

A Rustic Romance At The Forest

The junior classes of Sandhills and Thedford High School presented “Rustic Romance” as their 2022 prom theme. The prom was held Saturday, April 2, at the Nebraska State 4-H Camp at the Nebraska National Forests and Grasslands near Halsey.

Tenley Rasmussen gave the welcome for the juniors and Summer Schaefer gave the response for the senior classes. Invocation was given by Connor Cooksley.

Queen Summar Schaefer and King Drew McIntosh were crowned by Martina Falcomer and Alvaro Ferran.

Prophecies were read by Makayla Osienger, Connor Cooksley and Andrew Furrow.

Wills were presented by Winter Benscoter, Kaden Haake and Colinn Winkelbauer.

The closing remarks were given by Tenley Rasmussen.

A meal was enjoyed prior to the crowning and a dance was enjoyed by all the attendees after the other festivities.



BRIDGET LICKING/WITH LOVE PHOTOGRAPHY.

The 2022 Thedford High School prom royalty is queen, Summar Schaefer, daughter of Mike and Stacey Schaefer and king, Drew McIntosh, son of Brent and Michelle McIntosh.



BRIDGET LICKING/WITH LOVE PHOTOGRAPHY.

The Thedford High School senior class is pictured above, l-r: Seth Scranton, Trae Hickman, Summar Schaefer, Parker Ballenger, Cylee Jameson, Drew McIntosh and Dane Pokorny.

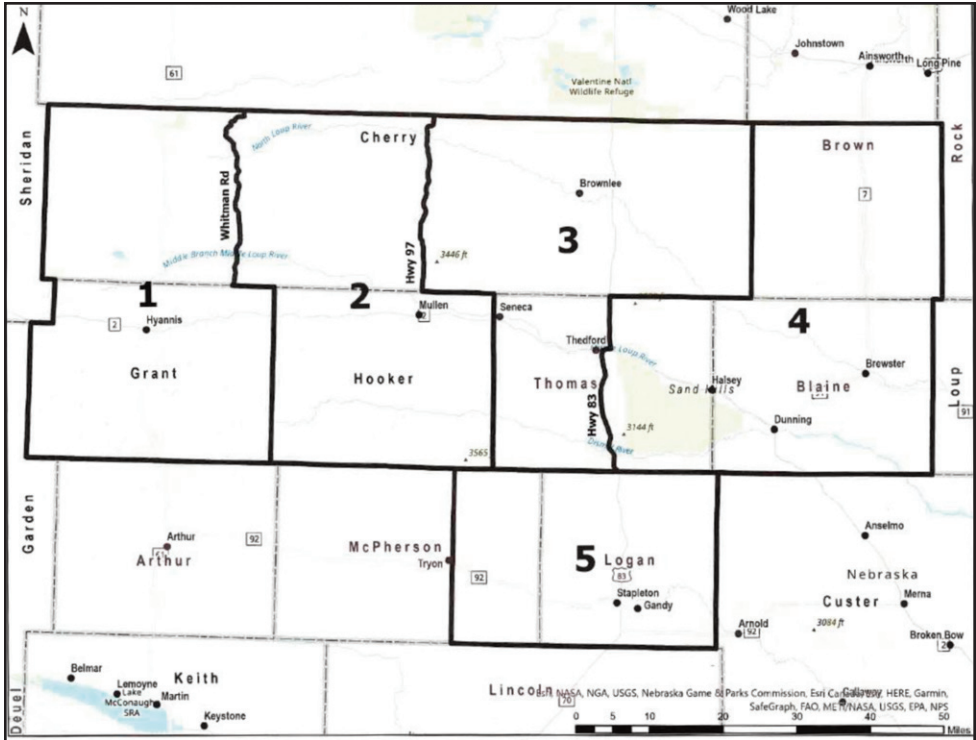


BRIDGET LICKING/WITH LOVE PHOTOGRAPHY.

Pictured above are the Sandhills High School senior class, back row, l-r: Becca Smith, Lindsay Cody, Brea Branic, Courtney Swisher and Miriam Gannong. Sitting in the front is Reece Zutavern.

Sandhills and Thedford High School Junior Class Prom Pictures Are Featured Inside This Issue on Page 7

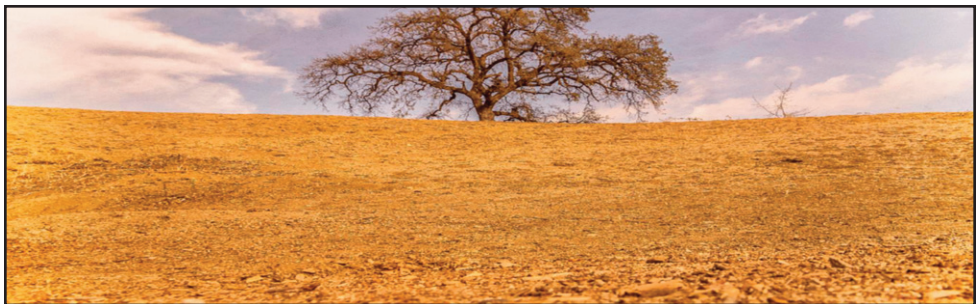
New Subdistrict Boundary Changes



COURTESY

Adjustments to the Upper Loup NRD subdistrict boundaries were made to align with the 2020 U.S. Census Bureau data. The legislature requires that each subdistrict be substantially equal in population. With a total NRD population of 4,114 people (down 221 from the 2010 census), each subdistrict now averages 822 people and all 11 directors will remain in their current subdistrict.

Upper Loup NRD Drought Management Plan Underway



The Upper Loup Natural Resources District (ULNRD) is undertaking an effort to develop a Drought Management Plan for the district and would like your input. The plan will refine a collective understanding of drought vulnerabilities, identify and prioritize mitigation efforts, and define drought response

measures that will be utilized during future drought events. The overarching goal is to develop a sound operational framework for the district during periods of drought. The NRD is encouraging all residents and stakeholders to provide their input by filling out a survey they can find here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FCYC3KQ>. The survey will be open until May 31st. For more information about this planning effort, please contact Anna Baum at (308)-645-2250 or abaum@upperloupnrd.org or Phil Luebbert at (402)-474-8768 or pluebbert@jeo.com.

Nebraska Public Power Now Privately Controlled?

By: Joe Herring,
Chief Investigative Reporter
Nebraska Sunrise News

Many ideas considered radical a decade ago now enjoy mainstream support in the environmentalist movement. Demands to “decarbonize” electricity production are proceeding apace despite the limitations of generating electricity reliably and affordably from renewable sources alone.

The technology to store energy simply hasn't kept pace with our ability to generate it, leaving renewable sources like wind and solar handicapped by their inherent intermittency. Consequently, renewables only provide a fraction of Nebraska's energy needs, and only find economic viability through a regime of heavy government subsidy.

Despite this technological deficiency, clean energy advocates still insist we decommission “dirty” sources sooner rather than later. Cities and regions that have done so have encountered grave disruptions in production and delivery, resulting in rolling blackouts,

brownouts and at times, grid failure under heavy demand.

However, this is not entirely by accident.

Artificial scarcity raises prices which in turn reduces consumption, a prime goal of the modern environmental movement. When combined with mandated lifestyle changes and forced energy retrofits to homes and businesses, renewables advocates claim the lower production capabilities of clean energy won't be a problem, being offset by lower demand from consumers.

However, this strategy ignores the problem of meeting baseline energy needs, for manufacturing, communications, internet, and medical facilities, even the charging of electric vehicles, none of which are elective uses of power.

Nebraska has 166 publicly owned utilities, including cooperatives and public power districts, serving approximately 1.9 million residents. This publicly-owned structure historically has kept costs low by removing the profit motive from the equation.

Revenues above operat-

ing costs are reinvested in infrastructure to maintain long-term reliability and affordability. An industry advocacy group, American Public Power Association, wrote of this business model in a 2015 blog post, quoting our own Nebraska Power Association's declaration-

“Our electric prices do not include a profit. That means Nebraska's utilities can focus exclusively on keeping electric rates low and customer service high. Our customers, not big investors in New York and Chicago, own Nebraska's utilities.”

Unbeknownst to most Nebraskans, this statement appears to no longer apply.

Omaha Public Power District, Nebraska Public Power District and Lincoln Electrical System are the major players in power generation in our state and are governed by elected boards which according to activist group Nebraska Conservation Voters, now boast majorities of “clean energy advocates.” Races for public power boards aren't known as high-spending