

# The Clipper

Volume 23 No. 2

August 10, 2023

## Brainard Fire Department to celebrate 100 years

*August 26 open house includes food, music, comedian*

The Brainard Volunteer Fire Department is planning an open house on August 26 to celebrate the 100th year of the fire department. Doors will open at 4:30 p.m. and run until 12 a.m. Mark Vyhldal will start the entertainment from 5 to 7:30 p.m. At 7:30 p.m., a comedian by the name of Tyler Walsh will take the stage and perform until 8:15 p.m. Johnny Rod Acoustic will then perform from 8:30 p.m. to 12 a.m.

Entry is a freewill donation. Proceeds are going to the purchase of a new ambulance.

A lunch stand will be provided with beef sandwiches, hot dogs, polish and kraut and sloppy joes to be purchased. The fire department was known for selling sloppy joes at past festivals. There will also be nachos with cheese, chips and pickles. A bar will be available for drink purchases.

### Fire department organized in January 1923 and rescue squad in 1973

The fire department was organized in January 1923 and the rescue squad was organized in April 1973, making this the 50th year of ambulance service. "We are all proud and honored to serve the Village of Brainard and the Rural Fire District in this capacity," said organizers. "We plan to continue the great department we are fortunate to have. Come join us and help celebrate this milestone."

The fire department's history began on Jan. 2, 1923, when a meeting was held at the Brainard ZCJB Hall "for the purpose of organizing a fire department for the village of Brainard,"

according to a story in the Brainard Centennial book, published in 1978. "The meeting was called to order by Mayor Sobota as chairman and proceeded to organize and elect officers." In all, 21 members signed the first roll call for the group named the Brainard Volunteer Fire Department.

The department treasury began with \$18.05, the amount that had been in Theo. Smersh's care since about 13 years prior, when a similar effort to form a fire department had been unsuccessful. "Initial equipment consisted of a hose cart and, later on in 1925, the city of Brainard converted their 1924 Oldsmobile Chassis with \$1,570 worth of fire apparatus into a fire truck."

The department expanded into the rural area in 1939 when it was decided to start a drive among "rural people" for a truck to serve those areas.

On May 22, 1973, the rural and city boards agreed to organize a rescue squad with each agreeing to pay half the cost. The ambulance, a 1964 Cadillac, was purchased for \$5,624.86 from the Tekamah Fire Department, again according to the 1978 Brainard Centennial Book.

Charter members who joined the rescue squad from the fire department were LaVern Fortik, captain; James Bruner, lieutenant; John C. Bruner, lieutenant; Jerry Swanda, Jerome Havlovic, Ernest Sabatka, Allen Bongers Jr., Allen Kuzelka and Vic Bohuslavsky Jr. Most volunteered for a detailed Emergency Medical Training (EMT) course for 21 weeks in Seward.

## CHICKEN DINNER

HOLY TRINITY PARISH  
BRAINARD, NEBRASKA

Sunday, August 20, 2023  
10:30 A.M.— 2:30 P.M.



Meals served buffet style in the Klein Center

### Drive-thru available

Enter the alley on the north side of the church and west side of the Klein Center.  
Meal tickets and raffle tickets available at drive-thru.

Join us for Mass at 10:00 A.M.

Accordion Jamboree Bake Sale Raffle

Serving : Chicken, Potatoes and Gravy, Corn, Coleslaw, Cucumbers, Tomatoes, Pie, Kolaches,  
Rolls, Coffee, Tea, and Lemonade

Adults: \$15.00

Take-out and Drive-thru: \$15.00

Children (under 12): \$8.00

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 16<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
GUARDIAN ANGEL

# PAKER RUN

Entry fee:  
\$25/person  
\$35/couple  
for first hand  
\$10 Additional  
hand



Proceeds  
to Guardian  
Angel Fund  
at Aquinas  
Catholic  
Schools

SUNDAY, AUGUST 27<sup>TH</sup>

Registration: 9:30 AM to noon • Meal/awards 4 PM  
Holy Trinity Klein Center • All vehicles welcome  
For more information, call Bill Janak, 402-367-9316

# News from Oak Creek Township

## Time to mow road sides, clear ditches

Butler County Highway Supt Randy Isham has asked the assistance of township boards to inform county residents of state statutes that address road safety.

State Statute 39-308 states it is the property owner's responsibility to remove trees, shrubs and bushes from public right-of-way.

State Statute 39-1811 states property owners need to mow their road sides at least twice a year, sometime in July and again in September. Lack of compliance with these statutes can create visibility problems and road hazards.

If you have questions after reading these statutes, feel free to attend a monthly township meeting. Thank you for clearing your ditches and mowing your roadsides.

—Oak Creek Township Board

## Township meetings held each month

Oak Creek Township meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month at the Brainard Legion at 8 p.m. The agenda is kept current by Eileen Rock, township clerk.

## Annual meeting set for Sept. 20

Oak Creek Township's annual meeting will be held September 20 at 8 p.m. at the Brainard Legion. A budget meeting will be at 8:30 and the monthly township meeting will follow. Anyone with township business or concerns is encouraged to attend. Please contact Eileen Rock, clerk of Oak Creek Township, to add items to agenda.

## A friendly reminder from City Hall ...

In its last bill, City Hall sent reminders to local residents about mowing and license plates. If the mowing ordinance is not followed, there will be a fee. Also, every vehicle parked or standing within the village should have a license plate. For more information, contact City Hall.

## Fox Run Farms to host Grape Festival

Fox Run Farms will host its Grape Festival this weekend. Hours will be 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. both Saturday, Aug. 12, and Sunday, Aug. 13. Free grapes on a you-pick basis. "We will also have apples, tomatoes, cucumbers and the BEST BUBBLES! Come see us!"

## Next Bloodmobile on Oct. 3

Future Red Cross Bloodmobiles will be held in Brainard on Oct. 3 and Dec. 5 at the Klein Center from noon to 6 p.m. Dates and hours are always subject to change. To make an appointment, call local organizer Denise Bruner or go online to [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org). 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.

**The Clipper is published at the Village of Brainard's City Hall,  
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**It is available free on a first-come basis.**

**Debbie Behne, editor • Kevin & Debbie Behne, publishers**

*All submissions subject to editing*

**Submit stories to [brainardnews@hotmail.com](mailto:brainardnews@hotmail.com)**

## Happy Birthday! Happy Anniversary!

Aug. 3 - Ray Stolze  
Aug. 3 - Sharon Bruner  
Aug. 7 - Katie Kost  
Aug. 8 - Randy & Kim Fuehrer  
Aug. 8 - Jim & Sharon Bruner  
Aug. 9 - Jodi Pelan  
Aug. 10 - Chad Novacek  
Aug. 11 - Don & Claudia Yindrick  
Aug. 12 - Tom & Mary Carol Dobesh  
Aug. 13 - Mary Carol Dobesh  
Aug. 13 - Kevin & Debbie Behne  
Aug. 15 - Cece Steager  
Aug. 17 - Ron Benes  
Aug. 18 - Fred Bougger  
Aug. 21 - Ron & Sue Benes  
Aug. 22 - Denise Bruner  
Aug. 22 - Dean & Lynelle Kriz  
Aug. 22 - Jeremy Pelan  
Aug. 23 - Josh Pelan  
Aug. 23 - Steve & Diane Makovicka  
Aug. 23 - Kent Rezac  
Aug. 23 - Amy Rezac  
Aug. 24 - Noreen Zadina  
Aug. 24 - Ron Pelan  
Aug. 26 - Greg Kozisek  
Aug. 26 - Mitchell & Wendy Janak  
Aug. 27 - Becca Rezac  
Aug. 28 - Lori Ratkovec  
Aug. 28 - Charlene Havlovic  
Aug. 29 - Don & Deb Kost  
Aug 30 - Doug Vrbka  
Aug. 31 - Meagan Janak  
Aug. 31 - Aaron Steager  
Aug. 31 - Dean Kriz  
Sept. 1 - Nancy Vrbka  
Sept. 4 - Don Divis  
Sept. 8 - Bob & Lisa Steager  
Sept. 8 - Gail Stolze  
Sept. 12 - Randy Jakub  
Sept. 12 - Annie Kozisek  
Sept. 15 - Deron Jakub  
Sept. 15 - Terry Chmelka  
Sept. 17 - Isaiah Novacek  
Sept. 19 - Linus Behne  
Sept. 19 - Hazel Behne  
Sept. 19 - Henry Behne  
Sept. 22 - Tom Jelinek  
Sept. 29 - Lyle & Karen Dvorak