

Omaha family finds peace in the Sandhills



Chad and Becci Sutton and their boys, Connor, 11, and Mason, 9, are pictured in front of their newly opened Halsey business. Sandhill Sutton's Speed & Supply features everything you need for your adventure to the Nebraska National Forest at Halsey.

Marcia Hora

You're now in luck if you find yourself in need of just about anything on your way to the Nebraska National Forest at Halsey. You can get a haircut, tune up your ATV, and

load up on camping necessities at the newly opened Sandhill Sutton's Speed & Supply. Chad and Becci Sutton and their boys, Connor, 11, and Mason, 9, couldn't be happier with the reception they've been given

after opening the new business in Halsey. The couple purchased the storage unit building from Mark Carr on April 1, 2019, after moving to Halsey in October of 2018. "I grew up going to the forest twice a year. When

it was time to start putting Connor on a bike we started coming here too," Chad Sutton said. "We were trying to teach the boys the value of a dollar and they had their own little store set up in the forest before we got busted. We found out you can't sell there without proper permits."

The couple agree they were born in the wrong place. The high school sweethearts grew up in Omaha, but their hearts have always been in the Sandhills and the forest. "It's so much calmer here and such a better way of life to raise the boys," Chad said. "We still love going to the forest, but now it's a lot shorter trip."

Chad and Becci saw a need for grocery items near the forest after having to make a trip to either Thedford or Broken Bow for items like forgotten hot dog buns. "That's when we decided to pursue the old grocery store building in Halsey," Chad said.

That fell through so the couple purchased a house in Halsey and also a lot on the south side of the high-

way and began the task of clearing trees and cleaning it up. Everything came together with the purchase

of the storage units. One of the units is now

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Chad Sutton and his two boys, Mason, left, and Connor, pose on the chair constructed from cleared trees on the lot the Suttons purchased in Halsey.

Local Athletes Compete In MNAC All-Star Game



The Mid-Nebraska Activities Conference held the "Seniors All-Star" girls and boys basketball games on Friday, May 24, at Sandhills High School in Dunning. Seniors from MNAC schools were invited to participate in one last high school basketball game. Carlie Collier, Marlee Taylor and Caity Hesseltine were the Lady Knight players among those participating.

The MNAC Seniors All-Star game was held May 24 at Sandhills High School in Dunning. The teams were divided into the white uniforms and dark uniforms. Ryan Ridenour coached the white team on the girls side and J.D. Furrow was the coach for the dark uniform girls. The White team won the girls match. Jeff Cole coached the white uniform boys and Brent Myers the dark uniformed boys.

Athletes participating were:

Girls White Uniforms - Kyla Wykert, Arthur County; Addison Johnson, Cody-Kilgore; Madysen Arterburn, Brady; Aubrey Schultis, McPherson County; Caity Hesseltine, Sandhills-Thedford; Bailey Cady, Cody-Kilgore; Kaitlyn Crowe, Mullen; Kristina Miller, Mullen; Marlee Taylor, Sandhills-Thedford

Girls Dark Uniforms - Carlie Collier, Sandhills-Thedford; Taylan Myers, Anselmo-Merna; Tiffany Myers, Anselmo-Merna; Falan Ryan, Ansley-Litchfield; Kourtney Safranek, Anselmo-Merna; Kenzie Barnes, Cody-Kilgore; Atlynn Witthuhn, South Loup; Macey Widick, Brady

Boys White Uniforms - Colton Hendricks, Mullen; Cole Gracey, South Loup; Ty Durfee, Mullen;

Dylan Osborn, Twin Loup; Kobbie Olson, Hyannis; Kalen Dockweiler, South Loup; Ethan Samuelson, Ansley-Litchfield; Brye Szakacs, Cody-Kilgore; Leighton Bubak, South Loup; Jared Tolliver, Cody-Kilgore; Dillan Saner, Twin Loup

Boys Dark Uniforms - Chris Paitz, Ansley-Litchfield; Justin Bailey, Ansley-Litchfield; Brandon Parr, Anselmo-Merna; Lane Edis, Mullen; Reece Huhman, Anselmo-Merna; Colton Storer, Arthur; Kutter Rogers, Arthur; Dawson Duryea, Anselmo-Merna; Kobe Walker, Mullen; Brandon Peters, Mullen; Jackson Davis, Hyannis

Haumann Scores In Top Two Percent On Exit Exams

Three students from Mid-Plains Community College have scored in the top two percent of the nation on their exit exams. The students were Ronda Haumann of Thedford, Jocey Nelson of Sutherland, and Ashleigh Cardwell of North Platte.

The Health Education Systems Incorporated (HESI) Registered Nurse Exit Exam is an assessment used by some nursing programs to determine whether a student is ready to take and pass the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) - RN exam. Nursing school graduates must pass the NCLEX to receive a nursing license.

The HESI exam compared the scores of the MPCC students to those of a standard or "norm" group of 55,536 nursing students from across the nation, representing



percent ranking. Nelson came in at 1,305 with a 97.65 percent ranking, and Cardwell was number 1,005 with a 98.19 percent ranking.

"I am very proud of all of our nursing graduates and the scores that they achieved on their HESI exit exams this year," said Dr. Kathy Harrison, MPCC director of nursing. "The HESI scores that were obtained by this nursing class show that they all have a high potential for passing the NCLEX-RN on their first attempt. I believe that our NCLEX-RN first-time pass rates will increase this year as a result of these scores and the students' hard work and dedication."

More information about the nursing program at MPCC is available at mpcc.edu.

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