



EYE ON III

FEBRUARY 2024

State of Nebraska

NEW EMPLOYEE



Heidi Brennehan is an Office Specialist in the Norfolk District Office. She is originally from Norfolk, but has lived in Pierce for the past 11 years. Her family is Travis, Sean & Travis Jr. along with her spoiled rotten German Shorthair, Molly. The boys are in sports year round so that keeps her pretty busy. When she isn't doing kids sports, she likes to go to professional sporting events, spend time with family and relax at home. Heidi is excited for this new adventure and looks forward to working and meeting everyone.

WELCOME!

MISSION STATEMENT

To build, maintain and operate a system of highways in Northeast Nebraska as approved by the legislature, suitable for the continuous, safe and efficient movement of people.

VISION STATEMENT

To continue to be the leading District in building, maintaining and operating our highway system, meeting and exceeding all the expectations of the traveling public, supported by a staff of well trained, diversified employees using the state of the art technology. We also provide a fulfilling work environment



RETIREMENT

Judy Schoenfeldt retired December 29th with almost 30 years of service. She was an Administrative Technician in the Norfolk District Office. Judy preferred to leave without fanfare, so a retirement party was not held. Word had gotten around, and a number of people shared their well wishes, which was very special to her. We all wish her a long, happy and healthy retirement.



CONGRATULATIONS

SCOOP THERE IT IS

The Nebraska Department of Transportation announced the winners of its third annual “Name a Snowplow” contest and Battle Creek Elementary was among the winning elementary schools. Over 1100 names were submitted by elementary school students from across the state of Nebraska with the top 16 being chosen. The winning name entered from Battle Creek Elementary student Paisley Relitz was “Scoop There It Is!”

On December 8th. Kevin Domogalla, Tim Koenig, Chris Tuttle, Dean Guenther and Lee Reuss presented Paisley Relitz, a 2nd grader at Battle Creek Elementary with her award. Paisley received a replica of the snowplow she named on it and a plaque. The entire elementary gathered for the presentation and then were encouraged to ask questions for the staff. All the 2nd grade students were given a chance to sign the plow and Lee gave Paisley an in-cab tour of the truck.

Paisley Relitz is the granddaughter of Tom Wagner, Highway Maintenance Supervisor at the Norfolk Yard.





SNOW PLOW CONTEST

By Kevin Domogalla

In September, communications sent requests to all K-5 students throughout the state to solicit nominations for names of our snowplows. District 3 received 280 submissions which was the most of any district. On December 8th, we had the opportunity to present two separate awards to the winners of the 2023 Name A Snowplow contest. *Scoop There It Is!* was sent in by Paisley Relitz from Battle Creek Elementary. Paisley was unaware that she had won, so it was a huge surprise when her name was read. She is the granddaughter of Tom Wagner, and he was on hand to help congratulate her.

Lee Reuss, Dean Guenther, Chris Tuttle and Tim Koenig were on hand to answer questions and show the students the truck and plow. Lee let the kids know that he had a personal mission to eliminate all snow days and late starts. This was received with a round of loud boos from students and teachers. While he has done his best this year, Mother Nature has won a few days of this battle.

While Lee, Dean and Chris continued to show the rest of Battle Creek Elementary *Scoop There It Is!*, Tim and I made our way to Richland Elementary to meet Jeff Heesacker and Snow Warrior. Mrs. Siegler's class submitted the name as a group, so the whole class won the award. Once again, Jeff was not a very popular guy when he announced that he was the responsible for keeping the roads open to keep school in session. There may have even been a few cookie bribes by the teachers for a few late starts. Jeff, Tanner Heesacker, and Mike Steiner answered questions from the kids and then gave them a tour of their truck.

I would like to thank Lee and Jeff specifically for their contributions to the presentation. The enthusiasm and interactions they had with the students made it a memorable experience for everyone. I even had one kid come up and tell me "This is the BEST DAY EVER!!"





Battle Creek Elementary



Richland Elementary





Photos by Sam Malan



SNOW WARRIOR

Drone Picture of Wayne Maintenance Yard

By Mike McGinn





Tales from Across the Pond

While we in District 3 are digging out from under 8 inches of snow, Anja Knepper's sister Christine and her family are enjoying a 5-day vacation on the Island of Mallorca.

Mallorca is the largest **island** of the Balearic **Islands**, which are part of Spain, and the seventh largest **island** in the Mediterranean Sea.



With an average of 300 days of sun per year, Mallorca has long been a favorite destination among Northern Europeans. January is their coldest month, and Christine said they had 68°F during their stay.



Cook's Corner

from the kitchen of Mike McGinn

CHICKEN NOODLES



2 lbs boneless, skinless chicken breast
32 oz chicken broth
1 tsp minced garlic
 $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp parsley flakes
4 green onions, finely sliced
16-24 oz frozen egg noodles

1 - 10.5 oz can cream of chicken soup
2 chicken bouillon cubes
 $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp dried basil
3 celery sticks, finely sliced
10 oz frozen peas and carrots

Place the first 9 ingredients into the crock pot and cook on high for 5 hours. Pull chicken apart into bite size pieces, add the peas, carrots and frozen noodles and cook on high for an additional hour. Keep additional chicken broth on hand for warming up leftovers.