

Fair premium books available

The Norton County Fair Association has received the 2009 Fair Premium Books and they are now available. Fair board members and 4-H leaders have delivered some copies to local businesses.

Copies are also available at the Norton County K-State Research and Extension Office, located on the ground floor of the courthouse.

Please review the table of contents and daily schedule that is printed in the first few pages to find the departments and see what is going on.

The dates for the 2009 Norton County Fair are July 18-25 with the kick off of the Fun Day Horse Show and 4-H Clothing Fashion Revue on Saturday, July 18 and to culminate the Fair, the final night of the Home Owned Carnival and car races held Saturday the 25th.

A big change is that the fair board is urging all entrants of 4-H and open class poultry, rabbits, livestock and horses to bring in tri-section entry cards to the Extension Office by July 16.

Youth and Open class horse entrants have been doing this already. Open class and youth breeding livestock: beef, sheep, hogs, goats and youth horse entrants will need to pay a \$1 fee per animal for a veterinarian health check. Only youth market beef steer, lambs, meat goats and hogs pay a \$2 fee for the veterinary check and ID tag.

The dog, cat and hand pet show will be an early pre-fair activity on July 13. On July 18, the 4-H Fashion Revue will be at 7:00 p.m. and the Fun Day Horse Show at 9:00 a.m.

The 4-H Horse Show will begin at 9:00 a.m. July 21. Pre-entries are needed for 4-H and Open Class poultry, rabbits, livestock and horses and are due by July 16 in the extension office. The Exotic Animal educational exhibit and petting zoo is set for July 22. Pre-entries are needed by July 16 for this exhibition.

There is a section entitled Models for youth and adults who work with model crafts. Models will be entered from noon until 2 p.m. and judged at 2:30 p.m. on Monday.

Entry day for most Open Class exhibits in the 4-H Building is July 23, between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Monday's entries include 4-H Rockets (4:30 - 5:00 p.m.), 4-H and Open Class Art, Sketches and Drawings (10 a.m. - noon), 4-H and Open Class Photography, and 4-H and Open Class Woodwork and models.

4-H and Open Class livestock are entered on Tuesday by noon with a health check-in (Hogs 8:00 - 9:30 a.m., Beef 9:30 - 10:30 a.m., Sheep and Goats 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.).

No animals are to be stalled until given a health check approval. 4-H and Open Class Poultry and Rabbits will be entered by Tuesday at noon.

Open Class Textiles, Handicrafts, and Culinary can be entered from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and will be judged at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday.

Judging of Coverlets, Home Sewing, and Consultation Judging of Open Class Quilts will be Tuesday afternoon starting at 1:30 p.m. 4-H Entomology, Electric, Geology and Small Engines will be entered and judged at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday.

4-H Fiber Arts includes articles such as crochet, knitting, needle arts, quilting, macramé and weav-

ing.

These will be entered Tuesday and judged 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. by 4-H club schedule. The 4-H Crafts and other Skill Arts will be entered and judged Tuesday by schedule from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Horticulture and Flowers are entered on Wednesday morning.

Look again this year for the special School Children Division. All youth up to 17 years of age can enter exhibits in foods, textiles and handicrafts, quilts, afghans, flowers, plants, collections, sewing, woodworking, photography and gardening and models.

Other events include the 4-H Food Sale, Porkburger Special, Market Animal Sale, Livestock Shows, Poultry and Rabbit exhibits and Shooting Sports exhibition.

Special programs include Fonda Telthorst on Tuesday evening sponsored by the Ministerial Alliance. A free-will offering will be taken.

Also on Tuesday evening, there will be Youth Team Penning after the Hog Show.

Wednesday evening will be the Ranch Rodeo, Porkburger Special, co-sponsored by the 4-H council and Husky Hogs, and a free Watermelon Feed, sponsored by Jamboree Foods.

Thursday morning, the Norton County Fair Association will hold the 4-H and FFA Challenge of Champions which offers a \$250 scholarship award sponsored by Kowpoke Supply.

The Round Robin Champion Showmanship and 4-H and FFA Livestock Sale and the Jackpot Team Roping Event will also be on Thursday.

Friday evening's schedule has on tap the youth Pedal Power Pull sponsored by Landmark Implement of Phillipsburg. In addition, there will be Muton Busting and AIdol, both sponsored by area businesses and coordinated by Norton Farm Bureau.

Saturday night Car Races will be sponsored by MBM Moter Sports.

Also each night (Tuesday-Saturday) the Home Owned Carnival will be in full swing from 6:30 - 11:30 p.m. with a special kiddie armband night (1 ticket rides) on Friday and regular arm band night on Saturday. There will be a new cotton candy machine and an updated spider ride as well.

As in the past, the shuttle tram will offer rides to and from the parking areas. The photo booth will be available out on the midway.

The carnival rides and games are all a volunteer service and anyone wishing to offer assistance may contact a member of the Norton County Community Service Association at 877-5452.

The 2009 Norton County Fair offers something for everyone. Check out the possibilities and guidelines for each department and plan to participate.

Fair booklets have been distributed to various businesses in the county and also are available at the extension office.

The 2009 Fair Board President is Garrett Beydler, Vice President is Dave Brandyberry, Secretary is Robin Sproul, and Treasurer is Kathy Holste.

The officers of the Norton County Community Service Association are: President, Curtis Eveleigh; Vice-President, Calvin Wright; Secretary, Deanna Herredsberg and Treasurer, Deb Eveleigh.

Old Glory flying high



Leif Carlson, Chris Richard and Ethan Ross (left to right) presented the colors at the July 4 Independence Day ceremony at Prairie Dog State Park. The boys were part of Boy Scout Troop 181. The troop presents the flags every year at the July 4 ceremony. - Telegram photo by Erica Bradley

Conservation office seeks budget hike

By Erica Bradley
 ebradley@nwkansas.com
 Norton County Soil Conservation Service asked for an additional \$3,000 when they presented their 2010 annual budget request on June 22 at the Norton County commission meeting.

Last year the annual budget was \$12,000. This year they are requesting \$15,000.

Twila Dizmang told The Telegram the additional money is needed because there are additional projects on next year's agenda.

Typical projects include septic tanks, terraces, pipelines, trees and shrubs, livestock wells, wildlife habitat management and various grazing projects.

Mrs. Dizmang said most of their projects are educational and usually focus on school or youth education.

She said Wacky Day is held every September at Norton Community Junior High School. She said the day is for sixth graders, but the seventh grade class participates in Wacky Day since the sixth grade class does a similar activity later in the year.

Mrs. Dizmang said the water festival is another educational event and focuses on testing water in Norton.

Septic tanks are another big issue for the office.

"We have a lot of applications for septic systems right now," Mrs. Dizmang said.

Mrs. Dizmang said there are a lot of problems with septic systems. She said there are still areas that don't have a system, instead waste is dumped into an open pit.

She said the office has cost-share options available.

"We have ways to help people find funding," Mrs. Dizmang said.

The Norton County Soil Conservation serves six counties including Norton, Phillips, Graham, Smith, Osborne and Rooks.

Norton County Appraiser Alan Hale reported on the 2009 county assessed values.

He said the county will lose an

estimated two million dollars in assessments.

The largest decrease is in agriculture value, he said.

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