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**News Release**  
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*Note: Enclosed is a list of youths who participated in the youth election worker program. Please note the names of youths in your coverage area.*

## **Nebraska youths honored for serving as election workers**

LINCOLN – Nebraska Secretary of State John Gale and the Nebraska Bankers Association honored 201 youths throughout the state who served as election workers during the May 9 primary election.

The youths, ranging in age from 14 to 18, participated in a program designed to encourage young people to learn about the election process firsthand. Each participant will receive a recognition certificate from Gale.

The participants served in 24 counties and worked a total of 920 hours.

As part of the program, the Nebraska Bankers Association awarded \$50 savings bonds to five participants. The winners were picked in drawings based on the geographic districts of the Nebraska Association of County Officials.

The winners of the savings bonds are Trevor Freudenburg of Norfolk, Northeast District; Julie Stauffer of Humboldt, Southeast District; Jessica Obermier of Aurora, Central District; Dawnie Ross of Grant, West Central District; and Lanelle Janicek of Kimball, Panhandle District.

The top counties in terms of numbers of participants were Madison County (County Clerk Nancy Scheer), 40; Perkins County (County Clerk Susan Logsdon), 35; Hamilton County (County Clerk Donita Friesen), 24; Cuming County (County Clerk Bonnie Vogltance), 18; and Richardson County (County Clerk Mary L. Eickhoff), 13.

The 201 participants represent a substantial increase from the 85 participants who worked in the November 2004 election, which was the first time the program operated.

“We’re delighted that we were able to more than double the number of participants. The program is making a real impact due to the cooperation of the county election officials and the Nebraska Bankers Association,” Gale said.

“Each Election Day, we have the chance to shape the future of our communities, state and nation by voting. By involving young people in the election process, we’re helping to ensure that our government remains ‘of the people, by the people, for the people’ far into the future,” said George Beattie, president of the Nebraska Bankers Association.

“We are excited to be a partner in this program and express our appreciation for those who participated,” he added.

“As chief election officer, I have made it a high priority during my tenure to help and encourage new generations to be good citizens,” Gale said.

These efforts include the following: parties for elementary school students to observe Nebraska Statehood Day; Nebraska Student Vote, which allows students to participate in a mock election; Vote in Honor of a Veteran, which encourages students to be lifelong voters; and Nebraska Capitol Forum on America’s Future, which allows high school students to learn about international issues.

“Now, our youth election worker program appears to be gaining great success in teaching students about elections,” Gale said.

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### **Youth Election Worker Program Participants 2006 Primary Election**

*Note: Some participants worked in counties where they do not reside.*

**Burt County:** 10 members of the National Honor Society, Tekamah.

**Cuming County** – Aaron Moore, West Point; Tyler Hanneman, West Point; Ben Knievel, West Point; Morgan Hajek, West Point; Tim O’Brien, West Point; Clay Biggerstaff, Beemer; Nathan Wuestewald, West Point; Trenton Dohmen, West Point; Adam Shearer, West Point; Valerie Schneider, Beemer; Chelsea Halversen, West Point; Kayla Luebbe, West Point; Adam Fisher, West Point; Veronica Craig, West Point; Courtney Moeder, West Point; T.J. Schultz, West Point; Haeley Hansen, West Point; and Jessica Green, West Point.

**Deuel County:** McKenzie Steger, Chappell.

**Fillmore County:** Anthony Yound, Exeter.

**Gage County:** Jenna Busboom, Pickrell.

**Garden County:** Lauren Olson, Oshkosh; Braelyn Jackson, Oshkosh; Kyle O'Brien, Oshkosh; Keith O'Brien, Oshkosh; Brittany Lutz, Lewellen; Meghan Lutz, Oshkosh; and Lisa Patterson, Lewellen.

**Hall County:** Adam Reed, Grand Island; Tim Zach, Grand Island; Zoila Molina, Grand Island; Travis Linder, Grand Island; Katie Brozek, Grand Island; and Alex Ericksen, Grand Island. No home towns were available for two participants: Caleb Schmidt and Andrew Decker.

**Hamilton County:** MaryLou Andrews, Hampton; Sarah Arthur, Aurora; Emily Berry, Aurora; Brandon Cornett, Aurora; Derek Dibbern, Aurora; Jamie Dick, Aurora; Jim Ediger, Hampton; Johnathon Gerberding, Aurora; Eric Hunnicutt, Aurora; Hope Hunnicutt, Aurora; Darren Jarosik, Aurora; Jordan Jensen, Aurora; Kylie Jensen, Aurora; Brad Kell, Aurora; Ashley Lawton, Aurora; Brandon Marr, Aurora; Jessica Obermier, Aurora; Nicole Pirnie, Aurora; Rachael Ruybalid, Hampton; Kyle Shaffer, Aurora; Ryler Thompson, Aurora; Derek Werner, Aurora; Sally Wolff, Aurora; and David Ziola, Phillips.

**Hayes County:** Katie Garrett, Hayes Center; Owen Karre, Hayes Center; Susan Maucher, Hayes Center; and Preston Sheets, Hayes Center.

**Holt County:** Brittini Hoffman, Chambers, and Megan Gottsch, Chambers.

**Johnson County:** Clayton Grove, Tecumseh.

**Kearney County:** Timothy Hiatt, Minden, and Nicholas Osterbuhr, Minden.

**Kimball County:** Sean McNulty, Kimball; Kyle Nunn, Kimball; Lanelle Janicek, Kimball; Ashley Quicke, Kimball; Kelvin Childress, Kimball; and Shayla Nagel, Kimball.

**Knox County:** Lianne Boggs, Winnetoon; Jemi Bartos; Verdigre; Spencer Steffen, Crofton; Danielle Murphy, Crofton; and Megan Surface, Bloomfield.

**Lincoln County:** Sean Balerud, North Platte; Megan Balerud, North Platte; and Jordan Wehrle, North Platte.

**Madison County:** Ryan Rudloff, Newman Grove; Krystal Robbins, Newman Grove; Kelly Dunlap, Newman Grove; Alaina Williams, Madison; Stephen Sunderman, Norfolk; Trevor Freudenburg, Norfolk; Lindsey Morris, Norfolk; Ronald Forsell, Norfolk; Lucas Nelson, Norfolk; Dillon Smith, Norfolk; Melanie Adams, Norfolk; Angela Noelle, Norfolk; Nick Jensen, Norfolk; Kayla Kortje, Norfolk; Chasity Masters, Norfolk; Thea Baum, Norfolk; Thad Baum, Norfolk; Kyla Hoefler, Norfolk; Katie Konopasek, Norfolk;

Colby Jenkins, Stanton; Elizabeth Becker, Madison, Ilene Anderson, Hoskins; Zachary Booth, Stanton; Rachelle Bredehoft, Battle Creek; Rachel Wolff, Norfolk; Sarah Warneke, Norfolk; Cody Knapp, Madison; Edward Neidig, Madison; Lori Oswald, Madison; Stacy Scheer, Madison; Jason Eisenmann, Madison; Tim Wiese, Lindsay; Kyle Wiese, Newman Grove; Trey Frauendorfer, Newman Grove; Brenda Nelson, Newman Grove; Kelli Closson, Newman Grove; Alex Labenz, Newman Grove; Whitney Anderson, Newman Grove; Jamie Wiese, Newman Grove; and Darrek Schmidt, Meadow Grove.

**Morrill County:** Jordan Laux, Bridgeport, and Nicholas Myers, Bridgeport.

**Perkins County:** Leslie Dudden, Venango, and Dawnie Ross, Grant. No home towns were available for the following participants: Juan Bazan, Nathan Borowski, Ashley Brott, Tim Burge, Holly Copple, Leah Dahlkoetter, Julie Day, Ricky DeLisa, Ashlyn Glunz, Lance Glunz, Sean Hanson, Mary Horton, Michelle Howerter, Debbie Johnson, Mark Johnson, Julianna Johnson, Ross Kurkowski, Brooke Lee, Brando Lehl, Jenna Marshall, Tim McGreer, McKenzie Meyer, Lindsey Perlinger, Brittany Pofahl, Julianna Richardson, Tony Ross, Sarah Schmitt, Carlie Sis, Curt Softley, Tyler Turner, McKayla Vlasin, Andrea Walrod and Lance Wilson.

**Pierce County:** Andrew Halsey, Pierce.

**Richardson County:** Ben Clancy, Dawson; Kassandra Connell, Humboldt; Kaylie Frederick, Falls City; Logan Hanzlicek, DuBois; Jennifer Howard, Falls City; Safairra Kirkendall, Falls City; Jessica Murdock, Falls City; Jesica Stauffer, Humboldt; Julie Stauffer, Humboldt; Alicia Streit, DuBois; Trent Stutheit, Falls City; Kaitlin Thompson, Salem; and Elizabeth Wilhelm, Falls City.

**Saunders County:** Courtney Nitz, Cedar Bluffs; Laura Pearse, Colon; Desirae TePoel, Malmo; Josh Sladky, Wahoo; Scott Nice Jr., Mead; Danielle Nice, Mead; Joseph Komenda, Valparaiso; and Morgan Wiesner, Ceresco.

**Thayer County:** Jamie Blunk, Carleton.

**Thomas County:** Megan Keller, Valentine; Mandy Miller, Seneca; Jemma Mills, Thedford; and Garrett Naillon, Seneca.

**York County:** Lauren Wright, Benedict; Miles Powers, York; Kathey Stewart, York; and Katie Tayler, York.