



Michelle Armbrister, organizer of "Mittens for Kittens" and her son, Nikolas, sat amid the dozens of items donated to benefit cats and dogs at Norton Animal Shelter. — Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

Cats, dogs benefit from gifts

For the second year in a row, cats and dogs at the Norton Animal Shelter will benefit from the efforts of Michelle Armbrister. Mrs. Armbrister, an avowed animal lover, organized "Mittens For Kittens" in an effort to do something to help the shelter. As a side benefit, she wanted her son Nikolas to learn to care for animals. This year she had two corporate sponsors, Twice Sold Treasures and Norton Animal Health Center. Donated items were collected at both locations. Mrs. Armbrister delivered a carload of gifts to the shelter that included food for cats and dogs, toys, medicines and cat litter. "We really appreciate Michelle's help," Animal Control Officer Sherry Hickman said. "These things help keep our costs down. Judging from the number of items donated, I know the community appreciates her, too."

Business gets new name, sign

A Bank of the West sign has replaced the Commercial Federal Bank sign on Washington in downtown Norton. The acquisition of Commercial Federal by Bank of the West was agreed to in June. The cash transaction was valued at \$1.36 billion and became final Dec. 4. Commercial Federal operated 198 branches in seven states. BancWest Corp., whose principal subsidiaries are Bank of the West and First Hawaiian Bank, is the seventh largest bank holding company in the western U.S. Jolene Weiser, previous agent for Commercial Federal, will hold the same position with Bank of the West. "Our customers will not see any break in their service," Mrs. Weiser said. "We are still here to give them the same kind of personal service they came to expect from Commercial Federal."



Bank of the West will still offer car loans, house mortgages, savings and checking accounts and all other services they had previously offered. She said there will be no staff changes. Samantha Fulton, Judy Lang and Kay Risewick will remain with the office. Every merger brings about some changes, she said, but she and her staff will make adjustments when they come along. One of the benefits, she pointed out, was the better interest rates she can now offer on certificates of deposit. She said Bank of the West now offers a 4.25 per cent rate on a 12-month CD. "That is outstanding, considering what's going on in the CD market," she said. The bank's website is www.bankofthewest.com.

Churches will celebrate with New Year's worship services

Immanuel Lutheran Church, 814 N. Second Street will hold a New Year's Eve worship service beginning at 7 p.m. The First Church of God, 1010 Churchill Drive, will host a "Come and Go" Communion Service from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Parties mark new year Youth, adults can have fun

Several establishments will be hosting New Year's Eve parties.

Youth
The Rock, a non-denominational youth center, will open for its first event Saturday night. All area teenagers are invited to the New Year's Eve party from 8 p.m. until 1 p.m. There will be a \$5 admission price that covers food and soft drinks all night. There will be games, big screen television, and music. Adult supervision will be present all night. If teens leave the premises, they may not return that night.

Adult
• Attitudes will be serving supper from 5-9 p.m. At 9:30 p.m., the party begins on the bar side until 1:30 a.m. Entertainment will be provided by "Karaoke Explosion" with Steve Seaton. There will be a small cover charge. Everyone over 21 is invited.
• The Norton Eagles Club invites members and guests to a casual New Year's Eve celebration beginning at 7 p.m. Everyone is asked to bring finger foods to share and your favorite board game. Cards will be played and the bar will be open.

• Mamma Millie's, Norcat, will sponsor the Second Annual New Year's Eve Bash in the big gym of the Norcat school building. There will be a \$10 cover charge that includes the dance, party favors, a finger-food buffet and one drink ticket. Jam Session is deejaying the dance that starts at 9 p.m. Karaoke begins at 11 p.m. Organizers said the party will go until everyone wants to go home.
• O'Brien's Bar and Grill will be open New Year's Eve from 1 p.m. to 2 a.m. Food will be served all day with well drink specials. Party favors will be provided and hors d'oeuvres will be served. Dance music will be from the jukebox.
• The Time Zone in Lenora is bringing in the Blane Younger Band for its New Year's Eve party from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

The Norton Telegram... News you need!

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING
Solomon Valley Rural Fire District No. 3
MONDAY, JAN. 9, 2006
7:00 P.M.
at the Fire Station
Lenora, Kan.

Planning a New Kitchen?
Save with 2005 Pricing by Ordering KraftMaid Cabinets before Jan. 15, 2006

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New Year's Greetings
From Your Friends and Neighbors

We hope 2006 treats you as well as you've treated us this past year. Thanks for your kind and loyal patronage. Please accept our sincere best wishes for a happy and successful year ahead!

United Northwest Federal Credit Union
912 N. Archer, Norton, Kansas
Phone: 785-877-5191

Cardinal Bar and Grill
Main Street, Norcat~ 785-693-4499

Thursdays: Mexican Night
Friday, December 30: Pizza Night/\$1 Draws
Saturday, December 31: New Year's Eve: All You Can Eat Bull Fries

ORDER OFF MENU ANYTIME

HOURS: Mon.-Thurs. 7 a.m.-10 p.m.; Fri.-Sat. 7 a.m.-Midnight

NOTICE OF 57TH
Annual Meeting
Monday, January 16, 2006
11:30 A.M.
to be held at the St. Francis Parish Hall
104 S. Wabash, Norton

Please R.S.V.P. by Wednesday, January 11

\$1.00 PER MEMBER

United Northwest Federal Credit Union
912 N. Archer Avenue, Norton, Kansas — Phone: 785-877-5191

THE NORTON TELEGRAM
and the Norton Area Chamber of Commerce welcome the
"Norton Coin Laundry"
to the business community

The "Norton Coin Laundry" which is owned by Gary and JoLynn Lockhart is located at 106 W. Lincoln, Norton, Kansas. Hours for the laundromat are 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. The phone number is 877-2818. There is a 50-pound capacity washing machine and four 18-pound front-loading machines available along with four 30-pound dryers. All the machines operate on quarters.