

# Choice

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expects good voter turnout. "I'm expecting to reach our average for this election, which should be around 65 percent or more," he said.

The 65 percent figure would rival the 72 percent turnout in the 2012 presidential election year. In addition, the 65 percent mark would far surpass the 52 percent mark in the 2010 off-year election.

Dowling expressed his pleasure with the use of all-mail voting in select precincts. Eight of the county's 13 precincts use all-mail balloting. About 2,200 voters — or about one-third of the county's 6,075 registered voters — are covered by all-mail balloting.

"The all mail is going very well," he said. "People have commented they like the voting this way. The ballots have been coming in slower than expected, but it looks like the turnout will be good."

At the legislative level, the spotlight will shine on the District 40 race between incumbent Tyson Larson of O'Neill and challenger Keith Kube of Crofton. The winner of the four-year term will represent approximately 37,600 constituents in Rock, Holt, Boyd, Knox, Cedar and Dixon counties.

Election Day is always hectic, and Fischer expects a long vote-counting process because of the potential for a large number of write-in ballots.

"We will be busy Election Day and late into the night as we have all of the township races — 30 township boards — on the ballots, and a number of townships did not have anyone file," she said.

"We also have declared write-ins for the governor and U.S. Senate races, and locally, for the Creighton City Council race, the Creighton School Board, the Nebraska Unified District No. 1 -Verdigre School, the Santee School race and two declared write-in candidates for a township."

In addition, election workers face the potential for undeclared write-in candidates, Fischer said.

"We have to look at each township, village and Santee School race for write-ins as these races didn't require write-in candidates to file a write-in affidavit," she explained.

As of Oct. 24, Knox County had registered 3,146 Republicans; 1,706 Democrats; 869 non-partisans and 7 Libertarians.

As of Thursday, Cedar County had registered 3,272 Republicans, 1,740 Democrats, 80 non-partisans and 11 Libertarians.

The following is a round-up of



area elections around northeast Nebraska.

## KNOX COUNTY

The race for district court clerk pits Republican incumbent Karen Riesberg of Crofton against Democratic challenger Matt Fischer of Verdigre for the four-year term.

Two supervisor (county commission) seats are contested, both for four-year terms.

The District 1 race (Crofton area) features Republican incumbent Marty O'Connor and Democratic challenger Kerry Kolterman. The District 3 race (Verdigre area) sends Republican incumbent Virgil Miller against Democratic challenger Jeff A. Uhlir.

Two other supervisor seats are up for election. Running unopposed are Republicans Kevin Mackeprang in District 5 (Bloomfield area) and Jim Borgmann in District 7 (Creighton area). Both seats are for four-year terms.

The board of supervisors is guaranteed at least two new faces. District 5 supervisor Norman Mackeprang and District 7 supervisor Jim Fuchtmann aren't running for re-election.

In addition, Patrick Liska was recently appointed as District 2 supervisor (Niobrara area) to complete the term of the late Rayder Swanson.

Other Knox County officials running unopposed are Assessor Monica McManigal, Attorney John Thomas, Clerk Joann Fischer, Sheriff Don Henery, Surveyor Michael Skroch and Treasurer Cathy Stark.

## CEDAR COUNTY

In Cedar County, there are no contested races at the county level. Running unopposed are Don Hoelsing for assessor, Dave Dowling for clerk, Jean Wiebelhaus for treasurer, Janet Wiechelmann for district court clerk, Larry Koranda for sheriff and George Hirschbach for county attorney.

the four-year term. Curtis H. Keck, MaryAnne Block and Mike Nutting are running for the two, four-year terms on the city council at large. Richard Porter is running for the one six-year term on the airport authority.

• **CROFTON:** In the school board race, Tami R. Guenther, Jason Arens, Bob Evans and Roger P. Lange are running for the three four-year terms.

In the city races, Wendell O. Strom is running for the four-year term as mayor. Roger Nohr, Steven J. Kuehler, Michael f. Guenther and Mitch Hofer are running for the two four-year terms on the city council at large.

• **HARTINGTON:** In the school race, Jason Dendinger, Brenda Steiner and Colin Kathol are running for three seats on the Hartington-Newcastle school board.

In city races, Brad Peitz is running for mayor. Joshua Wolf, Cody Christensen and Gary Kruse are running for two at-large seats on the council. Roger Filipis, V.E. Rossiter Jr. and Joe Hish are running for three six-year terms on the Hartington airport authority.

• **LAUREL:** Keith Knudsen is running for an at-large seat on the city council.

• **LYNCH:** In the school race, school, three 4-year terms April A. Micaneck, Perry DeKay and Frederick Lee Holz are running for the three 4-year terms.

• **NIORARA:** For the school board, Orvil W. Holz, Kyle Crosley and Leon M. Klug are running for three 4-year terms. Gerald Kemp is running for the one 2-year term.

In the town race, Steve Hrbek, Susie Kelley and Jody D. Stark are running for the two four-year terms on the board of trustees.

• **ORCHARD:** In the school race, Terri Hergert, Candice Hoke, Nathan Schwager are running for the three 4-year terms.

In addition, taxpayers in the Orchard Rural Fire District will vote on a tax levy override, not to exceed 5 cents per \$100 of taxable valuation for the 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 fiscal years. The additional funds will be collected for general operation and to increase the restricted funds by 15 percent over the allowable growth percentages.

• **OSMOND:** In the school race, Edwin C. Brummels, Cheryl Friedrich, Paul Koehler and Aaron A. von Rentzell are running for the three 4-year terms.

• **PLAINVIEW:** In the school race, Krista Hanks, Kurtis Cash, Jason D. Ashburn, Steve Mosel, Paula Hoffman and Michael Scott are running for the three 4-year terms.

• **RANDOLPH:** In the school race, Marvin Nordhues, Anthony Shearer, Loren Haselhorst, Josh Graham, Paul Schmit and Sandra

Owens are running for three spots on the school board.

In the city race, Dwayne Schutt is running for mayor. Timothy Lemons and Scott Waltier are running for two at-large seats on the city council.

• **SANTEE:** In the school race, Diane LaPointe, Anthony G. Kitto, Waylon LaPlante, Eugene K. Saul, Steven J. Moose, Donald F Pike Jr., Susan Pike and Stacy Moose are running for the three 4-year terms.

In the town race, Diane LaPointe, Waylon LaPlante, Eugene K. Saul and Sherri Derby are running for the two 4-year terms on the board of trustees.

• **VERDEL:** In the town race, Kenneth Harper and DeLynn Minarik are running for the three 4-year terms on the board of trustees.

• **VERDIGRE:** In the school race, Peggy Liska, Mike Hrbek and Mara Breithaupt are running for the three 4-year terms.

In the town race, David Wickert and Jackie R. Ktrous are running for the two 4-year terms on the board of trustees.

In a recall election, voters will decide whether to remove Duane Liska and Ronald Walton from the Verdigre Rural Fire Board. A separate recall election is held for each board member.

• **WAUSA:** In the school race, Michael Kumm, Brian Wakeley, Mark Dawson, Chad Vanness, Kristal Thorell and Derek Cunningham are running for three 4-year terms.

In the town race, Jason Seagren, William J. Schumacher and Michael R. Burns are running for the three 4-year terms on the board of trustees.

• **WINNETON:** In the town race, Leonard R. Boggs, Francis H. Wagner and Carol Berglund are running for the three 4-year terms.

• **WYNOT:** In the school race, Neal Hochstein, Laurie Schulte and Kenny Wieseler are running for three seats on the school board.

In the town race, James Hans and Maurice Ketter are running for two seats on the board of trustees.

In Nebraska, polls are open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Voters can cast an early ballot in person at the clerk's office until 4:30 p.m. Monday. An agent may pick up an early voting ballot for another person until 7 p.m. election night. All early voting ballots must be in the county clerk's possession by 8 p.m. election night, when the polls close.

For campaign and election coverage, follow the Press & Dakotan in print, online and with social media.

You can follow Randy Dockendorf on Twitter at [twitter.com/RDockendorf](https://twitter.com/RDockendorf). Discuss this story at [www.yankton.net](http://www.yankton.net).

expenditures where it is not needed. In addition, promote the positives of our state, such as excellent academics, infrastructure, and culture to draw industry and people to our state.

4. **What do you want to address in the 2015 session? Why?**

Both education and roads require funding, however we should also be looking for non-funding solutions. We should not just stop with funding. Human trafficking is still a big problem in South Dakota. There is more we can do to stop human trafficking in South Dakota. EPA regulations in regards to energy and water have a huge impact on every one in South Dakota. These are issues I would like to address as each one of them directly impacts our economy, families, and our way of life in South Dakota.

5. **What are your thoughts on the EB-5 situation and how it was handled? What do you believe the next step on the issue needs to be?**

It has been investigated by the Division of Criminal Investigation, Government Operations, and Audit Committee. It has also been audited by two private accounting firms. Currently, a federal investigation is being performed, as it is a federal program and not a

state program. A federal program promoted by the national Democrat party and continues to promote, on a national level, by serving as the keynote speaker at the annual EB-5 conference. As the program has been terminated in South Dakota, I believe the next step is to wait for the findings from the federal investigation. While we wait for the federal investigation, I believe it is more important for us to be discussing the issues and challenges facing our state.

6. **What are your thoughts on Medicaid expansion?**

Expanding Medicaid without getting answers to tough questions would be a knee jerk reaction to try and fix a problem without knowing to what degree it will help or if it is sustainable. We need to evaluate options and look at the entire picture to identify a solution that will be beneficial to South Dakota's long-term health and its citizens. To simply look at the amount the federal government will pay now, is looking short-term. The federal government does not have a great track record of fulfilling its funding obligations. This short-term solution could leave South Dakota in a

position that will have a negative impact for generations to come. Working together, we can find a solution.

7. **How would you address education funding and teacher pay?**

I am a firm believer in limited government, regardless of it being your business, personal life, or education. If government imposes a mandate, it should fund it regardless of the economic environment. If government can't fund it, it should not mandate it. It is important that local control be given to the school districts. Allow them the power to make financial and staffing decisions they feel is best for their district. Not someone sitting in Pierre or Washington. To help with both education funding and teacher pay, changes to the current law may help without increasing taxes.

8. **Additional thoughts?**

We all want what is best for South Dakota, but it should not be at the expense of others. It is only when we look at the issues on a whole, and not in a vacuum, can we make the best decisions for South Dakota. With my experience in business, finance, and economics, I believe I bring fresh new ideas

to the challenges facing our great state. I am the best candidate to serve you as your next District 18 Senator. I am uniquely qualified to understand the issues and help develop solutions, which makes the most sense for South Dakota's future. I ask you for your vote on November 4th to be your next District 18 Senator and pledge to work for you without imposing a hardship on our future, our children.

# YOUR NEWS!

The Press & Dakotan

## Police Patrol Officer

City of Mitchell

The City of Mitchell is accepting applications for a full-time Police Patrol Officer. Qualifications include a valid SD driver's license and high school diploma or GED. Hourly wage range \$19.41 – \$23.06 with excellent benefit package. Applications and job description available at City Hall or [www.cityofmitchell.org](http://www.cityofmitchell.org). Closing date November 7th, return applications to Human Resource Department, 612 North Main, Mitchell SD 57301. Equal Opportunity Employer.



# CHERI LOEST

## COUNTY COMMISSIONER



"I'll work hard to provide independent leadership for you!"

Paid for by Cheri Loest for County Commission

# Thank You!



WIN OR LOSE on Tuesday, I want to thank everyone — family, friends and all — for making my campaign so much fun. I never thought I'd have my name on a ballot. But, it's been a great experience. Thanks to all of you. It is an honor to serve you.

— Patty Hojem  
Yankton County Auditor

*Wakonda Heritage Manor*  
Invites you to our annual

# Fall FESTIVAL

Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> 11:00am-2:00pm

Taverns, Homemade Soups,  
Assorted Salads, Homemade Pies

Raffle Items: \$50 Gift Certificates  
Beef Bundles, Custom Adirondack Chair

Large Silent Auction with a variety  
of themed Baskets

Bake Sale

We look forward to seeing you there!