



# Lower Republican NRD Review

Summer 2018

Volume 55

Protecting Lives, Protecting Property, Protecting the Future

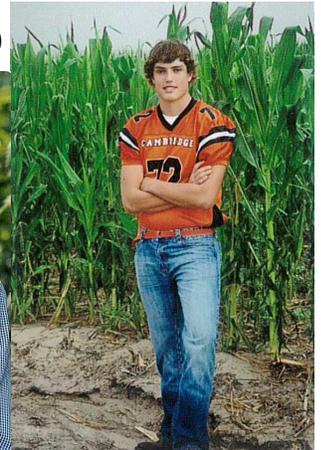
## Local Students Stand Out

The Lower Republican Natural Resources District (LRNRD) awards two \$1,000.00 scholarships each year to students who reside in the LRNRD. They must attend college in Nebraska, and major in a natural resources related field.

This year's recipients are Seth Andrews and Ty Heft. Seth is a graduate of Cambridge High School. He is the son of Clark and Dawn Andrews. Ty is a 2018 graduate of Alma High School and his parents are Kevin and Carmen Heft. Both young men will be attending the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, majoring in Agribusiness. Congratulations to both individuals.



Ty Heft



Seth Andrews

## Free Tire Recycling

Tire recycling will be held at three locations across the district this fall. The counties hosting these events will be Franklin, Harlan, and Webster. They will be held in late October or early November. Please watch for specific dates closer to the time and plan to bring your used tires. Locations, dates, and times will be posted on fliers and in newspapers across the district. Here are some things to keep in mind.



- You must unload your own tires.
- No early or late drop-offs will be accepted.
- They do not accept tire rims or inner tubes.
- Semi loads, commercial operations or dealers are not allowed.

For more information on this clean-up, contact the Trailblazer RC&D office at 402-746-3560.

This event is sponsored by the County Commissioners, LRNRD and Trailblazer RC&D.

# District Teams Place At State Envirothon

The State Envirothon Contest was held at Niobrara State Park in Niobrara, Nebraska on Wednesday, April 25, 2018. Two of our local teams scored well. Southern Valley High School is the state runner-up team and Arapahoe High School took third place. Concordia High School won for the sixth consecutive year. There were 14 schools that competed at this year's state competition. Participating schools included Southern Valley, Arapahoe, St. Paul, Burwell, Sumner Eddyville Miller, Norris, Sidney, Aurora, Milford, and West Holt with two teams from both Concordia and Ord.

The high school teams compete in seven areas of environmental studies: soils, aquatics, forestry, wildlife, range, policy and an oral presentation on a current environmental issue. This year the students prepared oral presentations on range challenges in Nebraska then they presented it to a group of judges. Test questions are not only written, but many require hands-on observations, tools, measurements, and calculations.

Nebraska Association of Resources Districts (NARD) Foundation is the annual sponsor of the Nebraska Envirothon. Teams placing in the top three overall received recognition from the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts Foundation. NARD Foundation gave \$1,500 to the first-place winning team, \$1,000 to the second-place winning team and \$500 to the third-place winning team. Each team must use the money to enhance their high school's Envirothon and natural resources and agriculture programs. The winning team may also use it to help pay their way to the international competition. Each team member on the winning team was also awarded a \$500 scholarship by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to be used towards a major in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources.

There were over 30 volunteers who helped with the event. To find out more about how you can get involved in the Nebraska Envirothon, go to [www.nrdnet.org](http://www.nrdnet.org) or talk to your local NRD.



Southern Valley Team - Left to Right: Larry Reynolds (NARD President), Jon Lechtenberg (Advisor), Mandy Schoen, William Paine, Kade Bose, Pete Brown, Kyle Mann, Jim Johnson (NARD Board Member)



Arapahoe Team - Left to right: Larry Reynolds (NARD President), Gentry Anderson, Cooper Schutz, Branigan Schaben, Shannon Breinig, Olivia Leising, Jim Johnson (NARD Board Member)

# Nebraska Bostwick Project Started

The \$3.2 million in improvements to the Franklin Canal have begun. Nebraska Bostwick Irrigation District is installing over 70 automated gates along the canal. The gates will increase efficiency along the canal potentially conserving thousands of acre-feet of water every year.

The existing system uses stoplogs to control the water flow through the canal gates. Ditch riders control the flow by moving the beams or timbers manually. This system works, however it takes time to open and close each of the gates when needed.

The new automated gates will give them better control which can be managed from their office or mobile device. The gates can be opened and closed remotely with the touch of a button.

Construction started in April after project funding was approved. Nebraska Bostwick received funding from many sources including the LRNRD for this project. Todd Siel, LRNRD General Manager stated “The Lower Republican NRD is excited that Nebraska Bostwick has moved forward with this project. These gates provide a more precise method of water management which will benefit water users within the district.”

The existing structures had to be prepped to fit the new gates. The gates are then built in Australia and shipped over. They were able to get 22 gates installed before they had to pause construction. The above average temperatures early this spring made it necessary to get water back in the canal to make it available for irrigators. Construction will resume at the end of irrigation season and is expected to be completed before the end of the year.



## Important Reminders

- **Compact Call Year**—In 2018 there is a 13” maximum on pumping for all certified irrigated acres receiving an allocation in the LRNRD. Penalties will be applied for over usage. This is the first year of the new allocation period and a maximum of 9 inches can be carried over from the previous five year period.
- **Chemigation**—Applying fertilizer or chemical through irrigation requires compliance with state regulations. The applicator must be certified and each injection site must have a separate permit. Any accident must be reported within 24 hours to the NRD.
- **Flow Meters**—Please check your flow meters periodically to be sure they are working during the irrigation season. Properly functioning flow meters benefit both you, the irrigator, as well as the LRNRD by providing accurate irrigation records. As the producer, it is your responsibility to have a flow meter functioning properly at every well. Please let us know as soon as possible if you are having problems with your meter registering properly.
- **Ownership Changes**—Please contact the LRNRD or your local NRCS field office secretary about a change in ownership or operator for your irrigated ground and/or irrigation wells. This will help your paperwork be accurate and get to the correct owners and operators.

### Board of Directors

Subdistrict 1	Clark Andrews, Holbrook
Subdistrict 1	Toby tenBensel, Holbrook
Subdistrict 2	Bill Bose, Orleans - Vice Chair
Subdistrict 2	Marlin Murdoch, Orleans - Chair
Subdistrict 3	Tim Kahrs, Franklin - Treasurer
Subdistrict 3	Matt Harrison, Naponee
Subdistrict 4	Nelson Trambly, Campbell
Subdistrict 4	David Bartels, Riverton - Secretary
Subdistrict 5	Terry Hoit, Red Cloud
Subdistrict 5	Roger Nelson, Superior
At-Large	Bradley Wulf, Red Cloud

### LRNRD Staff

Todd Siel	General Manager
Scott Dicke	Assistant Manager
Shirlee Poyser	Administrative Assistant
Kristi Heft	Water Resources Administrator
Sasha Hahn	Water Secretary/Info. & Edu.
Lonnie Knehans	Rural Water Superintendent
Scot Lennemann	Water Resources Technician
Maclane Scott	Water Resources Technician
Colt Livingston	Water Resources Technician
Mary Goebel	Franklin County Office Secretary
Jennifer Helms	Furnas County Office Secretary
Brittnay Nurnberg	Harlan County Office Secretary
Patsy Ord	Nuckolls County Office Secretary
Lynetta Snelling	Webster County Office Secretary

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**July 4**—Independence Day, Office Closed

**July 12**—LRNRD Board Meeting 7 pm, Alma

**August 9**—LRNRD Board Meeting 7 pm, Alma

**August 24-Sept 3**—Nebraska State Fair, Grand Island

**September 3**—Labor Day, Office Closed

**September 11-13**—Husker Harvest Days, Grand Island

**September 13**—LRNRD Board Meeting 7 pm, Alma

**September 18**—Range Judging Contest-Area 3, Elwood

**October 3**—Land Judging Contest-South West Area, Franklin

**October 8**—Columbus Day, Office Closed

**October 11**—LRNRD Board Meeting 7 pm, Alma

**LRNRD Trivia**—A person should consume 2 liters of water daily to live healthily. Humans drink an average of 75,000 liters of water throughout their life.

Non-Profit Permit  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Alma, NE 68920  
Permit No. 55

Lower Republican Natural Resources District  
PO Box 618 - 30 North John Street  
Alma NE 68920

