Grade school days are now over

Today I will graduate from the eighth grade at the WaKeeney Grade School.

My classmates and I have been practicing for two weeks during music class to perfect the traditional step, pause, step, pause without staggering while staying with the beat of the music. Darlene Boxberger, our music teacher, is in despair over Mo, who simply cannot start out on the right foot and has no sense of rhythm. Every day he has to come in at recess for special practice and so far no progress is evident. "To a Wild Rose" by Edward McDowell is to be presented by the girls, sextet and it has been so often rehearsed we are all heartily sick of it.

Miss B has been imploring we girls to clear up our complexions by foregoing chocolate and drinking lemon juice every morning. Then we must soak our grubby little-girl elbows in the squeezed out lemon halves to heal the softball scrapes and whiten the skin. We are all to wear white and there shall be no scabby grey elbows making an unseemly appearance when we march down the aisle. There has been much ado about hairdos (sedate) and stockings (beige) and jewelry (limited). Miss B has also quietly rounded up white dresses for a couple of girls who couldn't afford to buy new ones. She really does care about all of us. Meanwhile, Mr. Morlong is in charge of seeing that the boys all have white shirts, neckties, clean handkerchiefs and haircuts.

We graduates are gathered in

Rock' n **Roll Kid** Liza Deines



neckties, the girls are equally uncomfortable in seamed stockings. My dress is white organdy, embroidery down the front, puffed sleeves which I am convinced make my arms look like sausages, and a white grosgrain ribbon tied around my nonexistent waist. Gwen and I have shoes just alike, little white heels with nylon net inserts in the sides, very sophisticated. Betty's shoes have baby doll toes and Sharon Ann's have clear wedges with roses embedded in the plastic. We clip clop about, feeling very grown up, if a little unsteady. It is warm. We are itchy and anxious in our unaccustomed

Miss B appears with a huge florist's box from which she distributes white carnation boutonnières for the boys and long-stemmed red carnations for the girls. The room reels with their sweet, spicy scent. Faintly we hear the piano prelude beginning above the parental buzz of pride in the auditorium next door. "Line up, line up," Miss B directs and we scurry to our assigned spots. Frantic whispers of "Does my hair look all right?" and "Straighten your seams!" mix with last minute applications of Tangee lipstick. We are ready!

The double doors swing open, a nearby classroom. The boys the pianist proceeds into "Pomp struggle with tight collars and and Circumstance" and here we

go. And suddenly, as if by magic, all the boys are handsome, standing straight and tall, even awkward Mo taking off on the correct foot. All the girls are lovely, every curl in place, every elbow sparkling clean. Surrounding us are purple crepe streamers, white wicker baskets of purple iris and, on a lace covered table, silver trays of fancy cookies, creating an overwhelmingly festive atmosphere. The faculty and the county school superintendent stand at the front of the room smiling at us encouragingly as we file in without a single misstep. Speeches, music, awards, diplomas and handshakes all pass before, around and over us in a blur. Before we know it we are in the reception line being hugged, congratulated and photographed.

Right in the midst of the excitement it hits us all at once. Grade school days are over. The glory of being the "big kids" is gone. Next fall we won't be coming to this familiar red brick building where we know every nook and cranny, where we have been a group for nine years. Fall will take us to the big high school on the other side of town where we will be that lowest of the low, freshmen. Fall will bring us new classmates from the rural grade schools scattered across the county. Fall will take us to Trego Community High School and life will never be quite the same ever again.

Our childhood is gone.

Leona Kaspar

Hays, KS. 67601

Norton County.

95th Birthday

Senior news

The Norton County Senior

Center announces the distribution

of government surplus food for

low income persons of all ages in

Food available for distribution

at this time: walnuts, milk-boxed,

April 169 .m. to 11a.m., Almena

Senior Center; April 17, 2 p.m. to

For more information call Ra-

mona at the Norton Senior Center

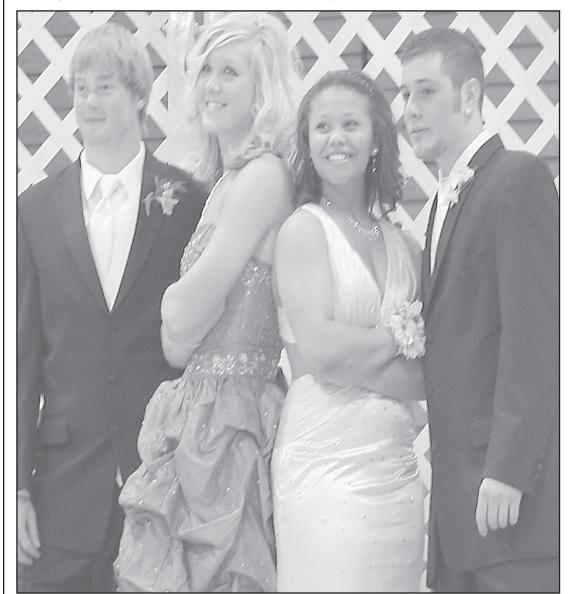
2:30 p.m., Clayton Library.

877-5352.

mixed fruit, and dry cereal.

NOTE TO MY NORTON READERS: Miss Boxberger later became Mrs. Myron Veh and taught my children music at Eisenhower Grade School in Norton.

They took our breath away on Prom Night



J.D. Gall, Lacey Keilig, Raven Brown and Landon Hamel pose for pictures at the Norton Community High School prom on Saturday.

Telegram photo by Erica Bradley

For help

with your

advertising

needs please

By Deb Krueger

The Norton Rotary Club met on Monday. Members present were Ted Sanko, Kevin Baughman, Doc Wiltfong, Myron Veh, Chris McDiffitt, Jerry Moritz, Alberta Slaby, Deb Krueger and president Joy Johnson.

The program was the Norton Public Library. which was presented by Mary Luehrs, Direc-

There are many old and new programs at the library including internet check out and reservation of books and inter library loans enabling library patrons to obtain books from libraries across Kansas. There is a new system allowing library users to down load books to MP3 players and ipods.

Residents have attended educational programs at the library and Monday at the Movies which is the last Monday of the month at

1:30 p.m. Members were encouraged to stop by the library to learn about the many other activities and check out a book.

The Oberlin Chapter of the National Association of Federal Employees welcomed two new members, Cecil Hess and Steve Nelson, when they met at Wheat Ridge Terrace in Oberlin on Sat-

President Gary Zodrow conducted the business meeting. Pamela Maxwell, field representative for Blue Cross-Blue Shield of Topeka presented an informative program about health benefits to her at 1801 E. 27th, Apt. 111, for the group, then answered questions

Members of Oberlin chapter include active and retired federal employees of Norton, Decatur and Rawlins counties.

The Dane G. Hansen Museum is proud to announce the return visit of a Wheatland, Wyo. artist.

Barbara Schaffner will be instructing a four-day painting workshop at the Dane G. Hansen Museum, 110 W. Main, Logan.

These classes will be held on April 14, 15, 16 and 17 and will run from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. with a one hour break for lunch.

This learning opportunity is brought to you through the Hansen Museum Continued Education Program and offered at reduced rates to the public.

Cost of the workshop is \$140 with discounts available for Hansen Museum members.

Intermediate and advanced art-Leona Kaspar will celebrate her ists may call 785-689-4846 for 95th birthday on April 17 with a more information or to register card shower. Cards can be sent by phone.

The class is limited to twenty

Schaffner was an honors student at West Texas State University, majoring in fine art and art education and returns to Logan to instruct her eighth oil painting workshop for Hansen Museum.

Schaffner's western scenes and wildlife painting have hung in galleries in six western states and Canada and success has come to her through numerous shows and top awards.

Schaffner was honored with the Wyoming Ducks Unlimited Artist of the Year 2003 award and won

2005 at the 2-Shot Goose Hunt Art Show in Torrington, Wyo.

Schaffner also recently completed a historic painting of "The First Steamship to Arrive at Fort Union-1832." Schaffner enjoys living close

to the mountains where she can view and photograph the elk and other wildlife she depicts in much of her work. Her studio, "Wyoming Trails

Gallery," is located at:

1004 16th Street, Wheatland,

We're Doing It Again!

Thursday, April 15

9:30 a.m.

Norton Senior Center

– Free Coffee -

SPONSORED BY

Mid-Century

Federated Club



Reception at the Sunflower Senior Center Jennings, Kansas

Sunday, April 18, 2010 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. No Gifts, Please

4/13/10 8:16:44 AM

milk-dry, salmon, green beans, Distribution times and places: April 16, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., Norton Senior Center; April 16, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., Lenora Senior Center;

the purchase award in December

The Northwest Kansas Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)

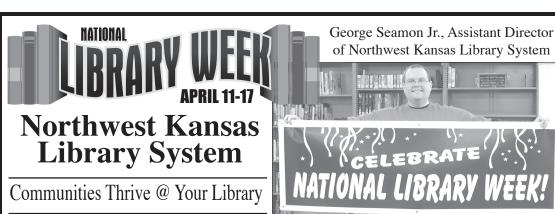
will hold their 37th annual recognition banquet and dance on April 21 at the City Limits Convention Center in Colby. The dance is from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. and is open to all senior citizens. Dance tickets must be purchased in advance. Contact the RSVP office at 462-6744 for further information.

Correction

The city council story on April 9 was incorrect. Downing Drilling is not being fined. They are facing liquidated damages.



This ad is brought to you by The Norton Telegram



Students from the SkillsUSA and activities. chapters at Central Community College in Columbus and Hastings placed in state competition March 25-27 at Central Community College-Columbus.

Skills USA is a national organizations that provides secondary and post-secondary students in trade, industrial, technical, technology and health occupations with leadership, citizenship and character development programs

olice I

4:20 p.m. Report of unsecured

6:08 p.m. Report of hit gas

8:29 p.m. Report of gas skip,

10:35 p.m. Barking dog com-

11:26 p.m. Barking dog com-

2:32 a.m. Report of one vehicle

accident with deer, Diamond

11:44 a.m. Parking citation

12:49 p.m. Report of mail

1:19 p.m. Report of vandalism,

1:27 p.m. Report of lost dog,

Norton Community High School

3:45 a.m. EMS assist

100 block N. Wabash

refrigerator in back yard, 600

5:12 p.m. Motorist assist

9:00 p.m. Welfare check

March 30

plaint,

March 31

Shamrock

block W. Washington

More than 700 secondary and post-secondary students competed in about 75 events at the State Leadership and Skills conference, which was sponsored by Nebraska SkillsUSA. First place winners will participate in national competition in June in Kansas Ciy, MO.

the CCC-Hastings team that won first place in Welding Fabrica-

Casey Dole of Almena was on

1:39 p.m. Dog found 3:26 p.m. Motorist assist 7:00 p.m. Barking dog complaint, 500 block Wilton

7:15 p.m. Barking dog complaint, 400 block Waverly

8:18 p.m. Request for ride home, Norton County Hospital April 1

4:00 a.m. Activated alarm

5:51 a.m. Keys locked in ve-

plaint, 300 block W. Washington hicle, Diamond Shamrock 6:00 a.m. Keys locked in vehicle, 36 Motel

> 10:08 a.m. Barking dog complaint, Wilton & Jones 12:10 p.m. Report of hit and run accident, 700 block N. 2nd

2:05 p.m. Two dogs running loose, 300 block N. 1st 3:51 p.m. Two dogs running

loose, E. Park St. 3:53 p.m. Two dogs running loose, 500 block Grant

4:08 p.m. Barking dog complaint, 300 block W. Washington 5:46 p.m. Two vehicle accident,

7:11 p.m. Barking dog complaint, 700 block N. 2nd

8:40 p.m. Report of individual kicking back door, 300 block N. Norton 11:20 p.m. Request to speak to

officer concerning stalking order 9:45 a.m. Report of suspicious

package, Library 11:50 a.m. Report of individual not welcome at residence, 500 block State

8:28 p.m. Keys locked in vehicle, Subway

ing around house, Brown St. 9:50 p.m. Report of dog running loose, Elmwood Park

9:47 p.m. Report of kids sneak-

10:10 p.m. Report of harassing

text messages 11:00 p.m. Parking citations April 3 2:03 a.m. Report of intoxicated

individual walking 4:08 a.m. Keys locked in vehicle, Loves

02 4-13-10 Social.indd

1:30 p.m. Keys locked in vehicle, End Zone Pamida