Decorations can be fire hazards

Holiday decorations, especially candles and electrical lighting, can tree within three feet of a fireplace, be fire hazards and Safe Kids Kansas reminds parents and caregivers to take a few precautions when descent lights and pose a lower risk decorating for Christmas or other winter festivities.

ments in the U.S. responded to an estimated 15,260 home fires started by candles each year. The top five days for home candle fires were Christmas, Christmas Eve, New Year's Day, Halloween and Dec. 23, according to the National Fire Protection Association. Batteryoperated flameless candles are an alternative that does not pose a fire

If you decorate a tree, Safe Kids Kansas recommends:

• Never leave a Christmas tree or other decorative lighting display unattended. Inspect lights for exposed or frayed wires, loose connections and broken sockets. Do not overload extension cords or outlets and never run an electrical cord under a rug.

• Natural Christmas trees always involve some risk of fire. To minimize this, get a fresh tree and keep it

watered at all times. Do not put the space heater, radiator or heat vent. LED lights burn cooler than incanof fire.

• Decorate with children in mind. From 2003 to 2007, fire depart- Do not put ornaments that have small parts or metal hook, or look like food or candy, on the lower branches where small children can reach them. Time protruding branches at or below a child's eve level and keep lights out of reach.

> • Do not burn Christmas tree branches, treated wood or wrapping in a home fireplace.

Safe Kids also offers these tips to prevent accidental poisoning:

• Keep alcohol (including baking extracts) our of reach and do not leave alcoholic drinks unatttended. Store medications, including those for kids, out of reach.

• Color additives used in fireplace fires are toxic and should be stored out of reach. Artificial snow sprays can be harmful if inhaled.

For information, go to www.usa. safekids.org.

a word to the wise

you can learn a lot

Encourage your children to

make reading the newspaper

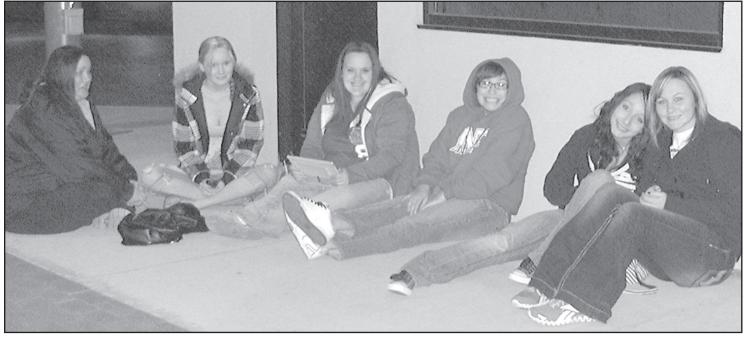
routine for lifelong learning.

textbooks, helping students

a part of their everyday

Newspapers are living

Vampire saga fans



Fans of the "Twilight" movie series were camped outside the series. The movie has it final showing on Wednesday, Dec. 7. front door of The Sherman Theatre on opening night. The movie, The movie opened on Thursday, Nov. 18 for a three week run. 'Twilight Sage: Breaking Dawn Part 1" is the fourth film of the

Sharon Spring site of training

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Level: Intermediate

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be in Sharon Springs at the CAB through horticulture projects that Building on the Wallace County Fair Grounds. It starts Tuesday, Feb. 7, and continues for seven sessions every Tuesday through Tuesday, March 27.

The Extension Master Gardener Program is an educational volunteer training program sponsored by Kansas State Research and Extension. Through this program, individuals are trained and certified in hortibenefit the community.

Once trained, Extension Master Gardeners provide researched based information to the public on many topics including, water conservation, yard waste management, regional plant adaptability and the environment. The Master Gardeners work with their local extension staff to develop educational programs that meet the norticultural needs of their local citizens. Examples

7

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Master Gardener Training will expertise and services to help others beautification projects, school practices. classroom projects and demonstration gardens.

> Master Gardeners volunteers are:

• Motivated to share their knowledge and expertise.

• Accessible to other Master Gardeners, horticulture and extension professionals and the public.

• Service-oriented to enhance their communities and the environment.

individuals, in turn, volunteer their include: community landscape, tension in current horticultural materials.

· Excited about meeting other people who enjoy gardening.

Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

· Research ambassadors who provide cutting-edge horticultural information to consumers.

Anyone with an interest in horticulture can apply. If you are interested, please contact the Sunflower Extension District at 890-4880 for an application form. Information is also online at www.sunflower. ksu.edu. An enrollment fee of \$90 • Trained by Cooperative Ex- covers the cost of all educational

from the Newspaper! culture and related areas. These Goodland Star-News SUBSCRIBER Marion Armstrong You receive two free passes to see:

TWILIGHT SAGA: **BREAKING DAWN PART 1 (PG-13)** Clip and bring to the show.



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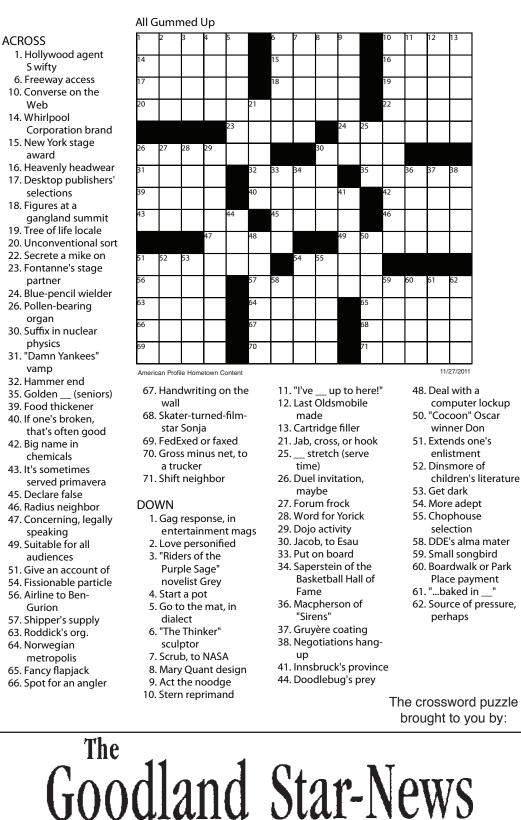
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