

McKenzie County Honors Emergency Responders of the Year

July 13, 2017

McKenzie County honored four citizens this week at the 14th annual Emergency Responder's dinner and golf scramble, hosted by the County Commission, Emergency Manager Karolin Jappe, and Veteran's Services Director Jerry Samuelson. This year, recipients were honored in Law Enforcement, Fire, Dispatch and EMS categories.

Karson Knudston, a 4 year volunteer with the Watford City Fire Department, and 5 year volunteer on ambulance, was awarded Emergency Responder of the Year in the Fire category. Karson was described by those who nominated him as "wise beyond his years in fire attack strategy. Dedication is in his heart, and being a first responder is the pride of his life!" Karson is well known for his devotion to training and enhancing his skills.

Captain Lloyd Clock was recognized as the Responder of the Year for Law Enforcement. Captain Clock has devoted nearly 40 years of service to the community. It was said of Captain Clock, "During Patrol duties or as an Administrator, Lloyd has demonstrated the ethical standards we should all strive for!" "He is someone you know will give you honest, ethical, and trustworthy guidance..."

In the EMS category, the award winner was **Vonnie Johnsrud**. Vonnie is a National Registry EMT and is an Advanced EMT for McKenzie County Ambulance Service. She's been serving for over 22 years. Her co-workers say she is dedicated to the residents, often putting the needs of others before her own needs. "She has been on the front line providing care and compassion to all who need it, and never asks for anything in return."

Brad Stover, representing Dispatch, received the award for Responder of the Year. Brad is described by those who nominated him as going above and beyond what is expected. Brad is passionate about his job, and teaching new skills he learns to those he works with. He is patient and dedicated to public service. "Brad is a great asset to the McKenzie County Sheriff's Department!"

In an effort to give new donors an opportunity to participate this year, the following companies generously supported the event: Secure Energy; Delta Constructors; Conoco Phillips; American Legion; Bridger Pipeline; API; Phillips 66; Hess; and First International Bank & Trust. Other donors are still sending support for this excellent event and acknowledgement.

