

THOMAS COUNTY Herald

Your Source Of
News In The Sandhills

THOMAS COUNTY, THEDFORD, NEBRASKA 69166

(USPS 596-550)

THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2019

NO. 50

Help trauma patients by giving blood in July



American
Red Cross

Please Give Blood.

Donated blood is a life-saving gift most healthy people can give. The community is encouraged to donate blood on July 2, 2019 from noon until 6:00 p.m. at the Thomas County Fairgrounds to help those who have been seriously injured and need blood products to help them recover. It's the blood already on the shelves that helps save lives.

All presenting donors will receive a free limited edition T-shirt from the American Red Cross, while supplies last.

Every day, the American Red Cross must collect more than 13,000 blood donations to meet the needs of trauma patients and others with serious

medical conditions. While all blood types are needed, type O negative donors are especially important. Because it is the universal blood type and can be transfused to patients of any blood type, type O negative blood is what emergency personnel reach for when there is no time to determine the blood type of patients in the most serious situations.

To make an appointment or to learn more, call Joy Miles at 748-2297.

Donors may also download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). Completion of a RapidPass®

online health history questionnaire is encouraged to help speed up the donation process. To get started, follow the instructions at redcrossblood.org/RapidPass or use the Blood Donor App. A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

Locals participate in annual Masonic All-Star marching band



COURTESY

Pictured l-r: Ariel Bryant, Jakob Schaefer and Summar Schaefer. They participated in the 25th annual Masonic All-Star marching band during the Shrine Bowl.

Three Thedford High School students were among 259 high school students from across Nebraska who participated in the 25th annual Masonic All-Star marching band, which performed Saturday, June 1, during Shrine Bowl festivities in Kearney.

Participating were: Ariel Bryant, daughter of Ross and Dawn Bryant; Jakob Schaefer, son of Mike and Stacey Schaefer; and Summar Schaefer, daughter of Mike and Stacey Schaefer.

The band members devoted four days of intense practice starting May 28, to learn the music, marching steps and field formations. The band gave their first public performance with a public concert at Harmon Park on Friday evening, May 31. The band led the Shrine Bowl Parade down Kearney's Central and 1st Avenue on Saturday morning, June 1, and it also performed the pregame National Anthem and during half-time of the 61st Annual Shrine Bowl football game at Ron & Carol Cope Stadium, on Foster Field, at the University of Nebraska—Kearney.

The band members were hosted by the Masons of Nebraska, and were directed by Brad Weber, retired Band Director from Wayne High School, currently Instructor of Percussion at Wayne State College; Dan

Sodomka, Band Director at Aurora High School; and Dr. Dave Bohnert, Director of Bands at Wayne State College.

Ariel Bryant received a scholarship from Seneca Lodge No. 284; Jakob Schaefer received a scholarship from Zion Lodge No. 234; and Summar Schaefer received a scholarship from Golden Rule Chapter OES No. 134. The scholarships covered the cost of the camp.

"We demanded a lot of the students during the past week," Weber said. "They responded professionally and worked very hard. That was evident by the high-quality shows they performed Friday and Saturday. There's no doubt these young musicians are among the best in the state."

Coupled with hard work, the members also enjoyed evening activities consisting of a night of free time and music on the football field, bowling at the Big Apple Fun Center, and a dance. Many are looking forward to the opportunity to use the instruction provided by the band directors when they return to their respective high school bands.

"The band members worked hard during the week preparing for the Shrine Bowl performances," said Bob Moninger, Grand Master of Nebraska Masons. "They also had a lot of fun

meeting new people and enjoyed the activities, but they also understand the main reason for the long hours and hard work. Patients at the Shriners Hospitals for Children will benefit the most from the band's efforts this past week. We sincerely appreciate their contribution to raise awareness and funds to enable the Shriners to help even more children."

"Masonic lodges across Nebraska support local youth and community projects, humanitarian efforts including a child identification program, academic scholarships, and efforts to support our military," Moninger said. "At the statewide level, the Grand Lodge helps to maintain two homes: The Nebraska Masonic Home at Plattsmouth for Masons and their female relatives, and the Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children in Fremont. The combined philanthropic efforts of Masonic-related organizations amount to more than \$2 million a day."

Freemasonry is the oldest and largest fraternal organization in the world and is based on the lessons of living a life of brotherhood and high moral standards as portrayed symbolically in the work of stone masons who built the cathedrals, abbeys and castles of Europe.

Fallen Trooper's Legacy Lives On



KENDRA CUTLER - THOMAS COUNTY HERALD

Pictured, l-r: Jerry Johnson, Lt. Colonel Andy Duis, Kathy Johnson, Col. John Bolduc, Lieutenant Governor Mike Foley, Delores Bayer, Jim Amos, Mike Amos, Susan Amos, Megan Amos, Trooper Brent Potthoff, PSD Sgt. Amos, Major Mike Jahnke, Kelsey Amos and Kennetha Amos.

MEGAN AMOS

The Amos household in Lexington was buzzing with excitement on Friday, April 20, 1973. George Amos Jr., 28, was preparing his uniform for his shift with the Nebraska State Patrol. Delores, his wife, their sons Michael, four, and 18-month-old Jimmy were also excited because it was good Friday and Easter was right around the corner. While George was preparing for work, Delores was sewing a new coat for Michael for Easter.

Nearly at the same time a dark blue Buick Electra 225 had driven erratically into a gas station. The male driver of the car and the woman with him, seemed to be under the influence of alcohol. After they paid for gas and left, a station attendant decided to call the Kearney authorities.

Trooper George Amos Jr. Badge #9 called the dispatcher and advised 10-41, that he was on duty. By now the Buick was at the Elm Creek interchange on I-80. Trooper

Amos had acknowledged the call about the drunk driver and stated he was near Cozad.

Trooper Amos scanned the interstate. He soon found the Buick and advised Trooper Fawcett that he had stopped the vehicle. Trooper Fawcett had also responded to the call about the drunk driver, but was further away than Trooper Amos. After being advised that Trooper Amos had stopped the vehicle Trooper Fawcett asked if he needed assistance. Surprisingly, Trooper Amos asked for help, therefore Trooper Fawcett proceeded to his location, finding it unusual for George to need help with a drunken driver.

When Trooper Fawcett got to Trooper Amos' location he noticed that there was no Buick there. He got out of his vehicle and walked up to Trooper Amos' car. He then saw there was blood on George's face, and he had no cardiac pulse. Trooper Fawcett called in a 10-33 "Officer in Trouble." When he returned to Trooper Amos' vehicle he

noticed his revolver was missing, and reported that also.

Gothenburg Officer Tamke, was also on duty, and was notified of the Buick. Tamke observed the Buick going west-bound on Highway 30. He called it in and began following the car. Tamke pulled over the vehicle noticing blood on the driver's shirt, and gave the driver directions to I-80. That's when a State Patrol aircraft from North Platte came into sight. Tamke then went and blocked the exit ramp with his own vehicle. Tamke got out his shot gun and awaited the Buick that was currently driving through an alfalfa field. As the car approached the exit with officers following, Tamke was trying to get a shot off when he realized that the Buick was going to run into him. He dove into his car just as the Buick smashed into the side of Tamke's vehicle. The Buick turned and went off into another field as Patrol Officers

See *Legacy*
Page 10

Locals Headed To State High School Rodeo Finals

The 2019 Nebraska High School Rodeo Finals got underway on Wednesday, June 12, with the queen contest and contestant registration.

The rodeo got underway Thursday, June 13 and performances were held at 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

The Friday, June 13 performances were also held at 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., with first and second go-aways being held at 9:30 p.m.

The cutting finals, panner-up rodeo, queen coronation and Short Go Rodeo was held Saturday, June 15, with awards and a barbecue to follow at 4:30 p.m.

Stock contractor for this year's finals is Phillips Rodeo Co. with Kissinger Cattle providing the cutting cattle. JR Clark and Ray Brown will serve as judges and Ray Lipsey and Jim Wilkins are the

cutting judges.

Chase Freeman and Jeremy Hanson are the bull fighters and Lance Heikel and Cinch Heikel are the pick-up men.

Rodeo arena director is Nate Allen and cutting arena director is Trish Hinrichs. Travis Schauda is this year's rodeo announcer.

Local rodeo athletes who qualified for the state finals are:

Emma Warren - Goat Tying
Raesha Warren - Goat Tying
Dane Pokorny - Steer Wrestling
Evan Hewett - Steer Wrestling
Mason Ward - Bull Riding and Boy's Cutting
Hayden Jennings - Boy's Cutting

Ty Bass - Team Roping and Tie Down Roping
Quade Potter - Steer Wrestling, Team Roping and Tie Down Roping

Jared Shaw - Bull Riding
Cauy Pokorny - 10th In Boy's All-Around, Steer Wrestling, Team Roping

Andrea Meyer - Break-away Roping, Goat Tying, Pole Bending

Britney Brosius - Goat Tying
Zach Bradley - 2nd In Rookie Cowboy, Boy's Cutting, Team Roping, Tie Down Roping

Cooper Bass - 3rd In Rookie Cowboy, Boy's Cutting

Ryan Shepherd - 10th in Rookie Cowboy, Team Roping

Spencer DeNaeyer - Bareback Riding and Saddle Broncs

Brooklyn Leach - Barrels and Goat Tying

Colt Hesselstine - Bareback Riding and Steer Wrestling

The NHSRA National Finals Rodeo will be held in Rock Springs, Wyoming on July 14-20, 2019.