

Farmers can extend support through non-profit program

Kansas farmers have the opportunity to win awards to help community non-profit organizations that are dear to their hearts. The awards are available through Monsanto Fund's America's Farmers Grow Communities ProjectSM, a new program being offered in select counties in California, Kansas, Nebraska, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina and South Dakota.

Through the program, farmers can enter to win the chance to direct \$2,500 awards to local non-profit organizations that are important to them and their communities.

The program is intended to benefit non-profit community groups such as ag youth organizations, schools and other civic groups.

Farmers can apply online at www.growcommunities.com or by calling 1.877.267.3332 to obtain an application.

"Farmers in Kansas and across America work hard to feed, fuel and clothe our country and the world," said Brett Begemann, Monsanto Fund chairman.

"But they are passionate about their local communities. That's why we created the America's Farmers Grow Communities Project. From local FFA Chapters and 4-H Clubs to fire departments, community centers and schools, we're proud of the investments farmers are making through this program, and the lives that we will touch together."

Farmers, age 21 and over, who are actively engaged in farming

a minimum of 250 acres of corn, soybeans and/or cotton, or 40 acres of open field vegetables, or at least 10 acres of tomatoes, peppers and/or cucumbers grown in protected culture, are eligible.

The application period runs May 1 through July 31. The program is open to all qualifying farmers, and no purchase is necessary in order to enter or win.

In Kansas, one winner will be drawn from each of the state's 67 participating counties. Monsanto Fund will announce winning farmers and recipient organizations that were chosen in August 2010.

"The America's Farmers Grow Communities project was originally launched as a pilot program by Monsanto Company in Iowa

and select counties in Missouri and Arkansas in January," said John Raines, vice president of Customer Advocacy for Monsanto Company.

"With more than 7,500 farmers participating and more than \$500,000 benefiting non-profit groups in farming communities, we were very pleased with the program." Visit www.growcommunities.com to see a complete list of Arkansas, Iowa and Missouri winners.

To obtain a copy of the official rules for this program, visit www.growcommunities.com or send a written request to Jane Winburn, 914 Spruce St., St. Louis, MO 63102. Visit the Monsanto Fund at www.monsantofund.org/asp/welcome.asp.



Sons of the American Legion raise the flag during the Memorial Day ceremony at the Norton Cemetery.

—Telegram photo by Harriett Gill

Memorial

(Continued from Page 1)
more than 230 years

"And today, brave Americans continue to fulfill America's geopolitical duties and responsibilities throughout the world repeatedly and without regard to current popular opinion. When called upon our Armed Forces enter the fray to push back the threat to our freedoms posed by others.

"The men and women who serve in our nation's armed forces make significant sacrifices and oversee and protect the freedoms and liberty enjoyed by each and every American.

"Unfortunately, most of us get swept up in the minutiae of our daily lives and we fail to remember how it is we come to enjoy the warm blanket of security; how it is we are able to go about our daily lives unfettered, often unknowing and all too often uncaring of the threats to our safety and security," Mann said.

Mann read an excerpt from Pres. Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg address, saying Lincoln's words focused on the loss of life and the higher cause.

"Lincoln's charge to citizens of the United States of the 1860's still rings true in America, 2010. That is, the cause for which each soldier gives his or her life in the

service of our country shall not be lost and the memory of their sacrifice and selfless devotions cannot be forgotten," Mann said.

Mann said members of the military have answered the call to defend our rights, as well as the rights of people around the world.

"Whether it was World War I and World War II, Korea, Vietnam during a period of confusion and unrest at home and today when wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have led to disagreement among our citizens, our armed services have served without hesitation, without question and without politics.

"So, let us pause today in reverential respect and honor as we remember those who fought, those who gave their lives and those who willingly stand ready to answer when the defense of freedom calls. Each day, not just on Memorial Day, let us remember a fallen veteran, thank a living one and shake the hand of those now serving.

"We owe each of these brave men and women our highest regard and respect and the assurance that their commitment to Freedom, Liberty and Democracy will not be overlooked," Mann said.

The service was sponsored by the Norton American Legion.

Hospital

(Continued from Page 1)
tone. You do not need any special equipment.

Water aerobics benefits persons who are recovering from an injury and undergoing rehabilitation exercise therapy. Water aerobic exercise is ideal for those suffering from arthritis.

The heart rate is maintained at a lower rate than in activities such as cycling and running. This could be on account of the cool environment and does not remove the fact that water aerobic exercise is just as effective.

Of course, there is no denying that aquatic aerobic exercise is a refreshing activity and can be

a wonderful way for a family or friends to spend an evening.

The summer 2010 session classes will be offered at the Norton Municipal Swimming Pool each Tuesday and Thursday, weather permitting, from June 15 - Aug. 5.

To meet the varying needs of participants, two classes are offered. Lower impact classes will be held 5-5:30 p.m., and higher impact classes will be held from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

No early registration is required.

A \$25 fee for each student will be charged. Participants can register at the first class.

Riverless run scheduled

By DICK BOYD

nortontelegram@nwkansas.com

The popular Riverless Fun Run will be held this Saturday morning in Phillipsburg.

Registration will be from 6:45 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. at the First Christian Church, 150 S. 7th Street. Men's and women's age divisions begin at 11-14 and end with 70 and over. The 2 Mile Run will begin at 7:30 a.m. and the 5 Mile Run at approximately 8:15 a.m. Entry fee is \$15.

Trophies will be presented to the top male and female in each

race. Medals will be awarded to the top three finishers in each age bracket.

The One Half Mile Run for Children 6-7, 8-9 and 10 years of age will be run at the Phillipsburg High School track following the regular races. Medals and participation ribbons will be presented.

The sponsor is the Phillips County Health Systems.

Those with questions may call Kelly Vanderplas at (785) 540-4925, email her at kvanderplas@phillipshospital.org, or visit www.phillipshospital.org.

Retirees

(Continued from Page 1)

Hillman said she decided to attend Fort Hays State University shortly after moving to Norton.

"For the next three and a half years I drove back and forth to Hays. For this opportunity, I need to thank my husband and kids. They made sacrifices for this adventure," she said.

Burge's first job was at Eisenhower Elementary School as the title 1 reading instructor. She did her student teaching under Janet Herman in the fall and was hired for the reading position in the spring.

She began teaching the first grade the next year.

"I loved first grade. The whole month of May I cried every time I thought about giving up my kids," she said.

Burge said she took over Janet Herman's fourth grade class the year after, staying in that position for 23 years. Her fascination with computers began while teaching the fourth grade.

She said Mr. Hillman, Eisenhower Elementary School principal at that time, set up the current structure, which allowed Burge to teach technology to the fifth and sixth graders.

"I am going to miss being part of the best staff in Kansas. I have always been proud to be a staff member of USD 211. Now I am ready to enjoy more time with my husband, our children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren," she said.

Terry Hillman's speech was read by her husband, colleague and former principal Larry Hillman.

"Kindergarten is where I've spent most of my teaching time, so I've chosen to share my story to-

day in the form of a little rhyme," she said.

"Forty years ago my career started in Rush Center with a fourth grade. Then Larry and I came to Norton to teach. What a great decision we made! How thankful we are that we found jobs in the best school in the world," she said.

Hillman said she taught kindergarten, second and third grades before leaving to stay home with her daughters: Angel and Cassie. She taught second, kindergarten and first grades when she returned eight years later.

"So, as I retire from my teaching career, I hope my students will say 'Mrs. Hillman taught us how to live. The Golden Rule is the way,'" she said.

Joan Hale read Pam Menagh's speech.

"I always knew I was going to be a teacher," she said.

Menagh began teaching at Eisenhower Elementary School as the wellness coordinator and drug alcohol education teacher in 1987.

She said the 1990's were an exciting time because the Wellness Program received national recognition for Safe and Drug Free Schools.

Menagh said she was also trained to help Title 1 schools who were not meeting state expectations, took on other school improvement responsibilities and took on KIDS data.

"All of these experiences have brought me in contact with many educators throughout Kansas and allowed me to get to know teachers throughout our school system. This has been truly rewarding," she said.

"The changes in my job over

the last 23 years have challenged me to step outside my comfort area at times, but have given me a great sense of accomplishment," she said.

Menagh finished the speech by saying, "I always knew I would be a teacher but had no idea how rewarding that choice would be."

Judy Luft read Regina Stark's speech. Stark said she is retiring after 29 years of teaching in Norton and two years of teaching in Garden City.

The perks of her job, she said, were not the long summer vacations or spring breaks.

"The perks of my job were all

those young people who came through my classroom and allowed me to help them broaden their minds, to share my love of learning and to teach them about life. They not only allowed me to follow my dreams, but hopefully I helped them to dream and reach their goals," she said.

"Teaching has been such a big part of my life's journey. As I take a different road on that journey, I won't stop teaching. I will just take a different route," she said.

The ceremony ended with a reception in the East Campus gymnasium.

Handy Gifts for Dad
He Can Really Use . . .

*Trimmers - Mowers
Lawn & Garden Items*

- Lawn-Boy •Dixon
- Toro •Stihl
- BCS
- Husqvarna
- Grasshopper

Maybe Even a New Used Car!

NAPA **Engel's Sales and Service Center Inc.**
209 W. Lincoln, Norton, Kansas - 785-877-3391

Congratulations to Jon Boxler



Pictured from left to right, Deb Johnston, Jon Boxler, Jack Rader and Teri Russell

Jack Rader, Chief Operating Officer for Farmers Alliance Companies, presented Jon Boxler a custom lapel pin in recognition of 50 years personally representing Farmers Alliance. "It is truly an achievement for Jon to reach this milestone with our company. His dedication to his customers and community is certainly the foundation of his success, and we're very proud to have Jon represent our company," said Rader.

Boxler Insurance Agency, Inc.

108 N. First Avenue, Norton, Kansas - 785-877-5128