

Legion Auxiliary to note 95th anniversary

The Brainard American Legion Auxiliary will celebrate 95 years this month, initially receiving its charter on May 24, 1928. The first officers were Ilva Novak, president; Charlotta Westley, vice president; Ludmila Hausner, secretary; Agnes Fiala, treasurer; Anna Bubak, historian; Clara Wright, chaplain; and Amelia Pekarek, sergeant at arms.

Girls' softball teams in action

Local residents are invited to come out every Monday and Wednesday night to the Brainard softball field to watch three local girls softball teams in action. Those teams include these ages: 8 (6 p.m.), 10 (7 p.m.) and 12 and under (8:15 p.m.).

Upcoming games will be played against Ceresco 1, May 15; Pleasant Dale, May 17; Hickman 2, May 22; Ceresco 1, May 24; Milford, May 31; Garland, June 5; Ceresco 2, June 7; and Valparaiso, June 12. Not all teams play each of those nights.

"We have a full concession stand too, with Brainard Meats hot dogs," added organizers.

Memorial Day services planned

Memorial Day services will be held in Brainard on Monday, May 29.

Mass will be held at Holy Trinity at 10 a.m. with services to follow at the New Catholic Cemetery at 11. Rejda Post 273 Legion and Auxiliary, the Brainard Volunteer Fire Department and the East Butler band will take part in the services. The public is most welcome to attend, said organizers.

The Auxiliary was formed as a service organization with the goal of supporting veterans and community, an objective that continues today.

Programs which the unit participates in are: co-sponsoring with the Legion a scholarship for an East Butler senior; sponsoring a Girls Stater; distributing poppies at Memorial Day; taking part in Memorial Day and Veterans Day services; donating to post prom, Easter, Halloween and Christmas events; supporting Pride and Performance Car Show and serving root beer floats during the show; distributing flags to kindergarteners and send-

ing cards to veterans on Veterans Day; assisting the Legion with fundraising events and dinners; donating to state and national Auxiliary projects for the benefit of veterans.

Membership for 2023-24 is 52, which includes 45 senior, five junior and two permanent members.

The unit has two members with continuous membership of 80 or more years—Alyce Havlovic and Helen Zavadny.

Anyone interested in becoming a member should contact Donna Steager, president and membership chairman.

Brainard in the spotlight on June 5

Twelve incorporated towns in Butler County are helping to honor the sesquicentennial celebration of David City by presenting programs about their individual towns. Brainard will be featured on June 5 at 6:30 p.m. Carolyn Dvorak and Sharon Bruner will present Brainard's program with several special guests. The hour long program is held at the Events Center at the Butler County Fairgrounds. Call the library at 402-367-3100 to reserve a seat. A complete schedule is in the post office.

The display case in the David City library features a variety of Brainard memorabilia and collectibles belonging to Norm and Denise Bruner. These items, about past events and businesses in Brainard, will be on display only during May.

Next Bloodmobile on June 9

The next Red Cross Bloodmobiles will be held in Brainard on June 9 and Aug. 4, both at the Klein Center and usually from noon to 6 p.m.. Dates and hours are always subject to change. To make an appointment, call local organizer Denise Bruner. Appointments can also be made by going online at redcrossblood.org or by using the American Red Cross - Blood Donor app. Donors are encouraged to eat a snack or meal and drink liquids such as water and juice before arriving. All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients.

Mojo Filter to perform June 17

Mojo Filter will perform at the City Park from 8-11 p.m. on June 17. The event is free to the public, although donations will be accepted. Those attending should bring their own lawn chairs. A food stand will be available. The event is sponsored by the Brainard Community Club.

Art Fair at Fox Run Farms on June 9-10

Fox Run Farms will host an Art Fair on Friday afternoon, June 9, and all day Saturday, June 10. The event will feature stained glass by Joette Novak and watercolor cards by Yolanda Bailey. Joette also plans to provide baked goods and coffee. Fox Run Farms is located on the west side of Brainard, across the street from the swimming pool.

"Joette and I are thinking about giving art classes this fall," said Yolanda, adding they hope to talk to people about this who attend the Art Fair. "We will create a Facebook event soon and I will share it on the Brainard page."

"I will have Bailey's Bubbles set up for sale and play," she said. "My 'other' job is being an entrepreneur and I just registered my bubble solution and wands with a nationwide trademark! The University of Nebraska lawyers helped me achieve that last year at their Entrepreneur Clinic. I sell bubbles at farmer's markets, festivals, and other events, and also online."

Both Fox Run Farms and Bailey's Bubbles have Facebook pages, with photos and bubble videos to check out. Their websites are www.foxrunfarmsne.com and www.baileysbubbles.shop.

Yolanda said she also plans to have bubbles available at Mojo Filter, an event sponsored by the Brainard Community Club at the City Park on June 17.

Fox Run Farms got its name when the Baileys planted the vineyard and found there were families of foxes living around the farm. "Currently we have a small vineyard, with red and white wine grapes, and also a growing amount of apple trees. Outside of the vineyard we have an Asian Pear orchard, with four different kinds of pears, and larger apple trees, with varieties like Fuji, Red Winesap, and Gala. In addition, we have bee hives (our daughter, Kirstin, is the beekeeper) and are growing a large amount of flowers. This year we are expanding into dahlias! Other crops we put in yearly include watermelon, tomatoes, and some vegetables," said Yolanda.

The family's history in Brainard began in 1899, when Yolanda's great grandfather, Joe Hroch, bought the farmhouse and barn on the edge of town. Joe had a butcher shop in town for awhile, and the family still has some of the relics of that in their barn.

"My grandmother, Bessie, was born in the farmhouse in 1906, and my dad, Leo Kovar, was also born in that house in 1935. The farm was mostly conventional back then, with cows, pigs, chickens, and crops," said Yolanda. "Now things are a bit different. Larry and I moved here from Philadelphia in 1981 and have raised four children here. We currently have four generations living on the farm, something that brings all of us quite a bit of joy on a daily basis."

Fire Department hosts fundraiser

The Brainard Volunteer Fire Department is sponsoring an ambulance fundraiser. Prizes include a Ruger SR-556 with Hawke scope, Impala Plus Emerald semi-automatic 12 gauge, Blackstone 36 inch griddle with lid and a 20 quart Yeti cooler. Tickets cost \$10 each and are available from members of the local fire department. The winner will be named at the group's annual street dance on July 7. Winners need not be present to be eligible.

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Debbie Behne, editor • Kevin & Debbie Behne, publishers

All submissions subject to editing

Submit stories to brainardnews@hotmail.com

Happy Birthday!

Happy Anniversary!

May 11 - Mary Kay Kucera
May 13 - Haley Rezac
May 15 - Joanna Ingwersen
May 15 - Jared Zysset
May 19 - Doug & Nancy Vrbka
May 20 - Gary Pelan
May 21 - Art & Alma Svoboda
May 22 - Paige Glasshoff
May 23 - Lee & Jean Coufal
May 24 - Kyler Hummel
May 26 - Jill Reinsch
May 27 - Martha Prochaska
May 28 - Adaline Sullivan
May 29 - Dallen Dvorak
May 31 - Marc Spatz
May 31 - Lyle Dvorak
May 31 - Alex Rezac
June 1 - Jim Bruner
June 2 - Sue Benes
June 6 - Leon & Geri Jakub
June 6 - Keith Ratkovec
June 7 - Larry Samek
June 8 - Cassie Vrbka
June 10 - Jerry Ingwersen
June 11 - Devon Janak
June 13 - Sue Bougger
June 14 - Flag Day
June 15 - Gerry Reinsch
June 15 - Joel & Cassie Vrbka
June 17 - Ben Steager
June 17 - Tim Wright
June 18 - Greg Havlovic
June 18 - Anthony Rezac
June 19 - Joyce Rezac
June 19 - Alyce Havlovic
June 19 - Katie Jakub
June 20 - Dylan & Katie Kost
June 22 - Doug & Paige Glasshoff
June 22 - Sara Stanek
June 23 - Amanda Zysset
June 23 - Crystal Behne
June 24 - Paul & Patty Pytlik
June 24 - Gary Kucera
June 24 - Nevada Mentink
June 25 - Joel & Taylor Schommer
June 26 - Leah Bongers
June 26 - Nathan Bankson
June 26 - Bern & Annie Kozisek
June 28 - Steve & Vickie Hines
June 30 - Andy Behne