

THOMAS COUNTY Herald

Your Source Of News In The Sandhills

THOMAS COUNTY, THEDFORD NEBRASKA 69166

(USPS 596-550)

THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2017

NO. 41

Hughes Speaks to Loup Trail Chapter of the Daughters of American Revolution



On Saturday, March 9, 2017, the Loup Trail Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) invited Amy Hughes, Keep Loup Basin Beautiful (KLBB) Project Coordinator to speak to them about Pollinators and Environmental Stewardship. Hughes opened the meeting asking attendees, "What they knew about pollination?" A variety of responses and a lively discussion ensued. Hughes then moved into describing what pollination is, how pollination occurs, what a pollinator is and does, and why they are important. Examples of pollinators were given and pollinator garden requirements were discussed. The presentation was very interactive with questions on, "How to preserve your plants without using insecticides?" and "What is bloom set?"

Hughes also spoke to the group on the roles humans play in proper environmental stewardship and conservation of natural resources. The relationship between pollinator importance and conservation was also discussed and what humans can do to aid in conservation of the land, animals, different species, and the environment around them. Discussion on the populations of the Monarch Butterfly, Regal Fritillary, and Bees were used as examples of how human activities can have negative effects. Hughes then discussed how litter can have an adverse impact on the environment and why it is important to reduce, reuse and recycle to ensure that unwarranted items do not end up in the landfill or other areas that could cause harm to pollinators.

A discussion was held on ways to prevent unwanted environmental litter and what to do if you encounter it. Hughes suggested sorting items and taking them to the local recycle trailer and if you come across a location where someone has littered, do your best to clean up the area. Hughes was very excited to learn from many of those in attendance that they do reduce, reuse, and recycle and take advantage of the awesome recycling trailers we have in our area!

Hughes thanked the group for the invitation to speak and presented them with flower seeds to add to their own gardens if they choose. Hughes also praised them for their environmental efforts and encouraged them to continue their efforts. Every person's action leaves a lasting impact!!!

Keep Loup Basin Beautiful (KLBB) is grant-funded through the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ) and Keep America Beautiful; and is a project of the Loup Basin RC&D Council that promotes litter prevention, waste reduction, recycling, and beautification. KLBB serves thirteen counties in central and north-central Nebraska. For more information about KLBB's education programs, email KLBB at info@keeploupbasinbeautiful.org, visit www.keeploupbasinbeautiful.org, or like them on Facebook. Contact the Loup Basin RC&D office (308)346-3393 or stop by the office at the Loup Rivers Scenic Byway Interpretive Center, 350 South Highway 11 Burwell, Nebraska.

MNAC All-Conference Basketball Teams Announced

The 2017 Mid Nebraska Activities Conference has released their All-Conference Basketball teams for this season. Those named to teams are:

Girls
First Team - Rebecca Higgins, Sandhills/Theadford, senior; Tara Callahan, Brady, senior; Brittni McCully, Mullen, senior; Georgi Lage, Arthur, senior; Sarah Monahan, Hyannis, junior; Kyra Miles, Sandhills/Theadford, senior.
Second Team - Megan Christen, Anselmo-Merna, junior; Marlee Taylor, Sandhills/Theadford, sophomore; Jayden Burnett, Anselmo-Merna, senior; Alyssa Bailey, Ansley-Litchfield, junior; Britney Brosius, Hyannis, sophomore; Jessie Sallach, South Loup, freshman; Karson Kirwin, Twin Loup, junior.
Honorable Mention - Falan Ryan, Ansley-Litchfield, sophomore; Brook Jamison, Hyannis, senior; Addi Johnson, Cody-Kil-

gore, sophomore; Jackie Schwanebeck, Hyannis, junior; Carly Kozeal, Twin Loup, junior; Hannah DeSteevano, Brady, senior; Hannah Higgins, Sandhills-Theadford, junior; Audra Kippers, Hyannis, junior; Savannah Weverka, South Loup, senior; Addy Vinton, Mullen, senior; Kourtney Safraneck, Anselmo-Merna, sophomore; Kenzie McMullen, Anselmo-Merna, senior; Madison Rut, Arthur, senior; Emery Swan, Brady, junior; Alexx Starr, McPherson County, sophomore; Alyson Nicholson, Stapleton, freshman
Boys
First Team - Jacey Nutter, Sandhills/Theadford, senior; Cade Connell, South Loup, junior; Brady Rohde, Ansley-Litchfield, senior; Lance Moore, Mullen, senior; Jack Rush, South Loup, junior; Daniel Young, Mullen, senior.
Second Team - Jayden Schmit, Cody-Kilgore, senior; Colton Lovitt, Brady,

junior; Michael Gibbens, Twin Loup, senior; Colby Crow, McPherson County, senior; Brode McIntosh, Mullen, senior; Colten Storer, Arthur County, sophomore; Cade Pokorny, Sandhills/Theadford, senior.
Honorable Mention - Luke Christen, Mullen, junior; Jace Leibhart, Anselmo-Merna, freshman; Samuel Vinton, Mullen, senior; Christopher Paitz, Ansley-Litchfield, sophomore; Lucas Harbur, Stapleton, senior; Alex Horky, Twin Loup, junior; Meek Harris, Twin Loup, junior; Cameron Downey, Anselmo-Merna, junior; Trystin Gielissen, Hyannis, junior; Isaiah Stephens, Twin Loup, sophomore; Titus Earl, Brady, sophomore; Paul Sandoz, Twin Loup, senior; Trenton Harbur, Stapleton, sophomore; Joel Mundorf, Anselmo-Merna, senior; Kyon Neal, McPherson County, senior.

Senator Brewer proposes two-year moratorium on wind turbines in Sandhills

Senator Tom Brewer's bill that would establish a two-year moratorium on development of industrial wind turbines within the Sandhills was heard in committee in the Nebraska state capitol on March 1.

LB 504 was introduced by Senator Brewer who represents the 43rd district, and not only would establish a two-year moratorium, but would put into place a study of wind turbines and their impact or influence on the area during this time period. Senator Brewer opened the hearing and stated the moratorium would give people the opportunity to be heard about the turbine proposals, especially in Cherry County.

Numerous people from this area were in attendance at the hearing and urged the bill be moved out of committee for consideration by the entire legislature. It is a common belief by those in the Sandhills that the region is a unique place that de-



COURTESY PHOTO

serves special protection. The Nebraska Sierra Club, National Audubon Society, and those people who are now dealing with wind turbine facilities testified. Opponents against LB 504 included the Center for Rural Affairs, The Nature Conservancy, Cherry County Wind and Bluestem Energy Solutions. "LB 504 survived a kill motion and is now 'held in committee' and will very likely stay there without any action for the rest of the session," Sena-

tor Brewer said. "The Chairman of the Committee, Sen. Dan Hughes (LD44) opposes the bill, and as long as he does, it will never come out of the committee to the floor of the legislature for debate." Senator Brewer also said he would like to thank the many hundreds of his constituents in the 43rd District who took the time to come testify for the bill and who have called, written letters and sent emails to the committee. Thank you for being Nebraska's 2nd House, he said.

Announcing the 2017 Inductees of the Nebraska Sandhills Cowboy Hall of Fame

The Nebraska Sandhills Cowboy Hall of Fame has announced the 2017 inductees. The recipients are: Donald K. "Don" Bandy - Stapleton; Hadley Barrett - Kersey, CO, formerly from North Platte; Blayne Beugin - Rushville; Kenneth Boyer - Mullen; Byron Eateringer - Theadford; Jason Garwood - Whitman; Joe A. Nutter - North Platte; Walter "Pearl" Nutter - Theadford; Milton A. Richstein - Ainsworth; Bernard Sheets - Dunning; George Lyman "Doc" White, DVM - Long Pine; Meredith "Punk" Worth - Springview; G.V. (Jerry) Thompson, DVM - North Platte



The 12th Annual Nebraska Sandhills Cowboy Hall of Fame Banquet and Induction Ceremony will be held June 10, 2017 at the 4-H Building at the Cherry County Fairground with the Peppermill & EKV Lounge catering in Valentine. Social Hour will begin at 4:00 p.m. (CST)

Entertainment and Benefit Auction will take place at 5:00 p.m. (CST) - The Banquet and Induction Ceremony will begin at 6:00 p.m. (CST).

Tickets will go on sale April 1, 2017. For tickets, contact Rod Palmer, 402-387-2212.

Complete biographies will be featured in upcoming issues of the *Thomas County Herald*.

Boater Safety Course Offered By ULNRD

Boating Safety Courses teach students how to safely operate a motorized boat while following all rules and regulations. Topics covered include navigation and safe operation, Nebraska laws, and emergency preparedness. Anyone born after December 31, 1985 is required to successfully complete a Boating Safety Course and possess a course certificate while operating a boat or personal watercraft. You must be at least 14 years of age to operate a motorboat or personal watercraft in Nebraska.

A homestudy option boater safety course will be offered Saturday, April 29th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. CST at the ULNRD office. This course will require three hours of study prior to the 29th. Study materials are available online. The session on the 29th will then be a short review and test session. There is no fee to attend this training. Please preregister by April 21st by calling Kevin Bergstrom at 308-520-1051 or email kevin.j.bergstrom@nebraska.gov

Sandhills Journey Scenic Byway to Award Scholarships

The Sandhills Journey Scenic Byway is pleased to announce that it will award two \$250 scholarships to qualified applicants who will graduate this spring from any of the fifteen high schools directly along the Sandhills Journey Scenic Byway - NE Highway 2. This is the seventh year the Byway has offered these scholarships.

The primary goal of these scholarships is to encourage youth to attend college, earn a degree and come back to this area to live and work. Population loss in small rural communities along the Byway is of serious concern to the economic stability of our towns, schools and businesses. The Sandhills Journey Scenic Byway is genuinely interested in learning new ideas from these young adults which may keep that threat at bay and is excited to play a part in their higher education.

Any senior attending a high school adjacent to the Sandhills Journey Scenic Byway may get a scholarship application from their local high school guidance counselor or by contacting SJSB Chairperson, Linda Lacy at 308-458-8051 or pvaptchart@neb-sandhills.net. The applications must be postmarked by April 6th with all of the required submissions included.

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