

Mmmm...



Ruby Cook, one of the cooks at Eisenhower Elementary, got into the spirit of Dr. Seuss's Birthday on Monday by wearing a big "Cat in the Hat" hat while serving chickie lickie, spud zuds, white sticken tight, red treats, yellow mellow fellows, Dr. Seuss loaf and yotcha gotta to the students.

- Telegram photo by Brandy Leroux

Happy, healthy, lucky first-grader

By CAROLYN PLOTTS
Special to The Telegram

Dawson Kempt is a busy, bouncy first-grader at Oberlin Elementary School. He looks like every other seven year old in his class. Except for an inch-long scar on his neck.

On Sunday, Nov. 23, Dawson was playing outside at the Norcatour home of his grandparents, Dean and June Forbes. Dawson jumped from atop a pile of bricks and landed on a piece of rebar jutting out of the ground.

Without even knowing it, he was impaled through his chin and into his mouth, knocking out his two front teeth.

Dawson said, "I didn't even feel it happen."

Calls to 911 brought immediate help. The fast action of Norcatour firemen, C.W. Lyon and Troy Wentz, solved the immediate problem — cutting the rebar so Dawson could be transported.

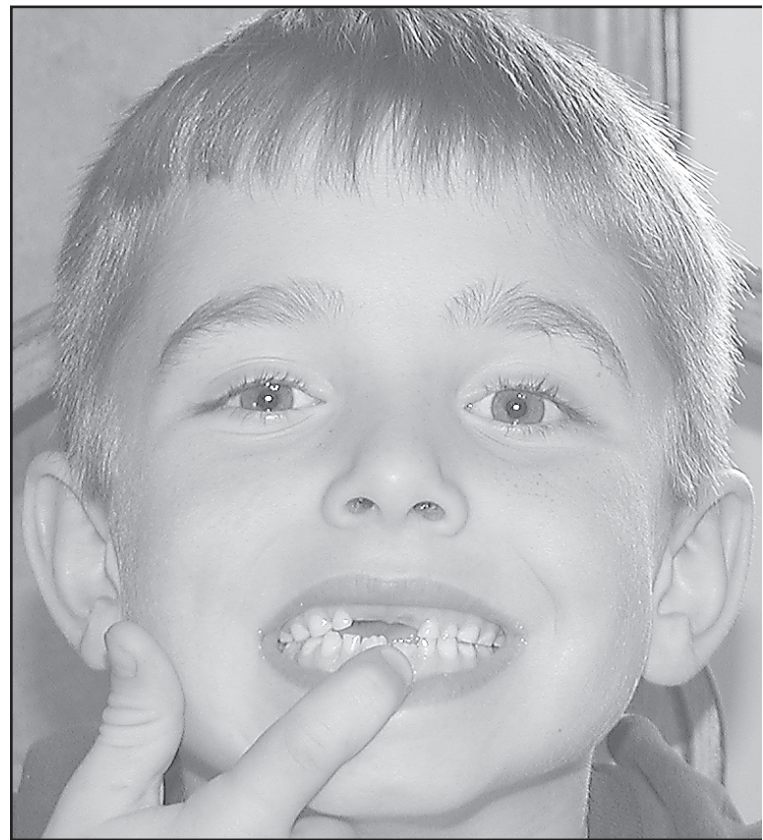
"It wasn't fun when they cut the bar," said Dawson.

He was taken by Decatur County ambulance, with the rebar still in his neck and mouth, to meet the Flight for Life helicopter sent from Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney.

It landed on the paved highway connecting Norcatour to Highway 36.

Dawson said even though the helicopter ride was fun, he was a little scared. His mom, Shelby Forbes, couldn't ride with him as there was only room on board for the crew.

Dawson remained awake and alert during the flight to Kearney.



Dawson Kempt showed where two teeth are missing from his accident with a rebar this past autumn. Dawson has suffered no lasting effects from the incident and now acts like any other first-grader.

- photo by Carolyn Plotts

Dawson was only hospitalized from Sunday afternoon to Wednesday. Probably not fully understanding the gravity of what had happened to him, Dawson's only comment about his stay in the hospital was, "I got lots of presents and toys."

His mother had a little more than that to say. She said, "We are so thankful he recovered so quickly and is back to his ornery self. Everything is back to normal."

Dawson did not suffer any impairment to his speech or lingering injury to his mouth. The teeth he lost were "baby teeth" and will be replaced when his permanent teeth come in.

On the day of this interview, Dawson could hardly wait to go outside and jump on the trampoline with his brother, Dayton, 10.

Other grandparents are Chris and Curtis Walston, and Traer and Dan Brown, Oberlin.

FYI

The family of Veda Heisel will hold an open house in her honor for her 90th birthday on Saturday from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Lenora Senior Center. A card can be mailed to her at P. O. Box 283, Lenora, Kan. 67645.



Veda Heisel

Todd Rundstrom, a professional photographer from Kearney, will present a free, introductory lesson on photography on Saturday at 4:30 p.m. in the Community Room at the Norton Public Library. If you want to take better pictures, expand into a different type of photography or are moving into digital photography, this lesson can help. To see some of his work, go to his website at www.imagefactoryphotography.com.

To register for the class, please call 785-877-5202 in the afternoons or evenings, as enrollment is limited.

The Norton County Horse Council will be holding their first annual "BBQ and Boogie" fundraiser Saturday at 7 p.m. at the Norton Eagles Club.

(Items for this column may be e-mailed to nortontelegram@nw-kansas.com, subject line "FYI".)

For birthdays engagements weddings births and deaths call us at 877-3361

Class tours state capitol

As part of the schedule for the local Leadership-Norton Class, the members take part in a State Capitol Legislative Tour. The group traveled to Topeka on Feb. 16, 17 and 18 with a full schedule.

The purpose of the legislative trip was to give the members of the Leadership Class a first hand look at the State Legislature and other administrative departments surrounding the State Capitol. The program is the last session in a series of five others that acquainted the group with various topics about issues affecting Norton County. The other sessions were Agricultural, Local Government, Education, Rural Health and Economic Development.

The sponsors for this 2008-2009 class were Natoma Corporation, Mumahan Decorating, Rural Telephone, Sebelius Foundation, R.W. Yeager, Norton Travel & Tourism, City of Norton, Norton County Commissioners, Norton Area Chamber of Commerce, and Norton K-State Research and Extension.

Members of the class who attended the program were Sandy Smith, Diane Becker, Jeff Wolf,

and Maggie Foley. Keith Van-Skike, Norton County Extension director, helped to facilitate the schedule in Topeka. Cindy Liner, Norton County Treasurer and class alumni of the 2001 class, coordinated much of the Topeka schedule prior to the class visit.

The members attended Senate and House sessions and a few committee meetings along with visits with Sen. Ostmeyer and Rep. Faber and visited with Gov. Kathleen Sebelius. The class toured various departments such as Department of Commerce and Housing, attended the Judicial and Supreme Court Center, and Kansas Department of Health and Environment. The group visited with Mike Hayden of the Department of Wildlife and Parks and also Roger Werholtz of the Department of Corrections. The purpose of Leadership Norton County is to establish a network of present and potential leaders to give these members an opportunity for growth and development in civic leadership responsibility.

Basically it is a program to encourage leadership initiatives in its membership. This is the 6th class since it began in 1999.

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Two students receive scholarships

Ashley Colip and Charli Lawson, seniors at Norton Community High School, have each been selected to receive a \$2,000 Hansen Student Scholarship, which can be applied to any two or four year college in Kansas.



Ashley Colip



Charli Lawson

Charli, daughter of Rob and Debbie Lawson, is active in Student Advisory Council, KAYS, National Honor Society, Norton Community High School Varsity volleyball, and shoots precision air rifle and small-bore, and works part-time for the City of Norton. She is planning on attending Fort Hays State University where she will major in nursing.

Ashley, daughter of Randy and Rhonda Colip, is active in KAYS, Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, basketball, volleyball, golf, is the senior class

president, and works part-time at Adventures in Eating.

Ashley plans on majoring in physical therapy at University of Kansas.

Are you interested in purchasing an individual Wind Turbine for residential, agricultural or commercial use?

Individual Wind Informational Meeting
Thursday, March 5, 2009
5:30 p.m. at the Economic Development Office
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Register by calling 785-874-4816

DiscoverNorton.Com

Legislative Town Hall Meeting with Sen. Ralph Ostmeyer and Rep. John Faber
SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 2009
8:00-9:00 a.m. St. Francis at Main Street Coffee
9:45-10:45 a.m. Atwood at Williams Brothers Grocery
11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Oberlin at Decatur Co. Courthouse, 3rd Floor
1:45-2:45 p.m. Norton at Town and Country Kitchen

Pd by Ostmeyer for Senate, Lori Edwards, Treasurer
Rep. John Faber, Ed Carson, Treasurer

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