

‘Frozen’
musical kicks
off at Lincoln’s
Lied Center.

GROUND ZERO, A10



NU soccer opens
season with a
dominant win
over Southern
Indiana.

SPORTS, B1

Friday, August 15, 2025

WHERE YOUR STORY LIVES

journalstar.com

WATER 2.0 BEGINS



ARTHUR H. TRICKETT-WILE PHOTOS, JOURNAL STAR

Lincoln Mayor Leirion Gaylor Baird, second-right, walks with Councilman Tom Beckius after a news conference to update the public on the 98th Street transmission main project Thursday along Holdrege Street near the intersection of Linwood Lane.

Construction kicks off for Lincoln’s second water source project

MARGARET REIST
Lincoln Journal Star

The giant blue water transmission lines along 98th Street just west of Holdrege Street mark the beginning of the city’s biggest infrastructure project in a generation: Lincoln’s second water source.

Construction has begun on the project and the lines will be buried on the east side of 98th Street in the city’s existing easements, running from the Northeast Pump Station near 98th and Alvo Road to an existing transmission main at 87th and Holdrege streets.

The \$36 million project will act as a backup to an existing transmission line that runs from the Northeast Pump Station to a reservoir along Vine Street — and eventually it will be the connector point for the lines that will run from Missouri River wells and a treatment center in Murray.

At a news conference Thursday,



A construction worker digs a trench for the 98th Street transmission main project Thursday along Holdrege Street near the intersection of Linwood Lane.

that giant connector line sat behind the podium on a flatbed truck, and just beyond it, construction workers had begun burying the pipe.

Mayor Leirion Gaylor Baird called the city’s plan to build wellfields on the Missouri River and pump treated water directly to Lincoln “one of the most consequential infrastructure projects in Lincoln’s history” and

the work that’s begun on 98th Street “a giant step forward for Water 2.0.”

“This milestone represents a connection between current and future generations of Lincolnites,” she said. “I’m really excited to think that years from now, when our children and grandchildren turn on their taps for

Please see **WATER 2.0**, Page A2

Summit could test leaders’ complicated relationship

A look back at ups, downs between Trump and Putin

MICHELLE L. PRICE
AND VLADIMIR ISACHENKOV
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Donald Trump’s summit with Vladimir Putin in Alaska on Friday could be a decisive moment for both the war in Ukraine and the U.S. leader’s anomalous relationship with his Russian counterpart.

Trump has long boasted that he’s gotten along well with Putin and spoken admiringly of him, even praising him as “pretty smart” for invading Ukraine. But in recent months, he expressed frustrations with Putin and threatened more sanctions on his country.

At the same time, Trump offered conflicting messages about his expectations for the summit. He called it “really a feel-out meeting” to gauge Putin’s openness to a ceasefire but also warned of “very severe consequences” if Putin doesn’t agree to end the war.

For Putin, Friday’s meeting is a chance to repair his relationship with Trump and unlatch the West’s isolation of his country following its invasion of Ukraine 3½ years ago. He’s been open about his desire to rebuild U.S.-Russia relations now that Trump is back in the White House.

The White House dismissed any suggestion that Trump’s agreeing to sit down with Putin is a win for the Russian leader. But critics suggested that the meeting gives Putin an opportunity to get in Trump’s ear to the detriment of Ukraine, whose leader was excluded from the summit.

“I think this is a colossal mistake. You don’t need to invite Putin onto U.S. soil to hear what we already know he wants,” said Ian Kelly, a retired career foreign service officer who served as the U.S. ambassador to Georgia during the Obama and first Trump administrations.

A look back at the ups and downs of Trump and Putin’s relationship:

Russia questions

Months before he was first elected president, Trump cast doubt on findings from U.S. intelligence agencies that Russian government hackers stole emails from Democrats, including his opponent Hillary Clinton, and released them to

Please see **RELATIONSHIP**, Page A2

■ **Inside:** Land swap deal would be illegal for Ukraine. **Page A7**

Democrat to challenge Flood

Moyer launches bid for 1st District, takes aim at Trump’s bill

ANDREW WEGLEY
Lincoln Journal Star

Next weekend, Eric Moyer will be among thousands of cyclists biking miles of gravel roads surrounding Lincoln, pursuing the hobby he picked up a decade ago when he took his first gravel ride with his brother.

“It’s a great way to waste an afternoon, clipping off 35, 50, 100 miles, and then finishing that off with terrible pizza from a gas station that tastes like caviar because



Moyer

roads are everywhere. Everywhere you look, there’s a gravel ride just waiting to happen. And that’s one of the things about the state that I love, and has brought me closer to it.”

But before he spends the fourth weekend of August navigating the gravel roads of Lancaster County, he is eyeing a different kind of

you’re so wiped — and good craft beer,” he said.

“That, to me, is recreation. And God bless America. We’re right here in the heartland, and in Nebraska, gravel



campaign.

Moyer, a 48-year-old Democrat and political newcomer, formally launched his run for Congress on Thursday, challenging incumbent GOP Rep. Mike Flood of Nebraska’s 1st Congressional District.

A development manager at a renewable energy company who returned to home state in 2007 after leaving Nebraska to pursue an acting career in California, Moyer launched his campaign Thursday with a focus on America’s climate

Please see **MOYER**, Page A2



ARTHUR H. TRICKETT-WILE, JOURNAL STAR

Eric Moyer embraces Nebraska Democratic Party Chair Jane Klee during a campaign launch event on Thursday at Turbine Flats in Lincoln. Moyer, a Democrat, plans run against U.S. Rep. Mike Flood for his seat in Nebraska’s 1st Congressional District.

GET THE
FULL BENEFITS
OF YOUR SUBSCRIPTION!

Activate your digital account to get updated stories, videos, and hundreds of additional puzzles and comics. Visit journalstar.com/activate and download our app for the E-edition and breaking news on the go!

Weather
Breezy, warm
High 97 • Low 73
FORECAST • B10

Inside

COMICS	B7	OBITS	A4
CROSSWORDS	A2, B7	OPINION	A9
GROUNDZERO	A10	SPORTS	B1-B5

