

THE STAPLETON

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The Enterprise

LOGAN COUNTY, STAPLETON, NEBRASKA 69163

THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 2018

NO. 24

Stapleton's better than Ancestry.com

Brosius descendants visit homestead

MARCIA HORA

Stapleton proved to be a wealth of information in filling in the pieces and discovering their roots.

Two Michigan couples traveled to Logan County last week to connect with family and gather information about John Peter "Pete" and Mary (Beckius) Brosius.

Mike and Jim Kelly's grandmother, Clara Brosius, was one of the five children - all girls - born to Pete and Mary Brosius.

John Peter II was the oldest of the Johann (John) and Mary Werner Brosius children, a German Catholic family who left Germany and immigrated to Minnesota to join Mary's brothers in 1883.

They stayed with these relatives for two months and then moved to Logan County. They were among the first German Catholics who came and settled upon the wind-swept plains of Nebraska. They took a homestead now owned by their grandson, the late Vernon Brosius.

John Peter "Pete" was the oldest of the Brosius

children. He was 13-years-old when he immigrated to the U.S. He was 25 when he married Mary Beckius and they had five girls, Clara Brosius (married Charles Conhiser); Anna Amelia Brosius (married James Doyle Sr.); Minnie Brosius (married Al Ridder); Verna Brosius (married Robert Harnan); and Mary Brosius (married Jody Leech).

Pete and Mary homesteaded near Garfield Table in Lincoln County and four years later in 1900, started a ranching operation north of Stapleton. Pete acquired a large amount of land and became quite prosperous. He was a county commissioner for four years and served on the district school board for 16 years. He was president of the Stapleton Farmers State Bank from 1918 to 1936 and he was a Knight of Columbus and a trustee of St. John's the Evangelist Catholic Church in Stapleton.

Ann Wells hosted Mike and Deanna Kelly and Jim and Pat Kelly, as they discovered history about their past and toured the

county.

"Our mother, Helen Marie Conhiser, was the daughter of Clara (Brosius) and Charles Conhiser. She married James Anderson Kelly and the family moved to Michigan," Mike Kelly said. "We wanted to come back and see the homestead, and of course meet Ann Wells."

In addition to Mike and Jim, there are two other Kelly boys, Richard and Patrick.

The Kellys stopped in and checked out Stapleton business places, enjoyed touring the community center, visited area farms and ranches, and saw over venues before making a stop at St. John's Cemetery.

Their next project will be digging into the Conhiser side and seeing if and what the connection is to Stapleton.

"It was really great to see where our family homesteaded and tour the Sandhills. This is beautiful country and after seeing what Stapleton has to offer it makes us want to move to a small town. We are already planning to



MARCIA HORA - STAPLETON ENTERPRISE

Descendants of John Peter "Pete" and Mary (Beckius) Brosius on their history and genealogy research trip to Stapleton. The two couples left with photos and information about their ancestors. Pictured, l-r: Jim and Pat Kelly of Montague, Michigan, Ann Wells of Stapleton, hostess and tour guide; and Deanna and Mike Kelly of Traverse City, Michigan.

return."

The two couples left with St. John's the Evangelist history books, calendars featuring the "Centennial ladies of Logan County," special beef and 2017 Total Solar

Eclipse sections, copies of *The Enterprise*, and solar eclipse memorabilia.

Enterprise editor, Kendra Cutler, has already started sending the Kellys pictures she has on file of

the Brosius family.

They were also able to visit with Kenny Dean Brosius and Jack Smith during lunch at CJ's Cafe and look over family photos.

Changing of the Guard



MARCIA HORA - STAPLETON ENTERPRISE

Tammie Gaites and Max Frey, who will be seniors this fall at Stapleton High School, have taken over the Leaders Save Lives scholarship program sponsored by the American Red Cross. They are pictured assisting at the recent blood drive held in the Stapleton Community Center.

Leaders Save Lives gives high school and college students scholarship opportunities and gain meaningful leadership and community service experience. It is also a great way for students to learn not only leadership skills, but help hospital patients in need of lifesaving blood transfusions.

Students can earn valuable scholarships through the program to assist them with their college education.

Country Partners gives back

\$500.00 to benefit Stapleton Fire & Rescue

Country Partners Cooperative is giving back to the 24 communities it serves.

The cooperative thanks the Stapleton Fire Department and all volunteer first responders within the community for their service and dedication to area citizens.

Country Partners is proud of employees, Josh Allen and Jason Faling, who serve as firemen and for their contributions to Stapleton Fire & Rescue.

Faling also serves on the Stapleton Rural Fire Board.

"The gifts and talents of shared community members and employees truly strengthen Stapleton and the surrounding area. Your service is greatly appreciated," said Trista Newcomb, representing Country Partners at the check presentation.

Newcomb went on to emphasize the importance of a volunteer fire department in communities across the state.

Country Partners will give almost \$25,000 to fire departments in locations it serves.

Stapleton Fire Chief, Frank Kramer said the \$500.00 will go towards equipment needs within the department.

Faling is currently man-



MARCIA HORA - STAPLETON ENTERPRISE

Country Partners Cooperative thanked the Stapleton Volunteer Fire & Rescue with a \$500.00 check presentation, Monday, June 4. Pictured, l-r: Josh Allen, Stapleton Fire Chief, and Jason Faling.

ager of Country Partners at the Stapleton location.

Allen has been a Country Partners employee since 2006 and has been on the fire department

for 15 years.

Country Partners Cooperative is a diversified agricultural cooperative, providing products, serv-

ice, and expertise in grain, agronomy, feed, and energy to patrons. It is located south of Stapleton on U.S. Highway 83.

-- News Briefs --

Cornerstone Christian EPC's Salad Luncheon

Cornerstone Christian EPC's salad luncheon will be held Thursday, June 14, at noon at the Presbyterian Church in Stapleton.

All area women are invited to attend and hear guest speaker, Susan Johnson of Stapleton.

Johnson will speak on her time as a missionary and being a pastor's wife in a small community church.

Sale Deadline

Stapleton will be on sale Saturday, June 23, as the Chamber of Commerce sponsors their annual garage sale day.

Area communities will be coming to town that day for a baseball tournament.

The deadline to call in your garage sale is Friday, June 15. Please call Creative Printers at 308-636-2444 if you will be having a sale. Ads will be placed on Facebook, websites and in area newspapers.

McPherson Co. News



- *Connell Reunion*
- *New Sign At Fire Station*
- *Graphic Files*
- *Over The Hills*

Notices

Inside On Page 2

- Village Of Gandy Board Proceedings
- School District R-1 Public Notice
- State of Nebraska Notice to Bidders
- Estate of Jon Broadbent Notice to Creditors
- Logan County Commissioners & BOE Meeting Notice

Chamber Meeting
Stapleton Area Chamber of Commerce will meet Thursday, June 28, at noon at the community center.

Weather



DATE	HI	LOW	MT
5	84	57	0
6	94	61	.02
7	91	59	.67
8	82	60	.07
9	85	58	0
10	89	58	0
11	92	59	0

Thunder was recorded on June 6, 7 & 8.

Winners!

Community First Bank of Stapleton hosted a customer appreciation barbecue Friday, June 1. Approximately 150 people were in attendance at the well-received event.

Winning \$25.00 each in the Chamber bucks drawing were Shorty Kramer, Dawn Mockaitis, Lucy Joedeman, and Kaden Allen.

"Thank you to everyone who attended this year's barbecue."