### **Get to Know....** MIKE GOEBEL City Councilman and Webster County Sheriff's Deputy



Mike Goebel was elected to the City Council in November 2018. In addition to his role representing Red Cloud's North Ward, Mike is a Deputy with the Webster County Sheriff's Department, and is an active member of the Red Cloud Volunteer Fire Department. Prior to working for the Sheriff's Department, Mike worked for CPI for a number of years. Mike is a native of Las Vegas, NV and has lived in Red Cloud since 2002. He is married to his wife Leigh and has five children: Michaela (24), Tara (23), Isaac (19), Allison (15), and Isabella (9).

### What is your favorite thing about Red Cloud?

My favorite thing about Red Cloud is the people. It's nice to walk into any place in town and be able to strike up a conversation with anyone at any time.

### What are some of your favorite businesses to shop at in Red Cloud? Why?

It's hard to pick just one business. Hometown Market is a big part of our lives. I would say that more than 90% of our food is purchased there. As far as fuel, we get that at CPI. I worked there for more than 6 years, so it just comes natural. I go to Olson's Sinclair for snacks, breakfast, ice cream, and lunch from time to time. The Palace is always good for a home cooked meal. Usually, I'm in Shades West for pair of *quality* boots. Dollar General is nice as we can get our normal household goods just as cheap as if we

drove all the way to Wal-Mart. Honestly, I could go on and on—I am a firm believer in keeping our money local. All of the businesses in town rock!



### Do you have any hobbies or interest you'd like to share?

I really enjoy the outdoors. Fishing and bird hunting are something I look forward to every year. Growing up in Las Vegas, we usually drove several hours to get away far enough to find good locations for sportsman activities. When I moved to Red Cloud in 2002, one of the things that sold me on the community is how easy it is to spend time outdoors and all the opportunities for sportsmen.

### Is there anything about your job and/or an organization you belong to that you wish people knew more about?

I just recently switched jobs. I worked for CPi for the last 6 years and have just transitioned to becoming a Webster County Sheriff's Deputy. The one thing I want people to understand about my new job is that we will do everything possible to get results for our citizens and keep them safe. Sometimes law and regulations make things seem like they are moving at a snail's pace. Trust me when I say that we feel the frustration about that too. But, as I said before, we will do our jobs to the fullest in order to protect our wonderful community.



# You were recently elected to the Red Cloud City Council. What motivated you to run and what would you like to see happen during your time in office?

My motivation was sparked by me being tired of people complaining all the time. I felt I would try to make a difference for them as best as I could. The one pillar I stand on more than any other is infrastructure. We all modern this and that, but without the basics like power, roads, water, and sewer we are not going to be able to achieve the big things in my opinion.

#### Do you have any pets?

We have a cat named Zoey. We also have a purebred Collie named Toby. Let's just say that there is never a dull moment at our house.

### What would your high school teachers or guidance counselor say about you if we asked?

I believe they would say I was a driven individual, if somewhat too critical of myself. They always told me I would leave Las Vegas and do big things.

#### What are you most proud of?

The thing that I am most proud of is the change between 18 year old Mike and 38 year old Mike. There may have been many bumps along the way, but I am exactly where I am supposed to be!



### Do you have a mantra or mission statement you live by?

"Thoughts become things." This is a very powerful mantra for me. If anyone has read any of Rhonda Byrne's work, they understand the power of this statement. Manifesting is real!

### Do you have any advice for someone looking to relocate to rural Nebraska and/or Red Cloud specifically?

I would highly encourage anyone looking to relocate here. Wages are decent and the cost of living is low. I think we have a lot to offer with all of the businesses and an Opera House in town. Being so far from a larger city, I think our culture is our anchor.

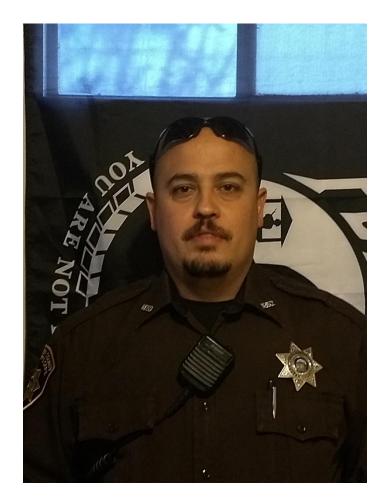
#### Who is your favorite writer and/or thinker?

Eric Thomas. He is more of a motivational speaker. In my opinion, his words spark thoughts, particularly of self-improvement. Personal development, in my opinion, sparks a person's drive to better themselves. This is key to building a foundation for an abundant life.



### What historical figure or celebrity would you most like to have dinner and a conversation with? Explain why.

Nikola Tesla. He was one of the most brilliant minds to ever walk on this planet. There are so many things that we take for granted that this man had a hand in creating. There are also a few unfinished projects of his I would ask him more about.



### What are some of your favorite songs and/or musicians?

As a West Coast 90s kid, I was big on the HipHop movement as a teenager. But, at the same time, I was raised on country singers like Johnny Cash, Merle Haggard, Garth Brooks, and George Strait. In the last 5 or so years I have developed a taste for alternative rock such as Korn, Staind, and a few heavier bands. My normal playlist would encompass all of these things.

#### What is your dream vacation?

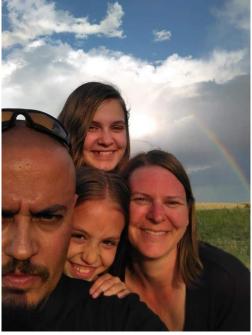
My dream vacation would be to take my family back with me to Germany where I was stationed in the Army. I've been many places, but Germany was by far the most beautiful.

#### What's your favorite place to visit in Nebraska?

My favorite place to visit in Nebraska is Memorial Stadium on a game day. The electricity in the air is something special. I think it is an awesome thing to see the whole state stand still for the Huskers on Game Day. Go Big Red!!!

#### Who has been the biggest influence in your life? Explain why.

My dad has by far been the biggest influence. For one, I was raised by a Marine. Integrity was drilled in me from the early stages of my youth. The camping trips we went on were always a learning experience as it gave us time to bond. My father has always been a hard worker. I think it has rubbed off on me.



## Life in Red Cloud is great, but it's not perfect. If you could change one thing or add something to town what would it be and why?

To be honest, I'm going to say we are on the right path as a community. I wouldn't trade this place for anything. I am proud to be raising my children here.

### Is there anything Red Cloud could do as a community to be more welcoming to newcomers?

I think we are already very welcoming. One thing I have heard from locals is that there could be more shows/events that would appeal to a larger audience from the community itself. The current lineups sometimes only appeal to a few people. But, as a whole, I think we are still doing a good job being welcoming.



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