

Thomas County Communications, Expressive Arts Contest

The Thomas County 4-H Communications and Music Contests were held on April 15 at the Assembly of God Church in Thedford. The evening was filled with twenty-one performances from local 4-H youth. Results included:

Chandler Pettit received a blue ribbon for her senior piano solo.

Katelyn Blackford received purple for her intermediate piano solo.

Haxton Hoffman gave an intermediate prepared 4-H Speech that received a purple ribbon.

William Blackford received a purple for his junior guitar solo.

Noah Werner received blue for his junior guitar solo.

Kennedy Hoffman received purple for her intermediate illustrated presentation.

Paisley Ray received purple for her junior piano solo.

Myra Schaeffer received purple for her junior piano solo.

Claire Thomas received a clover kid ribbon for her piano solo and her clover kid reading.

Beckett Thomas received blue for his junior guitar solo.

Hayden Hoffman received purple for her junior piano solo.

Katelyn Blackford re-

ceived purple for her recitation of the preamble.

Emerson Pettit received purple for her intermediate piano solo.

Hayden Hoffman received blue for her junior illustrated presentation.

Elsa Walker received blue for her junior guitar solo.

Kennedy Hoffman received purple for her intermediate guitar solo.

Beckett Thomas received blue for his junior recitation.

Haxton Hoffman received purple for his intermediate instrumental solo.

Ariata Scott received purple for her junior instrumental solo.

RyDell Scott received a clover kid ribbon for her clover kid reading.

"We want to thank the Assembly of God Church for hosting the event. We would also like to thank Mikeala Franzen and Clinton Albertus for judging, and Jacey Andersen from the Thomas County 4-H Council for leading the charge and getting everything prepared. We are so proud of all these kids; by participating in events like these they are learning lifelong skills," commented Shaniya Albertus the 4-H Assistant for the Central Sandhills Area Extension Office.



COURTESY

Pictured above are the 4-H'ers competing in the Thomas County Communications & Expressive Arts contest held recently. Back row, l-r: Chandler Pettit, Kennedy Hoffman, Emerson Pettit, Katelyn Blackford, Paisley Ray and Ariata Scott. Middle row, l-r: Haxton Hoffman, Noah Werner, William Blackford, Beckett Thomas, Elsa Walker and Hayden Hoffman. Front row, l-r: Myra Schaeffer, RyDell Scott and Claire Thomas.

Historical Society Needs Your Help



Your help is needed in identifying the gentlemen in this picture. It was found in the old Cowpoke Hotel now under renovation. Contact Helen White at 308-645-2489.

The Thomas County Historical Society held its first meeting of 2024 on April 15. New artifacts found in the old Cowpoke Hotel, being renovated by Dixie and Kaycee Hoffman, have been given to the Historical Society. Help would be appreciated in identifying people in photos.

The TCHS is proud to showcase the history of the county in the museum located across from Ewoldt's Grocery. Official opening day this year will be Monday, May 27. If you are in Thedford and want to find more on the "history of who you are and why you are the way you are," edit of quote by David McCullough, call Helen White, curator at 308-645-2489 or Vada Haumann at 308-645-2468 for a tour.

The TCHS usually meets the third Monday of the month. Please thank Helen White if you enjoy "Remember When" that is being published in the Thomas County Herald. She researches the archives at the museum to give readers a glimpse

of years gone by. Donations are appreciated if you would like to help keep the museum open.

For \$50.00 one can become a lifetime member and for \$20 you can own Volume 2 of the "Pictorial History of the Sandhills." Any amount would be greatly appreciated as the TCHS decided to turn the annual lunch stand at noon of fair after the pa-

rade to another group. The main fundraiser is now memorials and donations.

Checks may be made out to TCHS, sent to Helen White, Thedford, or placed in the account at Security First Bank. Thank you if you so choose to help keep Thomas County History alive.

National Public Telecommunicators Week

Do you ever wonder who's the person behind our emergency calls to 911? All we know about them is their voice and that is the voice of calm in the chaos. They are emergency dispatchers who take information from the public about crimes, threats, fires, acts of terrorism, medical emergencies, and other emergency matters to coordinate and connect with emergency response personnel.

In order to honor their often-unnoticed job, we

have National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week (NPSTW) also known as 911 dispatcher week, which is observed every April. This time has been set aside to recognize and celebrate the work of telecommunicators and dispatchers everywhere who help to save millions of lives every day. If it weren't for the telecommunicators flawlessly doing their jobs, billions of lives would have been lost due to untimely assistance. So, throughout this

month, we honor and thank those invisible dispatchers, especially those in Region 26 dispatch week who have continued to serve in this demanding profession.

How can our community thank our local dispatchers at Region 26?

Please shower our dispatchers with cards of thanks and encouragement, please send a card to:

Region 26-Dispatch
PO Box B
Taylor, NE 68879

Walk For Life 2024

The 23rd annual Walk for Life will be hosted in 10 communities this year on May 4 and 5. Each person participating in a two-mile Walk For Life is encouraged to find sponsors that will support their walk efforts financially. All money raised will benefit the pregnancy help services provided by the Women's Resource Center in North Platte. Those walking may be in person at the event or walk on their own.

Individuals may sign up at the website - www.friendsofwrc.com, call 308-534-1440, or con-

tact their church WRC Ambassador.

This is a great way to support life in your community. It takes courage to Walk for Life.

There are 10 locations this year including:

May 4 - Stapleton, North Platte, Callaway, Gothenburg and Paxton.

May 5 - Hershey, Arnold, Dunning, Wallace, Thedford.

For more information you may call 308-534-1440.

The Women's Resource Center exists to assist pregnant women to carry to term by providing

emotional support and practical assistance. Through the provision of God's people and the community at large, women may face the future with hope and plan constructively for themselves and their babies.

WRC offers self administered pregnancy tests, limited OB ultrasound, STI/STD testing, options peer counseling and parenting classes, post-abortion healing and a 24 hour toll-free hotline.

This year the goal is to raise \$100,000 and to date 17% or \$16,526 has been raised.

Bryant Qualifies For National SkillsUSA Conference

Ariel Bryant of Thedford was one of twenty-seven Wayne State College students that earned high marks during the Nebraska SkillsUSA State Leadership Conference held April 11-13 in Grand Island. Seventeen of them qualifying for the SkillsUSA National Championships, including Bryant.

Wayne State's national qualifiers will compete in SkillsUSA's National

Leadership and Skills Conference (NLSC) June 24-28 in Atlanta, Georgia.

Wayne State student Zach Covington, president of SkillsUSA at Wayne State, said all of the hard work and preparation by students has been rewarded.

"We've had a lot of years of growth here at Wayne State College, and it's great that we can get the college some visibility on the national level," said Covington, a junior from Papillion who is majoring in skills and technical sciences at Wayne State. "I went through the entire year with my peers and it's great that we get to go to nationals together. All the hard work from practice, preparation, and fundraisers has paid off, and it's great that I get to see my friends succeed."

SkillsUSA's National Leadership & Skills Conference (NLSC) is the largest gathering of America's future skilled workforce and the ultimate recognition of excellence in career and technical education. Held in Atlanta each June, the NLSC is a week-long celebration of the skilled trades and the accom-

plishments of career-ready leaders from across the United States. The event brings together more than 16,000 attendees, including students, instructors, industry partners, government officials, administrators and more, according to the SkillsUSA website.

The highlight of the NLSC is the SkillsUSA Championships, where more than 6,000 state champions compete for national gold, silver and bronze medals in 115 skilled and leadership competitions.

The SkillsUSA organization helps students develop personal skills such as integrity, work ethic, professionalism, responsibility, adaptability, flexibility, self-motivation. Students involved also gain communication, decision making, teamwork, multicultural sensitivity and awareness, planning, organizing and management and leadership skills.

Wayne State College, a leading, public four-year college in Northeast Nebraska, is a proud member of the Nebraska State College System.