

Week ends with lame joke

By Dana Paxton

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The Norton Junior High KAY group held their KAY Citizenship Week last week with many activities.

On Monday they had the Serve Your School Day. They created posters to hang in the halls for the holidays. They also served cupcakes to the students and faculty.

On Tuesday they had Serve Your Community Day and sold pet rocks to raise money to purchase a volleyball net and two balls for The Rock. The Cowabungs Award went to Callie Uehlin for her pet turtle, Leonardo rock. The most artistic pet rock was Macayla Kent's rock Feathers. The cutest pet rock was Two Stones, made by Cale Patterson and the overall winner went to Nicole Thraikill for her Paris Hilton rock. The group raised \$56 to buy the items donated to the Rock.

Wednesday was Serve Your Nation Day. They sold wishes to the students and raised \$65 but rounded it up to \$100 that was donated to the Make A Wish Foundation. On Thursday the group got to draw for three wishes, two for dodgeball days and one for free seating at lunch.

Thursday was Serve Your World Day to benefit Heifer International. Everyone was to wear a mustache paying a dollar for each person. \$23



was collected and rounded up to \$50 which went toward the purchase of a heifer.

Serve Your Club Day was on Friday. On this day they held a Lame Joke Contest. Six people entered and this year's winner was Jenna Risewick (pictured). She was the only female brave enough to enter.

The Norton KAY group is sponsored by Erin Manning

and she is assisted by Jill Live-ly. This year there are 74 KAY members. KAY stands for Kansas Association for Youth; it is a 65 year old organization sponsored by the KSHSAA. Any student can participate in this service oriented club. They run the concession stand at all the junior high events, and the money raised is used for projects to help the school,

A place for lunch and links

By Ron Wilson

Huck Boyd Institute

"I'll have a burger, fries, and a website on the side." Hmm, is this some sort of urban Internet café? No, although it is a café. This is a place where a rural community can find both lunch and links - the Internet kind. Here we find pride and community spirit.

Michael Kuhn is owner of the Last Chance Café and a volunteer with the PRIDE program in Admire, Kansas. Michael grew up here at Admire. He went to Northern Heights High School and Emporia State where he met his wife. She taught at Admire and now teaches in the nearby rural community of Americus, population 931 people. Now, that's rural.

Michael worked at a lumberyard in Emporia and then took a teaching position at Northern Heights. In 1986, he bought one of the main buildings in downtown Admire. The historic building was constructed in 1904 as a general mercantile store, with lockers, hardware, grocery and dry goods. When visiting railroad workers needed food, the ladies in the store started making sandwiches. That led to the first floor of the building becoming a restaurant which continued after Michael bought the building.

During the next few years, several restaurant managers tried to make it go. In 1990, Michael's parents took it on.

"My dad retired from a full-time job in Emporia so my folks took it over," Michael said. They knew that different managers

had struggled with it through the years.

"My dad said it was the last chance for making a restaurant work here, so we named it the Last Chance Café," Michael said. His parents started offering big home-cooked meals and buffets and developed a good customer base. They ran the café for years before retiring.

Michael expanded the kitchen when he took over. His pizza supplier wanted him to have a big station where customers could watch the pizza being prepared, but there was no room. He got them to agree to let him build an expansion with windows to see the pizza, and he lined it with classic barn wood. Michael now offers quick, convenient food for his customers at the Last Chance Café -- but that is not all he offers there.

In 2005, the community of Admire joined the PRIDE program. PRIDE is a community betterment program coordinated by K-State Research and Extension and the Kansas Department of Commerce. Through PRIDE, a group of local volunteers was organized in Admire.

One of the PRIDE group's first steps was to assess community needs, including a survey of local residents. The survey showed that citizens would be interested in a newsletter of local events and a computer lab to access the Internet.

"I agreed to become newsletter editor on an interim basis, and I'm still the editor," Michael said. I guess "interim" can be a long time.

Another expressed need was a desire for a computer lab or a place where people could get on the Internet. "At that time a lot of our older citizens did not have computers in their homes," Michael said. "They needed a place to check emails from grandkids and things like that."

The PRIDE group procured some computers and set them up inside the Last Chance Café. Now a person can go to the café and check email, get lunch, and pick up a PRIDE newsletter featuring news, birthdays, and community activities.

The PRIDE group is very active, sponsoring festivals and other community events. Admire PRIDE got a grant through the Healthy Ecosystems-Healthy Communities program which supported a public input process for natural resource protection planning. This led to construction of a detention pond near the Admire Community Center for water quality.

"We try to involve the community," Michael said. For more information, see www.admireks.com.

It's time to leave our burger, fries, and a website on the side. We commend Michael Kuhn and Admire PRIDE for making a difference with community spirit and commitment. Here in Admire, one can find a menu on the computer as well as on the countertop.

And there's more. Michael's brother is also active in Admire. We'll learn about that in next week's Kansas Profile.

Windbreaks can reduce feed costs

Established tree windbreaks sheltering beef and dairy cattle operations can save producers money on feed costs, weight loss and milk production during the winter months.

A heavy winter coat protects beef cattle until temperatures drop below 18 degrees Fahrenheit, but beyond that point, Bob Atchison with the Kansas Forest Service said the animals require additional feed to maintain body temperatures. The presence of a windbreak can help remedy this problem.

"A 25 mph wind at zero degrees Fahrenheit creates a windchill of 44 degrees below zero," said Atchison. "By contrast, a

properly designed windbreak will reduce the same windchill to 15 degrees below zero."

Atchison said windbreaks can reduce the spike in energy requirements cattle need to maintain their body temperature during extreme cold weather. He cited Canadian researchers who found that cattle on winter range, in unprotected sites, required a 50 percent increase in feed for normal activities.

"A properly designed windbreak will reduce these needs by half," he said.

Windbreaks enable cattle to gain and maintain weight better as well. He also cited studies in Montana indicating that

during mild winters, beef cattle sheltered by windbreaks gained an average of 34 to 35 pounds more than cattle in an open feedlot. During severe winters, cattle in feedlots protected from the wind maintained 10.6 more pounds than cattle in unprotected lots.

The Kansas Forest Service is now accepting tree orders from producers interested in establishing livestock windbreaks.

Foresters also are available to assist with planning a tree planting. For more information, contact the Kansas Forest Service at 785-532-3300 or visit www.KansasForests.org.

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.

Nov. 29

Nov. 21-Colby Lee Bartlett, Penrose, Colo.; Charge: Speeding 65 in 55; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$143.

Nov. 9-Ferman Wayne Eash, Haven; Charge: Speeding 81 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$179.

Oct. 17-Todd Allan Hinds, Norton; Charge: Failure to wear seatbelt; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$10.

Nov. 18-Anthony Wayne Scott, Cumming, Ga.; Charge: Speeding 77 in 65; Found:

Guilty; Fine: \$155.

Oct. 30-Kurtis P. Shearer, Lenora; Charge: Failure to wear seat belt; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$10.

Dec. 6

Nov. 20-Cary Gilbert Album, Savannah, Md.; Charge: Speeding 79 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$167.

Nov. 1-Pablo Roman Aldaz, El Paso, Texas; Charge: Motor carrier safety rules and regulations; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$213.

Oct. 30-Shane R. Baird, Long Island; Charge: Speeding 77 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$155.

Oct. 5-April Fortner, Norton; Charge: Failure to wear seatbelt; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$10.

Nov. 12-James D. Iatropoulos, Mount Prospect, Del.; Charge: Speeding 76 in 65; Found:

Guilty; Fine: \$149.

Nov. 9-Leopoldo M. Sanchez, Oberlin; Charge: Driving while license cancelled/suspended/revoked; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$348.

Nov. 5-Eddie James Smith, Blue Rapids; Charge: Speeding 81 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$179.

Nov. 18-Daren W. Shepherd, West Fork, Ark.; Charge: Federal duck stamp violation; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$198.

Keeping your credit report accurate

By Julianne Shoup

When was the last time you checked your credit report? Your credit report and your credit score are very important when it comes to applying for new credit. Whether you're applying for a store card, or looking to get a mortgage for a new home, your credit report is key.

According to the Consumer Federation of America, approximately 70 percent of credit reports contain errors and 20 percent contain major inaccuracies which could affect eligibility for credit. Because errors are so common, it is important to check your report regularly and know what to do if there is an error.

Your credit report is not your credit score. However, the credit score is based off information in your credit report. The credit report shows personal information, account information, account activity, credit inquiries, a summary of your rights, and information on how to dispute errors

and address identity theft. Any mistakes in this information are very important to correct.

You can request your credit report three times a year for free at annualcreditreport.com or you can request your report by mail. There are three credit reporting agencies: Experian, Equifax, and TransUnion. You can request a report from each agency once a year.

To dispute mistakes on your credit report the Federal Trade Commission recommends that you contact the creditor or reporting agency in writing to tell them what items you believe to be inaccurate. Your letter should include an explanation and request for errors to be corrected, a copy of your credit report, and copies of any documents supporting the errors you are addressing.

If you have questions, please contact the local Twin Creeks Extension Office or contact Julianne Shoup at jshoup@ksu.edu.

CLUB NEWS

The Norton After-5 Club would like to invite all area women and their guests to attend the December dinner and meeting on Thursday, Dec. 13, at 6:30 p.m. at the Town & Country Kitchen on east U.S. Highway 36. The cost for the dinner and meeting is \$10 per person. Reservations should be made by Tuesday, Dec. 11 by calling Joy Johnson (874-4706).

"ALL THAT GLITTERS" is the theme for the evening. The special feature for the evening is "YULETIDE TRAVELS," presented by Lou Plummer, Logan. Lou will take guests on a visual trip to the Holy Land in keeping with the Christmas season.

The Norton After-5 Club is proud to welcome as its speaker for the evening, Joyce Piskorski, North Platte, Neb. Ms. Piskor-

ski, an inspirational speaker and counselor, will share how the Gift goes on when placed in the right hands in "THE GIFT GOES ON."

The Norton After-5 Club is non-denominational and represents clubs throughout the United States and internationally in 65 countries. All area women are invited to attend.

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Dec. 10-15 ONLY!
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ANNUAL
Senior Citizens Christmas Party
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2012
 2:00 TO 4:00 P.M.
St. Francis of Assisi Parish Center
 108 S. Wabash, Norton, Kansas
PLAY BINGO-
WIN A PRIZE
 For Senior Citizens 55 Years of Age and Older
CHOOSE AN ORNAMENT FROM THE TREE
 Enjoy Refreshments

Holiday Open House

Friday, December 14

Please join us in celebrating the holiday season. Stop by your local Nex-Tech store to enjoy refreshments and register to win a gift pack just in time for the holidays!

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