



Kathy Douglas, above center, was presented with the Volunteer of the Year award, while Zach and Tessa Parrish received the Friends of the Community award. Presenting the awards were Tony Huber and Shannon Mendez.



Sutton Chamber honors Douglas, Parrish couple at annual meeting

Two awards were given out during the Sutton Chamber of Commerce's annual meeting Monday, Jan. 23. Kathy Douglas was honored with the Volunteer of the Year award for her continuous efforts in giving back to the Sutton community and helping out during annual events.

"It's no surprise that they are willing to give so much back to this community," Tony Huber said while reading an announcement letter.

He added how the nominee is hard working, selfless, loving, caring, welcoming, and giving.

"This year's Volunteer of the Year is always ready and willing to jump in and help."

Shannon Mendez read the letter announcing the Friends of the Family award, which was given to Zach and Tessa Parrish.

"The sacrifice of your time has been immeasurable, whether it's for a small group or numerous teams." She said, adding "coaching, teaching, praying for and loving every child in the community is how they live...both are passionate about our community and with an emphasis on our youth... this family is dedicated to the success of each and every student; their hearts are open with no judgment for everyone they encounter."

Following the awards, Nebraska's 42nd Lieutenant Governor Joe Kelly served as the guest speaker.

Kelly gave a brief overview of his responsibilities, as well as discussed areas of the current Legislative session and the more than 1,000 bills that were presented.

He also briefly talked about state spending; property taxes and the plan for eliminating state income

tax on Social Security; the goal of dropping personal and corporate taxes down to 3.9 percent by 2027; and school funding, including how TEOSA works.

TEOSA assists with school funding that comes from the state (sales tax).

OTHER BUSINESS

• 2023 proposed board of directors and officers included Julie Haag, president; Marcia Post, secretary; and Monica Shipman, member. They were all approved unanimously.

• Dugout Days this year is set for June 22-24.

• Anyone can join the chamber, regardless of if you're a business or individual. Additionally, anyone can help with events the chamber hosts throughout the year.



Lieutenant Governor Joe Kelly speaks to the audience during the Sutton Chamber annual meeting.

SHHH...IT'S A SURPRISE!!