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Tuesday 7/23/24 **CASSGRAM**
Audio Report, Archives and more at www.cassgram.com
Today: mostly sunny, light southwest wind, high 86. Tonight: mostly clear, low 66. Wednesday: mostly sunny, high 90. Yesterday's high: 82/Plattsmouth airport. This morning's low: 65. Sunset today is at 8:49pm. Sunrise Wednesday is at 6:12am.
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PROTEST PROCESS completed yesterday - The Cass County Assessor's Office reports the county board of equalization members put their signatures on the forms.

There were 99 property valuation protests filed this year. That's less than recent years when protests had totaled 250 or more. The final action this year resulted in 116 revised values. The bulk of those, 78, were for parcels at Beaver Lake where adjustments needed to be made.

PLEA AGREEMENT REACHED IN THEFT CASE — 40-year-old Sasha Reichenberg of Lincoln was accused of using her power of attorney to withdraw money from her father's bank account. Cass County Attorney Chris Perrone told the court Reichenberg was using the money to support her gambling problem. As part of the agreement, she entered a plea of guilty to charges of abuse of a vulnerable adult, a Class IIIA felony, and theft by taking in the amount of \$5,000 or more, a Class IIA felony. The state agreed to dismiss two other charges. There is no agreement regarding the sentence to be imposed. The state and defense agreed to restitution totaling \$77,905 for both cases. Sentencing is scheduled for September 23rd.

MONTHLY ECONOMIC REPORTS — The latest retail sales tax reports returned mixed numbers for April. State labor department data showed an increase in the unemployment rate. In comparing April of 2024 to April of 2023, the Nebraska Department of Revenue's Net Taxable Sales Report shows Cass County with a 5.1% decrease to \$12,633,407. In Plattsmouth, April sales were up 2.3% to \$6,458,918. (In the March 2024 report, Cass County sales were down 6.8% and Plattsmouth sales were down 5.5%.) Statewide, April 2024 sales were up 1.0% from the same month of the previous year.

The April comparison for neighboring counties: Otoe -4.5%, Lancaster +1.4%, Saunders +2.8%, Sarpy -3.8%. Nearby cities: Ashland -0.4%, Bellevue +0.3%, Nebraska City -2.3%, Papillion -10.6%, Springfield +39.5%, Syracuse -6.8% and Waverly +13.5%. The NDR's Net Taxable Motor Vehicle Sales Tax Collections Report said the 5.5% sales tax total in Cass County went from \$431,391 in April 2023 up to \$536,202 in April 2024. The net taxable amount subject to sales tax collection in Cass this past April was \$9,730,500, up 24.2%. Statewide the net taxable motor vehicle sales total was up 8.4% compared to a year ago. (The motor vehicle sales tax is paid in the county where the vehicle is registered, it may not have been bought in the county.) The Cass County unemployment rate for July 2024 was 3.4%, up from 2.4% in June. Surrounding counties also posted higher rates. The state unemployment rate was 3.1%, up from 2.6% in June.

AT THE WILDLIFE SAFARI PARK in Cass County - "Nurture your young child's love for wildlife and the great outdoors with the Early Learning Kids Klub (E.L.K. Klub)." The park is used as a classroom to encourage young children to investigate, play, and learn about Nebraska native wildlife through hands-on activities and exploration. It's for children ages 3 - 5 years old. Programs are held on the first Saturday of each month and the following Wednesday from 10:30am to 11:30am at the Darrald Harsh Wildlife Education Center near Wolf Woods and Pawnee Creek Trailhead parking lot. Pre-registration and payment of \$18 for members or \$20 for non-members is required. The registration cost covers one adult and one child. An adult must accompany the child. The 2024 dates: -August 3 & 7 | Beautiful Butterflies and Magnificent Moths

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TODAY'S QUESTION: How many states currently have a Cass County. A. 6 B. 9 C. 12 D. 15 The answer is in the Cobalt Credit Union ad box.

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'STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES' issued yesterday by Nebraska Governor Jim Pillen – The news release was issued as the special session of the Nebraska Legislature begins this week. The session will deal with property taxes. "This legislative process depends on everyone bringing their good faith ideas for the purpose of producing property tax reform for all Nebraskans," said Gov. Pillen. "It is important that we start from a common place of understanding, especially in the debate over sales tax exemptions." Gov. Pillen's statement of principles follows:

- No sales tax on food
- No sales tax on medicines used for human treatment
- No taxing services or goods provided through nonprofits
- No sales tax on ag inputs or manufacturing materials (defined as physical economic resources used to create goods to be sold to an end user)
- No sales tax on services or items that are exempt in all other states
- No sales tax on services or items that are exempt in all surrounding states
- No double taxation

"I think these principles will help provide clarity and structure to what we need to consider when it comes to that long list of exemptions that are in play," said Pillen.

LEGION BASEBALL — Elmwood-Murdock-Nehawka Nationals Seniors and Modern Real Estate finished in a 10 to 10 tie.

A CELEBRATION OF LIFE FOR AMY CHURCHILL, age 41, Nehawka, will be at 11am Thursday (7/25) at the Expo Building at the Cass County Fairgrounds. Visitation will be one hour before services. -Harvey Funeral Home, Plattsmouth

A PRIVATE FAMILY SERVICE FOR CHARLES A. RAY MSgt USAF (Ret) will be held at the Bellevue Memorial Chapel.

-THE NEBRASKA CITY POST OFFICE is hiring for Assistant Rural Carrier (ARC). This is a part-time position delivering packages on weekends and holidays. A vehicle will be provided. Apply online at usps.com/careers. Application help provided at the career fair August 6th from 1 to 3pm at the Department of Labor 917 Wildwood Lane in Nebraska City. Questions can be directed to Candice Dowland, Supervisor, at 402-873-5045.

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-MOBILE FOOD PANTRY - Plattsmouth Bible Church, 1602 First Avenue, is hosting the Drive Through Mobile Food Pantry Friday (7/29) from 4pm until the food is gone. Food is available for FREE.

-VERY LARGE GARAGE SALE, make sure you stop by 724 Main St. in Plattsmouth. 8am to 5pm each day Thursday (7/25), Friday (7/26) and Saturday (7/27)

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