Funds will be used for Pheasants Forever youth activities

By Russ Pankonin
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The Andy Bauman family of Parker, Colo., still try to make some sense of the death of their 14-year-old son and brother, Logan.

Logan was killed Dec. 6, 2008, after being struck by a car while crossing a four-lane highway.

Since Logan's death, the family created a memorial fund to carry forward the legacy of Logan.

That legacy grew another step stronger Saturday night. At the Southwest Nebraska Pheasant Forever banquet, more than $4,000 was raised in Logan's memory to benefit youth activities of the local chapter.

Andy, who attended Saturday's banquet, said he was "just blown away" by the generosity.

One of the fund-raising activities for Logan's fund includes selling bracelets in his memory.

While the youth items were being auctioned off during Saturday's banquet, Bauman said he got the idea of selling the bracelet he wears as a way to make money for the chapter's youth programs.

He shared the idea with auctioneer Mark Fanning, who also thought it would be a great idea. Bauman agreed, as long as he didn't have to get up and talk about it.

Fanning told the crowd about the purpose and made the first purchase of the bracelet himself for $500. He then donated the bracelet back and it was sold another 11 or 12 times.

When the evening ended, the bracelet auction, along with other donations in Logan's memory, raised more than $4,000. Those proceeds will be used by the chapter to fund youth activities.

In recognition of Bauman's efforts, the Pheasants Forever representative at the banquet presented him with a football autographed by Tom Osborne.

Looking forward to hunting

This fall, when returning home from a Nebraska football game, Logan told his dad he'd like to do some hunting.

So, they stopped off here in Imperial and Logan got his first experience by shooting blue rocks and then walking a field with his dad.

"He was so pumped," Andy said. As a result, he was ready to enroll Logan in hunter safety and begin gearing up so he could hunt with his son.

Now, this is among the many things that he realizes he'll never get to do with his son.

However, through the fund, Bauman said they can carry on the legacy of Logan, who never missed an opportunity to help others.

Before his death, Logan's goal was to attend Regis High School, a private school in Denver.

Bauman said half of the fund will be devoted to pay for a student to attend Regis who may

not otherwise be able to afford it.

The other half of the fund will be used to support kids' athletics in the Parker area.

Bauman said more than $16,000 has been raised for the fund.

He said they are planning a benefit golf tournament on June 29 and said he will share information on that event in the coming months.

Bauman and his wife, Karla (Pribbeno), grew up in Imperial and have one daughter, Alyse. Andy said the support from the Imperial community since Logan's death has been nothing short of incredible.

He said the events of Saturday night allow them to give back to the community that raised them and has supported them.

It also helps with the ongoing healing of losing a son and a brother, he said.