



No need for an eye checkup. The spots you're seeing are all part of Samantha Cook's collection of Dalmatians, (top left) in all shapes and sizes. Fans (top right) are a favorite of June Prout. The collection ranges from a happy face fan to delicate, hand-carved oriental silk fans. Rodeo belt buckles (bottom right) are special to Gene Wiltfong. They are practical as well as sentimental. Scratchboard art (bottom left) is unique style that Mary Sedlmayer, Norcat, has mastered. Her collection on display in the art section includes wolves, a tiger, a swan and horses. — Telegram photos by Carolyn Plotts

Almena student spells like a champ

He did it in 2004 and he did it again in 2005.

Eighth grader Stanton Nelson captured Northern Valley's top spelling spot for the second year in a row.

Thirty contestants participated in the annual spelling bee held on Wednesday at the Long Island Middle School gymnasium.

Six spellers from each class fourth through eighth grades were represented. But in the end, it came down to a battle between two eighth graders.

The students had a chance to spell 170 words, including "hallucination", "melancholy", "patriarch", and "repertoire".

Stanton was declared school spelling champion, when eighth grader Hannah Hawks misspelled "petroglyph" and he spelled it correctly plus the next word, "sciatica."

Miss Hawks was awarded second place, while seventh grader Amber Sheley grabbed third, missing "hassock" in the tenth round.

Eighth grader Travis Redeker placed fourth after erring on "massacre". Seventh graders Alison Cole and Miriah Florence were

next, missing "venison" and "rhubarb", respectively.

Among the top 15 were fifth grader, Daniel Field, who went out on "hypnosis", fourth grader Erika Chandler who erred on "marathon", and fifth grader Tyler Montgomery, who was tripped up on "hyphen".

Others participating included: Cody Callaway, Taylor Hammond, Brittney Braun, Landon Schneider, Christina Anderson, Jordan Herman, Matt Dole, Dusty Eagleburger, Gunnar Hays, Kynzie Stevens, Ashley Constable, Regan Simpson, Chelsi McReynolds, Olivia Lowry, Christopher Pinzenscham, Kenzie Chandler, Zachary Vincent, Dillon Hogan, Patience Coffman, Staci Dole and Alex Tharman.

Helping to judge this year's contest were: teachers Jim Springer and Staci Montgomery and eighth graders Chaim McMillin and Eric Woodside.

The top three junior high and elementary school spellers qualified to advance to the Norton County Spelling Bee on Tuesday, Feb. 15, at Norton's East Campus, beginning at 4 p.m.

Norton library has lots of things to see

By LIZA DEINES

You may think you're seeing spots before your eyes on your next trip to Norton Public Library but don't be dismayed or distressed. It's only Samantha Cook's high, wide and handsome exhibit of Dalmatian dogs that fills the front display case for the next few months. The sleek spotted dogs appear in all manners from plushy stuffed animals to tiny key chains and knickknacks, figurines of all sizes, toys, books, barrettes and even Valentines. There may not be all 101 of them from the famous story, but the dogs arch enemy, Cruella DeVillie, has even found a spot in this extensive collection. You can't pet them but do come admire.

June Prout's beautiful collection of pleated Japanese fans is something we don't really utilize during a Kansas winter but they are a joy and a pleasure to behold just the same. The daintiest of carved ivory, the most fragile of rice paper, and elegant shades of fragile silk are formed into fans both large and small. Some are so tiny only a child's hands could hold them, others could be used very efficiently at concerts or worship services where air conditioning doesn't exist. The intricate designs inspire a second look, especially the fan with a toreador theme in red and black. Gold lace, bamboo, and sandalwood trim many Victorian floral fans, yet many are simply crisp Oriental paper in blues, reds,

yellow or pinks with no design at all. Come summer we'll be calling June to borrow some of her pretty wind machines.

Everyone in Norton waves at Gene Wiltfong when he's in a parade on his horse garbed in one of his fancy embroidered shirts and Western pants outfits. For awhile, however, we might be a bit worried about how he's holding up those pants because his extensive collection of rodeo belt buckles is in the center display case at Norton Public Library. Gene is sharing a group of Cheyenne Frontier Days brass belt buckles that have been produced by the Hesston Company. The Cheyenne extravaganza advertises themselves as "The Daddy of Them All" when it comes to rodeos and they certainly do have some beautifully designed buckles to prove their worth. A Will Rogers centennial buckle is also on display and all the buckles are nicely mounted. And if you'll come by, Gene, we'll loan you some good library tape to hold those britches up just in case there's a parade on the schedule.

More black and white graces the art display this month. Mary Sedlmayer of Norcat, has hung an exhibit of scratch board art for

us to examine. Scratch board involves inked boards upon which pressure techniques are exerted with a variety of tools to create a cut in design. This is an enduring medium that comes and goes and lends itself extremely well to wild life representations. Mrs. Sedlmayer has excellent depictions of fur, feathers, and shadings on coyotes, birds, and small animals. Background landscapes are also beautifully delineated in her pictures.

A chilly Saturday afternoon would be a good time to bring the children to Norton Public Library to see these exhibits and to check out some books, videos or VCRs for a cozy evening at home. New magazines and newspapers are on the tables and you're always welcome in the reading room.

Post office fights fraud

Feb. 6-12 is National Consumer Protection Week and the local United States Post Office joins a host of federal, state and other local agencies to fight fraud and educate consumers on ways to avoid becoming victims of fraud.

The Postal Service theme for 2005 is "Work At Home Scams. They Just Don't Pay." The slogan is intended to send a warning that the lure of big profits or easy money can be the first step to a costly encounter with work-at-home fraud.

There are over four million

people in the United States who, legitimately, work at home and the numbers are increasing. However, scams offering "big financial rewards" are increasing too.

The Post Office encourages consumers to check out the offers with caution. A single call to the Better Business Bureau may be all it takes to avoid a costly mistake.

Theatre to host Super Bowl party

Saturday is the last day to make reservations for Sunday's super, Super Bowl Party at the Norton Theatre.

The party, which is set to start at 3 p.m., will have the Super Bowl playing in the east theater, while Racing Stripes and White Noise will show in the west theater. There will be free food, drinks and a whole lot of games and prizes.

To make reservations, call the theater's manager, Kim Wicker, at 877-2075 or 877-2276.

Public Training on How to Access SRS Services set for February 15, 2005 in Norton County Where SRS Office is Scheduled to Close

NORTON, KANSAS — Public training is scheduled at the Senior Center, 208 W. Main, Norton, Kansas, on Tuesday, February 15, 2005, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. to explain how to access SRS services. The Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services (SRS) will close the Norton SRS Office on February 25, 2005.

Regional SRS staff worked with community partners in Norton County to establish "access

points" for SRS information and services. Partners agreed to help their community access SRS services by offering space for meetings and interviews; providing access to fax, photocopy, telephone, and computer services. Some will display posters, SRS applications, and other information. Not all services are available at all access points. The following partners agreed to help their community access SRS services:

- NORTON: Senior Center, 208 W. Main
- Norton County Courthouse, 105 S. Kansas
- Norton City Office, 301 E. Washington
- LENORA: Lenora Grade School, 325 S. Chapman
- ALMENA: Almena Senior Center, 508 Main

In addition to setting up access points, SRS implemented a toll-free telephone number so people can reach SRS without long-distance charges. Calls will be answered by staff in the SRS Regional Service Center. The toll-free number is 1-888-369-4777. Also, an internet-based self-assessment tool and application is available at www.srskansas.org. The list of Access Points is also available at www.srskansas.org; click on the Locations button on the left side of the page, then on the county for which you desire information.

In the last few years, federal requirements to

receive services have been adjusted. Regular and frequent face-to-face interviews at a local SRS office are not required by regulation in most situations. Child and adult protective services are provided in the homes, making it generally unnecessary to visit an SRS office.

It is important for people to know social services are still available to them. People can call the toll-free number to talk with SRS staff, or they can visit one of the many access points for information about SRS services. Each current SRS customer will receive instructions for accessing SRS staff and services.



WE'RE READY FOR THE BIG GAME
Let Us Make Your Party Simple!

Deli Trays

- Meat & Cheese
- Veggie

Plus All You Need To Go With It!

Keystone Lt (30-Pack) \$14.99

Norton Shop and Save
313 West Main, Norton — 877-2422

Football Fans

Don't Forget the Refreshments for the Big Game!

• **LOTTERY TICKETS AVAILABLE HERE!** •

Buy any Powerball ticket with Power Play and get an entry to win a 2005 GMC Sierra Denali pickup. Ask me for details! You can't win if you don't play!

J & R Liquor 112 N. First, Norton
877-2585

22nd Annual

Sweetheart Dance

Saturday, February 12, 2005

9:00 p.m. - Midnight — New Almelo Gym

\$3.00 Donation at the Door — BYOB

Cash Prizes: 1st-\$75.00; 2nd-\$50.00; 3rd-\$25

SPONSORED BY
LENORA FIRE DEPARTMENT

Trinity Episcopal Church

Shrove Tuesday

Pancake Supper

Public Invited

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8

5:00 to 7:00 P.M.

Adults: \$4.00 — Children: \$2.50

Come and share this community tradition with the congregation of Trinity