

Last year was another record year for tornadoes and we've already had an active beginning this season. Numerous severe thunderstorms caused millions of dollars in damage to property and crops by producing damaging winds, large hail and torrential rainfall.

Even though March is the time that is set aside to prepare for severe weather, preparations should continue into April to increase feelings of security. Families should practice their severe weather safety plan at home, work, school or other public locations that they frequent. They should develop a safety plan for times when they are participating

**Home ed
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in outdoor recreation activities, sporting events, or working outdoors. Each Kansan should know where to go should severe weather strike their location.

Having an All Hazards NOAA Weather Radio is like having a personal tornado siren in your home or vehicle. Every family should consider purchasing a

weather radio and programming it to their county and/or surrounding counties to receive severe warnings and information from the National Weather Service. Now is a great time to replace the back up battery in your NOAA All Hazards Weather Radio so that you get severe weather information if the power goes out.

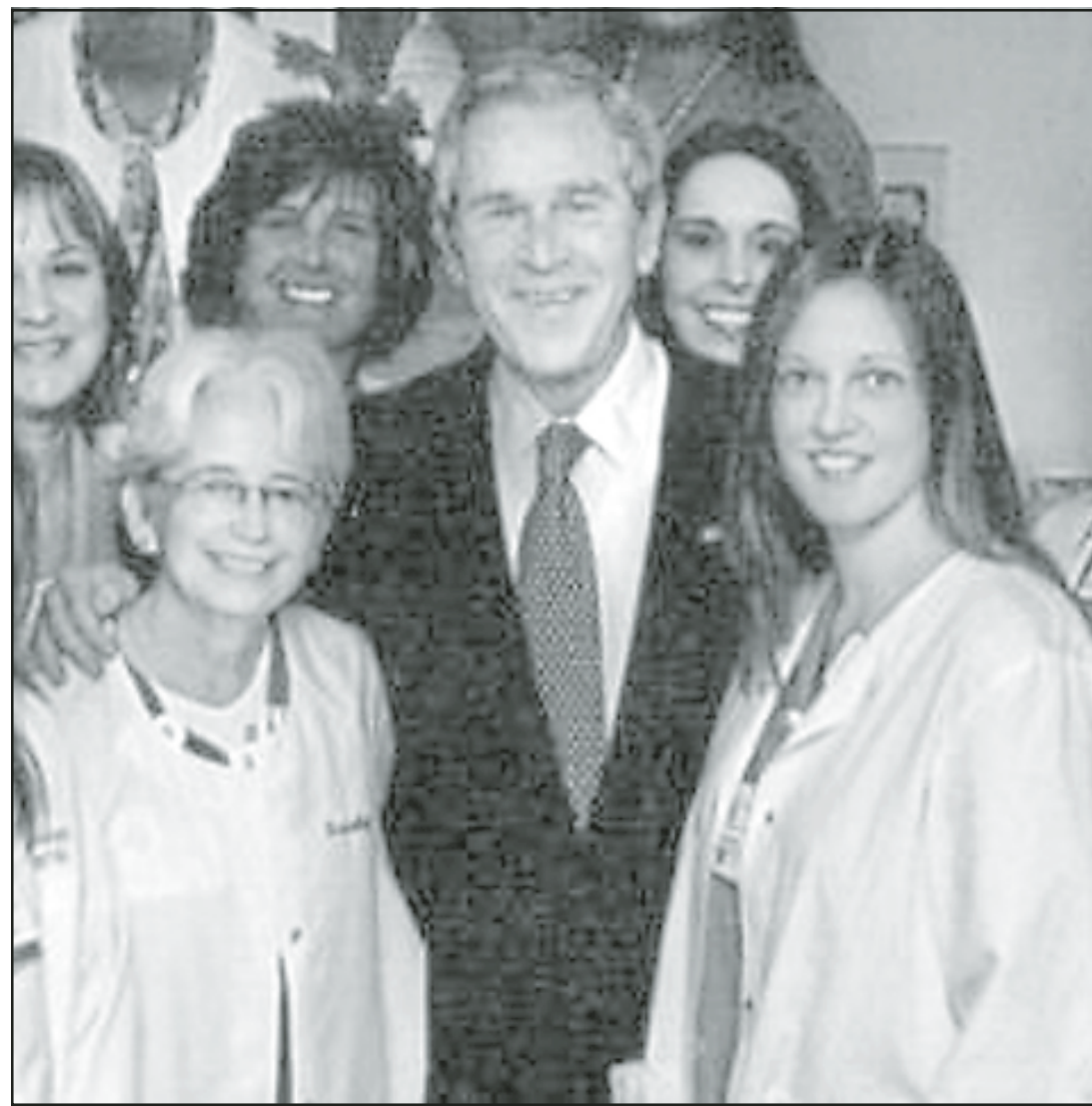
Now for some interesting Kansas Tornado Facts from 2006:

- Tornadoes: 92
- Deaths: Zero
- Injuries: 18
- Longest Track: 17.0 miles (Washington County - April 6)
- Strongest: F2 (March 30, April 1, and April 6)
- Most in a county: 10 (Ford County, October 26)
- Days of occurrence: 22
- Most in one day: 28 (October 26)
- Most in one month: 28
- Record Months: January (3) and October (28)
- First tornado of the year: January 28 (Harvey county, 3:17 pm CST)
- Last touchdown of the year: October 26 (Comanche County, 5:44 pm CDT)

For further safety information, contact your local K-State Research and Extension Office.

Tranda Watts is Kansas State University extension specialist in food, nutrition, health and safety for Norton, Decatur, Gove, Sheridan, and Trego counties. Call her at 785-443-3663 or e-mail twatts@oznet.ksu.edu. For more information, contact the county extension office, 877-5755.

A visit with the Prez...



In January, St. Luke's East Hospital, Lee's Summit, Mo., won the prestigious Baldrige Award for technology advancement. President Bush stopped to congratulate the staff and pose for a group photo. Standing directly to the right of the President is Amanda Bockes, formerly of Norton. Mrs. Bockes is the daughter of Steve and Janet Mathes.

— Photo courtesy of Janet Mathes

JENNINGS NEWS

By LOUISE CRESSLER

Claudine Bennett is in the Oberlin hospital. She has been living at Cedar Living Center since returning home from Arizona.

Merle Snyder, "Mom's Lil' Market" is closed for an indefinite time. Merle went to be with her daughter, Kim, who is ill. If there's something you want from the store, contact Bob Jones or Tara Lahr.

Approximately 30 people attended Easter breakfast at the United Methodist Church Sunday. A larger crowd attended church.

The Carter families held their Easter dinner at the Sunflower Senior Center.

United Methodist Women met April 4 with nine members and two guests present. Jane Lafferty-Cooper, District Connecting Link, gave an interesting talk on Holy Week. Ruth Chance gave devotions. Rachel Carter was hostess.

Norton Correctional Facility men will work in Jennings April 12 and 13, weather permitting.

Jennings City Council met April 5 in the Senior Center. Present were council members: Stann Hartzog, Rick Foster, Don Bolt and Louise Cressler; Mayor Bob Jones; City Clerk, Sue Long and

guests, Charlotte and Bill Nelson and Stan and Ramona Shaw. The Nelsons and Shaws came to express their concerns about the township road running in front of their houses, which are in the city limits. The county maintains the road. The council spoke with Tim Stallman and township board member Kenneth Krizek. All parties will work together to get something done with the road. An up-date on the backup well to be drilled near the site of well No. 3 was given. Woofter Drilling of Hoxie will drill the well. The landfill has again been burned. Many tree limbs have been hauled. Council has not yet received an estimate from Meyer Electric on the rewiring of the Community Hall and the City Shop. The City will have the County spray empty sewer pits for all weeds. Other things on the agenda were: Reviewed Emergency Water Supply Plan; Emergency Shelter Information; Economic Development information; Beer License for Mom's Lil' Market and Broken Wheel and the Senior Organization Agreement. The next water meter reading date will be April 21.

ALMENA NEWS

By ESTHER MARBLE

Donna Leuszler moved from Cortez, Colo., to Almena. Her brother, Jay, flew from Tampa, Fla., to help her with the move. Sunday, Jay and Donna visited their aunt, Joyce Eckhart, in Logan. Mrs. Eckhart's daughters, Sue Jackson and Cynthia

Aubushon, went with Donna and Jay to the Hays Airport for Jay's return to Tampa.

Bill Godfrey visited Esther Marble Friday evening on his way home from Norton.

This rain has sure been good for the flowers and the fruit trees that are in bloom.

BEAVER CITY

By JOY STALDER

Saturday evening Nona Clawson, Denver, Arlene Clawson, Barry and Karen Daffer of Holdrege, Pam Menagh, J. D. and Julie Daffer, Eric and Jenny Patterson and family, Norton, Donna and Scott Kentfield and Lawrence and Ruth Kentfield had supper together at the Brandin' Iron.

Arlyn and Dorothy Lambert went to Holdrege Saturday and brought Vera Lambert back to Beaver City to spend the month with them.

Clinton and Vivian Schluntz, Rick Schluntz and Arlyn and Freda Marble attended the wedding of Trisha Siebels and Jeret Hammond at Oxford Saturday evening.

Friday, Randy Stalder went to Erickson, Neb., to a benefit for Elle Bock, daughter of Kathryn and Shane Bock.

Helping Leo and Jerry Stalder celebrate their 53rd wedding anniversary Sunday at the Captain's Table in Kearney were: Randy and Penny Stalder, Gloria and Lynn Ridgway and Sean, Kendra and Pat Skinner, Dennis Gewecke, Travis Gewecke and Teresa McMillan, Brandon McMillan, Chase Gewecke, Steven Gewecke and his friend Megan, Derek Gewecke, Jessica Lang and Logan, Mark and Amy Bantam and family, Kathryn and Shane Bock and Elle.

Carol and Bob Lee visited Harold and Ethel Stagemeyer Saturday evening.

Wanda Morse and Kelsey Schwantz visited Harold and Ethel Stagemeyer Friday evening.

Sandy and Gary Martin visited Harold and Ethel Stagemeyer Sunday afternoon.

Steve Shafer was a Monday morning caller of the Stagemeyers.

Saturday Ruth Stalder went to Burwell, Neb., with Deb and Teresa Gregg, Kendra Bley and Jeremy to visit in the Stephen Gregg home. They helped Krista Gregg celebrate her third birthday.

Ruth Stalder visited Naomi Richard in Norton Friday and they had lunch together.

Ervin and Shirley Volgamore had dinner at Wilcox with Cletus and Karen Coffey to celebrate Shirley's birthday Sunday.

Ervin and Shirley Volgamore attended the elementary music program at Alma Friday evening. Their grandson, Troy Marvin, was a member of the group.

Helping Arvida Warner celebrate her birthday Friday evening were Jerry Warner, Jack and Nancy Becker and Joshua, Mike Minarik and JayCee Becker of Omaha, Janice Nelson Byrns of Maxwell, Hannah Nelson of Broomfield, Colo., Joni, Colton and Levi McCoy and Rachel Orr of Hastings.

Julie Harper and Vera Gleason went by bus to Lincoln to the Lied Center this week to see "All Shook Up".

Wilma Bates, Sharon Olson, Angie Woodring, Beth and LaCreta Fisher, Dee and Pam Lamb attended the Christian Ladies Retreat in Lexington March 30 and 31.

Birth

Todd and Sandy Ketterl, Oberlin, are the parents of a daughter, Makadyn Gayle. She was born at 6:34 a.m. on Wednesday, March 28, at the Decatur County Hospital in Oberlin. Makadyn weighed 6 pounds 12 oz. and was 18 inches long.

Grandparents are Roger and Barb Powell, Beaver City and Vernon and Kari Ketterl of Herndon. Great-grandparents are Jim and Jan Frey, Beaver City and Jolene Strutt of Moreland.

City-Wide Clean-Up

Spring Clean-up is a free service provided by the City of Norton

If residents take items to the landfill themselves, normal county fees will apply

City Trucks will make special trash pickup during these days. All items MUST be out at the curb by 8 a.m. on your regular route day.

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday, April 23, 24 and 25

NO ITEMS WILL BE PICKED UP IN THE ALLEY!

All types of trash will be picked up on your regular trash route day EXCEPT yard waste, tires, and household hazardous waste. Yard waste will be picked up on your regular yard waste route day. There will be a \$10.00 charge per item for appliances with Freon. Tree limbs must be cut no longer than 8 feet long. Yard waste must be in a solid container. Fireplace ash must be in plastic bags.

The maximum limit of items the City will pick up at each residence is one load of household items and 1 load of tree limbs. Normal household trash will be picked up in the usual manner.

SPECIAL NOTE: TRASH MUST BE SEPARATED, i.e., tree limbs from metals, etc. because they are disposed of in different locations at the landfill. Mattresses and furniture need to be separate from other trash. Hazardous waste such as paint, motor oil, batteries, pesticides, poisons, caustic chemicals, etc. WILL NOT be picked up and should be taken by owners directly to the county landfill.

NOTE: Twice-a-week pickup begins the week of April 9. Yard waste must be placed at the curb on your yard waste route day, and must be in a solid container.



For Handicap Accommodations, Call the City Office at 877-5000

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