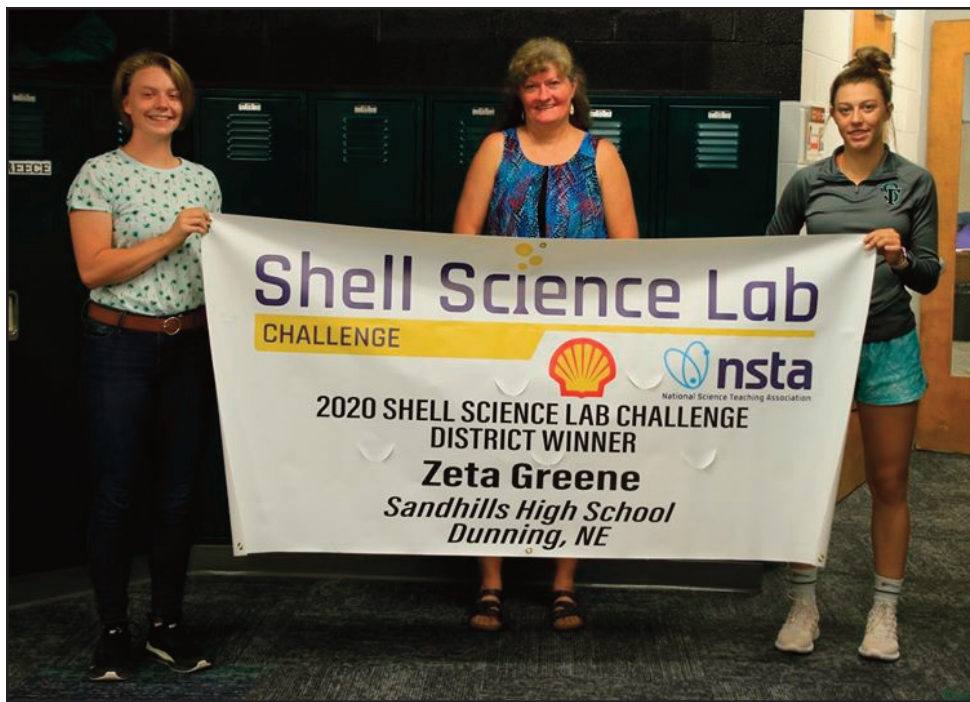


## Greene is District Winner

The annual Shell Science Lab Challenge Competition recognized outstanding middle and high school programs for their exemplary approaches to science lab instruction utilizing limited school and laboratory resources. The Challenge showcased the work of teachers, representing their schools, who submitted innovative, replicable strategies to deliver quality lab experiences with limited equipment and resources, and awarded teachers and schools with additional tools, resources, and rich professional development opportunities needed to support high-quality science teaching and strengthen their existing capabilities.

Zeta Greene's high school science department's mission statement is: "Life is a Journey. Education is the roadmap and compass." Science inquiry serves this mission by using research-based instructional strategies—such as active learning, group-based assessment, and organizational methods—to solve problems, analyze results, and communicate results with peers. Inquiry activities might include testing an insulated thermos for retention of hot and cold temperatures. Using probes to analyze data can help students answer these questions that affect their everyday life. Using the Shell science lab award, Mrs. Greene is planning to use the money to install an updated chemical fume hood, eye wash station and add some testing equipment to the classroom that would facilitate teacher and student integrations during lab work time. Having a laboratory upgrade will help ensure that labs at multiple levels can be used to encourage student understanding of impactful science, maintain safety, and help bridge the gap in experimental knowledge from high school to college.

The science department received a \$3,000 grant for improvements to the science room. Mrs. Greene is a graduate of Sandhills High School and is in her third



Zeta Greene, center, is pictured with the banner she received as the District XI2020 Shell Science Lab Challenge winner. Pictured with Mrs. Greene are Becca Smith, left, and Brianna Branic.

year of teaching at Sandhills.

Listed below are the winners from each District.

**\*National Finalist**  
**\*\*Grand Prize Winner**

District I: Connecticut, Massachusetts, Rhode Island - Genelle Faulkner, Helen Y. Davis Leadership Academy, Dorchester, MA  
 District II: Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont - Tracy Vassiliev, James F Doughty School, Bangor, ME

District III: Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland - Michele Barrie, Aberdeen Middle School, Aberdeen, MD  
 District IV: New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania - Paul Servidio, Matawan-Aberdeen Regional High School, Aberdeen, NJ

District V: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands - Amber Taylor, Hutto Middle School, Bainbridge, GA

District VI: North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee - Nikki Wallace, Crosstown High School, Memphis, TN

District VII: Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi - Karen Marshall, International School of Louisiana, New Orleans, LA

District VIII: Kentucky, Virginia, West Virginia - Amanda Flanagan, John

Rolfe Middle School, Henrico, VA

District IX: Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota - Julie Olson, Second Chance High School/Mitchell Senior High School, Mitchell, SD  
 District X: Indiana, Michigan, Ohio - Vicki Quinter, Anna High School, Anna, OH

District XI: Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska - Zeta Greene, Sandhills High School, Dunning, NE

District XII: Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin - Yvonne Butterfield, Mauston High School, Mauston, WI  
 District XIII: New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas - Jessica Thomas, Pecos High

School, Pecos, TX

District XIV: Arizona, Colorado, Utah - Anna Newley, Sonoran Science Academy, Phoenix, AZ

District XV: Idaho, Montana, Wyoming - Brianna James, Belgrade High School, Belgrade, MT

District XVI: American Samoa, California, Guam, Hawaii, Nevada - Phong Nguyen, Oakland Unity High School, Oakland, CA

District XVII: Alaska, Oregon, Washington - Kelly Evans, Elk Plain School of Choice K-8, Spanway, WA

District XVIII: Canada - Kevin Robertson, Queen Elizabeth High School, Edmonton, Alberta Canada

## Nebraska Voters To Receive Early Ballot Request Application



Secretary of State Bob Evnen has decided to mail an early ballot application to every registered voter whose county did not already do so. The effect will be every registered voter in Nebraska will receive an early ballot request application in the mail. "For voters who have concerns about voting at the polls in November, an early ballot request for a mail-in ballot is a good option," said Secretary of State Bob Evnen. "Anyone who wishes to vote early should request their ballot as soon as possible." The first ballots will be mailed out September 28. The deadline to request an early ballot to be mailed to you is October 23. USPS recommendation for returning your early

ballot by mail is October 27.

The deadline for early voting in person in the County Clerk/Election Commissioner's office is November 2.

Voters who requested early ballots must return them to the County Clerk/Election Commissioner's office by the close of the polls November 3.

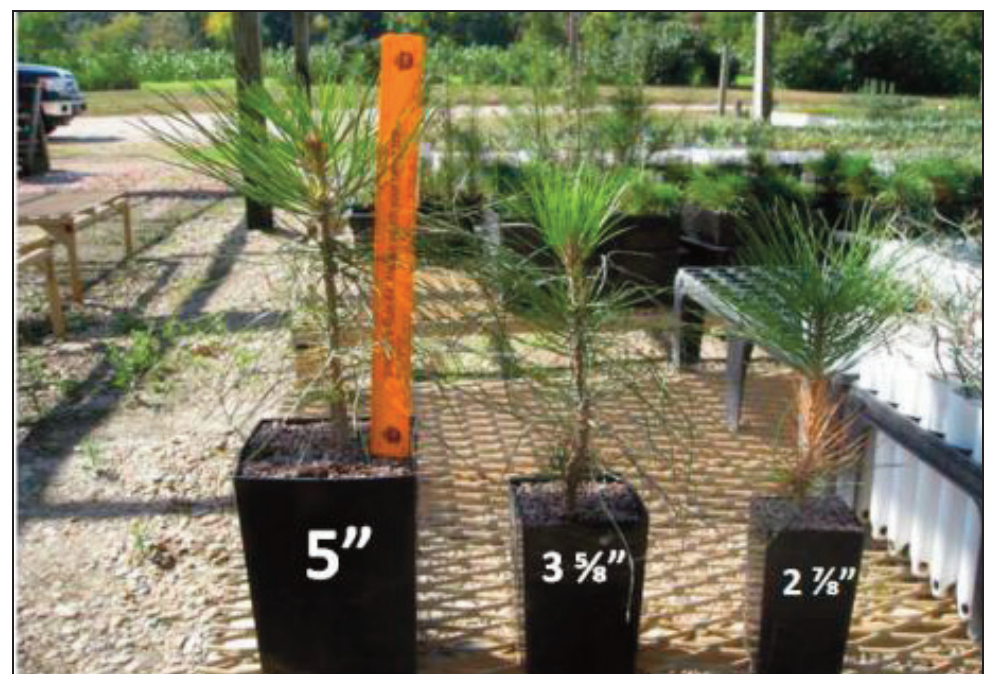
Voters also have the option of going to the polls to vote. The polls will be open for the General Election, November 3. County officials and the Secretary of State are taking precautions to protect the safety of voters and poll workers.

For information regarding early voting, visit the Secretary of State website. <https://sos.nebraska.gov/elections/early-voting>

## Fall Trees Available

Trees provide important benefits such as, protecting homes and livestock from inclement weather, helping to reduce heating and cooling costs, preventing soil erosion, and also providing wildlife habitat. Fall is a good time to reinforce windbreaks that may need updated with new trees. The soil is warmer now than in the spring, which will allow roots to become established before the snow starts to accumulate. By planting in cooler weather, the root growth will be ready to take up water during the warm spring and summer temperatures. The ideal planting timeline is September through mid-October.

The Bessey Nursery has a variety of small potted trees and shrubs available to purchase for fall planting. The nursery has many species available such as, Colorado Blue Spruce, Rocky Mountain



COURTESY PHOTOS

The trees from Bessey Nursery come in a variety of small pots. Pictured above are the three sizes of trees.

Juniper, Eastern Red Cedar and a variety of different broadleaf and shrub species as well.

Container sizes available include: 2 7/8" for \$5.75, 3 5/8" for \$8.75, and 5" for \$10.75. For more information on the available species please contact the Upper Loup NRD at 308-645-2250.

## 4-H Projects Selected For NE State Fair Exhibition

The following Blaine and Thomas County 4-H members had static entry projects selected at the Blaine and Thomas County Fairs to advance to the 2020 Nebraska State Fair in Grand Island. Projects will be on exhibit from August 28-September 7 in county-specific booths located in the Pinnacle Bank Expo Building.

Due to COVID-19 and modifications at the state fair, some projects will be exhibited virtually. All exhibitors will receive a commemorative 2020 Nebraska State Fair ribbon and some special awards may be given. Congratulations to the following Blaine County 4-H members for having projects eligible for display at the state fair: Reed McFadden, Rhett McFadden, Gussie Schneidereit, Etta Schneidereit, Zane Schneidereit, and Terra Shoemaker.

Congratulations to the following Thomas County 4-H members for having projects eligible for display at the state fair: Gatlyn Carr, Wesley Carr, Dominic Rowse-Smith, and Lola Rowse-Smith.



## Schaeffer Injured In Farm Accident Near Stapleton

Stapleton area fire and rescue personnel were called to a farm accident at Steve and Sally Schaeffer's, located at 29 Avenue 80, west of Stapleton, Thursday, August 20, at approximately 3:27 p.m.

Responding to the call were Stapleton Fire & Rescue, Logan County Deputy, Dalen Wood, McPherson County Sheriff, Tom Burch, a Nebraska State Patrol investigator who is also a paramedic, North Platte paramedics, and LifeNet

Services.

A tractor had become stuck and a payload was being used to pull the tractor out. A log chain gave way and broke, going through the back window of the payload occupied by Matt Schaeffer of Stapleton, striking him in the back of the head.

Fire & EMS worked to remove Schaeffer from the payload and LifeNet Services was able to land 300 yards from the scene. They were not able to transport, and North

Platte paramedics took Schaeffer from the accident to Great Plains Health in North Platte. He

was taken on to UNMC in Omaha where he was scheduled for surgery on Friday, August 21.

## Hometown Heroes Salute

The Thedford Service Club will be honoring the "Hometown Heroes" on Friday, August 28, at the half-time of the Knights vs. Broncos football game. They encourage Thomas County rural volunteer firefighters, rescue squad members, healthcare personnel and the local sher-

iff's office to come to the center of the football field to be recognized.

A token of appreciation will be given as a thank you for what they do for Thomas County residents not just during this COVID-19 crisis, but every day.