

Thedford Community Center Proposal

Story By:
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Taylor, TACFF Board
Member

The Thedford Area Community Foundation Fund (TACFF) board invited Jana Jensen of the Nebraska Community Foundation staff to lead a visioning process in March of 2016 to facilitate where the community would like to see foundation grant money used for a larger project.

Jensen surveyed area residents and students and posed the same questions.

“Students do not open up when adults are in the



JAMIE TAYLOR PHOTO

room. They have great ideas and we need their input as well,” Jensen said.

One of the questions was, “If money was not an object, what would you

like to see in the community.”

A community center

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New crew on board at Broken Bow Livestock



CUSTER COUNTY CHIEF

New owners, family members, and the livestock crew, gather for a photo prior to the July 11 sale. Effective July 1, 2019, the new owners of Broken Bow Livestock are Todd Eberle, Warren White, and Lin and Brett Gumb. Among others pictured include Wanda Eberle, Jessy and Jory Lowe, Drew “Gator” Gaffney, field representative, and Jake Gideon, assistant manager.

Marcia Hora

Familiar names to people in the Sandhills area are the new owners of Broken Bow Livestock.

Effective July 1, 2019, Burwell Livestock owners, Todd Eberle, Warren White, and Lin and Brett Gumb, have purchased Broken Bow Livestock.

“We are excited about this opportunity,” Todd Eberle, who lives in Broken Bow said. “We have a great town and to have the chance to invest in the sale barn came at the right time.”

Eberle went on to say Wendell and Kathy Brott built the barn back up and did a great job in making it into a progressive livestock market again.

“Purchasing the barn will expand our area even more and tie in nicely with Burwell Livestock,” Eberle added.

Sale days will continue to be every Thursday with weigh-ups at 9:00 a.m. and the sale at 11:30 a.m. Lin Gumb will be the auctioneer during the summer months. All class sales are planned for July 25.

A highlight of the July 11 sale was the auctioneering by longtime former sale barn owner, Ronnie Woodward of Broken Bow. He and his wife, Molly, auctioned and clerked many sales in the area over the years.

Eberle said Jake Gideon will be the assistant barn manager and Richard Estergard, yard manager.

Field representatives are Vic Florea, Drew Gaffney, Ray Keller, and Paul Reiker.

“We are looking forward to greeting old customers and seeing new faces at the barn,” Eberle said.

Two lawsuits filed against Fish & Wildlife

Civil action lawsuits have been filed against The Fish & Wildlife Service as NPPD moves forward with plans to build a 225-mile transmission line from the Gerald Gentleman plant near Sutherland, cut through the Nebraska Sandhills to Thedford, and push east into Wheeler County.

NPPD sent letters to landowners who have signed easements after The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service signed a Record of Decision and approved a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) that sets aside 600 acres of suitable habitat for the protection and management of the endangered American burying beetle.

Two groups and two separate farmers and ranchers filed a civil suit against The United State Fish & Wildlife Service

after the June 18 decision. The purpose of the permit issued by FWS authorized the incidental take of the listed species. The Fish & Wildlife Service declined to further hold up the project over concerns about affected cultural resources or migratory birds.

Oregon-California Trains Association, Western Nebraska Resources Council, Hanging H East and Whitetail Farms East filed the civil action in the United States District Court in Colorado on July 5, 2019, stating Fish & Wildlife officials gave NPPD the permit against their own expert biologists’ recommendations.

Petitioners say officials violated policy and law and want the U.S. District Court to order a review of the permits and look at the environmental im-

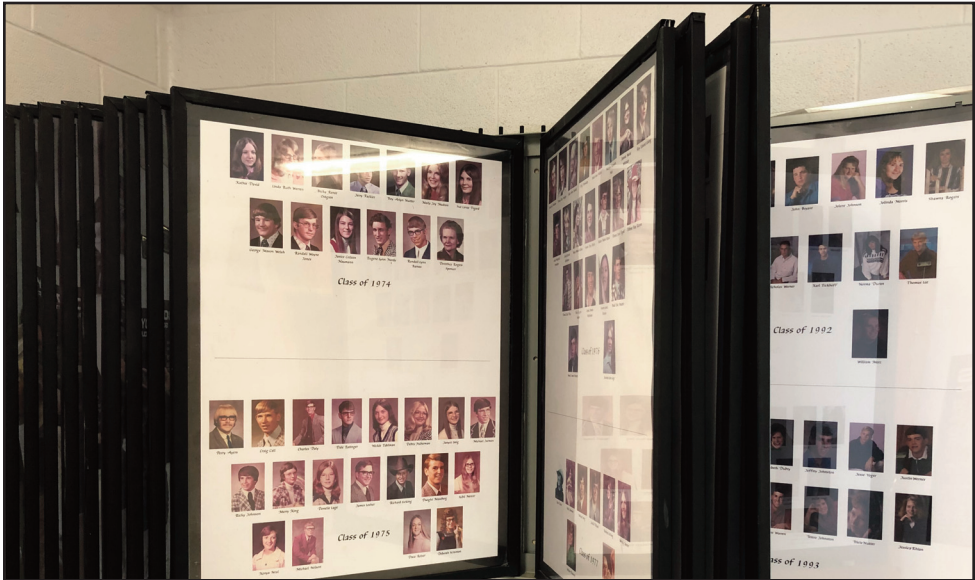
pact on the Whooping Crane and the American Burying Beetle.

NPPD spokesperson Mark Becker has stated it was hoped the R-Project could begin construction this fall with an expected project completion date of 2021. The transmission line was to have been completed by 2015-16 when it was first proposed.

R-Project lines would cross the Oregon Trail, the Mormon Trail, and an area rich in Native American artifacts along Birdwood Creek. The wires carrying 345,000 volts of electricity would be suspended from towers 87 to 140 feet tall.

It has been reported easements have been obtained from 78 percent of the landowners along the projected route.

Help Needed To Complete Alumni Display



JAMIE TAYLOR PHOTO

The Alumni display at Thedford High School is still in need of some alumni pictures to complete the project.

Several years ago a proud grandpa, between basketball games, ushered his grandchildren to the alumni pictures in the foyer of the new gym. He wanted them to see some of their relatives whom had attended Thedford High School. To his dismay, the picture above his female relative’s name was her male cousin who was already featured correctly. He brought that error to the attention of some of the staff. When Melanie Daly, Jane Haake, and Rosalea Gift started examining the photos, they found numerous mistakes. For example, one graduate was featured two different years, one female was found in three different years, and some of the names under the photos weren’t correct. It was a very challenging project as most of the graduates were deceased and there were no relatives living in this area to help with their identification. One saving factor was that we had

pictures of all the graduates and found some lists of classes. In addition to the identification problems, many of the pictures were fading. If these pictures were going to be preserved, fast action was necessary. This is when we enlisted the help of Roxanne Eatinger and the Copy House.

To make a long story, short, we have gotten all the classes completed except for the class of 2009, 2010, 2012, 2015 and two alumni from 2014. If any relatives of these alumni has a professional picture and will let us use it, we will return it in the same shape to the owner. A bill-fold size, a 5” by 7”, or even a little larger will work. We would greatly appreciate any help you can offer as we are trying to complete this project.

Professional pictures of the following alumni are needed to finish the display in the foyer of the new gym. Please send them to the high school or give them to Melanie Daly.

2009
Hannah Daly
Nicole Drinkwalter
Tisha Hardy
Sonya Hayden
Melissa Matulka
Mariah Sawyer
Tyrel Treat

2010
Hannah Chamberlin
Jason Elliott
Ty Keller
Callie Kovarik
Calden Lange

2012
Marissa Sawyer
Tanner Collins
Chauncy Hesseltine
Colton Kovarik
Bodell Sherman
Tanner Drews
Brittany Snider
Colton Schroeder
Ronald Fullerton
Danya Mintle

2014
Mikayla Jarvia
Bradon Schroeder

2015
Savannah Elliott
Cord Hesseltine
Kelsey Higgins
Caden Jameson
Brenton Mintle
Justin Lee
Caitlin Mintle
Tel Rae Sherman

Benson Takes Best Of Show

Story & Pictures By:
Terri Licking

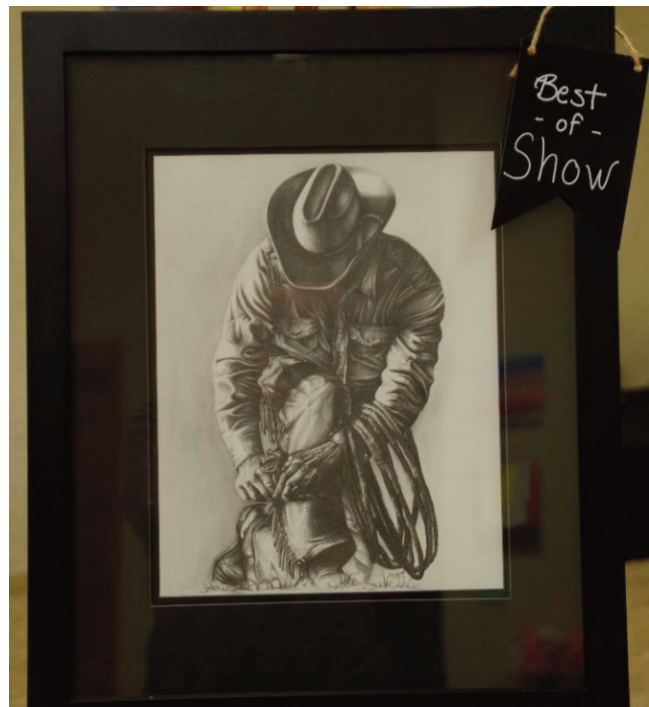
One of the events during Nebraskaland Days (NLD) in North Platte has been a competitive art show during the month of June. This year’s NLD show was held for the first time at the Prairie Art Center.

Thedford Art Guild (TAG) holds a competitive art show during the month of July at the Thedford Art Gallery. A TAG member has entered the NLD art show and collaborates with them to bring entries from that show to the show in Thedford.

Four entries from Elizabeth Benson of Laurel, were mistakenly picked up in North Platte instead of being shipped back to her. Benson decided since the entries were in Thedford, she would enter them in the show. The four pieces were graphite drawings depicting cowboys.

Beth Cole, Merna, judged this year’s TAG show. There were 75 adult entries in art, photos, and for the first time, 3-D.

“We decided with 17 pieces entered in the 3-D category there would be a separate category,” said Dawn Bryant, president of the Thedford Art Guild. “We awarded first through third in the three categories and an overall Best of Show. Besides the



Laurel, Nebraska artist, Elizabeth Benson, took Best of Show honors with her graphite drawing, “Fixing Chaps” at the Thedford Art Guild show.

3-D, 38 pieces of art and 20 photos were entered. There was also a youth division, 12 and under, which had twelve entries, divided between art and 3-D.”

The show is the major TAG fundraiser, and the monetary awards are made possible by the generous sponsors who this year included Hall & Sons Cattle Co., Consolidated Telephone, Sandhill Oil, Security 1st Bank, Ewoldt’s Grocery, Call’s Garage, Country Salon, Neal Lumber, Prairie Feed

Supply, Roadside Inn, Sandhills Corral, all of Thedford; Western Nebraska Bank, Purdum; Neal Oil Co., Tryon; and Creative Printers, Stapleton.

Benson’s graphite drawing entitled, “Fixing Chaps,” was awarded best of show. Benson describes herself as a shy, soft-spoken girl from a small town, who expressed herself through art since she was very young. She grad-

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