



CANDIDATE FORUM

GETTING TO KNOW WHO'S IN THE RACE



CHRISTINA LYONS, DAILY SUN

Beatrice mayoral candidates (from left) Tyson Parks, Ted Fairbanks and Duane Ruh attend Thursday's candidate forum at the Beatrice Administrative Building. The Gage Development Coalition hosted the event.

Mayoral candidates all have roots in Gage County

CHRISTINA LYONS
Daily Sun

The Gage Development Coalition hosted a candidate forum on Thursday evening.

Ted Fairbanks, Duane Ruh and Tyson Parks each answered four questions as candidates for the mayor of Beatrice. Each person was allowed two minutes per question. Jim Nelson served as the moderator for the event.

Parks started with his opening statement saying he was focused on families, kids and collaboration within the community.

"I was a 2005 graduate of Beatrice," he said. "I've always loved Beatrice. I want the best in moving forward for Beatrice. I want to work together and build strong relationships in our community."

Fairbanks grew up in Wymore. He has worked in law enforcement in Cheyenne and Gage counties, but the majority of his



career (36 years) was spent working for UPS as a delivery driver. He retired about three years ago.

"This is home," he said. "We've been here since 1983 for Julie and me. I've served on the City Council for six different mayors and learned something from each one. I believe in Beatrice."

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LOOK: To see more photos from Thursday's forum, point your smartphone camera at the QR code, then tap the link.

■ **Inside:** Candidates for the Board of Supervisors District 7 seat and for sheriff also attended the forum. **Page A4**

MIDDLE EAST | WAR IN IRAN

US fighter jet shot down

JON GAMBRELL, SAM MEDNICK,
KONSTANTIN TOROPIN AND SEUNG MIN KIM
Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — A U.S. fighter jet was shot down in Iran on Friday and one crew member was rescued, officials said, the first aircraft downed since the war began almost five weeks ago.

It marked a major escalation in the conflict just two days after President Donald Trump said in a national address that the U.S. has "beaten and completely decimated Iran" and was "going to finish the job, and we're going to finish it very fast."

The rescue occurred as the U.S. military conducted a search operation, a U.S. official and an Israeli official said. Three people familiar also confirmed that a search was underway. All spoke on condition of anonymity.

No official details were released. The number of crew on board and the whereabouts of any others were not immediately known.

The circumstances that downed the plane were at first unclear. But in an email from the Pentagon obtained by The Associated Press, the U.S. military said it received notification of "an aircraft being shot down" in the Middle East, without providing details.

Iran fired on targets across the Middle East on Friday, keeping the pressure on Israel and its Gulf Arab neighbors, despite U.S. and Israeli insistence that Iran's military capabilities have been all but destroyed.

Iran's attacks on Gulf energy infrastructure and its tight grip on the Strait of Hormuz, through which a fifth of the world's oil and natural gas transits in peacetime, have roiled stock markets, sent oil prices skyrocketing, and threatened to raise the cost of many basic goods, including food.

New level of pressure

Prior to word of the rescue, social media footage showed American drones, aircraft and helicopters flying over the mountainous region where a TV channel affiliated with Iranian state television had said earlier Friday that at least one pilot bailed out of the fighter jet.

An anchor urged residents to hand over any "enemy pilot" to police and promised a reward.

It was the first time the U.S. lost aircraft in Iranian territory during the conflict and could mark a new level of pressure being placed on the U.S. military.

Throughout the war, Iran made a

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