

Fri 4/4	Sat 4/5
44/26 Windy with morning snow showers.	58/42 Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 50s and lows in the low 40s.



BOYS STATE

Juniors Easton Banick, Stephen Conner, Gavin Nielson, Noah Parker and Loren Steinman have been selected to attend the American Legion Boys State. Nebraska City American Legion Post 8 is sponsoring the youth. The leadership program teaches delegates about government by allowing them to participate in a mock government.

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NEWS PRESS

Calendar

- Saturday, April 5:** Fundraiser breakfast for Percival playground equipment, 7-10 a.m. at the Percival Fire Station.
Piano Extravaganza, Peru State College Theatre, 7 p.m. \$7 for adults, \$2 for students.
Gold is the Goal fundraiser for Cheri Becerra-Madsen, paralympic athlete, 5 p.m., Eagles Club.
Rummage sale, First United Methodist Church, 8 a.m. to noon.
Otoe County School Reunion, Harmony School, 6265 County Road Q, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Sunday, April 6:** Dunbar Presbyterian Church salad lunch and bazaar, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Monday, April 7:** Peru State College Distinguished Speaker series, Jessica Jackley, founder of KIVA, 7 p.m. in the College Theatre.
Swim team registration, 6-7:30 p.m. at Hayward Elementary.
- Tuesday, April 8:** Team-Mates fundraiser, Runza donates 10 percent of proceeds.
Open Door Dinner, First Christian Church, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Relay for Life meeting, 5:30 p.m., First National Bank in Syracuse.
Swim team registration, 6-7:30 p.m. at Hayward Elementary.
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers public meeting about the Missouri River conditions, 6 p.m., Lewis & Clark Center.
- Thursday, April 10:** Business After Hours/United Way distribution of annual funds, 4-6 p.m., Fire Station.
Business After Hours/Myths of War of 1812 program, MRB Lewis & Clark Center, 6-8 p.m.
Salad lunch, First Presbyterian Church, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. \$5.
Brownville Concert Series at Lied Lodge, Eric Yves Garcia cabaret performance, 6 p.m. www.brownvilleconcertseries.com.
Blood drive, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., OPPD.
Author Joy Johnson guest at Book Club, 4:30 p.m., Morton-James Public Library.
- Saturday, April 12:** Silver Skylarks 4-H Club Easter egg hunt, 10 a.m., Percival Park.
Easter egg coloring, 2-3 p.m., Morton-James Public Library. Bring boiled eggs.
- Sunday, April 13:** Arbor Lodge clean up, 11:30 a.m. meet at carriage house.

Fremont County man convicted of sexual assault, transport of minor

A Fremont County man, Tony Lee Stogdill, 46, of Imogene, was sentenced March 25 in the United States District Court in Council Bluffs on the charge of interstate transportation of a person under 18 for the purpose of engaging in criminal sexual activity. His wife pled guilty to helping cover-up the crime. Judge John A. Jarvey sentenced Tony Lee Stogdill to 210 months in prison and 10 years supervised release to follow, announced United States Attorney

Nicholas A. Klinefeldt. Stogdill was ordered to register as a sex offender, pay a yet-to-be-determined amount of restitution and a \$100 special assessment to the Crime Victim Fund. He remains in the custody of the United States Marshal pending his designation to a Federal Bureau of Prisons facility. Stogdill pled guilty Nov. 7 to transporting a 15-year-old female from Iowa to Nebraska, Missouri and Illinois then back to Iowa and having sex with her.

Stogdill admitted he took the girl with him June 4-6, 2009 as he worked as an over-the-road trucker. Jennifer Stogdill pled guilty in Iowa District Court for Fremont County to compounding a felony regarding her cover-up of the sexual abuse in 2009. She was sentenced by the state court to probation. Stogdill had been convicted of sex-related crimes twice prior to the current conviction. He was convicted March 13, 1989 in Fre-

mont County of false imprisonment and assault with intent to commit sexual abuse and on Oct. 21, 1991 of third degree sexual abuse. The criminal investigation was carried out by the Fremont County Sheriff's Office, Fremont County Attorney's Office, the South West Iowa Narcotics Enforcement Task Force, the Council Bluffs Police, the Omaha Police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

'Paramedicine' aims to keep health care costs down

Bobby ELLIS
News-Press

Due to the passage of the Affordable Care Act, commonly known as "Obamacare," the health care industry is going through a lot of changes.

Those changes are reaching through the entire medical industry, from insurance agencies, hospitals and pharmaceutical companies to even local organizations such as Nebraska City's EMS unit.

According to the Nebraska City Fire and Rescue - EMS Division Annual report, presented to the city council on March 17, the EMS unit will begin working on transforming itself into a paramedicine unit as a way to adapt to the new changes that will be coming down the road.

"Basically, it's EMS on a home healthcare scale," said Andrew Snodgrass, the assistant chief of the Nebraska City EMS division. "What it really does depends on what you want to evolve it into."

The plan, which is in its infancy stage, is for EMS members to act as roaming medical personnel, providing treatment and to help check-up on patients after a release from the hospital.

"We're hearing of EMS systems in certain progressive geographic areas in the United States actively working on pioneering paramedicine programs that can serve the role of the field monitor," said Snodgrass in an email, released to the News-Press, explaining future plans to other members of the EMS unit. "It would seem that the inpatient and out-of-hospital practice is on a convergence pathway."

An example of this convergence could be found in a person recovering from surgery.

One of the features of the Affordable Care Act is that if a patient is readmitted to the hospital within three days for the same problem for which they were originally hospitalized, the hospital could have reimbursements from Medicare or Medicaid denied completely.

"Remember, the idea of Obamacare is to control the costs and rein in spending for health care in the United



Bobby Ellis NEWS|PRESS

Andrew Snodgrass is helping prepare the Nebraska EMS Division for a future of "paramedicine," in which paramedics will provide a variety of services.

New options for revenue sources

Bobby ELLIS
News-Press

The driving force behind the upcoming changes to the Nebraska City EMS division is money.

The Affordable Care Act is meant to reduce unnecessary costs to health care patients. The result of that is that health care providers are being forced to re-exam-

ine their techniques, both in terms of making a profit and in terms of how they provide care to patients.

Traditionally, the Nebraska City EMS division is funded through tax dollars, payment from insurance providers, and patient payments for transfer to the emergency room.

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States," Snodgrass said in the email, "especially spending that is funded via the entitlement programs."

This is where paramedicine visits would come in.

Paramedicine units would visit a recently released patient to assure the hospital that the patient is following his or her treatment plan, such as taking

the proper medication, to get better and keep from having to return to emergency care.

The reasons behind this change and how the program will be fully put into place are complicated, involving input from local hospitals, the City

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RISE to help probation succeed

Sandy PARMENTER
News-Press

In January, a new program designed to help adult and juvenile probationers began in Otoe County. The RISE Program is unique to Nebraska and is funded by the Supreme Court.

The salary of Sam Carman, the RISE program specialist, is funded by AmeriCorps.

While this program is new to Otoe County, the RISE AmeriCorps program has served over 4,800 probationers since beginning in 2007 and is showing a 74 percent success rate of probationers not returning to the probation system within one year after completing the program, said Carman.



Sam CARMAN

Kari Rumbaugh, the statewide administrator for RISE, was instrumental in the design and implementation of the program in 2007. There are 14 AmeriCorps RISE officers in Nebraska.

The main goal of the program is to prevent recidivism by breaking the cycle of lack of education and/or employment leading to criminal activities.

Probationers are assessed by their probation officers, who then refer them to the RISE program if they think it will be beneficial. All "high-risk juveniles" are referred to the program.

The free program lasts nine weeks for adults and is ongoing throughout the probation term for juveniles.

Carman said that, although he has no punishment power if the probationers decide not to attend or to be uncooperative, program completion is often a condition of probation so failure may lead to consequences from the probation officer.

Once he receives the referrals, Carman evaluates the adults to decide whether to put them on an education or career track.

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