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Kansas Reading Roadmap Summer School Keeps Math and Reading Skills Sharp



Brooklyn DeChant reads to Gladys and John Rempe at Redbud on Tuesday. Below, Brayden Bean reads to Dorothy Cline and Lavena Winfough



Chloe Baum read to Richard Boeckman, Courtland Dodds and Leo Meyer. In the background Wyatt Rager read to Joe Baumchen, while in the bottom photo Ellie Starns read to Kay Abitz and Roberta Baumchen



Kansas Reading Roadmap Summer Program offers students many unique learning opportunities and can help prevent the dreaded "summer slide." Students can lose as much as two months of reading skills during summer break. Fortunately, research demonstrates students that participate in effective summer tutoring programs not only prevent

this loss of learning, but can even make gains on their peers.

KRR Summer Program supports students' learning with specific math and reading skills curriculum. In addition to targeted reading interventions, supporting the academic gains students have made during the school year, students are further engaged with exciting en-

richment, community service, team building and STEM activities, as well as field trips. Students enrolled in this summer's At The Beach Summer Program will raise funds from a lemonade stand to purchase food to donate to the local Food Pantry, read with Redbud residents, build paper towers and airplanes, build and explode volcanoes, float

boats, make fish, shark, octopus, and crab crafts, paint, build sand castles, make beach scene pudding cups, and visit a lake and water park. 60 students are enrolled in KRR's Summer Program. Christy Koelzer is the director of the program which includes a free lunch and bus ride to and from school, paid for by the state of Kansas.

Emergency Manager Breathes Sigh of Relief as Water Recedes

by Mark Portell
MAP News Service
Pottawatomie County officials were breathing a cautious sigh of relief early this week as lake and river levels, as well as the immediate threat of flooding, began to recede.

"It's been a pretty hectic two weeks," Emergency Management Director Chris Trudo told county commissioners Monday. "I'm optimistic. The cup is half full...unlike the lake."

Trudo's optimism was spawned from a multi-day pause in heavy rainfall which has allowed the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to begin drawing down the level of Tuttle Creek Lake just as it was nearing its maximum flood capacity.

The Corps began releasing water from Tuttle's stilling basin (the tubes) last Wednesday, and increased the outflow to a record 30,000 cubic feet per second as the lake level on Friday came within 2 1/2 inches of its maximum flood capacity of 1,136 feet above sea level, or 99.3 percent of lake capacity.

Tuttle Creek, as of Monday morning, was

at 1,134.56 feet, as the Corps continued to release 30,000 cfs, outpacing the inflow of 20,000 cfs, and lowering the level to 96.1 percent of capacity.

The lake reached its maximum capacity in 1993, forcing the Corps to open the emergency spillway gates for the first time and resulting in flooding along the Big Blue and Kansas Rivers in Pottawatomie and adjoining counties.

In the past two weeks, county and city officials have been meeting daily in the county's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in Wamego to prepare for potential flooding, according to Trudo.

"We had a really good response to those meetings every morning," he said. "You have a very good crew that came together quickly and learned how that EOC worked. You can be proud of them—all of them. They spent a lot of long hours."

Among the preparations were: establishing a Red Cross shelter at Wamego Middle School; distributing 500 sandbags each to communities in the potential flood zone; establishing a sandbagging station at the intersection of Highway 24 and Green Valley Parkway named by the county's Noxious

Weed Department; building four-foot earth berms around the EMS station and wastewater pump station in Blue Township; and blocking all public access to rivers adjacent to the county.

Pott County also had a five-person Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) team arrive last Thursday to help deal with logistics, planning and financing of operations.

"They're very knowledgeable and really took a load off, allowing us to deal with more local issues," Trudo said.

With state resources drained due to 56 Kansas counties under emergency declaration, the EMAC team members came from Kentucky, North Carolina, Delaware, Minnesota and Tennessee, according to Trudo.

Although the lake level of Tuttle Creek has sta-

Fairbanks is Stallard Scholarship Winner



Tess Fairbanks is the recipient of the Bruce Wayne Stallard Scholarship for 2019. This young woman was quite active in all realms of her secondary high school career and was recently named a finalist in the 2019 National Merit Scholarship Program. Tess has chosen to concentrate on Education Studies at Kansas State University this upcoming season. Her stated goal will be to teach English as a second language. The



Last Friday these KRR students were giving away lemonade and asking for a donation so they could give the funds to the local food bank. It is all part of community service in KRR program.