



THE SUNDAY SCANNER

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NORTHWEST NEBRASKA HAILSTORMS

(SHERIDAN COUNTY, Neb.) -- Some really strange weather hit the Hay Springs area in Northwest Nebraska Thursday afternoon. The photo below was captured from a video by Dan Anderson.

On the 29th of June, the first hailstorm rumbled through the area and left several properties and crops damaged. Then the following Thursday, they were blanketed by a storm of unusual proportions.

Inset photo shows hail that fell on the 29th.



Wind Damage North of the Border

(HIGHMORE, S.D.) – A supercell storm system developed in the far Northern Nebraska Panhandle, which spread in the early morning hours around 5:00 AM in Highmore, South Dakota.

A Civil Emergency was declared with an urgent no-travel directive in effect until 5:00 PM that evening.

Historic wind speeds reached 130 mph, according to Mesonet readings, resulting in extensive damage,

including overturned mobile homes, downed powerlines, and damaged wind turbines, as shown in the photo above by Storm Chaser Jakob McMillin.



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Equipment Fire



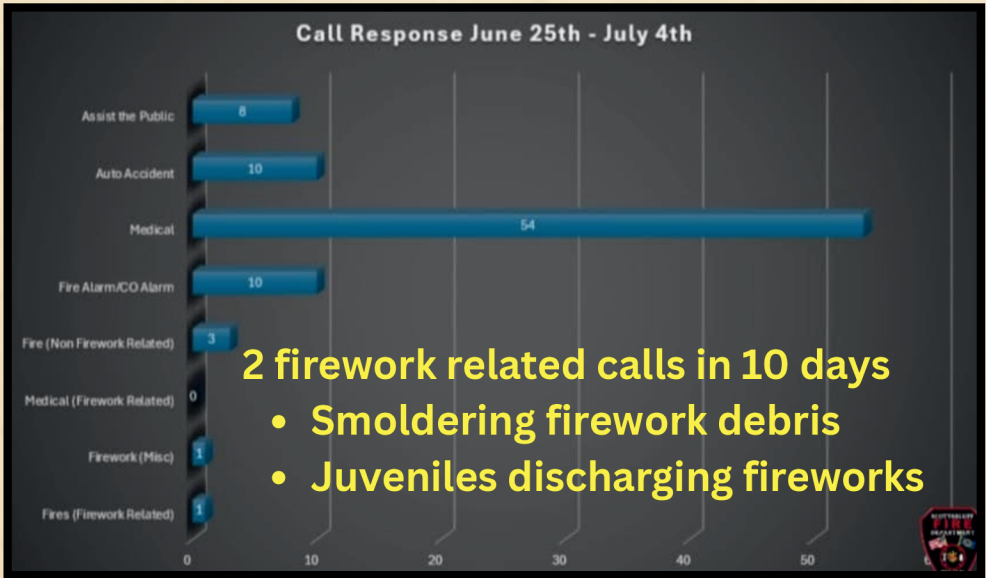
(SCOTTSBLUFF, Neb.) -- Scottsbluff's Engine One had cleared a previous call for service when they observed smoke in the area around South Beltline and 9th Avenue. Crews went to investigate and upon arrival observed staff members utilizing heavy equipment to remove debris that had accidentally caught on fire after cutting operations. Fire personnel assisted with extinguishing the fire and were able to clear scene within an hour.

Train Tracks Fire



(SCOTTSBLUFF, Neb.) -- On June 30, 2026 at 5:20 pm, the Scottsbluff Rural Fire Protection District was dispatched to a report of a grass fire in the area of Highway 92 and Ridgeway Drive. Train traffic was stopped so firefighters could address the fire. The fire was started by a train malfunction.

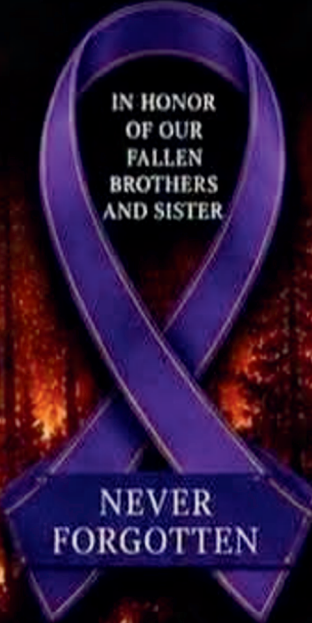
Scottsbluff FIRE REPORT



3 Perish in CO/UT Snyder Fire



In Memory of
THREE FALLEN WILDLAND FIREFIGHTERS
WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES IN SERVICE AND SACRIFICE
WHILE PROTECTING OUR FORESTS AND COMMUNITIES





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AGE 27
U.S. WILDLAND FIRE SERVICE
RIFLE HELITACK
WARRIOR, ALABAMA



NICK HUTCHERSON
AGE 27
U.S. FOREST SERVICE
KAIBAB NATIONAL FOREST
GLENDALE, ARIZONA



EMILY BARKER
AGE 38
U.S. FOREST SERVICE
RIFLE HELITACK
CLINTON TOWNSHIP, MICHIGAN

END OF WATCH – JUNE 27, 2026
THEY ANSWERED THE CALL. THEY FACED DANGER. THEY MADE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE.
★ WE HONOR THEIR COURAGE. WE REMEMBER THEIR SACRIFICE. ★
THEIR LEGACY LIVES ON IN EVERY FIREFIGHTER WHO FOLLOWS.

Never Forgotten
DUTY ★ HONOR ★ COURAGE ★ SACRIFICE



B.E. Farms Credits Bayard Fire for Quick Response

(BAYARD, Neb.) – B.E. Family Farms Wrote “A spark from the lawn mower found its way into a stack of straw bales and before we knew it, four bales were up in flames. Thankfully, no one was hurt, and the damage was limited to a few crispy straw bales. It’s a good reminder of just how dry things are right now and how quickly a small spark can become a big problem.”



THE SUNDAY SCANNER

LAKE MAC CAMPERS FLIPPED

(KEITH COUNTY, Neb.) -- Keith County EMS was paged to beach area 5 at Lake McConaughy due to multiple campers that had been flipped secondary to a major weather event.

Radar-indicated wind gusts up to 80 mph and quarter-to-nickel-sized hail [1, 2] struck the Lake McConaughy region, leading the National Weather Service (NWS) in North Platte to issue urgent "destructive storm" warnings late last night.



Car Accident with Injuries

(SCOTTSBLUFF, Neb.) -- Scanner traffic indicated a two vehicle accident with injuries near 22nd St and Ave B on Tuesday, June 30th at 12:25 am in Scottsbluff. One witness reported only one vehicle on scene, indicating a potential hit-and-run.

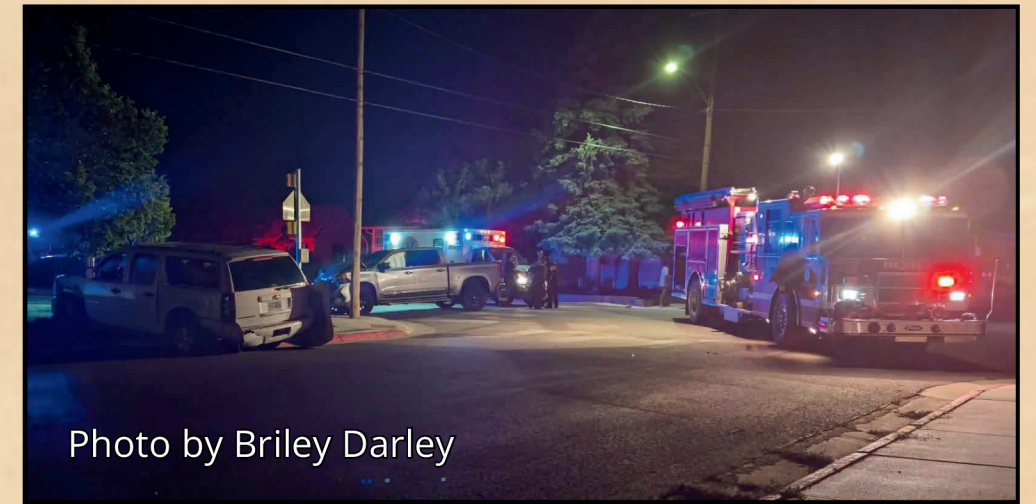


Photo by Briley Darley

INFANT DEATH INVESTIGATION

(ALLIANCE, Neb.) -- The Box Butte County Sheriff's Office is investigating an infant death that occurred last month. This is the second infant this family has lost in less than 5 years.

Alyssa Parkins was arrested in Alliance, Nebraska, on July 1, 2026, in connection with the June 2026 death of her 9-month-old daughter.

Court records from her arrest revealed a direct connection to a 2022 infant death, where her then-10-month-old daughter was killed by her biological father, Riley Lenhart. Lenhart was convicted in 2023 of intentional child abuse leading to death in Dawes County District Court. He is currently serving a sentence of 60 years to life in prison.



LAKE MINATARE MISSING CHILD

(LAKE MINATARE, Neb.) -- Scanner Traffic indicated a missing female child near Boy Scout Island at Lake Minatare on June 29th at 12:02 am. An unattended kayak was initially located at the edge of the water.

She was found within the hour by Scotts Bluff County Deputies.

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Bomb Threat Evacuation at Wax Museum

(KEYSTONE, S.D.) — Pennington County communication received a call about a suspicious package in a parking lot near The National Presidential Wax Museum in Keystone, South Dakota.

At approximately 7:30 p.m. on July 3, 2026, deputies with the Pennington County Sheriff's Office responded to a report of a suspicious package in the parking lot of a business in Keystone, South Dakota. Based on the information available at the scene, deputies evacuated the immediate area as a precaution to ensure public safety.



The South Dakota Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI) Bomb Squad responded to the scene. DCI bomb technicians safely evaluated and cleared the package, and the area was subsequently reopened.

The Pennington County Sheriff's Office appreciates the patience and cooperation of those who were evacuated while the incident was being resolved. We recognize the inconvenience this caused and thank the public for their understanding as responders worked to ensure the safety of everyone in the area. Agencies that responded to the incident included the Pennington County Sheriff's Office, South Dakota Highway Patrol, South Dakota Division of Criminal Investigation, and Pennington County Search and Rescue.

-- NEWS TIPS --

**Message Facebook Page
or Call 941-942-4361**

**GERING POOL VANDALISM**

(GERING, Neb.) – Due to vandalism that occurred overnight, the pool slide will be closed until further notice while repairs are made. The pool remains open for regular swimming. We apologize for the inconvenience and appreciate your patience.

**OUR REACH THIS WEEK****Panhandle Scanner
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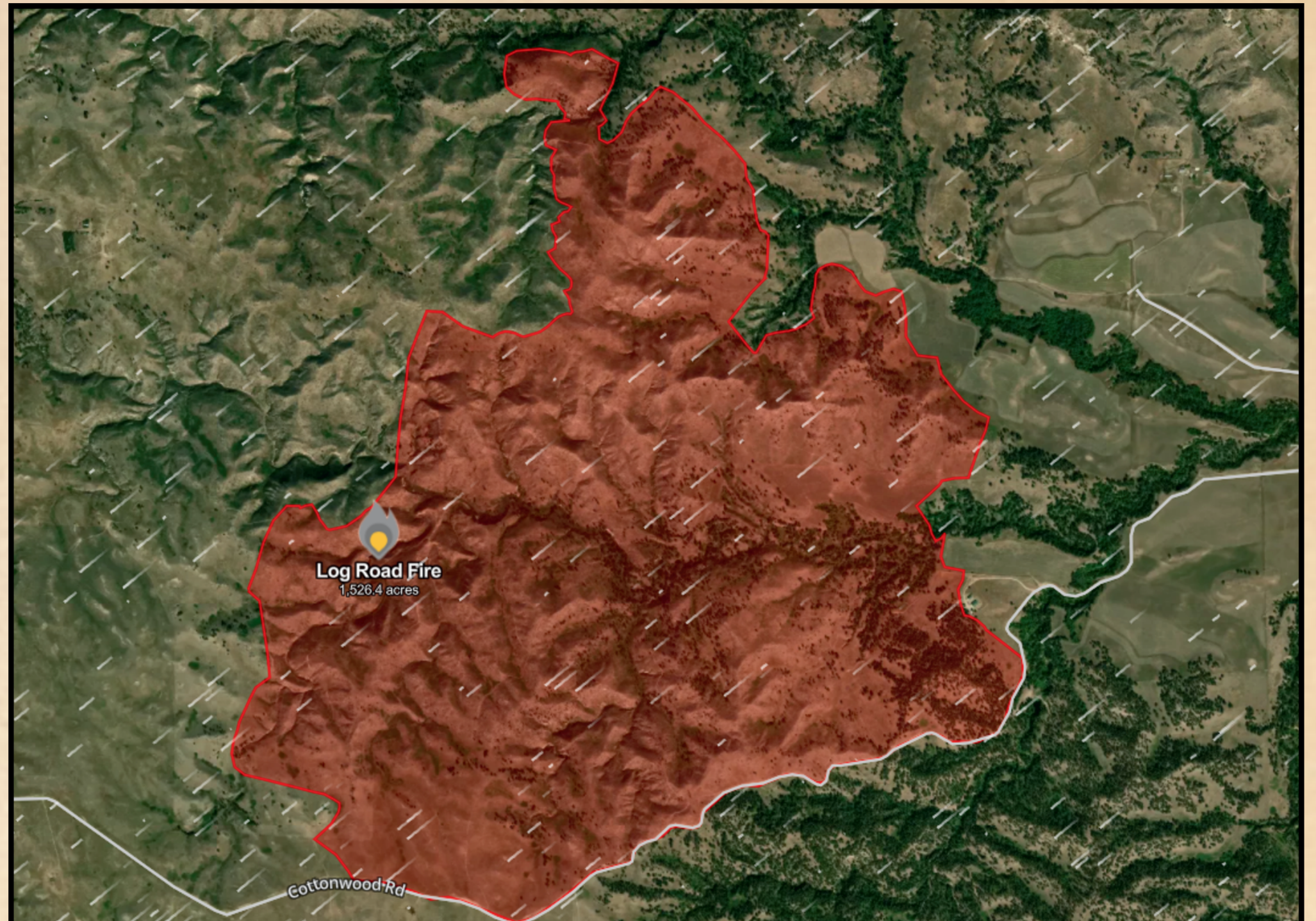
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LOG ROAD FIRE UPDATE

(CRAWFORD, Neb.) – A new wildfire, the Log Road Incident, ignited north of the South Fork Fire burn area, reported by WildCAD at 11:37 AM Mon Jun 29th (MDT).



ON SATURDAY THE FIRE WAS 81% CONTAINED. BY EARLY MORNING IT WAS DECLARED CONTAINED.

Thankfully, there were no injuries indicated with this fire. The fire consumed a total of 1,526 acres before Saturday night fire crews were able to gain full containment, with WildCAD declaring 100% containment early Sunday morning.

Multiple agencies responded across the panhandle, including the Crawford Volunteer Fire Department, Harrison Volunteer Fire Department, Merna Volunteer Fire Department, and the Ainsworth Volunteer Fire Department, just to name a few. We thank all who responded to this fire and any of the recent fires.

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