

Calling all crows



Kendra Baker and Brandon McChesney, both of Norton, teamed up on Saturday to participate in the calling contest sponsored by the Norton Archery Club. When asked how they did, Ms. Baker said, "We got stuck!" After a fresh, heavy eight-inch snow, several hunters got stuck and dug themselves out or had to be pulled out but it didn't deter them from continuing to call and hunt crows, bobcats and coyotes. Baker and McChesney were only one of six teams to turn in any game with the two crow they shot.

-Telegram photo by Dana Paxton

For full story, see page 1.

LYLE NEWS

The groundhog didn't see his shadow, so what now? We always think we will have more winter, regardless. Does everybody get an urge to cook or bake something when the weather is dark and gloomy, or is it just me? We had weather warnings, so schools, meetings, etc., were cancelled, and most of us that could stayed inside. It drizzled all day Friday and snowed several inches overnight and the next day. Dwight Wood's heel is healing. His group played in Lexington, Neb.,

Saturday night and had a slow trip home. David, in Oklahoma said they got 1 1/2 inches of rain but no snow. Kathy Van Meter said their electricity was off several hours, but no damage done. June Jolly went to her KT Club on Thursday, played cards Friday, and she hosted several ladies for a Super Bowl party Sunday. Since I don't have much news, I will try to send a "fitting" poem. Kansas Winter.

Oh, how I hate to go out in the snow when the wind makes it feel like it's 20 below.

It weathers my face and it freezes my toes and instead of my cheeks getting red, it's my nose.

I hate it, I say, but still it's so strange, that in spite of myself, I still love it.

My feet get so cold, and my fingers do, too. I shiver and shake and I start turning blue;

I put on more clothes 'til I hardly can walk. My teeth chat-

ter so that I hardly can talk.

The squeak of the snow says it's zero or so, but I can't help myself, I still love it.

Well, I don't like the wind and I don't like to freeze; I don't like to wade in the snow to my knees;

Then the sun gets so bright and the sky gets so blue; the snow looks like ten thousand diamonds in view;

It looks like a fairyland made just for you, and I can't tell you why, but I love it.

You get so you know when it's zero or so by the crunch or the squeak of your boots on the snow.

When it crunches, it's zero-when it squeaks-five below; and the higher the squeak, the colder you know.

Well I know I should hate it, and do in a way; but I feel so content at the end of the day

When I sit by the fire, and feel the warm glow. One of life's simple pleasures, I love it.

Farm program registration needed

Acting Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services Michael Scuse announced recently that the U.S. Department of Agriculture will conduct a four-week Conservation Reserve Program general signup, beginning on March 12 and ending on April 6. CRP has a 25-year legacy of successfully protecting the nation's natural resources through voluntary participation, while providing significant economic and environmental benefits to rural communities across the United States.

CRP is a voluntary program available to agricultural producers to help them use environmentally sensitive land for conservation benefits. Producers enrolled in CRP plant long-term, resource-conserving covers to improve the quality of water, control soil erosion and develop wildlife habitat. In return, USDA provides participants with rental payments and cost-share assistance. Contract duration is between 10 and 15 years. Producers with expiring contracts and producers with environmentally sensitive land are encouraged to evaluate their options under CRP. Producers also are encouraged to look into CRP's other enrollment opportunities offered on a continuous, non-competitive, signup basis.

Currently, about 30 million acres are enrolled in CRP; and contracts on an estimated 6.5 million acres will expire on Sept. 30, 2012.

ranked according to the Environmental Benefits Index. USDA's Farm Service Agency collects data for each of the EBI factors based on the relative environmental benefits for the land offered. Each eligible offer is ranked in comparison to all other offers and selections made from that ranking. FSA uses the following EBI factors to assess the environmental benefits for the land offered:

Wildlife habitat benefits resulting from covers on contract acreage; Water quality benefits from reduced erosion, runoff and leaching; On-farm benefits from reduced erosion; Benefits that will likely endure beyond the contract period; Air quality benefits from reduced wind erosion; and Cost.

Over the past 25 years, farmers, ranchers, conservationists, hunters, fishermen and other outdoor enthusiasts have made CRP the largest and one of the most important in USDA's conservation portfolio. CRP continues to make major contributions to national efforts to improve water and air quality, prevent soil erosion by protecting the most sensitive areas including those prone to flash flooding and runoff. At the same time, CRP has helped increase populations of pheasants, quail, ducks, and other rare species, like the sage grouse, the lesser prairie chicken, and others. Highlights of CRP include:

CRP has restored more than two million acres of wetlands and two million acres of riparian

buffers; Each year, CRP keeps more than 600 million pounds of nitrogen and more than 100 million pounds of phosphorous from flowing into our nation's streams, rivers, and lakes. CRP provides \$1.8 billion annually to landowners-dollars that make their way into local economies, supporting small businesses and creating jobs; and CRP is the largest private lands carbon sequestration program in the country. By placing vulnerable cropland into conservation, CRP sequesters carbon in plants and soil, and reduces both fuel and fertilizer usage. In 2010, CRP resulted in carbon sequestration equal to taking almost 10 million cars off the road.

In 2011, USDA enrolled a record number of acres of private working lands in conservation programs, working with more than 500,000 farmers and ranchers to implement conservation practices that clean the air we breathe, filter the water we drink, and prevent soil erosion. Moreover, the Obama Administration, with Agriculture Secretary Vilsack's leadership, has worked tirelessly to strengthen rural America, implement the Farm Bill, maintain a strong farm safety net, and create opportunities for America's farmers and ranchers. U.S. agriculture is currently experiencing one of its most productive periods in American history thanks to the productivity, resiliency, and resourcefulness of our producers.

JENNINGS NEWS

Several inches of beautiful wet snow fell Friday night and Saturday morning. Much needed moisture in it.

Wednesday Feb. 1, the United Methodist Women met at the church. Lila Jennings gave the program, "Bread of Life" Take a Walk With Christ. Louise Cressler had devotions and Helen Rhodes served snacks. Those attending were: Rev. Barbara Patterson, Kay Brown, Glenda Johnson, Rachel Carter, Lila Jennings, Helen Rhodes and Louise Cressler. At our next meeting on March 7, Cheryl Soderlund of Oberlin will speak of her Met tour.

Card players at the Sunflower Senior Center Wednesday were: Alice Wagoner, Diane Carter, Eleanor Morel, Carol Carter, Agnes Wahlmeier, Ramona Shaw, Stan Shaw, Carla Latimer and Louise Cressler. Linda Spresser, Selden, came with her Mother, Agnes, and enjoyed watching the games. Cards are played every Wednesday afternoon at 1:30 p.m. at the Center. Anyone who would like may come join us.

The Sunflower Senior Citizens Carry-in Potluck dinner will be Feb. 14 at noon. Bring a signed Valentine's card for an exchange. Everyone is welcome.

Congratulations to Dave and Shirley Haury,

former Jennings residents on the birth of their first grandchild, Piper Zipora Khan, Friday, Jan. 28 in Wichita. Proud parents are Fayyaz and Brenda Khan.

The Historic Building Preservation Committee will provide a meal of soup (chicken noodle and chili), homemade bread and desserts at the Community Hall on Sunday, Feb. 19, from noon to 1:30 p.m. Donations for the meal will be used for building improvements at the former Masonic Hall. Please come and enjoy the meal and visit with friends and neighbors. At 2 p.m. Feb. 19 Mayor Marge Hartzog and the Jennings City Council will have a question and answer period and also a discussion of city affairs. In addition to any questions/comments/concerns you may have about Jennings city, please consider the following questions and feel free to provide your responses at the meeting. (1) If you could name one thing that would make our community a better place to live, what would it be? (2) What is the greatest need of our residents and how do we address it? (3) What non-government provided services would you like to see Jennings offer?

Remember blood drive is Friday, Feb. 10, held at the church. If you have questions call Marge Hartzog at 785-678-3010.

Photos needed for The Wall

The people of the state of Kansas suffered deeply in the Vietnam War, sacrificing 626 service-men and women in combat. The Vietnam Memorial Fund's mission to honor these heroes continues with the National Call for Photos, a movement to collect photos of the more than 58,000 service-members inscribed on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial (The Wall) in Washington, DC. When collected, all photos will be displayed for generations to come at The Education Center at The Wall, a place on our National Mall where our military heroes' stories and sacrifice will never be forgotten.

With the support of schools, volunteers, friends, and family from around the country, the fund has collected more than 25,000 pictures to date, but only 246 from the state of Kansas.

The task is far from complete.

Generous support from volunteers, fellow service-members, family, and friends is still needed in order to gather the remaining 380 photos necessary to honor our heroes from Kansas for display at The Education Center.

The Fund urges the citizens

of Kansas to assist the National Call for Photos by submitting photographs of fallen service-members and generously supporting the Education Center, ensuring that the sacrifices of our military heroes are never forgotten.

Attention: Norcatur

The Decatur Health Systems Outreach Clinic at the former school

will be open from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 14.

Call the Family Practice Clinic at 475-2015 for more information and to schedule follow-up visits.

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