

# Library celebrates with open house

By MARY LUEHRS

Celebrate National Library Week April 15-21 at the Norton Public Library and Northwest Kansas Library System. It's a time to recognize the contributions of libraries, librarians and library workers in schools, campuses and communities nationwide — and a perfect time for our community to come together at the library. Join the staff for an open house with cookies and tea from 9 a.m. to noon, Thursday.

A special treat for National

Week of the Child and National Library Week at the Norton Public Library will be a story time titled, "Treats for Tots". The Parents As Teachers program and local County Extension agents will be presenting ideas, recipes, food samples and stories for their audience. There will be drawings for gift certificates to local grocery stores and other door prizes. Parents, daycare personnel, baby-sitters, grandparents and children are welcome to attend. The program will be in the Library Community

Room at 10:30 a.m. Thursday. Every day, libraries in big cities and small towns, colleges and universities, schools and in businesses help transform their communities. At the Norton Public Library, people of all backgrounds can come together for community meetings, programs, to do research, to get a job or to find homework help. Stop at the Norton Public Library and Northwest Kansas Library System to "Come Together At Your Library."

# Early alfalfa weevils reported in Kansas

Alfalfa weevils have already been extremely active throughout Kansas this early in the spring.

"Reports of alfalfa weevil activity have been pouring into K-State Research and Extension offices around the state," said Jeff Whitworth, a crop production entomologist with K-State Research and Extension. "The first calls started coming in from south-central Kansas about two weeks ago, which is three to four weeks earlier than normal."

Whitworth attributed the insect activity to unusually mild weather conditions that evidently caused alfalfa weevil eggs to hatch and larval development to proceed at a very rapid pace. Samples taken March 28 from fields in central Kansas indicated 60 percent of the larvae were already in the 2nd instar stage and about 20 percent were in the 3rd instar. The others were 1st instars.

"From a practical standpoint, this means the majority of the feeding will occur over the next 10 to 14 days, if the mild weather conditions continue," Whitworth said.

Wet weather has been delaying much-needed insecticide applications, he said. So, the next question is: If fields are too wet to treat for another week and the majority of the feeding and consequent damage is done soon after, will it pay to treat? In the northern part of the state, generally north of U.S. Highway 36, treatment probably would still be worthwhile, Whitworth said. But, producers in central and southern Kansas would need to give the idea some thought, because larval development will be proceeding rapidly.

"As one consideration: When scouting for weevils during the first week or two of April, be sure to watch for pupae," he advised. "If

you are starting to find pupae and most of the worms are large, robust and maybe even a little sluggish, that probably means feeding activity is about to end naturally. So, you will not help the situation with an insecticide application. Also, if the alfalfa is growing rapidly, it may be prudent to harvest a little early, instead of treating.

"If you do treat, however, please pay close attention to the preharvest interval for the insecticide used."

Whitworth said that samples from central Kansas taken the week of March 26-April 1 showed no adults or eggs in alfalfa stems.

"It was a small sample. But, if we're lucky and it's indicative for other parts of the state, we may not have another 'flush' of egg-hatching and thus more damage," he said. "Even so, producers need to keep sampling and — although it sounds crazy — hope for a little dry weather."

# Committee recommends deed transfer

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Toby Kuhn, chairman of the housing authority, said the authority board was asked for an estimate on how much it would cost to redo the north parking lot.

Lacy Frack, Manor director, said it would cost \$9,360. She said they are working on getting more grant money.

Mr. Lawson said the board should let the council know when they were planning on doing that, as something could possibly be done with the street at the same time. To do that, though, he said the council would need to put it in the city's budget. But, he said, it all depended on what the council wanted to do with the street once HUD had released it to the city.

Mr. Briery asked if there would be problems with the property east of the car port.

Mrs. Griffiths said there shouldn't be. There's no overlap and the property east of the car port belongs to someone other than the city.

Mr. Briery said they would make the recommendation to the council for the quitclaim deed, giving the property to the housing

authority. In other business, the committee:

- Discussed funding for the water plant.
- Discussed potential demolition properties and city code dealing with the properties.

# District's concrete gets face-lift

(Continued from Page 1)

Aug. 1. Because the bid was under the budgeted amount, Mr. Mann asked that additional sidewalk work be done with the extra money. Of the two projects that could be done, one is the east sidewalk from the boiler room driveway to the high school entrance and the other is the west sidewalk from the high school entrance to

the South Gym entrance. Mr. Mann said they would be able to do one or the other, but not both. The work will be done by Scott Evans Contracting as a change order, he said.

The board accepted the bid of \$54,982.50 from Scott Evans Contracting for the four major projects and then gave Mr. Mann the authority to spend the remaining money left out of the \$70,000 budgeted on additional sidewalk work.



Kyle Edgett (above) shot well at the Pawnee County Shoot-Out on March 17, taking first place in the 14-year and older age division with a perfect score of 105. Carson Braun (below) took third on a coin flip with 94 points in the same age division.

— Photos courtesy of John Baker

# Archers shoot well at Pawnee competition

By VERONICA MONIER  
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All six of the Norton County archers who shot in the Pawnee County Shoot-Out on March 17 placed in the top five of their age division, including one perfect score.

In the 14-years and older age division, Kyle Edgett gained a perfect score with 105 points. In the same division, Carson Braun placed third on a coin flip as he and another competitor tied at 94 points. Chase Braun ended up in fifth with 74 points.

Jesse Gallentine tied for the fourth place spot in the 12- to 13-years age division with 64 points.

For a second place ranking, Shelbi McKenna racked up 70 points in the 10- to 11-year age division. Behind her was Marc Miller with 63 points for fourth place.

Norton didn't have anyone competing in the 7- to 9-year age group.

Several of the Norton County



archers, as well as a few BB gun shooters, will be competing in the state shoot-out Saturday in Great Bend. The shoot starts at 8 a.m.

## Norton Schools

# Staff Spotlight

### Classified Employee



**Kathy Richard**

Mrs. Kathy Richard is an Assistant Cook at Eisenhower Elementary School. She is in her 22nd year of working for USD 211. She and her husband Floyd are the parents of four children and also have five grandchildren. Reading and gardening are her favorite leisure activities. She says the best thing about her job is being around the students.

### Certified Employee



**Lida Sharp**

Mrs. Lida Sharp is completing her seventh year of teaching; five of those years she has taught math in USD 211. Mrs. Sharp earned her Bachelor's Degrees at Fort Hays State University. She and her husband Jim are the parents of a son. Crocheting for the "Caps for Kids" program and gardening are her favorite pastimes. The satisfaction of seeing kids use the practical side of mathematics is what she likes best about her job.

PHILLIPS COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL PRESENTS—

# TODD GREEN

Saturday, April 21, 2007

7:00 P.M. • Huck Boyd Center, Phillipsburg, KS