

# Church:

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Pages 6 & 7

Vol. 98, No. 99  
75 cents

# THE NORTON TELEGRAM

# Giveaway:

Win \$1,000 in the annual Christmas on Us community promotion on Saturday.

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## Friday

### December 16, 2005

Norton, Kansas  
Home of Dr. Craig Krizek

### Briefly

## \$1,000 prize to be given away

The Norton Telegram and sponsoring merchants will give away \$1,000 at 1 p.m., Saturday on Main Street in front of First State Bank.

In case of bad weather, the drawing will be held at the Norton Senior Center. Bring all your Christmas On Us tickets to the drawing because you must be present to win. Sponsors of the annual promotion were Jamboree Food, Kellie's, Sander Furniture, Norton Shop 'n Save, First State Bank and Norton Flowers, Gifts and Greenhouse. Tickets were also given away by The Telegram and the Norton Area Chamber of Commerce.

## Winter concert to be Monday

Eisenhower Elementary School, grades one-six, will present its annual Winter Concert at 6:30 p.m. Monday at the East Campus Gym. Doors will open at 6 p.m. The fifth and sixth grade bands will play carols and the vocal portion of the program will include traditional holiday songs.

The public is invited.

## Norcatour drawing set for Saturday

The annual Norcatour Christmas Drawing will be held at 4 p.m. Saturday in the all-purpose room of the City Building. Enough prizes and gifts have been gathered from the business community and individuals to insure every family going home with something.

Immediately following the drawing, a soup supper to benefit the pre-school program will be held.

### Weather

## Forecast:

**Tonight** — Mostly cloudy with a 50 percent chance of snow after midnight.  
**Saturday** — Cloudy with snow likely in the morning, then a chance of snow in the afternoon. Snow accumulation around 1 inch. Highs in the mid 20s.  
**Saturday Night** — Cloudy with a chance of snow in the evening with a slight chance of snow after midnight.

## Howell report:

Wednesday ..... High 43, Low 29  
Thursday ..... High 38, Low 18  
Month ago ..... High 59, Low 31  
Year ago ..... High 48, Low 34  
December precipitation ..... 1 1/2" Snow  
Year-to-date precipitation ... 22.20 inches  
(Readings taken at the Paul and Pat Howell farm 10 Miles North and 1/3 Mile East of Norton)

### Prayer

Dear God, help us to share the comfort you give us with those who need your consolation. In Jesus' name. Amen

# 'Haven' to give shelter

## Families find place to stay during visits

By CAROLYN PLOTTS

It's hard to visit someone in prison, especially for family members, who might live a long distance away and have little money.

In the past, Norton has had a place for families to stay during visits.

However, when state money was cut two years ago, the Outside Connections hospitality house at 813 N. Grant was forced to close.

For many families of inmates at Norton Correctional Facility, the closing meant they could not visit as often. The high cost of gas, added to the expense of a motel room, made a weekend trip to Norton prohibitive.

The house had provided a safe, clean and inexpensive place to stay. The visitors were mostly women with children. Occasionally, parents and grandparents would call for reservations.

A few months ago, owners Sam and Merrilee Thomas of Beaver City, Neb., called Jim Rowh in Norton to say they wanted to sell the house. Knowing Mr. Rowh was involved in prison ministry, they approached him with the prospect of buying the house.

A few phone calls later, several other volunteers and business people gathered around a table in Mr. Rowh's business, Pure Prairie Natural Foods, and the idea of re-opening the house, re-named "The Haven", to serve families was born.

Officers of the newly formed board are Mr. Rowh, chairman; Bob Virgil, vice-chairman; Karen Medlock, secretary; Carolyn Plotts, treasurer; and members, Ila Virgil, Jim Plotts, and Dan Pfannenstiel.

Phyllis Holeman, The Haven director,



The Haven's board chairman, Jim Rowh, (above) opening Friday night. Phyllis Holeman (below) helped make beds in preparation for the house's vacuumed on Wednesday. — Photos by Carolyn Plotts

is a non-voting member and chaplain Randall Medlock of Norton Correctional Facility, acts as an advisor and liaison between the board and the prison.

A benefactor stepped forward and financed the purchase of the two-story house on Grant Street.

Norton Christian Church endorsed the facility and the administration of Norton Correctional Facility pledged their assistance. Others have stepped forward with cash assistance, labor and furnishings. Work began in earnest this week.

A minimum security work crew from the prison began cleaning and vacuuming Monday. They removed two old sinks and did some general maintenance.

Tuesday, the house was still an empty shell. But, Wednesday, after a day of unloading donated beds, bedding, furniture, dressers and lamps, the "house" began to (Continued on Page 5)



# District invests in new technology

By VERONICA MONIER

The Norton School District plans to spend some than \$50,000 to update technology at the high school/junior high and grade school.

Technology Coordinator Keith Hauser told the school board Monday that he would like to connect the high school and Eisenhower Elementary with a wide area network.

Right now, he said the schools are connected by an Internet line. The connection is needed so that Eisenhower teachers can input their data — grades, absences, etc. — on the district's central system.

"The server is in the high school and if it goes down, we're in trouble," he said.

Mr. Hauser said a wide-area network would be completely wireless and could make a connection up to 10 miles. Since the grade school is only a mile away from the high school, there should be no problem.

He said it was part of the school's technology plan to go wireless, which is a better way of doing things.

The board approved the purchase of the \$4,866.82 worth of equipment necessary to install the network.

Board member Craig Renner voted no.

In other business, the board:

- Approved the purchase of new computers for \$21,408 for the junior high computer lab as part of a rotation plan for new computers in the district. The motion passed 6-1 with Mr. Renner voting no.

- Approved the purchase of an additional mobile computer lab for Eisenhower Elementary for \$25,562. The motion passed 5-2 with Mr. Renner and Board member Chris Harting voting no.

- Heard a report on the science curriculum from chairman and science teacher George Rossi, who demonstrated software and hardware he uses in his classes.

- Approved the technology plan as presented. Mr. Hauser said the district has to have a new plan every three years, which includes the technology in the district, what technology the district thinks it's going to be getting and what the district is doing with its technology.

- Accepted a bid from Ford Farber for \$350 for a Lathe model 45 and rejected the bids for the other excess woods equipment. The other equipment will be put up for bid again.

- Went into five closed sessions. Two, lasting 20 minutes, were for non-elected personnel and three, lasting 30 minutes, were for employer/employee negotiations.

- Appointed Rene Griffiths to serve on the junior high site council. She will be replacing Brian Carlton, who resigned.

- Appointed board members Jeff Nielsen and Mr. Renner to serve as the board's negotiating team.

# Landfill to get alternative paper covering

By CYNTHIA HAYNES and VERONICA MONIER

Norton County Solid Waste Supervisor Curt Archibald will be receiving a load of alternative covering for the landfill from Wellington, near Wichita, instead of trying to obtain it from Tyler, Texas.

Although Mr. Archibald had already put in an order for a paper product that could be used instead of dirt to cover trash at the landfill, County Commissioner Dean Kruse asked him to try to cancel it as, he thought, he had come up with a better source.

The commissioner said he had found a

company near Wichita, which made the same product and, if the price was right, the county could save the cost of shipping from the Texas facility.

Although the price from Texas wasn't too bad, the county had learned the week before that shipping would be costly and difficult.

Mr. Kruse said that the product from near Wichita was approved by both the federal and state governments and that it is being used by the Allen County landfill.

After making a few phone calls, Mr. Archibald said the company in

Wellington was selling the covering for \$13 a bag, which is the same price the Tyler company is charging. He said he hasn't managed to get any quotes on freight costs yet, but is expecting a call back.

He said a semi-load of the alternative covering would cost \$11,440, which should take care of a year's supply.

Mr. Kruse questioned the need to buy that much.

"We can buy a partial load and not have that much money invested or we can buy a whole load and save on freight," he said. (Continued on Page 5)

# Churches prepare for Christmas

Sunday will be a busy day for area churches with several planning their Christmas programs.

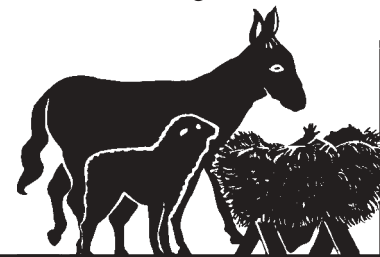
The Logan United Methodist Church will lead the way at 9:15 a.m. with a Christmas Cantata featuring the bell choir and the Sunday School children. At 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, the bell choir will perform as part of the Logan Community Cantata.

First Church of God, Norton, will hold a Christmas cantata at 10:45 a.m. The children's program will be at 7 p.m.

Norton Christian Church is hosting a 5:30 p.m. soup supper, followed by the children's program at 7 p.m.

Long Island United Methodist Church's children's program will begin at 7 p.m.

Living Hope Fellowship, Norton, will meet at 7 p.m., for a special Christmas program with music and readings.





# Newspaper, merchants prepare to give away \$1,000

With the instant prize winners chosen, the only thing left to do is pick the Christmas On Us grand prize winner at 1 p.m. Saturday in front of First State Bank.

Over the past four weeks, 10 sharp-eyed people have found their winning ticket numbers on the special ad page of the Tuesday editions of *The Norton Telegram*.

Six ticket numbers were hidden in each of the sponsors' ads for the first three weeks. By the fourth week, all of the instant cash was claimed, so no ticket numbers were hidden.

In the first week, three \$50 instant winner prizes were claimed.

JoAnn Ankenman, Norcat, picked up ticket No. 428782 at Shop and Save and then found the winning number in the ad for Sander Furniture. Ms. Ankenman said she will probably spend her prize at Shop and Save.

Norton's Judi Carlyle collected \$50 in script money when she turned in ticket No. 9493892. She got the lucky ticket from Sander Furniture and found the number in the ad for First State Bank. Ms. Carlyle said she is going to wait to

see if she wins any more money before spending it, because that will make all the difference as to what she buys.

The third winner for that week was Beverly Hardiek, Norton. Mrs. Hardiek received her ticket, No. 187359, from Jamboree Foods and found the winning number in the ad for Norton Flowers, Gifts and Greenhouse. She said she didn't know where she was going to spend her \$50 prize.

Another three women claimed their winnings in the second week.

Janet Jilka, Norton, was the first to spot her ticket number in the second week of the promotion. Mrs. Jilka, who picked up her



B. Hardiek



J. Carlyle



J. Ankenman



J. Jilka



S. Robison



D. Harbers



F. Cochran



B. Harper



K. VanSki



N. Ward

ticket at Jamboree Foods, spotted ticket No. 187901 in the Sander Furniture ad. She said she would spend her \$50 in scrip money on a Christmas present for her husband.

Shauna Robison, Norton, was the second to claim her winnings, finding ticket No. 2409678 in the ad for Kellie's. Mrs. Robison's winning ticket came from First

State Bank. She said she plans on buying Christmas presents with her prize.

Almena's Doreen Harbers claimed her \$50 in scrip money after turning in ticket No. 809201, which she got at Sander Furniture and found in the ad for Norton Flowers, Gifts and Greenhouse.

"I don't know," said Ms. Harbers when asked what she

planned to spend her winnings on. "When it hits me — it'll hit me."

The final four tickets were claimed in the third week.

Karen VanSki, Norton, was the first to spot her ticket number in the third week of the promotion. Mrs. VanSki, who picked up her ticket at First State Bank, spotted ticket No. 2409671 in the Kellie's ad.

She said her boys will help her decide what to do with the money. Probably, she said, she'll spend it on Christmas gifts.

Frances Cochran, Norton, was the second to claim her winnings, finding ticket No. 006272 in the ad for Norton Shop and Save. Mrs. Cochran's winning ticket came from Jamboree Foods. She said she plans on spending her prize at Sander Furniture.

Norton's Betty Harper brought in ticket No. 8808874, which she got at Flowers, Gifts and Greenhouse and found in the ad for First State Bank. She is probably going to spend her winnings on groceries.

Norma Ward, Clayton, was the last instant prize winner, bringing

in ticket No. 003893, which she picked up at Norton Shop and Save. Mrs. Ward found her lucky number in the ad for Jamboree Foods. She put her winnings toward renewing her subscription at *The Norton Telegram*.

*The Telegram* and Christmas On Us sponsors First State Bank, Kellie's, Norton Flowers Gifts and Greenhouse, Jamboree Foods, Norton Shop and Save, and Sander Furniture will be giving away a \$1,000 grand prize on Saturday.

The grand prize drawing will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday in front of First State Bank on Main Street. In case of bad weather, the drawing will be held at the Norton Senior Center.

Tonight is the last night to get tickets from the participating sponsors. One ticket is available for each \$10 spent at the sponsoring businesses.

Also, one free ticket per week can be picked up at either *The Telegram* or the Norton Area Chamber of Commerce office on State Street.

## House provides haven for visitors

(Continued from Page 1) take on a "homey" feel. It might not make the pages of *House Beautiful*, but it will be clean and comfortable.

Today, will mark the new beginning of an old tradition.

The first guests are expected to arrive this evening. With Christmas and New Year's fast approaching, many families will be making a trip to Norton to visit a husband, son, father or brother at the prison. The Haven, like its name implies, will provide a safe, warm place for them to stay.

The board is committed to keep-

ing the costs down but will ask adult guests to pay \$10 per night, \$2 for children.

"I am amazed at how many things have been collected in so little time," Mrs. Holeman said. "And, the quality of the furniture is fantastic."

Some needs still exist for The Haven.

Blankets and bedspreads are the first need. Since there is no cable or satellite television, video players and family-friendly video tapes would be appreciated. Toys and puzzles are needed and books.

Any group or individual who helps

The Haven will also receive a newsletter chronicling the house's progress.

If there are any groups which would like to "adopt" a room to decorate, they will have the privilege of naming the room.

Two women have already claimed the kitchen.

There are at least 15 other rooms that could be adopted.

An open house in the spring is planned to introduce The Haven to the community.

Visitors at Norton Correctional have to leave the facility at 3 p.m. on visiting days. They can return

at 8:30 a.m. the next day. That leaves several hours on Saturday afternoons and evenings for groups to reach out to these people with other programs.

Perhaps someone would like to teach a quilting class, bake cookies with the children, invite the weekend guests to attend a Saturday evening event or donate tickets to the movies.

Some restaurants have already committed to provide coupons to The Haven's guests, entitling them to such treats as a free cup of coffee with their meal or a discounted meal price.

If you would like to know how you can help, call Mr. Rowh at 877-3610 or Mrs. Plotts at her home in Norcat, (785) 693-4544 or at work at *The Norton Telegram*, 877-3361.

## Closer source found for landfill covering

(Continued from Page 1) "Which do we want to invest in?"

Commissioner Leroy Lang suggested that they buy a couple of months worth to see how well it works before spending that much money, so that if it doesn't work well they won't be stuck with it.

Commissioner John Miller said now they just needed to figure out who was going to haul it from Wellsville to Norton for them.

It was suggested that Mr. Archibald take the road and

bridge three-quarter-ton pickup and a trailer and haul back several pallets to see how well it worked.

Mr. Kruse asked Mr. Archibald to call the company, explain what he was going to be doing and see if they had any suggestions on how many pallets to buy and the best ways of going about bringing it back.

"They've probably seen this before," he said.

The machine needed to spread the material has been ordered, Mr. Archibald said, and it should arrive shortly.

## SCHOOL CALENDAR

### NORTON Senior High:

Monday — Jay Singers, a.p.; Artist of the Month, a.p.

Tuesday — Jay Singers, 7:30 a.m.; Cheer, a.p.; Students Against Drunk Driving, a.p.; FCCLA Board, 7 p.m.

Wednesday — Jay Singers, 7:30 a.m.; Reading Activity, 8:30 a.m.; SAC, a.p.

Thursday — FFA Christmas Party, 1:15 p.m.

### Eisenhower:

Monday — First-sixth grade Winter Concert practice, East Campus Gym, 8:30-11 a.m.; Concert, East Campus Gym, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday — SIT, 7:30 a.m.

### All Schools:

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

Thursday — End of second nine weeks; End of first semester; Early school dismissal, 1 p.m.

Dec. 23-27 — No activity practices, All buildings closed

Dec. 23 -Jan. 3 — No school, Winter break

### High School Menus:

Monday — Breakfast: Pancake/sausage on a stick, fruit or juice or cereal, toast, milk; Lunch: Chili and crackers, carrots and celery, peaches, cinnamon bubble or chef salad, milk

Tuesday — Breakfast: Muffin,

fruit or juice or cereal, toast, milk; Lunch: Pizza, salad, no bake cookie, pineapple, or chef salad, milk

Wednesday — Breakfast: Long John, fruit or juice or cereal, toast, milk; Lunch: Christmas dinner, Chicken fried chicken, corn, potatoes/country gravy, cinnamon/applesauce Jell-O or chef salad, milk

Thursday — Breakfast: Smorgasbord, milk; Lunch: Burrito, green beans, applesauce or chef salad, milk

### Eisenhower Menus:

Monday — Breakfast: Breakfast burrito, fruit cocktail, milk; Lunch: Potato boats, baked beans, fruit cocktail, wheat roll, milk

Tuesday — Breakfast: Pumpkin bread, rosy applesauce, milk; Lunch: Sloppy Joe, homemade bun, corn, tater tots, bananas, milk

Wednesday — Breakfast: Canadian bacon/cheese, biscuit, apple juice, milk; Lunch: Macaroni/cheese, Little smokies, mixed veggies, rosy applesauce, French bread, milk

Thursday — Breakfast: Golden waffles, fruit cocktail, milk; Lunch: Peanut butter and honey sandwich, cottage cheese, peas, celery, mandarin oranges, milk

### NORTHERN VALLEY

Monday — High School Dance

Team Christmas Party; Breakfast and lunch payments due, noon; Western Kansas activity directors meeting in Dighton, 8:15 a.m.; Junior High basketball versus Logan at Almena starting with C-team girls, 4 p.m.; Student Council pork loin dinner during Junior High basketball game, 4:30-7:30 p.m.

Tuesday — High School basketball, at Brewster, 4 p.m.

Wednesday — NVEA Christmas Party at Long Island Community Building, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday — End of second nine weeks; End of first semester, Dismiss at 1 p.m.

Friday — No school and No sports practices through Dec. 27.

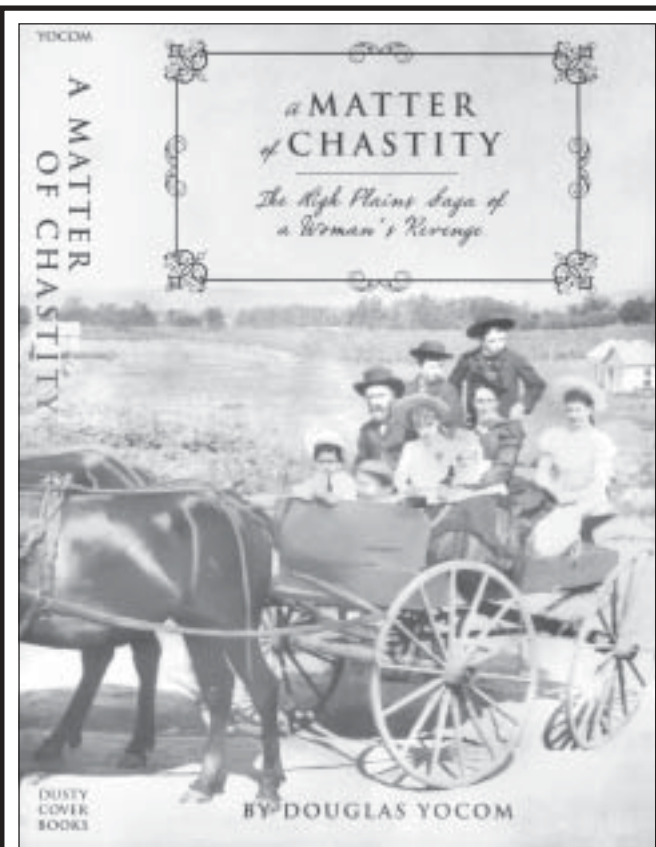
### Northern Valley Menus

Monday — Breakfast: Ham-n-cheese biscuit, peaches, cereal; Lunch: Sierra chicken, salad, peas and carrots, tapioca pudding

Tuesday — Breakfast: Breakfast burrito, orange juice, cereal; Lunch: Sloppy Joes, potato salad, baked beans, chocolate cake

Wednesday — Breakfast: Monkey bread, ham, apple juice, cereal; Lunch: Porcupine meatballs, mashed potatoes, beets, spice cake

Thursday — Breakfast: Blueberry muffin, sausage patty, applesauce, cereal; Lunch: Shaved turkey on bun, tri-tators, peas, rosey applesauce



Book by Kansas Native Douglas Yocom

### THE NORTON TELEGRAM

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