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Women in Norton County! Mark Your Calendars,

Almena/Lenora Every Tuesday afternoon for the "Too Good for Drugs" after school program through May, up to 5:00.

If you miss one, come next time!

785-874-4200

Mark Your Calendars, Norton Every Thursday afternoon for the "Too Good for Drugs" after school program through April 27, up to 5:00. (No session 3/16) If you miss one, come next time!





Taking care of all kinds of

By VERONICA MONIER

Being the Norton Animal Control Officer is just one of the many hats Sherry Hickman

Mrs. Hickman has been the Animal Control Officer for about four years. She got into it because she used to substitute for the previous control officer, who was her sister.

"Ilike animals, although I know I can't save them all," she said. "When my sister resigned, Ithought it was something I might want to do.

"Plus, the kids were younger and I wanted them to know that people cared about ani-

As a part of the job, Mrs. Hickman picks up stray animals; provides them with basic care such as food, water and shelter on a daily basis; does welfare checks; deals with complaints; picks up dead animals; and handles adoptions and releases.

She said she likes the job and working with

"They're (the animals) grateful," she said.

"There's a lot of self satisfaction in it, espe-

cially when you find a good home for the animals. Then people send you pictures later and it makes you feel good."

Her favorite part of the job is taking care of the animals — being at the shelter, feeding and watering them, letting them out, playing with them.

The best moments of her job are when an animal gets rescued. Just recently, she said, Second Chance Homeless Shelter found a home for a 10-year-old dog.

"No one was going to adopt her because she was too old," she said. "We were going to have to put her down, but then we got a call. They found a home for her. She was taken to a farm in Nebraska where she can live out the rest of her days. That's a good feeling."

The hardest she said she has to deal with is animal abuse and neglect cases.

"I haven't had to deal with very many, but are all hard to deal with because people can be so cruel," she said.

Another hard thing to do, she said, is educating the people she deals with to take bet-