

Take advantage of the best local guide to what's on TV next week with The Telegram's handy schedule of programming.

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Tuesday

December 20, 2005

Norton, Kansas  
Home of John Liddle

Briefly

## Shortest day is tomorrow

If it seems to be getting dark a lot sooner than it should, it's because of the winter solstice — the shortest day of the year.

This year the shortest day is Wednesday.

And, despite the weather we've been having over the last couple of weeks, Wednesday is also the official beginning of winter.

From Wednesday on, the days will gradually lengthen until on June 21 the summer solstice or longest day of the year will occur and summer will officially begin.

## Christmas cards, letters in special

Friday's edition of *The Norton Telegram* will feature a special section of letters to Santa from area children. The section also includes Christmas greetings from area merchants, businesses and organizations.



## Booster club

## to take a break

The Norton Blue Jay Booster Club is taking a break during the winter vacation.

The next meeting will be at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 4, in the high school cafeteria. Wrestling coach Bill Johnson, girl's basketball coach Kevin Jilka, and boy's basketball coach Doug Reusink will speak on their respective teams' early season competition and preview upcoming contests.

Free refreshments will be served. All Norton Community High School sports fans are invited

## Weather

### Forecast:

**Tonight** — Lows around 17. West winds 5 to 10 mph. **Wednesday** — Highs in the mid 40s. West winds 5 to 10 mph. **Wednesday night** — Lows in the lower 20s. West winds 5 to 10 mph. **Thursday** — Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 50s. West winds 5 to 10 mph. **Thursday night** — Lows in the mid 20s. **Friday** — Highs in the mid 50s.

### Howell report:

Friday ..... High 32, Low 20  
Saturday ..... High 24, Low 17  
Sunday ..... High 22, Low 16  
Monday ..... High 25, Low 11  
Month ago ..... High 53, Low 31  
Year ago ..... High 60, Low 28  
December precipitation ..... 6 inches  
Year-to-date precipitation .. 21.75 inches  
(Readings taken at the Paul and Pat Howell farm 10 Miles North and 1/3 Mile East of Norton)

## Prayer

Lord, thank you for the love you send to us through friends. Teach us to give to others as you give to us. Amen

# Highway projects need money

By VERONICA MONIER

Several road and bridge projects in northwest Kansas might not get finished unless the state is able to come up with more money, since federal money is less than expected and the Legislature has been borrowing from the road fund.

Secretary of Transportation Deb Miller said at a tele-press conference earlier this month that, in 2004, the Legislature restructured the 1999 Comprehensive Transportation Program's budget. That included an assumed increase of \$250 million from the federal government.

## Legislators plan to wait and see

By VERONICA MONIER

It'll be a waiting game to see if the state Legislature will give the Kansas Department of Transportation the money Transportation Secretary Deb Miller says it needs.

Ms. Miller said in a press teleconference two weeks ago that the department is short on federal money that was promised and will have to make cuts to the 1999 Comprehensive Transportation Program's (Continued on Page 5)

"The federal bill, known as SAFETEA-LU (Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A

Legacy for Users), was approved this summer, and I appreciate everything that members of the Kansas congressional

delegation did to get an increase in funding for Kansas," Miller said. "But, after weeks of analyzing the several thousand pages of the bill, we now know that this funding component is approximately \$117 million short of what the 2004 Legislature had assumed when it restructured the (Comprehensive Transportation Program's) tight funding package."

The Legislature also had a contingency plan, which included the sale of bonds in case federal money fell short.

She said in addition to asking the Leg- (Continued on Page 5)



Carolyn Plotts, Telegram employee and Mistress of Ceremonies, (above) matched ticket numbers with Donna Gosha, after Mrs. Gosha announced that she had a winner. Cheri and Peyton Renner (left) waited to hear what number would be called next while trying to keep warm.

— Telegram photos by Veronica Monier

## Merchants, paper give away \$1,000 in Christmas money

About 100 people braved the chilly wind and 23 degree temperature to see who would win the Christmas On Us cash given away by *The Norton Telegram* and six Norton merchants Saturday.

In just over 10 minutes, five tickets were drawn and \$1,000 was given away.

Four youngsters — Peyton Renner, Katie Bohl, Autumn Harvey and Shayd Dicks — each reached into the nearly 20,000 tickets and pulled one out.

Then, Audrey Morel drew the fifth and final ticket, picking a winner. When No. 003419 was

called, Donna Gosha came forward with her matching ticket to claim the \$1,000 prize.

Mrs. Gosha's ticket came from Norton Shop and Save. She said she would probably finish out her Christmas shopping, but on later reflection thought something for her daughter, who gave her the ticket, would be in order.

"We decided to pick out something together," she said. "Maybe a recliner at Sander Furniture. We're thinking about it."

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# Norton churches to celebrate the Nativity

With Christmas falling on a weekend this year, area churches have a full slate of activities.

**Norton First United Methodist Church** will have candlelight and communion services at 7 p.m. and 11 p.m. Christmas Eve. Sunday services will be held at regular times; early service at 8 a.m., Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. and second service at 10:30 a.m.

**Edmond United Methodist Church** is planning a 5 p.m. Christmas Eve service with worship service Christmas Day at 9 a.m.

**Norton Trinity Episcopal Church** will have a 10 p.m. Christmas Eve service with Father Dennis Gilhousen serving the Holy Eucharist. There will be no services Christmas Day.

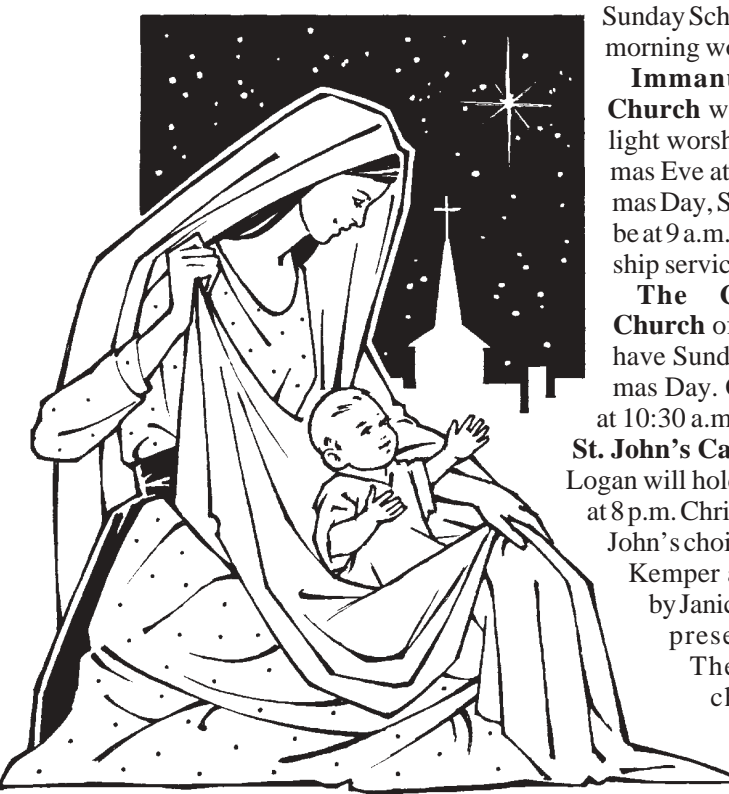
**CrossRoads Church** will have Sunday morning services at regular times; Christian Education at 9:15 a.m. and morning worship at 10:30 a.m.

**St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church** will have an 8 p.m. Mass and a 10 p.m. Mass on Christmas Eve. Christmas Day, Mass will be at 10:30 a.m.

**Prairie View Reformed Church** will have a 7 p.m. Christmas Eve service at 7 p.m. On Christmas Day, church will be open at 9:30 a.m.

**Luctor Christian Church** will have services at 7 p.m. Christmas Day.

**Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran** invites everyone to its 6:30 p.m. Christmas Eve program. It is called C.H.R.I.S.T. is a M.A.S. (Missing A Savior). On Christ-



mas Day, a song worship service will be held at 9:30 a.m.

**Norton Christian Church** is planning a 6:30 p.m. candlelight service. On Christmas Day, there will be no early church or Sunday School. Worship service will be at 10:40 a.m.

**First Church of God, Norton**, will have its regular schedule. Adult prayer, 9:15 a.m.; children's prayer, 9:30 a.m.;

Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; and morning worship, 10:45 a.m.

**Immanuel Lutheran Church** will have a candlelight worship service Christmas Eve at 7 p.m. On Christmas Day, Sunday School will be at 9 a.m., followed by worship service at 10:30 a.m.

**The Congregational Church** of Almena will not have Sunday School Christmas Day. Church will begin at 10:30 a.m.

**St. John's Catholic Church** of Logan will hold a special service at 8 p.m. Christmas Eve. The St. John's choir, directed by Tam Kemper and accompanied by Janice Lohrmeyer, will present a program.

There will be no church services Christmas Day.

**First Christian Church** of Logan will hold a 5 p.m. candlelight service Christmas Eve. On Christmas Day, Sunday School will be at 9:30 a.m. and worship at 10:30 a.m.

**The Norcatour United Methodist Church** will have a 5 p.m. Christmas Eve service featuring the children's program. Christmas Day church will be at 10 a.m.

**The Clayton United Methodist Church** will have Christmas Eve services at 7 p.m. Christmas Day services will be-

gin at 11 a.m.

**The Almena United Methodist Church's** Christmas Eve service will be at 9 p.m. Morning worship on Christmas Day will be at 8:30 a.m.

**Long Island United Methodist Church** is planning an 8 p.m. candlelight service on Christmas Eve. Christmas Day, services will be at 11 a.m.

**The First Baptist Church, Norton**, will have services at regular times Christmas Day, 11 a.m. However, there will be no evening services.

**Living Hope Fellowship** will not have morning services on Christmas Day, but rather at 6 p.m.

**Logan United Methodist Church** will host a 6:30 p.m. candlelight service Christmas Eve. Church will be at the regular 9:15 a.m. time on Christmas Day.

**United Parish of Lenora** is planning a 6:30 p.m. candlelight service Christmas Eve. On Christmas Day, Sunday School will be at 10 a.m., followed by morning worship at 11 a.m.

**Maple Grove Church of the Brethren** will have church on Christmas Day at 11 a.m.

**Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration, Logan**, will not have service, Christmas Day.

**Lenora Church of God** will hold Christmas Eve services at 5:30 p.m. Christmas Day services will be at 10 a.m.

**Lyle United Methodist** will not be having Christmas Day services.



# Money needed for highways

(Continued from Page 1)  
 islature to enact the contingency plan early in the next session, she is going to ask for the repayment of \$125 million in loans that was taken from the highway fund and put in the state general fund when the state was having a budget crisis. The Legislature said it would repay the highway fund.

The highway program, which was started in 2000 and slated to continue through 2009, includes several Norton County projects.

U.S. 36 and K-383 has been re-done from Norton west to the Decatur County line and U.S. 283 from the county line north to the Nebraska state line. Several bridges have been replaced on K-

9 and the viaduct east of Norton was rebuilt.

This year, the department started rebuilding U.S. 36 from the K-383 junction to Norcatour.

There are projects remaining in northwest Kansas that need to be done to finish the statewide program, Miller said. If the Legislature doesn't approve the contingency bonds and repay loans, then some projects might not be completed.

Major modification projects in the area that are in jeopardy include K-383 from the Norton-Decatur county line to the west city limits of Jennings, K-27 from Goodland south to the Sherman-Wallace county line,

and U.S. 183 from Plainville south to Hays.

There are also smaller projects in Decatur, Osborne, Sheridan, Sherman and Thomas counties that have yet to be let and might not be if the money doesn't come through, the secretary said.

"We've made an enormous investment in the state highway system and it will take money to maintain it," said Ms. Miller. "If we don't have sufficient revenue to complete these projects, we'll have to go back and see what we have to cut as far as projects go. But, we're not prepared to do that today. We're confident we'll get the money we need."

# Legislators need to look at cash

(Continued from Page 1)  
 tation Program if it doesn't get some.

When the Kansas Legislature restructured the program in 2004, she said they put in provisions in case something like this happened.

She said she would ask the Legislature to issue \$210 million in bonds.

On top of that, she said she will be asking the state to pay back the \$125 million it took out of the transportation department's budget and put into the general fund.

Rep. John Faber said he was going to have to wait and see what other bonds were being proposed before giving any kind of yes or no vote.

"The governor is proposing a

tax cut on machinery and equipment," he said. "We need to see how that will affect us if it passes."

"I'm just going to have to see what the outlook for the budget is when I get there (Topeka) before I can make any decisions."

Rep. Faber said if the budget is left as it is, it is going to be pretty flat. To get any of the extras done, the state will have to have tax increases.

"I guess I can sum it up in one sentence," he said. "I'm going to keep the powder dry. We know there are going to be a lot of folks asking for money."

Sen. Ralph Ostmeyer said the state came up with a positive ending balance for 2005 of about \$90 million. But, he said, that money

is already spoken for in 2006, 2007 and 2008 spending.

"We have around \$200 million in new spending that we're not even going to meet over," he said.

"I don't know if we should be bonding ourselves into our grandchildren's time, but we also need to keep up with our transportation program, which is very important."

Sen. Ostmeyer said the transportation department will probably get some bonding, but not as much as it wants. But, he said, he didn't know and didn't really have a feel for the situation, since he is not on the transportation committee.

The Kansas Legislature will be back in session on Monday, Jan. 9.

# Woman wins prize in drawing

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 The four unclaimed tickets were No. 003170 and No. 3355672, which both came from Shop and Save; and No. 006565 and No. 925674, which both came from Jamboree Foods.

The Christmas on Us participants won \$1,500.

For three of the four weeks preceding the big giveaway, ticket numbers appeared in random ads in a special Christmas on Us page in the paper on Tuesday. Those holding the matching tickets had until Friday of that week to claim one of 10 \$50 instant prizes.

A week before the big drawing, all of the instant prizes were claimed. Winning were JoAnn Ankenman, Norcatour; Judi Carlyle, Norton; Beverly Hardiek, Norton; Janet Jilka, Norton; Shauna Robison, Norton; Doreen Harbers, Almena; Karen VanSike, Norton; Frances Cochran, Norton; Betty Harper, Norton; and Norma Ward, Clayton.

The \$1,500 in the contest must be spent at participating Norton businesses. Money spent locally at the businesses during this promotion totaled one quarter of a million dollars.

Sponsoring businesses were First State Bank, Kellie's, Norton Flowers Gifts and Greenhouse, Jamboree Foods, Norton Shop and Save, and Sander Furniture.

The 20,000 tickets were given away by the six sponsors, *The Telegram* and the Norton Chamber office..

# Board member honored

Northern Valley School District recognized board member Gale Hays Monday night for his accomplishments in the Kansas Association of School Board's Boardmanship Academy.

Mr. Hays received awards from the Kansas Association of School Boards by earning points for attending continuing education courses from the association and the National School Boards Association.

He achieved Level I status. Board members must accumulate 50 points to achieve Level I status.

This is the 20th year of the academy, which asks board members to receive continuing education.

The association sponsors workshops and seminars throughout the year with points based on the length and content of each seminar. The points are totaled at the end of the year and awards are presented.

"It is crucial that school board members seek ways to be informed of the ever-changing status of public education," said John W. Koepke, the association's executive director. "We hope to show concerned citizens, the Legislature and other taxpayers, that school board members are both informed about the issues and conscientious about their duties to the children of this state."

# Congratulations



*Christmas* ON US

# Winners!



**\$1,000 Winner — Donna Goscha**

**\$50 Instant Winners**



Janet Jilka



Betty Harper



Bev Hardiek



Francis Cochran



JoAnn Ankenman



Judi Carlyle



Karen VanSike



Norma Ward



Doreen Harbers



Shauna Robison

## A special thanks to these sponsors . . .

Sander Furniture and Gifts      Norton Flowers, Gifts and Greenhouse      Kellie's Alltel  
 First State Bank, member FDIC      Jamboree Foods      Norton Shop and Save

*Thanks to the Norton Area Chamber of Commerce for handing out tickets, McMullen and Wyatt for the sound system, and the City of Norton for the flagging used to block off the street during the drawing.*