

Awards

(Continued From Page 1)

well written.”
 Another well-known name in The Norton Telegram won an award in the contest as former Publisher Tom Dreiling took second for his editorial writing in The Goodland Star-News. Dreiling took second behind Tom Betz, also of the Star-News, who received first place for his editorial comments.

Dreiling's winning editorials were run in The Telegram about the same time as they were in the Star-News. They were entitled, "Be careful of the quicksand," "Maybe that was a flicker of hope," and "\$69 standing in way of 'I do.'"

The judge said of his editorials, "entertaining writing about issues on all of our minds."

Other Nor'West Newspapers to win awards were:

- The Oberlin Herald – a third place for best news story by Steve Haynes on a wreck on U.S. 83 that injured an Oberlin woman.

- a third place for a political ad on Republican candidates running in the 2010 election created by Leslie Nolette and sold by Tim Davis.

- Saint Francis Herald – first place for a photo layout showing how the community pulled together to aid the elderly when the town's Good Samaritan Village burned last year. Photos by Casey McCormick.

- Colby Free Press – third place for column writing for copy editor Marian Ballard.

- a third place for a photo of a fatal wreck on U.S. 83 by Cynthia Haynes. A young man working in Colby was returning home to Oberlin when he lost control of his car and crashed.

The Free Press also received a second place award for a special section, produced by the combined staffs of the company newspapers. The special dealt



This photo of Muttin Buster, Hannah Bailey, was taken by the Telegram's Dana Paxton and won first place in the feature photo category for small non-daily newspapers.

with the population decline in northwestern Kansas. Since the Free Press is the only daily in the group, the Kansas Press Association rules required the entry to be through that paper.

Decline

(Continued From Page 1)

Olathe grew by 35.4 percent.

The largest county is Johnson, with a population of 544,179. Its population grew by 20.6 percent since 2000. The other counties in the top five include Sedgwick, with a population of 498,365 (increase of 10 percent); Shawnee, 177,934 (increase of 4.7 percent); Wyandotte, 157,505 (decrease of 0.2 percent); and Douglas, 110,826 (increase of 10.9 percent).

The University of Kansas Institute for Policy and Social Research and Entrepreneurship Works for Kansas puts out an annual Kansas County profile in July with a set of population estimates created by Wichita University and the latest figures were compiled in 2008.

Comparing the estimates with the U.S. Census figures shows some counties are holding true to the Wichita University computer model, but others are off by quite a bit.

Northwest counties

With the new U.S. Census figures, Wichita University will be able to update its computer population estimate model. In many cases the county estimates for 2010 done by Wichita University were off by more than 3 percent, but in the case of Greeley County the Wichita University was about as close as you can get missing the actual U.S. Census count by two. The 2010 estimate was 1,245 and the U.S. Census count was 1,247.

Greeley County dropped 18.7 percent in the 2010 Census to 1,247 from 1,534 in the 2000

Census.

Norton County dropped 4.74 percent down to 5,671 from 5,953. The Wichita University estimate for 2010 was 5,345 or 326 lower (5.7 percent) than the U.S. Census.

Thomas County showed a drop of 3.42 percent to 7,900 in 2010 down from 8,180 in 2000. The 10-year average is a loss of 28 people per year. The Wichita University estimate for Thomas County for 2010 of 7,178 was lower by 722 or about 10 percent.

Cheyenne County dropped 13.87 percent in the 10 years down to 2,726 from 3,165. The Wichita University population estimate for 2010 was 2,651, or 75 people (2.7 percent) lower.

Decatur County dropped 14.72 percent down to 2,961 from 3,472. The Wichita University estimate for 2010 was 2,888, (73 lower).

Rawlins County dropped 15.07 percent down to 2,519 from 2,986. The Wichita University estimate for 2020 was 2,373, (146 below the census count).

Sheridan County dropped 9.14 percent down to 2,556 from 2,813. The Wichita University estimate for 2010 was 2,347, (209 below the census).

Wallace County dropped 15.09 percent down to 1,485 from 1,749. The Wichita University estimate for 2010 was 1,405, (80 below the census).

Gove County dropped 12.16 percent down to 2,695 from 3,068. The Wichita University estimate for 2010 was 2,428, (267 below the census).

Logan County dropped 9.52 percent down to 2,756 from 3,048. The Wichita University estimate for 2010 was 2,534, (222 below the census).

In the western half of the state only a handful of counties showed growth in the past 10 years with Ellis being the only one in the northwest part. In the southwest part Pratt, Hamilton, Stephens, Seward, Ford and Gray Counties show growth over the 2000 census.

Saline County increased 3.75 percent up to 55,606 from 53,597. Ellis County increased 3.44 percent up to 28,452 from 27,507.

Statewide Kansas showed a 6.1 percent growth in population from the 2000 census to 2,853,118 in 2010.

State redistricting

The increase in the state population will not change the number of Congressional representatives for the state, but will cause the size of the existing districts to shift, and means the Big First Congressional district is likely to get bigger. Currently the Big First covers 69 of the 105 Kansas counties.

Redistricting will be done for the state legislature representative and senate districts and Rep. Rick Billinger and Ward Cassidy plus Sen. Ralph Ostmeier will be in the thick of the redistricting process.

On a national basis the number of people in a district represented by a congressman has risen from 210,328 in 1910 to 710,767 in 2010. For Kansas the number in the representative district has risen from 211,369 in 1910 to

NORCATUR NEWS

Congratulations to Capt. and Mrs. Jake Lechlitter, who are the parents of a baby girl, Abigail Ruth, who was born Feb. 2. She was welcomed home by her twin brothers, Nathan and James. Their grandfather, Denny Lechlitter went to take care of the boys while their parents were at the hospital. She is also the great-granddaughter of Vene and Phyllis Lechlitter.

Visitors last week at the Stan Miller farm were Justine Tuttle and baby Jade, El Dorado. They came on Wednesday, Feb. 9 to visit the grandparents and great-grandparents, and Justine hosted a bridal shower for Kelsey Gallentine on Saturday, Feb. 12. Justine and Jade left on Sunday, Feb. 13, and went to Quinter to spend a night with Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Tuttle before returning back to El Dorado on Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Stan Miller, along with several friends, left on Feb. 13 to spend a few days in Las Vegas. They saw The Lion King in live theatre, and an amazing show by Terry Fator, along with other entertainment.

Results of the pool tournament at the Cardinal Bar and Grill on Feb. 16 were: first, Don Relaford and second, Dave Stapp.

Mr. and Mrs. Stan Miller left on Feb. 18 for Topeka to visit Mr. and

Mrs. Curt DeDonder and Sophia, then went to El Dorado on Feb. 20 to visit Mr. and Mrs. Casey Tuttle and Jade. Carol stayed a few days to babysit Jade as Justine went back to work and daycare was not available for a few days.

Happy Birthday to Denise Bailey, Feb. 22; Juanita Eckhart, Feb. 24; Mike Helm, Feb. 25; David Hare, Feb. 26; and Robert Schoenradt, Feb. 26.

Happy Anniversary Gail and Denise Bailey, Feb. 23.

Bob and Kay Strevey left Feb. 11 for Andover for a birthday celebration at the home of Justin and Hollie Ricke. They stopped and picked up Grace Ricke at the babysitter's and then met Justin and the boys. Saturday morning was spent at the Tiens. The birthday party was for Ivalea Tien, who turned 6 years old on Valentine's Day. Those attending the party were several of Ivalea's friends,

Trudi and John, Elissa and Nora McCollum of Liberty, Mo.; Hollie, Justin, Jared, Ben and Grace Ricke, Andover; Grandpa Bob and Grandma Kay, Norcatour; and Grandpa Marion and Grandma Joyce Tien, Prairie View.

On Sunday evening, Charlie and Judy Easton of Quinter visited Rea and Dee Magers. Jeff Magers, Cedar Bluffs, had lunch with them on Presidents Day.

Senior Citizens had a good group of players for cards on Feb. 18. Winners were Eleanor Jensen, Joyce Price and Dee Magers. Come join us in the future. There's always room for more!

Mark and Debby Ward spent a recent weekend with his mother and helped with the new T.V. that they brought with them.

The benefit pancake supper will be served from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Norcatour Methodist Church in Norcatour for a freewill donation.

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