

Help conserve our land

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack recently announced developments in two popular United States Department of Agriculture programs that will support conservation of working lands for the benefit of wildlife, water quality, and recreation.

The Secretary announced that the department will accept 2.8 million acres offered by landowners under the 41st Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) general sign-up.

The selections preserve and enhance environmentally sensitive lands while providing payments to property owners.

Additionally, United States Department of Agriculture has approved eight additional states and one tribal government to participate in the Voluntary Public Access and Habitat Incentive Program (VPA-HIP), which

encourages private landowners to provide public access to their lands for wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities, including fishing and hunting.

For this 41st general Conservation Reserve Program sign-up, more than 38,000 offers were received on about 3.8 million acres nationwide.

Enrollment of the 2.8 million acres will bring the total enrollment in the program to 29.9 million acres, leaving sufficient room under the 32-million-acre cap to continue enrollment in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, continuous sign-up and other Conservation Reserve Program initiatives.

The Secretary has asked Farm Service Agency to continue to consider ways to use continuous enrollments to ensure that the program contains those lands that

are most erodible, most valuable to wildlife or that otherwise ensure the program targets the most vulnerable acres.

Under the Conservation Reserve Program, farmers and ranchers plant grasses and trees in crop fields and along streams or rivers. The plantings reduce soil and prevent nutrients washing into waterways, reduce soil erosion that may otherwise contribute to poor air and water quality, and provide valuable habitat for wildlife.

This program has restored more than two million acres of wetlands and associated buffers and reduced soil erosion by more than 400 million tons per year.

United States Department of Agriculture selected offers for enrollment based on an Environmental Benefits Index (EBI) comprised of five environmental

factors plus cost.

The five environmental factors were: (1) wildlife enhancement, (2) water quality, (3) soil erosion, (4) enduring benefits and (5) air quality.

The minimal acceptable Environmental Benefits Index level for this sign-up was 221.

The average rental rate per acre for this sign-up is about \$48. United States Department of Agriculture implemented a number of measures including using additional Environmental Benefits Index point incentives for producers to submit cost-effective offers and producer outreach activities to encourage competitive offers on the most environmentally sensitive lands. These measures will maintain the high environmental benefits while decreasing the historic cost of the program.

Highway work begins

A highway project to repave US-36 Highway in Smith County will be starting soon.

Construction crews will begin milling 1/2 -inch of the existing pavement on US-36 from the junction of US-281 east to the Jewell County line as soon as Monday, July 25.

Contractors will then start overlaying 1-inch of asphalt along that portion of US-36 around August 1.

The entire project totals approximately 15 miles.

Another project, to repave K-9 and K-123 in Decatur and Sheridan Counties will be starting soon.

Construction crews will begin milling K-9 from the junction of K-123 east to the Norton County line; as well as K-123 Highway in both Sheridan and Decatur Counties as soon as July 25.

After the milling of the roadway is complete, contractors will overlay the roadways with two inches of asphalt.

The overlay process will start

around August 8.

The entire project totals approximately 19 miles.

Flaggers and a pilot car operation will guide one-lane traffic through the work zone during daylight hours. Delays of 15 minutes or less will be expected throughout the construction time frame.

Please use caution, pay attention to the work zone signs, and respect workers when driving through any road work zone. Slow down and "Give 'Em A

Break".

Weather permitting construction work should be completed by mid-August.

For questions concerning these projects, please contact Kristen Brands, Northwest Kansas Public Affairs Manager, at (785) 877-3315 or kristenb@ksdot.org in Norton.

Upcoming road construction projects may also be viewed at the newly launched website for T-WORKS at: www.ksdot.org/tworks.

July sesquicentennial science honoree named

Neil Frank, Norton/Winfield/Southwest College, has National Aeronautics and Space Administration connections in July's edition of the SCIENCE in KANSAS: 150 years and counting sesquicentennial project.

The project's goal is to inspire Kansas youth in STEM (science, technology, engineering

and math) fields. And to recognize Kansas' science legacy.

Over the course of 2011, information on a broad mix of 150 Kansans in science, technology, engineering and math fields, both past and present, can be downloaded as trading cards from the Ad Astra Kansas Initiative website www.adastra-ks.org.

Each month new cards will be added until the collection is complete.

Cards are geared towards grade 5 on up.

Neil Frank is a July scientist-one time head of the National Hurricane Center in Florida.

This project is sponsored by the Ad Astra Kansas Initiative, a

grassroots organization with the goal of raising Kansas' scientific profile in the 21st century.

For more information contact

Jeanette Steinert 620-669-8558 jeanettesteinert@att.net
Ken Moum 785-272-9267 kenmoum@gmail.com

Director for library

The Northwest Kansas Library System [NWKLS] Executive Committee announced the appointment of George W. Seamon, Jr. as Executive Director, which was effective June 8.

George earned his Bachelor's at Kent State University in History and his Master's in Library Science from Clarion University of Pennsylvania. George has been with Northwest Kansas Library System since January of 2008 serving as Assistant Director and the System Consultant. During his tenure, George developed and implemented the automation plan of the System, which brought about the automation of 13 member public libraries and the system center. In addition, George serves on state wide committees, including the Regional Library Systems Consultants group, Regional Library Systems Administrators group, and Kansas Children and Youth Consultants group and development of the statewide New Directors training.

George has made presentations to local, regional, and state audiences. He is passionate about libraries and serving the public in providing for their informational and recreational needs.

For help with your advertising needs please give Dana a call 877-3361
email: dpaxton@nwkansas.com

Email Brandi with your society news at bdiederich@nwkansas.com

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NOTICE OF HEARING 2011-2012 BUDGET

The governing body of Unified School District 211 will meet on the 8th day of August, 2011 at 7:30 pm, at 105 E. Waverly for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of tax to be levied. Detailed budget information (including budget profile) is available at District Office and will be available at this hearing.

The Amount of 2011 Tax to be Levied and Expenditures (published below) establish the maximum limits of the 2011-2012 Budget. The "Est. Tax Rate" in the far right column, shown for comparative purposes, is subject to slight change depending on final assessed valuation.

Code 99 Line	2009-2010 Actual		2010-2011 Actual		PROPOSED BUDGET 2011-2012		
	Actual Expenditures (1)	Actual Tax Rate* (2)	Actual Expenditures (3)	Actual Tax Rate* (4)	Expenditures (5)	Amount of 2011 Tax to be Levied (6)	Est. Tax Rate* (7)
OPERATING							
General	06	5,221,800	20.000	5,525,333	20.000	5,702,959	20.000
Supplemental General (LOB)	08	1,403,600	20.352	1,453,068	14.146	1,453,000	16.191
SPECIAL REVENUE							
Adult Education	10	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0.000
Adult Supplemental Education	12	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bilingual Education	14	0	0	0	0	0	0
Virtual Education	15	0	0	0	0	0	0
Capital Outlay	16	149,437	1.998	499,714	2.999	1,069,161	3.000
Driver Training	18	8,964	0	9,463	0	17,090	0
Extraordinary School Program	22	0	0	0	0	0	0
Food Service	24	333,663	0	345,222	0	396,633	0
Professional Development	26	3,592	0	1,547	0	25,388	0
Parent Education Program	28	0	0	0	0	0	0
Summer School	29	749	0	72	0	15,165	0
Special Education	30	997,468	0	1,092,399	0	1,610,439	0
Vocational Education	34	106,971	0	119,625	0	142,000	0
Special Liability Expense Fund	42	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0.000
School Retirement	44	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0.000
Extraordinary Growth Facilities	45	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0.000
Special Reserve Fund	47	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	07	162,426	0	177,858	0	152,161	0
Gifts and Grants	35	6,796	0	6,517	0	17,733	0
At Risk (4Yr Old)	11	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cost of Living	33	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0.000
At Risk (K-12)	13	353,696	0	393,306	0	445,010	0
Declining Enrollment	19	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0.000
Fund—Continued							
Code 99 Line							
KPERS Special Retirement Contribution	51	288,526	0	259,478	0	518,956	0
Contingency Reserve	53	0	0	0	0	0	0
Textbook & Student Material Revolving	55	3,611	0	35,824	0	0	0
Activity Fund	56	0	0	35,382	0	0	0
Tuition Reimbursement Fund	57	0	0	0	0	0	0
DEBT SERVICE							
Bond and Interest #1	62	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0.000
Bond and Interest #2	63	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0.000
No-Fund Warrant	66	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0.000
Special Assessment	67	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0.000
Temporary Note	68	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0.000
COOPERATIVES**							
Special Education	78	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL USD EXPENDITURES	100	9,041,299	42.350	9,954,808	37.145	11,565,695	13.459
Less: Transfers	105	1,932,054	xxxxxx	1,956,949	xxxxxx	1,521,199	xxxxxx
NET USD EXPENDITURES	110	7,109,245	xxxxxx	7,997,859	xxxxxx	10,044,496	xxxxxx
TOTAL USD TAXES LEVIED	115	938,944	xxxxxx	1,154,035	xxxxxx	1,345,469	xxxxxx
OTHER							
Historical Museum	80	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0.000
Public Library Board	82	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0.000
Public Library Board Employee Benefits	83	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0.000
Recreation Commission	84	83,836	2.990	112,715	2.999	115,000	2.996
Rec Comm Emp Benefits & Spec Liab	86	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0.000
TOTAL OTHER	120	83,836	2.990	112,715	2.999	115,000	2.996
TOTAL TAXES LEVIED	125	1,010,777		1,257,707		1,454,547	
Assessed Valuation - General Fund	128	\$29,470,795		\$29,110,265		\$32,333,984	
Assessed Valuation - All Other Funds	130	\$33,470,232		\$33,135,627		\$36,411,538	
Outstanding Indebtedness, July 1		2009	2010	2011			
General Obligation Bonds	135	0	0	0	0	0	0
Capital Outlay Bonds	140	0	0	0	0	0	0
Temporary Note	145	0	0	0	0	0	0
No-Fund Warrant	150	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lease Purchase Principal	153	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL USD DEBT	155	0	0	0	0	0	0

* Tax Rates are expressed in Mills
** Sponsoring District Only
Shari K. Gills
President
Jarvis Russell
Clerk of the Board

•PUBLIC NOTICE•

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF LOREN M. LESH
Published in The Norton Telegram on Tuesday, July 12, 19, 26, 2011 (3T)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF NORTON COUNTY, KANSAS
In the Matter of the Estate of **LOREN M. LESH**, Deceased
Case No. 2010-PR-17
NOTICE OF HEARING
STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition has been filed in this Court by Shad B. Chandler, the duly appointed, qualified and acting Administrator with Will Annexed of the Estate of Loren M. Lesh, Deceased, praying that his acts be approved; that his account be settled and allowed, that the will be construed and the estate be assigned to the persons entitled thereto; that fees and expenses be allowed; that the costs be determined and ordered paid;

Shad B. Chandler
Administrator with Will Annexed
R. Douglas Sebelius, #09157
SEBELIUS & GRIFFITHS, LLP
105 South Norton Street
P.O. Box 10
Norton, Kansas 67654-0010
(785) 877-5143
Attorneys for Petitioner

•PUBLIC NOTICE•

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

Published in The Norton Telegram on Tuesday, July 5, July 12 and July 19, 2011 3(T)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF NORTON COUNTY, KANSAS
BAC Home Loans Servicing, L.P. fka Countrywide Home Loans Servicing, L.P.
vs.
Jason M. Bowen, et al.,

Case No. 10cv5
K.S.A. 60
Mortgage Foreclosure
(Title to Real Estate Involved)
Plaintiff,
Defendants.

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE
Under and by virtue of an Order of Sale issued by the Clerk of the District Court in and for the said County of Norton, State of Kansas, in a certain cause in said Court Numbered **10cv5**, wherein the parties above named were respectively plaintiff and defendant, and to me, the undersigned Sheriff of said County, directed, I will offer for sale at public auction and sell to the highest bidder for cash in hand at **10:00 A.M., on 07/27/2011, at the front door of Norton County Courthouse**, the following described real estate located in the County of Norton, State of Kansas, to wit:
A TRACT OF LAND COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF THE NORTH HALF OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER (N/2 NW/4) OF SECTION THIRTY-FOUR (34), TOWNSHIP TWO (2) SOUTH, RANGE TWENTY-THREE (23) WEST OF THE SIXTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, NORTON COUNTY, KANSAS RUNNING THENCE NORTH 92.6 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, THENCE WEST 150 FEET, THENCE NORTH 55 FEET, THENCE EAST 150 FEET, THENCE SOUTH 55 FEET, TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. ALSO A TRACT OF LAND COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF THE NORTH HALF OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER (N/2 NW/4) OF SAID SECTION THIRTY-FOUR (34), RUNNING THENCE NORTH 147.6 FEET, THENCE WEST 150 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, RUNNING THENCE WEST 20.53 FEET, THENCE SOUTH 55 FEET, THENCE EAST 20.53 FEET, THENCE NORTH 55 FEET, TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.
SHERIFF OF NORTON COUNTY, KANSAS
Respectfully Submitted, By:
Shawn Scharenborg, #24542
Sara Knittel, #23624
Kelli N. Breer, #17851
Kozeny & McCubbin, L.C. (St. Louis Office)
12400 Olive Blvd., Suite 555
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Attorney for Plaintiff

•PUBLIC NOTICE•

NORTH CENTRAL KANSAS SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE

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SPECIAL EDUCATION CHILD FINDER
This school district and the North Central Kansas Special Education Cooperative (NCKSEC) work together to identify every student, age birth through 21, living within the district boundaries, that has developmental delays or may be in need of special education. If you have a child or know of a child who you think has developmental delays or special needs, contact the administrator in your district or Chris Hipp, Director for the NCKSEC at 205 F St. Suite 235; PO Box 369; Phillipsburg, KS 67661 (785-543-2149).

Areas of special education include: birth through age two (infant-toddler), early childhood - disability, developmentally delayed visual impairments including blindness, hearing impairments including deafness, deaf-blindness, autism, traumatic brain injury, emotional disturbance, specific learning disabilities, mental retardation, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairments, other health impairments, speech or language impairments, and gifted. Parents are advised that all special education services are designed to offer the utmost in educational opportunities for each qualifying student, as well as to provide assistance and support in the areas of physical, mental, emotional, and social growth. State and federal laws are followed in providing each student with a free appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment. If you have a child or know of a child who may need special education services please notify the school district or the NCKSEC.

NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS UNDER FERPA

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. These rights are:
(1) The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the School receives a request for access.
Parents or eligible students should submit to the School principal (or appropriate school official) a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The School official will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.
(2) The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate.
Parents or eligible students may ask the School to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate. They should write the School principal (or appropriate Superintendent - Greg Mann, USD 211 - Norton Community Schools
Superintendent - Steven Taylor, USD 212 - Northern Valley Schools