors. In accepting the Phase One Project, the 1868 Foundation agreed to raise funds up to \$92,000.00. Grow Grand Island plans to provide a significant grant to kick off the fundraising efforts for Phase One of the Rock the Lot project.

### **Hastings Barn Market Extends After Successful Weekend :30**

**09/27/20 Local4 10pm Sunday**

The first ever Hastings Barn Market turned out to be quite successful this weekend. It brought in so much that organizer Marla Anders decided to bring it back for another week. The hundreds of people who visited helped support businesses that may not have seen a lot these last few months. If you saw vendors smiling, it may have been because they were getting more business in these few days than they had all year.

## **ENVIRONMENT / NATURAL DISASTER / WEATHER SAFETY**

### **Local4 Weather (On-Going, Daily)**

The Local4 News & Weather team provides round the clock information on weather for Central Nebraska viewers, especially when it can turn severe. The Weather team issues Weather Alert Days to keep viewers safely ahead of the storms and informed; including Tornado Warnings, Severe Thunderstorm Warnings, Blizzard Warning, Fog, Ice, Flooding, High Winds and other Travel advisories. After the storms hit, the News/Weather team informs the viewers with power outage information, downed trees/limbs, dangerous driving conditions, closed roadways and other helpful emergency information in times of need, and how to help in the aftermath.

### **Tri-City Cleanup Following Overnight Storm :30 07/09/20 Local4 Midday Thursday**

Cleanup of debris was underway Thursday morning in many areas of the tri-cities following severe weather. Along with the storm wind gusts up to 70 mph did a number to power lines and tree as it swept across much of Nebraska Wednesday into Thursday morning. Multiple utility crews worked throughout the night to restore power to its customers throughout central Nebraska. In Grand Island crews started working on removing trees from roadways and had any major blockage cleaning up by dawn.

### **Clay County Left Flooded after Heavy Rains :30 07/29/20 Local4 10pm Wednesday**

Flooding hit central Nebraska once again after the city of Edgar saw about four inches rain in just two hours early Wednesday morning. The rain started around sunrise and by 8 a.m. there were already reports of flooding. The flooding came less than a year after the county finished repairing damage after being left underwater several times last year. The road department spent hours marking areas that need to be repaired again.

### **Heat Continues to Bake the Area :30 08/25/20 Local4 6am Tuesday**

More heat is on the way for a few more days. We'll see high temperatures back into the 90s over the next three days. There are some in the west that may get above 100°. Of the next three days, today would be the best chance of some triple digit heat in the west.

### **Nebraska Creates New Team to Help Respond to Disasters :30 09/09/20 Local4 Midday Wednesday**

Nebraska has created a new state disaster response team to help local governments that are overwhelmed with massive wildfires and other disasters, Gov. Pete Ricketts said Wednesday. The incident management team includes the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency, the state fire marshal and the Nebraska state forester. The team is designed to help organize state resources that are already in place and allow for faster response times. It will only respond if local governments request it, Ricketts said.

### **Grand Island Tree Board Hosts Make Up Arbor Day Event :30 09/15/20 Local4 6pm Tuesday**

UNK is No. 6 on the publication's list of the top public regional universities in the Midwest, up three spots from last year. This is the 13th straight year UNK has been recognized as a top public regional university in the Midwest, and the sixth time the school has been ranked inside the Top 10. No other Nebraska school cracked the Top 25 on this year's list, which was released Monday.

### **Heavy Smoke Expected to Settle Across Central Nebraska :30**

**09/15/20 Local4 6pm Tuesday**

The National Weather Service put out a situation report due to the possibility of smoke reaching the ground in south-central and western Nebraska Wednesday. The smoke in our area is due to the wildfires in the western part of the country. That smoke is being carried into the area thanks to upper level winds in the atmosphere. The smoke should thin and diminish Wednesday night.

### **West Coast Wildfire Smoke over Central Nebraska :30**

**09/16/20 Local4 6pm Wednesday**

You may have seen recent extreme wildfires raging in California, Oregon and Washington, but now they're affecting our air quality as well. The smoke has gotten caught in the jet stream, which has transported it to the Central Plains. At this time, there was a large plume of smoke over the Pacific. In time, it would be lofted by winds and be carried East, then Southeast around a clockwise-rotating high-pressure region over the South-Central Rockies.

### **Rain Out There Today But Don't Expect This to be a Drought Buster :30**

**09/21/20 Local4 6am Monday**

The biggest concern with much of the rain evaporating before reaching the surface is the threat for dry lightning. This could lead wildfires in some locations. Dry weather is then expected for the rest of the work week with a good amount of sunshine. Smoky haze will likely continue. A cold front passes through Friday night, bringing a return to more seasonable temperatures this weekend.

## **FAMILY / EDUCATION / YOUTH SAFETY**

### **Family Healthcast (On-Going Series)**

**Local4 News at 11:30 & Local4 News at 10pm, Daily**

Family Healthcast is an ongoing new series giving daily reports on the latest in medical advancement and studies. These reports include health information and drug and alcohol related problems from national, international and local studies, reports, reputed organizations and the government and covers issues targeting several demographics: from women, to the elderly, youth and minority groups

### **Sodbusters Coach Bill Clay Steps Down for Personal Health Concerns :30**

**07/05/20 Local4 6pm Sunday**

Hastings Sodbusters head coach Bill Clay stepped down over concern for his personal health and safety due to rising COVID-19 cases across the country. Sodbusters co-owners, Bryan Frew and Scott Galusha, are looking for Clay's replacement. In the interim, Galusha will serve as head coach.

### **Kearney Public Schools Classes Start August 13<sup>th</sup> :30**

**07/08/20 Local4 Midday Wednesday**

Classes in the Kearney Public Schools are scheduled to begin August 13, but the district is planning a flexible approach so it can adjust to whatever current pandemic restrictions exist. The plan will also require temperature checks twice-a-day for students. Teachers and staff will be required to check their own temperatures every morning and again at lunch time. There are guidelines for field trips, meals, recess, hand washing, restrooms and water fountains.

**GI Northwest Starting School August 13<sup>th</sup> :30**  
**07/09/20 Local4 Midday Thursday**

Northwest Public Schools superintendent Jeffrey Edwards announced this week that the district will start classes August 13, but that further information related to the pandemic would be announced at the end of July.

**Library Offers Virtual Henry Doorly Zoo & Aquarium Program :30**  
**07/10/20 Local4 6pm Friday**

The Kearney Public Library is offering you the chance to visit the Henry Doorly Zoo without leaving your home. The library is offering a special program online Monday, July 13 at 2 p.m. It's a Zoom classroom event where you'll look for dragons and unicorns at the Omaha zoo. During this presentation, you will encounter live animals, develop an appreciation for the mythology of cultures around the world, and learn the importance of conservation and saving the earth.

**UNK Will Require Face Masks as Part of COVID Plan :30**  
**07/17/20 Local4 Midday Friday**

UNK students, faculty and staff will have to wear face masks for at least two phases of a three phase plan to fight COVID-19 this fall. A task force made up of 30 campus representatives established the series of policies and best practices, which will serve as a road map for UNK students, faculty, staff and guests returning to campus for the Aug. 24 start of classes.

**4-H Exhibition Continues Despite Pandemic :30**  
**07/22/20 News2 Midday Wednesday**

4-H members submitted their food and static entries at the Lincoln County Fairgrounds on Wednesday. Despite the pandemic, the program is pressing forward. The contest will be operating a little different this year in order to protect the participants. There will be no in-person judging to comply with social distancing standards. The exhibit is also closed to the public.

**Salvation Army Holding School Supply Drive :30**  
**07/30/20 Local4 6am Thursday**

The Hastings Salvation Army is holding its annual school supply drive for area students gearing up for the 2020-2021 school year and is asking for donations. On top of the drive, the Salvation Army will be hosting its first ever "Stuff the Bus" event in partnership with Walmart. It will take place Aug. 7-9 in front of Walmart on Osborne Dr. W with a box to place donated items in. Stuff the Bus is to ensure anyone who may have missed out on receiving items from the supply drive still has an opportunity to receive some items for school.

**Teacher Association Says Most Not Ready for Return to School :30**  
**08/06/20 Local4 Midday Tuesday**

A statewide survey of more than 3,000 Nebraska educators shows fewer than half believe their school will be able to safely re-open for in-person teaching and learning due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Statewide, just 48 percent of teachers believe their school will be able to open safely this month.

**Hastings Kiwanis Installs Musical Playground at Elementary Schools :30**  
**08/10/20 Local4 6pm Monday**

Children can channel their creativity at local area schools thanks to the Kiwanis, by installing a \$80,000 project, and has quickly grown to 8 schools. The musical playground helps kids play and learn and respond to different music methods. Music teachers said the playground has been very beneficial during COVID since they are outside more.

**Dr. Rich Lloyd Named Hastings College President :30**  
**08/13/20 Local4 Midday Thursday**

Hastings College announced Dr. Rich Lloyd will serve as executive president of Hastings College beginning September 1, 2020. Lloyd assumes this role while remaining president of Bryan College of Health Sciences. Hastings College and Bryan College of Health Sciences have had prior conversations about a possible health care educational partnership in Hastings. A mutual goal of both colleges is to develop a workforce to serve South Central Nebraska. The announcement comes after a nomination process at Hastings College and subsequent conversations with Lloyd and Bryan Health leadership.

**UNK Announces New Streamlined General Studies Program :30**  
**08/13/20 Local4 Midday Thursday**

Undergraduate students at University of Nebraska at Kearney will be studying in a new general studies curriculum that requires fewer hours, eases transferring and gives students greater flexibility in earning their degree. The 10-course program of 30-31 credit hours provides students with opportunities to explore their interests, while providing the skills necessary for life-long learning.

**GIPS Students Return for an Unusual First Day of School :30**  
**08/13/20 Local4 6am Thursday**

On Wednesday, kids returned to Grand Island Public Schools for a very unusual first day. Kindergarteners walked the halls of Starr Elementary. Students came with their backpacks around their shoulders and a smile beneath their masks. Teachers and staff are happy to see kids back in the classroom.

**Broken Bow Cancels School for Several Grades After 3 Positive Covid Tests :30**  
**08/15/20 Local4 6pm Saturday**

Broken Bow Public Schools released a statement Saturday night canceling classes for several grades after 3 staff members tested positive for COVID-19. The message released on their Facebook page said the district "currently has three confirmed positive staff members and 24 staff members who have been quarantined". School for pre-k and 6 through 12 grades will be canceled through Aug. 21. Classes for those students will resume on Monday, Aug. 24. All students in Kindergarten through grade 5 will continue with classes as normal on Monday, Aug. 17.

**UNK Students Move into Residence Halls with COVID-19 Safety Measures :30**  
**08/17/20 Local4 6pm Monday**

Moving into a college dorm room is an exciting time for most incoming students. With extra COVID-19 safety procedures, this year's move-in at the University of Nebraska at Kearney is a one-of-a-kind experience. UNK's move-in is longer than normal this year, spanning over eight days. Students can sign up for a two-hour time slot with a maximum of 60 openings. This limits crowd sizes and allows for more social distancing to keep students safe as they arrive on campus.

**KSP Blueprint for Activities and Athletics :30**

**08/25/20 Local4 Midday Tuesday**

Kearney Public Schools released their Blueprint for activities and athletics for the 2020-21 school year. The Blueprint contains plans for COVID levels in the Green, Yellow, Orange, and Red levels/phases. Currently, the district is in the Yellow phase. All KPS fans and opposing team fans will have their temperature taken before entering. The exception to this rule is for the visiting football fans. The football stadium has separate entryways and concessions, so visiting teams can abide by their own school rules.

**Grand Island Schools Look to Fill Board Seat :30****08/21/20 Local4 Midday Friday**

Grand Island Public Schools is seeking a Board of Education member for Ward B to replace Heidi Schutz. When a board member resigns the remaining Board of Education members have the responsibility to interview and appoint a new member. Applications are due August 31 by 4:30 p.m. Persons interested should have a genuine interest in and devotion to public education, a willingness to give time and effort to the work, a capacity for understanding people and the ability to work cooperatively with others. No member of the Board of Education shall be a certified employee of Grand Island Public Schools.

**Students at GI Engleman School Under Quarantine :30****08/28/20 Local4 Midday Friday**

A Grand Island Public Schools spokesperson confirmed to Local4 Friday that students and staff from one classroom at Engleman Elementary in northwest Grand Island are under quarantine until Sept. 7. The official said two people associated with the classroom had tested positive. Executive Director Teresa Anderson of the Central District Health Department said the entire classroom was quarantined because CDHD was unable to confirm that every student was wearing a mask. Anderson said the configuration of that particular classroom was also a factor in the quarantine restriction.

**Northwest Student Tests Positive for Covid-19 :30****08/27/20 Local4 Midday Thursday**

One student at Grand Island Northwest High School has tested positive for COVID-19 and the local health department is investigating to determine the number of staff and students who must quarantine. The Central District Health Department notified Northwest Superintendent Dr. Jeff Edwards of the positive case late Wednesday evening. CDHD Director Teresa Anderson told Local4 on Friday that at one point Thursday they listed 60 students and staff for quarantine. Anderson said Friday that further investigation may indicate that some of those affected may not have to quarantine.

**Northwest Public Schools Issues Mask Mandate for the Week :30****08/31/20 Local4 6pm Monday**

Northwest Public Schools is mandating masks for everyone in their buildings this week. The decision comes after the Central District Health Department informed more than 100 students within the district to quarantine for 14 days after an individual from Northwest Public Schools tested positive for COVID-19 last week. Teachers worked with the health department Friday morning to go over seating charts and determine who had close contact with the person that tested positive.

**Four More UNL Sororities Put Under Quarantine :30****08/31/20 Local4 Midday Monday**

The University of Nebraska Lincoln announced that four small clusters of COVID-19 have been identified at the Alpha Chi Omega, Delta Gamma, Kappa Delta and Pi Beta Phi sororities. Each sorority has five confirmed cases each sorority has self-quarantined before official notification of quarantine from the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department. This now makes for a total of eight sororities and one fraternity that are under quarantine.

**Central Nebraska Child Advocacy Center See Increase in Child Abuse Cases :30  
09/01/20 Local4 6pm Wednesday**

The Central Nebraska Child Advocacy Center interviewed 20 kids last week, including several victims of sexual assault. That number is close to the average number of cases the center typically handles in one month. "I've been here for four years and we've never had that many cases in one week," said Shannon Krejci, executive director of the CNCAC. "It definitely relates to COVID. I mean, there's no doubt about it." The CNCAC is a non-profit organization that will provide interviews for criminal investigations and on-site medical exams for children who were sexually or physically abused.

**CCC Reports Drop in Enrollment Numbers :30  
09/03/20 Local4 5pm Thursday**

Central Community College announced they've seen a decrease in enrollment for the fall semester. The total college-wide enrollment for the 2020 fall semester is 5,695, which is down from 6,212 students at the start of the 2019 fall semester. The total is made up of 2,440 on-campus students and 3,255 remote learning students. They anticipated more people to sign up for classes after the first few weeks. The CCC president is crediting part of the dip to the lack of high school recruiting last spring and summer.

**Safe Sex Begins with Education :30  
09/08/20 Local4 6am Tuesday**

From 2009 to 2019, the percentage of students using condoms during sex decreased from 61 percent to 54 percent. That's according to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) 2019 Youth Risk Behavior Survey. Choice Family Health Care in Grand Island would like to see that percentage increase and says that begins with education and conversation.

**GIPS Students Learn Phonics Without Reading Lips :30  
09/09/20 Local4 10pm Wednesday**

Learning to read as a child is hard enough but having to do it while wearing a mask is even more of a challenge. Grand Island Public School teachers have found a way to teach students phonics, without having to see the words pronounced. Kindergarten through second grade students are taught phonics. They learn 44 speech sounds from the alphabet to help them learn how to read and write.

**USDA Program Means Free Kearney Public School Lunches :30  
09/11/20 Local4 5pm Friday**

The district announced Friday that the USDA has granted KPS a waiver to provide free meals to students in each building starting next week. The program starts Wednesday, Sept. 16 through Dec. 22, or until the funds run out. The waiver program requires students to choose a complete meal containing at least three items, one of which must be a fruit or vegetable. Extra food items like second entrees, additional milk, or other ala carte items are not included in the waiver.

**UNK Ranked Among Top Regional Universities :30  
09/14/20 Local4 Midday Monday**

UNK is No. 6 on the publication's list of the top public regional universities in the Midwest, up three spots from last year. This is the 13th straight year UNK has been recognized as a top public regional university in the Midwest, and the sixth time the school has been ranked inside the Top 10. No other Nebraska school cracked the Top 25 on this year's list, which was released Monday.

**Parents Speak at CDHD Board Meeting and Protest :30  
09/15/20 Local4 Midday Tuesday**

Dozens of parents, students and community members showed up to the Central District Health Department's board meeting Monday night. The health department recently quarantined 120 Northwest High School students for being exposed after one student tested positive. Protesters at the meeting called that overkill. Northwest High School did not originally start the year with a mask mandate but changed its policy after losing so many students to quarantine. Parents also protested that requirement at the meeting.

### **Lego Building Competition Goes Virtual :30**

**09/15/20 Local4 5am Tuesday**

The Kearney Area Children's Museum has turned its annual LEGO Home Building Competition virtual, allowing participants to use their own materials and submit photos of their finished project through email. In the past just kids were allowed to participate but this year KACM has added two new "divisions": "teens & adults" and "businesses & organizations". The two groups can now compete alongside "individuals". Prizes for the competition include \$25 Target Gift Cards for the top winner in each age group and a \$50 gift card to Calico Coffee for the top winner in the business & organization category.

### **Hastings Public School Students get Free Meals :30**

**09/15/20 Local4 6pm Tuesday**

Hastings Public Schools announced Tuesday that each student will get free meals starting Sept 21. The program is an extension of the USDA waiver program that has helped provide more than 115,000 free meals to Hastings students since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. Meals paid for starting Sept. 1 will be refunded to students' lunch accounts. Extra entrees, as well as a la carte options, will still be available for students to purchase using funds from their meal accounts. Virtual learners will also be able to take part in free meals, with drive-through pick up available at the student's assigned school.

### **Kearney Girl Scouts Receive a Grant to Benefit Four Campsites :30**

**09/17/20 Local4 5pm Thursday**

Cadet Journeys must consist of fifty or more hours toward any topic a Girl Scout feels passionate about. Three Kearney girls chose to focus their projects on the environment, as they wanted to educate others on how to make a sustainable difference. Thanks to a \$5,000 grant from Wells Fargo, they will be able to give four camps composting containers, bins, and educational materials. The four camps included are Lakeview Cabin (North Platte), Camp Crossed Arrows (Nickerson), Camp Cosmo (Grand Island), and Camp Maha (Papillion).

### **Digital Scavenger Hunt Teaches About Hastings History :30**

**09/20/20 Local4 10pm Sunday**

The Hastings Museum challenged people to a digital scavenger hunt, and families rallied together to solve clues to find answers on Nebraska's history. Teams did tasks like taking selfies at trees, gathered items to make gnome homes, and other activities. This scavenger hunt was not only supposed to be fun, but also educational.

### **Stuhr Museum Teaches Hunting in the Old Days :30**

**09/20/20 Local4 10pm Sunday**

The Stuhr Museum taught people how to hunt like the old days during their "A Hunting We Will Go" event this weekend, Sept. 18-20. The Railroad Town Blacksmith, Randy Dack, who is an expert of hunting history and facts, set up his own tent right in front of his shop to demonstrate various hunting techniques. He taught people how to cast bullets, trap game, make camp, and load guns using a ten-step process.

### **Sutton Twins Win Homecoming King and Queen :30**

**09/20/20 Local4 5pm Sunday**

One family in Sutton now has two members of local royalty after a set of twins took home their school's homecoming king and queen titles. Logan and Melanie Minchow are 17-year olds at Sutton High School. The two were crowned king and queen at Friday night's homecoming game after being voted for by their peers. Logan also made a lasting impact on his classmates. He won the title even after moving to virtual school for the semester. The twins are described by their family as having a very close connection. A connection brought even closer sharing this experience.

### **UNK to Expand Services to College Park :30**

**09/22/20 Midday Tuesday**

The University of Nebraska at Kearney is partnering with College Park at Grand Island to bring expanded educational opportunities to central Nebraska. Through its College Park location, UNK will work with Grand Island-area businesses and high schools, Central Community College and other community organizations to provide education and training that prepares students to begin or advance in their careers. This includes academic advising, undergraduate and graduate courses, certificate programs, workshops and seminars. UNK and College Park finalized the agreement earlier this month.

### **GIPS Increases Security as Football Fans Questions COVID-19**

**09/23/20 Local4 Midday Wednesday**

Grand Island Public Schools released a letter to the community on Wednesday announcing they would increase security during sports events. The announcement comes just days before the Grand Island Senior High football game against Omaha Westside, whose fans have been asking questions about their crowd policy on social media lately. Jennifer Worthington with the district's communication department told Local4 News their current protocol is that band members, dancers and athletes can bring up to four guests each. All other fans can watch a live stream of the event. This means even rival teams' families cannot attend games.

### **St. Francis and GIPS Team Up on \$5.92 Million Project :30**

**09/23/20 Local4 Midday Wednesday**

Grand Island Public Schools (GIPS), in partnership with CHI Health St. Francis, is finalizing plans to transform the 8th floor of the hospital tower into a 20,522 square-foot learning lab of the future. When complete, the Grand Island Senior High (GISH) Academy of Medical Sciences at CHI Health St. Francis, a \$5.92 million project, will provide juniors and seniors training and exposure to a variety of health care careers.

### **Horse Camp Helps Heal Children of Fallen Soldiers :30**

**09/25/20 Local4 5pm Friday**

A Soldier's Child Horse Camp is a place kids from around the country can be with others who have lost one of their parents in the military. They can bond and learn a lot of life lessons along the way. Riding a horse takes a willingness to let the horse be a guide much like a parent to their child. They teach the children the resiliency of trying again, of being confident in their commands, and that they are strong enough. Some of these kids were too young to really know their parents but they find comfort in those who can share their stories. It is what brings them back every year to see the people they now consider family.

### **Aksarben Auction Celebrates Youth Hard Work :30**

**09/26/20 Local4 6pm Saturday**

The Aksarben Stock Show had their biggest night on Saturday with their Annual Purple Ribbon Auction at Fonner Park. This pinnacle celebration started off with a reception where guests ate, mingled and celebrated the youth's hard work. Then 33 exhibitors with the best market animals were crowned grand champion. Once the winners were chosen, the exhibitors' animals were auctioned off for a partial scholarship and cash prize.

**Hastings College Hosts Reverse Parade During Homecoming :30**  
**09/26/20 Local4 6pm Saturday**

With COVID-19 concerns looming on college campuses, Hastings College celebrated their annual homecoming parade differently this year. Instead of bands walking around campus, it was the crowd doing the marching. Marching bands had a lot of their fall events cancelled because of COVID-19. The Melody Round-up Parade was cancelled this year, and the college wanted to host this altered parade to keep the tradition alive.

**West Lawn Elementary Host Ribbon Cutting for New Playground :30**  
**09/28/20 Local4 6pm Monday**

Monday was an exciting day for Grand Island's West Lawn Elementary School, as a ribbon cutting wrapped up a five-year long project. Members of the PTO and of the staff hosted the opening ceremony for a brand-new playground behind the school. Parts of the old playground will remain on campus, but a few that no longer met their safety codes were torn down. The school's principal, Mikhail Happ, said the \$40,000 project would not have been possible without the help of the community.

**Hastings College Postpones all Athletic Activities Through October 4 :30**  
**09/28/20 Local4 5pm Monday**

Hastings College has postponed all fall competitions up until this Sunday, Oct. 4. Athletic Director B.J. Pumroy said they are suspended after the campus reached "Level Pink." The phases are split into five colors: green, yellow, orange, pink and red. The campus in alliance with the South Heartland Health Department created these categories and once the campus reaches pink, all athletic activities must be suspended.

**HEALTH & FITNESS / HEALTHCARE**

**Family Healthcast (On-Going Series)**

**Local4 News at 11:30 & Local4 News at 10pm, Daily**

Family Healthcast is an ongoing new series giving daily reports on the latest in medical advancement and studies. These reports include health information and drug and alcohol related problems from national, international and local studies, reports, reputed organizations and the government and covers issues targeting several demographics: from women, to the elderly, youth and minority groups.

**Your Health (On-Going Series)**

**Local4 News at 5pm Everyday**

Your Health is an ongoing new series giving daily reports on the latest in medical advancement and studies. These reports include health information and drug and alcohol related problems from national, international and local studies, reports, reputed organizations and the government and covers issues targeting several demographics: from women, to the elderly, youth and minority groups Your Money - This segment features tips and advice from financial experts as well as market reports and investing news.

**CHI Health St. Francis Puts Focus on Heart Disease and Strokes with Walk :30**  
**07/02/20 Local4 6pm Thursday**

On average, someone has a stroke every 40 seconds. Statistics like that are why CHI Health St. Francis wanted to start bringing more attention to the issue with an awareness walk. Just a short walk around the parking lot or neighborhood can help reduce the risk of heart disease and stroke. Getting more exercise is a big focus for stroke and heart disease patients.

**COVID Cases Linked to Clay County Golf Course :30**  
**07/13/20 Local4 5pm Monday**

The South Heartland District Health Department is investigating COVID-19 cases which they say are linked to the Crooked Creek Country Club in Clay Center. The department is recommending precautions for anyone who was at the golf course and its clubhouse between July 3 and July 8. Those precautions include self-monitoring for symptoms for 14 days, social distancing and wearing a face mask.

**At Home Workout Injuries :30**  
**07/17/20 Local4 Midday Friday**

When gyms shut down because of the coronavirus pandemic, many of us had to seek a new form of exercise. As gyms and fitness studios shut down, many were forced to change up their exercise routines. But while a professional dancer, Krita Ellensohn was recording a dance video in April something bad happened, "I could feel a pop. It actually popped twice." Ellensohn tore her ACL and hasn't danced since. "I don't typically dance on concrete surfaces," she said.

**Clinical Research Group Looking for COVID-19 Vaccine Volunteers from Grand Island :30**  
**07/16/20 Local4 6pm Thursday**

Meridian Clinical Research is seeking participants for Phase III of its COVID-19 research. In other words, the vaccine has been approved by the FDA to be tested. They have study sites set up in eight different locations across the country. Three of those sites are in Nebraska, and one of those sites in Nebraska is in Grand Island. The trials that will be taking place in Grand Island will be done at the Grand Island Clinic. 30,000 participants nationwide are needed to validate Phase III of the study.

**Surge of COVID-19 Positive cases in Southwest Nebraska :30**  
**07/21/20 News2 Midday Tuesday**

Southwest Nebraska is seeing a surge in COVID-19 numbers. The Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department is announcing 15 new positive cases over the past four days. These cases bring the total to 49 confirmed COVID-19 cases. Twenty-five of the cases have recovered, and there has been one death. Twenty-two cases have been reported since July 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Hyvee Pharmacies Offering Drive-Up Flu Vaccines Beginning August 17 :30**  
**07/28/20 Local4 Midday Tuesday**

Flu vaccines are available at Hy-Vee pharmacies on a walk-in/drive-up basis without a prescription as allowed per state law during regular pharmacy hours. Hy-Vee pharmacists can administer the flu vaccine to individuals who are not six months and older with a prescription. Drive-up flu vaccines will be offered in the parking lot of many Hy-Vee pharmacy locations between Monday, Aug. 17 and Saturday, Oct. 31.

**Health Director Concerned About Covid Lag Time :30**  
**08/11/20 Local4 Midday Tuesday**

The Central District Health Department Monday moved its COVID-19 risk dial from the moderate to high category for Hall, Hamilton, and Merrick counties. Anderson said she was also concerned about the lag time in getting test results. She said Tuesday that the response time to get results after a test has been improving but is still in the three to five-

day range, which she said hinders efforts to contain the spread of the virus if someone tests positive. Grand Island mayor Roger Steele also encouraged people to respect mask-wearing policies in local businesses. He said if a store asks a customer to wear a mask. Steele said that ignoring a store's mask requirement is not an act of freedom, but rather it is inappropriate

### **Risk Dial Moves up in South Heartland District :30**

**08/12/20 Local4 6am Wednesday**

The South Heartland District Health Department's COVID-19 Risk Dial has moved from moderate (yellow) into the 'elevated' (orange) risk level. The dial provides a summary of current COVID-19 conditions in the South Heartland District. The positivity rate for last week increased to 7.5% up from 4.5% the previous week. Testing availability remained low - only 32% of test results were returned within 2 days and not all residents have easy or timely access to free testing.

### **UNK Students Can Check for COVID-19 on Their Phones :30**

**08/17/20 Local4 Midday Monday**

The University of Nebraska at Kearney is utilizing the personal health assessment app as part of its plan to safely return students and employees to campus for the fall semester. UNK's fall operating plan requires all students, staff and faculty to check for symptoms related to COVID-19 daily. The Campus Clear app provides an easy option with its one-question, self-monitoring survey.

### **Nine New Covid-19 Cases Confirmed in SHDHD :30**

**08/24/20 Local4 10pm Monday**

Monday, South Heartland District Health Department (SHDHD) officials reported nine (9) new lab-confirmed COVID-19 cases for the past four days (Friday - Monday), bringing the cumulative total number of cases in the four-county health district to 482. By county, the current cumulative totals are 399 cases in Adams, 61 cases in Clay, 14 cases in Webster, and 8 cases in Nuckolls.

### **Tick-Related Illness Kills Western Nebraska Man :30**

**08/31/20 Local4 6pm Monday**

The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) received a report of a death related to Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, a disease carried by ticks. The man was in his 60s and lived in the West Central District Health Department, which includes Arthur, Hooker, Lincoln, Logan, McPherson and Thomas counties.

### **Nebraska Once Again Added to Chicago Travel Quarantine Order :30**

**09/02/20 Local4 6am Wednesday**

The Chicago Department of Public Health Commissioner issued an Emergency Travel Order directing people traveling to or from Chicago from states experiencing a surge in new COVID-19 cases to quarantine for 14 days. Chicago officials first issued the quarantine order in early July. Initially, it applied to travelers from 15 states but has been updated weekly based on increasing numbers of confirmed cases of the coronavirus. The latest expansion announced brings the total number of affected states to 22.

### **SHDHD Investigating Possible COVID-19 Exposure at Murphy's Wagon Wheel :30**

**09/05/20 Local4 6pm Saturday**

A contact investigation team from South Heartland District Health Department (SHDHD), in collaboration with Nebraska DHHS, is investigating potential exposures to a confirmed case of COVID-19 at Murphy's Wagon Wheel in Hastings, NE, from Tuesday, Aug. 25 through Saturday, Aug. 29, 2020. SHDHD is directing people who went to the Wagon Wheel during Aug. 25 through Aug. 29 and are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, to contact a

healthcare provider for recommendations or register on the Test Nebraska website to schedule testing.

**Kearney High School Varsity & JV Teams Quarantined Following Positive Test :30**  
**09/09/20 Local4 5pm Wednesday**

Kearney Public Schools said a student on the JV/Varsity football team tested positive for COVID-19. As a result, the JV and Varsity football teams are quarantined. KPS said the student was unmasked at times during practice and at a JV game on Monday. In addition, all students who ate lunch with the positive student are required to quarantine for 14 days.

**NDCS Reports More Cases of COVID-19 Within its Staff :30**  
**09/17/20 Local4 6am Thursday**

The Nebraska Department of Correctional Services (NDCS) is reporting more cases of COVID-19 among its staff members. On Wednesday, NDCS said nine staff members were positive for the virus. The staff members are employed at the following locations: Nebraska State Penitentiary (5), Diagnostic and Evaluation Center (2), Lincoln Correctional Center (1), and the Nebraska Correctional Youth Facility (1). All staff members are self-isolating at home.

**Medical Experts Say Flu Shot More Important Than Ever Before This Year :30**  
**09/16/20 Local4 10pm Wednesday**

Local medical experts say between the pandemic and flu season, it's more important this year than ever before to get one. It's very important for people to get the flu shots and protect themselves, wear a mask, hand hygiene, anything they can to try to prevent the spread of all deadly viruses. CHI Health wants to make sure the vaccine is accessible by everyone. They will host a drive thru flu shot event on October 10th at clinics in Grand Island and Kearney.

**Obesity Among US Adults Hits an All Time High :30**  
**09/18/20 Local4 5am Friday**

According to a report released Thursday by the non-profit organization Trust For America's Health, the obesity rate in the United States has hit a new record. The report states the U.S. adult obesity rate passed the 40% mark for the first time, standing at 42.2%. The report found the rate of childhood obesity is also on the rise. The latest data shows 19.3% of those from 2 years old to 19 years old are obese. Obesity comes with serious health consequences including an increased risk of COVID-19 complications.

**Inmate with COVID-19 Dies at Hospital :30**  
**09/18/20 Local4 Midday Friday**

According to the Nebraska Dept. of Correctional Services, upon admission to the hospital, he tested positive for COVID-19. The inmate had several underlying health conditions, in addition to his recent diagnosis for the coronavirus. He had been hospitalized for two weeks. The exact cause of death has not been determined. As is the case whenever an inmate dies in the custody of the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services, a grand jury will investigate.

**Two Rivers Reports More Positive Cases of COVID-19**  
**09/21/20 Local4 6am Monday**

The Two Rivers Public Health Department is reporting 62 new cases of COVID-19 within its district for Friday and Saturday. The new confirmed cases include 46 out of Buffalo County, nine in Dawson County and the rest out of Gosper, Harlan, Kearney and Phelps Counties. COVID-19 is still circulating in the district.

**Assisted Living Homes Work to Boost Morale Among Residents :30**  
**09/18/20 Local4 10pm Friday**

Retirement communities across the country are celebrating National Assisted Living Week from Sept. 13-19, and staff who've been caring for this vulnerable population throughout COVID-19 has worked hard to boost mental wellness. According to Forbes, 42% of Coronavirus deaths, out of 43 states with reported numbers, have occurred at assisted living homes, and not only have these groups been impacted physically, but also according their caregivers, emotionally. Bickford of Grand Island has been celebrating Assisted Living Week and has had a full line-up of activities from pajama days, to cheeseburger feasts, and self-care spa days.

**Expanded Phone Hours for Those Applying for Medicaid Expansion :30  
09/21/20 Local4 Midday Monday**

The Department of Health and Human Services will extend its phone hours for Nebraskans who want to apply for Medicaid expansion. DHHS anticipates that as October 1 nears, the date benefits will start for those who are found to be eligible for Medicaid expansion, there will be increased interest in applying for coverage. Those interested can apply for Medicaid coverage at any point throughout the year.

**SHDHD: The Steady Increase in New Cases in Our District is Alarming :30  
09/22/20 Local4 6am Tuesday**

The South Heartland District Health Department reported 34 new lab-confirmed cases of COVID-19 from Friday through Monday. This brings the cumulative total number of cases for the four-county health district to 624. 534 of those cases have recovered. The new cases include: 26 in Adams, 6 in Clay, 1 in Nuckolls, and 1 in Webster. "The steady increase in new cases in our district is alarming," said SHDHD Executive Director Michele Bever. "We had 53 positive test results reported to us for the week of September 13-19, up from 33 the previous week, and 28 the week before that," she said.

**COVID-19 Cases on the Rise, Warning of Deadly Next Few Months :30  
09/22/20 Local4 10pm Tuesday**

The Central District Health Department and South Heartland Health Department have both seen an uptick in COVID-19 cases lately. Now the two department directors say they expect another surge is right around the corner. The two departments brought in roughly 50 new cases each last week alone. That's an increase for both from the week before. The average is lower now than it was when the area was first hit earlier this year, but higher than the summer months when it started to slow down.

**Nebraska Sets New 2 Week Record for COVID-19  
09/24/20 Local4 6pm Thursday**

COVID-19 cases have swiftly increased in Nebraska since the end of August. The sum of the last 14 days shows that we have surged past the previous 2-week record high on May 8. The previous record 2-week total was 5,266 cases between April 25 and May 8; this has been passed in the period between September 8 and September 23, with 5,284 cases.

**Out of The Darkness Walk Aims to End Stigma Around Mental Health :30  
09/26/20 Local4 6pm Saturday**

Finding support, reaching out for help and putting an end to suicide. Those were the goals for the third annual Out of the Darkness Walk in Grand Island. The walk looks a little different this year with social distancing practices. But even without being able to hold each other close, those who have felt the pain of suicide touch their lives could still find support. The Out of the Darkness walk was created with a goal to break the stigma of talking about mental health. The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention has found with the challenging year 2020 has been more people are in need of their services.

**40 New Covid 19 Cases Lead to Positivity Rate Increase in SHDHD :30  
09/28/20 Local4 Midday Monday**

Monday, South Heartland District Health Department (SHDHD) officials reported 40 new lab-confirmed COVID-19 cases in the past four days (Friday - Monday), bringing the cumulative total number of cases in the four-county health district to 690. The new confirmed cases for the four-day period include: 34 in Adams, 4 in Clay, and 2 in Webster. By county, the cumulative totals are: 574 cases in Adams, 80 cases in Clay, 15 cases in Nuckolls, and 21 cases in Webster.

### **Central City Breaks Ground on New Medical Center :30**

**09/28/20 Local4 10pm Monday**

Central City took a huge step on Monday in a project they've been working on for nearly two decades. The community held a ground-breaking ceremony for the new Merrick Medical Center, just on the edge of town. The whole project was made possible due to community donations and a sponsorship from the Dinsdale family. The staff said this process really show how supported they are in the area. The purpose of building the new hospital was important from a specialty perspective, as they will be able to do more OR procedures, more surgical procedures. They will have more specialists who want to come to this community so they can really keep healthcare local.

## **POLITICS/GOVERNMENT**

### **GI Fire Department's New Station is Almost Done :30**

**07/01/20 Local4 6pm Wednesday**

Grand Island Fire Department's station four is relocating from State Street to a new building on North Road. They broke ground this past winter and within a short amount of time, is almost done. The building is expected to be completed by the third or fourth week in July, 2020. They still need to do landscaping, tile work, set doors, put cabinets on the kitchen, among other projects.

### **New Roundabout Project Started in Grand Island :30**

**07/02/20 Local4 Midday Thursday**

A ten-million-dollar roundabout project started in Grand Island Wednesday. The Old Potash Highway and Claude Paving Project will add four roundabouts on Old Potash Highway and intersecting streets of Wilmer Avenue, Claude and North Road. There will also be one on Claude and Faidley Avenue as well.

### **Troopers Assaulted After Removing Man from I-80**

**07/02/20 Local4 Midday Thursday**

Two troopers were assaulted during a situation which began with a report of a man walking into traffic on Interstate 80 near Grand Island. Troopers responded to the scene at

approximately 9:30 p.m. Monday after receiving the report that a man appeared to be attempting to step in front of traffic. Vehicles were swerving to avoid the man. When a trooper arrived on scene, the man was laying in the westbound passing lane of I-80 near mile marker 318. The trooper was able to remove the man from I-80. According to NSP, the subject spit on the trooper while being placed in the patrol vehicle.

**DOT Launches Safety Campaign to Prevent Hot Car Deaths :30**  
**07/02/20 Local4 6am Thursday**

The announcement is part of the department's ongoing work to engage with safety advocates and provide a unified message to educate the public about the dangers hot vehicles pose to children. "As we enter the hot summer months, the Department is launching a \$3 million information campaign to remind drivers to never leave children unattended in cars and to lock their cars to prevent neighborhood children from entering the heated car."

**Nebraska High Court Rejects Move to Allow Skipping Bar Exam :30**  
**07/13/20 Local4 Midday Monday**

The Nebraska Supreme Court has rejected a petition to grant all 2020 law graduates a license to practice without taking the bar exam. The petition, filed Friday, sought the change in light of the risk posed by law school graduates congregating in one place to take the exam, the Omaha World-Herald reported. On Saturday, the state's high court ruled against the move. The Nebraska bar exam, which is usually offered two times a year, will proceed as scheduled on July 28 and 29. People taking the exam must test negative for COVID-19 ahead of time, or they will be deferred to a future exam, which this year includes a third test in September.

**State Senators to Finish Legislative Session Using Precautions :30**  
**07/13/20 Local4 10pm Monday**

In one week, Nebraska's Unicameral will reconvene to finish this session. There are new precautionary measures in place, including plexiglass in front of senators' desks and signs asking them to not touch their microphones. Lawmakers said there's still a lot to do, with only 17 days to finish up.

**Grand Island City Council Talks Budget for the New Year :30**  
**07/14/20 Local4 10pm Tuesday**

The Grand Island City Council met Tuesday evening to discuss the budget for the next year and how they would make up losses caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. In a presentation at the meeting, Grand Island Financial Director Pat Brown said they lost about 7 percent in sales tax revenue. That will cause a large dent in their budget, but nowhere near as large as they were expecting.

**Grand Island Utilities Set to Reopen Office :30**  
**07/17/20 Local4 Midday Friday**

At this time, GIUD is working towards resuming normal operations with their Customer Service lobby opening July 20<sup>th</sup>. Only five customers are allowed in the lobby at a time in order to protect the citizens of Grand Island and the Customer Service staff. Lobby customers are to maintain 6 feet of separation from others and wear masks coverings their mouth and nose.

**Kearney Street Closure for Annual Police Auction :30****07/22/20 Local4 Midday Wednesday**

The City of Kearney announces that Avenue B from Railroad Street to just south of 22<sup>nd</sup> Street will be closed on Saturday, July 25 from 7 a.m. until 5 p.m. The purpose of the closure is for a special event for the Police Department to conduct their annual auction.

**Two Nebraska State Senators Self-Isolate After Virus Exposure :30****07/28/20 Local4 Midday Tuesday**

Two Nebraska state senators who may have been exposed to the coronavirus isolated themselves Tuesday from their fellow lawmakers, taking seats in a distant upper balcony so they can still participate in legislative debate. Neither senator has tested positive for the virus or shown any symptoms.

**Property Tax, Abortion Bills Set for Final Votes in Nebraska :30****08/11/20 Local4 5pm Tuesday**

Nebraska lawmakers have advanced a property tax and business incentives package and new abortion restrictions through a key procedural vote, despite fervent opposition from some senators in the final days of this year's session. Each measure won second-round approval in the Legislature, just ahead of the end-of-Tuesday deadline for bills to survive this year. They now head to a final, third vote on Thursday, the session's final day, and will then go to Gov. Pete Ricketts, who is expected to sign them.

**GIPD Gets \$3500 Donation Towards Recruitment of New Officers :30****08/12/20 Local4 6pm Wednesday**

The Grand Island Police Department received a \$3,500 donation on Wednesday morning. It all went towards their recruitment efforts and a promotion wrap around one of their patrol cars. It is covered in messages like "Join Our Team" and #BeGIPD. They hope it will encourage both active job seekers and the younger generations to consider a career in law enforcement. GIPD has had some trouble recruiting new officers the last few years and hopes this vehicle helps them moving forward.

**11 Nebraska Senators Make Long Shot Call for Special Session :30****08/25/20 Local4 Midday Tuesday**

Eleven Nebraska lawmakers will make a long-shot attempt Tuesday to bring the Legislature into a special session focused on the coronavirus pandemic and law enforcement. The lawmakers will file paperwork with the secretary of state's office to ask their colleagues whether they would support a special session. The secretary of state's office will then survey all state lawmakers.

**Chris Janicek Not Backing Down from Nebraska Senate Race :30****08/31/20 Local4 5pm Monday**

Janicek said he's the best chance to beat Sasse in November and had harsh comments for the Nebraska Democratic Party, who he said sat down to discuss the matter of his candidacy following remarks he made about a staff member in a group text message — something he said never should have come to light. Janicek said he owned his mistake and apologized in public and in private to the staffer.

**Grand Island Mayor Under COVID Quarantine :30****09/01/20 Local4 Midday Tuesday**

Grand Island Mayor Roger Steele is quarantining. Director Teresa Anderson of the Central District Health Department announced late Tuesday morning that Steele was quarantining because of possible exposure to the coronavirus. Anderson did not give any further details of Steele's exposure. A Local4 reporter saw Steele Saturday at the opening ceremonies of the Nebraska State Fair, although it's unknown if that's where he was exposed.

### **Nebraska Supreme Court Hears Argument Against No Fault Divorce :30**

**09/03/20 Local4 5pm Thursday**

A no-fault divorce allows for someone to file for divorce even if the other spouse does not agree. The person only has to prove the marriage is broken and cannot be fixed. This case of Dycus v. Dycus argues the no-fault law is unconstitutional. Debra Dycus filed for divorce in 2018. Her husband Michael Dycus did not believe in divorce due to his catholic beliefs. Since the law only requires proving the marriage is broken by one party it did not go his way. Robert Sullivan, Michael Dycus' attorney, argued there was no due process in Adams County Court that allowed the divorce.

### **Pink Patch Project Raises Awareness Funds for Breast Cancer :30**

**09/09/20 Local4 6pm Wednesday**

A Kearney organization is teaming up with local law enforcement to raise money and awareness to support those diagnosed with breast cancer. People can purchase pink patches for \$10 from the Hastings, Kearney and UNK Police Departments, as well as the Buffalo County Sheriff's Office and Nebraska State Patrol. The money raised will go to the Forever Pink Foundation to help breast cancer patients in the Tri-Cities and surrounding areas.

### **Former State Fair Financial Director Appears in Court :30**

**09/09/20 Local4 5pm Wednesday**

The former Financial Director for the Nebraska State Fair Patrick Kopke appeared in Hall County Court Wednesday after being charged with three counts of felony theft. The charges are for theft of moveable property of value greater than \$5,000. Each charge could lead to 20 years in prison each with potential reparation payments for the stolen goods. Outside the courtroom, Kopke's attorney stated that he has not been found guilty and they are only charges. He said they are looking forward to defending his rights in court. He will return to Hall County Court on Oct. 29 for his preliminary hearing. The state has asked for at least an hour to call witnesses and go over testimony.

### **Hastings Fire Rescue to Host 911 Ceremony :30**

**09/11/20 Local4 6am Friday**

The public is invited to attend a short ceremony to commemorate the 19th anniversary of the attacks on the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and United Airlines Flight 93. Hastings Fire and Rescue and the Livingston Butler-Volland Funeral Home are working together to provide the ceremony. The ceremony will allow participants to join HFR as they pay homage to their brothers and sisters in emergency services who paid the ultimate price that day, as well as others who lost their lives on 9/11 and all those serving in the military who gave their lives while protecting our freedom.

### **Hall County Treasurers Office Out of Passenger License Plates :30**

**09/14/20 Local4 6pm Monday**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic there's a shortage of materials needed to make license plates in Nebraska. The problem has reached Hall County. The Hall County Treasurer's Office is currently out of passenger license plates and can't license those vehicles until the supply is replenished.

### **Hall County Administration Building Evacuated :30**

**09/14/20 Local4 Midday Monday**

The FBI is investigating a suspicious package that forced the evacuation of the Hall County Administration building for a time Monday morning. The Hall County Sheriff evacuated the building around 9 a.m. Monday. County workers and the public were allowed to return about 10:45 a.m. Hall County Election Commissioner Tracy Overstreet told Local4 that the package was delivered to her office. The Hall County sheriff called in a Nebraska State Patrol Bomb Squad to the scene. FBI investigators were also on scene.

**Funeral Home Hosts Barbecue for Local Law Enforcement :30**  
**09/16/20 Local4 6am Wednesday**

With the criticism and actions of police under a microscope across the country, All Faiths Funeral Home in Grand Island hosted a barbecue feast for local law enforcement to show their support. The Grand Island Police Department, Nebraska State Patrol, Hall County Sheriff's Department, and police officers across Central Nebraska stopped to eat lunch. Law enforcement officers were treated to hamburgers, hot-dogs, baked beans and sweets. They walked up, grabbed their food and sat down to eat with their peers.

**Trooper Injured in Saline County Crash :30**  
**09/16/20 Local4 Midday Wednesday**

This morning at approximately 6:50, a trooper was on regular patrol on Highway 15 when another vehicle, a Dodge Ram 1500, crossed the center line and struck the front, driver's side of the trooper's Ford F-250 patrol unit. Both drivers were injured in the crash. Saline County Sheriff's Deputies responded and called rescue units to the scene. The trooper was able to exit his patrol unit and begin providing care to the other driver before responding units arrived at the scene.

**Hall County Election Commissioner Updates Voters on Deadlines :30**  
**09/17/20 Local4 Midday Thursday**

Voters in Hall County have the opportunity to vote on a number of other items outside of the presidential race, including state initiatives, constitutional amendments, as well as Congressional and local positions. Hall County Election Commissioner Tracy Overstreet wants to make sure people who can register to vote are registered, and that they vote come election time. There are three methods of voting: in person at your designated polling site, mail-in ballots or early absentee ballots.

**Adams County Supervisors Discuss Justice Center Ballot Measure :30**  
**09/19/20 Local4 6pm Saturday**

The county jail in the courthouse is out of date and only allowed to stay open through being grandfathered by the state. Supervisors said there are leaks in the plumbing, not enough space and even mold problems. It can only house about 37 inmates and others are housed in other counties, which adds up to around \$1.6 million in additional costs a year. The cost is attributed to the rented bed and the cost of having to transport inmates to their court hearings.

**Nebraska State Patrol Participates in Rail Safety Week :30**  
**09/21/20 Local4 5pm Monday**

The Nebraska State Patrol is participating in an international campaign to educate the public on railroad crossing safety. Troopers will keep a close eye on high-traffic crossings in Central Nebraska, like intersections on Highway 30 and Highway 34. When a train is close or chugging by, people should be at least 15 to 50 feet behind the railroad crossing. Drivers should only go over marked crossings and need to glance up the tracks before they cross to make sure nothing is approaching.

**Adams County Officials Look at Effectiveness of Newest Roundabout :30**  
**09/22/20 Local4 6pm Tuesday**

The roundabout at Adams Central Avenue and Highway 6 is the second roundabout in Hastings. The Nebraska Department of Transportation determined it was needed to address safety and congestion issues at the intersection. Ron Pughes, Adams County emergency manager, said the roundabout has been successful so far. He said the design has slowed traffic to alleviate a lot of the heavy flow near Adams Central Jr./Sr. High School and Elementary School, making it easier for drivers to get across the highway.

### **Tri -City Counties See Record Number of Registered Voters :30**

#### **09/22/20 Local4 5pm Tuesday**

In Hall County, they have had 900 people register to vote since May alone, which is much higher than normal. They also expect to see thousands of requests for early or mail-in ballots. In Buffalo County they have had over 16,000 new registrations and have already had over 5,000 applications for early voting by mail. Adams County had 138 people register for the first time since May. Hall County Commissioner, Tracy Overstreet, believes it is partly due to the presidential election but also there have been a lot of petitions circulating that have drawn interest for some voters.

### **Jury Selection Underway in Bailey Boswell Trial :30**

#### **09/23/20 Local4 10pm Wednesday**

Boswell, now 26, was present during jury selection Wednesday morning in Lexington, several hours from the Wilber home where prosecutors accuse Boswell and co-conspirator Aubrey Trail of killing and dismembering Loofe. The trial was moved out of Saline County because Boswell's attorney said the case was too high profile to hold it in Saline County. He didn't believe they could find unbiased jurors in the county.

### **Bailey Boswell Trial Day 4 Susie Loofe Take the Stand :30**

#### **09/28/20 Local4 Midday Monday**

Susie Loofe, Sydney Loofe's mom, was the first witness the prosecution called to the stand in the Bailey Boswell trial. Susie walked the jury through the last days she spent with her 24-year-old daughter before she went missing in Nov. 2017. Boswell is the last known person Loofe was with. Boswell and Loofe went on two dates in the days before she went missing.

## **VOLUNTEERISM/ COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT/DIVERSITY**

### **Salvation Army (On-going)**

#### **Local4 News at 11:30 (News at 11:30am) Wednesdays**

Interviews with the Salvation Army weekly to discuss volunteer opportunities as well as needs within the community that viewers can donate to.

### **Grand Island Woman Raises Money to Place Historical Marker :30**

#### **07/01/20 Local4 6pm Wednesday**

A Grand Island woman is raising money to place a historical marker at the infamous Tornado Hill. Stephanie Crosby started the fundraiser on June 3, 2020, the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the night when tornadoes wiped out city businesses and homes. Crosby has already raised over 3,000 dollars with a t-shirt fundraiser which ended last week but she is still thousands shy of her 6,000-dollar goal. Crosby is still accepting donations.

### **GI Habitat Partners with Cardinal Construction to Work on House :30**

#### **07/01/20 Local4 10pm Wednesday**

Grand Island Area Habitat for Humanity volunteers are back at work as they scramble to finish a home that was set to be done last summer. Cardinal Construction out of Doniphan sent a crew of 15 professionals to help jump start the work they had left to do. They were

originally only asked to help with some carpentry, but by the end of the day the crew had also hung doors, installed cabinets, poured concrete and so much more.

### **State Fair Marathon Cancelled :30**

**07/02/20 Local4 6am Thursday**

The Grand Island YMCA announced Thursday morning it will not hold the State Fair Marathon this year. They said for the past six years they have put on the event but because the 2020 fair has changed its focus to help stop the spread of the coronavirus, they decided to cancel it. The State Fair Marathon is a major fundraiser for the Grand Island YMCA.

### **Local Activist Groups Hold Car Parade to Show Solidarity :30**

**07/02/20 Local4 10pm Thursday**

Solidarity with Packing Plant Workers, Central Nebraska Peace Workers, PFLAG and the Justice Coalition arrived at the parking lot of 1<sup>st</sup> and Walnut in Grand Island for a car parade at 2:15 p.m. First, they decorated their cars with their cause, some said black lives matter, black queer lives matter, solidarity for meatpackers and more. It was all thanks to PFLAG, an LGBTQ+ support group who came up with the idea. Since Pride was cancelled due to COVID-19, they wanted to celebrate not just them but every group who is persecuted or killed for being who they are.

### **Veterans Receive Special Salute in Kearney :30**

**07/03/20 Local4 6am Friday**

Earlier this week veterans at the Central Nebraska Veterans Home were greeted by community members, first responders, family members and other veterans as part of a celebration to the vets. Floats showed up, motorcycles and vehicles with flags attached, trucks with community members in the back-waving flags and smiling. The line of vehicles began at Patriot Park across from the Veterans Home and snaked through and around the home, waving, honking, playing music and more.

### **Non Profits Prepare for Go Big Give :30**

**07/04/20 Local4 6pm Saturday**

Coming up next week, the delayed Go Big Give Day of Charity is set to take place on Tuesday July 7. About 137 Hall, Hamilton, Howard, and Merrick County nonprofits are asking their community to support them through the pandemic. From the Literacy Council, to the Crane Trust, to the Pickleball Club people in the area have a wide range of services to donate to.

### **Go Big Give Surpasses Its Goal :30**

**07/08/20 Local4 5am Wednesday**

More than \$1 million was raised during the 7<sup>th</sup> annual Go Big Give event on Tuesday. The 24-hour online giving campaign brought in \$1,007,671 with 5,025 donations for 137 local nonprofits in Hall, Hamilton, Howard and Merrick Counties. Go Big GIVE is hosted by the Heartland United Way and Greater Grand Island Community Foundation. Organizers postponed the event from the original date in May due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **American Red Cross Needs Volunteers, Blood Donors :30**

**07/09/20 Local4 6pm Thursday**

The American Red Cross is not only in urgent need of blood donations during this pandemic, the organization is also seeking volunteers in the Tri-Cities. Because of the coronavirus, staff now has to take extra safety measures and health precautions at all blood drives and donation sites. This includes wearing masks, temperature checks and vamped up cleaning of beds and surfaces before and after use. So staff can focus on the people giving blood, volunteers will screen potential donors at the door.

**Hastings Artist Featured at Willa Cather Center Show :30****07/13/20 Local4 Midday Monday**

The National Willa Cather Center of Red Cloud is pleased to announce the opening of Picture This by artist Sammy Lynn of rural Hastings. Lynn, a longtime resident of neighboring Adams County, specializes in batik, pencil, and pastels. Also, on display at the Red Cloud Opera House is Celebrating Women, a fiber arts exhibit located in the second-floor auditorium. It is also free of charge to the public. Highlighting the accomplishments of women through the decades

**JBS to Invest \$3.5 Million in Grand Island :30****07/22/20 Local4 Midday Wednesday**

Through its Hometown Strong initiative, JBS USA announced plans to donate \$3.5 million to help Grand Island respond to needs resulting from the coronavirus pandemic and invest in the community's future. JBS USA is working with local leaders to identify where the funds can best help meet immediate and longer-term community needs in three key areas: food insecurity, community infrastructure and well-being, and COVID-19 emergency response and relief efforts.

**Ace Hardware Gives Relay for Life \$1600 Check :30****07/21/20 Local4 6pm Tuesday**

Relay For Life is the recipient of a \$1,600 check Tuesday thanks to donations from the community at Ace Hardware. June donations are for Relay for Life and July donations are for the Omaha Children's Hospital. The Relay for Life of the Plains Chairperson said she is overjoyed with the amount donated and the community support. Ace Hardware Store Manager Doug Wallace said they love doing this.

**Grand Island Chamber Cancels Harvest of Harmony :30****07/23/20 Local4 Midday Thursday**

The Grand Island Chamber of Commerce announced Thursday that the 2020 Harvest of Harmony parade is cancelled. This was a tough call as this would have been the 79<sup>th</sup> Annual Harvest of Harmony Parade and is a favorite of bands and parents from across the State.

**Helium Salon Hosts Clean-up for Downtown GI :30****07/26/20 Local4 5pm Sunday**

The Helium Salon ditched their scissors and hair products for trash bags and gloves on Sunday. Salon workers and a group of volunteers walked the streets of downtown Grand Island and picked up trash. They started around 6 p.m. People were out there for about an hour cleaning the streets. They had about 10 bags full of trash by the time they were done. They will be recycling all the cardboard they found during the clean-up.

**Heartland United Way Hands out 9,000 Free Masks :30****07/28/20 Local4 Midday Tuesday**

Heartland United Way partnered up with Grand Island Public Schools on Tuesday to make sure everyone is prepared for the pandemic. They joined the district at six locations for their food handout and gave away nearly 9,000 free face masks. There were also instructions on how to properly wear one. The giveaway was all possible due to a grant they just received from Blue Cross Blue Shield. The goal was to make sure everyone was geared up to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

**Grand Island to Received a \$2.2 Million for COVID-19 Response :30****07/28/20 Local4 Midday Tuesday**

CRANE will use the grant funding to support operating, administrative, and preventive maintenance costs, including software upgrades to improve communications, route planning and contactless boarding during the COVID-19 public health emergency.

### **Community Member Support GIPD with Loving T-Shirts :30**

**07/28/20 Local4 6pm Tuesday**

The group, full of State Farm Agents who wanted to say thank you, handed out free T-shirts that said 'I love GIPD' to many who were on duty. Now that all the officers are equipped with their new shirts, they will start to sell them to the public. A portion of each shirt sale will be put aside, then donated back to the department for the law enforcement memorial.

### **Hastings Women Make Facemasks for Community and Family :30**

**08/16/20 Local4 Sunday 10pm**

Six women at the Regency Retirement Residence have made about 600 masks so far. Some stayed at the facility. Others are in the hands of family members and nursing homes. The project began when a local occupational therapist, had trouble finding masks for the three nursing homes she works at. Carolyn Nowka offered to help and recruited women from Regency she knew could sew.

### **Hastings Veteran Parade Cancelled :30**

**08/17/20 Local4 5pm Monday**

The Hastings Veterans Recognition Committee announced that the Veterans Parade scheduled for Saturday, Nov 7, is canceled. The committee is a joint project of the Hastings Chamber of Commerce and the Hastings Masonic Lodge. The announcement came Monday in a joint press release from the chamber and the lodge. The release stated that the decision was made after careful consideration for the safety and well-being of the participants due to potential health concerns caused by COVID-19.

### **Oregon Trail Ends Unusually This Year :30**

**08/23/20 Local4 10pm Sunday**

Cowgirls and cowboys wrestled, roped and rode their horses during the 29th annual Oregon Trail Rodeo at the Adams County Fairgrounds in Hastings. On Sunday, the event ended after a weekend full of events. It has been a very unusual year indeed, in fact the amount of participants at the rodeo has doubled. "Last year we had over a 150," the rodeo's Publicist Ruth Nicolaus said. "This year we've almost doubled that, over 300. It just shows you that they too were looking for a place to compete."

### **Nebraska State Fair Begins Friday :30**

**08/28/20 Local4 6am Friday**

After months of back and forth and questions on how a potential state fair may look, the Nebraska State Fair has arrived, beginning Friday at Fonner Park in Grand Island. The main focus of this year's fair will be 4-H and FFA events, taking up the bulk of each weekend day. A handful of food vendors will be at Fonner Park this year, as well as various exhibits and displays in the Raising Nebraska building. Some events will be held outside of the Pinnacle Bank Expo Center and others in the Expo Center and the Thompson Outdoor Arena.

### **Nebraska Nonprofit Creates License Plate to Raise Awareness :30**

**09/03/20 Local4 6pm Thursday**

Starting in January, people can purchase specialty license plates to do just that. An Omaha nonprofit called Dads Appreciating Down Syndrome, or D.A.D.S. for short, came up with the idea a few years ago. Members continued working on it through the pandemic. Each application cost \$70 in advance. D.A.D.S. fell short of the needed signatures to continue. That's when they took the idea to the Nebraska Legislature. Sen. Rick Kolowski, District 31, sponsored a bill for the 2020 session.

### **Heartland United Way's Scoops Ice Cream Parlor Returns to the Nebraska State Fair :30**

**09/05/20 Local4 10pm Saturday**

The Heartland United Way's Scoops Ice Cream Parlor is back at the Nebraska State Fair this year, but this time they're not actually scooping the ice cream. They now sell pre-packaged treats for \$2. Normally the United Way sells gobs of Highland Dairy ice cream to fair-goers, but they thought pre-packaged items would be a safer option during COVID-19.

### **Veterans Enjoy Car Bike Show at Nebraska State Fair :30**

**09/07/20 Local4 5pm Monday**

To continue its salute to veterans and active military members, the Nebraska State Fair put on a Car and Motorcycle Show and Shine Monday. People checked out dozens of classic cars and motorcycles that lined the parking lot near the Heartland Events Center.

### **Concert Scheduled to Fundraise for Child Care Center :30**

**09/11/20 Local4 6am Friday**

Stick Creek Kids Child Development Center is nearly to its capital campaign goal of \$2 million and hoping a benefit concert will help. The center is teaming up with Celebrate Wood River to bring in Rave On! with Billy McGuigan. The concert is scheduled for 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, Sep. 13 at Wood River High School. Vehicles cost \$20 and can bring up to six people. Stick Creek will take over the old Good Samaritan Society, bringing a necessary service to Wood River.

### **Kearney Man Runs 85 Miles for Suicide Prevention Awareness :30**

**09/10/20 Local4 6pm Thursday**

A Kearney came up with a goal of running 100 miles in 24 hours to raise awareness for suicide prevention. While reaching the finish line looked a little different than he imagined, it was a meaningful moment. Paul lost a dear friend of his to suicide in 2018. He also was faced with his own struggles with mental health. While looking for motivation during dark times, he found a runner online who inspired him to do just 1% more each day.

### **Anti-abortion Groups Honor the Unborn With Prayer and Exercise :30**

**09/12/20 Local4 10pm Saturday**

Anti-abortion groups across the country gathered on Saturday to pray for the unborn as a result from abortion procedures. The South-Central Nebraska Right to Life partnered with the Hastings Life Runners to host a memorial for them at Parkview Cemetery in Hastings. They started with a prayer for the unborn, and then Lieutenant Governor Mike Foley said a few words.

### **Grand Island Walk to End Alzheimer's Spreads Awareness Across Central Nebraska :30**

**09/13/20 Local4 10pm Sunday**

The Grand Island Walk to End Alzheimer's happened on Sunday. Instead of having a large gathering, the Nebraska Alzheimer's Association did it virtually in-conjunction with in-person activities to keep the spirit of the walk alive. People were encouraged to walk everywhere to raise awareness on Alzheimer's. They could walk in their neighborhoods, local parks, or trails across Central Nebraska. The Association planted a small version of their traditional promise garden at Suck's Lake, because this is a pillar of the annual event. They put 30 windmills out to represent each team's connection to Alzheimer's or dementia.

### **Grow Grand Island Focuses on Future Community Growth :30**

**09/15/20 Local4 Midday Tuesday**

Members of the Grow Grand Island initiative gave an update on their plans for strengthening the local economy in the years to come. Grow Grand Island chair Tonya Brown said the goal of the organization is to continue growth and the future wellbeing of Grand Island. Some of their main focus also includes quality of life for residents, skilled and sustainable workforce,

progressive and welcoming community, desired community assets and collaborative effective partnering.

**Hastings Cancels Celebration of Lights and Trick or Treat Events :30**  
**09/15/20 Local4 6pm Tuesday**

The Hastings Downtown Center Association announced they are canceling the annual trick-or-treat event and the Celebration of Lights festival due to health concerns. Both events take place over a couple hours causing a lot of crowding in the streets. For the Celebration of Lights, there are also large groups for performances that were a concern.

**Red Cross Seeking Volunteers for Disaster Relief :30**  
**09/17/20 Local4 6am Thursday**

The American Red Cross is looking for volunteers to go to areas recently or currently affected by natural disasters to provide relief for victims in those areas. Volunteers provide food, shelter, supplies and comfort to people in need across a handful of states as people around the United States continue to be affected and displaced due to wildfires, hurricanes and the recent derecho.

**Construction Begins on Yanney Park Botanical Garden :30**  
**09/16/20 Local4 6pm Wednesday**

Construction has begun at Yanney Heritage Park in Kearney to create a new botanical garden. The first phase will be over four acres across from the Peterson Senior Activity Center. The Yanney Heritage Park Foundation was approached by Mr. Yanney with the idea for a garden in the park. After two years of fundraising and planning, the work is beginning on the \$1.5 Million project. It's nearly completely funded, with \$150,000 to go. The foundation is also growing their endowment to help support the city of Kearney with the upkeep once they take control of the garden after construction is complete.

**Mr. Habitat Contestants Raise Record Amount for Non-Profit :30**  
**09/18/20 Local4 6am Friday**

The Grand Island Area Habitat for Humanity not only crowned a new Mr. Habitat for 2020, but they also received a record amount of money thanks to the competition. 2020 marked the 10th year for the competition, which put five men against each other to raise money for the GI Area Habitat for Humanity. Josh Aitken raised nearly \$15,000 of the group's \$58,000 total, putting him in the lead on the last day of the competition and earned him the crown.

**Aurora Artwalk Held for 7<sup>th</sup> Year Despite Challenges :30**  
**09/19/20 Local4 10pm Saturday**

Artists showed off their work at the 7th Annual Aurora Artwalk on Saturday. At first organizers were going to cancel the event because of COVID-19, but they re-invented the art show to be outside instead of inside to be safe. This year it happened on the Hamilton County Courthouse lawn. People walked around to buy creations from about 19 local artists featuring painting, metalwork, and every medium you can think of. The artwalk did showcase less artists than they've had in previous years.

**People Participate in Kearney Walk to End Alzheimer's :30**  
**09/20/20 Local4 5pm Sunday**

The Alzheimer's Association hosted the Kearney Walk to End Alzheimer's Sunday. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the event looked a bit different than normal. To avoid large gatherings, the Alzheimer's Association put on a virtual Opening and Promise Garden Ceremony. Staff wrote the names of all 38 teams on a flower at the Promise Garden, which was at the Kearney Regional Medical Center. In place of the large in-person walk, the Alzheimer's Association encouraged people to walk around their neighborhoods in small groups.

**Grand Island Community Fieldhouse Set to Reopen :30**

**09/23/20 Local4 Midday Wednesday**

The Community Fieldhouse in Grand Island will reopen Saturday, Oct. 3rd. Patrons are encouraged to review and follow Central District Health Department COVID Risk Dial and Community Guidance as it related to visiting the Community Fieldhouse. Daily users age 15 and younger must be accompanied by an adult. No indoor children’s playground until further notice. No contact sport games. Sports practice and skill development allowed. Daily users are encouraged to call before arrival. Space may be limited because of prior reservations and limited daily user capacity.

**GI Chamber of Commerce Celebrates Businesses Survival During Pandemic :30**

**09/24/20 Local4 10pm Thursday**

Even with a year of uncertainty, the Grand Island Chamber of Commerce celebrated businesses with its annual meeting on Thursday. Entrepreneurs came out to eat, drink and mingle at the Riverside Country Club in Grand Island. The chamber normally holds this event earlier in the year. Its no secret businesses have struggled throughout the coronavirus pandemic, and many of them are still hanging on by a thread. The chamber said this dinner is a celebration of survival.

**Upcoming Opportunity to Recycle Old Electronics :30**

**09/24/20 Local4 Midday Thursday**

Residents from a five-county area in central Nebraska are being given another opportunity to clear out old electronics for recycling. The Grand Island Clean Community System (CCS) will host the event Saturday, October 3. Clean Community System’s main focus will be TV’s- LCD & tube or console. Other items being accepted: computer monitors-CRT; CD players; laptop computers; modems; radios; power network cables; and VCR’s/DVD players.

**KSNB PSAs PROVIDING SIGNIFICANT TREATMENT OF COMMUNITY ISSUES**

**Topic of PSA (varying lengths of: 10, :15, :20, and :30)**

**# of Times Aired**

<b>3rd Quarter PSA Totals</b>	<b>KSNB</b>	<b>NSNB</b>
<b>Alcohol &amp; Drugs</b>	53	59
<b>Animal Welfare</b>	106	16
<b>Consumer Protection</b>	77	54

<b>Education</b>	72	238
<b>Environment/Ag</b>	21	26
<b>Family/Community</b>	223	36
<b>Health &amp; Fitness</b>	356	275
<b>Military/Government</b>	103	112
<b>Safety</b>	115	50
<b>Volunteerism/Donations</b>	219	207
<b>Kid Targeted</b>	147	187
<b>EEO/Public Files</b>	63	149