

Memories of yesterday...will last a lifetime



Presenting the Thedford High School Class of 2019, back row, l-r: Cauly Darrin Pokorny, Chase Austin Haake, Gage Michael Haake, Aaron Carter Nelson, Marlee Raye Taylor, and Lex Harley Wilde. Front row, l-r: Kalee Jae Jepsen, Cailyn Elizabeth Marlene Jameson, Caitlyn Susanne Hesselstine, Hannah Joyce Pearson, Kaylin Lane Parker, and Morgan Leigh Rinestine.

Thedford High School's senior Class of 2019 made their final walk together as a class during graduation exercises held Saturday, May 11, in the high school auditorium.

Morgan Rinestine gave the invocation and Hannah Pearson the benediction.

Marlee Taylor, valedictorian addressed her classmates, family and friends. Co-salutatorians were Chase Haake and Cailyn Jameson.

Ushers were Kirsten Milam and Shelton Andersen. Programs were given out by Tucker Ballenger and Connor Burns. Mr. Ross Thoendel, pianist, played "Pomp and Circumstance."

Gifts were presented by the class as the songs, "Country Roads" by John Denver, "Days Go By," by Keith Urban, and "Don't Blink," by Kenny Chesney, were played.

The class colors of royal purple, black, and silver,

were carried out in decorations. The class flower was the chrysanthemum.

This year's class motto was "Our memories of yesterday will last a lifetime. We'll take the best, forget the rest, and someday we'll find these are the best of times."

Scholarships and senior plans of the Class of 2019: Chase Haake: Will be attending Northeast Community College, majoring in electrical construction and control. He has re-

ceived the Peter Kiewit Scholarship from Northeast Community College, Zion Lodge #234 Scholarship, Taylor Rowan Memorial Scholarship, Thedford Area Community Foundation Vocational Scholarship, and the Seneca Lodge Scholarship #284.

Gage Haake: Will be attending Morningside College, majoring in

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JAMIE TAYLOR PHOTOS

Caity Hesselstine gives a rose to FCS teacher, Mrs. Rosalea Gift, during the THS graduation ceremony. After giving flowers to family members, every senior gave a rose to Mrs. Gift, who retired this spring after 45 years of teaching. She received a dozen roses, and when the presentation was over, Mrs. Gift was given a standing ovation for her years of dedication and commitment to the Thedford community.



THS co-salutatorians, Cailyn Jameson and Chase Haake.



THS Class of 2019 valedictorian, Marlee Taylor.

Live for today...hope for tomorrow



CELESTE ROGERS PHOTOS

Presenting the Sandhills High School Class of 2019, l-r: Carlie Marie Collier, Ty James Bass, Evan William Hewett, Colt Guthry Hesselstine, Jacy Elizabeth Hafer, and Dixie Rose Kennedy.

Six Sandhills High School graduates received their diplomas at commencement exercises held Saturday, May 11. The class colors of teal, silver and pink, were carried out in the decorations.

Heralds were Bryan Zutavern and Dylan Lister-McIntyre.

The class motto was "Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow."

Colt Hesselstine gave the welcome and Dixie Kennedy introduced the class speaker.

Mrs. Amy Simonson, art teacher, gave the commencement address.

Jacy Hafer, valedictorian, and Carlie Collier, salutatorian, addressed those in attendance.

The Class of 2019 slide show was presented and the flower presentation was conducted while "When You Remember" by Carrie Underwood was played.

School counselor, Mrs. Trish Rodocker, presented the following

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Carlie Collier, SHS Class of 2019 salutatorian



Jacy Hafer, SHS Class of 2019 valedictorian.

Thomas Co. Airport receives DOT grant

\$4.365 million awarded

U.S. Senator Deb Fischer (R-Neb.), a member of the Senate Commerce Committee, released the following statement after the Department of Transportation (DOT) announced three Nebraska airports, Gordon, Red Cloud, and Thomas County, will be awarded supplemental discretionary grants. The grants will support improvements and rehabilitation of the airports' runways.

"Nebraska's rural airports keep our families, communities, and businesses connected. I'm happy to see the Department of Transportation

invest in runway improvements at our airports in Gordon, Red Cloud, and Thomas County. These additional resources will provide increased safety for travelers and better facilitate the flow of commerce," said Senator Fischer.

Individual awards listed below:

- Gordon Municipal Airport (Gordon) - \$1.5 million
- Red Cloud Municipal Airport (Red Cloud) - \$3.21 million
- Thomas County Airport (Thedford) - \$4.365 million

Brewer's eminent domain bill approved

The Nebraska Legislature voted 44-0 to send Senator Tom Brewer's LB 155 to Governor Ricketts to be signed into law. The bill was brought to address property owner concerns about the use of eminent domain for private industrial wind farms.

As originally introduced, the bill would have eliminated a provision of existing law stating that construction of feeder lines to renewable energy generation facilities is a "public use" justifying eminent domain takings. After initially stalling on General File, LB 155 was brought back for further debate thanks to Senator Rob Clements' designating it as his personal priority bill. When

it was again debated by the Legislature, the bill was advanced by strong majorities on both General and Select File.

A General File amendment made changes that eliminated opposition from the first round of debate. The amendment leaves the "public use" language in the law for now, but provides that there is only a "rebuttable presumption" that these projects are a public use. The amendment also adds a new statement that there is a public interest in protecting the Nebraska Sandhills and the farmers and ranchers who make it their home.

Senator Brewer said,

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