

Small-town
star Dani
Busboom
Kelly could
have taken
several paths;
she chose NU
volleyball.
Sports



Texas’
Republican-
controlled
House OKs map
adding GOP
congressional
seats.
Page A6

Omaha World-Herald

THURSDAY, AUGUST 21, 2025 WHERE YOUR STORY LIVES OMAHA.COM

Who will be held at new ICE facility?

Gov. Pillen says center will hold migrants who are ‘threats to our community’

JOSH REYES
World-Herald Staff Writer

Gov. Jim Pillen referred to “criminals and terrorists” and MS-13 gang members among the immigrants who have entered the United States illegally as he announced that McCook, Nebraska, would become home to a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement detention

facility for migrants awaiting deportation.

“We need to make sure that we all agree that keeping our community safe is essential,” Pillen said.

In his comments, however, he also said the facility, currently the minimum-security Work Ethic Camp prison, would not house “murderers” — it would be for low- to minimum-security detainees who are “threats to our community.”

Please see **ICE**, Page A2

NU: No role in ‘Cornhusker Clink’ name

CHRIS DUNKER
Lincoln Journal Star

The University of Nebraska said it learned along with the rest of the state that the Department of Homeland Security intended to use the school and state’s moniker as part of the name for an immigration detention center near McCook.

The Work Ethic Camp, a minimum-security prison operated by the Nebraska Department of

Correctional Services, was re-branded Tuesday as the “Cornhusker Clink” by DHS Secretary Kristi Noem.

Later that evening, DHS posted an AI-generated image showing several ears of corn wearing dark hats embroidered with “ICE” patrolling a cornfield with barbed wire fences and a prison tower in the background.

“COMING SOON: THE CORNHUSKER CLINK,” the post

stated.

The name follows conventions used by DHS in other Immigration and Customs Enforcement facilities opened by the Trump administration this year: “Alligator Alcatraz” in the Florida Everglades; “Speedway Slammer” in Bunker Hill, Indiana; and “Lone Star Lockup” at Fort Bliss in Texas.

Please see **‘CORNHUSKER CLINK’**, Page A6



Chris Machian, The World-Herald

Art Peters walks through Miller Park in Omaha. He’s already covered every street east of 72nd, from Dodge Street to the Washington County line.

Retiree walks city’s streets — 25,000 steps at a time

71-year-old Art Peters treks across Omaha, at just under 11 miles at a stretch

MARJIE DUCEY
World-Herald Staff Writer

When Art Peters retired in 2019, he told his wife no more carpentry jobs. He was done. Finished.

He stuck with that vow but started watching TV and enjoying too many snacks instead, and his weight began to grow. One day, he decided to take a walk instead.

He hasn’t stopped.

The 71-year-old has been walking 25,000 steps a day — just under 11 miles at a stretch, according to his phone — every day since Jan. 1, 2021. It took the year before then

to work up to that level.

He started traveling around his home at 24th and Vane Streets and has kept on going. He’s walked every street east of 72nd and north of Dodge to the Washington County Line.

He’s now tackling south of Dodge. He’s currently covering south of Leavenworth Street and east of Saddle Creek Road.

“I started out here in Minne Lusa and spiraled out from there. Every street I could reach within an hour and a half and it just kind of grew from there,” he said. “For the first three years, I basically just walked out an hour and half and walked back. I hit different neighborhoods.”

As he expanded his range, he

started taking the bus to new destinations. In May 2022, he decided to aim for 1 million steps in one month, which necessitated 32,758 a day, just to see if he could do it.

He could.

Each morning before sunrise, he brushes his hair, dons his favorite shirt, a button-down denim version from son Doug and daughter-in-law Erin, Levi jeans or shorts and leather Brooks sneakers and heads out the door. He says his feet head him in the right direction.

Only weather under 20 degrees keeps him inside, and then he walks figure eights around the pool table in the basement to reach his goal.

Please see **WALKING**, Page A4

U.P. wants to ship 200 North Platte jobs to Omaha

TODD VON KAMPEN
North Platte Telegraph

NORTH PLATTE, Neb. — The Union Pacific Railroad wants to change the official home base of about 200 North Platte-based engineers and conductors to the Omaha area.

An Aug. 4 letter, sent six days after U.P. announced plans to merge with the Norfolk Southern Railway, cites problems in hiring train crew members for North Platte among other reasons.

Leaders of the Midwest Nebraska Central Labor Council and the North Platte Area Chamber & Development Corp. told The Telegraph they’ll strive to keep those jobs from leaving.

“We hope that Union Pacific management will realize the financial and community hardships this will have on our churches, schools, hospitals and the employment of spouses if they relocate,” North Platte engineers and conductors, a statement from the AFL-CIO-affiliated council said Monday.

U.P. conductor Jeff Cooley of Lemoyne, president of SMART-TD Local 200 and former president of the labor council, estimated that 100 North Platte engineers and an equal number of conductors would be affected by U.P.’s intended switch.

Please see **UNION PACIFIC**, Page A2

Lauritzen ‘plant stars’
The stars of Lauritzen Gardens’ \$11.3 million conservatory update arrive in Omaha. **Midlands**

Weather

High: 87
Mostly sunny; humid

Low: 67
Details: A8

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