

Singing through the year



The Jay Singers, Norton Junior High School Choir and the Norton Community High School Concert Choir performed before a large crowd on Thursday, May 10 at the East Campus Auditorium. With the choir under the direction of Tamra Cochran, the crowd enjoyed arrangements by all three choirs and the concert concluded with all three choirs singing "Oh Happy Day!"

-Telegram photo by Mike Stephens

Deadline approaches for program sign-up

Norton County Farm Services Agency is reminding producers that enrollment for the 2012 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program and the Average Crop Revenue Election Program ends on June 1.

Producers who choose to participate in either program must enroll their farms each year. All owners and operators who will share in the payments on the farm must sign up by June 1. Since 2009, producers have had the option to participate in either program. A producer who initially chose to remain in Direct or Counter-Cyclical has an option to switch to Average Crop Revenue Election during the current enrollment period; however, producers who chose

to enroll in Average Crop cannot switch back to Direct.

Producers can make use of the electronic automated website to sign up, or they can visit a nearby Farm Services Agency county office to complete their 2012 enrollment form. The online enrollment is available to all producers who are eligible to participate in the programs and can be accessed at www.fsa.usda.gov/dcp. To access the service, producers must have an active USDA eAuthentication Level 2 account, which requires completing an online registration form at www.eauth.egov.usda.gov followed by a visit to the local USDA Service Center for identity verification.

COLLEGE NOTES

These local students are among 314 students who graduated from Cloud County Community College at commencement exercises on Friday, May 18.

Logan - Alaina Long, Associate of Science; Bryce D. Sammons, Associate of Applied Science; Holly Kathleen Sparks,

Associate of Science.

Norton - Lacey Elaine Wallingford, Associate of General Studies.

Phillipsburg - Mandra Joy Imm, Associate of Applied Science; Kylie DeNae Powell, Associate of Arts; Allison Marie Wach, Associate of Science.

Summer reading program begins at Norton library

Summer Reading at the Norton Public Library is the main event of the year. The goal is to keep children of all ages reading and to encourage a love of reading. Reading aloud to children and encouraging them to read is one of the greatest gifts that can be given to them and they will use that gift always.

This year the Summer Reading Program theme is Dream Big- Read. There are two parts to the program. One is signing up your child to read books in his/her reading level or if your child is just learning to read there is the Read-to-me program which has parents, grandparents or guardians reading books to the child. When a child signs up he/she receives a book bag, bookmark, door hanger and a list on which the titles of the

books read are to be written.

Children are encouraged to read books they check out from the library. When a child is finished reading the required number of books he/she will bring the filled out list to the library and receive a prize.

The child's name is placed in the drawing for the bicycles that are given away at the end of the summer. Sign-up for this part of the program starts on May 22 but children can sign up any time during the summer.

Teens and adults are also encouraged to read during the summer and have special prizes waiting for them.

The second part of the Summer Reading Program is the special story time programs. Children do not need to sign up for these events- they just need

to come to the library to participate.

There are wonderful local volunteers that will present special programs and also programs presented by the Rolling Hills Wildlife Adventure, Kevin Manning, an Astrophysicist who will tell about the stars and space, and Randy Sauer, a musician who promotes reading through entertaining songs.

The first special story time for the summer will be on Thursday. Thursdays are very busy at the Library. At 10:30 a.m., story time is for children preschool through first grade. At 2 p.m., story time is for children second through sixth grades. At 7:30 p.m. there is Fun Night for teens Junior High through 12th grade.

Schedules for the summer ac-

tivities and the reading requirements are available online at nortonpubliclibrary.com or at the Library. Everyone is encouraged to be a part of the Dream Big- Read Summer Reading Program.

Norton student earns Eagle Scout designation

Christopher Scott Richard of Norton has earned the highest advancement award the Boy Scouts of America offers to Scouts, the Eagle Scout Award.

He will be recognized in ceremonies on Saturday, May 26 at 2 p.m. at The First Church of God in Norton. The public is invited to attend.

A member of United Methodist Church, Troop 181, Chris is one of approximately 4 percent of all Boy Scouts who attain the Eagle rank, according to Norton Unit Commissioner Kevin Baughman.

Each candidate must earn 21 merit badges and successfully complete a community, church or synagogue-related service project to earn his Eagle. This chose to construct five wheelchair accessible picnic tables to be placed at picnic shelters around Norton. He expanded on his project to install sidewalks at three of those picnic shelters.

He has held several offices in his troop including patrol leader, senior patrol leader, historian

and currently he is quartermaster. Chris has also earned his God and Church Award.

This young man also joins other outstanding American citizens who have become Eagle Scouts, among them former President Gerald R. Ford, Jr., astronauts Neil A. Armstrong and Jim Lovell, cinematographer Steven Spielberg and the head of the F.B.I., William Sessions.

Chris is a member of The First Church of God and is a member of KAYs at Norton Community High School, where he is a sophomore. He is also active in the youth group and worship team at the First Church of God in Norton. Chris also is a member of The Nebraska Sled Hockey Team in Kearney, Neb.

He is the son of Floyd and Kathy Richard of Norton and the grandson of Edna Colson and the late Leamon Colson of Rexford and the late Alfred and Jane Richard of Densmore.

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