There will be contested races in the Tuesday, May 15, primary election for two Auburn City Council positions and the Republican nomination for Nemaha County Commissioner, District 2. Thursday, March 1, was the deadline for non-incumbents to file for most offices for the 2012 election.

Three candidates filed for two of the three Auburn City Council seats up for election.
In Ward 1, Anthony Johnson, Thomas D. Clark and Dennis Goering are candidates.
In Ward 3, incumbent Chris Erickson, incumbent Mitch Bishop and Jeffrey Jeanneret are candidates. Bishop is seeking a full term on the council.
In Ward 2, incumbent Frank Critser and Rick Janssen are candidates.
Three Republicans are seeking the 2nd District Commissioner nomination: incumbent Dennis Wittmann, David Ross Helms and B. Dan Gerdes, all of Auburn. Wittmann was appointed to the county board last year. No Democrats filed for the nomination.
No Primaries for School Boards,
Peru City Offices
There will be no primary election held for the School District 23 Board of Education, School District 29 Board of Education, Peru City Council and Peru Mayor as not more than two candidates filed for each open position. All candidates who filed will automatically advance to the Tuesday, Nov. 6, general election ballot.
Candidates for three seats on the District 29 Board of Education are: incumbents Stephen Kennedy and Dr. Michael Zaruba and Troy Wynn. Bob Hemmingsen, incumbent, is not seeking re-election.
Candidates for three seats on the District 23 Board of Education are: incumbents David Bohling and Lonnie Neddenriep, and Brian Clark and Steven Gregg Clark. Duane Caspers, incumbent, is not seeking re-election.
Jay Moran, current Peru City Council member and Brian Maher filed for mayor of Peru. Incumbent Lesley Ryan is not seeking re-election.
Judie Douglas filed for re-election to the Peru City Council from the East Ward. No one filed for the West Ward. Joe Whisler, incumbent, is not seeking re-election.
Candidates for the Airport Board are: Steve Schulte and Michael Zaruba, incumbents, six-year terms and Rory Mason, four-year term. All are from Auburn.
Six File for District 1 Legislature
Six individuals have filed for the Nebraska Legislature, 1st District. The district covers all of Nemaha, Johnson, Pawnee and Richardson counties and most of Otoe County.
Jerry Joy, Stella; Dan Watermeier, Syracuse; Douglas Bohling, Humboldt; Bruce Bernadt, Steinauer; Alvin Guenther, Dunbar and Neal Schatz, Verdon are candidates. The top two vote-getters from the May primary will advance to the November general election ballot.
State Sen. Lavon Heidemann, Elk Creek, will leave the Legislature this year because of term limits.
Heidemann filed for the District 5 position on the University of Nebraska Board of Regents. Also filing for the Regents from District 5 are Mike Jones, David City and Robert Prokop, Wilber.

Prokop formerly served on the Regents. Incumbent Jim McClurg is not seeking a second full term.

No Primary for Other Area Offices

There will also be no primary for the area positions open on the Nemaha Natural Resources District (NNRD) board and the Southeast Community College (SCC) Board of Governors. Incumbents Robbie Bohling, Johnson, Subdistrict 6 and Dr. Mike Speece, Auburn, Subdistrict 7, are unopposed for the NNRD board. In Subdistrict 9, Norm Fritz and Jon Keithley, both Falls City, filed. Incumbent Tom White is not seeking re-election.

Kathy Boellstorff, Johnson, is unopposed for re-election to the SCC Board from District 2. Candidates for the at-large position on the SCC board are Jim Garver, Lincoln, incumbent and Steven Ottmann, Dorchester.

Remaining Filing Deadlines

Sunday, July 15, is filing deadline for incumbents for village boards, educational service units and county weed boards. Wednesday, Aug. 1, is non-incumbent filing deadline for those offices. Two incumbents have filed for re-election to village boards in Nemaha County. They are: Scott Pelican, Johnson and Grace Burgert, Julian. John Lauber, non-incumbent, has filed for the Brownville Village Board.

County Conventions

Three more Nemaha County Republicans filed for their party's county convention Wednesday, Feb. 29: Harold Bickford, Auburn; James Mason II, Brownville and Daniel Gerdes, Johnson. Filing earlier were: John Henderson, Brock; and Nancy Baltensperger, Daniel Gerdes and Mary Gerdes, all Johnson. The county Republican convention will be during the first 10 days of June.