

THOMAS COUNTY

Herald

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News In The Sandhills

THOMAS COUNTY, THEDFORD, NEBRASKA 69166

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2017

NO. 22

Notices

- Special Board Of Education Public Notice

Obituaries

- Karen Harwager
- Kevin Allan Jameson
- Clinton Ross Shoemaker

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Annual Christmas Walk-About Planned in Thedford

Thedford Service Club is again planning to kick-off the community's Christmas season by hosting Christmas About Town on Friday, December 8. Activities are set to run from 3:00 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.



NEST 529 Celebrates Holidays with \$100 Bonus Program

\$100 Bonus to Be Awarded to First 100 New Accounts

First National Bank of Omaha and Nebraska State Treasurer Don Stenberg are helping new account owners get their college savings in order before the new year with the NEST 529 College Savings Plan \$100 bonus program.

The program, which kicks off December 1 and runs through December 31, will award the first 100 new college savings accounts with a \$100 bonus each, when using the promotion code available at NEST529.com/bonus100.

"At NEST we believe that the gift of a college education is truly the greatest gift of all, which is why we are excited to offer this bonus in time for the holidays," said Deborah Goodkin, Managing Director, Savings Plans, First

National Bank of Omaha. "We hope this bonus will encourage families to open accounts for their loved ones to start their college savings off on the right foot in 2018."

To qualify, new accounts must be opened for beneficiaries ages 8 and younger, with a minimum \$50 contribution. Accounts can be opened both online and by paper.

"The costs of higher education can add up quickly, so the best way to prepare is to save regularly and often. We encourage families to take advantage of this holiday bonus if they do not already have NEST accounts, and we suggest all account owners prioritize college savings to help their loved ones achieve their educational goals and dreams," said Treasurer Stenberg, Trustee of NEST.

32-year mail carrier retires



MARCIA HORA PHOTOS

Stapleton Postmaster Judy Mulligan, left, presents Marian Lanka with a certificate of appreciation for 32 years of service as the HC 2 rural mail carrier.

It was a hard decision for Marian Lanka to make, but the HC 2 rural mail carrier drove her mail route for the last time Saturday, November 25.

After 32 years of carrying the mail, 110 miles a day, three days a week, Lanka said she felt it was time to move on.

"When I first started carrying this route, there were a lot more boxes and more miles," Lanka added. "I have really enjoyed my mail route because it got me out in the hills that I love and where I raised my family. The people I've worked with here at the post office couldn't have been better. It has been good getting to know each one of my patrons on a personal basis. I've enjoyed knowing them and appreciated how they looked out for me in bad weather. I always called my son, Rex, from the route to let him know how far I'd gone."

Lanka received a certificate of appreciation from Stapleton Postmaster Judy Mulligan. Lanka said she has been a carrier under Gary Reynolds, Nina (Griffiths) Harms, Mary Pedersen and now Judy Mulligan, along with interim postmasters.

Lanka said two bad days stick out in her mind. She sat on ice for four hours and got stuck in a pile of snow at an autogate.

"There is no cell phone service on my route unless you get on a hill, so it was good to know people were watching out for me."

Lanka was in the post office on Monday, November 27, helping B.J. Puttergill, the new HC 2 mail carrier, become familiar with her new duties. Puttergill, who lives nine miles north and four miles east of



B.J. Puttergill is the new HC 2 mail carrier. She was on the job for her first day at the post office, Monday, November 27.

Tryon, has been a regular substitute carrier and comes with postal experience.

Postmaster Mulligan said there will be a change on the HC 2 route. Patrons will now receive their mail on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, instead of the current Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday schedule.

Lanka said she will help her daughter, Diane Wonch, with Diane's school in Gandy three days a week. She also helps with Awana at the Gandy Community Bible Church on Wednesday evenings.

"I'll stay busy," Lanka said with assurance. "I've been praying about it and know there will be new opportunities opening up for me where I can help out where needed."

Quicken Course Offered in Thedford

It is important to keep financial books on the ranch for more than just tax time.

A Quicken Workshop for Farmers and Ranchers will be held at two locations: Wednesday, December 13 in the Thedford courtroom, or Thursday, December 14 at the Hooker County Library basement in Mullen from 1-3 pm (local time).

Nebraska Extension Educators will teach how to use Quicken, a popular commercial record-keeping software package that is user friendly, inexpensive, and easy to find. Quicken is flexible for ag and non-ag business enterprises and separates out family living expenses.

Quicken's checkbook

register makes for a familiar environment to begin computerized record-keeping. Quicken comes with home and general business income and expense categories, but educators will show how to easily import farm categories to match the tax Schedule F.

Quicken allows organization of finances by category and subclasses, but also a tag feature that is useful for splitting enterprises, by partnership share, or by ranch. Quicken allows users to split transactions, so one check written at a local gas station can be divided among several expenses: fast food, oil for the tractor, and farm fuel for the feed pickup.

Reports such as transactions, cash flow, account balances, balance sheet, comparison, and tax summary can easily generated, information filtered and layout modified. Quicken files can also be exported to QuickBooks®, used by many tax accountants.

The hands-on trainings will include computer time with Quicken. Educators will also show how to run reports helpful for financial decisions.

Pre-registration is required. Call the Nebraska Extension Office in Thedford to pre-register at 308-645-2267 or email bjohnston3@unl.edu. The cost to attend is \$20 per person. This workshop is limited to 10 participants.

Thedford's One-Act named District runners-up

Thedford hosted the D2-5 Play Production Districts on Tuesday, November 28. The Thedford play "And Others...." took runner-up honors on the day. The play scored a 1.58333 and had a total of 167 points from the three judges, with Judge number three giving them a first place ranking.

McPherson County took the top honors with "10 Ways To Survive The Zombie

Apocalypse" and will represent this area at the State Play Productions in Norfolk on Wednesday, December 6, 2017, at the Johnny Carson Theatre.

Other teams competing in Thedford were: Arnold, third, "Under Jekyll's Hyde"; fourth, Sandhills, "Asylum"; fifth, Hayes Center, "Good Cop Bad Cop"; sixth, Stapleton, "Frankenstein Unplugged"; and seventh, Maywood, "The XYZ Files".

Acting recognition went to: Sandhills, "Asylum" Taylor Downing, Bryan Zutavern, Elizabeth Peterson, Amanda Payne and Jacey Hafer; "And Others...." Marlee Taylor, Hannah Higgins, Gage Haake, and Cauty Pokorny.

Stapleton Public Schools hosted the Mid-Nebraska Activities Conference (MNAC) one-act competition, Tuesday, November 21.

Eight schools presented performances in the school auditorium with Hyannis High School winning first place with "Abigail 1702," by Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa. Second went to Cody Kilgore's, "Maggie Girl of the Streets" by Stephen Crane, adapted by Arthur Reel. McPherson County placed third with "10 Ways to Survive the Zombie Apocalypse," by Don Solidis.

Other schools competing were:

Arthur County, "Glass," by Saul Zachary; Sandhills High School, "Asylum," by Dennis Bush; Mullen High School, "This is a Test," by Stephen Gregg; Stapleton High School, "Frankenstein Unplugged," by Jonathan Yukich; and Thedford, "....And Others," by Dennis Bush.

Jake Oseka of McPherson County won the best actor award. Isaac Buitron of Arthur County was runner-up.

Best actress was Marlee Taylor of Thedford High School. Runner-up was Margaret Safarik of Hyannis High School.

Honorable mention went to Kasey Channer and Kyla Wykert, Arthur County; Kenny Wallens and Kitra Cody, Cody-Kilgore; Jacy Hafer and Bryan Zutavern, Sandhills; Madison Jones and Grace Vinton, Mullen; Kaylee Burnside, Stapleton; Mackenzie Anderson and Jacob Ramsay, Hyannis; and Hanna Pearson, Thedford.



JAMIE TAYLOR PHOTO

Pictured l-r: Cauty Pokorny, Marlee Taylor, Hannah Higgins and Gage Haake with the plaque Thedford received for the runner-up title at District One-Acts.