

State collecting data to qualify for KanCare

The State of Kansas Medicaid program, KanCare, is collecting important household information from beneficiaries to meet new federal eligibility guidelines mandated by the Affordable Care Act. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment began mailing the instructions and a data collection form in a letter envelope to about 130,000 KanCare households of beneficiaries who are parents with children and pregnant women. This mailing is not being sent to elderly and disabled KanCare beneficiaries.

The federal eligibility rules beginning Oct. 1 change the type of information the states need when determining Medicaid coverage for their residents. Currently, the State of Kansas does not require KanCare applicants and members to report whether and how many people in a household are filing income taxes. This data collection form asks the family to list how each person in a household is related to one another and indicate which members of that household plan to file income taxes in 2014.

The Kansas Medicaid eligi-

bility system needs this information starting Oct. 1. For new applicants, this information will be collected at the time of application. However, for current KanCare households, this information is needed in the system so that the automated eligibility determination can work when the members are up for review.

"We are asking all current KanCare members who are parents with children or pregnant women to actively check their mailbox for this form and then complete the form and send it to us in the return envelope that we've provided. This information should be returned by September 15th, and it will help us in our work to assist our members with their coverage," said Susan Mosier, M.D., director of Medicaid services at KDHE. "For those requiring assistance, phone numbers are provided in both English and Spanish. If members call the KanCare Clearinghouse and provide this information over the phone, the form does not need to be returned."

For KanCare members who need assistance with the information mailed to them, the

number to call is: 1-855-751-4012 for English, or 1-866-305-5147 for Spanish. Enclosed is a copy of the household Information mailing, which includes the tax relationship form and cover letter.

At the same time these new federal rules will be taking effect, the State of Kansas will be implementing Phase II of the Kansas Eligibility Enforcement System (KEES), which is a new computer system replacing the legacy system that has required the manual processing of applications for 20-plus years. The new household information from KanCare members will be entered into KEES Benefits Management System. For the past 12 months, KEES has allowed Kansans to apply online for medical benefits, though the functionality for processing applications has not been fully automated during this time.

On Oct. 1, KanCare applications submitted online will be processed electronically through KEES. Paper applications will continue to be accepted. For more information about KanCare, visit www.KanCare.KS.gov.

Disc golf tourney held



It was a great day of Disc Golf on Sunday at Elmwood Park, as the Norton Disc Golf Club, along with The Kansas Disc Golf Association and Fog Valley Taxidermy of Norton, hosted the 19th Annual Norton Disc Golf Tournament. Twenty-eight people came out to play, with over half of the golfers in the pro divisions.

Here are the results of the Norton residents:

Open Division - Chris Davis shot a 109 and Joe Bolt (former Norton resident) and Kent Lockhart also participated.

Masters Division - Don Mordecai shot a 106, for 2nd place and won \$100. Chad Gasper and Rodney Dyck (former Norton resident) also participated.

Amateur Master Division - Steve Sprague shot 123, winning the division (won 4 discs). Bubba Lewis shot 124 for 2nd place (won 3 discs and a CTP award). Terry Shearer threw a 129, and former resident Monte Smith threw a 135 and won half the Ace Fund for \$45.

Amateur Division - Trever Lewis shot a 104 (he would

have tied for 3rd place in the Open Division) winning the division. He won 4 discs and a CTP prize. Andrew Soderland took 3rd place, throwing a 121 and winning 2 discs. Aaron Daniels shot a 130 and won a CTP Award. Trenton Sprague also participated.

Women's Division - Charlotte Gasper of Norton participated and won a CTP Award. Charlotte is also responsible for getting many of the sponsors and prizes for the tournament.

Governor proclaims August as Farmer's Market Month

Promoting a growing sector of the state's agriculture economy, Governor Sam Brownback proclaimed August as Farmers' Market Month in Kansas and the week of August 5-10, as Farmers' Market Week.

Farmers' markets provide consumers with access to fresh, local foods and connect them with the farmers who produce their food. Farmers' markets keep money in local Kansas communities and provide additional marketing opportunities for small businesses.

Governor Brownback and the Kansas Department of Agriculture (KDA) recognize the importance of partnering with

farmers' markets and helping them succeed as evidenced by enacting the Farmers' Markets Promotion Act, SB 120, in 2013. SB 120 establishes a central registration of markets and limits the legal liability of registered farmers' markets. Registered farmers' markets will have access to marketing, outreach and advocacy efforts through From the Land of Kansas, the state's agricultural trademark program, and the ability to receive benefits from federal grant dollars awarded to KDA on behalf of Kansas farmers' markets.

"Farmers' markets play an important role in agricultural advocacy and rural economic

growth," said Secretary of Agriculture Dale Rodman. "From 1987 to 2012, the number of farmers' markets in Kansas increased from 26 to 118. As we see this segment of agriculture continue to grow in the future, the Farmers' Market Promotion Act will enable KDA to partner with the markets and help them be more successful."

To locate local farmers' markets, visit www.ksfarmersmarkets.org. For more information on how to register a farmers' market and receive benefits for the market please visit www.ksda.gov/emailmarketer.

LYLE NEWS

By Veda Wood

Toots Magers and I went to the Norton Library on Friday evening to see Destry Jackson's presentation; pictures and memorabilia from her trip and archeological dig in Israel. She, personally, found an amulet, a scarab beetle, which would have been sacred to the Egyptians, and could have been carried back from Egypt at the time of the Exodus. She was not allowed to keep it as it would be kept by the Israeli government. She showed many pictures of the area they were allowed to visit.

Thirteen members of the Magers family met at the Educational Building in Norcatun on

Sunday, August 4 for their annual dinner.

Kathy Van Meter, Lloyd Frandsen, Tim, Jolene, Clinton, Kip, Danielle and Colton Nejd met at Phillipsburg Rodeo Saturday night and celebrated birthdays for Kathy, Tim, Jolene and Kip.

We were saddened by the sudden death of Paul Hawkins. Our sympathies to his wife, Babe, and their families.

Sympathies are also extended to the families of Vi Van Der Wege, whose memorial was on Saturday, and Rodney Stapp, whose funeral was Friday.

June Jolly played Bingo at the Eagles Lodge in Norton on Saturday evening. She and her new

card group plan to meet every two weeks.

On Saturday, Carol and John Moye had ice cream and cake for several family members; Emily Bader, Grant Slater and Kylie Gruwell. Of course, four year old Skylar was saying, "Where's my present?" And, of course, they had at least one for her.

I had an interesting visit with Jay Anderson while we were both in the Physical Therapy section of the Oberlin hospital when he found I had been in the same class in high school with his cousins, Howard and Parley Anderson. No matter where you go, there are interesting people.

NEW ALMELO NEWS

By Betty Otter

Hailey Sophia Strauss was born Thursday, July 11, weighing eight pounds and 15 ounces. Her parents are Jonathan and Amanda Strauss, Olathe. The grandparents are Mike and Arleen Mindrup, Olathe. Her great-grandmother is Dorothy Mindrup of rural New Almelo, great-grandfather is the late Alfred Mindrup.

A bridal shower was held at the St. Joseph Parish Hall

on July 13, for Jessica Arehart and Levi Ninemire. Their wedding will be August 24 in New Almelo.

Funeral services were held at St. Joseph Church on Saturday, July 27, for Paulette Moreland. Father Vincent Thu Laing was the celebrant. Inurnment was at the Lenora South Cemetery. She was the daughter of Budd and Verla (St. Clair) Tyrell. She was born in Lenora on June 18, 1948 and passed away at the

Andbe Home in Norton. She is survived by one son, Cody Moreland, Manhattan; one brother and wife, Darryl and Virginia Tyrrell, Belton, Mo.; four sisters, Patricia Herman, Wichita; June (Jim) Dwyer, Glasco; Phyllis (Francis) Otter, Lenora; Elaine (Robert) Simoneau, Lenora; and many nieces and nephews and other relatives. She was preceded in death by her parents and one brother in-law, Verle Herman.

JENNINGS NEWS

By Louie Cressler

We are all enjoying the cool days and cooler nights we have had recently. Some more rain would be a welcome sight too.

Those playing cards at the Sunflower Senior Center on Wednesday were; Eleanor Morel, Diane Carter, Agnes Wahlmeier, Deb Campbell, Stan and Ramona Shaw, Wayne and Lou-

ise Cressler.

The Stramp Family Reunion was held Sunday in the Sunflower Senior Center.

Monday, August 12, Jennings City budget hearing will be held at 7 p.m. and the City Council meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. at the Sunflower Senior Center.

Tuesday, August 13 at 6 p.m. will be potluck supper at the Se-

nior Center. All are welcome to come join us.

Historic Building Preservation Committee are making plans to add air conditioning at the former Masonic Hall.

Plans are underway for the Fireman's Fun day on August 24, the fourth Saturday of August. Some new stands and fun things are being planned.

Korea

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their loved ones to come home. Those who were deployed as National Guard really never thought they would be sent to war, nor did inactive reserve think they would be. It really wasn't in their plans. Many

wives and mothers have had visits at their door by the military to inform them of the death or severely wounded loved ones. The wounds to their hearts are slow to heal. They need lots of prayer and understanding. Surely we can all do that.

One of the hard parts of the

war for him was to be stationed back in Tokyo. He had been on many fire bomb raids over Tokyo at the last of World War II, and now got to see the devastation they caused. He even had visits with people who had survived the war. That was a strange, fickle finger of fate.

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