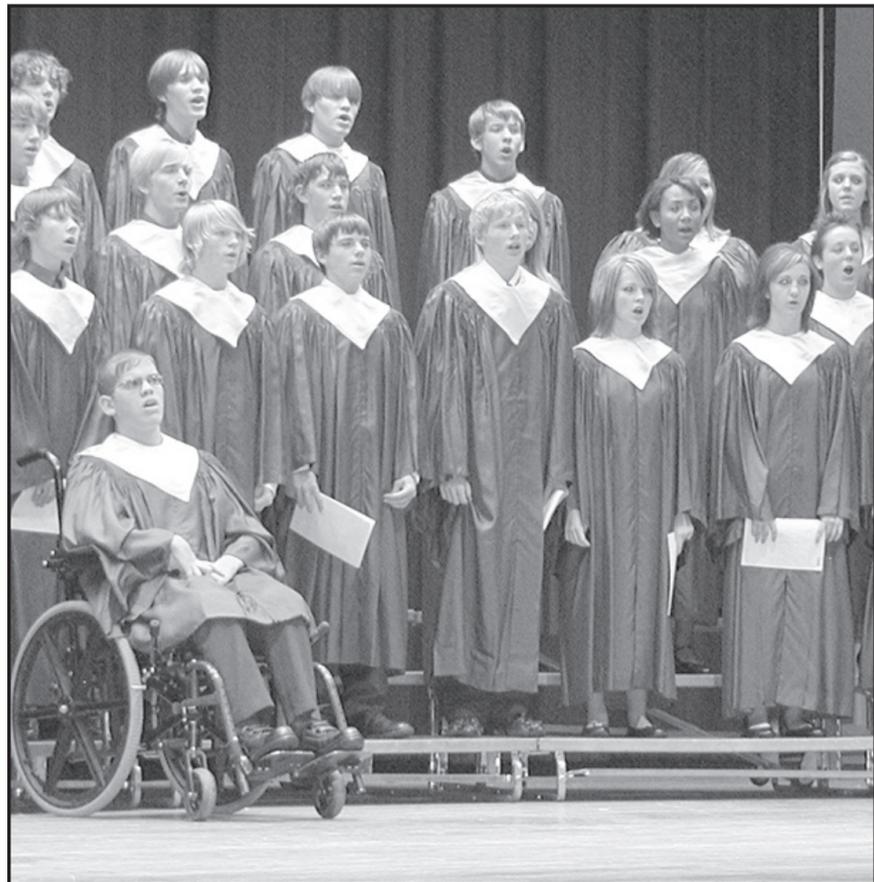


A tribute



Tamra Cochran led the Norton Community High School through songs honoring veterans Tuesday evening.

— Telegram photo by Brandy Leroux

Burn workshop coming to Norton

Fire safety is a priority topic of the 14 Prescribed Burning Workshops scheduled for the western one-third of Kansas. Carol Blocksome, Grassland Water Quality Extension staff at Kansas State University, Manhattan, said the idea for the workshops came about after she attended a meeting where Conservation Reserve Program burning in western Kansas was discussed. It was evident from the discussion that producers needed and wanted more information and education on how to conduct a safe and successful prescribed burn.

“Safe burning requires proper planning, education, and training,” she said.

Producers may want to burn native and Conservation Reserve Program grassland to improve vegetative quality, control weeds, or fulfill the reserve program’s contractual obligations.

“I would encourage any producer

who is thinking of burning grassland in western Kansas to attend one of these workshops,” Blocksome said.

Norton will be one of the locations for the workshop. It is scheduled for Nov. 17 at Prairie Land Electric’s meeting room. Registration begins at 9 a.m. and the workshop starts at 9:30. Call either 877-5156 or 877-5755, for additional information.

The content of all the workshops is very similar, so producers can attend the most convenient location.

There is a \$10 registration charge, which covers the cost of handouts and a notebook. Lunch will be served. RSVP deadline is a week prior to the workshop date.

Agenda topics are: Conservation Reserve Program Maintenance and Management Practices; Burn Considerations: Why and When to Burn; Burn Notification and Local Regulations; Producer Panel; Using a Burn Contractor; Burn Terminol-

ogy and Fire Behavior: Smoke Management, Eddy Currents, Fire Guards, Burning Techniques; Planning and Conducting a Burn; and Burn Equipment.

Presenters include representatives from Natural Resources Conservation Service, Farm Service Agency, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, Kansas Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Kansas State University, as well as local fire and emergency management staff and local producers with burn experience. Presenters vary by workshop, but all will be presenting essentially the same information.

Workshops are sponsored by local conservation districts, Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Environmental Protection Agency, Kansas Water Plan funds, and local businesses.

Salt shortages hamper roads

Salt supplies for roadways during inclement winter weather in Kansas are proving harder to get, according to Peter Carttar, Assistant Bureau Chief in Construction and Maintenance for the Kansas Department of Transportation.

“There were so many wide-ranging snow and ice storms the last two winters across the entire Midwest, the Kansas Department of Transportation is now forced to compete against other DOTs, city and county maintenance departments for salt,” Carttar said. “It’s a limited resource and everyone is trying to stock up on salt.”

The Kansas Department of Transportation began early this summer to re-stock its salt domes across the state.

However, there have been delays in deliveries, Carttar said, and a few locations have not had deliveries since June.

“KDOT will need to be conservative with salt use so that

materials are available throughout the winter,” he said.

Carttar said the Kansas Department of Transportation uses various techniques and technologies in its fight against inclement winter weather. A few examples include:

- Salt brine pretreatment of bridges and certain roadways when conditions are appropriate. This technique works to prevent snow and ice from bonding to the pavement, which makes it easier to remove both during and after the storm.

- Road Weather Information Systems technology that uses remote sensors across the state to measure air and pavement temperatures, wind speed, visibility and other pavement conditions to give maintenance crews better information on conditions and weather forecasters better information for their forecasts.

- Salt spreader control equipment in trucks to help monitor

and control how much salt is being put on the road for maximum effectiveness.

- Maintenance Decision Support System research to assist maintenance workers in choosing the right maintenance action at the right time and to provide real-time information throughout and after a storm.

These and other methods and technology are continuously being researched by the Kansas Department of Transportation to improve winter maintenance efforts. Motorists can play a part in these efforts as well, Carttar said.

“Call 511 or check out the 511 Travel Info on the Kansas Department of Transportation web site before you go,” Carttar said. “Stay off the roads as much as possible during inclement weather, but if you are traveling, always buckle up, reduce your speed and give our crews on the highways extra room. Driving safely is everyone’s job.”

See ‘Santa’, bookmarks, art at library

When you visit the Norton Public Library this month you will find four new exhibits in place.

The Ruth’s of Alma are sharing their collection of bronze statues. Some are in the tall display case, on the left as you enter the library. Another group can be seen on the top of the bookshelves in the art gallery area. These bronze pieces are their western collection. They have been collecting for twenty-five years and have acquired these, and other statuary items, at auctions and estate sales. Take time to study the detail and artistry of each piece.

You will be reminded Christmas is coming when you see Carol Otter’s collection of Santas. She started her collection after a friend gave her the “kneeling Santa and baby Jesus.” Family and friends have added to her collection during the past 15 years. She has between 50 and 75 Santas; the largest being a four-foot mechanical Santa.

In Mrs. Otter’s display you will see whimsical, beautiful, old-fashioned glass, home made, ornamental and wood-carved Santas, as well as a Santa in a bowl.

June Prout asks, “What do you use for a bookmark?” Mrs. Prout has shared a display of book-

marks which includes a few of the many kinds she has had and used through the years.

Bookmarks are versatile and used to carry all kinds of ideas, messages and fun. In her collection, you will find ones with religious and inspirational messages, patriotic ones, money reprints, flowers and advertisements. Some bookmarks are thin metal; some are magnifiers and rulers.

Book darts are a type of bookmark; only they are meant to mark specific passages you might want to refer to later.

Bookmarks are like the books they go with — to endless adventures and knowledge. You will enjoy seeing the many bookmarks that Mrs. Prout has shared.

In the Art Gallery you will find an exhibit of 4-H photos. These photos are part of 90 that were exhibited in this year’s Norton County Fair. You will find a variety of color prints, black and white prints, best of my work and a picture story. From the fair exhibit there were 17 4-H members that qualified to send photo exhibits to the Kansas State Fair.

Four of the 4-H’ers received special awards. Diedre Kramer’s photo was chosen as a Washington DC Display award photo and

will be displayed in Senator Pat Roberts’ Washington DC office. Carissa Wentz’s photo received a 4-H Foundation Selection Award. These 4-H’ers are members of the Prairie Dog 4-H Club. Marissa Maddy’s photo was chosen for the Governor’s Display Award, Jacob VanSlike’s photo was chosen for the Photo Traveling Collection. Marissa and Jacob are members of the Busy Jayhawkers 4-H Club.

The following 4-H’ers have photos in the present gallery display. From Cedar Ridge 4-H Club, Caden Kinderknecht, Kylie Kinderknecht and Kortney Cunningham. From Prairie Dog 4-H Club, Jade Cressler, David Cressler, Jade Braun, Megan Wentz, Rebecca Wentz and Wyatt Wentz. From Busy Beavers 4-H Club, Casey Ambrosier, Chandler Sumner, Adrienne Hager and Austin Hager. From Busy Jayhawker 4-H Club, Jacob VanSlike and Josh VanSlike.

These photos will be taken down in mid-November and the remainder of the 4-H photo exhibit will be in place. So plan to visit the Art Gallery again.

Plan to see all of the exhibits at the Norton Public Library now through the end of December.

Business Notes

Three years ago a company had a vision and a plan for offering rural customers in central and western Kansas with wireless voice and data services that was equivalent to that offered in large cities. Since their beginning, Nex-Tech Wireless has always kept their focus on three things: their customer, technology and the communities they serve. With a customer base of over 25,000 voice and data users, Nex-Tech Wireless employees over 60 people in 36 locations.

“The past three years has been an incredible testimony of what can happen when a group works together to achieve the goals laid before them. We have a committed board of managers and an incredible team of employees that truly desires to offer the best service around to our customers,” said Johnnie Johnson, Chief Executive Officer/GM, Nex-Tech Wireless.

To achieve this goal, Nex-Tech Wireless has implemented an aggressive network expansion plan by placing towers extensively throughout their serving area. Additionally, they have introduced new technologies including: EVDO Rev A high speed mobile data technology, enhanced data and calling services, iVoice, and iConnect. Within the first year of service, Nex-Tech Wireless gave away their iconic VW Bug to a contest entrant and introduced the School Rebate Program which has donated over \$30,000 back to local schools in the communities they serve. They have also introduced online bill payment, built a new headquarter building and expanded to include the counties of Lincoln, Ellsworth and Russell in their service area.

Nex-Tech Wireless, a subsidiary of Rural Telephone, Golden Belt Telephone and Mutual Telephone, is a premiere wire-

less provider offering high-tech wireless solutions to residents in 33 counties of central and western Kansas.

Save gas

Shop local.

Shop NORTON

VOTE NOVEMBER 4 - NORTON COUNTY COMMISSIONER - DISTRICT 3

MILLER

5 ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE PAST 12 YEARS-

- 1. MILLINGS PROJECT - Reduced road maintenance 50%**
- 2. TAX ABATEMENTS - Increased businesses & jobs**
- 3. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - Board joined county and cities**
- 4. NORTON COUNTY HEALTH - Excels while other counties failed**
- 5. GRANTS - Enhanced the county Without using taxpayer dollars**

I'm better prepared for the next 4 years!

TOP 3 GOALS TO KEEP UP PROSPERITY

- 1. STABILIZING THE MILL LEVY - Creates economic development**
- 2. REGIONALIZATION OF SERVICES IS APPROACHING - Make Norton County a BASE COUNTY**
- 3. Janis Lee's quote, "18 NORTHWEST KANSAS COUNTIES ARE 20% OF THE TAX BASE WITH 4% POPULATION WE ACT LIKE 4%.....STEP-UP TO 20%."**

"I will fight for Norton County at the local and state level as I have been for 12 years."

Paid for by John Miller - Karen Reedy, Treasurer