

Norton students attend a 'Paint-In' competition



Six Norton Community High School art class members attended the McCook, Neb. "Paint In" last Friday. The group is seen here working on their theme-based piece that won them first place for the second year in a row. Team member are (from bottom left) Julia Kent, Zach Hartwell, Teslee Nickell, Jade Braun, Shylo Paxton and Carson Kaiser.

Norton Community High School art students participated in a "Paint-In" last Friday in McCook, Neb. Schools brought a team and each team created a painting based on the theme of "The World From a Different Perspective." Taking first place from Norton was the team of Shylo Paxton, Carson Kaiser, Jade Braun, Julia Kent, Zach Hartwell and Teslee Nickell. In an exhibition that began March 15, the following stu-

dents placed: 1st Drawing-Julia Kent, 3rd Mixed-Jade Braun, 2nd Painting-Kelsey Mordecai, Judges Choice Printmaking-Andrew Ellis and 2nd Printmaking-Gabe Bird.

Art teacher Vicki Robison praised the students' accomplishments in the art competitions. "I was very proud of the students that competed. They have continued to work extremely hard throughout the year, and continued to develop

their skills," Robison said. "We won the paint in last year, and to do it two years in a row was very unexpected. I will miss this group of students. They have very creative ideas, excellent work ethic and loads of energy. What a great combination!"

- Courtesy photo

Playhouse kicks off the summer 2012 show season

Prior to the official start of the summer season, Harlan County Dam Playhouse will be showing a night of classic "Three Stooges" movie clips on May 4 at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free, but donations will be accepted.

The summer season kicks off with the musical "Polyester." Opening night is Saturday, June 2 at 7:30 p.m. The musical about an over-the-hill ABBA wannabe group that reunites after 20 years for a public television telethon features dysfunctional calamity in a '70s time warp. The musical runs the first three weekends in June-June 2-3, June 9-10, and June 16-17. Tickets are \$10. "Polyester" is supported through a grant from the Nebraska Arts Council and the Nebraska Cultural Endowment.

The Playhouse's annual melodrama opens Saturday, June 30. "Curse you Otis Crummy, or a Rip in Old Calico," is set in the dried-up silver mines of Calico, Calif. Mix together a conniving villain, a crusading newspaperman, and a cheerful heroine and it's the making of a classic melodrama sure to bring out a few "boos" and "hisses" from the audience. Show weekends

are June 30-July 1, July 7-8, and July 14-15. Tickets are \$10.

Also be watching for the Republican City Follies sometime this summer, featuring local entertainment with a variety of music, skits and dances.

The Playhouse's largest production, "Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory," will play July 28-29, Aug. 4-5 and Aug. 11-12. The familiar tale of poor boy Charlie, who wins a tour of eccentric Willy Wonka's candy factory, combines fantasy and a few lessons in a mesmerizing display of visual eye candy. Tickets cost \$16 for those over 12 years old, \$12 for anyone 12 and under.

All Saturday shows start at 7:30 p.m. with Sunday shows at 3 p.m. Doors open 30 minutes prior to show time. For more information about any of these productions, or if you would like to audition for a role or help with set design, building, or production of any of these shows, contact the Playhouse at 308-799-3093, visit the website, HarlanCountyPlayers.webs.com, or email harlancountydamplayhouse@gmail.com.

Conference

(Continued from Page 1)

of both tracts at 5:30 p.m. The cost to register for the conference is \$15 per person by April 13 and \$20 per person until April 18.

Conference coordinators include Kansas Farm Bureau, K-State Research and Extension,

Farm Services Agency, Norton County Conservation District, Women in Agriculture and WRAPS.

Anyone interested in registering for the conference can contact Farm Bureau at 877-3221 or the Twin Creeks Extension District at 877-5755.

Painting class set for April 11-14

The Dane G. Hansen Museum announces the return visit of a Wheatland, Wyo. artist. Barbara Schaffner will be instructing a four-day painting workshop at the Hansen Museum. These classes will be held on April 11, 12, 13 and 14, and will run from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. with a one hour break for lunch. This learning opportunity is brought 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 artists may call 785-689-4846 for more information or to register by phone. The class is limited to 20 students.

Schaffner was an honors student at West Texas State University, majoring in fine art and art education and returns to Logan for her 10th year. She

will be instructing her second watercolor painting workshop for Hansen Museum. The previous eight years she spent instructing oil painting classes. Schaffner's western scenes and wildlife paintings 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 the purchase award in December 2005 at the 2-Shot Goose Hunt Art Show in Torrington, Wyo. Schaffner also recently completed an 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.

Counselor training to be held this summer

The Northwest Kansas Area Agency on Aging and the Kansas Department on Aging will sponsor training for the Senior Health Insurance Counseling for Kansas program. The training will be held in Hays on May 16, June 13 and July 18. Attendance at all three days is required to be fully certified. Alternate training dates and location are available. All expenses for the training-

food, mileage and lodging (if needed) will be paid. Pre-registration by May 4 is required.

This is a free program that uses trained community volunteers to answer people's questions about Medicare and other insurance issues. Counselors provide free, unbiased, and confidential assistance to beneficiaries, their caregivers and others who have questions about Medicare.

Volunteers receive training on Medicare, Medicare Prescription Drug Insurance, Medicare Supplement Insurance, Long-Term Care Insurance and other health insurance subjects that concern Kansans.

For more information, contact Glenna Clingsmith at the Northwest Kansas Area Agency on Aging at 1-800-432-7422 or (785) 628-8204.

Rabies: Dangerous but preventable disease

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment is reminding the public to have their animals vaccinated against rabies by a veterinarian. With 13 animals testing positive for rabies in Kansas since Jan. 1, health officials here anticipate an increase in the number of rabid animals this year compared to last year.

Vaccines are available for dogs, cats, ferrets, horses, cattle and sheep.

Tips to prevent rabies:

- Have your veterinarian vaccinate all dogs, cats, ferrets, horses and valuable breeding stock and show animals (cattle and sheep) against rabies
- If bitten by an animal, seek medical attention and report the bite to your local public health department or animal control department immediately
- If your animal is bitten, contact your veterinarian or local health department for advice
- If you wake up in a room with a bat present, even if

there is no evidence of a bite or scratch, seek medical attention.

- Do not handle or feed wild animals. Never adopt wild animals or bring them into your home

- Do not try to nurse sick wild animals back to health. Call animal control or an animal rescue agency for assistance

- Teach children never to handle unfamiliar animals, wild or domestic, even if they appear friendly.

For more information about rabies, contact your veterinarian, local health department or the Kansas Department of Health and Environment at 1-877-427-7317.

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