

Pilot Issued Community Service Award

Emma Simpkins-Editor of
THE VOICE Newspaper

On Sunday, June 26, long time pilot, veteran, and dedicated community member Dennis Brosius, in light of his retirement, was presented an award of appreciation from Stapleton Fire Department Chief Frank Kramer. Representing a number of departments and volunteer brigades across a five county area, Chief Kramer and colleagues personally delivered the award to the Brosius Airfield (south of Stapleton) with the family of Dennis and wife Trudy surrounding. Accompanying Chief Kramer were Robbi Smith from the Arnold Fire Department, Desarae Porter from the Thedford Fire Department, Chief Ed Black from the McPherson County Fire Department, Karen Main, James Main and Rich Burnside from the Stapleton Rural Fire Board, and Mike Hoeft from the State Fire Marshal's office. The above mentioned award was due to the extensive history and service of Dennis Brosius to his community. In 1980, Brosius flew his first fire south of North Platte in the canyons. Since that premiere journey, Brosius has volunteered to fly countless fires in the last forty years - for no cost to anyone but himself.

"Ever since I've been on the department - over twenty years - I've never once seen a bill from the man," said Chief Kramer, during the award ceremony. "We appreciate his service and everything



ANN (BROSIOUS) BLOODHART PHOTO

Those present to honor Dennis Brosius on his retirement were l-r: Scott Salisbury, Frank Kramer, Ed Black, Dennis Brosius, Desarae Porter, Mike Hoeft, Karen Main, Leo Harwager, Amanda Harwager, John Main, Robbi Smith, James Main and Rich Burnside.

he's done."

The history of Mr. Brosius's aviatonal success began almost fifty years ago. Brosius purchased his first airplane, a Cessna 150 passenger plane for \$3,500 in 1970, with intent to earn his pilot's license. After his honorable discharge from the Nebraska National Guard that same year, Brosius connected with experienced flight instructing brothers John and Pat Clinch who gave him advice to last a career of flying.

"Do what your mother taught you," they'd remark. "Don't go out in the rain and always come home before dark."

Brosius exclusively held his Private Pilot's license for 10 years until the opportunity arose to pur-

chase his first Agriculture plane in 1979 - a Pawnee 150 crop duster. The FAA contacted him, informing him he needed a Commercial License for his new plane, but Brosius rebutted that he would exclusively use it for private land. That conversation earned Brosius the first and only of its time, a Private Aerial Applicator license from the FAA. Brosius officially earned his Commercial Pilot's license in 1984 in Norman, Oklahoma, and still holds

it today. With bountiful stories, anecdotes, and lessons learned, Brosius's career has helped countless people and aided many a harvest. The presented award is well deserved and our community thanks him for all of his hard work and may it not go unrecognized.

Dennis often recounts the old pilots' saying, "There are old pilots and there are bold pilots - there are no old-bold pilots."

Thomas County Fair
Monday, July 25
Through Sunday, July 31
Watch Upcoming Issues
For More Information

7th Annual Poker Run Well Attended



COURTESY PHOTO

A large crowd of bikers were on hand for the seventh annual Thedford Volunteer Fire and Rescue Poker Run. The bikers gathered at the Thedford Fire Hall for registration.

The Thedford Volunteer Department held their seventh annual Thedford Volunteer Fire and Rescue Poker Run and barbecue on Saturday, June 18. Over 60 bikers signed up for the day ride inspite of the wind. The day started off with bike registration at 8:00 a.m. and the bikers

left the fire station at 10:00 a.m. on the poker run. The route went west and north this year. When the bikes returned at approximately 5:30 p.m. a barbecue, silent auction and live music by Whiskey Bent was enjoyed. They ended the night

with just over \$10,000 being raised before expenses. These funds allow the Thedford Volunteer Department to give two scholarships to Thedford High School seniors each year. Other projects these funds may contribute to are purchasing a power-

load system for one of the ambulances. This will literally save the backs of the EMT's and drivers by assisting them with loading and unloading patients. The fire department is also working on replacing outdated gear and equipment.

Blood Drive July 11 Thomas Co. Fairgrounds



Donated blood is a life-saving gift most healthy people can give. The community is encouraged to donate blood on Monday, July 11, 2022 from 12 p.m. to 6 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.

The Red Cross no longer requires blood donors or blood drive leaders to wear masks at blood drives and donation centers across the country.

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 308-748-2297, 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.

Thomas County Farm Bureau Helps With BRAN Entertainment



COURTESY PHOTO

Thomas County Farm Bureau members were present at the Thomas County Fairgrounds when the Village of Thedford hosted the Bicycle Riders Across Nebraska for the evening on Monday, June 6.

Shown is member Bob Broweleit, as he hosts at the Farm Bureau Trivia Prize Wheel. The wheel features Agricultural related trivia questions. Prizes are offered for correct answers. Also pictured is Elsa Walker, daughter of Melissa Smith, both from Thedford. Elsa is wearing the Farm Bureau hat she won for answering her question correctly. Several BRAN participants also took a chance at spinning the wheel for a prize.

The members of Thomas County Farm Bureau would like to thank Kelly Duryea, West Central District Manager at Nebraska Farm Bureau for donating prizes for the wheel spinners. Thomas County Farm Bureau holds monthly meetings on the 3rd Monday at the Upper Loup NRD Learning Center and via Zoom. Anyone is welcome. Contact Desarae Porter 308-870-3895 for more information.