

THOMAS COUNTY

Herald

Your Source Of
News In The Sandhills

THOMAS COUNTY, THEDFORD, NEBRASKA 69166

(USPS 596-550)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2019

NO. 22



Thedford's annual Old Fashioned Christmas will be held on Friday, December 6, 2019 from 1:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Vendors setting up include: Ken's Self Defense, Scentsy, Lemongrass Spa, MAF Designs, Rhian Needle Craft, Mary Kay, Sedalia Design, 4-H Booth, Thedford Art Gallery, Sandhills Oilz, Key's Canning & Crafts, Jacobsen Kustoms, Baubles By M, Healing Hands of the Crossroads, Ruby Ribbon, Premier Jewelry, Rural Sky Design Studio, Grammy's Creations, QT's Boutique.

The elementary contest drawings will be on display in local windows and the winners on display at the Thedford Post Office.

The Eastern Star Ladies will be serving soup from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

The Thedford Service Club will have \$50.00 bucks drawings.

Pancakes will be served at the Life Center from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

The tree lighting will

CHIP - Nebraska Freemasons Chid Identification Program



The Nebraska Freemasons Child Identification Program (CHIP) – is coming to Thedford.

Nebraska Freemasons invite children ages 18 and younger to participate in a comprehensive Child Identification Program at Thedford United Church of Christ Church in Thedford on December 6, 2019 from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. A CD will be provided that includes a brief interview, digital photographs, and digital fingerprints of the child. Professional personnel will make a Toothprint® dental impression with the child and perform a DNA cheek swab. All Data will be provided to the parent and will be immediately deleted from the computer.

Materials and instructions are also included for the at-home generation of scent pads for canine search and rescue. All materials are given to the parents for safekeeping. Only the permission form is kept on file, and the program is provided at no charge to the participants. The event is being sponsored by Seneca Lodge

No. 284 in Thedford.

The Toothprint® impression is a relatively new means of identification where the child bites down on a softened thermoplastic wafer, making a permanent, archivable record of their teeth. Toothprints® were developed by Dr. David Tesini of Massachusetts, a pediatric dentist who developed Toothprints® as another means of identifying a child that fingerprints alone may not guarantee.

The event is being held in conjunction with the annual Thedford Old Fashioned Christmas.

Early registration of your child will expedite the process. Registration materials will be available on site, but are also being sent home with Thedford school children.

Masonic Child Identification programs are held periodically throughout Nebraska and may be sponsored by any group but are generally sponsored by local Masonic Lodges as part of their community service programs. Many school officials have requested that

the program be brought into the school systems in their municipalities.

The frightening statistics show that over one million children are reported missing in the United States each year, with more than 100,000 attempted abductions by non-family members for the same period.

The fact that more than 3,000 Americans remain unidentified makes the value of this program is enormous. The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children recognizes CHIP as one of the most complete child recovery and identification programs in the nation. The program is also endorsed by the State Troopers Association of Nebraska, the Nebraska Sheriffs' Association, the Nebraska Dental Association, the Nebraska Dental Hygienists' Association, and SAR Unit, Inc. of Nebraska (search and rescue).

For more information, call 1-800-558-8029 or visit the Nebraska Grand Lodge web site at: www.glnr.org.

Fire Blackens Just Under A Section Of Nebraska National Forest Land

Authorities say firefighters completely contained a fire that blackened just under 604 acres (244.4 hectares) in the Nebraska National Forest west of Dunning.

A National Forest Service personnel says no one was injured fighting the

blaze late Saturday night, November 16 into Sunday morning, November 17. Firefighters from several area departments joined the battle, including units from Anselmo, Brewster, Dunning, Mullen, Stapleton and Thedford.

The service says the fire

cause is being investigated, but is believed to have been accidentally caused by a person.

The National Weather Service says the fire danger is very high in the southern Sandhills and parts of western and southwest Nebraska.

Contractor Crews Trespass On Private Property



COURTESY PHOTO

JAMES E DUCEY

A contractor crew working on the R-project for the Nebraska Public Power District has trespassed and destroyed private property on a ranch along the southern edge of Holt county.

On November 16th, Marlene Haake of the Haake family ranch found some workers installing a new gate along the proposed right-of-way of the industrial powerline. She had been "patrolling" and on her fourth go-around found where the fence that had been present was cut away and a short portion removed. New box corners for the gates had already been placed.

"We have not signed any easement to allow the placement of the powerline on our property, yet they were installing a new gate to provide vehicle access," she said later. "They had no right to be there."

The contractor not only violated private property rights by trespassing, but destroyed fence and appeared to have the intent to take the removed fence posts from the property, which should be considered "stealing," she said. There was no proof shown that would give them any right of access. They had not even stopped by the ranch house to indicate their intent to encroach upon the property.

Haake made the contractors remove the newly built gate features and rebuild what was the current fence.

Elsewhere steel fence posts had been placed to mark the right-of-way. One was partially run over by a farm implement.

"I pulled six posts from our property," she said.

The sheriffs of Garfield county and Holt county were called, but no action in response to the trespassing and property destruction has yet to occur.

Haake insisted to the contractors that they could not ever intrude on the ranch again.

Along the R-project alignment in Thomas county in 2016, NPPD workers were found trespassing on the south unit of the Brush Creek Ranch, owned by Barbara and Dan Welch. The utility company people were evicted from the ranch and since then the pasture gates have been locked closed.

Both ranches have had similar results with NPPD in dealing with medical conditions associated with Ronald Haake and Dan Welch.

Physicians for both men have advised them that they need to avoid prolonged exposure to any "stray voltage" especially associated with a 345 kV industrial powerline.

At the Haake place, the powerline would be in the immediate proximity of an eight mile travel route from the east end home place to the west end of the ranch. To avoid any exposure, an alternate route would necessitate going eight miles north, then six miles west and another eight miles south.

At Brush Creek, the transmission line would go over the cattle ship-ping pens and a heifer development pasture. Welch would not be able to help ship his stock since the prolonged exposure would be dangerous to his health. Welch did receive a brochure regarding stray voltage that was completely out-dated.

NPPD officials have told both families the powerline would not be any threat. The utility company did offer to provide a doctor's consultation but both ranchers did not want to meet with a physician hired by the project builder.

Gearing Up For Second Session

Senator, Tom Brewer

The second Session of the 106th Legislature begins the 8th of January. I have three "carry-over" bills from last session that have been voted out of committee. They will hopefully be among the first bills we debate after the session starts.

LB 153 is a bill which exempts fifty percent of a military retiree's pension from Nebraska income tax. All of the states around us either do not tax military retirement at all, or give this income much friendlier treatment than we do. Consequently, most military retirees don't settle in Nebraska. Addressing this problem is long overdue. (I should disclose the fact that I and my legislative aide are both retired Army colonels and will personally benefit from this bill if it passes). I am glad I have the opportunity to be a strong voice for the military and our veterans. I am sincerely grateful to Sen. John Lowe from Kearney for making this his priority bill.

LB 582 is a bill that

would help take stolen guns off the street. It will be particularly useful to the prosecutors and the brave police officers working the "Gang Unit" in our large cities where stolen firearms pose the greatest threat to public safety. Instead of taking guns from citizens without due process of law, which so-called "Red Flag" laws do, this bill takes guns out of the hands of criminals who shouldn't have them to begin with. According to a study by the Heritage

See Brewer
Page 6

Index

Legal Notices.....2
Social Side3
Opinion Page.....4
Classifieds5
School News6
Sports.....6
Obituary.....7
Church Page.....8

Notices

- Thomas County Commissioners' Proceedings
 - Notice Of Hearing
 - Notice Of Suit
 - Village Board Proceedings
 - School Board Proceedings
- Be An Informed Citizen
Read The Legals
Page 2*

Inside This Issue

- Nebraska Timeline
- Remember When
- Over The Hills
- Happenings On The Hill
- Odds & Ends
- Life's Outtakes
- Dave Says
- Dunning Craft Show
- Church Page