

SCHOOL CALENDAR

NCHS Monday, Nov. 21 FFA PALS party, 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 22 Jay Singers, 7:30 a.m. S.I.T. meeting, 7:45 a.m. A.P. moved to the end of the day Wednesday, Nov. 23 No school-Thanksgiving break Thursday, Nov. 24 No school-Thanksgiving break Friday, Nov. 25 No school-Thanksgiving break EES Monday, Nov. 21 Site Council at EES Library, 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 23 No school-Thanksgiving break Thursday, Nov. 24 No school-Thanksgiving break NJHS Monday, Nov. 21 Basketball vs. Trego, 5 p.m.	Wednesday, Nov. 23 No School-Thanksgiving break Thursday, Nov. 24 No school-Thanksgiving break Friday, Nov. 25 No school-Thanksgiving break EES Monday, Nov. 21 Site Council at EES Library, 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 23 No school-Thanksgiving break Thursday, Nov. 24 No school-Thanksgiving break Friday, Nov. 25	No school-Thanksgiving break Northern Valley Monday, Nov. 21 HS NPL Vocal Clinic at Mankato Tuesday, Nov. 22 HS dance team practice, 3:45 p.m. HS cheerleading practice, 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 23 No school-Thanksgiving break Thursday, Nov. 24 No school-Thanksgiving break Friday, Nov. 25 No school-Thanksgiving break
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SCHOOL MENU

Norton Jr.-Sr. High Schools Menu Monday, Nov. 21 Breakfast-Cinnamon bubble, fruit or juice, or choice of assorted cereal, toast and jelly, and milk. Lunch-Toasted ham and cheese sandwich, corn, pasta salad, strawberries and bananas, or chef salad, and milk. Tuesday, Nov. 22 Breakfast-Breakfast burrito, hashbrown patty, fruit or juice, or choice of assorted cereal, toast and jelly, and milk. Lunch-Beef and noodles, whipped potatoes, carrots, peanut butter and celery, peaches, rolls, or chef salad, and milk. Wednesday, Nov. 23 No school-Thanksgiving break Thursday, Nov. 24 No school-Thanksgiving break Friday, Nov. 25 No school-Thanksgiving break EES Menu Monday, Nov. 21 Breakfast-Rolled up sausage link, tater tots, grape juice, and milk. Lunch-Fish portions, potato salad, rosy apple-sauce, whole wheat roll, and milk. Tuesday, Nov. 22	Breakfast-Blueberry muffin, peaches, orange juice, and milk. Lunch-Hamburger casserole, celery stick, pears, dinner roll, and milk. Wednesday, Nov. 23 No school-Thanksgiving break Thursday, Nov. 24 No school-Thanksgiving break Friday, Nov. 25 No school-Thanksgiving break Northern Valley Menu Monday, Nov. 21 Breakfast-Cinnamon raisin biscuit, eggs, ham, apricots, or assorted cold cereal. Lunch-Soft shell taco, tossed salad w/dressing, buttered corn, and cherry crisp. Tuesday, Nov. 22 Breakfast-Donuts, links, eggs, apple juice, or assorted cold cereal. Lunch-Ham-n-scalloped potatoes, whole wheat roll, buttered broccoli, and chocolate pudding. Wednesday, Nov. 23 No school-Thanksgiving break Thursday, Nov. 24 No school-Thanksgiving break Friday, Nov. 25 No school-Thanksgiving break
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SHERIFF'S LOG

Nov. 4 Four motor vehicle accidents with animal Follow up activity Animal call Nov. 5 Three motor vehicle accidents with animal Nov. 6 Gunshots/non-injury shooting Contact with public Nov. 7 Motor vehicle accident-personal injury Theft Three VIN inspections Contact with public Nov. 8 Three domestic disturbances Unknown trouble-Verizon Wireless Two contacts with public Motor vehicle accident with animal Nov. 9	Motor vehicle accident Animal call VIN inspections Traffic control Nov. 10 Two animal calls Document service VIN inspections For your information Traffic stop Cattle out Nov. 11 Suicidal subject Two animal calls VIN inspections Unknown trouble Nov. 12 Animal call Motor vehicle accident with animal Nov. 13 Fireworks violation Traffic control Disturbance-noise Fire	Nov. 14 Four motor vehicle accidents with animal Finger prints Contact with public Traffic stop Nov. 15 Three VIN inspections Theft Three traffic stops Two motor vehicle accidents with animal Welfare check Animal call Cattle out For your information Nov. 16 Finger prints Motor vehicle accident Traffic stop Animal call Nov. 17 Reports
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Northern Valley recycling to raise funds for program

Unified School District 212 Northern Valley Schools is recycling and would like your help. We are recycling used cell phones, empty laser, fax, copier, and inkjet cartridges as well as, laptops, Palm Pilots, iPods, video games, GPS Systems, DVDs and digital cameras for two reasons. First, we are trying to preserve our environment by keeping these harmful items out of landfills, and secondly, to raise funds for our high school technology program.

The recyclable items that are collected are returned to Cartridges for Kids. Northern Valley is among more than 12,500 non-profit organizations nationwide that are helping the environment by recycling.

How can you help? You can turn your "trash into our treasure" and feel good about helping the environment all at the same time. Most people have used cell phones to dispose of and almost everyone uses cartridges, either at home or at work. They come from fax machines, copiers and printers. By donating these used items you can assist Northern Valley with earning much needed funds.

Community and business supporters can participate at no cost. The organization will send postage-paid pre-printed shipping labels to business supporters for the return of the used items. These items can also be dropped off at the following locations: Almena State Bank, First National Bank in Long Island, Almena Post Office, and all three school locations. You may also contact the person listed below to pick up your recyclables.

To learn more about Northern Valley's program, please call Rayleen Osborn at 785-669-2445 or rosborn@usd212.com. For more information, visit www.cartridgesforkids.com or call toll free at 800-420-0235.

HANSEN MUSEUM

The Dane G. Hansen Museum, Logan, presents "K is for Kansas" and "Considering the Common Place: Prairie Towns" which opened Oct. 28, and will be on display through Dec. 18. "K is for Kansas" is an exhibit exploring Kansas from A to Z. This includes the state symbols that all Kansas children study, but also fun and curious facts about the state, and stories which are often overlooked. "Considering the Common Place" consists of seventy-one photographs taken by artist/teacher, Bob Regier, from North Newton.

Since we have access to so many fun and curious facts about Kansas, I would like to ask five questions per week to give you something to think about! 1. What are Ralph's Ruts? 2. Who invented the game of basketball? 3. Who was the first basketball coach at the University of Kansas? 4. What was the first wheat planted in Kansas? 5. What is the Higley Cabin? The answers will be in next week's Museum News!!

Our November Artist of the Month is Paula Rumbach from Oakley. Paula has quilts and tote bags on display and for sale. Any of these items would make a nice birthday gift or Christmas present.

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

A slight delay



Thanks to a streak of winter weather that swept through the area Wednesday morning and dropped a covering of snow across the area, the remaining corn harvest in northwest Kansas has been delayed slightly. In this field in the northern part of the county on Highway 383 just south of the Phillips County line, a combine sat idle in a snowy field, waiting for the snow to clear so harvest can be finished.

-Telegram photo by Dana Paxton

Changing the rural trend lines

By Ron Wilson
Huck Boyd Institute

For those of us who study graphs and charts depicting the demographic trends of rural Kansas, the thought of re-directing those trends positively is a remarkable achievement. We've seen too many examples of long-term population loss, out-migration, and declining jobs and school enrollments. Today we'll learn about a community-based initiative which is changing the trend lines in a positive way.

Last week, we learned about Chris Sramek who moved back to his hometown of Atwood in 2001 to create a private meteorology business. He wanted to be close to family and farm, but he saw his community facing many challenges and got involved to make things better.

When the local economic development director retired, the board selected Chris Sramek to replace her. It was a part-time position, so it enabled Chris to continue to build his meteorology business at the same time.

In his new position, Chris got involved with bottom-up economic development efforts such as Ogallala Commons, a multi-state grass-roots initiative for sustainable development, and a Nebraska initiative called Home Town Competitiveness.

In 2008, Kansas Farm Bureau launched its own initiative based on the Nebraska model. It was called the Kansas Home Town Prosperity Initiative. This model emphasizes local leadership, strong local development organizations, community philanthropy, and youth engagement, attraction and entrepreneurship.

Atwood/Rawlins County was one of three locations selected for the Kansas Home Town Prosperity Initiative. This would then become the Kansas Entrepreneurial Communities Initiative, which supports entrepreneurs and trains business coaches in partnership with Network Kansas, the Kansas Small Business Development Centers, and others.

So what happened in Atwood? Lots of things, according to a report from Kansas Farm Bureau. A new dental clinic was brought to Atwood after three years of work. A new High Plains Food Co-op was created, through which 40 farmers direct market their products to Denver using online orders and monthly deliveries. Atwood became the state's first E-Community as designated by Network Kansas. Improvements were completed at the high school and the movie theater downtown. An entrepreneurship fair was conducted including a business plan competition for junior high and high school students.

One interesting element of the change in Atwood is the high level of leadership by women. "Female leadership in this whole process has doubled in the past ten years," Chris said. The report notes that Atwood is full of strong female leaders such as the former mayor, city council members, economic development director and the chamber of commerce director.

Another change is regional cooperation. Students in the Rawlins County town of McDonald cross the county line to go to school in Cheyenne County, which creates some intense rivalries.

"Twenty years ago, that was like the enemy line," Chris said.

"Now we're doing projects together."

Such cooperation is important for rural communities like McDonald, which has a population of 155 people. Now, that's rural.

Still, what are the bottom line results? One finding by Kansas Farm Bureau was that personal income by non-farm proprietorships in Rawlins County grew to record high levels. Another finding came from the 2010 Census: For the first time since the 1930s Census, Rawlins County grew in population - a stark contrast to the typical rural pattern of population loss.

What does this mean for the schools, for example? From 2000 to 2007, local school enrollment had plunged by 34 percent. But from 2008 to 2011, enrollments have stabilized or even slightly grown. For the first time in a long time, the lines on the charts are trending upward.

We commend Chris Sramek and all those involved with the Kansas HomeTown Prosperity Initiative for helping move those trend lines up.

PUBLIC AUCTION

HUNTER'S RETREAT!
Saturday, December 3, 2011
11:00 A.M.

AUCTION LOCATION:
538 W. Aztec, Woodruff, Kansas - Located just 3 Miles West from Hwy. 183 and 383 Jct. to W. 500 Ln., then North to W. Aztec Rd then 1/4 Mile West.
WATCH FOR SIGNS!!!
Less than 1/2 Mile from the Prairie Dog Creek - Less than 10 Miles from the Harlan County Reservoir at Alma, NE. Great Hunting and Fishing in the Area!!

Open House - Saturday, November 19, 2011
11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

This 150 ft. x 330 ft. secluded property has many great amenities including a 16 x 80 Marlett manufactured home that has 3 bedrooms, and extended living room with an 8 ft. x 14 ft. addition, central air and heat and metal roof. This property has its own water well and septic system and several outbuildings including an older frame home that would make a nice bunk house, a garage and washhouse, all with good roofs. There is also a large garden area for the serious gardener. The wooded surroundings gives lots of habitat for many species of wildlife.

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Customer APPRECIATION luncheon

Tuesday, November 22, 2011 • 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. MT
Pulled pork sandwiches and hamburgers, all catered by Steve Evert
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