Branded for life...



An estimated 340 cattle were branded, vaccinated and castrated at the Spring Creek Ranch on Saturday, (From left to right) Don Lowry, Cody Lowry, Joe Lambert and Ashley Dierkins were among the many cowboys and cowgirls putting in the hard work.

—Telegram photo by Mike Stephens

Jennings news

A blanket of snow did not dim the enthusiasm of the Jennings Tuesday Study Club on April 23. After a pot roast lunch at the Broken Wheel in Jennings, club members went to the United Methodist Church for their business meeting. During new business, members paid their \$10 dues for the 2013-2014 year and Sheila Rhodes was elected as the club secretary/treasurer. Members reviewed program idea choices for next year and signed up to be on the program committee. Marie Miller, Patty Foster, Lila Jennings, Paula Krizek, Alice Mizer, Lynn Tacha, Joan McKenna, Joanie Metz, Sue Long, Pat Hall, Violet Foster, Helen Rhodes, Carla Latimer, Ruth Chance, Helen Muirhead, Louise Cressler, Kathy Nauer, Sheila Rhodes and Neoma Tacha answered roll call with their favorite flower or plant. When the business meeting was adjourned, club members carpooled to Mona's Market in Dresden for a taste of spring. Inside the toasty warm greenhouse, Mona Amlong explained the process of establishing and expanding her greenhouse business. Growing flowers and other plants includes lots of hard work, planning and research, and creativity. The first seeds are planted in December and flourish under grow lights. Some plants are started from cuttings and others must be purchased as sets. Trees, shrubs, roses, bulbs and potting soil are also available for sale. In addition, Mona grows pumpkins to sell in the fall and utilizes a variety of fun containers to create wonderful floral arrangements. Surrounded by an array of amazing

and colorful flowers and plants, Tuesday Study Club members experienced visions of delicious vegetables on their plates and beautiful floral containers decorating their front porches. Thanks to Mona and her magical indoor taste of spring, the snow outside was forgotten.

The Jennings City Library board voted to have Carla Latimer, the librarian, purchase a container to be used as an outside book drop at the library. Thanks to Tom Votapka, Jason Rowh and Dean Robinson for setting it up and securing it to a frame stand.

Stan and Ramona Shaw attended the birthday party on Sunday honoring their greatgranddaughter, Lenzy Golemboski, on her second birthday. The party was held at the home of her parents and sister, Katie and Zach Golemboski and Lexy, Colby. Grandparents attending were Cindy Black, Carlsbad, N.M.; Mark and Jackie Golemboski, Colby. Additional greatgrandparents attending included Dennis and Marilyn Wahlmeier, Cambridge, Neb.; Tony and Kathy Surmeier, Colby. In the afternoon they enjoyed attending Lexy's dance recital at the Colby High School gymnasi-

Enjoying card playing Wednesday at the Sunflower Senior Center were: Stan and Ramona Shaw, Eleanor Morel, Diane Carter, Scott Taylor, Wayne and Louise Cressler.

Some members of the Christian Motorcycle Association came to give the message at the United Methodist Churches of Dresden and Jennings. Our minister, Barbara Patterson was

Leaders

(Continued From Page 1)

Patty Rowh, Cindy Linner, Sandy Smith, Troy Thomson, Brad Hopkins, Deena Wente, Catrina Kunclers, Craig Eveleigh, Verla Grysch, Steve Herrs, Janis Monier, Rhonda Browning, Julia Nelson, Nancy McGinnis, Teresa Clydesdale, Kelli Perez and Jamie Wentz.

Leadership Norton County is coordinated and facilitated by the Norton Area Chamber of Commerce with support from K-State Research and Extension and the Twin Creeks Extension District and Norton County Economic Development.

This class of 2012-13 corpo-

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An application process for the 2014-15 Leadership Norton County session will be available June 2014. For more information contact the Chamber Office at 785-877-2501 or the Twin Creeks Extension Office at 785-877-5755.

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Norcatur Public Library received a \$1,000 authors," said Mrs. Jakowski, who applied for the

Norcatur Public Library received a \$1,000 book grant from the Kansas Book Festival, says Librarian Betsy Jakowski.

Kansas First Lady Mary Brownback revealed the winners during a recent news conference at the Statehouse in Topeka.

"The Kansas Book Festival works year around to promote literacy and encourage a life-long love of reading," Mrs. Brownback said. "These grants will help preserve and improve local and school libraries across the state."

"We desperately need more books by current

Bells

authors," said Mrs. Jakowski, who applied for the grant in December, "so we were thrilled to get the grant. That's why I applied."

grant. That's why I applied."

In October, Mrs. Jakowski was named Librarian of the Year. She has agreed to represent Decatur County as a member of the Northwest Kansas

Library System executive committee.

Grainfield Public Library was the only other public library in the Northwest Kansas Library System to receive a book grant. A total of \$12,555 was distributed among 16 school and public libraries

ACROSS

- 1. "That's a laugh!"
- 5. Former press secretary Fleischer8. Invited
- 13. Oxeye window
- shape
 14. Emit coherent light
- 16. Drummer who
- replaced Best 17. One, for one
- 18. Sweet fruit of Washington and Oregon
- 20. Bloodhound's clue
- 21. Retort to 7-Down22. Diana or Betsy
- 23. Sidi ___, Morocco
- 25. PC pic 27. Miss Frances's
- kiddie show 33. Cornhusker State
- 34. Elevator name35. Apollo vehicle
- 37. Attempted to score 38. Wall and 42nd:
- Abbr. 39. Stat for a goalie
- 40. Tool man Allen
- 41. Italian bubbly 43. More rational
- 44. Indoor racket48. Looking down on
- 49. Road reversals, slangily
- 50. Be a blowhard53. Moves like sludge
- 55. Run __ (go crazy) 59. 1963 Johnny Cash
- 61. Mindy of "The
- Facts of Life" 62. Create cuffs on,
- perhaps
- 63. Snow construction64. Role for Welles
- 65. Trombone feature

66. Teachers' org.67. Tuck away

DOWN

- Nonpaying train rider
- 2. Driven by greed3. Christmas pageant
- prop 4. "I'm game"
- 5. Lacking melanin6. Cookie or bread
- morsel
 7. "That's not true!"
- 8. Cigarette tip
- 9. Buffet table heater
- 10. Corn syrup brand
- 11. Boots the ball
- 12. Prohibition backers
- 15. "Me" types

- 19. Strep throat bacteria24. Pharmaceutical-
- approving org. 26. Surprised cries
- 27. Verb with "thou" 28. "Got it, dude!"
- 29. Judd or Watts30. Gained access
- 31. Chan portrayer Warner ___
- 32. Destroy completely36. A child
- 38. Pay a brief visit
- 39. Pathetic sorts
- 41. Actor's rep: Abbr.42. Mad Magazine
- specialty 43. "You don't !"
- 45. Acted shrewish

- throat 46. Nom de ___ ria 47. Coin of Toledo,
 - 50. Victoria's Secret buys51. Small brook

once

- 52. Prefix with knock or lock
- 54. Utah national park56. Castle's trench
- 57. "That's not good!" 58. Was familiar with
- 60. It needs refining
- oo. It fleeds fellfilling

officialjournal

standing guard

enjoying a visit with their fam-

Congratulations to Jess and

Megan Carter on the arrival

of their son, William Thomas,

born Thursday, April 25 at the

McCook Community Hospital.

He has two sisters to welcome

him home. Grandparents are

Ken and Julie Carter and great-

grandmother, Rachel Carter of

Jennings and great-grandmoth-

The Jennings Lions Club will

be sponsoring the Mother's Day

dinner held at the Sunflower Se-

nior Center on Sunday, May 12

serving from 11:30 a.m.-1:30

p.m. Freewill donation is appre-

Visiting Wayne and Louise

Cressler on Sunday was their

son, Russell Cressler of Bison.

ciated.

er, Norma Ward of Clayton.

ily in Illinois Sunday.

By Wayne LaPierre, Executive Vice President

Not Enforcing Existing Gun Laws – That's A Crime

f anybody in Chicago is culpable for the armed carnage on that city's mean streets, it's Mayor Rahm Emanuel, who never misses an opportunity to blame peaceable, law-abiding gun owners for the daily bloodletting by violent Chicago thugs.

Emanuel steadfastly refuses to demand application of tough federal laws that would surgically rid the streets of criminals who currently terrorize many Chicago neighborhoods. And that represents a kind of aggressive political malfeasance.

The reason is simple. If Chicago citizens knew the extent of existing harsh criminal sanctions and that those laws could readily be applied to prosecute real criminals, Emanuel's endless call for new "gun control" would be seen for what it is: an evil campaign to disarm the innocent. And those federal laws apply equally in every corner of the nation.

That reality goes for New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, and for every other mayor signed on to his phony national political machine, Mayors Against Illegal Guns. It also goes for U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder and President Obama.

A January 2013 Chicago Tribune story headlined, "U.S. struggles over which gun crimes to prosecute," reported, "Obama's Justice Department has shown little appetite to prosecute what it considers low-level firearms crimes . . . officials with the department said."

If "low-level" prosecutions of the most violent armed criminals in Chicago were the norm, that city - with thousands of shootings and armed robberies added to its growing number of murders - would see scores of the worst violent gang members and armed drug dealers sent to prison in sure, swift prosecutions. That's true for every city in America.

But Chicago, with the most vicious armed criminals in the nation, ranks 89th out of 90 U.S. Attorney districts. That ranking comes from Syracuse University's Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse (TRAC), which provides the gold-standard review of federal law enforcement performance.

Given thousands of violent crimes involving armed criminals, including record numbers of murders every year, Chicago has seen pathetically few federal gun-law prosecutions: 63 in fiscal year 2011.

How many of the 506 murders involved.

How many of the 506 murders involving firearms in Chicago last year would never have happened had Obama's Justice Department taken criminals off the streets?

A simple look at the law answers that question. Everything real violent criminals do to acquire a firearm is already a serious federal felony. Under federal law, lying to a licensed dealer, lying on the form 4473, and straw sales are all federal felonies that are almost never prosecuted. Holder's Justice Department calls them "paper violations." Yet those are the very crimes that they say demand a "universal background check" - a national registration scheme for all of us.

So let me cite - from a federal public defender fact sheet - a few of the existing federal statutes dealing with armed criminals once they have their guns. I'll give you the prison term first along with the citations in the United States Code (U.S.C.).

•10 years - 18 U.S.C. § 922(g) - for

•10 years - 18 U.S.C. § 922(g) - for possession of a firearm or ammunition by a felon, fugitive, or drug user . . . And possession means touching a gun, any gun, handgun, rifle or shotgun. Any firearm that Dianne Feinstein would ban for us, is already an illegal gun for violent criminals.

10 years - 18 U.S.C. § 922(j) - for

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possession of a stolen firearm.

•10 years - 18 U.S.C. § 922(i) - for stolement or transport of a stolen fire-

arm across state lines.

•10 years - 18 U.S.C. § 924(b) - for shipping, transporting or receipt of a firearm across state lines with intent to commit a felony.

•5 to 30 years consecutive mandatory minimum sentences - 18 U.S.C. § 924(a) (1)(A) - for carrying, using, or possessing a firearm in connection with a federal crime of violence or drug trafficking.

•The death penalty or up to life imprisonment - 18 U.S.C. § 924(j) for committing murder while possessing a firearm in connection with a crime of violence or drug trafficking.

•15 years mandatory minimum - 18 U.S.C. § 924(e) - for a "prohibited person" who has three prior convictions for drug offenses or violent felonies.

•10 years - 18 U.S.C. § 924(g) - for interstate travel to acquire or transfer a firearm to commit crimes.

So, if every possible aspect of acquisition, possession, transport, transfer of a firearm by criminals demands harsh and swift punishment under existing law, what is it that Emanuel, Bloomberg and President Obama really want?

To criminalize - then prosecute - everything that we do as law-abiding, peaceable citizens who own and use firearms.

I want to ask a favor. Copy this column and give it to people in the media and to politicians. Put them on notice that their ignorance of law, feigned or real, and their unwillingness to push for prosecution of real criminals using existing federal law cannot be tolerated -EVER! Otherwise these agenda-driven politicians are complicit in criminal violence.

- Wayne LaPierre