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Pages 6 & 7

Vol. 98, No. 93
75 cents

THE NORTON TELEGRAM

Sports:

Nine Norton football players receive all-league honors.

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Friday
November 25, 2005

Santa Claus is coming to town

Santa will be in Norton a bit early this year. In fact, he'll be here from 6:30 to 8 p.m. tonight on the west lawn of the Norton County Courthouse.

Children can come see Santa in his Gingerbread House. Santa and Mrs. Claus

will arrive by sleigh at 6:30 p.m. in the courthouse square.

Children are invited to ride on the sleigh, driven by Tom Brannan, while the Clauses adjourn to the Gingerbread House to visit and take Christmas re-

quests.

Free hot cider and cookies will be served in the courthouse lobby courtesy of the Norton Area Chamber of Commerce and the Chamber Ambassadors.

Stores will be open until 8:30 p.m. for

shoppers.

If anyone misses Santa tonight, they can catch him again in the same spot every Thursday until Christmas. He'll be here Dec. 8, 15 and 22.

Briefly

Wrestling ranks to be set Tuesday

Final pre-season ranking matches for the Norton Community High School wrestling team will be held at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday in the junior high gymnasium.

All fans are invited. Admission is one non-perishable food item, which will be donated to God's Pantry.

Results of the matches will determine which wrestlers will compete in the season-opening Hoxie Invitational Tournament on Saturday, Dec. 3.

Insurance help deadline looms

Farmers and ranchers have until Thursday to buy 2006 non-insured disaster assistance insurance.

Insurance can be bought on grass graze, grass forage, alfalfa forage and oats forage. Sorghum forage applications have until March 15 to be turned in.

For more information, call the Farm Service Agency at (785) 877-5156.

Jan. 31 end date for loan requests

Farmers and ranchers have until Tuesday, Jan. 31, to request loans and loan deficiency payments for 2005 crops including wool, mohair and unshorn pelts.

For more information, contact the Norton County Farm Service Agency at (785) 877-5156.

Arts, crafts fair to be in Oberlin

The Oberlin Holiday Arts and Crafts Show will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday at The Gateway.

For more information call Mary Henzel at (785) 475-3329 or Ella Betts at (785) 475-3557.

Weather

Forecast:

Tonight — Mostly clear with lows in the upper 20s. West winds 5 to 10 mph. **Saturday** — Increasing clouds with highs in the upper 50s. Southwest winds up to 10 mph shifting to the south in the afternoon. **Saturday Night** — Partly cloudy in the evening, then mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of rain showers after midnight. Lows in the mid 30s. Southeast winds 5 to 10 mph shifting to the northeast 5 to 15 mph after midnight. **Sunday** — Breezy and cloudy with a 50 percent chance of rain or snow. Highs in the lower 40s. Northwest winds 15 to 25 mph with gusts to 40 mph.

Prayer

O God, we are thankful to all those who share a bit of their life with us. Help us to share our faith too. Amen



FFA students lend youngsters helping hands

Members of the Norton FFA/Pals program were at Eisenhower Elementary School earlier this week to help students with their homework. Pat Burton (above) helped Tyler Kuhn while Chelle Donovan (left) helped Nicole Tacha. The FFA members help younger students with their homework and activities each month.

—Photos by Charlotte Stephenson

Baseball pops out at school

Board says sport would be too costly

By VERONICA MONIER

Baseball struck out in Norton as the school board decided it would be too expensive to add the sport to its spring lineup.

In September the board was asked to add baseball. Instead of deciding right away, however, the board said it would look at the idea and decide later.

At the meeting this month, Superintendent Greg Mann said he felt the district shouldn't add the sport.

"Joe (Durham) spoke from the heart," he said. "I'm speaking from the head. It's going to be expensive, not to mention the long distances traveled."

Board member Elaine Lofgreen said she had a lot of people talk to her about the issue and they told her not to take it on.

Mr. Durham said Mr. Mann brought up some good points, especially about money. However, he said, he's talked to other schools, which are waiting to see what Norton does before making a decision on the sport.

"They are just waiting on one school to do this," he said. "Phillipsburg is waiting to see what we do. It just takes one and then it snowballs."

Mr. Durham said he spoke with several local businesses, who offered to support the program financially. Also, he said, several young men and women wanted to go to the meeting to give their support of the program.

"This would bring something here that we don't have," he said. "Some people are for it. Some are against it. But, it would

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More roadwork underway west of Norton on U.S. 36

As one major construction job wraps up just west of Norton along U.S. 36, another one is getting underway.

The six-mile stretch that was just widened at a cost of \$6.5 million will transition into another major modification, which begins at the U.S. 36/K-383 junction and will end at the Norton-Decatur county line.

Travis Scott, Kansas Department of Transportation Area One construction engineer, said this nine-mile project began last week with Dobson Brothers of Lincoln, Neb. as the primary contractor overseeing the project.

Preliminary work occurring now includes grading and dirt-work by subcontractors Whitney Construction of Norton and Commercial Contractors of Lincoln.

"Work on constructing new boxes and building four span bridges along the new project will begin on Dec. 1, weather permitting" Mr. Scott said.

Prewatering of the right-of-way is being done this fall in order to prepare the dirt to give it the proper moisture for the required compaction.

"The major grading will begin in earnest this spring with the asphalt

scheduled to be paved in the fall of 2006," Mr. Scott said. "There will be no major detours associated with this project."

Because the roadway is being built on new alignment, the public will be allowed to travel through the construction project with minimal delay.

From the U.S. 36/K-383 Junction to Reager, the new highway will be built north of the existing road. From Reager to the county line, the new road will be built along the south side of the old one.

When this \$17 million project is completed, the newly-designed highway will have 12-foot driving lanes with three-foot paved shoulders and five-foot turf shoulders.

"We will be flattening the hills and filling the valleys which will eliminate no passing zones, thus improving sight distance for the traveling public," said Harold Schleicher, Kansas Department of Transportation Area One Engineer

For more information on any road projects in Northwest Kansas, call Kristen Brands, public affairs manager, at 877-3315 or send e-mail to: kristenb@ksdot.org.

Bank warns customers of scams occurring in area

By VERONICA MONIER

Norton bank customers should be aware that there have been several cases of attempted identity theft in the area.

"We had several customers called by someone purporting to be from our bank saying we've had a computer failure or privacy issues," said Joe Herman, executive vice-president for First Security Bank in Norton. "What they are doing is trying to extract information on our customers' accounts. Identity theft is what's going on."

Mr. Herman said the First Security and other banks in the area can help mitigate the damage if something like this happens to one of their customers.

In the case of the recent calls, the thieves were successful in one case.

"There is no reason why any bank or legitimate firm would call you and ask you for your information, whether its your bank account number or your social security number or any other private information," Mr. Herman said. "If customers call us, then we might ask for some of that information as a means to identify them. But, we would not if we called them."

"Anyone telling someone different is just trying to rip them off."

There are several different types of

scams out there, including identity theft and phishing.

To safeguard your identity and your bank account:

- Don't give out financial information such as checking and credit card numbers or your Social Security number, unless you know the person or organization.

- Report lost or stolen checks immediately. Your bank will block payment on them.

- Notify your banker of suspicious phone calls such as those asking for account information to "verify a statement" or "award a prize".

- Closely guard your ATM personal identification number and ATM receipts.

- Shred any financial solicitations and bank statements before disposing of them.

- Put outgoing mail into a secure, official Postal Service collection box.

- If regular bills fail to reach you, call the company to find out why.

- If your bills include questionable items, don't ignore them. Instead, investigate immediately to head off any possible fraud.

- Periodically contact the major credit reporting companies to review your file and make certain the information is correct.

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Woman appears on game show

By CAROLYN PLOTTS

Hazel Sandell, rural Beaver City, loves the television game show, "The Price is Right".

And while many people have no trouble watching the show, she has to make a special effort since she's been a certified nurse's assistant at Norton County Hospital for 34 years and works nights.

"My family thinks I'm crazy," she said. "But, when I get home, I set my alarm for 10 a.m. so I can get up to watch my show."

"Her show" took on new meaning this fall when she and one of her sisters attended the taping of "The Price Is Right" at CBS Studios in Los Angeles on Oct. 3. She had been to three other tapings, but, this time would be different.

Mrs. Sandell and her sister, Judy Knight of Wichita, were planning to take an Amtrak trip to Los Angeles to visit another sister, Helen Lockwood. They wrote to the studio requesting tickets for the time and day they would be there.

Determined to get a front-row seat, Mrs. Sandell, wearing her Nebraska sweatshirt, took a blanket and pillow and "camped out" on the sidewalk outside the studio from 8 p.m. Sunday until 6 a.m. Monday when the studio gates opened.

"It was cold, too," she said. "People were lined up for four blocks, but it was fun. I've never met a stranger, so I visited with

everybody in line. Three young boys even gave me their lawn chair."

She said, before 9/11, you could drive right onto the studio lot. But, now the gates are closed until the taping begins.

She has no idea what criteria the studio uses to select contestants, but suspects age may have something to do with it.

"It seems to me, they always pick the young ones."

Nonetheless, her perseverance paid off, and by being fourth in line, she got a front-row seat. She was seated right behind the contestant on the far right.

A widow for 20 years, Mrs. Sandell giggled when she confided that the show's long-time host, Bob Barker, was as good looking in person as he appears on TV. She said he is very personable and visits with the guests and shakes hands during commercial breaks.

"He's real friendly and laughs a lot," she said.

"I would love to be a contestant. I know nearly all the prices. I know I'd win."

She doesn't keep the prices to herself, either.

"I yell all the time — even at the TV set at home," she said. "But one of the contestants listened to me and he won a new car."

Tuesday, the show she appeared in was televised at 10 a.m. and



Hazel Sandell, Beaver City, Neb., pointed to herself on the screen as she watched "The Price Is Right" broad-

cast Tuesday morning. Mrs. Sandell was in the studio audience Oct. 3.

— Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

Mrs. Sandell watched herself on her 52-inch television screen. Judging from her enthusiasm, she enjoyed the broadcast just as much the second time.

"I love that show," she said. "I

would go every year, if I could."

Mrs. Sandell has three children. Her son, Don, a barber, and his wife, Barbara, live in Arapahoe, Neb.; her daughter, Vernetta, also lives in Arapahoe. She is the pro-

duce manager at the grocery store in Beaver City. Her other daughter, Johnette, named after her father, the late John Sandell, lives with her mother on the family farm. She works for a local pork

producer. At 76 Mrs. Sandell is still working and enjoying life. "I enjoy my job," she said. "I'm in good health, and all my friends are the people I work with."

School bats down baseball idea as too costly

(Continued from Page 1)

be good for the kids." Board member Jeff Nielsen said they (the board) had to ask themselves what was best for the district.

"I don't think anybody is against baseball," he said. "But, would baseball be a financially sound decision. I don't think it would."

Also, he said, he didn't think the Norton district would be swayed by whether or not Phillipsburg decided to have baseball. The board has to do what's best for the Norton district, he said.

In other business, the board:

- Held four closed sessions —

two for 15 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel and two for 20 minutes to discuss matters relating to students.

- Accepted the resignation of Jill Lively as the high school girls head volleyball coach.

- Heard from Mr. Mann that three companies have looked at the track and all agree that the rubber surface needs to be completely replaced. He said if the board decides to replace the track, which will be decided when capital outlay projects are chosen, there is a grant possibility from Nike and he will submit an application.

- Learned that of the 25 students

who auditioned for the Kansas Music Educators Association Honor Choir and Band, 24 were accepted — 12 in the choir and 12 in the band.

"It's outstanding," he said. "No other school has had 24 students selected at once."

- Heard that there will be a student teacher from Kearney at Eisenhower Elementary next semester.

- Heard a wellness curriculum report from Bill Johnson, weight lifting teacher and a wellness curriculum representative. Mr. Johnson said he's tried to introduce some anatomy and physiol-

ogy into his weightlifting class over the years that he's been teaching it so that the students know what muscles they are working out. He also added some nutrition to the class as well to promote physical fitness for life.

- Reappointed Tammy Black to the Norton Recreation Commission for another four-year term.

- Signed a letter of support for the Jennings School District for its plan to divide the district up when it is disbanded next year. The letter will be going to the Kansas State Board of Education, which has the final decision in how the district is divided.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

NORTON Senior High

Monday — Jay Singers, a.p.

Tuesday — Jay Singers, 7:30 a.m.; Cheer, a.p.; Wrestling rankings, wrestling room, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday — Jay Singers, 7:30 a.m.

Thursday — FFA, a.p.; FCCLA, a.p.; Scholars' Bowl at Atwood, 4 p.m.

Friday — Jazz, a.p.; Kay Dance, Junior High gym, 8-11 p.m.

Saturday — Kansas Music Educators Association Band and Choir in Hays; varsity wrestling at Hoxie, 9 a.m.; Junior varsity wrestling at Alma, 10 a.m.

Next Monday — Jay Singers, a.p.; Scholars' Bowl at Colby, 4 p.m.; Kay board, 7 p.m.

Junior High:

Wednesday — Site Council, 5 p.m.

Thursday — Basketball at Hill City, a.p.

Next Monday — Student Council, a.p.

Eisenhower:

Monday — School resumes, Section B kindergarten reports, 8:30 a.m.

Wednesday — SIT, 7:30 a.m.

Thursday — Sixth-grade Band Concert, Band room, 1:40 p.m.; Early childhood-grade 2 level meeting, 3:40 p.m.

Friday — Fifth-grade Band Concert, band room, 1:40 p.m.

All Schools:

Monday — Professional Development Council, Alice Tweed Office, 4 p.m.

High School Menus:

Monday — Breakfast: French toast stix, fruit or juice or cereal, toast, milk; Lunch: Mr. Rib Sandwich, lettuce and tomato, potato salad, lime/pear Jello-O or chef salad, milk

Tuesday — Breakfast: Biscuit/sausage gravy, fruit or juice or cereal, toast, milk; Lunch: Lasagna, salad, garlic bread, fruit cocktail, or chef salad, milk

Wednesday — Breakfast: Banana bread, fruit or juice or cereal, toast, milk; Lunch: Chili Frito/cheese, carnival salad, pineapple, chef salad, milk

Thursday — Breakfast: Monkey bread, fruit or juice or cereal, toast, milk; Lunch: Taco salad, peas, chocolate pudding delight, or chef salad, milk

Friday — Breakfast: Breakfast casserole, fruit or juice or cereal, toast, milk; Lunch: Baked ham, scalloped potatoes, carrots, peaches or chef salad, milk

Eisenhower Menus:

Monday — Breakfast: Breakfast pizza, rosy applesauce, milk; Lunch: Taco crunch, corn, salad, chocolate cake, milk

Tuesday — Breakfast: Scrambled eggs/ham, pears, milk; Lunch: Ham and cheese, homemade bun, pepper strips, pork and beans, pears, milk

Wednesday — Breakfast: Cereal, grape juice, milk; Lunch: Chicken supreme, green beans, carrots, fruit basket upset, milk

Thursday — Breakfast: Yogurt,

bagel/cream cheese, milk; Lunch: Ham and beans, celery, cornbread, applesauce Jell-O, cookie, milk

Friday — Breakfast: Fruit cristos, apple juice, milk; Lunch: BBQ beef, homemade bun, French fries, dill spear, banana pudding, milk

NORTHERN VALLEY

Monday — High school dance team practice, 6 p.m.

Tuesday — High school cheerleading meeting, 6 p.m., Alma; Junior High (grade 6-8 girls) and High School dance team practice in Alma at 3:30 p.m.

Thursday — Junior high basketball versus Eastern Heights at Agra-C-team girls at 4 p.m.; B-team girls at 4:30 p.m.; High School dance team practice, Alma

Friday — High school basketball at Atwood, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday — High school basketball versus Golden Plains at Alma, 4 p.m.; High school dance team and junior high perform at halftime of varsity boys

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Internet, bank scams found in Norton area

(Continued from Page 1)

Internet "phishing" scams are one of the fastest-growing frauds today. Phishing typically involves a bogus e-mail message that uses legitimate materials, such as a company's Website graphics and logos, in an attempt to entice e-mail recipients to provide personal financial details, such as credit card and Social Security numbers.

To help prevent being phished:

- Never respond to an unsolicited e-mail that asks for detailed financial information. Know whom you are dealing with.
- Report anything suspicious to the proper authorities. Alert the company or government agency identified in the suspect e-mail through a Web address or telephone number that you know is legitimate.
- Contact the Internet Crime Complaint Center at www.ic3.gov — a partnership between the FBI and the National White Collar Crime Center — if you think you have received a phishing e-mail or have been directed to a "phishy-looking" Web site.
- If you think you have been phished:
 - Immediately contact your financial institution.
 - Contact the three major credit bureaus and request that a fraud alert be placed on your credit report. The credit bureaus and phone numbers are: Equifax, (800) 525-6285, www.equifax.com; Experian, (888) 397-3742, www.experian.com; and TransUnion, (800) 680-7289, www.transunion.com.
 - File a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission at www.ftc.gov or (877) 382-4357.

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