

Almena woman was honored

Margaret Breathouwer from Almena was recognized for six years of service as a Foster Grandparent volunteer at the 2010 Foster Grandparent Program Pre-School Training held in Hays on Aug. 12. Breathouwer serves at Northern Valley Preschool in Almena.

Foster Grandparent volunteers provide one-on-one attention, read to and with the children, help with school work and serve as positive role models. They serve in schools, libraries, pre-schools and day care centers.

Foster Grandparents may be 55 years of age and better, and willing to commit to at least 15 hours each week helping children. They are tutors and mentors. Their

commitment of time entitles them to benefits including a tax-free stipend of \$2.65/hour to enable them to serve without cost to themselves. Other benefits are a travel allowance, accident and liability insurance, training, a meal when feasible, a uniform, and recognition.

The Foster Grandparent Program is sponsored by Fort Hays State University and provides service opportunities for older adults in western Kansas. The Program is funded by the Corporation for National & Community Service, Washington, DC. Funds are also provided by Ellis County. For information about the Program, call 785-628-5809.

Need diploma help?

Experts report that nearly 33% of today's high school students will fail to graduate with their class.

This translates into a heavy burden on society. Not only do these students fail to obtain the skills necessary in today's current job market, but society as a whole pays a price.

The Alliance for Excellent Education conducted a report that showed the economy would grow by more than \$325 billion if every student graduated from high school.

Columbia University economists estimate that each new high school graduate would earn an average of \$200,000 more over the course of 40 years, would contribute an average of more than \$130,000 additional revenue in income taxes, would save \$40,500 in public health care

costs, and would reduce crime-related costs by \$26,600 over a lifetime.

To help recoup these losses to society, those who haven't earned a high school diploma need help to do so.

The USD 211 Learning Center is poised to meet that need. The Learning Center offers a performance-based high school diploma completion program with course work customized to meet the educational needs and work schedules of busy adults.

Course work is accessible at the Center or from any computer with internet access. Assistance is provided by Learning Center staff, with phone and e-mail access available.

For more information or to enroll, come to the Learning Center at 126 S. State in Norton or call 874-4333.

Police Log

Aug. 2
 8:30 a.m. Request by SRS to conduct interview
 10:39 a.m. Report of found dog
 11:30 a.m. Report of lost wallet in Texas
 1:30 p.m. Remove debris from roadway
 3:35 p.m. Vehicle parked facing traffic
 4:06 p.m. Request to speak to officer concerning civil matter
 4:36 p.m. Activated alarm, Jamboree
 4:45 p.m. Activated alarm, Jamboree
 6:00 p.m. Report of individual being harassed on Facebook
 7:00 p.m. Service of court papers
 8:45 p.m. Request to speak to officer concerning civil matter
 9:45 p.m. Officer investigating false police report
Aug. 3
 8:47 a.m. Report of unattended death, Brooks Motel
 9:30 a.m. Report of mother duck with 7 ducklings in Pamida parking lot
 11:00 a.m. Report of suspicious vehicle
 11:30 a.m. Transported individual that was taken into custody
 2:24 p.m. Keys locked in vehicle
 4:33 p.m. Keys locked in vehicle
 6:31 p.m. Activated alarm, Jamboree
 11:09 p.m. Report of dog running loose, W. Washington
Aug. 4
 1:50 a.m. Report of vehicle stuck on closed road
 2:05 a.m. Activated alarm, Jamboree
 6:50 a.m. Request for water to be shut off, 400 block Main
 9:08 a.m. Report of dog running loose, State St.
 9:37 a.m. Mother duck and ducklings, Dairy Queen
 3:58 p.m. Report of erratic driver, Washington & Graves
 4:28 p.m. Two vehicle accident, 800 block Grant
 10:21 p.m. Report of something burning

11:26 p.m. Report of family problems
 11:53 p.m. Report of possible intoxicated individual
Aug. 5
 1:34 a.m. Activated alarm, Jamboree
 9:45 a.m. Keys and child locked in vehicle
 10:30 a.m. Report of dog running loose
 12:39 p.m. Keys locked in vehicle
 5:16 p.m. Report of phone harassment
 9:14 p.m. Activated alarm, 1st Security Bank
Aug. 6
 1:18 a.m. Barking dog complaint
 8:25 a.m. Keys locked in vehicle
 10:10 a.m. Report of kitten up in a tree
 3:40 p.m. Welfare check
 5:24 p.m. Report of threatening phone messages
 7:00 p.m. Report of kitten that was run over
 9:12 p.m. Report of truck blocking traffic
 9:15 p.m. Activated alarm
Aug. 7
 2:43 a.m. M.I.P. citation and public consumption
 2:46 a.m. Report of fight
 8:52 a.m. Report of individual getting water
 9:37 a.m. Request to speak to officer concerning out of control child in Almena
 10:51 a.m. Request to speak to officer concerning child custody
 11:44 a.m. Report of dog having snake cornered by Library
 11:52 a.m. Keys locked in vehicle
 7:11 p.m. Report of found dog
 10:56 p.m. Report of lost dog
Aug. 8
 2:26 a.m. Helped individual try finding place to stay for night
 6:29 a.m. Assist Sheriff's Dept. with motorcycle
 8:06 p.m. Noise complaint
 10:15 p.m. 911 Call concerning AC won't shut off
 In the past seven days the Norton Police Department had 19 vehicle stops.

Pretty posies all in a row!



Vinca flowers in their concrete planter offer Norton residents a beautiful sight when they pass the home of Wanda Stephenson and Brad Braun. The flowers have

enjoyed the sun and extra water and in exchange the colorful display is enjoyed by all.

-Telegram photo by Vicki Henderson

Electricity and the family

One can become involved in the strangest conversations when dining in a community setting at a retirement home. Perhaps you'd enjoy a sample?

During lunch last week one of my octogenarian companions explained to me why Benjamin Franklin is to blame for the breakdown of the American family. If electricity had never been invented, she claims, it would be either too hot or too cold, or too dark for a teenager to go slamming off to his room in a huff. After supper the family would be forced to gather around a solitary kerosene lamp to sit in a soothing, golden circle of lamplight where Mama mended, Dad read the "Country Home Gentleman", and the children recited homework or catechism. In the winter the lack of central heat would keep a family clustered around the heating stove and in the summer the lack of air conditioning would bring folks out to sit on the porch and visit with the neighbors.

Another chimed in to say that days before telephones were much more peaceful and stress free. Just think, she said, no phone calls would disrupt the dinner hour and we'd never have to "Press One for English". That alone could elimi-

Child of the '40s Liza Deines



nate quite a bit of vile language. Of course this is the same lady who received four calls on her cell phone during the lunch hour, obviously inept at practicing what she preaches.

Yes, this was all a "tongue in cheek" conversation, punctuated with a lot of laughter. None of us wanted to go back to scrubbing laundry on a washboard with lye soap or waiting for the ice man to deliver one chunk of ice to last all week. We all remembered cast iron kitchen stoves that required chopping kindling and splitting logs and heated the kitchen to unbearable temperatures in the summer. Still, those of us who remember when life was simpler and slower mourn that our children and grandchildren will never know the serenity and peace of earlier times.

Invariably the menu is up for discussion at every meal. We get tickled by the elegant names dicticians use to identify perfectly

ordinary food. Perhaps some retirees are more sophisticated than we who have lived in the Midwest all our lives, but Chicken Basil Medley, Mitzapuny Soup, Sicilian Beef, Carrots Vichy and other melodious monikers leave most of us dissolved in helpless giggles. It's also an adventure when we discover our chef's, version of a dish we have cooked in the past which bears no relation at all to "our" recipe. The phrase, "It's not like mother used to make", is heard all too often. I notice not many of us are becoming thin and pale in spite of such comments.

Every group has a few whiners and a retirement community is no exception. We usually combat "organ recitals" by explaining that while we're all headed downhill, we don't have to speed up the process by comparing symptoms, particularly over dinner. One of my favorite friends says "You can't complain properly here because someone nearby always has something worse." On the positive side, if you need a recommendation for a doctor of any kind, chances are your table mates

will know the low-down on the local talent. There are blessings in all things.

Right at the moment, The Carlyle is packed to the attic with many an apartment available. Vacancies don't last long with our waiting list, so there are always new friends to be made, new names and new faces to learn. Between hearing problems and slipping memories, that can be quite a challenging conversation.

Like everyone else, we talk about the weather, which has been hotter than a two dollar pistol all month.

One of my gentlemen friends says it's too hot to pull a leaf down the road. We could set bread dough to rise on our asphalt parking lot and poach breakfast eggs out there too.

Without central air conditioning, we'd all swelter, so personally, I'm thanking Ben Franklin for his jaunt into the thunderstorm with key and kite, despite a few unintended consequences.

MY MAMA SAID: Be careful what you wish for lest it be granted.

Accident Log

August 10
 Justin Coffman was traveling north on Highway 283 and was unable to avoid a collision with a deer.

The deer was traveling west and entered the highway. There were no injuries reported. The accident was investigated by Deputy Adam Wahlmeier.

August 15
 A vehicle driven by Nicole Raburn, Almena, was west bound on U.S. 383 when the driver fell asleep, the vehicle went into the north ditch and hit a culvert. There was damage to the vehicle, but no injuries were reported. The accident was investigated by Deputy Larry Land.

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 STORE IN BIG RED BUILDING BEHIND THE HOUSE

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New Shipment Just Arrived!

Back-to-School

Spaghetti Supper

Thursday, August 19

5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

at the Norton Senior Center, 208 W. Main

ALL YOU CAN EAT - \$5.00

Bring a School Supply and Get All You Can Eat - \$4.00

Help Us Help the Teaching Staff at USD 211 and USD 212

SECOND ANNUAL
BBQ and Smokin' Challenge

August 27 & 28

Elmwood Park Livestock Barn, Norton, Kansas

Check-in for Contestants is Friday, August 27 from 6 to 11 p.m. Public is invited to watch the cookin' and judge people's choice. \$8.00 general admission and dinner (8 a.m.-8 p.m./dinner 6-8 p.m.); \$15.00 general admission, dinner and band (8 a.m.-midnight/band 8 p.m.-midnight)

START YOUR SMOKIN' - 7 P.M. FRIDAY
START YOUR EATIN' - 6 P.M. SATURDAY
START YOUR DANCIN' - 8 P.M. SATURDAY

Prizes will be awarded for the 1st-3rd place for all categories and a prize for people's choice

Entry forms are available at: Norton Area Chamber of Commerce Office; online at DiscoverNorton.com; email nortoncc@ruraltel.net; the CCRG BBQ Committee Members; John Carlin, Bruce Colip, Jimmy Railsback and Tony Grysch.

ENTRY FORMS MUST BE TURNED IN BY FRIDAY, AUGUST 13

Aug. 13- Aug. 18

Showing at the

NORTON THEATRE

The Other Guys

1 Hour, 57 Minutes (PG-13)

Friday and Saturday: 7:00 and 9:05 p.m.
 Sunday: 5:00 and 7:05 p.m.
 Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.

The Last Airbender

Presented in Digital Surround Sound
 1 Hour, 53 Minutes, (PG)

All Passes Accepted for The Last Airbender
 No Passes Accepted for The Other Guys

Premiere Price: \$7.00 and \$6.00 for The Other Guys/No Sunday Discount
 General Admission: \$6.00 and \$5.00 for The Last Airbender/\$3 Ticket Sunday

Friday, Aug. 20: The Sorcerer's Apprentice
 Check the Theatre website for Upcoming Events
 nortontheatre.com

COMING SOON

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Send your club news to Harriett at hgill@nwkansas.com