

Bloodmobile Meets Goal



JAMIE TAYLOR PHOTO

The American Red Cross Blood Drive was held Wednesday, February 9 at Thedford High School. A total of 35 donated and every unit was very much appreciated. Sickness kept many regular donors away, but they will have a chance to give the gift of life on Monday, April 11, when the blood drive will be back in town. Watch for upcoming stories in the newspaper for the times of the next drive.

Pictured above are Connor Cooksley, Dane Pokorny and Cylee Jameson. They checked in the donors as they came to give blood.



Pictured above donating blood, left, Thedford High School junior, Makayla Osienger, and community member, Miles Maseberg.



Local Working Group Meetings Planned

Local meetings open to individuals interested in setting natural resources goals for Nebraska.

A Local Working Group that provides advice on the priorities for many U.S. Department of Agriculture conservation programs will meet March 23rd at 10 a.m. at the Upper Loup NRD Building, 39252 Hwy 2, Thedford, NE.

The public is encouraged to attend and express their natural resource concerns. Ideas generated from the public will help the U.S. Department of Agriculture tailor their natural resource programs to meet the needs identified locally.

There is a Local Working Group in each Natural Resources District (NRD). Membership on the Local Working Group includes Federal, State, county, Tribal or local government representatives ac-

cording to Kevin Hood, district conservationist for the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) whose agency guides the Local Working Group.

"The Local Working Group recommends to the NRCS State Conservationist how conservation programs like the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), or Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) would be used most effectively in their area. This recommendation can include special target areas, cost share rates on conservation programs, which conservation practices should have cost assistance, or how many dollars could be

needed," said Hood. This work group allows local input into how Federal dollars are spent, he said.

Typically, Nebraska NRCS obligates anywhere between \$45 million to over \$75 million dollars to farmers and ranchers statewide through NRCS conservation programs. These programs helped landowners and operators make natural resource improvements to their land, water, or wildlife. This funding was allocated according to the priorities set by the Local Working Group.

For more information about the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the programs and services they provide, contact your local USDA Service Center or www.ne.nrcs.usda.gov.

Filing deadline over for Primary Election

The filing deadline has passed for the 2022 Primary Election to be held May 10 in Thomas County.

The following have filed for positions:

County Clerk: Lorissa Hartman (R) incumbent (auto advance).

County Treasurer: Andrea Thomas (R) incumbent (auto advance).

County Sheriff: Wm. Joseph Smith (R) incumbent (auto advance).

County Commissioners (vote for 2): John Seeley

(R) incumbent; James L. Purdum (R) incumbent; Lewis Herbaugh (R) non-incumbent; Bryan Rodocker (R) non-incumbent (auto advance).

County Attorney: Kurt Dam Arganbright (R) incumbent, auto advance.

County Surveyor: No filings.

Thomas County Airport Authority (6 year term - one vacancy): Herb Hall, non-partisan (auto advance).

Mullen School Board (Vote for 3): Liza Simon-

son, Caleb Hoyt, Patrick Wright, Casey Phillips, Robert Peters (all auto advance).

Sandhills Public Schools (Vote for 3): Jeff Martindale, Reed Larsen, Rory Zutavern (auto advance).

Thedford Public Schools (Vote for 3): Spencer Burk and Dixie Hoffman, incumbents; Alison Werner and Gary L. Cooper (auto advance).

Mullen Hospital District (Vote for 2): Carol Wright and Steve Boyer. Elected in primary.

Republican Convention set for March 15

The Thomas County Republican Party 2022 County Convention will be held Tuesday, March 15, at the Sandhills Corral, Thedford, beginning at 7:00 p.m. CDST. All Republicans are invited to attend.

The 2022 Thomas County Convention serves many important functions for the Republican Party. Local party officials will be elected and the selection of delegates and alternates to the NEGOP State Convention will be conducted.

Please plan to attend and RSVP to Jay Jones, county chairman.

Nursing home will close April 25

Feb. 28, 2022

Dear Mullen Community,

It is with great sadness that after much discussion and evaluation the Pioneer Memorial rest home board of directors and leadership have decided to close the facility on April 25, 2022. This decision was made after great effort by our team members to overcome the challenges of operating a nursing facility in a small rural area.

Our immediate needs were more than just financial and a director of nursing. The increase in cost for adequate staffing and supplies, the difficulty in recruiting new team members, the lack

of Medicaid reimbursement, increased regulations, and the effects of the pandemic over the last two years have all contributed to the closure. There have been several facility closures throughout Nebraska and several more that are considering closing soon due to the unprecedented effects over the last two years and the lack of reimbursement.

This was a difficult decision to make as we realize the effect it will have on our community. It has been an honor to serve our community throughout the years and we are so appreciative of the support you have shown the

facility.

We want to assure you that our residents will be given ample support and time to make decisions about relocation to a new residence. Team members will also be assisted in finding new employment as we are able. We are having a job fair at our facility Wednesday, March 9, from 9-11 a.m. Any employers with open positions are encouraged to attend. Please contact the facility and ask for Nolan for more information.

Sincerely,
The Pioneer Memorial
Rest Home
Mullen Hospital District
Board of Directors

NPPD crews begin annual inspection of transmission lines

Residents around the state may soon see a helicopter or Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) trucks and UTVs near powerlines as crews begin their annual spring inspection of the transmission system.

NPPD wants residents to be aware of this process, which involves looking at

every component on every transmission structure, across the state, over the next couple of months. "This allows us to identify any parts or equipment on the transmission system that might need replaced or repaired," notes NPPD Transmission Manager Bob Blessin. "By doing

that, we can avoid outages that would have otherwise occurred, reduce costs by being proactive with maintenance, and improve the overall reliability of the system throughout the year."

Helicopter patrols will

See NPPD
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Lady Knights District Runners-Up



JAMIE TAYLOR PHOTO

The Sandhills-Thedford Lady Knights basketball team ended thier season with a 13-11 record. They were the District D2-2 runners-up after losing to Humphrey St. Francis on Friday, February 25 at Burwell High School.

The 2021-22 Lady Knight basketball team is pictured, back row, l-r: Elizabeth Boswell, Fredricka Lai, Winter Benscoter, Anna Clark, Taylor Weber, Martina Falcomer and Dayle Haake. Front Row, l-r: LaTajanae Robinson, Karley Haake, Tenley Rasmussen, Brea Branic, Cylee Jameson and Charlsie Teahon.

Branic Signs Letter Of Intent To Run Track



SANDHILLS SCHOOL PHOTO

Brea Branic, a senior at Sandhills High School, recently signed her letter of intent to run track for Midland University. She is pictured above signing the letter. Her high school Track Coach, Josh Deines is pictured at left. Branic is the daughter of Brenda Bowers and Lonnie Branic and her mother is also pictured with her at the signing.