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Decision 2026 | Nebraska

Knox Co. Sheriff Defeated

BY MARK MAHONEY mark.mahoney@yankton.net

Knox County, Nebraska, is going to have a new sheriff for the first time since 2010. According to Tuesday's unofficial primary election results from the Knox County Clerk's Office, longtime Sheriff Don Henery, the Republican incumbent, lost to Republican candidate Mark Duncan, the police chief of Creighton, Nebraska, by a count of 1,630 votes to 805 votes.

Duncan will advance to the Nov. 3 general election and face off against Democratic candidate Mark Krepel, a longtime deputy for the Knox County Sheriff's Office, for a four-year term as the county's next sheriff. Primary election ballots also featured competitive Republican races for the District 1, 3 and 7 seats on the Knox County Board of Supervisors, with each position having a four-year term: County Supervisor, District 1 (the Crofton area): Republican candidate Shane

Wieseler, 159 votes; Republican incumbent Marty O'Connor, 153 votes; County Supervisor, District 3 (the Verdigre area): Republican incumbent David Pierce, 213 votes; Republican candidate Jeff Uhler, 120 votes; Republican candidate Lance Rudloff, 63 votes; and County Supervisor, District 7 (the Creighton area): Republican incumbent Jim Borgmann, 298 votes; Republican candidate

VOTE | PAGE 3



Catherine Crandall passes out information to other Yankton County financial task force members during Tuesday's meeting. (Kelly Hertz/P&D)

County Task Force Crunches Numbers, Weighs Comparisons

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF randy.dockendorf@yankton.net

Yankton County remains fairly on target with its annual budget and ranks in the middle or low end for staffing and spending when compared to similar counties, a task force learned Tuesday. The Yankton County Commission appointed members to two task forces to make recommendations. One group is examining the county government's budgeting and finances, while the other is offering ideas for economic development. The financial group met on Tuesday, looking at three areas: the revenue and spending summary to date; policies and procedures; and comparison of Yankton County to other counties with 19,000-31,000 population. Chairman Doug Ekeren spoke of the task force's goal of making recommendations to the commissioners ahead of when they deal with the budget in September. "We'll keep things moving as quickly as we can, but we also want to make certain we're doing our due diligence, as well," he added.

LOOKING AT FIGURES

For the first report, Catherine Crandall and Joleen Smith provided overall revenue and spending figures for the county general

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YCL Summer Reading Program Set For A New Season

BY CORA VAN OLSON cs.vanolson@gmail.com

The Yankton Community Library's (YCL) longtime Summer Reading Program is kicking off again, inviting children and adults to read over the summer and stay involved with events at the library.



Schmidt

"Our goal with Summer Reading is to keep people coming into the library, to keep engaging with us, and to keep them reading," said YCL Director Dana Schmidt, who remembers the program from when she was a child.

Events for children and adults begin at the end of May and run continuously through June and July. Performers this summer include the Zoo Man, magician Travis Nye, a science-based laser show and Fontenelle Forest Birds of Prey. Other events include storytime at the Huether Family Aquatic Center, poetry and writing workshops and crafts.

To register, visit www.cityof-yankton.beanstack.org/reader365. The Beanstack app is used to track summer reading. There is no charge to participate.

"Whether you're a really accomplished reader or you struggle reading, we want to celebrate that you're reading so, you're tracking your reading," Schmidt said. "(Tracking) is different for different age groups, but birth through preschool, they are tracking by the number of books that they're reading, and then kindergarten through teens, they're tracking by the time that they're reading."

Children who are not yet able to read can have books read to them and logged.

A "Party in the Park" from 5-7:30 p.m. May 26 at Memorial Park will officially kick off the program. Tracking also begins May 26. The program culminates with a party at the end of July with prize drawings, but there

LIBRARY | PAGE 3

Corner Construction



KELLY HERTZ/P&D

The ongoing construction work at intersections along Yankton's Broadway Avenue recently reached the corner of Fourth Street (Highway 50) and Broadway. On Tuesday, this crew was working on the median area south of the intersection, with plans to change the turning lanes to give motorists a better view of oncoming traffic at the street light. The overall project is expected to be completed by late June.

Decision 2026

Gleich: County Must Focus On Essentials

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is part of a series of profiles on the Republican candidates for Yankton County Commission. The primary election day is June 2. Early voting is underway.

• NAME: Robert Gleich
• OCCUPATION: Retired correctional officer, Mike Durfee State Prison
• FAMILY: Three sisters, three brothers (one is my identical twin)
• PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE: I have worked in farming, retail, packing house and manufacturing in addition to being a correctional officer.

• Why are you running? I have followed County Commission meetings over the past 25 years, watching how the boards have handled the different issues brought before them. I believe this knowledge will help guide me and my fellow commissioners to address the issues of today.

• What would be your priorities in the budgeting situation? My main priority would be to finance the essentials: roads, security (sheriff, jail, court system) and government offices. I would like to find



Gleich

a way to fund the ambulance service so that it is not such a drain on our budget that we need to exclude other programs that benefit our county. What kind of economic development should Yankton County be promoting? The main problem from the county view is we don't have any extra money to spend on county economic development. We can barely pay for our essentials mandated by the state. I personally would like to see more homegrown companies that can grow on their own, such as a machine shop or a locker plant. These companies may not fit Yankton, but they could fit our local towns. Too much is placed on the big businesses. Let's go for the base businesses that Yankton was built on.

• Are you satisfied with the current approach to the EMS issue? If not, what should be done differently? The problem with the ambulance service

GLEICH | PAGE 3

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