

Blaine County celebrates end of summer with fair

Fair season signals the end of summer to many youth and adults in this area, and August 2, 3 and 4 was the Blaine County Fair in Dunning. Youth and adults alike took part in many activities and showed off their produce, creations and livestock after a long summer of preparations.

The fair got underway on Tuesday, August 2 with the 4-H and Open Class Static Entry day. Other activities throughout the day were the exhibition barrel race, jackpot barrel race, and breakaway roping events. The exhibit building was also open to the public so that everyone could see all the hard work people put into their gardens, in their kitchens and sewing rooms, as well as all the other craft items that were entered to be judged.

The fun continued on Wednesday, August 3, with the 4-H horse show and the co-ed sand volleyball tournament. Kids

games were also enjoyed and then a team roping capped off the evening

Thursday, August 4 rounded out the three day fair and the 4-H livestock show was held. The 4-H small animal show was held and a free will supper was provided by Halsey Hillbilly BBQ.

Following the barbecue the Sandhills FFA served root beer floats to a hot crowd.

There was also a balloon artist and face painter on hand to entertain the youngsters in the crowd.

The attention was turned back to the arena with the annual ranch bronc riding competition with many area cowboys vying for the win and the added money that was in the pot.

The evening was rounded out with the band Top Shelf entertaining the crowd with country music.

See page 7 for compete 4-H results and additional pictures.



LINDA TEAHON PHOTOS

Pictured above is the Sandhills Heritage Museum display at the Blaine County Fair. This was one of many items or displays by 4-H'ers, organizations and individuals that was on display at the Blaine County exhibit building in Dunning.



LINDA TEAHON

Dane Pokorny of Stapleton was one of several area cowboys that entered the Blaine County Fair ranch bronc riding competition. The cowboys braved the heat to compete for the added money in the event that has become an annual tradition to help wrap up the fair.

4-H Foundation Trail Ride, October 15-16



COURTESY PHOTO

The 2022 4-H Foundation Trail Ride Is On! – The dates have been changed and other details worked out. The ride will be held October 15 – 16, 2022 at the Nebraska National Forest near Halsey. Again, we will be riding through the scenic forest and sandhills enjoying windmills, wildlife and wild flowers and more.

The format and the cost will be the same as last year, and includes supper, breakfast, and silent auction. Panels and certified hay furnished. This ride provides support for 4-H scholarships and the 4-H Camp.

We hope you can still join us for the 24th annual ride. For more information about the ride and registration, please visit: <https://www.ne4hfoundation.org/trailride/>

World Champion Steer Wrestlers In The Sandhills

After publishing the story about Coy Johnston of Stapleton being crowned the world champion steer wrestler at the 2022 National High School Rodeo finals in Gillette, Wyoming, a *Thomas County Herald* reader called to say the story incorrectly named the 1967 champion as Jim Will. Will is listed on the National High School Rodeo Association's websites list of steer wrestling champions.

Brad Nutter said the 1967 champion was in fact Jim Witt, formerly of Thedford and now of North Platte.

Nutter said steer wrestling champions reign supreme in the Sandhills.

In addition to Witt, Bill Hammond (1965) and Casey McPeak (1976) both

hail from Valentine. Thedford is the hometown of not only Witt, but also 1963 champion, Tony Wiese.

Looking down the list of Nebraska High School Rodeo steer wrestling champions from Stapleton & Thedford (as listed on the Nebraska High School Rodeo past champions list) include:

2022 – Coy Johnston, Stapleton

2021 – Dane Pokorny, Stapleton

2003 – Adam Kramer, Stapleton

2001 & 2000 – Kyle Haake, Thedford

1998, 1997 & 1996 – Tagg From, Thedford

1992 – Jeff Johnston, Thedford

1991 & 1990 – Jason Johnston, Thedford

1985 – Tim Nutter, Brownlee

Fischer announces local office hours and includes Thomas County

U.S. Senator Deb Fischer (R-Neb.) announced recently her staff will hold local office hours for constituents in Thomas, Hooker, and Grant counties on Monday, August 22, 2022. These office hours serve as a convenient opportunity for constituents to speak in person directly with Senator Fischer's staff to receive help with casework and other issues at the federal level.

Brandi McCaslin, Senator Fischer's Greater Nebraska Director of Constituent Services, will hold local office hours at the times and locations below:

Monday, August 22, 2022

Thomas County
Thomas County Courthouse
503 Main Street
Thedford, NE 69166
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m. CT

Hooker County
Hooker County Courthouse
Commissioners Rooms
303 NW 1st
Mullen, NE 69152
12:30 p.m.-1:30 p.m. MT

Grant County
Grant County Library
105 East Harrison Street
Hyannis, NE 69350
2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. MT
Contact Senator Fischer's Scottsbluff office at 308-630-2329 for more information.

Hunter Safety Class

Firearm hunter education is a program ensuring that safe, respectful and responsible hunters participate in the sport of hunting in Nebraska. This program is mandated by the Nebraska Legislature and administered by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. Students are taught a set of standards, established by the International Hunter Education Association. By meeting these standards, the Nebraska Hunter Education Program is recognized and honored on the entire North American continent.

Everyone between the ages of 12 and 29 who hunts any species of game, game animal or game bird in Nebraska using a firearm is re-

quired to carry proof of completion on their person while hunting. All hunters must also have a habitat stamp (except for those exempted) on their person while hunting in Nebraska.

Anyone younger than 11 may take the course, but will not be certified. They must also be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Anyone under 18 must give the instructor a signed and completed Parental Release Form before the course begins.

The course will be held in Thedford on August 20th and 21st from 1:00-6:00 p.m. CT at the Upper Loup Natural Resource District office, 39252 Hwy 2, Thedford. You must register online at www.outdoornebraska.gov.