

THOMAS COUNTY

Herald

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News In The Sandhills

THOMAS COUNTY, THEDFORD, NEBRASKA 69166

(USPS 596-550)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2017

NO. 19

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Pearman receives NEAFCS Distinguished Service Award

Sue Pearman, University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension Educator in Central Sandhills Area, has been named the 2017 recipient of the National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (NEAFCS) Distinguished Service Award.



COURTESY PHOTO

Sue was recognized for the honor at the national meeting held the week of October 16-19, 2017 in Omaha, NE. This award was given to Sue in recognition of her outstanding contributions to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln the past 17 years.

The Distinguished Service Award is the highest award presented by the NEAFCS. The award recognizes members for leadership, educational program efforts and professional development, said Andrea Nisley, member of the NEAFCS Awards Committee.

Sue serves Nebraska Extension as 4-H and Positive Youth Development Educator. She is Past-President of NEAFCS - Nebraska affiliate and a member of the Medicare Education Team.

New fire hall receives grant from Sterns Charitable Foundation

The Sterns Charitable Foundation was established in 1975 by the late Bernadine Sterns Glass Stephens of Whitman, NE. Bernadine was born on the family ranch north of Ashby, NE in 1910. She was involved in ranching, and she and her husband Les Glass were the owners of Ashby Lumber. In 1951 they purchased the Whitman Lumber Company. Upon her death at the age of 86 in 1997, she left a substantial portion of her estate to the foundation that bears her family's name. She felt that establishing the Sterns Charitable Foundation was an appropriate way to pay tribute to her family's memory and to also provide ongoing financial support for important projects in the Sandhills region.

Jodi Daily, grant coordi-



COURTESY PHOTO

Jodi Daily, left, presents Mike Finney with a grant for \$20,000 for the new Thedford Fire Hall.

nator of the foundation continues to follow Bernadine's wishes in helping provide financial support to qualifying projects such as the Thedford Fire Department's new fire hall.

Annual Christmas About Town Planned in Thedford

Thedford Service Club is again planning to kick-off their community's Christmas season by hosting Christmas About Town on Friday, December 8. Activities are set to run from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Home-based businesses offering crafts, homemade goodies, or other items, and wishing to have a space in one of the downtown Thedford businesses, please contact Jay Jones at jayjones53@gmail.com.

Meals will be offered at the Masonic Lodge by the Eastern Star ladies. Soup and sandwiches or pancakes will be served at the Thedford Life Center.

Trivia contests will add to the fun. Winners will receive "Club Certificates" to be used at local businesses.

Santa will arrive at 5:00 p.m. and the lighting of the tree on the courthouse square



will herald the official start of Thedford's Christmas season. The lighting is set for 6:00 p.m.

School students will have their renditions of "What Christmas Means to Me." These free hand pictures by elementary students will be located in the Thedford Post Office windows. Other business windows will be painted by the high school classes. Cash prizes will be given to a winning student in grades K-6th and \$100.00 will be added to the treasury of the class from the high school, compliments of the Thedford Service Club. Plan on getting your Christmas shopping done in Thedford! Give you special someone a unique, one-of-a-kind Christmas gift from Thedford, Nebraska, USA.

Mintle Enlists



COURTESY PHOTO

Danya Mintle pictured with her recruiter, SFC Tim McCaslin.

Danya Mintle, Thedford, who is currently a student at North Platte Community College, joined the Nebraska Army National Guard on the 29th of Sept. Her chosen career path is that of 42A, Human Resources Specialist. Her unit is North Platte's own 1075th Transportation Company. She will soon be attending Basic and Advanced Individual Training at Ft Jackson, SC. When asked why she made this decision, Private Mintle said "When I first chatted with SFC Tim McCaslin, my recruiter, to be truthfully honest, I wasn't really interested, but I was curious. After I went to my

meeting with him though, I started to seriously think about joining the National Guard. It wasn't because he convinced me, but because I wanted to help in any way I can, and defending my family and country are definitely on that list! The Nebraska Army National Guard will allow me to help my country, my community, and my family, along with helping with what I want to do for a career."

In thanks for her service to our State and Nation, this soldier will be receiving a myriad of benefits, including Federal AND State Tuition assistance,

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TACF Banquet Saturday evening

Here we go again! The Thedford Area Community Foundation banquet is set for November 18, at the Thomas County Fairgrounds. The social hour is at 5:30 P.M., CST, and the meal consisting of, prime rib, salads, rolls, potatoes, and a dessert at 6:30 P.M. CST. The meal will be buffet style so people can get their food faster and get ready for a night full of fun.

Board members decided to put the red hat into retirement, eliminate the balloons, and add a couple of games for those guests who are willing to participate. There will not be as many live auction items, but there will still be silent auction items. Those looking for Christmas gifts will be pleased with the selection offered.

To purchase tickets,

please call Shirley McIntosh, Marcy Andersen, Dixie Hoffman, B.J. Thomas, Jay Jones, Richard Jameson, or Rosalea Gift. The ticket prices remain the same as they have been in the past. The money raised at this event goes to better the community in many different ways.

Please join us for a fun evening of good food and entertainment.

Hamiltons honored on "Music Sunday"

TERRI LICKING

A special Sunday honored a very special couple in Thedford. Pastor Sunny Ridings deemed "Music Sunday," and a joint service of the Halsey, Thedford and Seneca United Church of Christ churches was held to honor Reed and Rosa Lee Hamilton. Thedford is the Hamilton's church home.

The couple joined the church in March 1961 and were immediately involved. Karol Young compiled some of the contributions the couple has made over the years. She was unable to attend, so the list was read by Pastor Ridings, prior to the Hamiltons each receiving a desk plaque of appreciation from a grateful congregation.

Reed served as deacon from 1963-1965; 1969-1977; 1983-1985; and 1989-1991. He was church moderator in 1967, 1968, and 1978, and vice moderator 1965-1969. He served on the canvassing committee for the building of the parsonage in 1967. The existing parsonage was dedicated November 1967. He was head of the building committee for the new fellowship hall from 1995-1998. The fellowship hall was dedicated June of 1998.

Reed also served on the Centennial Committee, 1995-1999; was member of the Parish Council and treasurer from 1993-2001, and was a trustee from 2001-2004.

Rosa Lee was the full-time organist, faithfully playing from 1964-2017. A total of 52 years! She organized and played for many youth and adult church choirs, and she was also involved in Sunday School Christmas programs. She was a trustee from 1969-1977, served on the program committee for the Centennial, 1998-1999, and was a church delegate, 2001, 2002, 2003, and 2006.

On Rosa Lee's golden anniversary of being the church's organist, KNOP-TV came and did an interview with her. Macular degeneration had stolen much of her eyesight, but God blessed her with the ability to play by ear, and with Reed as her chauffeur, she rarely missed a Sunday. Pastor Sunny did the math - 50 weeks out of the year for 52 years. Rosa Lee played 2,600 Sundays and with five hymns per Sunday, she played over 13,000 songs!

When Thedford had a choir, she was the choral director. Rosa Lee played the organ while Kathy Hood would accompany her on the piano. The two never practiced. They just synchronized the

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The Hamiltons and their family enjoyed a reception in honor of Rosa Lee and Reed for their dedication and commitment to the UCC Church. Pictured above, l-r: Rosa Lee and Reed Hamilton, Verla Hamilton, Scott and Mary Hamilton and Dave and Loretta Hamilton.



Pastor Sunny Ridings, left, presents Rosa Lee and Reed with a gift of appreciation.