On Dec. 20, local service clubs will be shooting for the Grant Volunteer Fire Department. The "shooting" will take place during half-time of the Perkins County/Ogallala boys' basketball game in Grant.

Each club's representative (the president or president delegated) will have one minute to shoot free throws.

Prior to the event, the organizations will gather pledges of money, designated to the fire department, for each shot made.

Everyone may make pledges or simply make a donation to the department. All funds will go to the GVFD to be used however needed (for fuel, equipment, general fund, etc.). Each club has pledge forms for people to sign.

Since the participants are not practiced basketball NBA contenders, they will be given their choice of shooting from the standard free-throw line or the volleyball line slightly closer to the basket. To prevent any possible embarrassment, each shooter will start the competition with a credit of two shots already made.

The organizations and their leaders choosing to participate in this fete are the Grant Lions (the organizer of the shoot off), Ivan Regier; Chamber of Commerce, Bernie Deaver; Grant Rotary, John Long; Grant Volunteer Fire Department, Don Softley; American Legion, Ron Krause; Beta Sigma Phi (Preceptor Alpha Psi) Sorority, Lynda Hilferty; and Beta Sigma Phi (Xi Gamma Psi) Sorority, Bev Hendricks.

This event has germinated from a desire of these local service clubs to emotionally and financially recognize the GVFD for its tireless service to the area. The local firefighters and EMT members unselfishly give their time and dedication to protecting life and property in Perkins County and beyond. This was particularly evident with the recent fires across western Nebraska.