



Doris Winteroth, standing, is a regular volunteer at the Norton Andbe Home. Monday Mrs. Winteroth gave her time to put some curls in Julia Roeder's hair. - Telegram photo by Cynthia Haynes

Concerns focus on late emerging wheat

Late Emerging Wheat
Producers whose wheat has not yet emerged may be wondering now about whether their wheat will have enough exposure to cold temperatures to vernalize once it does emerge – and what kind of yield potential to expect.

- **Vernalization.** Wheat does not have to emerge as a seedling in order to be vernalized by cold temperatures. As long as the seed has received enough moisture to become physiologically active and begin the germination process, it can undergo vernalization. Winter wheat will vernalize after experiencing several weeks of soil temperatures below 48 degrees. Some varieties require a little longer period of cold to vernalize; and some require less. Jagger has one of the shortest vernalization requirements. In almost all cases, winter wheat planted in the fall will vernalize. The only exception would be if the soil is so dry during the fall and winter months that the seed never becomes physiologically active until later in the spring.

- **Yield potential.** Research in Kansas has shown that the yield potential of wheat that emerges after January 1 is about 40 to 60 percent of normal, depending on spring weather conditions. Wheat that emerges late typically has fewer total tillers than wheat that emerges in the fall. Late-emerging wheat is also behind in development, and typically flowers and reaches grain fill later in the spring than fall-emerged wheat. If the spring weather is dry, or if it turns hot and dry early, the yield potential of late-emerged wheat

Views with Van Keith VanSike, Extension Director



could be even less than 40 percent of normal. However, in a cool wet spring, late-emerged wheat will have enough time to develop and fill grain, and can yield relatively well.

Taking all these factors into consideration, it is likely that most wheat planted in the fall will eventually emerge and head out this spring. But it is also likely that if the wheat does not emerge until after January 1, yields will be less than 60 percent of normal. If blowing occurs or weeds become a problem before the wheat emerges, this could cause further problems. Late emergence of wheat also may reduce snow catch during the winter, and result in less snow cover than where the wheat has established a normal stand.

Spring Crops
Spring crops, especially cereal grains can be an option for some. Although the spring cereals may have a narrow window for their season, there may be some time or place for them. If planted at the right time, they can work as a grain or forage. Late February to mid March is a rule of thumb, although the 3rd week of March can work - the optimum would be the first part. The earlier plantings are preferred. Barley should be planted before late March and oats

before the first week in April, at the latest. What about seeding, yields, etc.? Barley usually has the best yield potential with Oats perhaps a little more consistent. The rates and yields will vary but here are some guidelines. Oats seeded at 48-64 lbs/acre may yield 50-80 bu. And test mid 30's. Barley seeded at 48-60lbs/acre will yield 35-60 bu. and test upper 40's.

Oats can make excellent hay and silage, where barley will usually make better silage than hay.

With barleys you should not plant the malting types as these will test out lower. Barley Yellow Dwarf disease can cause havoc with barley and particularly with oats. Smut and other seed borne diseases should be a caution so look for clean, protected seed.

Tree Seedlings Available...

Various types of shrub and tree seedlings are available to be ordered from the K-STATE Tree Distribution Program. The seedlings are meant for conservation use in wildlife habitat, soil and wind protection or snow breaks. This program offers bundles of various trees and shrubs as either bare root or container packages. You can also purchase weed fabric, rabbit protective netting and marking flags.

There are special bundles made with varieties of shrubs and trees that are for wildlife. Stop in the Extension Office or the local Conservation District Office for a copy of the order forms. Orders are being taken now for deliveries to begin mid to late March. Some types of trees and shrubs do run out early so now is the time to order.

Wind energy conference slated

A conference to discuss wind energy will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, April 17 at the Huck Boyd Center in Phillipsburg.

Lieutenant Governor Mark Parkinson will be the keynote speaker. He is the chairman of the Kansas Wind Working Group and co-chair of the Kansas Energy Council. Issues to be discussed at the conference include the basics about wind energy, government policies, leasing and interconnectivity. Lunch will be catered by Bigge's Country Kitchen. If you register before April 11 it will be \$10; afterwards, it will be \$20. Lunch is included in the registration fee. Registration begins at 8 a.m.

Sponsors for the event include: Phillips County Economic Development, Phillips County Farm Bureau, Rooks County Farm Bu-

reau, Smith County Farm Bureau, Kansas Farm Bureau, Kansas Rural Center and Prairie Horizon Agri-Energy, LLC.

Registration forms are available on-line at www.solomonvalley-rcd.org. Send along with registration fee to 320 South Sixth St., Stockton, Kan. 67669.

For more information, call the Solomon Valley RC and D office at 785-425-6647.

Area high school senior finds perfect job: rounding up strays

By Sharon Corcoran
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A Goodland teen has been chasing dogs, cats and even a skunk around Goodland, rounding them up and getting them off the streets, and he may have found a career he hadn't planned on.

Dustin Zelfer, a senior at Goodland High School, has been the town's dog catcher since Jan. 14, working from noon until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, following a half day at school.

He had to do an interview on a career for school and chose criminal justice. Zelfer said while he interviewed three police officers, they asked him if he gets to leave school early and told him he should try to get the job.

Zelfer said he didn't really have plans for the future and didn't know what he would do after high school, but now he may stay in Goodland and continue as the dog catcher.

His big excitement last Wednesday was finally catching the skunk that was making appearances

around town. Since the striped "kitty" had rabies, he said, an officer took it out in the country to put it out of its misery.

But not before Zelfer made a bit of a stir just doing his job.

"All the neighbors were watching me and everything," he said. "I caught it in a cat trap and had a black bag over it."

But most people have been wanting to borrow cat traps to catch cats, he said; cats and dogs that are caught are taken to the animal pound for three days and then are given to the Northwest Kansas Animal Shelter if they have room.

Zelfer said he has also been sent to pick up stolen bicycles when they are found.

And he has routine duties, like paperwork. Zelfer said he has to fill out papers on each animal he takes to the pound, which includes what kind of dog or cat.

He enjoys the job and says it pays well, about twice what he had been making at the bowling alley.

Before joining law enforcement, Zelfer had a little run-in with the law in September but learned his lesson.

Zelfer and Karen Juranek spent a Saturday morning cleaning paint off the bricks on Main in front of Central Elementary School as part of an agreement with the city police and municipal judge after spending an evening finding out what happens to paint cans and other types of bottles when they come in contact with a golf club.

"I won't ever do that again," Zelfer said. "That ruined a Saturday."

American Legion's First Annual Barbecue

To celebrate the 89th Anniversary of the American Legion (87th for Post 63)

Saturday, March 29

at 6:30 p.m.

FOLLOWED BY MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT



Telegram: (785) 877-3361

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DON'T MISS THE NORTON COUNTY



Friday, March 28, 2008

from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Norton Junior High Gymnasium

Are you an employer and need assistance finding full-time, part-time or seasonal employees? Booth space is available for only \$20! Come meet potential employees face to face.

Are you personally looking for a job, need some extra cash or have some extra time? Whether it is full-time, part-time, or seasonal work you are looking for, come check out the job opportunities available in Norton County!

Contemplating a career change or advancement, visit the higher education booths highlighting the opportunities available right here in Norton County.

BUSINESSES PARTICIPATING IN THE JOB FAIR ARE:

- NATOMA CORPORATION
- NORTON CORRECTIONAL FACILITY
- NORTON COUNTY HOSPITAL
- AG VALLEY
- NORTON VALLEY HOPE
- ANDBE HOME
- RELIVE
- BROOKE CORPORATION
- USD 211 LEARNING CENTER
- KANSAS WORKS
- NORTH CENTRAL KANSAS TECHNICAL COLLEGE
- MILTECH MACHINE CORPORATION
- NORTHWEST CENTRAL TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Just curious about opportunities available in Norton County? No matter your interest, come by Friday, March 28 between 4:00 and 8:00 p.m. for a slice of pizza and register for \$25 in Chamber Bucks.



News

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• right here

SPAGHETTI SUPPER



Serving from 5:30-7:00 p.m.
Friday, April 4
Prairie View Sr. Citizen/Community Center
Spaghetti, Relish, Bread, Dessert, Drink
FREE WILL DONATION

Call in your news tips to: (785) 877-3361, or 6908