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Ann Marie Jennings, District Manager

**NRCS Staff**

Darrel Beougher, District Conservationist  
 Leon Scheck, Soil Conservation Technician

107 W. James Street  
 P.O. Box 985  
 Dighton, KS 67839

***Lane County Conservation District's 65th Annual Meeting - January, 9 2010***

The Lane County Conservation District marked sixty-five years of assisting land-users in conserving soil, water and other related resources. The annual meeting was held on January 9, 2010 at the Dighton High School. Approximately 133 guests were in attendance enjoying a wonder meal of roast beef, mashed potatoes, corn, salad, rolls and cake provided by the Dighton Bowl & Diner. Special thanks is in order to the First State Bank of Healy and the First National Bank of Dighton for sponsoring the meal.

The Soil Conservation Recognition Program is to stimulate a greater interest in the conservation of the agricultural resource of Kansas by giving recognition to those farmers who have made

outstanding progress in the establishment of soil and water conservation practices. This year the Soil Conservation Award went to Ron and Shirley Suppes.



Pictured Left to Right: Jim Bennett, Chairman, Windbreak Winners Ron & Shirley Suppes, Key-Banker Steve Fenster

The Windbreak award recipients were John and Vickie James who were unable to attend to receive their award. The primary purpose of the windbreaks are to provide protection from damaging winds for residential areas,

livestock, or fields. The original windbreak must consist of planted trees and/or shrubs. The plants must be managed and in a healthy condition and a minimum of 3 years old.

The Youth Poster and Limerick winners to this year's "Dig It" theme were awarded certificates and prizes. Max Moomaw ended the evening charming the audience with music and comedy.



Pictured: Entertainer, Max Moomaw

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***Sales & Services Provided by the Lane County Conservation District***

**For Rent:**

- Tree Planter
- Weed Barrier Machine
- Roto Tiller
- Laser Level
- Drip Torch Burner

**For Sale:**

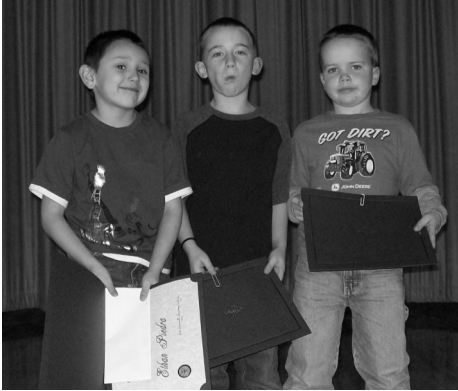
- Drip Irrigation
- Weed Barrier & Stakes
- Marking Flags & Tape
- Trees, Tree Protectors & Root Slurry
- Composter & Recycling Bins

- Rubber Tire Tanks
- Grass Seed

**For current prices:  
 Contact Ann Jennings  
 620-397-5751 x 106**

**E-mail: [ann.jennings@ks.nacdnet.net](mailto:ann.jennings@ks.nacdnet.net)**

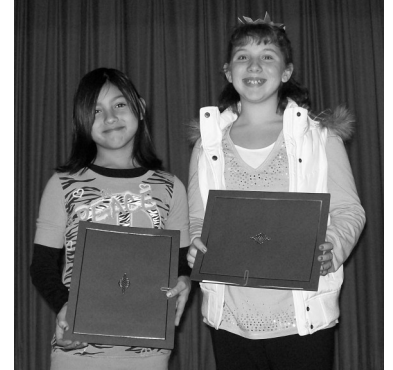
# Annual Meeting (continued)



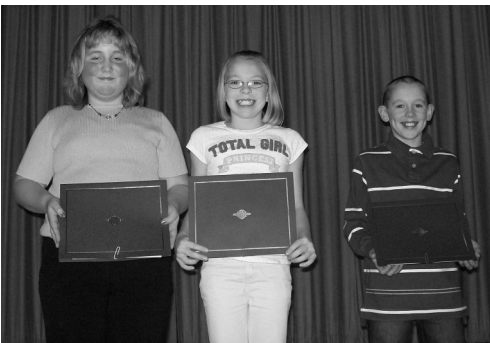
Kindergarten & 1st Grade Poster winners left to right: Ethan Piedra (1st place), Tanner Charles (2nd place), Eli Rupp (3rd place)



2nd & 3rd Grade Poster winners left to right: Asia Yost (1st place), Andrea Charles (2nd place), David Cramer (3rd place)



4th Grade Poster winners left to right: Maritza Chavarria (1st place), Kierra Bradstreet (3rd place), not pictured: Balinda Conine (2nd place)



5th Grade Poster winners left to right: Alexis Peck (1st place), Sara Cramer (2nd place), Gage Barton (3rd place)



6th Grade Poster winners left to right: Payden Shapland (1st place), Tasha Root (2nd place), not pictured Morgan Conine (3rd place)



5th & 6th Grade Limerick winners left to right: Alexis Peck (1st place), Payden Shapland (2nd place), Maegan Seifried (3rd place)

**LCCD is looking for Sponsors to advertise their business in Newsletters like this one!**

**Call or email Ann Marie Jennings for more information.**

**620-396-5751 x 106**

**E-mail: [ann.jennings@ks.nacdnet.net](mailto:ann.jennings@ks.nacdnet.net)**

### Wet Walnut Creek Watershed Scholarship Available

Once again the Wet Walnut Creek Watershed District is offering a \$500.00 scholarship to a high school senior within the Watershed District. The scholarship is being awarded to promote agriculture, soil and water conservation and water quality.

The student should be planning a career in an agriculture related field. This is a broad based field ranging from Ag business, water and soil conservation, water quality, agronomy or other fields.

The recipient of the Wet Walnut Creek Watershed scholarship will also be considered for the \$200.00 scholarship offered by the State Association of Kansas Watersheds.

Seniors attending Ness City, LaCrosse, Otis Bison, Healy, Dighton and Western Plains High Schools are eligible for the scholarship.

Information and applications have been sent to each school counselor. Applications are to be returned to the Walnut Creek Watershed Office by February 15, 2010.

## *Agritourism Workshop*

The Smoky Hills Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) Area, Inc. is hosting the Smoky Hills Agritourism Workshop March 4, 2010. The workshop begins with registration at 8:30am at the Township Hall in Rush Center, located one block west of the 4-way stop on highway 96. The workshop is being sponsored in part by the Ness County Conservation District, Rush County Farm Bureau Association; Flame Engineering, Golden Belt Telephone Association Inc; Rush County Commissioners; Walnut Creek Extension; Dechant and Taylor, Chartered; Lacrosse Livestock Market; Nekoma State Bank; Golden Valley, Inc; Farmer's Bank & Trust, and Rick's Food Store.

Agritourism is a method by which farmers can diversify their farm products and supplement their agricultural incomes. It

can be thought of as one alternative for improving the incomes and potential economic viability of small farms and rural communities. Common agritourism activities in Kansas include: family outings to pick apples or pumpkins; assisting with an authentic cattle drive; relaxing at a winery; or going on a fall hunting trip. If you are interested in supplementing your income with an agritourism business, please attend the workshop on March 4.

Ben Allen of Kansas State University and Becki Rhoades of Kansas Department of Commerce are experts in the field of agritourism. They will be speaking about agritourism in Kansas, including regulations, promotion, and advertising. Shawna Oliver with Farm Bureau Financial Services will discuss high risk and liability insurance. A noon meal is included with your registration,

and it will be served by the KEPK-Relay for Life Team. In the afternoon

we will have virtual tours of Fairview Farms Alpacas and Cottage Lane Pumpkin Patch. The final session of the day will be a panel discussion with all the speakers. Vendors will also be available the day of the workshop.

Vendors can call the RC&D at 785-425-6647 or e-mail Teresa Webb at [teresa.webb@ks.nacdnet.net](mailto:teresa.webb@ks.nacdnet.net) to register for display space. The vendor registration fee is \$50.00. Currently, vendors include: Main Street Floral, Sign Co. ArchCraft, Donnetta Robin, Fairview Farms Alpacas, Country Place Bed & Breakfast, Farm Bureau Financial Services Rush County, Flame Engineering, Golden Belt Telephone Association, Inc., Rush County Economic Development and LoveSmallTownAmerica.com.

**Agritourism Workshop**  
**March 4, 2010 8:30 a.m.**  
**Rush Center, Township Hall**

## *Welcome to Ann Marie Jennings*

Ann Marie Jennings was appointed the District Manager for the Lane County Conservation District coming on-board January, 4th 2010. She comes to Dighton from Denver, CO where she worked as a Media Supervisor for Crispin, Porter & Bogusky Advertising firm working on Domino's advertising campaigns. She's been working in the advertising business since 2001 after receiving her Marketing & Management degree at William Woods University in

Fulton, MO.

Ann Marie has moved back to her roots, growing-up in Dighton., then as Ann Marie Bartlett, daughter of Gary Bartlett. She was married two years ago to James Jennings of St. Louis, MO bringing to Dighton with them their family of two English Springer Spaniels.

Ann Marie says, "she is excited to be back and looks forward to working with the existing and new producers and conservation communi-

ties. I hope to hear from everyone in the coming months. Please stop by and say hello!"



**IT'S TIME TO  
ORDER TREES!!!!**

Contact Ann Marie  
Jennings to put your  
Spring Tree Order in.  
620-397-5751 x 106

**Deadline: March 17,  
2010**

## Lane County Conservation District

PRST STD CARRIER ROUTE  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
DIGHTON, KS  
PERMIT NO. 3

P.O. Box 985  
Dighton, KS 67839

Phone: 620-397-5751  
Fax: 620-397-5773



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E-mail us at:

[ann.jennings@ks.nacdnet.net](mailto:ann.jennings@ks.nacdnet.net)

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All programs and services of the Lane County Conservation District are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, marital status or handicap.



### ***State Cost Share Sign-up: March 22—May 28 Funds Available after July 1st***



Lane County Conservation District (LCCD) is conducting a sign-up March 22, 2010 through May 28, 2010, to accept requests for state financial assistance to install enduring conservation practices. The conservation district administers state cost-share programs locally to improve water quality and reduce soil erosion. Funding is provided by the State Conservation Commission (SCC) through appropriation from the Kansas Water Plan Fund.

Landowners with natural resource concerns on their property are encouraged to visit the LCCD office to discuss the possibility of receiving state financial assistance. Funding is provided through cost-share payments to landowners for eligible practices such as terraces, diversions, grassed waterways, field windbreaks, livestock tanks, wells and waste facilities, critical area planting, pasture and hay-land planting, cross fencing, and abandoned well plugging. (Consult LCCD for a more details), The sign-up does not guarantee approval of cost-share financial assistance. Projects started or completed prior to being approved for funding are not eligible for these funds.

Following the sign-up deadline each request is carefully reviewed to ensure eligibility. The proposed project is ranked according to a system developed by LCCD. The ranking system ensures fairness to landowners and ensures cost share funds are used to meet local conservation priorities. Landowners approved for the program are notified of the practice(s) approved and the estimated amount of cost-share that will be provided. Before the work can begin the contract is approved by the SCC and must be signed by the landowners(s).

The conservation district works closely with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Conservation practices funded with state cost-share funds must be installed and maintained according to NRCS and SCC specifications. It is necessary that landowners work closely with NRCS in the planning stage to ensure practices are applied correctly. Technical assistance for these practices is provided free of charge by the USDA.

For more information please contact Ann Marie Jennings, District Manager, 620-397-5751.