

WALK-IN HOURS
MONDAY - FRIDAY
7 AM - 5 PM
SATURDAY
8 AM-10 AM
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY
1401 EAST H STREET 344-4110

> Looking
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> Find it at the McCook
> Humane Society!
> "\% "\% " \% " \% " \%

McCook Humane Society
100 South Street 345-2372
Hours: M-F: 2-5
Sat: 12-4

# Newsfilash 

www.highplainsradio.net 308-345-5400 openline@highplainsradio.net

## STRONG THUNDERSTORMS LAST NIGHT

Strong thunderstorms produced funnel clouds in parts of Hays and Hitchcock counties last night. The storms moved south-southeast through a number of counties in the area. Rain amounts of 1-2 inches fell west of McCook. The McCook area received .60 rainfall. There is a chance of more showers and thunderstorms tonight into tomorrow morning. The forecast is calling for dry conditions the rest of the Labor Day weekend.

## HIGHEST LODGING TAX OF ALL TIME

Nebraska Tourism ended the 2018-2019 fiscal year with the highest lodging tax collection of all time. The total collection from July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019 was $\$ 5,922,077$, a growth rate of 4.09 percent from the previous fiscal year. The one percent lodging tax that funds Nebraska Tourism is just the tip of the iceberg when describing the economic impact of tourism in Nebraska. For example, June's \$886,725 statewide lodging tax receipt is the largest monthly amount collected ever, which translates into $\$ 88.7$ million in revenue for paid accommodations across the state. Further, because lodging is only about 20 percent of total visitor spending, according to Dean Runyan Associates, tourism's total contribution to the Nebraska economy in June was about $\$ 443.4$ million.

## MPCC RODEO SUCCESS

Much of the success of the Mid-Plains Community College Rodeo Team can be traced back to the Kiplinger Arena complex in McCook. That's according to Garrett Nokes, the team's timed event coach, who said not only has the Kiplinger been a tremendous asset in terms of a practice facility, but it has also served as a valuable recruitment and fundraising tool. The complex, located near the intersection of highways 6 and 83, is a division of the Red Willow County Fairgrounds. It has served as the headquarters for MPCC's timed event competitors for the past four years. "We are just starting our sixth year of college rodeo in McCook," said Nokes. "We used the Kiplinger periodically to begin with - renting it when needed, but there was no formal agreement with the fairgrounds. As our relationship grew, the fair board agreed to let us start building a boarding facility at the west end of the fairgrounds."

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