

Tuesday  
November 1, 2005

Norton, Kansas  
Home of Neva Erhardt

### Briefly

## Scouts to collect food for pantry

The Norton Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts are planning their annual food drive to benefit God's Pantry. Paper bags were delivered to Norton homes Sunday. Residents are asked to place non-perishable food and household items in the sacks and place on their front porch by 8 a.m. Saturday. If you did not receive a bag, a plastic grocery bag may be used. Needed items include canned foods, paper goods and large-sized diapers.

## Schools look for director

The Norton school board needs someone to serve on the Norton Recreation Commission board of directors starting next month.

Superintendent Greg Mann asks anyone interested to call the office at 877-3386 for more information about the position.

The school board will full the position at its Monday, Nov. 14, meeting. Candidates must be 18 or over and live in the district.

## Boosters plan to meet Wednesday

The Norton Blue Jay Booster Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in the high school cafeteria.

Football coach Bruce Graber and cross country coach Dayton Hager will be the speakers. Coach Graber will report on the Blue Jay gridders' post-season play and Coach Hager will report on the Norton runners' competition in the state meet in Wamego.

Refreshments will be served. All fans are invited.

### Weather

#### Forecast:

**Tonight** — Mostly clear with lows in the lower 40s. South winds 5 to 10 mph. **Wednesday** — Mostly sunny with highs in the upper 70s. South winds 10 to 15 mph with gusts to 30 mph. **Wednesday Night** — Mostly clear with lows in the lower 40s. Southwest winds around 10 mph. **Thursday** — Partly cloudy with highs in the mid 70s. West winds 5 to 15 mph.

## Howell report:

Friday ..... High 72, Low 52  
Saturday ..... High 74, Low 42  
Sunday ..... High 68, Low 40  
Monday ..... High 60, Low 38  
Week ago ..... High 62, Low 32  
Month ago ..... High 79, Low 60  
Year ago ..... High 63, Low 39  
October precipitation ..... 1.85 inches  
Year-to-date precipitation ... 21.40 inches  
(Readings taken at the Paul and Pat Howell farm 10 Miles North and 1/3 Mile East of Norton)

### Prayer

Dear God, forgive us for our impatience. Help us to learn how to wait and trust you in all situations. Amen



It was a nice night for a parade and wiener roast as all of the little ghouls, goblins, witches and fairies found out. There were a wide array of costumes as kids and adults alike gathered around barrels to roast their hot dogs, including Indians and fairies. There was even a dog dressed as a magician. — Telegram photos by Veronica Monier

## Youngsters enjoy annual wiener roast

Several hundred youngsters and parents turned out Thursday night for the 38th annual Heller Halloween Festival held in downtown Norton. The event is sponsored by the Norton City Fire Department and the Norton Area Chamber of Commerce.

The late Don Heller, long-time member of the fire department and fire chief, started the festival in 1967.

"It was a beautiful night," Karla Reed, chamber director said, "We couldn't have asked for better weather."

Costumed children and their parents assembled in the parking lot behind Hall's Clothing Store at 6 p.m. They paraded down Main Street to State Street, turned south for a block, then east on Washington Street to the fire house where the firemen and the department's "Safety Pup" had a wiener roast for all who attended.

"I can't say enough about the firemen's wives," said Fire Chief Mitch Jones. They're the backbone of this thing. They do a lot of work."



## Prisoners count against county for federal help

By CYNTHIA HAYNES

Norton County doesn't qualify for some federal programs designed to help rural communities because it has too many people — unfortunately, many of them are in jail.

Carolyn Applegate, former Norton Area Chamber of Commerce manager, stopped by to see the Norton County commissioners on Monday to tell them that she had researched whether the county could use the federal Homestead Act to help students who would want to return after college.

Mrs. Applegate said that a business person had asked her last summer to check on whether Norton could help students who wanted to return to Norton County.

"Is there any way we could get help to bring college students back into the community and help pay their tuition," she said

students by paying 50 percent of their tuition if they agree to return to their rural communities and work for five years.

"We want to bring young families back," she said.

However, Norton and Ellis counties are the only ones in Northwest Kansas that are not eligible under the act, she said. Both counties have too high a population and it doesn't appear to be declining like the population is in other counties in the area.

The reason Norton County's population isn't declining according to census data, she said, is the prison. Prisoners are counted where they are incarcerated. This is also true of college students and military personnel, she said. They are counted at the colleges and military installations instead of where they originate.

While there are fewer farmers and business people in Norton County, the prison population has compensated for the de-

## Wellness Fair offers opportunity to get checked out at little cost

Put the free Norton County Wellness Fair on your list of things to do tomorrow. The "new look" Norton County Wellness Fair will be held from 4 to 8 p.m. at the Norton National Guard Armory.

If you stop by in the evening, you will not have to worry about providing a meal for your family. The Norton Senior Citizen Center will have sandwiches, soup and pie available for purchase.

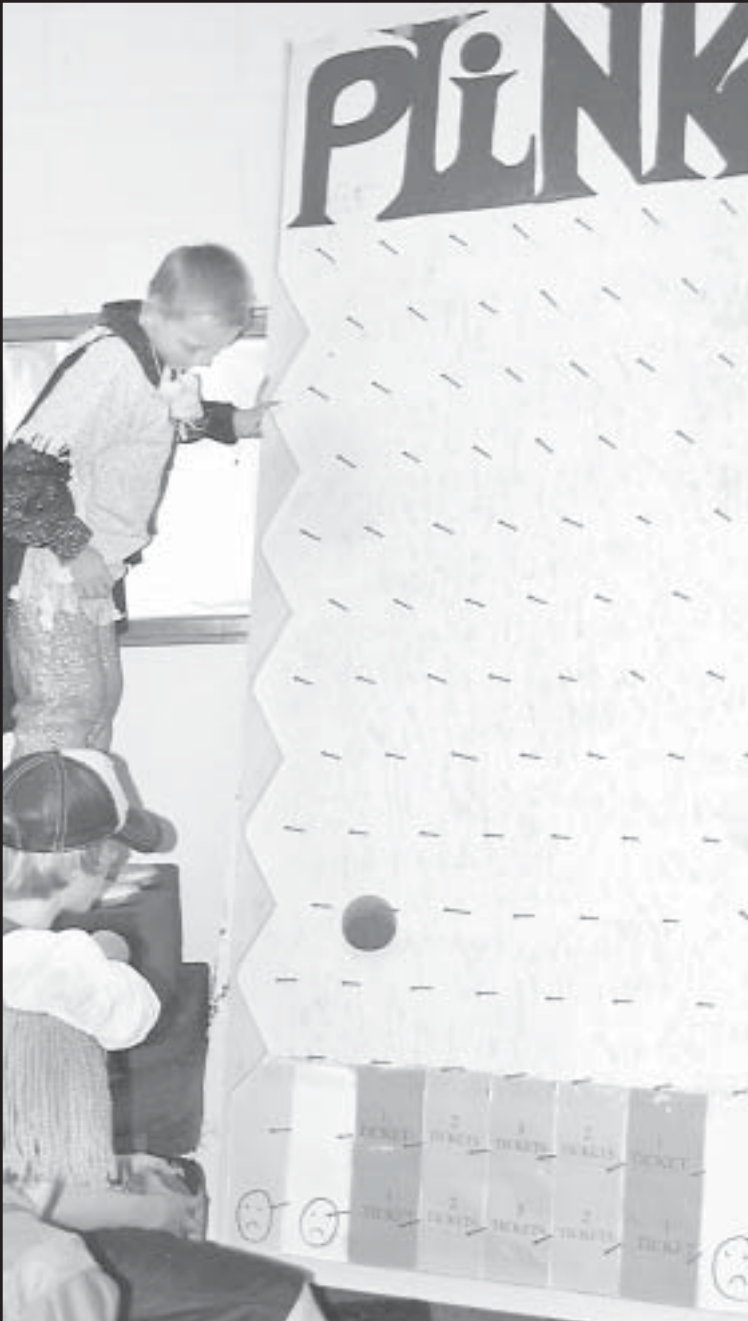
Stop at all the exhibitors tables and get a flu shot, (if the vaccine is available), be screened for bone density (an indication of osteoporosis) learn more about wellness and fitness for men and women, have shoes fitted for the person who has diabetes, learn more about drug and alcohol abuse and treatment, have your blood pressure taken, learn more about dental care and the dental

program at Colby Community College, learn what the warning signs of stroke are, and learn more about services provided by such groups as the Norton County Ministerial Alliance and Valley Hope. For a more complete listing, see the ad on Page 8.

As an added attraction, the Norton Lions Club is sponsoring the Sight Van for hearing and vision screenings, blood pressure tests and others depending on the number of volunteers available to man the stations.

Need a ride? Contact the Norton Public Transportation Office at 877-5352.

For information, call Gina Frack at the Norton County Health Department, Lacy at Norton Manor, K-State Research and Extension, Norton County or e-mail: twwatts@oz-net.ksu.edu.



"Plinko" (left) was one of the games children played at the Norton Christian Church's Christian Carnival held Monday night. Nickolaus Armbrister (above) took aim with a bean bag while Cindy Boller gave him a few pointers. About 200 took part in the annual event.

— Telegram photos by Carolyn Plotts

# Christian Carnival offers alternative to trick or treating

For 22 years the Norton Christian Church has provided an alternative activity for Oct. 31.

This year several new games

entertained about 200 youngsters and parents as every part of the church building was utilized.

Sherry Strayer, an organizer, created a "Maze of Life" in the main meeting room that contained

a message about changing lives. There was Plinko, Bible Trivia, a guessing game, bean bag toss, football throw, ring toss, face painting and water games.

The kitchen served hot dogs for a quarter, and cookies and drinks for a dime.

Children received tickets which they redeemed for prizes at a prize

center in the front lobby.

About 75 adults and youth volunteered to help operate the games and booths.

"I think it was a success. Many

local merchants donated prizes and cash to help underwrite the event," Mrs. Strayer said. "The church always looks forward to this outreach activity."

# Norton man guesses closest to tie breaker

By DICK BOYD

In the toughest week this season for local football prognosticators, David Riemann, Norton, emerged as the first-place winner of the Pigskin Pick-Em Contest and will receive \$15 in scrip money.

David was one of five fans who missed two games and was closest to the score of the Michigan-Northwestern tiebreaker game. Michigan won 33-17 and David picked it 27-17 or just six points off. He also missed the Iowa State defeat of Texas A&M and Kentucky's win over Mississippi State.

Second place scrip money of \$10 goes to Kelly Hill, Norton, who also missed the Texas A&M and Kentucky victories and chose Michigan by 28-21 or nine points off.

Winner of third place and \$5 in scrip money is Brian Thompson, Alma. He missed on the Iowa State win and the Kansas defeat of Missouri. He chose Michigan by 28-23 or 11 points away from the actual score.

Out of the money were Marilyn Lowry, Alma, who also missed the Iowa State and Kansas wins and was 16 points off on the tiebreaker, and Brody McDowell,

Hill City, who missed the Ohio State win over Minnesota and the Iowa State victory. He chose Northwestern on the tiebreaker game.

Missing three games were: Sherri Lowry, Bob Covington, Alma; Roger Shearer, Karen Shearer, Jim Cole, Kenny Therman, Jerome Laurin, Long Island; Barbara Springer, Hoisington; LeeRoy Schuckman, Hays; Dorothy Shearer, Dale Shearer, Edmond; Barbara Brooks, Clayton; Erin Hill, Kevin Jilka, Tom Davis, Kenney Leiker, Jeris Norman, Deb Thiele, Mark Keilig, Sady Keilig, Kirk Foley, Lynn Nelson, Jennifer Terrell, Norton.

Correct on all but four games were: Donna Nichols, Alma; Jim Springer, Mike Hammond, Donald Thalheim, Frank Kaiser, Emily Vallin, Long Island; Mary Boyd, Lexie McDowell, Hill City; Bob Moore, Evelyn Springer, Hoisington; Tiffany VanDerVeen, Prairie View; Jillian Stoelting, Orleans, Neb.; Tim Rowse, Burwell, Neb.; Chris Foley, Fairfield, Calif.; Jared Foley, Wichita; Ann Becker, Lenora; Keegan Smith, Dalton Smith, Spencer Shirk, Howard

Gill, Roland Washburn, Laura Washburn, Georgie Rorabaugh, Lawrence Wiseman, Craig Foley, Virginia Carlton, Dalton Miller, Austin Hager, Mary Ann Hager, Justina Grubbs, Kristy Keilig, Russ Frack, Doug Ray, Ken Gregoire, Jane Mindrup, Norton. Incorrect on five contests were: Dwight Vallin, Kirsten Baird, Long Island; Julie Hilburn, Alma; Nancy Moore, Randy Springer, Andy Moore, Hoisington; Bobby Jackson, Logan; Brad Killian, Lincoln; Paula Stutterheim, Prairie View; Wilma Wiseman, Cathy Kellerman, Dustan Daniels, Douglas Daniels, Betty Harper, Craig Heskett, Tom Baumann, Jo Holmes, Misty Nuzum, Chriselle Thomson, Tracey Sproul, Christian Shewey, Eli Warren, Marj Allen, Luke Keilig, Norton.

Missing six games were: Tim Moore, Hoisington; Aaron McDowell, Hill City; Travis Vallin, Watkins, Colo.; Gail Bailey, Mark Bailey, Norcatur; Linda Covington, Mike Shearer, Carol Voss, Alma; Adrienne Hager, Charlotte Stephenson, Anastasia Foley, Rick Green, Lacy Keilig, Sandy Husted, Amy Daniels, Norton.

The tenth week's entries must be postmarked by 5 p.m. Friday or you may bring them to *The Telegram* office before 5 p.m. on Friday.

See the full page advertisement in today's *Telegram* for this week's college games.

Only one entry per person is allowed but extra blanks for other members of the family may be picked up from any sponsor.

Prizes of \$30 in scrip money will be paid each week. At the end of the season, the fan picking the most correct games will receive \$50 in scrip money and an engraved trophy.

Scores of this week's games were:

- Oklahoma 31, Nebraska 24
- Colorado 23, Kansas State 20
- Kansas 13, Missouri 3
- Florida 14, Georgia 10
- Ohio State 45, Minnesota 31
- Iowa State 42, Texas A&M 14
- Georgia Tech 10, Clemson 9
- Kentucky 13, Mississippi State 7
- Nebraska-Kearney 54, Fort Hays 20
- Southern Cal 55, Washington State 13
- UCLA 30, Stanford 27 O.T.
- Texas Tech 28, Baylor 0
- Michigan 33, Northwestern 17

# Farm service offices safe from federal ax

By KIMBERLY DAVIS

A plan to consolidate and close Farm Service Agencies in Kansas and across the U.S. died under pressure from Congress, farmers, farm organizations and employees.

Bill Fuller, the agency's state director, said the "FSA Tomorrow" plan has been "indefinitely delayed," although the agriculture appropriations bill might allow up to 10 percent of offices nationwide to be consolidated.

While the Norton County office wasn't on the list to be closed, the one in Colby was being examined. The plan, said Mr. Fuller, was designed to modernize the agency.

Bottom line, he said, is that the agency's budget and staffing levels are cut each year. The plan, which originated at the national level, was to close 29 of the 103 offices in Kansas. Nationwide, it would have closed 713 offices.

The result, said Mr. Fuller, would have been fewer offices, but more offices that were adequately staffed.

In Kansas, he said, 34 county offices share a county executive director who spends some time at each office. That means the manager spends a lot of time in the car. Although the plan has been in the

works for the last six months at the national level, it was only unveiled about 2 1/2 weeks ago.

In Kansas, 48 counties met the national criteria to be reviewed and 29 needed to be consolidated under the plan. Mr. Fuller said in the next few weeks, he as state director was going to review those offices and talk with farmers.

Six of those 48 counties are in northwest Kansas, including Logan, Phillips, Rooks, Thomas, Trego and Wallace.

"There has been so much emotion stirred up with this," said Mr. Fuller. "The state director was required to submit a plan in November."

Mr. Fuller said at the state level, they were developing a plan to consolidate fewer than 29 offices.

The positive side to the "FSA Tomorrow" plan is that the national office left it up to the states to decide about the offices. One of the negative sides to the plan being killed is that in some states, he said, offices will stay open that have no employees.

The agency offered some buyouts to employees, he said, and in Kansas, he had to give up 10 staff members who will leave in November. That means that county offices will have even

fewer staff members to do the job.

The national office offered the buyouts because they didn't have the budget to continue operating with the current staff, he said.

He said the budget for the agency comes through tax dollars. Part of the money goes for operations, but the biggest amount goes

to benefits farmers.

"The bottom line is that the Farm Service Agency, like a lot of organizations, can't continue to operate the way it has since the 1930s," said Mr. Fuller. "Service to farmers and ranchers is the No. 1 priority, and I think we can do that with some fewer offices."

# Flags stolen from Legion, cemetery

A report from Alberta Slaby, Norton, alerted *The Telegram* to the fact that two American flags have been stolen from public displays.

Mrs. Slaby, a member of the Norton Cemetery beautification committee, said a flag she donated, had been removed from the flagpole at the cemetery. She said the other flag, a larger one, had been taken from the Norton American Legion.

Legion Post Commander Jake



Durham confirmed the flag had been stolen recently.

"If the person who took the flags would just put them on my front porch, there would be no questions asked," Mrs. Slaby said.

# County won't get help

(Continued from Page 1)

Mrs. Applegate said that she has been working with Sen. Sam Brownback's office but has been told there is nothing that can be done about the problem.

"I sent a final request to Brownback's office to say, 'please see if we qualify,'" Mrs. Applegate said. "And we don't."

"You don't have to research that now because it's there. It's in black and white and I've called Washington two or three times and that's where it is."

"I really felt it would be good

for the county to have these kids come back. If we gave them 50 percent of their tuition and a job for five years they'd want to come back."

Commissioner John Miller said the county has already hit that wall.

"We don't qualify for other stuff, like computer software, because of the same thing," he said.

Mrs. Applegate said she just wanted to let the commissioners know about what she has discovered so that in the future someone else doesn't have to go over the same ground.

## ADULT COED VOLLEYBALL

FEE: \$70.00 Per Team  
PLAY BEGINS  
**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20**  
Teams Are Forming Now  
Get Your Entry Forms at the  
**Norton Recreation Center**  
Entries Due November 10  
Questions? Contact Joan Bolt at 877-2122  
or the Recreation Center at 877-3087

## Doctors Clinic

711 N. Norton—Norton, Kansas  
**785-877-3305**

Front Row: Kay Garman, Glenda Maurer; Back Row: Ruben Silan, Jeff McKinley, Roy Hartley

**Kay Garman, ARNP/CNM**  
**Glenda M. Maurer, M.D. - Family Practice/Obstetrics**  
**Ruben D. Silan, M.D. - General Surgery/Family Practice**  
**Jeffery McKinley, D.O. - Family Practice/Obstetrics**  
**Roy W. Hartley, M.D. - Family Practice**

Medicare, Medicaid and Blue Cross/Blue Shield Participating Provider

To make an appointment please call the  
**Doctors Clinic at 877-3305**  
or **1-800-436-4101**  
OUR OFFICE HOURS ARE  
**8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday**  
We are also open on Saturdays 9 a.m.-12 noon

In the case of an emergency contact the Norton County Hospital  
at 785-877-3351 — 102 E. Holme, Norton, Kansas