

THOMAS COUNTY

Herald

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News In The Sandhills



THOMAS COUNTY, THEDFORD, NEBRASKA 69166

(USPS 596-550)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2019

NO. 10

Branic Miss Southwest NE Junior Rodeo Queen

Brea Branic of Dunning recently won the 2019/2020 Miss Southwest Nebraska Rodeo Junior Queen contest held in McCook, NE. The categories of competition were: Personality (won), Appearance, Horsemanship, Knowledge (won), Speech and Impromptu Questions (won). Brea is the daughter of Brenda Bowers and is in the 10th grade at Sandhills Public Schools where she participates in various activities as well as being an honor roll student. Brea is also a member of 4-H, National Barrel Horse Association, and the American Quarter Horse Association.

Brea has already been busy attending rodeos, parades, ranch rodeos, giving horse rides to kids and 4-D barrel racing, since crowned queen.

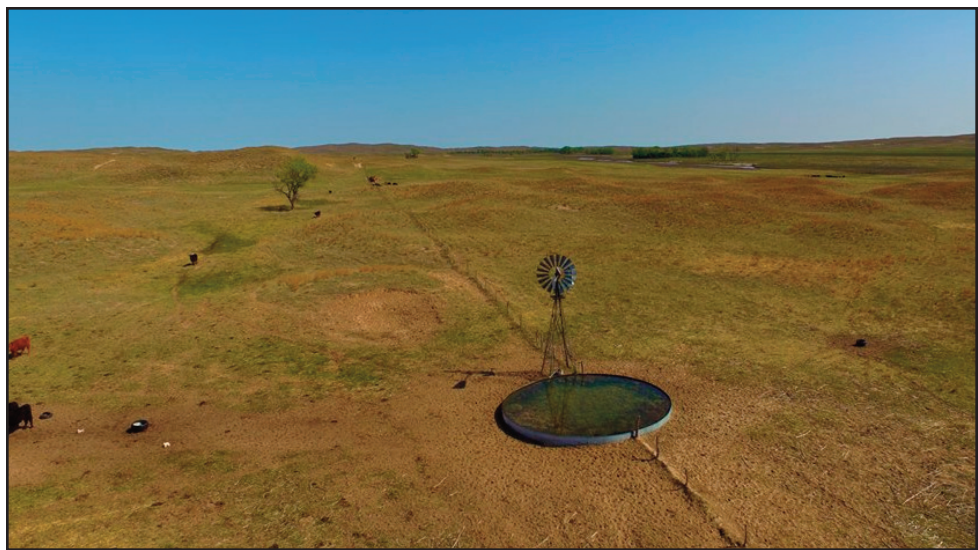
After high school, Brea wants to acquire a license to be an Equine Chiropractor. She would also like to continue to inspire young people to be the best that they can be, love rodeo, and the western way of life.



COURTESY PHOTO

Pictured above are, l-r: Sabrina Schemper, 2018/2019 Miss Southwest Nebraska Rodeo Jr. Queen and Brea Branic, 2019/2020 Miss Southwest Nebraska Rodeo Jr. Queen.

Aerial Tours of Nebraska Sandhills Offered



KEITH GEORGE PHOTO

This is an open invitation for any and all to enjoy Sandhills Aerial tours from the Thedford airport on Saturday, September 14. This is the same day of the inaugural Hills 2 Forest Middle Loup Kayak race which will be held between Thedford and Halsey.

The aerial tour will cost \$100 per person for an hour plane trip over the Sandhills. "We have tossed this idea of aerial tours as a fundraiser for the Sandhills Journey Scenic Byway for some time, and with people coming to race on September 14, we thought this might be another way for the whole family, not just the racers, to enjoy a weekend getaway in our beautiful Sandhills. This August they are the greenest even many an old-timer can remember. The cost covers the rent of the plane, the pilot and the other half to the SJSB," said Terri Licking, president of the

Sandhills Journey Scenic Byway.

Some of the sights one will see from the air include the confluence of the Middle Loup River and the Dismal river east of Dunning.

"Even many of the area residents have not seen this. Fly over the largest hand-planted forest in the western hemisphere, and of course fly over the river to see those on the water racing in their kayaks or canoes."

The trip is contingent on the weather cooperating. No money will change hands until that day, but reservations must be sent in to assure you have a spot. The pilot is Jack Johnston of Thedford. He will fly as many times as needed so everyone who wants this special view from the air of the Nebraska Sandhills will have an opportunity. Flights will begin at 8:00 a.m. from the Thedford Airport. To get there, turn

south at Ewoldt's Grocery, travel across the railroad, the bridge and take the left fork of the road on the east side of Hillcrest Cemetery.

If you want to reserve a spot, you may contact info via email to Terri Licking at twlicking@ymail.com, with SJSB aerial tour in the subject line. Please include your name, your primary phone number, and your email. She will then contact you to set up a time to be at the airport.

Both Roadside Inn at Thedford and Halsey Frontier Inn at Halsey have blocks of rooms at special rates. Mention the Sandhills Journey Scenic Byway when booking. If you are interested in the Kayak race, go to Eventbrite.com, Hills 2 Forest Kayak race to register. The cost is \$60 plus their small fee.

So, by land, air, or 'sea' - come enjoy the Sandhills Journey Scenic Byway on Saturday, September 14.

Middle Loup Kayak Race Plans Finalized



1st Annual Thedford 2 Halsey

KAYAK RACE

TERRI LICKING

Nebraska has more miles of river than any state in the nation. Tanking our rivers is our state's original water sport. Kayaking, tubing and canoeing are also enjoyed.

The Sandhills River Trips (SHRT), Thedford, booked through Ewoldt's Grocery, Thedford, offers all of the above aspects of enjoying the Middle Loup River near Thedford. They are teaming up with Sandhills Journey Scenic Byway and have organized the first annual Thedford 2 Halsey Kayak Race set for Saturday, September 14.

"The race is 33 miles, which seems long, but compared to other kayak races, is shorter than most," said Cay Ewoldt, owner of Sandhills River Trips. "My wife Stephanie and I have been tossing this around for several years, and when the Byway members approached us about the possibility of doing a race, we felt now was a good time to take the plunge."

One can find all details and registration information for the race on Eventbrite: Hills 2 Forest Middle Loup Kayak race. The cost is \$60 and includes a T-shirt, goody bag, meal after the race, and awards. Both the Roadside Inn, Thedford, and Halsey Frontier Inn, Halsey, have set a special room rate for that weekend.

The race will begin between Seneca and Thedford and end past the Forest office. Organizers

want to keep this first year event as simple as possible.

Divisions are men and women, and kayaks and canoes may be raced. If you do not want to race, but still want to enjoy the river, you may get out at two different check points, one after two hours and one after four hours. The cost is the same.

"There is one portage needed, meaning one must get out of the river with their vessel and walk around a low bridge.

The Middle Loup, after the Dismal River, is the fastest flowing river in the state.

It will be a challenge with trees, bends, and for those who are racing, the final few miles will be the most challenging.

One must catch the channel after the river widens and becomes shallower or you will end up dragging their kayak or canoe.

"Many veteran kayak racers consider this a great challenge and hope to make it," Ewoldt said.

Pre-registration will be taken at the Thedford Art Gallery on Friday, September 13, from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. A tailgate party, welcoming racers, will take place in Dunning as the Sandhills-Thedford Knights play in their homecoming game against Anselmo-Merna that evening on the Sandhills High School field.

Linda Teahon, SJSB director will host the event at her lodging venue, Brando's Bunkhouse, west of the football field. Racers are invited to come mingle with locals.

Early registration on Friday will allow racers to 'sleep in' as Saturday's registration will begin at 6:30 a.m. Kayaks and canoes will be put in at 7:30 a.m.

Sponsors for the first annual Hills 2 Forest Middle Loup Kayak Race are Thomas County Visitor's Committee, Consolidated Telephone, Sandhills Motel & Glidden Canoe Rental, Security First Bank, State 4-H Camp, and KBear Radio.

Sign-up will also taken place at the SJSB booth at the Nebraska State Fair in Grand Island, August 23 to September 2.

For more information call the SJSB office at 308-546-0636, Ewoldt's Grocery at 308-645-2235, email info @ sandhill-sjourney.com or sandhill-srivertrips@gmail.com.

To assure your T-shirt size, register as soon as possible.

Prices for those not racing and would like a T-shirt or a place at the evening meal at the State 4-H Lodge, the cost is \$15.00 and can be paid via Eventbrite.

Participating clay medallions will be given to participants, as well as first through third prizes in the two division.

These are being donated by Linda Lacy, CaLinda's Pot Shop & Gift Gallery, Ashby. T-shirts are being made by Janelle Jennings, Seneca. Both are SJSB members.

Bring sunscreen, bug spray, hat, and a great attitude and plan to have fun on the Middle Loup River from Thedford 2 Halsey on September 14.

Four-H'ers Place Well With Static Entries At State Fair

The Nebraska State Fair was held August 23 through September 2 at the Nebraska State Fairgrounds in Grand Island. The Blaine and Thomas County youth static entries were judged and complete results are:

BLAINE COUNTY

Emily Martindale: Purple, 4H Consumer & Family Science, 4H Design Decision - Accessory-Original Made from Metal

Zane Schneidereit: Blue, 4H Plants, 4H Range Management - Parts of a Range Plant Poster; Blue, 4H Citizenship & Civic Education, 4H Citizenship - Name Art

Terra Shoemaker: Blue, 4H Consumer & Family Science, 4H Heirloom Treasures Family Keepsakes - Furniture; Purple, 4H Consumer & Family Science, 4H STEAM Clothing 2, Simply Sewing - Two Piece Outfit; Purple, 4H Healthy Lifestyle Education, 4H Cooking 201 - Coffee Cake; Purple, 4H Plants,

art, wreath, etc.)

Shaylee Milleson: Blue, 4H Healthy Lifestyle Education, 4H Cooking 401 - Double Crust Fruit Pie; Blue, 4H Healthy Lifestyle Education, 4H Cooking 201 - Creative Mixes; Red, 4H Consumer & Family Science, 4H Design Decision - Accessory-Original Made from Metal

Zane Schneidereit: Blue, 4H Plants, 4H Range Management - Parts of a Range Plant Poster; Blue, 4H Citizenship & Civic Education, 4H Citizenship - Name Art

Terra Shoemaker: Blue, 4H Consumer & Family Science, 4H Heirloom Treasures Family Keepsakes - Furniture; Purple, 4H Consumer & Family Science, 4H STEAM Clothing 2, Simply Sewing - Two Piece Outfit; Purple, 4H Healthy Lifestyle Education, 4H Cooking 201 - Coffee Cake; Purple, 4H Plants,

4H Floriculture - Any other annual or biennial; Red, 4H Plants, 4H Floriculture - Terrarium; Red, 4H Plants, 4H Floriculture - Any other annual or biennial

THOMAS COUNTY

Shaelynn Amos: Blue, 4H Healthy Lifestyle Education, 4H Cooking 301 - Specialty Rolls; Purple, 4H Consumer & Family Science, 4H Quilt Quest - Barn Quilt Created Less Than 4x4

Gatlyn Carr: Blue, 4H Healthy Lifestyle Education, 4H Cooking 201 - Coffee Cake

Sierra Carr: Red, 4H Healthy Lifestyle Education, 4H Cooking 301 - Specialty Rolls; Red, 4H Healthy Lifestyle Education, 4H Cooking 301 - Specialty Bread

Tyler Rath: Rainbow Recognition, 4H Environ-

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Notices

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Commissioners'
Public Notice
*Be An Informed Citizen
Read The Legals*

Wedding

• Stacy Layher &
David Kraye

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