

THOMAS COUNTY Herald

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News In The Sandhills

THOMAS COUNTY, THEDFORD, NEBRASKA 69166

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THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 2018

NO. 35

Fischer Announces Local Office Hours For Thomas, Hooker, & Grant Counties

U.S. Senator Deb Fischer (R-Neb.) has announced that her staff will be holding local office hours in Thomas, Hooker, and Grant counties on Thursday, March 15, 2018. These office hours serve as a convenient opportunity for constituents to meet personally with Senator Fischer's staff to receive help with casework and other issues at the federal level.

Brandi McCaslin, Senator Fischer's greater Nebraska director of constituent services, will be holding local office hours at the times and locations below:

Thurs., March 15, 2018
Thomas County - Thomas County Courthouse, 503 Main Street, Thedford, NE 69166, 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. CT

Hooker County - Hooker County Courthouse, Commissioners Room, 303 NW 1st Street, Mullen, NE 69152, 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. MT

Grant County - Grant County Library, 105 East Harrison Street, Hyannis, NE 69350, 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. MT

First Annual Thomas Co. Spelling Bee Held At Thedford



COURTESY PHOTO

Pictured above are, the sixth grade winners of the first annual spelling bee, 1-r: Christopher Eggert, first; Riggin Blumenstock, second and Tasha Thomas, third. See more winners on Page 8 of this issue.

The First Annual Thomas County Spelling Bee was held Tuesday, March 6, at the Thedford High School old gym. The top three spellers from each of the classes, first through sixth, were presented a certificate.

A nice crowd of parents, friends and family came out to support the students as they gave their best effort and it was

found out that Thedford Elementary has some great spellers.

The judges who volunteered their time to support the youth this year were: Helen White, Marcy Andersen and BJ Thomas, all of Thedford.

The students, staff and onlookers are excited for this to become a yearly event at Thedford Elementary School.

The pickup was returned to Croghan on the same evening of the theft when the vehicle was spotted in an apartment complex parking lot one block from Fournier's residence.

A warrant was issued for Fournier's arrest and he had been eluding law enforcement until the time of his arrest on February 23.

the North Platte Police Department. He is in the Lincoln County jail and was to appear in Logan County Court, Tuesday, March 6.

Logan County Sheriff, Sean Carson reports Fournier is charged with theft of over \$5,000, a Class IV Felony which carries a maximum of five years imprisonment, a \$10,000 fine, or both.

Arrest made in pickup theft

An arrest has been made in connection with the person who stole a pickup owned by John Croghan from the garage located at the Croghan residence in Stapleton on January 30. Alexander Fournier, 21, of North Platte, who stopped at Kimber's on his way out of town with the stolen 2006 Dodge Ram pickup, was apprehended February 23 by

Winkelbauer Blaine Co. Spelling Champion

Colinn Winkelbauer, a seventh grader at Sandhills Public Schools, won the Blaine County Spelling Bee on Wednesday, February 14. Charlesie Teahon, a sixth grader, was the runner-up.

Class winners were:
Eighth Grade - 1. Courtney Swisher; 2. Miriam Ganoung; 3. Brea Branic
Seventh Grade - 1. Emily Leach; 2. Colinn Winkelbauer; 3. Dustie Harris; 4. Colton Thornburg
Sixth Grade - 1. Charlesie Teahon; 2. Ella Stithem; 3. Rhett McFadden.

Fifth Grade - 1. Shelby Schukei; 2. Ross Martin-dale; 3. Caden Zutavern
Fourth Grade - 1. Sara Christie; 2. Peyton Saner; 3. HayLynn Glidden; 4. Ryllyn Moody
Third Grade - 1. Shaylee



COURTESY PHOTO

Milleson; 2. Kallan Cox; 3. Ember Chavez
Second Grade - 1. Mattee Zutavern; 2. Paizley Zutavern; 3. Ray Warren
Final Round - 1. Colinn Winkelbauer; 2. Charlesie Teahon; 3. Courtney Swisher.

Prescribed Broadcast Burns Scheduled to Begin in March 2018 at the Nebraska National Forest, Bessey Ranger District

Fire managers on the Bessey Ranger District of the Nebraska National Forest plan to conduct a series of prescribed, broadcast burns beginning the week of March 12 and continuing through May 15, 2017 as weather conditions allow. The broadcast burns are planned on up to 12,000 acres of the native grasslands.

According to Julie Bain, Bessey District Ranger, "These broadcast prescribed burns are intended to reduce the encroachment of Eastern red cedar trees into the native prairie. Last year, our broadcast burns killed most of the small (3 feet tall or less) Eastern

red cedar trees. The prescribed fires also killed more large trees than we expected. Burning is the most economical method of preventing cedar encroachment on large acreages. Fire is a natural disturbance process that can rejuvenate the grasslands and promote forbs that support pollinators."

Staff have already cut and piled large Eastern red cedar trees on a footprint of 2,035 acres this year. The piles may be burned separately next winter, or with the broadcast burns depending on the weather conditions.

Prescribed fires are managed with firefighter and public safety as the first priority.

Smoke from the prescribed burns may be visible from Thedford, Dunning, Highway 2, Highway 83, and other areas around the Middle Loup and Dismal Rivers. Lingering smoke may be present for up to one week after ignitions are complete.

If you would like to be notified the day the broadcast burns will take place, please call the front desk at (308) 533-2257 or email angelmaldonado@fs.fed.us. For technical questions about this prescribed burn, please contact Tedd Teahon at 308.880.0540 or the Bessey Ranger District at 308.533.2257.

Over 60 donors give 59 units of blood



Gage Haake was a first-time donor at the February Red Cross Blood Drive.



Ben Masten was a returning blood donor at the recent blood drive in Thedford



Jason Polenske returned to give blood at the February blood drive held at Thedford Public Schools.

The American Red Cross blood drive was held Wednesday, February 21 at Thedford High School in the old gym.

Over 60 people from the community came to support the drive, and 59 units were donated.

The next Red Cross blood drive in Thedford will be held on Monday, April 23 at the Thedford High School old gym.

Tips for a Successful Donation
By following a few recommendations before, during and after your blood donation can help

you make your donation experience as safe, successful and pleasant as possible.

Before Your Donation
Maintain a healthy iron level in your diet by eating iron rich foods, such as red meat, fish, poultry, beans, spinach, iron-fortified cereals and raisins.

Get a good night's sleep. Drink an extra 16 oz. of water or nonalcoholic fluids before the donation.

Eat a healthy meal before your donation. Avoid fatty foods, such as hamburgers, fries or ice cream before donating. (Fatty

foods can affect the tests we do on your blood. If there is too much fat in your blood, your donation cannot be tested for infectious diseases and the blood will not be used for transfusion.)

If you are a platelet donor, remember that your system must be free of aspirin for two days prior to donation.

Remember to bring your donor card, driver's license or two other forms of ID.

During Your Donation
Wear clothing with sleeves that can be raised

above the elbow.

Let the person taking your blood know if you have a preferred arm and show them any good veins that have been used successfully in the past to draw blood.

Relax, listen to music, talk to other donors or read during the donation process.

Take the time to enjoy a snack and a drink in the refreshments area immediately after donating.

After Your Donation
Drink an extra four (8 ounce) glasses of liquids and avoid alcohol over the

next 24 hours.

Keep the strip bandage on for the next several hours.

To avoid a skin rash, clean the area around the strip bandage with soap and water.

Do not do any heavy lifting or vigorous exercise for the rest of the day.

If the needle site starts to bleed, apply pressure to it and raise your arm straight up for about 5-10 minutes or until bleeding stops.

If you experience dizziness or lightheadedness

after donation, stop what you are doing and sit down or lie down until you feel better. Avoid performing any activity where fainting may lead to injury for at least 24 hours.

Call us at 1-866-236-3276 to report any additional health information that you forgot to tell us, if you have any problems or if you needed medical care after giving blood.

Learn more about your need for iron after blood donation at www.red-crossblood.org/iron