

THE STAPLETON

SERVING
LOGAN & McPHERSON COUNTIES
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ENTERPRISE

LOGAN COUNTY, STAPLETON, NEBRASKA 69163

(USPS 518780)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2017

NO. 42

Helping meet needs

Hunger is as real in farming communities as it is in urban food deserts. Across the Heartland, thousands of children, families and seniors struggle with regularly obtaining the food they need to be healthy. Food Bank for the Heartland is committed to helping those in need in rural communities.

The Food Bank is hosting a mobile food pantry in Stapleton on Saturday, October 28, from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. The mobile pantry will take place at the Veterans Building, 249 Main St. in Stapleton. Approximately 5,000 pounds of food will be distributed for free to individuals and families in need.

The mobile pantry is for people living in Logan County and surrounding communities. Those in need of the service are invited to bring boxes or bags to assist in carrying the food they receive. No identification is required to receive food.

Food Bank for the Heartland's mobile pantry program delivers food directly to communities that have a high need but limited food resources. The one-day distribution is free, and in Logan County will include spaghetti, tomato sauce, canned pork and beans, cereal, pancake mix and other shelf-stable products along with perishable items, including a variety of fresh produce and bakery items.

"No one should worry about finding his or her next meal or providing food for family members," said Susan Ogborn, president and CEO of Food Bank for the Heartland. "Thank you to the community of Stapleton. We are grateful for the op-



FOOD BANK
FOR THE HEARTLAND

portunity to continue providing much-needed resources to families in Logan County."

In fiscal year 2017, Food Bank for the Heartland hosted 231 mobile pantries throughout its service area providing 2.47 million pounds of food helping 28,473 duplicated households.

Results of a study supported by the Conagra Brands Foundation, the Howard G. Buffett Foundation and the Nielsen Company show approximately 12.6 percent, or 110 people, in Logan County are at-risk for hunger. Map the Meal Gap 2017 is a study from Feeding America, the nation's largest domestic hunger relief organization, which provides data on a county level. Of the more than 1.8 million people living in the 93 counties served by Food Bank for the Heartland, there are approximately 213,840 struggling with hunger according to study results.

Logan & McPherson counties receive checks

Logan and McPherson counties have received another membership dividend.

McPherson County received \$2,217, and Logan County received \$5,840, from the Nebraska Intergovernmental Risk Management Association (NIRMA), the county's property, liability and workers' compensation coverage and risk management services provider. The dividend was part of a \$1.25 million distribution shared with 79 Nebraska counties and six regional area agencies on aging during NIRMA's annual membership conference Oct. 5-6 in Kearney.

With this latest distribution, Logan County has now received a total of \$51,837 in dividends since becoming a member of NIRMA in 1989. McPherson County has received a total of \$24,027 in dividends since becoming a NIRMA member in 1992.

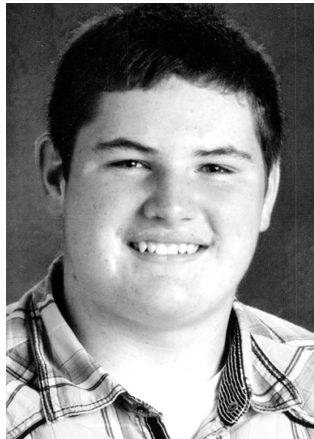
NIRMA is able to issue these dividends, in part, due to favorable claims development, investment income earned on behalf of its membership, as well as the members' ongoing loss prevention efforts.

NIRMA is owned and governed by the 81 member counties and 11 county-associated public

entities it serves. This marks the 29th time since 1991 and the 22nd consecutive year the program has been able to return funds, now totaling nearly \$20 million, to its members and ultimately their local property taxpayers.

NIRMA was created by 32 counties in 1988 as the state's first governmental risk management and self-insurance program, and for the past 29 years it has provided affordable insurance coverages and comprehensive risk management and loss prevention services to Nebraska counties and related public agencies.

Johnsen named to Believers & Achievers program



Sheldon Johnsen, Medicine Valley High School senior, was announced to the 2017-2018 Believers and Achievers Program. The statewide Believers and Achievers program is designed by U.S. Bank and the NSAA to give recognition to Nebraska's future leaders. To be a participant, the student must show a commitment to good citizenship and be involved in school and community projects.

Beginning Oct. 2017 and continuing through March 2018, 48 Nebraska High School seniors will be honored at NSAA State Championships throughout the year. Of the 48 finalists, eight will receive a \$500 scholarship from US Bank to the college or university of their choice.

Sheldon is the son of Scott and Shawna Johnsen. He is the grandson of Gary & Liz Johnsen of Stapleton.

"Western Gothic" will have permanent home in Thedford



COURTESY PHOTO

"Western Gothic," will be returning to Thedford. The Thomas County Visitor's Committee has purchased the heart designed and painted by Roberta Barnes of Halsey for \$10,000. It was the top selling heart at the auction held October 6 at Haymarket Park in Lincoln. Pictured at left are Trina and Jeff Goeden of Raymond and Twyla and Tom Witt. At right are Roberta and Randy Barnes and Brad and Anne Nutter.

For Roberta Barnes of Halsey it was hard to believe that her "Western Gothic - Big Skies, Big Hearts," would be coming back to Thedford.

It was almost beyond words as Barnes described the auction that had just taken place Friday, October 6, at Haymarket Park in Lincoln.

Although the Nebraska by Heart committee had commissioned her to do a heart honoring Clayton Anderson, the first Nebraska astronaut, it was the heart she had done to honor the big-hearted people of the Sandhills that topped the auction at \$10,000. The Thomas County Visitor's Committee purchased the heart and Twyla Witt said it is now being displayed at Roadside Inn at Thedford for the time being.

"We will be looking for a permanent location for the heart," Witt said.

Barnes said the journey began when proposals were made by the Nebraska by Hearts committee requesting a heart be created for each of Nebraska's 93 counties in the state.

"Mostly eastern artists responded and I decided that we needed something to represent this part of our state - the Sandhills," Barnes said. "After processing and thinking about what I wanted to create I decided on a take of American Gothic, and do a heart based on the husband and wife team who work together on ranches every day."

Western Gothic, a 6' fiberglass heart,

depicts a husband and wife saddling up to begin their day's work.

Barnes went on to say she was overwhelmed by those in the area who supported her in her efforts. She said she had the big hearted people of the Sandhills in mind when she went to work on this project.

Proceeds from the auction were split between the artists and the two sponsoring organizations - Lead Up and Sadie Dog Fund.

Barnes also helped with "Solomon Butcher," and this heart will be going back to Broken Bow. Rick and Dawn Sebek purchased the heart for \$1,600 and they are donating it back to the city.

"Pieces of Nebraska," designed by last year's Broken Bow High School art student, Abby Olson, and painted by the Broken Bow Art Club, will also be going back to Broken Bow.

"Dreams Become Destiny," was the 83rd heart sculpture in the project. Barnes said the heart honoring Anderson featured juxtaposed images of a Nebraska field and a rocket soaring above, "reminding us that we possess both roots and wings." The generations of tradition that bind us to the Earth have also prepared us to soar above it.

Barnes was art teacher at Stapleton Public Schools for many years and is currently an art instructor at Broken Bow Schools.



COURTESY PHOTO

Artist, Roberta Barnes, poses with Nebraska's first astronaut, Clayton Anderson, with "Dreams Become Destiny." Barnes was commissioned to do this heart honoring Anderson by the Nebraska by Heart committee.



"All Saints"
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Obituaries

- Harley Wayne Hansen
- Velma Lou (Bass) Schroeder

Weather



DATE	HI	LOW	MT
Oct 3	63	45	.68
4	64	43	0
5	60	41	T
6	67	53	.67
7	54	45	.37
8	75	42	0
9	63	37	.08

Wind was recorded at 20 MPH, Sept. 19; 23 MPH, Oct. 3; 26 MPH, Oct. 6; 20 MPH, Oct. 7; 33 MPH, Oct. 8. Thunder was heard on Oct. 26. Fog was observed on Oct. 5.

McPherson Co. News



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