



Antelope County News

How Much Will Levy Increase Really Cost?

By Carrie Pitzer
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So just how much would Antelope County's proposed budget increase cost taxpayers? That's the question being asked around coffee cups and across tables throughout the county.

And that's why the Antelope County News took an in-depth look at the numbers, why the increase is taking place and how much it's actually costing taxpayers.

Regina Krebs, a certified public accountant who has been assisting with this year's budget, broke down the increase for supervisors at the last several meetings, explaining the issues.

Why The Increase?

There are two factors that

led to an increase in the levy - 1. road work and wages for county employees and 2. making up for what wasn't taxed last year.

Last year, supervisors approved the levy at 14.4 cents and did not include the 2 cents they were supposed to levy for the Antelope County Law Enforcement Center bond payment. Krebs has explained the error multiple times.

Last year's levy taxed only half of what was supposed to be included for that payment, which is why taxpayers saw a 13 percent decrease in the levy last year. Krebs explained that the levy should have been 16.4 cents for 2015-16 or almost exactly the same as the previous year (16.6 cents).

- Please see **LEVY**, page 2



Formed just a couple of years ago, the Orchard Young Men's Club has already become a driving force in community engagement. Here Preston Blackmore, Taylor Schwager and Bodie Meyer throw out candy during the Orchard Celebration parade.

Orchard Hopes To Instill Pride, Period

Editor's Note: This is the third in a three-part series on the community of Orchard. This story looks at community organizations and efforts to build for the future.

By Natalie Bruzon
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"Orchard." Shirts featuring that "slogan" were spotted all over town during Orchard Celebration Days, and weeks later community members are still sporting their Orchard swag, proud to represent where they're from.

Shelly Strobe, owner of the hair shop Cut It Up in Orchard, came up with the idea for the shirts on a whim.

"Orchard Days was coming up, and I just said, 'Well, let's make some t-shirts,'" said Strobe.

She didn't know if people would want to buy any, but she decided to move forward with the idea anyway.

Turns out, people did like the idea.

"We had a pretty good response to it," Strobe said. "We sold a few, and we also still have a few."

And that's what the shirts are about. Nothing more, nothing less. Pride in the community — period.

An Orchard resident born and raised, Strobe said she hopes the shirts serve as a way

- Please see **PRIDE**, page 2

CAPTURED!



South Dakota Men Arrested Following High Speed Chase And Manhunt

By Carrie Pitzer
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The two men arrested following a manhunt near Tilden this week are each being held on \$250,000 bonds.

James Baker, age 24, and Jeremy Stevens, age 25, both from South Dakota were taken into custody on suspicion of being in possession of a stolen vehicle, flight to avoid arrest and possession of methamphetamine, just west of Tilden in Antelope County.

According to court records, Deputy Darin Ternus was on a regular tour of duty Wednesday afternoon when he stopped at the Hiway Mart in Clearwater for something to drink.

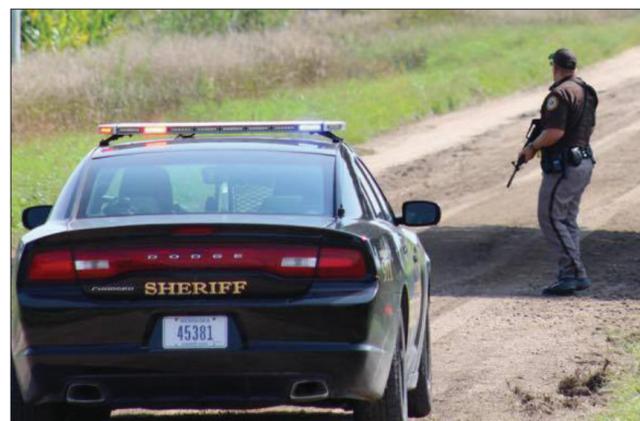
It was then that he first encountered one of the men arrested following the manhunt, Jeremy Stevens. Stevens stated he needed money wired to him, so Deputy Ternus and the cashier, Crystal Kester, directed Stevens to Norfolk. Deputy Ternus noticed Stevens' partner, James Baker, outside the gas station.

Court records state that on suspicion, Ternus ran the men's license plate, and it was then that their vehicle — a gold Dodge Stratus with South Dakota license plates — was identified as stolen. The deputy then followed the men until backup reached him.

They were pursued by deputies east on Highway 275, reaching speeds over 100 mph. The pursuit passed Neligh, where officers had stopped traffic and waited at the intersection of Highway 275 and 14 for the assailants, ready to deploy stop sticks. However, records show the men swerved the car to avoid the stop sticks, almost losing control, and continued out of town.

The chase continued east of Neligh, past

- Please see **MANHUNT**, page 2



Multiple law enforcement agencies assisted the Antelope County Sheriff's Department on Wednesday as they searched for two suspects in a cornfield near Tilden.

OLYMPIC SPIRIT AT HOMECOMING



The Cyclone homecoming spirit was evident Tuesday as students at both sites dressed up for "America Day." At the Orchard site are (Front row, from left): Lakin Cleveland, Braelyn Bergman, Landon Nelson, Liam Cleveland, Linnell Perez, Denise Murphy, Autumn Jackson, Shae Murphy, Kelsey Schlecht, (second row) Cassi Livingston, Brylie Billings, Ava Cleveland, Owen Jeffords, Preston Hoke, Julie Oliivan, Carlee Livingston, Keston Rubeck, Cody Wickersham, Ammy Arroyo, (back row) Mason Schwager, Ashton Cleveland, Christian Behnk, Isaak Maxwell, Gage Thiessen, Ashley Melcher, Adyson Mlnarik For more photos, look to page 5 and online at www.MyAntelopeCountyNews.com.

Suicide Awareness Month Promotes Conversations

By Jaimie Schmitz
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The Boone Central High School Guidance Counselor doesn't take suicide lightly.

It's not hard to tell by how many pamphlets Lynne Webster's office has on the subject. Webster hopes she succeeds in creating a platform for students to talk about the tough subject of suicide, a subject affecting many of them.

"That's a permanent solution to a problem that is more than likely, temporary," Webster said about getting students to open up.

September 2016 is also known as National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month, which helps promote resources and awareness around the issues of suicide prevention, how you can help others and how to talk about suicide without increasing the risk of harm.

Suicide is the third leading cause of death

among youth ages 15-24 and second leading cause in college students.

One in five high school students report having seriously considered suicide and nearly one in ten students make a suicide attempt according to a survey by Nebraska Youth Suicide Prevention.

Webster has seen it first hand and doesn't hesitate to take a threat seriously. "If someone is suicidal, then I would just ask," Webster explained. "I flat out ask kids, 'Are you thinking about hurting yourself? Have you thought about this?' And if they say well yes, then how often? What's your plan? I mean all of those things, that's what we use to gage how serious someone is about committing suicide."

Understanding the seriousness of a threat is key in deciding how to treat the threat. Webster has been trained on what to

- Please see **AWARENESS**, page 2



HUNTER SAFETY 2016

Saturday, Sept. 17 & 24

AT NELIGH LIBRARY

8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

NO COST TO PARTICIPATE • CALL 402-929-0550

Hunter Education Nebraska Programs logo and Neligh Young Men's Club logo.

WEEKEND WEATHER

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
High: 73	High: 72	High: 79
Low: 51	Low: 55	Low: 59
Precip: 20%	Precip: 0%	Precip: 0%

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