

## Class Of 2023 Will Move Forward To Pursue Their Dreams



JAMIE TAYLOR PHOTO

The Class of 2023 valedictorian was Tenley Rasmussen, pictured above at left, and salutatorian was Winter Benschoter.



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The Thedford High School Class of 2023 is ready to move forward in their lives. Pictured l-r: Zach Eggert, Skyler Andersen, Tenley Rasmussen, Winter Benschoter, Makayla Osienger, Kaden Haake, and Connor Cooksley.

The Thedford High School Class of 2023 lived out their class motto, "Together we have experienced life. Separately, we will pursue our dreams, our memories will remain," as they graduated from high school on Saturday, May 6.

Kaden Haake welcomed all present with the Invocation and then the Class of 2023 Valedictorian, Tenley Rasmussen gave her speech. The senior class slide show was played and the seniors presented gifts to their loved ones and those who influenced their lives throughout high school. "Fast" by Luke Bryan, the senior class song, and "My Wish" by Rascal Flatts played in the background.

The presentation of local scholarships from the Thedford Area Community Foundation and Thedford Rural Volunteer Fire & Rescue were presented. The list of scholarships each student received was also presented. The presentation of diplomas was completed and the roll call and future plans of each student announced.

Acceptance of the class was conducted by Mrs. Bridget Licking, president of the Thedford School Board. The Salutatorian address was given by Winter Benschoter.

The Presentation of the Senior Class was by Superintendent Blake Dahlberg. The benediction was given by Makayla Osienger. The recessional was "The Stroke" by Billy Squier and "Record Year" by Eric Church. The class colors were royal blue and silver. The class flowers were white football mum and royal blue carnations. Dayle Haake and Zeb Wilde were the ushers and LaTajanae Robinson and Coby Higgins handed out the programs.

Aidan Bryant was in charge of video and sound. 2023 Senior Plans & Scholarships To Date - Skyler Scott Andersen - Will be joining the workforce as a ranch hand around our area.

Winter Eve Benschoter - Will be attending the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture majoring in Equine Science. She has received the Susan Thompson Buffett Scholarship, Nebraska Trucking Association Scholarship, Western Nebraska Bank Scholarship, Booster Club Scholarship, Jim Hanna Memorial Scholarship, an American Red Cross Scholarship, and a Thedford Area Community Foundation Scholarship.

Connor Baydn Cooksley - Will be attending Northeast Community College, majoring in animal science. He has received the Loup2 Loup Scholarship, an American Red Cross Scholarship, THS Alumni Scholarship, the Haven & Virginia Smith Scholarship and a Thedford Area Community Foundation Scholarship.

Zachary Michael Eggert - Will be taking a few college courses at Mid Plains Community college in North Platte. Kaden Tyler Haake - Will be attending Northeast Community College, majoring in animal science. He has an American Red Cross Scholarship, a Thedford Area Community Foundation Scholarship and is alternate for the Haven & Virginia

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## Final Blood Drive Of School Year Held April 5



JAMIE TAYLOR PHOTOS

The seniors that helped run the final blood drive pictured above are back row, l-r: Skyler Andersen and Makayla Osienger. Seated, l-r: Zach Eggert and Winter Benschoter.



Mariah Osienger was one of the new donors.

The final blood drive of the 2022-23 school year was held Wednesday, April 5 at Thedford High School. There were 52 units donated and that included two new donors.

This school year the seven seniors organized three blood drives, calling donors before hand to set up appointments and then working the day of the blood drives to help the Red Cross staff set up and check in community members. Five of our seniors saved lives by donating blood.

The seniors wish to thank everyone who came in and donated this year at Thedford High School and together the community saved over 400 lives.



Makayla Osienger



Connor Cooksley



Kaden Haake



Winter Benschoter

## Mark Your Calendars For Summer Reading Program



COURTESY PHOTO

The Thomas County Library will be hosting the Summer Reading Program 2023 in July.

"Throw Kindness Around Like Confetti" will be this year's theme during the week-long fun filled program.

Three sessions will be held for different ages

July 10-14.

The two-year-olds through Pre-Kindergartners will be from 9:50 to 10:00 a.m. each day. The Kindergarten through third grade session will be held from 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. and the final session will be the fourth through

sixth grade from 11:50 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. each of the five days.

Helpers are also needed for the program and anyone with questions or wanting to help can contact the Thomas County Library during business hours.