

Fashion review director, Jamie Wentz, right, checks the order as she lines up models for the Saturday night show. Waiting their turn are Megan Wentz, left, and Carissa Wentz.

4-H'ers 'stitch' up a fashionable 'revue'

Fashion Revue held Saturday Building. Show director was Jamie Wentz, assisted by Mary Wentz, Mary Vanover and narrators Regina Stark and Beverly Kindler.

Norton County 4-H Clothing members who modeled clothing they had made were: Teslee Nickell, Wyatt and Bryndon Wentz, Quentin Wentz, Jade Cressler, David Cressler, Rebecca Wentz, Sady Keilig, Kaitlyn Bohl, Carissa Wentz, Megan Wentz and Katrina Wentz. Purpe ribbon winners were Katrina Wentz, Carissa Cressler, Rebecca Wentz and Nickell.

theme of the 2006 4-H Public pion and Jade Cressler, Reserve Olivia Lowry, Johnnye Ruder, Champion; Senior Division, Kat- Teslee Nickel, Stephanie Hager,

Lauren Mordecai, Skylar Deidre Kramer, Megan Wentz, Johnson, Skylar Davis, Christo- Carissa Wentz, pher Maddy, Emily Juenemann, Juenemann, Alison Cole, Megan Cressler, Kynzie Stevens, Katrina Wentz. Johnnye Ruder, Stephanie Hager, Jade Braun, Deidre Kramer, Quentin Wentz won Grand Cham-Kelsie Griffith, Quentin Wentz, pion and Wyatt Wentz was Re-Clay Vanover, Molly Maddy, serve Champion: Intermediate Dalton Vanover, Megan Wentz, Boys, both ribbons went to Chris-Clay Vanover, Alison Cole, Wyatt topher Maddy; Junior Girls Grand Wentz, Travis Cressler, Megan Champion was Johnnye Ruder Cole, Dana Hillebrand, Carissa and Reserve Champion went to Wentz, Megan Wentz, Jade Bohl, Jade Cressler, and Teslee Girls Grand Champion was

In the Junior Division, Kaitlyn Wyatt Wentz, Quentin Wentz, pion: in the Senior Girls Division, Bohl was Grand Champion and Skylar Johnson, Clay Vanover, Megan Cole was named Grand Rebecca Wentz, Reserve Cham- Dalton Vanover, Christopher Champion with Katrina Wentz pion; Intermediate Division, Maddy, Lauren Mordecai, taking Reserve Champion honors.

"A Stitch In Time" was the Carissa Wentz was Grand Cham- Rebecca Wentz, Molly Maddy, evening at the Norton County 4-H rina Wentz was Grand Champion. Kynzie Stevens, Jade Cressler, Buymanship participants were: Kaitlyn Bohl, Kelsie Griffith, Jade Braun, Olivia Lowry, David Cole, Dana Hillebrand and

In the Junior Boys Division, Wentz, Katrina Wentz, Kaitlyn Lauren Mordecai; Intermediate Carissa Wentz with Deidre Purple ribbon winners were: Kramer taking Reserve ChamFire leaves downtown area a smoldering ruin

(Continued from Page 1) two businesses.

Even with the efforts of dozens of firemen working together, U.S. 36 Collectables at State and Main, and the Norton Archery Club just east on Main couldn't be saved. The volunteer firemen did manage to save Pure Prairie Natural Foods and kept the fire from spreading to other downtown buildings.

The call came in at 3:51 p.m. when John McClymont spotted smoke and fire.

Flames could be seen shooting up from the roof of the archery club, which was sandwiched in between the taller, two-story buildings of Pure Prairie and U.S. Collectables.

same time trying to keep enough water on Pure Prairie to the east and U.S. 36 Collectables to the west so they didn't catch fire.

Pure Prairie got lucky, but U.S. 36 Collectables didn't. Soon smoke could be seen seeping through the bricks on the outer wall and the roof.

Power was turned off for several blocks surrounding the fire and police evacuated many

A large part of downtown was closed to traffic while firefighters fought the blaze, but that didn't stop onlookers from gathering at a safe distance to watch as flames engulfed the archery club and collapsed U.S. 36 Collectables onto State and Main. Crews managed to clear the rubble from State Street later in the evening, opening it and most of the rest of downtown to traffic. The block of Washington Street in front of the demolished buildings was still closed.

one was hurt, he said, and that is cause for relief.

At first, it seemed there wasn't enough water pressure to even control the flames. But it

wasn't a problem with the city's hydrants, the chief said, it was just too many trucks hooked up in the same area.

"Big fires take big water," he said. "We're talking 1,500 to 3,000 gallons a minute here."

To give an idea of how much water was needed, Chief Jones said, it would take 250 gallons a minute to control, not put out, a bedroom fire.

He said the rubble was going to inside," Mrs. Griffith said. smoke for a while and firemen were left to watch it overnight, making sure it wouldn't start up

The windows of several businesses across the street from the fire, including those of Whitefields Coffee House, Decor and More, and Ryan, Walter and Firefighters fought the blaze McClymont, cracked because of at the archery club, while at the heat. Paint bubbled and awnings were charred, as well as a couple of trees.

Norton County Ambulance Director Ruth Schillig said an ambulance crew stood by, but there were no injuries and none of the firemen suffered from heat exhaustion.

"We just tried to keep everyone hydrated," she said.

Dozens of volunteers, wives of firemen and emergency service workers kept the firemen cool with drinks and ice packs. The Red Cross set up a relief station near the scene.

"The Phillips County EMS (emergency medical service) came over to cover our calls while we were down here," Schillig said. "That helped out a lot."

City and county employees and other volunteers helped handle the hoses and other equipment. Members of the Norton Police Department, Norton County Sheriff's Department and the Kansas Department of Transportation directed traffic. The Lenora, Almena, Logan,

The cause of the enormous Oberlin Rural, Norcatur, blaze is unknown, said Norton Jennings, Phillips County, Fire Chief Mitch Jones. But no Phillipsburg, Sheridan County and Department of Corrections fire departments all answered the call for help, sending at least nine fire trucks and around 50 men.

Many business owners were another.

grateful and relieved when the fire was over, while others tried to deal with the shock of loss.

Kirk and Renee Griffith, owners of Whitefields, west across State from the fire, said their shop suffered cracked windows, bubbling paint and a warped door. Their plastic "open" sign melted, they said, but that was the only thing ruined.

"There wasn't a hint of smoke

Gary Dole, whose wife owns Decor and More, which is to the north of Whitefields, said the store was closed Monday and he hadn't been in the building yet to see if there was any smoke

Jim Rowh, owner of Pure Prairie, said no matter which way it went for his building, he was OK with it.

"It's all in God's hands," he

From the moment he was evacuated, Mr. Rowh could be seen praying for the protection of his store, the other stores and for the people fighting the fire.

"I want to thank all the police, fire departments, emergency personnel ... and everyone who was involved in saving that building," he said. "They did a tremendous job." Randy West, president of the

archery club, said he had been in the building around 3:30 p.m. to check on the volunteer schedule for the club's booth at the county "Everything was in order," he

said. "I didn't smell smoke, or hear or see anything unusual. I sure wish I had, though. Maybe I could have prevented this Kay Snodgrass said she lost

an antique spinning wheel that was on display at U.S. 36 Collectables and some tatting. But, she said, nothing that was worth anyone's life.

"The landscape of downtown Norton has been changed forever," said one bystander.

"It's just heartbreaking," said

Northern Valley USD 212 School Board of Education met in special session on June 27 at the Almena School in Almena.

Members present were Gale Hays, President; Drake Gebhard, Vice President; Doyle Baird, Glenn Brands, Blaine Marble, Harlan Ponstein, Alan Woodside, Bill Lowry, Supt., and Barb Nelson, Clerk.

Call to Order: President Hays called the meeting to order at 8:30 p.m. with six members present.

Adoption of Agenda: Mr. Ponstein moved and Mr. Marble seconded a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Motion car-

<u>Hearing of Visitors:</u> Robbie Griffiths, Glenda Smith, Julie Thompson, Michael Thompson and Doug Zillinger were welcomed. Robbie said she had attended a Math Academy at Fort Hays. Glenda said she will be taking an ITV class and Julie will be going to a math workshop.

Approval of Minutes: Mr. Baird moved and Mr. Marble seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the June 12, 2006 board meeting. Motion carried 6-0.

Alan Woodside arrived at 8:35

Approval of Bills: Mr. Marble moved and Mr. Ponstein seconded a motion to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried 7-0. Mr. Ponstein moved and Mr. Marble seconded a motion to approve paying Sargent Irrigation for drilling Fund. Motion carried 7-0.

the new well from Contingency Classified Contracts: At 9:40 p.m. Mr. Gebhard moved and Mr. Marble seconded a motion to go

into executive session for the pur-

pose of discussing personnel matters for non-elected personnel; and that the board return to open meeting in ten minutes in the same location. Motion carried 7-0. Mr. Lowry remained in the room for the executive session. The executive session is required to protect the privacy interests of an identifiable individual. At 9:50 p.m. Mr. Woodside moved and Mr. Ponstein seconded a motion that the board return to open meeting. Motion carried 7-0. Mr. Woodside moved and Mr.

Marble seconded a motion to table any decision regarding classified salaries until a later meeting. Motion carried 7-0.

Administrative Contracts: Mr. Gebhard moved and Mr. Marble seconded a motion to table any decision regarding administrative salaries until a later meeting. Motion carried 7-0. End of Year Transfers, Pur-

chases and Financial Reports: Mr. Woodside moved and Mr. Marble seconded a motion to approve Petty Cash Report. Motion carried

Mr. Ponstein moved and Mr. Marble seconded a motion to approve the Activity Funds Reports. Motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Marble moved and Mr. Ponstein seconded a motion to approve the Invested Funds Report. Motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Woodside moved and Mr. Ponstein seconded a motion to approve end of year transfers presented and to allow the superintendent to transfer any unused budget.

Motion carried 7-0. July Meeting: Mr. Gebhard moved and Mr. Baird seconded a motion to set the July meeting for July 17 at 8 p.m. Motion carried

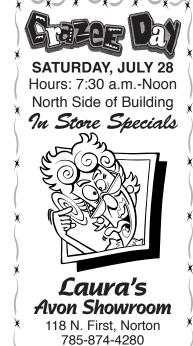
Open Positions: No action was

Negotiations: There was no discussion and no action.

Adjournment: At 9:10 p.m. Mr. Brands moved and Mr. Marble seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion carried 7-0.

Barb Nelson, Clerk These minutes are not official until approved at a subsequent meeting of the board.

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