

Pheasant hunt needs youths

Special to The Telegram
Prairie Dog State Park is accepting applications for the Annual Youth Pheasant Hunt which will be held on Saturday, Dec. 20 at 8 a.m. The hunt is limited to 12 youth hunters ages 10 to 15. All participants must wear blaze orange during the special hunt and each youth must be accompanied by an adult. If more than 12 youth apply for the hunt,

local staff will conduct a drawing to determine who will be eligible to hunt in this year's event. In cooperation with the Norton Longspur Pheasants Forever, the annual youth hunt is held as part of the Kansas Hunter Recruitment and Retention Program called "Pass It On." This program addresses the need to recruit new hunters and retain existing hunters in order to en-

sure future hunting in Kansas. The Prairie Dog State Park Youth Hunt is designed to encourage young hunters and should offer a quality experience with a better than average chance of success. To apply, contact the Prairie Dog State Park Office at (785) 877-2953 no later than Dec. 17 with the youth's name, birth date and phone number.

School gets grant to use for health

By BRANDY LEROUX
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The Norton School District has received \$7,250 from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment's Coordinated School Health Program. "We'll use the grant for four programs," said Pam Menagh, Wellness Coordinator for the Norton School District. "Tobacco education, nutrition education, physical fitness education and staff wellness. For example, we'll have a food tasting — fruits and vegetables — for students kindergarten through 12th grade, and activities for staff wellness. We already have a lot of the programs already in place.

Also, if the junior high students win the video award, the grant money will help pay for them to go to Kansas City." "Kids must start early if they are to learn the lessons for leading a healthy life," said Roderick L. Bremby, Secretary of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. "Kansas Coordinated School Health encourages programs that teach kids how to make healthy choices such as eating right, getting enough exercise and resisting the peer pressure to use tobacco." Another focus of the Kansas Coordinated School Health program is to encourage schools to

strengthen and develop district wellness policies. Dr. Alexa Posny, Kansas Commissioner of Education, noted the new grant program is designed to help schools move their wellness policies forward, with the ultimate goal of enhancing academics. "Advancing schools through their Wellness Policies should facilitate improved health behaviors for students and staff as well as creating an environment that is more conducive to learning," said Dr. Posny. More information about the Kansas Coordinated School Health Program can be found at www.kshealthykids.org.

Sixth graders to perform in Hays

Several Norton select 6th grade students will be traveling to Fort Hays State University on Saturday to join with students of other schools to form the Kansas Music Educators Association Elementary Honor Choir. The number of students in the choir

will total about 180 to 200, and will be working with guest clinician Greg Gooden. The choir will rehearse for the morning and then perform a concert open to the public at 12:30 p.m. at the Beach/Schmidt Performing Arts Center on the Fort

Hays State University campus. Norton students selected as choir members are Nicole Tacha, Kayla Coffey, Neysa Carlson, Christian Boser, Clay Vanover and Connor Cox. Students selected as alternates are Katie Bohl and Grant Gordon.

Referendum request starts Dec. 8

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Marketing Service said this week that it will conduct a Request for Referendum Dec. 8, 2008, through Jan. 2, 2009, among eligible producers and importers of hogs, pigs, pork, and pork products. This process will determine if producers want a referendum on the Pork Promotion, Research, and Consumer Information Order, commonly known as the Pork Checkoff Program. Participation is voluntary, and only individuals who desire a referendum on the Pork Checkoff Program should submit a request. The USDA will only conduct a referendum on the order if at least 15 percent of the total number of eligible pork producers and importers request a referendum. The total number of producers and importers eligible to participate in the Request for Referendum is ap-

proximately 69,446; therefore, at least 10,417 eligible producers and importers must request a referendum. If necessary, the referendum will be conducted within one year after the results of the Request for Referendum are announced. If results of the Request for Referendum indicate that a referendum is not supported, a referendum would not be conducted. Producers and importers who were engaged in pork production or in the importation of hogs, pigs, pork, or pork products between Jan. 1, 2007, and Dec. 31, 2007, and were at least 18 years of age on or before Dec. 31, 2007, are eligible to participate. For producers, the Request for Referendum will be conducted at the USDA Farm Service Agency offices where their administrative farm records are maintained. For producers not participating in

Farm Service Agency programs, the opportunity to participate will be provided at the Farm Service Agency county office where the person owns or rents land. Forms may be obtained at: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/LSMarketingPrograms>.

School reminders

NORTHERN VALLEY SCHOOLS
Wednesday, Dec. 10 — Preparing Braille materials for students at Kansas City, 9 a.m.; Declining Enrollment Meeting at Salina, 11 a.m.
Thursday, Dec. 11 — JH Basketball vs. Thunder Ridge at Alma, 4 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 12 — Superintendents' meeting at Phillipsburg and Glade, 9 a.m.; kindergarten "Two Jacks" Telephone program at Alma, 1 p.m.; 5th grade Tac Know Your Internet Safety Program at Long Island, 2:30 p.m. to 3:05 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 13 — KMEA Elementary Honor Choir and Band at Hays, 8 a.m.
Monday, Dec. 15 — HS dance team Christmas party
Tuesday, Dec. 16 — K-12 Christmas concert in Alma
NORTON SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
Thursday, Dec. 11 — FCCLA, A.P.; Topside Tip-Off, Goodland, boys vs. Ottawa at 3 p.m.; girls vs. McCook at 5 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 12 — Faculty meeting, 7:45 a.m.; Jazz band, A.P.; Artist of the Month, A.P.; Topside Tip-Off, Goodland, girls at 3 p.m.; boys at 5 p.m.; opponents to be announced, cheerleaders and dance team perform at half-time of boys' game; Wrestling at Southern Valley, Northeast Tournament, 3:30 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 13 — ACT Test in Norton, 8:30 a.m.; District Honor Band and Choir at FHSU; Wrestling at Clay Center, 9:30 a.m.; Topside Tip-Off, Goodland,

TBA.
Monday, Dec. 15 — LANGUAGE ARTS FINALS; Jay Singers, A.P.; SADD meeting, A.P.; FFA Christmas party, 7 p.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 16 — SCIENCE FINALS; Fall awards assembly, A.P.; Vocal concert at East Campus auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
NORTON JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
Wednesday, Dec. 10 — Faculty meeting, 7:45 a.m.
Thursday, Dec. 11 — Peprally, A.P.; Basketball vs. Ellis, here, 5:30 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 13 — 7 & 8 Boys and Girls Varsity Basketball at Smith Center Tournament, 9 a.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 16 — Vocal Concert at East Campus Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
EISENHOWER ELEMENTARY
Wednesday, Dec. 10 — KOBAs
Thursday, Dec. 11 — Winter Concert rehearsal at East Campus Gym, 12:40 p.m.; 3 & 4 grade level meeting at 3:40 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 12 — Winter concert rehearsal at East Campus Gym, 8:30 a.m.
Monday, Dec. 15 — Winter concert rehearsal at East Campus Gym, 8:30 a.m.; Winter Concert at East Campus Gym, 6:30 p.m.
ALL NORTON SCHOOLS
Wednesday, Dec. 10 — School Finance Task Force Meeting in Topeka, 10 a.m.
Monday, Dec. 15 — NCK-SEC Superintendents' meeting in Glade, 10 a.m.

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