Cornhusker Boys' State
Bulletin

Volume 24, Issue IV | Lincoln, Nebraska | Thursday, June 8, 2023

A New Era In Technology

By: Jonah G. Fagiolo, Bunker Hill

Almost everything that's used nowadays uses some sort of artificial intelligence. Andrew Easton brought some light to this discussion and went into detail on what exactly AI is and what it means to the school system. The presenters had to define artificial intelligence to him till he gave a further explanation of what it really meant. One definition from a 2023 article titled "Artificial Intelligence", made by Whitson George M, describes AI as "the design, implementation and use of programs, machines and systems that exhibit human knowledge representation, reasoning, and learning". Andrew said this was a very great definition and that generally AI is used to sort of copy human expression. He also goes further in depth by making them identify 5 different examples of AI in our lives, some of those being Google, YouTube, Chat GPT, Dall-E, and Speechify.

Next, what exactly does artificial intelligence mean for the school system? Andrew had said that using artificial intelligence "doesn't exactly mean to cheat". He claimed that artificial intelligence takes a certain level of knowledge for someone to use. People can't just put in Chat GPT "write me a college essay" and expect a perfect essay.

Instead, a better way to use it is to write an outline and put in your own personal anecdotes, or just write it on your own.

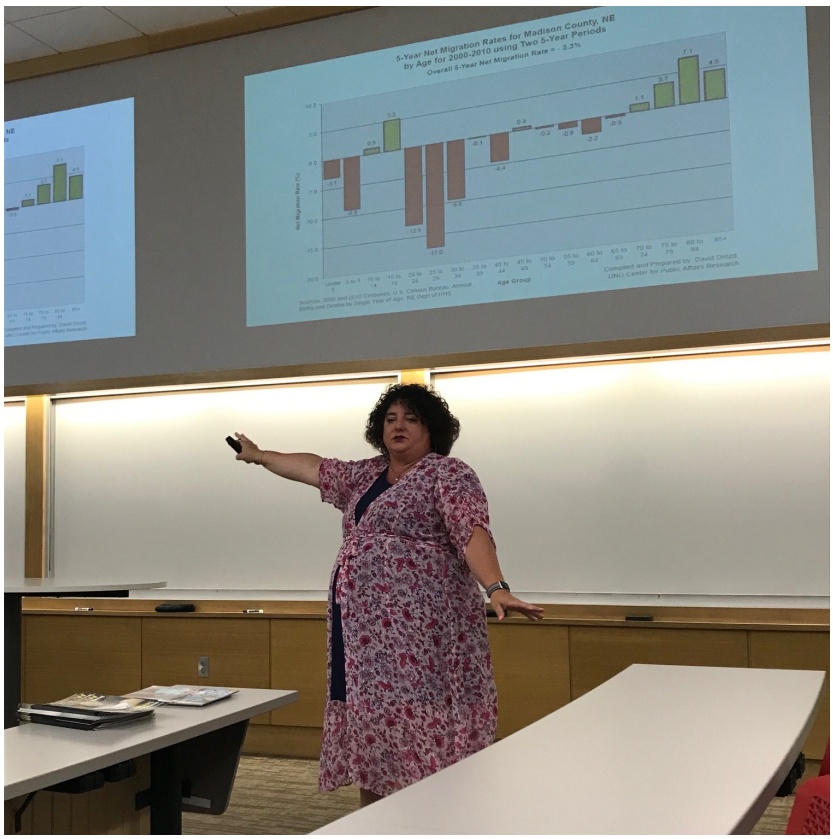
As you can see, artificial intelligence is being used a heavy amount in our daily lives, and it doesn't seem to be slowing down anytime soon.

Army National Guard
By: Jafar Liebers, Manila Bay

"Hey! Keep movin'!" That is what we heard when we got off the bus at the Army National Guard Air Space Base. At the base we got to look at two helicopters, one that is used for evacuation and medical rescue. The other helicopter is used to do reconnaissance and deployment of soldiers in war zones. We then proceeded to a drone called "Raven". This drone is also used to conduct reconnaissance and surveillance. That drone can go up to 15,000 feet away from the operator. Lastly, we saw the guns. We got to learn about some standard rifles, machine guns, and snipers hands on. The Army National Guard Base was an event to be remembered forever.

Building Hometowns with Angie Stenger
By: Jonathan Scheopner, Bunker Hill

In Madison County, NE, there is an alarming problem. As reported in the 2010 census, there was a steep decline in 20–29-year-olds; a statistic that calls attention to a larger problem across Nebraska. Towns in rural parts of the state have a difficult time maintaining young talent, creating a "brain drain" to places with more opportunities. The Aksarben Foundation is seeking to fix this problem. Yesterday, Angie Stenger with The Aksarben Foundation spoke in a session titled "Building Hometowns." In Norfolk, TAF is working to create downtown density, attract businesses, and create careers. To attract young talent, the City of Norfolk has partnered with Wayne State College, offering scholarships and internship opportunities. As Stenger spoke, we were each reminded that with tenacity, determination, and a good plan, anything is possible.



The Hunting Crisis
By: Dahlton Fisher, Belleau Wood

Yesterday morning Hunter Nikolai, a representative from the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission (NGPC), came to talk about the hunter's role in wildlife management. The NGPC is directly responsible for the monitoring and the upkeep of wildlife populations in Nebraska. The funding that makes the NGPC possible is excise tax paid when ammunition or firearms are bought. But a crisis is beginning to rear its head: the number of young male hunters, which make up 90% of all Nebraska hunters, is continuously declining. A plan has been crafted to hopefully bolster hunter numbers. The Recruitment, Retention and Reactivation (R3) plan hopes to bring new participation in, keep practicing hunters, and reinvigorate past hunters.

Beyond the Two-Party System
By: Brodie J. McConville, Yorktown

Gene Siadek began his political career in the mid 2000s as a Republican because of his fear that the national debt was becoming unstable. He soon realized, however, that neither the Republican nor Democratic Party stood for what he believed in. Mr. Siadek decided that for the Senate race of 2012 he would run for the Libertarian Party nomination instead, but this switch in parties didn't help him succeed. He found that much of the mainstream media would exclude him from the conversation of the Senate race. Since then Mr. Siadek has been spending the rest of his career spreading awareness about the issues of the two-party system and ways it could be fixed. This is why he continues to speak at Boys' State, educating us on these issues.

Valley Forge Town Report
By: Cole Mickells, Valley Forge

Yesterday, Valley Forge's City Council convened to discuss numerous proposed ordinances. The highlight of the meeting was an approved ordinance prohibiting the use of the group chat past 11:30 pm.

Additionally, Valley Forge had a successful discussion concerning the election campaigns of William Paxton for Secretary of State and both Luke Reiter and Jacob Dominguez for Governor. Finally, Valley Forge congratulated recent primary election winners.

College Fair
By: Elio Nila, Gettysburg

As many of us begin to look forward to furthering our education, the college fair was a beneficial time for everyone. There were many colleges and universities offering a variety of experiences that offered something for everyone. Everyone was informed about great opportunities. Speaking from firsthand experience, I would say that I have a few more options that I'm considering just based on what I was presented today. Speaking on behalf of all the staters, I think I can safely say that we were all pleased with what was offered during this generous opportunity.

Alamo Town Report
By: Jacob Gill, Alamo

Has the week been flying by for you? Well, it seems like it is for the Alamo. A big congrats to the Justices that are representing Alamo in the justice system for the rest of the week. Our City Council recently approved ordinances such as being nice to one another and everyone playing our town game. Gentlemen, the Alamo School Board is proud to announce our school mascot, The Red Woods! The School Board members are taking good care of our community's children!

Failures Equal Experience
By: Zachary Araujo, Gettysburg

On Tuesday night, towns began yet another discussion to give Boys' Staters a chance to think about topics in a new light. Tuesday's subject was one that many feel is a difficult thing to talk about: failure. As we winded down for the night, Boys' Staters shared opinions and stories that gave many a new perspective. Counselors helped the discussion keep moving in new directions by asking questions that pertained to expectations and personal experience. This topic offered many new viewpoints on failures and how to recover and learn from them.

Gettysburg Town Report
By: James Padgett

As the week has reached its midpoint, the citizens of Gettysburg have been experimenting with a new sport: Frolf. This innovation has shaped the culture and tourism of the town. The candidates are preparing for their campaigning and caucus on Thursday to heighten their chances at winning the primaries. The citizens have also found a new spiritual approach to their living situation by worshiping their counselor, John, who they consider some sort of satirical deity.

Bunker Hill Town Report
By: Mason Childers

Yesterday morning, those interested had the opportunity to discuss the Legal Marijuana Now Party and other third parties with Gene Siadek. The attending group was able to learn how a drug's legality can influence our society and how a former candidate from the Libertarian Party believes the government should be handled. With this new information, viewers may now look past the binary system of the GOP and the Democratic Party.

Belleau Wood Town Report
By: Dahlton Fisher

The last few days for the Belleau Wood Unicameral representatives have been anxious as they scrambled to innovate and craft bills. By 10 a.m. that morning the legislators had designed 6 laws, of which 4 passed committee. Following the Legislative Scramble the town council implemented some new ordinances. First establishing an official giggity points system, where three points result in punishment of a stair, and custodial assignments. Two boys volunteered from the town to maintain and clean the town lounge in exchange for elevator privileges, and first choice in seating.

Manila Bay Town Report
By: Preston Larson

On the third morning waking up in the residence of Manila Bay we got the opportunity to go to a college fair. It was a great opportunity for all of us and we really got to learn a lot about colleges that a lot of us could likely attend. Some of the tables that attracted a lot of attention from the Manila Bay residents were the Hastings College and Air Force tables. In between our sessions we learned a song and chanted it down the stairwell.

After we got done with that we had the decision between a handful of speakers about a variety of topics. There was a speaker about AI, building hometowns, and many other things. We then proceeded to head to our sessions to pass bills, work on court cases, and discuss different school scenarios. Another amazing day at Boys' State is in the books, and we can't wait to see what tomorrow brings.

Do you Plan to Attend College?
By: Jacob Gill

"Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today." (Malcolm X). On Wednesday June 7th, the Cornhusker Boys' State offered a "College Fair" for all the Boys' State delegates. From Wayne State College, to Hastings College, to finally The UNL ROTC, there was much to explore and learn throughout the 20 minute time period. As all the boys went from table to table finding the best college to think about attending, many good times were had. Even if most of the colleges were not in a selection of yours, Boys' State officers hope you had at least a chance speaking to colleges you thought you would never attend, or have on your list. Even though not every area college was there, it was still a time for opportunities shared at Cornhusker Boys' State. Thank you to the colleges that attended, and the respect shown to them from the delegates.

The Bulletin would like to thank the counseling staff for everything they do! When you next see a Legion member or counselor, take a minute to say thanks.