

Pass the bread please...



A re-enactment of Leonardo da Vinci's "The Last Supper" was portrayed Sunday morning at Norton Christian Church. The actors representing the 12 disciples and Jesus Christ are from left to right: Scott Kleinschmidt, Pat Douglas, Brock Wilson, Cody Shepherd, Dan

Skrdlant, Aaron White, Jeremie Krehbiel, Dave Fischer, Austin Baar, Terry Petrie, Bernie Mindrup, Jeff Nielsen and Brad Cox. The drama was directed by Joan Hale.

— Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

Loans are available for farmers, ranchers

The United States Department of Agriculture can make loans to farmers and ranchers to build or upgrade farm storage and handling facilities under the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act, according to information from the Norton County Farm Service Agency office.

The loans have a seven-year term with annual principal payments plus interest amortized over the term of the loan. The maximum principal loan amount is 85 percent of the net cost not to exceed \$100,000. The Farm Service Agency maintains a first lien on the facility and a first lien is required on the real estate where the structure is located for all loans over \$50,000.

Producers interested are encouraged to stop by the Norton Farm Service Agency office.

Grant to help stop tobacco use

A state funded grant of \$68,385 has been awarded to the Youth Access Prevention Partnership to help implement activities designed to reduce youth access to cigarettes and other tobacco products in seven northwest Kansas counties including Norton, Ellis, Graham, Phillips, Rooks, Russell and Trego.

Twelve agencies in Kansas will split more than \$600,000 in state aid, which is to be used to coordinate a comprehensive range of strategies to reduce retailer violations for sales of tobacco products to minors. "Last year, the Youth Access Prevention Partnership and the Regional Prevention Center at Smoky Hill Foundation for

Chemical Dependency, Inc., partnered with a coalition of state agencies and organizations to introduce an initiative known as *It's Everybody's Business* in an effort to educate tobacco retailers and prevent tobacco sales to the young people in our communities," said Jodi Sander, project coordinator.

"This grant will help provide the resources we need to further our efforts to educate retailers and others in our communities about the laws regulating tobacco sales to youth and the deadly health risks of tobacco use," she said.

Readers wanting more information or to access resources, to go www.itseverybodysbusiness.org.

Deadlines have been extended for farm programs

Sign up deadlines for two important farm programs have been extended, said Vesta Hobbs, executive director for the United States Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency in Norton County.

She said the deadlines are now April 28 for the Conservation Reserve Program general sign up and the special Conservation Reserve Program re-enrollment and extension opportunities.

"All eligible farmers and ranchers are encouraged to take

advantage of the CRP enrollment options available now through April 28," she said.

After the general sign up ends on April 28, the Farm Service Agency will evaluate offers based on cost and the Environmental Benefits Index factors for Wildlife, water, soil, air and enduring benefits. Accepted offers will become effective Oct. 1, 2006.

Subject to compliance review, CRP participants with contracts expiring in 2007 now have until April 28 to apply for special re-enrollment or extension opportu-

nities.

The Farm Service Agency is also notifying CRP participants with contracts expiring in 2008-2010 of their re-enrollment and extension opportunities. The deadline for participation to respond is June 30.

The Conservation Reserve Program is a voluntary program that helps agricultural producers safeguard environmentally sensitive land, according to the Farm Service Agency.

Producers enrolled in CRP plant long-term, resource conserving

covers to control soil erosion, enhance wildlife habitat and improve water and air quality. In return, the Farm Service Agency provides participants with rental payments and cost-share assistance. Contract duration is between 10 to 15 years.

Detailed information on the Conservation Reserve Program is available at the Norton County Farm Service Agency office and on the agency's website at <http://fsa.usda.gov/daftp.cepd/crpinfo.htm>

HUSKY NOTES

The class schedule for next school year at Northern Valley will remain the same. That matter was taken up at the April 10 school board meeting at the Almena School where the board reported that feedback they had received from the community was opposed to changing the schedule.

Board members reported that the feedback was negative for any change in the start and end time of the daily schedule. They indicated that they felt the proposed change might benefit high school students if it would not affect elementary students.

No action was taken on the proposal. Next year's daily start time and dismissal will remain the same.

Here are the remaining notes from the board meeting:

Members Present : Gale Hays, president; Drake Gebhard, vice president; Doyle Baird, Glenn Brands, Blaine Marble, Harlan Ponstein, Alan Woodside; Dwight Vallin, principal; Bill Lowry, superintendent and Barb Nelson, clerk

President Hays called the meeting to order at 8:03 p.m. with seven members present.

• Adoption of Agenda: Mr. Marble moved and Mr. Woodside seconded a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

• Approval of Minutes: Mr. Baird moved and Mr. Ponstein seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the March 13, 2006 board meeting as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

• Approval of Bills: Mr.

Woodside moved and Mr. Marble seconded a motion to pay the bills as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

• Hearing of Visitors: Robbie Griffiths, Susan Lowry, Emily Zillinger, Cole Kinderknecht, Avery Thalheim and Brynton Anderson were welcomed.

Mr. Wetter was scheduled to give a board education program but was unable to attend. He asked Susan Lowry to read his written report to the board. He reported on the latest happenings and upcoming events for his students. He detailed various things that the different groups are working on. His report reflected his enthusiasm for his instrumental music program.

Robbie Griffiths thanked the board for allowing her to take two personal days in order to go on the New York trip with the students. She reported briefly about the trip.

She shared a project with the board on how to make a pyramid to use as a graphic organizer. She uses this method when their area of study is three parts. Students can write the areas on the outside of the pyramid and make notes on the inside. It is easier for students to learn when they use a hands on visual aid such as this, she said.

She also showed the group examples of a visual aid called "Mr. Gallon Man" that demonstrated methods to help them remember measurements for gallons, quarts and pints.

She expressed thanks to Mr. Fessenden, Mr. Brungardt and Cameron Duede at the time of Henry's incident in February.

Mr. Hays announced that Verlaine Schooler had asked him

to thank the board for allowing her to go on the New York trip as a sponsor.

Susan Lowry also thanked the board for allowing her to go on the New York trip with the students. She reported that she enjoys her job at the school; she is the Family and Consumer Science teacher and is teaching seven classes this year. She reported on her supplemental duties. She said that being the KAY Sponsor is the most rewarding and being the Jr. Class Sponsor is the most exhausting. She gave a brief history of the KAY organization and also listed the current year's activities.

Comments were made regarding the league forensics tournament which was hosted by our school last week. Our students performed well and are the league champions.

• KASB Membership Dues: Mr. Woodside moved and Mr. Marble seconded a motion to renew membership and pay the dues for 2006-2007. Motion carried 7-0.

• KASB Legal Assistance Fund: Mr. Marble moved and Mr. Baird seconded a motion to pay dues and join the KASB Legal Assistance Fund. Motion carried 7-0.

• Four-Year-Old At-Risk Grant: Mr. Lowry said this is a continuation grant and is due May 3, 2006. Mr. Ponstein moved and Mr. Baird seconded a motion to approve ap-

plication for this grant. Motion carried 7-0.

• Roof Repair Report: Mr. Lowry has contacted High Plains Roofing from Hays and Jayhawk Roofing from Colby to examine the roofs on all buildings and submit bids for repairs. Both of the firms were given copies of the report provided by EMC Insurance. High Plains Roofing has inspected the roofs and has submitted a bid. Jayhawk Roofing should inspect the roofs and have their bid submitted by next month. The custodians will be able to do some of the minor repairs indicated.

• 2006-2007 School Calendar: Mr. Lowry is looking at a schedule very similar to this year's schedule. He will get activity dates from Mr. Brungardt when he returns and finalize calendar proposal.

• Resignations: Mr. Gebhard moved and Mr. Ponstein seconded a motion to accept Donna Nichols' resignation from the 7-12th grade science teaching position. Motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Gebhard moved and Mr. Woodside seconded a motion to accept Mary Ellen Roeder's resignation from her position as cook in the Almena cafeteria. Motion carried 7-0.

Susan Lowry, Robbie Griffiths, Emily Zillinger, Cole Kinderknecht, Avery Thalheim and

Brynton Anderson departed at 9:10 p.m.

• Secretarial Position: At 9:10 p.m., Mr. Marble moved and Mr. Ponstein seconded a motion to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters for non-elected personnel; and that the board return to open meeting in 20 minutes in the same location. Motion carried 7-0. Mr. Lowry and Mr. Vallin remained in the room for this executive session. The executive session is required to protect the privacy interest of an identifiable individual. At 9:30 p.m., Mr. Woodside moved and Mr. Gebhard seconded a motion to return to open meeting. Motion carried 7-0. No action was taken. Applications were reviewed and interviews will be scheduled.

• Teaching and Supplemental Contract Renewal 2006-2007: At 9:30 p.m., Mr. Baird moved and Mr. Marble seconded a motion that the board enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters for non-elected personnel; and that the board return to open meeting in 20 minutes in the same location. Motion carried 7-0. Mr. Lowry and Mr. Vallin remained in the room for this executive session. The executive session is required to protect the privacy interest of an identifiable individual. At 9:50

p.m., Mr. Brands moved and Mr. Ponstein seconded a motion to extend this executive session for 20 minutes. Motion carried 7-0. At 10:04 p.m., Mr. Ponstein moved and Mr. Marble seconded a motion to return to open meeting. Motion carried 7-0. Mr. Woodside moved and Mr. Marble seconded a motion to offer academic contracts as listed, excluding previous resignation, with supplemental contracts to be reviewed at a later date. Motion carried 7-0.

• Negotiations: There was nothing new to discuss.

• Administrative Reports: Mr. Lowry shared information on upcoming regional meetings.

Mr. Vallin reported on recent past and upcoming events for the elementary and junior high schools.

• Board Member Reports: Mr. Hays commented that he thought the Health and Wellness Fair, which was held prior to the Senior/Faculty games, was well attended and was a success. Board members also commented that the Wax Museum which the sixth graders produced the same evening was really neat.

• Adjournment: At 10:15 p.m., Mr. Marble moved and Mr. Ponstein seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion carried 7-0.

These minutes are not official until approved at a subsequent board meeting.

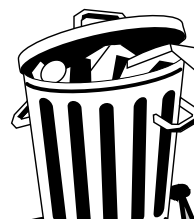
Norton City-Wide CLEAN-UP

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday,
APRIL 24, 25, 26

All items must be out by 8 a.m. on your regular route day, and must be in piles by type.

Only metals and tree limbs will be picked up in the alley! Tires and hazardous waste WILL NOT be picked up. There is a \$10 charge per appliance with freon. Maximum of 2 truck loads per residence.

TWICE-A-WEEK PICKUP BEGINS APRIL 10



ANNUAL BOARD MEETING THE ROCK

Christian Youth Center
7:00 P.M.

Monday, April 24
at The Rock Center

• All Youth, Parents and Public Invited •
Northeast Corner of Intersection of Main and State
Phone 874-4870 — Norton, KS

Ham & Lamb Fry
Saturday, April 22
6:00-7:00 P.M.
\$7.50 Per Person

American Legion

NORTON, KANSAS

Members and Guests Welcome