

Scotus wrestling breaks new ground  
SPORTS, B1



Making better buttermilk biscuits, southern style  
FOOD, A3

Tuesday, December 9, 2025 WHERE YOUR STORY LIVES columbustelegram.com



JARED BARTON PHOTOS, COLUMBUS TELEGRAM

Kallan Herman, son of Kelby Herman of Progressive Builders holds a giant pair of scissors with Brian Bywater of Schuyler Community Development, representatives of BonnaVilla Homes and the Schuyler Area Chamber of Commerce after cutting the ribbon on the Sky Haven Subdivision in Schuyler Nov. 4, 2025.

# OPEN DOORS

Sky Haven Subdivision open, houses for sale

JARED BARTON  
Columbus Telegram

Housing remains a pressing need across Nebraska and many parts of the country, but in Schuyler, those looking to move in will be able to breathe a little easier as a new housing subdivision makes progress.  
On Dec. 4, a crowd of community representatives and curious residents huddled in the garage of one of Schuyler's newest workforce housing homes in the Sky Haven Subdivision, along East 18th Street.  
Brian Bywater, community housing specialist for Schuyler Community Development, said the modular homes have turned

out really well, considering their relative novelty in the area.  
“The Department of Economic Development has really been kind of talking about trying to encourage alternative housing construction methods, to try and get the price down, to make production quicker and be able to produce a quality product,” Bywater said. “We’re kind of the guinea pig, and I’m pleasantly surprised at the outcome. When people walk through these, they’re not going to know that it was built in the factory.”

Please see HOUSING, Page A6



One of the houses within the Sky Haven Subdivision on E 18th Street in Schuyler sits empty for prospective buyers to walk through, part of a workforce housing initiative and utilizing a Nebraska-based modular home construction company, BonnaVilla Homes, to provide fast and simple construction of housing in Schuyler.

## ARCHANGELS CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

### Former employee alleges whistleblower retaliation

DAVID GOLBITZ  
The Columbus Telegram

A former employee of Archangels Catholic High School in Humphrey, Nebraska, is accusing the school's administration of rescinding an employment contract after she reported claims about a male teacher sharing “inappropriate sexual and obscene materials” with his eighth grade students, according to court documents filed in Platte County District Court.  
Melissa Braun, who started working at the private Catholic school in April 2024 as the school counselor, and was offered a new contract for the 2025-26 school year on March 15, 2025, began to receive complaints later that month from parents “about inappropriate sexual and obscene materials that the male teacher had provided to students.”  
According to the lawsuit, beginning on March 27, parents also reported to Braun that they believed school administrators were “not being responsive, were failing to protect their children, and were not taking appropriate remedial action” in response to their concerns.  
On March 28, due to the administration's alleged disregard of the complaints, Braun contacted Mary Beth Hanus, the director of victim outreach and prevention for the Catholic Archdiocese of Omaha, which oversees more than 60 Catholic schools throughout the state, to report the teacher's misconduct.  
When Braun attempted to share with Hanus the materials that the male teacher had shown students, the email “was blocked by the server due to the inappropriate content.”  
The following day, Braun also shared her concerns with Jordan Blum and Jenna Olmer, the president and a member of the Archangels school board.  
Braun then received a complaint on April 3 from a parent of a seventh grade boy that they believed the same male teacher was engaging in grooming behavior with their child. The parent told Braun that she had reported the grooming activities to Principal Jennifer Dunn, “but she seemed uninterested,” according to the lawsuit.  
After speaking with that parent, Braun again emailed Hanus to report the new incidents. She also “raised concerns that the local administrators had failed to properly respond to the very serious allegations and that children were being placed at serious risk of harm,” according to the lawsuit.  
Braun, whose seventh grade daughter was in one of the teacher's classes, told Hanus in an April 3 email, “My senses are starting to think this is a grooming behavior, he's a sexual predator, has a porn problem, or something else and I am deeply concerned for our youth.”  
According to the lawsuit, Hanus replied in an email that same day and told Braun that “the male teacher had violated two of the Archdiocese's grooming policies.”  
When asked if she could describe the “inappropriate sexual and obscene materials,” the teacher had allegedly shown to the students, Braun's attorney, Kathleen Neary, said, “At this juncture, what I can tell you is, the Archdiocese determined that it violated their own grooming policies.”  
During an April 7 meeting with Dunn, Braun told the principal that, according to what the Archdiocese told her, the male teacher had violated the school's grooming policies.

Please see WHISTLEBLOWER, Page A6

GET THE FULL BENEFITS OF YOUR SUBSCRIPTION!  
Activate your digital account to get updated stories, videos, and hundreds of additional puzzles and comics. Visit [columbustelegram.com/activate](https://columbustelegram.com/activate) and download our app for the E-edition and breaking news on the go!

Weather  
Windy this afternoon  
High 55 • Low 30  
FORECAST • A3

Inside			
Obits	A2	Sports	B1-2, 4-5
Food	A3	Nation & World	B3
Comics	A4	Classifieds	B6

