

STUDENT NEWS

Norton Community High School Student of the Month December



Student: Rachel Slipke
 Parents: Bonita and Raymond Slipke
 Grade: Senior
 Nominating Staff Member: Mrs. Nancy Sebelius and Mr. Jim Green
 Comment from nominating Staff Member:
 "Rachel works hard to understand the material and work the problems in Physics." Mr. Jim Green
 "Although Rachel is quiet and shy, she has a ready smile, and is uber-conscientious about getting all her work turned in on time. She always participates willingly in activities we have in class. She was so active in the play, and I suspect does a great deal of

work behind the scenes, that many people do not see, such as writing the Turkey Skit." Mrs. Nancy Sebelius
 Factoids about Rachel
 Favorite Class : Yearbook
 Favorite Drink : Green Tea
 Favorite Color : Purple
 Favorite Food : Mexican
 Favorite Movie : Bridesmaids
 Favorite Saying : none
 Favorite Song : The A Team by Ed Sheeran
 Favorite Hangout: The movie theatre.
 Personal Hero : Jackie Kennedy
 Future Plans : Attend the University of Kansas to study Business Management



Student: Austin Duscher
 Parents: Joel and Lori Duscher
 Grade: Senior
 Nominating Staff Member: Mrs. Heather Dubois
 Comments from nominating staff member:
 "He demonstrates respect for other students by always listening to what others say. He frequently will wait to share his thoughts until everyone else has spoken, and his opinion invariably provides a new perspective without injuring the feelings of

those who spoke before him." Mrs. Heather Dubois
 Factoids about Austin
 Favorite Class : Calculus
 Favorite Drink : Root Beer
 Favorite Color : Blue
 Favorite Food : Pizza
 Favorite Movie : Fight Club
 Favorite Saying : "The cake is a lie."
 Favorite Song : Viva la Vida Loca
 Favorite Hang out : My house.
 Personal Hero : Ben Franklin
 Future Plans : Go to college.

Agency makes program updates

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency (FSA) reminds producers that the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 extended the authorization of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (the 2008 Farm Bill) for many Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) commodity, disaster, and conservation programs through 2013. FSA administers these programs.

The extended programs include, among others: the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payment Program (DCP), the Average Crop Revenue Election Program (ACRE), and the Milk Income Loss Contract Program (MILC). FSA is preparing the following actions:

FSA began sign-ups for DCP and ACRE for the 2013 crops on Feb. 19, 2013. The DCP sign-up period will end on Aug. 2, 2013; the ACRE sign-up period will end on June 3, 2013.

The 2013 DCP and ACRE program provisions

are unchanged from 2012, except that all eligible participants in 2013 may choose to enroll in either DCP or ACRE for the 2013 crop year. This means that eligible producers who were enrolled in ACRE in 2012 may elect to enroll in DCP in 2013 or may re-enroll in ACRE in 2013 (and vice versa).

All dairy producers' MILC contracts are automatically extended to Sept. 30, 2013. Eligible producers therefore do not need to re-enroll in MILC. Specific details regarding certain modifications to MILC will be released soon.

FSA will provide producers with information on program requirements, updates and signups as the information becomes available. Any additional details will be posted on FSA's website.

For more information about the programs and loans administered by FSA, visit any FSA county office or www.fsa.usda.gov.

Forests add value to Kansas economy

It may surprise many that a state forestry agency has served Kansans for more than 125 years, or that there are 5.2 million acres of forestland, agro-forests and trees in the state that provide important environmental benefits.

"However, it is probably the economic benefits of the forest industry that are most often overlooked by Kansans," according to Bob Atchison, rural forestry coordinator with the Kansas Forest Service.

A recent analysis by Tom Treiman, natural resource economist with the Missouri Department of Conservation, showed that the Kansas forest products industry contributed \$1.5 billion

annually to the state's economy.

The industry supports more than 6,700 jobs at a payroll of about \$360 million and is responsible for more than \$43 million in taxes that help to run our state and country and another \$69 million in federal taxes.

"These numbers include not only the direct effect of jobs in the primary wood processing industry, such as logging and sawmill operations, but also the indirect and 'induced' effects in the secondary wood products industry, such as cabinet shops, pallet manufacturing and so on," Atchison said. "This is especially true since loggers, saw mill operators, and carpenters, after all, buy groceries and gas

just like the rest of us."

Sources of Treiman's data come from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Minnesota IMPLAN Group and the Kansas Forest Service at Kansas State University.

"And that \$1.5 billion doesn't even include the value of a day spent walking in Kansas's woods with your family trying to spot a migrating warbler or next season's big buck," Atchison said.

More information is available at the Kansas Forest Service website at www.kansasforests.org.

Forensics team enjoys February success

The Norton Community High School forensics teams continued their successful season throughout the month of February. On Feb. 7, the team traveled to Osborne. The team performed outstandingly that day, bringing home first place out of eleven teams.

Placing individually for the NCHS team were: Leif Carlson/Cody O'Hare - 1st Place Duet: New State Qualifier; Shauna Gibson - 1st Place Serious Solo: New State Qualifier; Neysa Carlson - 1st Place Humorous Solo: State Qualifier; Zach Combs - 2nd Place Oration: New State Qualifier; Skylar Davis - 2nd Place Prose: New State Qualifier; Neysa Carlson - 2nd Place Poetry: New State Qualifier; Audrie Burge - 2nd Place Serious Solo: New State Qualifier;

Rachel Koerperich - 2nd Place Humorous Solo: New State Qualifier; Lauren Mordecai/Shelby Mulford - 2nd Place Duet: New State Qualifier;

Shelby Mulford - 2nd Place Extemporaneous: New State Qualifier; Christian Boser - 3rd Place: Prose: New State Qualifier; Cody O'Hare - 3rd Place: Informative; Molly Scott - 3rd Place: Oration; Lauren Mordecai - 3rd Place: Extemporaneous; Audrie Burge: 3rd Place: Poetry; Sami Gordon - 4th Place: Informative; Bri Karnopp/Jordyn Gosselin - 5th Place: Improvised Duet Acting

Kyle Bell - 5th Place: Extemporaneous; Kristen Burge - 6th Place: Prose; Morgan Farber - 6th Place: Poetry

On Feb. 16, the team traveled to Colby High

School. The team placed first out of 14 teams.

Placing individually for the team were: Kristen Burge - 1st Place Poetry: New State Qualifier; Jared Shelton - 1st Place Prose: State Qualifier; Steve Cummings - 1st Place Humorous Solo: State Qualifier; Shelby Mulford/Lauren Mordecai - 1st Place Duet: State Qualifier; Jade Braun - 2nd Place Prose: New State Qualifier; Julia Kent/Ashley Hildebrand - 2nd Place Duet: State Qualifier; Wyatt Wentz - 2nd Place Extemporaneous Speaking: State Qualifier; Jared Shelton - 2nd Place Serious Solo: State Qualifier; Skylar Davis - 3rd Place Humorous Solo; Ashley Hildebrand/Skylar Davis - 3rd Place Improvised Duet Acting; Raenee Patterson - 3rd Place Informative; Zach Combs - 4th Place Oration; Shauna Gibson - 4th Place Serious Solo; Rachel Koerperich - 4th Place Humorous Solo; Shauna Gibson - 5th Place Poetry; Noah Johnson - 5th Place Informative; Lauren Mordecai - 5th Place Extemporaneous Speaking; Briannah Fessler - 5th Place Oration; Zach Combs - 6th Place Poetry; Kristen Burge - 6th Place Prose; Adam Baughman/Audrey Morel - 6th Place Duet; Julia Kent - 7th Place Poetry.

The next tournament for the NCHS forensics team will be March 2 in Ellis. On Monday, March 4, the NCHS forensics team will be hosting and competing in the MCL forensics tournament. The first round of the tournament will begin at 1:45 p.m. at the high school. Please come support the NCHS forensics team!

COLLEGE NOTES

April Bashford, Norton, an elementary education (early childhood) major, has been named to Fort Hays State University's Deans Honor Roll for the fall 2012 semester.

The roll includes only full-time (12 credit hours or more) undergraduate students who have at least a 3.60 grade-point average for the semester.



FHSU Kansas Small Business Development Center in partnership with Norton City/County Economic Development is offering the following FREE workshops:

•Customer Service
Thursday, March 7, 3:00-4:00 p.m.
 Come see how you can stand out among the rest of your communities businesses. Learn the benefits of good customer service and the consequences of one bad customer experience. Also, get a chance to test your customer service skill level. Put yourself and your business to the test!

•Cash Flow Made Easy
Thursday, March 7, 4:00-6:00 p.m.
 This workshop is designed to get you back to the basics. One of the keys to success is understanding what cash flow is and how to manage it. Every industry has different cash flow factors, but these basics will help you master money management in any venture! Setting profit and cash flow goals, improving your skills in management planning, setting a bottom-line target and more will be covered in this session.

All classes will be held at the Colby Community College Norton Campus, at 711 N. Norton, Norton, KS. Pre-registration is required! Register online at: <http://ksbdc.eccenterdirect.com/Conferences.action>. In the 'Center' box select FHSU KSBDC Bird City Outreach Center, then click on Search, Sign Up and enter your registration information. For questions or additional information about these classes contact: Megan Horinek (785) 734-2592 mlhorinek3@fhsu.edu

Huskies Forensics team competes in Colby

Saturday, February 16 the Forensics' team headed out at 6 a.m. for Colby in a hijacked suburban. Due to my inability to read the weekly calendar properly, I unknowingly took one of the vehicles that was meant to go to Grand Island with Becky and the dance team. Needless to say, I had guilt for the rest of the day. I am thankful for her ability to adapt to my error. Again, my apologies, girls.

Those students getting up at such an early hour for our journey were: Camden Cox, Eli Lowry, Makayla Smith, Macy Kasson, Alex Tharman, Lance Armbrister, and Kortney Cunningham. Emily Lowry was

kind enough to go along and be a sponsor and judge for the team.

Each week we travel to different tournaments and compete against many of the same students, as well as new students. The kids from rural Kansas schools are involved in so many different activities, there is no consistency to who will be at each contest. That means that the kids need to be at the "top of their game" each week. The participants fine tune and perfect their scripts each time they

perform.

Those students making it to the final round and their placings were: Macy Kasson - Humorous Solo Acting (6th place) and Alex Tharman - Original Oration (2nd place). Alex is now qualified to compete in the State competition in May. With the team's wonderful performances throughout the day, we finished in 7th place out of fourteen teams. Way to go!!! Our next meet was in Hays on Saturday, Feb. 23. Until next time... Stick to the script.

Roundup to be held March 4

Eisenhower Elementary School will be holding its annual Kindergarten Roundup on Monday, March 4, at 5 p.m. The meeting will be in the school cafeteria, with Mr. Roy, the kindergarten teachers and the school nurse. This meeting will last approximately 30 to 40 minutes. At this meeting we will discuss what is required for school attendance. Students must have turned five years old on or before Aug. 31 to be eligible for Kindergarten. This meeting is for parents only. Students will have the opportunity to visit the school later this Spring during the Kindergarten screen and at Kamp Kindergarten. If there are any questions, please contact the school at 877-5113.

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Friday, March 1	9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Saturday, March 2	9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Sunday, March 3	1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

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Pictured: Chad Miller, CRNA (left), and Brian Smith, CRNA

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