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The logo features a stylized windmill with a circular body and a spiral blade, standing on a small patch of grass.

ENTERPRISE

LOGAN COUNTY, STAPLETON, NEBRASKA 69163

(USPS 518780)

THURSDAY, JUNE 7, 2018

NO. 23

McPherson Co.
News



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Graphic Files
Over The Hills
MCHS Alumni Reunion

Notices

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- Stapleton Rural Fire Protection District Public Notice
- School District R-1 Board Proceedings

Who Is
Dan Stapleton?

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Avengers- Infinity Wars



DATE	HI	LOW	MT
22	76	48	0
23	81	56	0
24	82	58	0
25	83	57	0
26	89	57	0
27	92	58	0
28	90	59	2.19
29	73	57	.55
30	72	53	.11
31	81	55	0
June 1	84	56	0
2	88	52	0
3	73	44	0
4	78	45	0

Fog was observed on May 22. Tunder was recorded on May 27, 28 & 29. May precepitation was 9.23". Thunder was recorded 11 times in May. 2018 Total pre-precipitation is 16.85" year to date.

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Live Fit Gym is officially open



MARCIA HORA PHOTO

The Stapleton Area Chamber of Commerce officially welcomed the newest business in Stapleton with a ribbon cutting ceremony May 26. Live Fit Gym held a grand opening and open house on a beautiful Saturday morning, and Jennifer and Jason Johnston and boys were grateful for the positive community support of their latest venture. The Johnston family was kept busy serving refreshments, giving tours, and signing up members. Thirty-nine memberships were sold Saturday morning. If you would like to see what Live Fit Gym has to offer, and if you are interested in becoming member, you may contact Jennifer Johnston at 308-645-9432. Johnston said she will also be giving a demonstration and assistance on the Parabody weight machine Friday, June 8, at 7:00 p.m. Anyone interested is invited to come to the gym that evening. Karen Empfield was the winner of the free six month membership at the drawing conducted at the open house and grand opening event.

Confessions of an uninformed voter



COURTESY PHOTO

Karen Hough of Arnold, spurred a bill that would exempt equine, cat and dog massage practice from licensure and regulation. LB 596 becomes operative July 19, 2018. Pictured, l-r: Brad Beam who is involved in animal welfare; Nichole Fox of the Platte Institute; Senator Mike Groene, Karen Hough, Governor Pete Ricketts, Kerri Kelsey, dog grooming service owner, North Platte; Dawn Hatcher and Jennifer Lewis.

MARCIA HORA

Karen Hough of Arnold is passionate. She's passionate about horses and barrel racing. She's passionate about politics and serves as Logan County Republican County Chairman. She is passionate about writing and illustrating children's books and sharing the love of Christ.

Although Hough is passionate about many things, she also confesses she was a really uninformed voter.

"Yes. I was one of those people," Hough said. "The one who marked the box by the person whose name sounded most familiar. The one who put a check by the box of every judge without knowing anything about them."

Hough said she read about government in books, but much like thinking you can see something by looking at a picture, she had missed a much bigger picture.

"I called HHS in 2012 to find out how to be licensed for Equine Massage," Hough said. "I had apprenticed and taken classes and was curious as to how to take the next step. I was told that I needed a veterinarian license to practice and was not allowed to do it for money, for free or teach anyone else how to do it."

Two weeks later Hough received a cease and desist order with the threat of 25 years in prison or a \$20,000 fine if she continued to practice.

After visiting with people who were practicing this "forbidden art," Hough learned you could give the person a dollar and buy

the horse, work on the horse, and then sell it back for a dollar.

Hough said she effectively painted herself into a corner, in front of children, when she said, "In America, we don't break the law. We change the law."

Thus began her journey through the maze of the reality of government.

Hough made calls to the Attorney General. She was referred to her State Senator.

"Senator Fischer was my first attempt, but she was leaving as she was running for senate. She referred me to Senator Tyson Larson."

Hough came to realize HHS's Veterinarian and Human Massage and Chiropractic Boards were writing regulations for the practice.

"They were writing regulations that would require me to first take human massage therapy classes and then equine massage classes. Why should it take twice as much schooling to massage a horse as a human?" Hough questioned.

Hough was undaunted. She contacted senators, worked on campaigns, and campaigned for Governor Ricketts since the Governor chooses who will be on the HHS boards.

"I learned that HHS has teeth and it likes to bite. One man, a vet who had received a cease and desist told me, don't mess with those people, they can destroy you."

Hard work and perseverance paid off for Hough and others in Nebraska.

Senator Mike Groene introduced LB596

which deregulated equine massage, along with cat and dog massage.

Karen Hough, accompanied by her husband, Bob, traveled to Lincoln to attend the signing of the bill into law by Governor Ricketts. Nebraskans will no longer need a time-consuming license to massage horses, dogs, or cats. Animal massage therapy can relieve tension, boost range of motion and help with rehabilitation after trauma. With roughly one horse for every 12 humans, Nebraska's equine economy generates roughly \$700 million each year.

Other supporters were Brad Beam who is involved in animal welfare and believes massage can make an animal more adoptable; Nicole Fox from the Platte Institute who spent hours organizing and making sure the public knew what was happening; Senator Groene who worked tirelessly to get this legislation passed; Governor Ricketts who Hough has found truly cares about the people he serves; Kerri Kelsey, a North Platte dog groomer; and Dawn Hatcher and Jennifer Lewis who stepped up when stepping up was 'scary.'

"After dipping my toe into government, I have a great appreciation for the responsibility that I carry as a voter," Hough said. "Can one person make a difference? I believe so. In this county many races are determined by one or two votes."

Will Hough vote for someone by name recognition without knowing where that person stands on the issues? Absolutely not.