

# Seed catalogs are coming earlier

By Kay Melia

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Alright, lets see the hands of all you gardeners out there who are as pleased as I am that the seed catalogs seem to be coming our way earlier and earlier each year. Those opposed, same sign. The "pleaseds" win, hands down.

It was the day before last Hal-loe-ween that the catalog for Pine-tree Gardens suddenly appeared in my mailbox, and it was just last week that I received what is surely the final offering of the season in the form of a colorful catalog from the Michigan Bulb Company. All together, 21 wonderful reminders of spring have been studied very thoroughly as I divert my attention from television to visions of beautiful flowers and gorgeous cucumbers!

You know what? After I've digested the contents of all those catalogs; after I see that one or two of my all-time favorite varieties are no longer available; after I carefully study the possibilities of some of the new varieties; only then will I visit my nearest friendly hometown

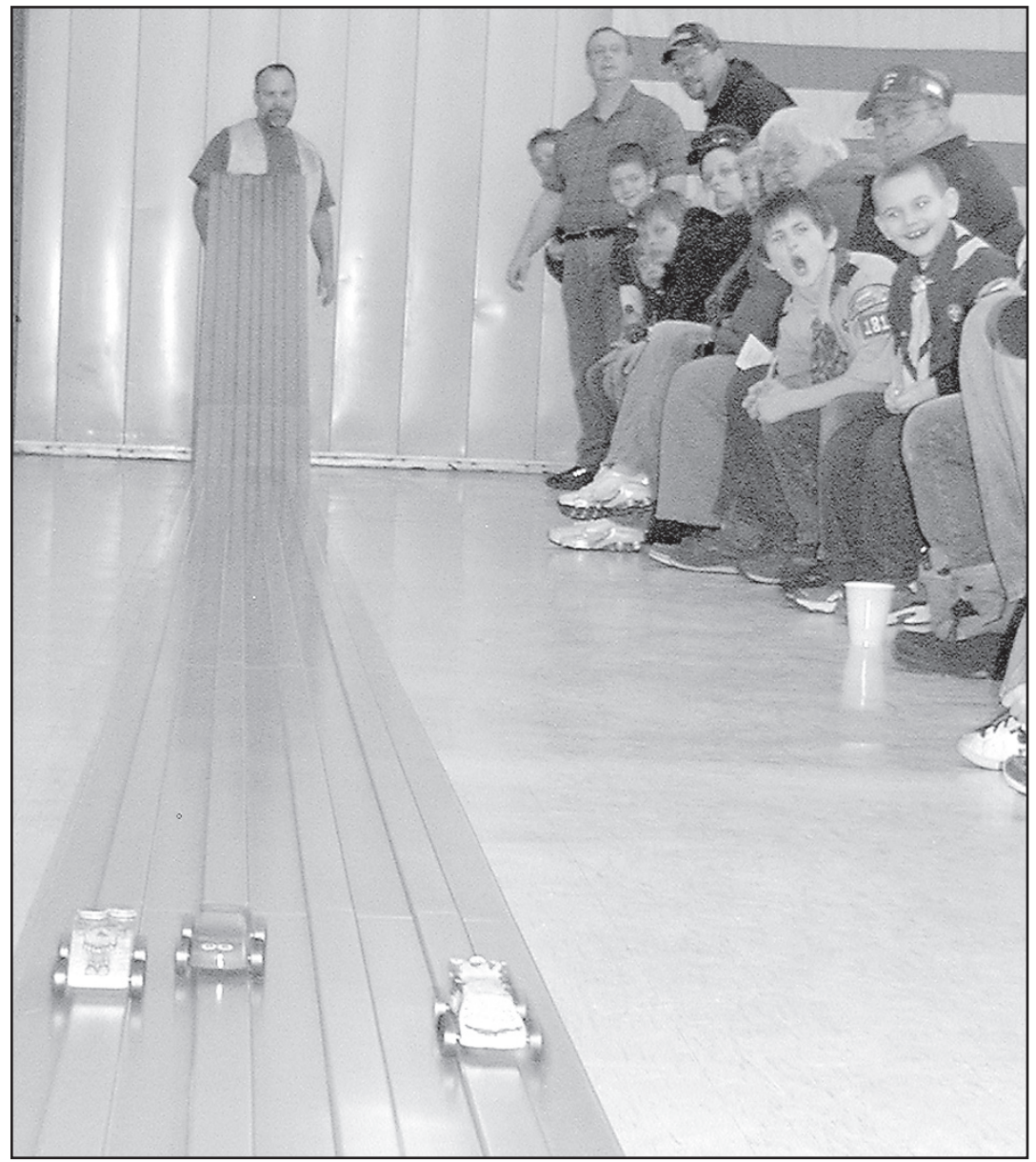
fully accredited garden center and buy the seeds and plants that I intend to grow this year. Please understand that the seed rack at the garden center doesn't always display the varieties of seed that I prefer, but if they do, that's where I will do business. Never mind that in my case, the nearest real garden center is at least 30 miles away from where I live. I'm going there anyway to see if they can provide what I want. And also, other needed garden supplies such as fertilizers and bug killers and whatever else I feel like I need.

For me, seed is the problem. I can never remember seeing a packet of YaYa carrot seed on a seed rack, and I must have YaYa carrot seed. I've not seen Megaton cabbage seed on a seed rack, and I must absolutely have Megaton cabbage seed because it has proved to me to be the best I have ever grown. The same goes for Super Tasty tomato seed, Sweet Success cucumbers, and Mirai sweet corn. And yet, for every preferred seed I can't find on the rack, there are always 2 or 3 that are always

there. And please understand this. Although I will pay extra if need be to secure the variety of seed I prefer, most packets of seed on the garden center's seed rack are lots less expensive than their counterparts in the seed catalog. Burpee Seed Company's regular size packets in the catalog are nearly all \$4.95 this year, and the newest offerings are mostly \$5.95. You'll have to hunt diligently to find a seed packet that costs more than \$2.50 at the garden center. Never mind that you'll also pay upwards of a \$5.95 minimum for shipping and handling when you order from the catalog.

Still, I'm not about to pass up the varieties of vegetables or flowers I like best. Therefore, a small order goes out to a big seed company every spring, with my sincere thanks for providing me with valuable information about the seeds and plants that I'll try my best to find at the nearest hometown greenhouse and garden center. Never yet have I returned a seed catalog to the sender.

# A photo finish



Norton Cub Scout Pack 181 Pinewood Derby and Blue and Gold Banquet, sponsored by the Norton Lions Club, was held Sunday, Feb. 12 at the American Legion. First place in the Pinewood Derby Cub Scout class went to James Sturgill, second place went to Andrew Carter and third place went to Christian Hawks. The Slow Poke winner was Austin Stewart and Best in Show went to Cole Kleinschmidt. James Sturgill also won in the Open class and his sister, Kennedy, took second place. Ed Witt from the Norton Lions Club made sure the cars got off to a great start. Ed also built the track.

-Telegram photo by Mike Stephens

## COLLEGE NEWS

Several students from Norton County have earned academic honors at Kansas State University for the 2011 fall semester. The university awards honors to students who earned a 3.75 or higher grade point average for the semester. Students must be enrolled in at least 12 credit hours

of course work. The Norton county honorees include Bethany Lynn Roy, Dustyna Sprigg, KaraJo Lanelle Sprigg, Katharine Christine Roy, Kaylen Rose Rossi, Marcus John Herman, Preston Eriel Herman, Tabitha Mae Vincent, Tonielle Myriah Fiscus and William Dean Broeckelman.

Kendra Engelbert of Norton was recently named to the Dean's List for the 2011 fall semester at Benedictine College.

To achieve this honor, students must be enrolled in at least 12 credit hours of academic course and maintain a grade point average of at least 3.5.

Four Norton students have been named to the fall 2011 semester President's Honor Roll at Colby Community College. The students are Summer Burton, Valerie Elliott, Kama Mandl and Sandra

Ross-Crowder. To qualify for this honor, students must be enrolled in at least 15 credit hours of course work and maintain a perfect 4.0 grade point average.

Courtney G. Cox of Norton has been named to the fall 2011 semester Dean's List at Ottawa University.

earned at least 24 credit hours over the two previous semesters and maintain a grade point average of at least 3.5.

To qualify for this honor, students must have

Three students from Norton have been named to the Dean's List for the 2011 semester at the University of Nebraska at Kearney. The honorees in-

clude Sara Lentz, Troy Bainter and Austine Dole. Lentz also graduated with honors with a bachelor of science degree in business administration.

Laura Delimont of Norton has recently graduated with honors from Wichita State University. She graduated with her Bachelor of Arts degree in

sociology with cum laude honors for maintaining a grade point average of at least 3.25 throughout her college career.

Three Norton County students have been named to the Wichita State University Dean's List for the fall 2011 semester. Those earning the honor are Jessica Holmes of Almena and Spencer Shirk and Rebekah Streck, both of Norton.

To qualify for the Dean's List, students must be enrolled in at least 12 credit hours of course work and maintain a grade point average of at least 3.5.

Rachel Shepard of Lenora has been named to the Fall 2011 honor roll at Emporia State University. To qualify for the semester honor roll, students must earn a minimum 3.8 semester grade point average in at least 12 graded credit hours.

Shepard has also received the Emporia State University Hornet Scholarship and Ernest James Memorial Scholarship for the 2011-12 academic year.

## PUBLIC RECORD

### District Court

These transactions were taken from the records of filings in the offices of the District Court clerk at the Norton County Courthouse. Traffic and Wildlife and Parks cases are given to the paper when the fines are paid.

Feb. 9

Jan. 7-Emily M. Braun, Holcomb; Charge: Speeding 74 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$155.

Jan. 26-Mitchell L. Hitt, Long Island; Charge: Transporting an open container; Found: Deferred adjudication; Fine: \$398.

Jan. 25-Gene Carter, Norton; Charge: Failure to wear seatbelt; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$10.

Jan. 27-Gordon W. John, Beaver City, Neb.; Charge: Failure to wear seatbelt; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$10.

Dec. 31-Andrew Knuth, Almena; Charge: Improper stop lamp or turn signal; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$143.

Jan. 2-Jody L. Lingenfelter, Beaver City, Neb.; Charge: Speeding 76 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$149.

Dec. 9-Michael D. Dordahl, Garden City; Charge: Motor carrier safety rules and regulations-no previous 7 days; Found:

Jan. 26-Vern Jacob Mason, Vaughn, Mont.; Charge: Im-

proper tires; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$145.

Jan. 23-Larry Don Neal, Colorado Springs, Colo.; Charge: Speeding 80 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$173.

Jan. 19-Edwin Loyd Schoen, Lenora; Charge: Failure to wear seatbelt; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$10.

Jan. 28-Chad A. Vanderlinde, Holdrege, Neb.; Charge: Motor carrier safety rules and regulations-no lights on trailer; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$213.

Jan. 25-Dorina M. Votapka, Oberlin; Charge: Speeding 75 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$143.

### Municipal Court

These transactions were taken from the records of filings in the offices of the Norton Municipal Court. These cases were given to the paper with the date of the hearings.

Feb. 2

Jan. 11-Yvonne Worthy, Lenora; Charge: Speeding 45 in 30; Plea: Guilty; Found: Guilty; Sentence: Fine \$60, costs \$76, total \$136.

Jan. 13-DeWayne Boss, Lenora; Charge: Speeding; Plea: No contest; Found: Guilty; Sentence: Fine \$30, costs \$76, total \$106.

Oct. 9-Jake Romey, Norton; Charge: 1. Reckless driving, 2. Driving on lawns and sidewalks (Turning kitty's and tearing up ground behind race track); Plea: Not guilty; Other action: Found

guilty at trial; Sentence: 1. \$200, 2. \$200, witness fees \$40, costs \$76, total \$496. Five days jail suspended if fines are paid by Feb. 28.

Jan. 15-Andrew Smith, Norton; Charge: Speeding 54 in 35; Plea: Guilty; Found: Guilty; Sentence: Pull weeds on east side of State Street from railroad tracks on south to north of Christian Church from March 1 to Oct. 31.

Jan. 15-Austin Hager, Norton; Charge: Speeding 54 in 35; Plea: Guilty; Found: Guilty; Sentence: Pick up all trash from Elmwood Park drives from March 1 to Oct. 31.

Jan. 19-Verlund Olliff, Norton; Charge: Dog running at-large with license; Other action: Dismissed/Mr. Olliff purchased an expensive chain so it will not happen again.

## Ostmeyer looks forward to legislative session

The 2012 legislative session is well under way and will probably be controversial. We will begin the session by setting new boundaries for all House, Senate and Congressional Districts. Chairman Owens said hearings on each chamber's districts began weekly starting Friday, Jan. 13, 2012. I remain confident that we will retain as many Western Kansas seats as possible in order to preserve representation for all Western Kansas. We should not have lost a Senate district during the last re-apportionment, and I will do my best to preserve representation. This all needs to be done in a timely manner to meet the June filing deadline.

A few other important issues that will require a lot of discussion are:

- Major adjustment of KPERS retirement fund;
- Medicaid reform
- Projected overhaul of school finance
- Debate over which departments get cuts restored from projected increased revenues
- Tax reform debate
- Water policies

It won't be long and we will be doing Town Hall Tours. I always enjoy the feedback on these issues.

Kansas Restaurant and Hospitality Association had their annual food bar set up at the Ramada, and I could not help noticing some interesting sta-

tistics. KRHA represented 9 percent of the total jobs in Kansas in 2011 and generated \$3.6 billion projected sales in 2011. Every dollar spent in Kansas restaurants generates an additional \$1.01 in sales for other industries in the state. Each additional \$1 million spent in Kansas eating and drinking places generates an additional 28.8 jobs in Kansas.

The Governor's State of the State presented his outline on directives for getting our fiscal house in order. I'm quite concerned with the new education proposal but realize this will get fair hearings in both chambers and the final outcome will serve the needs of my districts in Western Kansas. The Governor has made some really bold proposals, and I am not sure this will be the year he will get all of it done. I do support Governor Brownback, and I will give him the attention he needs as long as rural Kansas isn't penalized too much.

Also, if you are a student who would like to page this session, call my office and schedule a Monday. You must be between 12-17 years old.

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## Gunnar Hays signs with Colby Community College



Gunnar Hays, outstanding senior track and cross country runner for Northern Valley High School, is shown signing a letter of intent to run track and cross country for Colby Community College. Pictured are, from left, front row: his mother Ranelle Hays, Gunnar, his father Gale Hays; back row: Chuck Zimmerman, former Northern Valley track distance coach; James Ortiz, head track and cross country coach at Colby Community College; Kirk Kasson, head Northern Valley cross country coach; Chuck Fessenden, head Northern Valley track and field coach.

-Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

Good Luck and Congratulations from . . .

**New Age**  
INDUSTRIAL

## Accident Report

On Feb. 2, a silver 2004 Chrysler Town & Country, driven by Kamala Joan Samson of Densmore, was traveling west bound on Highway K9 just west of E6 Road. A deer was standing in the middle of the road and

Samson was unable to avoid a collision, causing over \$1,000 in damage to the vehicle. No injuries were reported. The accident was investigated by Norton County Sheriff Officer Adam Wahlmeier.

Happy Valentine's Day from the staff at the Norton Telegram