

Jade Braun (left), Kelsey Griffith (center) and Caleb Vanover took part in the Life Skills judging section of Norton County 4-H Day competition held Saturday at Norton Junior High School. Katrina Wentz, Norcatur, (left) listened to judge Karol Hickel of WaKeeney, critique her flute solo.

— Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

Young 4-H'ers show off skills during Club Day

By KEITH VANSKIKE, county extension director

Members of the Norton County 4-H clubs displayed their talents at the county 4-H Club Day Saturday at the Norton Junior High School. Presentations given and placings were:

Project talks: regional blue — Kegan Vanover, Prairie Dog; Wyatt Wentz, Prairie Dog.

Show Me: Rebecca Wentz, Prai-

rie Dog, blue.

Junior demonstrations/illustrated talks: regional blue — Carissa Wentz, Prairie Dog; Wyatt Wentz, Prairie Dog; blue — Megan Wentz, Prairie Dog; David Cressler, Prairie Dog; Jade Cressler, Prairie Dog.

Senior demonstrations/illustrated talks: regional blue — Annette Becker, Busy Jayhawkers; Katrina Wentz, Prairie Dog; blue — Annette

Becker, Busy Jayhawkers; red — Annette and Melinda Becker, Busy Jayhawkers.

Vocal solos: regional blue — Emily Juenemann, Busy Beavers; blue — Johnnye Ruder.

Instrumental solos: regional blue — Katrina Wentz, Prairie Dog, flute; blue — Annette Becker, Busy Jayhawkers, tuba; Tyler Montgomery, Cedar Ridge, baritone; Kynzie Stevens, Cedar

Ridge, piano; Jared Bohl, Busy Jayhawkers, piano; Johnnye Ruder, Busy Beavers, piano; red — Jessica Gilgenbach, Busy Jayhawkers, piano; Katie Bohl, Busy Jayhawkers, piano; Megan Wentz, Prairie Dog, saxophone.

Talent/skit: regional blue — Cedar Ridge 4-H Club; blue — Busy Jayhawkers 4-H Club

Talent/model meetings: regional blue — Prairie Dog 4-H

Club.

Talent/other dance: regional blue — Carissa Wentz, Megan Wentz, Rebecca Wentz, Prairie Dog; blue — Jade Braun, Kelsie Griffith, Prairie Dog;

Talent/reading: regional blue — Katrina Wentz, Prairie Dog.

Judges were Claudia Potter, Jennifer Unger, Karol Hickel, Laurie Wasson, Cathy Sherfick, and Gayle Anderson.

Helpers were Mary and Katrina Wentz, Mary Vanover, Diedra Kramer, Kelli Johnson, Karen VanSki, Annette Becker, Beverly Kindler, Elaine Lofgreen, Keesha Holste, Caleb Vanover, Tanner Griffith, and Jessica Gilgenbach.

The 4-H'ers that received a regional blue will be competing at the Regional 4-H Club Day event in Stockton on Friday, April 1.

Commissioners turn down ad

By CYNTHIA HAYNES

Norton County commissioners turned down a free ad and open government bracelets last Monday.

The Norton Telegram Publisher Cynthia Haynes offered the quarter-page ad, which would have shown the commissioners wearing yellow "Sunshine" bracelets and saying that they were for open and accessible government.

Commission Chairman Dean Kruse said that he was not in favor of the ad and wouldn't take the bracelet because when he took his oath of office he promised to provide open government.

He said that he feared that the bracelets and ad would indicate that the commissioners are in favor of all of the paper's policies.

Mrs. Haynes assured the commissioners that she felt that they always tried to do the right thing and had never felt that they were being secretive or breaking the law.

She also pointed out that both

Senator Pat Roberts and Congressman Jerry Moran had taken a bracelet and had their pictures taken wearing them.

The commissioners asked her about information that the paper had asked for about salaries of county officials and supervisors.

While both the commissioners and County Clerk Robert Wyatt said they didn't care who knew how much they made, they felt that publishing other officials and supervisor's salaries will lead to gossip and trouble.

The commissioners said they didn't agree with the story because everyone in the county is needed. They said they felt that good jobs with the county were a form of economic development. Good jobs are hard to find, Mr. Kruse said, and some of the people in the county don't make enough as is.

Mrs. Haynes said that the paper feels it is important for people to know what is going on in government and who's paying for what.

In other business, the commis-

sioners:

- Heard from Road and Bridge Supervisor Tom Brannan that the state wants to move forward on work on OS158, the bridge south of Edmond. The project letting is scheduled for November but could be moved up.
- Learned that the county could get four to five tons of asphalt millings for free if it is willing to move the millings. The road material will come from work on U.S. 36 west of Norton.
- Were told that Solid Waste Supervisor Curt Archibald and Mr. Brannan had checked out an illegal dump site and turned the information over to the sheriff.
- Learned that well No. 13, which is on the south side of Armory Drive Road (Road L) east of sale barn was cleaned out and six to eight inches of silt removed. The well had not been getting enough water and Mr. Archibald said that he hopes cleaning it out will keep the county from the expense of having to redrill the well.

Jennings teachers to hold auction

The Prairie Heights Teachers' Association is getting ready for its second annual consignment auction to raise money for scholarships for alumni and seniors graduating this year in Jennings.

The auction will begin at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 16, at the Jennings School.

Teacher Judy Rogers said last year they were able to give seven scholarships, six to graduating seniors and one to an alum, ranging from \$200 to \$400.

Mrs. Rogers said she doesn't know how many scholarships they will give away this year. It just depends on how much money they raise at the auction.

The association is looking for donations of items to auction, either on consignment or donations.

For consignment items, said Mrs. Rogers, the association will keep 20 percent and give 80 percent to the owner.

Last year, she said, they sold a bus from the school and some extras. Mrs. Rogers said she didn't know if they would have a bus again, but they will be selling some refrigerators and freezers from the kitchen and some other items from the school.

Some of the other items on the web-site are a Rival electric countertop grill, a "Digimon" blanket, sets of glasses and Multimile tires.

For the big items, she said,

people should wait until the week of the auction to bring them in. If they have smaller items to donate, and they have a place in the school, they can store them. Mrs. Rogers said someone already brought in some dishes.

All of the items need to be at the school by 4 p.m. Friday, April 15.

Mrs. Rogers said they are advertising the items on the school web-site at www.usd295.k12.ks.us/auction/items.html.

If anyone wants their items advertised, all they need to do is call



the school at (785) 678-2414. She said she will put pictures of the items on the site if people bring them in or let her know.

In the past, she said, the association has always had a soup supper and bingo night to raise money, but last year they decided to try the auction.

Gary Gilliam and Bob Jones have donated their time as auctioneers.

Mrs. Rogers said they will take most items, but no clothing.

The doors will open at 8 a.m. the day of the auction, although the sale doesn't start until two hours later.

CORRECTION

The hours for the Norton County Treasurer's office were wrong in a story on tag renewals in the March 18 edition of The Norton Telegram.

The treasurer's office is open from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday for regular business and license plate renewals and from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday for drivers' license renewals.

The mistake was a reporting error.

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The Norton Telegram will cor-

rect or clarify anything that is wrong in a news story. Call our office at 877-3361 to report errors. We believe news stories should be fair and factual, and want you to tell us about any failure to live up to this standard.

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THE NORTON
TELEGRAM

Programs aimed at women, minorities

The Farm Service Agency is reaching out to women and minority farmers to get them involved in its farm programs.

John Vogt, farm loan manager for Norton, Decatur, Phillips and Rawlins counties, said the agency is offering operating and ownership loans for women and minorities, who want to buy or operate a family-size farm.

"Each year, the Farm Service Agency earmarks a portion of its farm loan funding for socially disadvantaged applicants, people who have been subjected to racial, ethnic or gender inequality without regard to their

individual qualities," he said.

However, he said loan approval is not guaranteed.

"Socially disadvantaged applicants must meet the same eligibility criteria as other applicants," he said.

Applicants must be U.S. citizens; have a good credit history; have sufficient education, training or experience operating a farm; possess legal capacity to incur debt; and, be unable to obtain credit elsewhere.

Guaranteed loans may be made by any lending institution subject to federal or state supervision.

Loans can be used to buy livestock, equipment, feed, seed or pay business related expenses.


Applicants receive information and assistance to develop sound management practices, analyze problems and use resources for successful farming.

In 2004, the Kansas Farm Service Agency made \$2,673,000 in direct and guaranteed loans to 34 socially disadvantaged applicants.

For more information, contact your local agency office. The Norton County office can be reached at (877) 5156.

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 1601

A Proposition to Amend Article 15 of the Constitution of the State of Kansas



A proposition to amend article 15 of the constitution of the state of Kansas by adding a new section thereto, concerning marriage. Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Kansas, two-thirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the Senate and two-thirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the House of Representatives concurring therein:

Section 1. The following proposition to amend the constitution of the state of Kansas shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the state for their approval or rejection: Article 15 of the constitution of the state of Kansas is amended by adding a new section thereto to read as follows:

"§ 16. Marriage. (a) The marriage contract is to be considered in law as a civil contract. Marriage shall be constituted by one man and one woman only. All other marriages are declared to be contrary to the public policy of this state and are void.

"(b) No relationship, other than a marriage, shall be recognized by the state as entitling the parties to the rights or incidents of marriage." Sec. 2. The following statement shall be printed on the ballot with the amendment as a whole:

"Explanatory statement. There is currently no constitutional provision regarding marriage. There is a statute, enacted by the legislature, that defines marriage as a civil contract between two persons who are of opposite sex and declares all other marriages to be contrary

to public policy and void.

"A vote for this proposition would amend the Kansas constitution to incorporate into it the definition of marriage as a civil contract between one man and one woman only and the declaration that any other marriage is contrary to public policy and void.

The proposed constitutional amendment also would prohibit the state from recognizing any other legal relationship that would entitle the parties in the relationship to the rights or incidents of marriage.

"A vote against this proposition would not amend the constitution, in which case the current statute that defines marriage would remain unchanged but could be amended by future acts of the legislature or modified by judicial interpretation."

Sec. 3. This resolution, if approved by two-thirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the Senate, and two-thirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the House of Representatives, shall be entered on the journals, together with the yeas and nays. The secretary of state shall cause this resolution to be published as provided by law and shall cause the proposed amendment to be submitted to the electors of the state at the general election in April in the year 2005 unless a special election is called at a sooner date by concurrent resolution of the legislature, in which case it shall be submitted to the electors of the state at the special election.

Adopted by the Senate Jan. 13, 2005
Adopted by the House Feb. 7, 2005