

Ladies hold Saturday brunch

By CAROLYN PLOTTS

Saturday morning, the Fellowship Hall at the Norton Church of God was transformed into an elegant dining room. Twelve tables were arranged in the room and each table was decorated, by its hostess, in a different Christmas theme. Some had angels, some had stacked presents and candles, others featured silvery fabric and ornaments.

The women of the church hosted a brunch to which guests were invited. Table hostesses were Donna Kentfield, Kathy Beckman, Kari McMullen and Kollean McMullen, Kelly Perez, Claire Ann Eppinger, Alicia Worthington, Tamra Cochran, Ida Cochran, Jennifer Boutwell, Marilyn Colip, Kay Mills and Jane Burton.

Servers were: Tabitha Vincent, Hannah Fulton, Kyra Fulton, Sophie Mills, Ashley McMullen and Fayth Davenport.

The men featured Christmas egg casserole, Christmas greens with balsamic dressing, fruit ambrosia, fresh baked muffins, coffee, tea and punch. The food committee was made up of Jane Burton, Marilyn Colip and Kathy Richard.

The theme for the event was "Keeping Watch". Susan Fontenot, Palco, was the guest speaker.

Local merchants donated prizes for a drawing. They were: Decor and More, The Razor's Edge, First Security Bank, Danna Kelly of



Making sure each napkin was folded so-so, Kathy Beckman, was one of 12 table hostesses for a Saturday morning brunch hosted by the women of the Norton Church of God.

— Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

Mary Kay Cosmetics, Floral Gate, Twice Sold Treasurers, Moffet Drug Store, Norton Flowers, Gifts

and Greenhouse, Pure Prairie Natural Foods, White Fields coffee House, Sander Furniture and

El Even Day Spa.

Larry Henderson provided the sound equipment.

County, landowners square off on prairie dogs

By TOM BETZ

A prairie dog war emborils Logan County, where at least two landowners want to keep some of the squirrels, but the county commissioners vow to eradicate them.

There's more at stake than just a couple of rodent-infested ranches, though. The landowners have invited federal officials to restock the rare black-footed ferret on their pasture.

In the wide-open west, where stockmen view prairie dogs as field-ruining vermin, nearly as welcome as rattlesnakes, others fear having an endangered species that lives with and eats prairie dogs will force the end of any attempt to control the pests.

To put it mildly, they're against it.

That's why a county-hired exterminator tried to enter land owned by the two renegade ranchers last week to poison the critters. To add insult to injury, county commissioners planned to send the landowners the bill under a state law with allowed the county to kill prairie dogs for landowners who won't.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has been working with Larry Haverfield and Gordon Barnhart, who have spreads south of Russell Springs, to see if the black-footed ferret could be reintroduced on their ground.

The Logan County commissioners have been a major roadblock in the effort, turning down prairie-dog management plans from both men. Mr. Haverfield has 6,000 acres and Mr. Barnhart

1,500.

Last week, Mr. Haverfield said, a Wyoming company called DiamondDot had sent Troy Hausauer to Barnhart's land to start poisoning the prairie dogs. Mr. Haverfield said the Wyoming firm was hired by the county. He said he told Mr. Hausauer and a sheriff's deputy that the land was going to be used by cattle the next week.

"Barnhart's daughter found a lot of poison on the surface," Mr. Haverfield said Saturday. "They poisoned about 20 acres, but I put Barnhart in touch with the boss, Mitch Esponda, and I don't think they will be coming back on our land."

Mr. Haverfield said Jerry Wilson, an investigator from the Kansas Department of Agriculture, was out to check the land this week.

"We found out who you call when they come in on you," Mr. Haverfield said.

Mr. Haverfield said he and Mr. Barnhart have been working with the Fish and Wildlife Service for about a year to keep their prairie dogs and plan the reintroduction the endangered ferrets, so elusive and rare they once were thought to be extinct.

The service planned an open house Tuesday in Oakley from noon to 6:30 p.m. to talk about the plan, Mr. Haverfield said.

"We have lots of wildlife on our ranch," Mr. Haverfield said. "Yesterday I saw a flight of about six hawks flying together north of the house, and saw two eagles sitting

on a windmill several miles northeast of the house.

"We run a lot of cattle, and want to bring in the ferrets to help control the dogs. Barnhart and I have about 7,500 acres of land with prairie dogs.

"The neighbors and the commissioners are worried that bringing the ferrets will keep them from farming. The federal wildlife people are hoping that the open house will give people a chance to

learn more about what we are trying to do."

Mr. Haverfield said the open house will be a great educational opportunity. A live ferret is coming from Wyoming on the way to the Hutchison Zoo.

"We have a great many people interested in bringing the ferrets back," he said. "There is a lot of emotion behind the opposition, and it is hard to get the right information out."

PUBLIC NOTICE

Estate of Dan M. Liberato

Published in The Norton Telegram on Tuesday, November 21, 28 and December 5, 2006. (3T)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF NORTON COUNTY, KANSAS PROBATE DIVISION

Case No. 2006-PR-28
In the Matter of the Estate of **DAN LIBERATO**, also known as **DANIEL M. LIBERATO**, Deceased

NOTICE OF HEARING THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed in this Court by Karen L. Liberato, as surviving spouse and one of the heirs of Dan Liberato, also known as Daniel M. Liberato, Deceased, praying for the determination of the descent of the following described real estate:

Lots One (1) and Two (2), Block Seven (7), New Almelo, Norton County, Kansas;

and all other property, real and personal, or interest therein owned by the decedent at the time of death; and you are hereby required to file your written defenses thereto on or before December 13, 2006, at 9:30 o'clock a.m. of said day in said Court, in the City of Norton, in Norton County, Kansas, at which time and place said cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon said petition.

Karen L. Liberato, Petitioner

R. Douglas Sebelius, #09157
SEBELIUS & GRIFFITHS, LLP
105 South Norton Street
P.O. Box 10
Norton, KS 67654-0010
(785) 877-5143
Attorneys for Petitioner

I'm Not Deaf!

I Just Can't Understand Some Words

Jim Housh
Licensed Hearing Aid Specialist



"I will be in Norton EVERY WEDNESDAY"

Free Consultation
Free Hearing Test

Ask About Our Nu-Ear Digital Hearing Aids

Call My Toll-Free Number For An Appointment
1-800-331-7885

Located at: **Boxler Insurance**
Precision Hearing Aid Center
108 N. First, Norton

Four-state beef conference scheduled for Jan. 10-11

The 23rd annual Four-State Beef Conference will be held in four locations over a two-day period Jan. 10 and 11.

The conference series is designed to give beef cattle producers in Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska an annual update on current cow-calf and stocker topics. It provides a forum of Extension specialists from four of the leading beef cattle programs in the nation's land-grant university system, said Joel DeRouchey, livestock specialist with Kansas State University Research and Extension.

Speakers and their topics for the 2007 conference will include:

- John Lawrence, Iowa State University — "What is the State of the Beef Industry?"

- Rick Rasby, University of Nebraska — "Utilizing Co-Product Feeds - Storage, Purchasing, etc."

- Rob Kallenbach, University of Missouri — "Grazing Management"

- Larry Corah, Certified Angus Beef — "Why is Percent Choice Declining?"

The first Jan. 10 conference will begin at 10 a.m. in Holton, at the Jackson County Fair Building. That afternoon's conference will start at 4 p.m. in Tecumseh, Neb., at the Community Building.

The first Jan. 11 session will begin at 10 a.m. in Lewis, Iowa, at the Iowa State University Armstrong Research Farm, while the afternoon session will be at 4 p.m. in Bethany, Mo., at the community center.

The registration fee is \$25 per person, and the conference organizers are requesting reservations by Jan. 5. The fee includes a meal and a copy of the conference proceedings.

Information and registration for the Jan. 10 conference in Kansas are available by calling the K-State Research and Extension Jackson County office at 785-364-4125.

More information about the other sites is available by contacting any county or district Extension office in any of the four states or by visiting the website www.extension.iastate.edu/feci/4StBeef/.

When you shop local...
...Everyone wins

PUBLIC NOTICES

Estate of Agnes L. Vehige

Published in The Norton Telegram on Tuesday, December 5, 12, 19, 2006. (3T)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF NORTON COUNTY, KANSAS

Case No. 2006-PR-31
In the Matter of the Estate of **AGNES L. VEHIGE**, deceased.

NOTICE THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are notified that on December 1, 2006, a Petition for Probate of Will and Issuance of Letters Testamentary was filed in the above named Court by Cheryl Lynn Scott as the sole devisee and Legatee and named Executrix of said Will and all creditors of said

Decedent are notified to exhibit their demands against said estate within four (4) months from date of first publication of this notice as required by law and demands not thus exhibited shall be barred forever.

You are further notified that said Petition will be heard by the Court at 1:00 p.m., December 27, 2006. You are required to file your written defenses thereto on or before said time with the Court at the Courthouse in Norton, Kansas. Should you fail therein judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon said Petition.

CHERYL LYNN SCOTT, PETITIONER

WILLIAM J. RYAN, NORTON, KANSAS ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER

Notice of Proposed Assumption of Liabilities

Published in The Norton Telegram on Tuesday, November 21, 28 and December 5, 2006. (3T)

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ASSUMPTION OF LIABILITIES

Notice is hereby given that the First State Bank, Norton, Kansas has made application to the State Bank Commissioner, Topeka, Kansas, for written consent to assume liability to pay deposits made in the Stockton National Bank, Stockton, Kansas.

This notice is published pursuant to Kansas Statutes Annotated 9-1724.

Any person wishing to comment on this application may file his or her comments in writing with the State Bank Commissioner located at 700 Jackson, Suite 300, Topeka, Kansas, 66603-3796 before processing of the application has

been completed. Processing will be completed no earlier than 21 days following the first required publication for the State Bank Commissioner. The period may be extended by the State Bank Commissioner for good cause. The nonconfidential portion of the application file is available for inspection within three business days following the request for such file. The file may be inspected in the Office of the State Bank Commissioner during regular business hours. Photocopies of information in the nonconfidential portion of the application file will be made available upon request. A schedule of charges for such copies can be obtained from the State Bank Commissioner.

First State Bank Norton, Kansas Stockton National Bank Stockton, Kansas

Buy One Motorazr V3m

GET ONE FREE

MOTORAZR V3m (Fire Red) — Don't just make a call — make a statement with the new ultra-thin fire red MOTORAZR V3m. Combine superb performance with cutting edge features like an MP3 Player, Bluetooth and expandable memory. Plus, get the most from Access Messaging with the 1.3 megapixel camera and video recorder. The precision cut keypad and stylish finish make the MOTORAZR look as beautiful as it performs.

MOTORAZR V3m (Silver) — Get ready for stops, stares and more with the silver MOTORAZR V3m in your hand. The supremely slim form backs up its revolutionary style with Access Picture and Video Messaging capability as well as an MP3 Player. You'll also enjoy the ultimate in mobile connectivity with Bluetooth® wireless technology. This phone is bound to impress.



(2 Yr. RESTRICTION AGREEMENT)

TOLL FREE 866-944-5225

Kellie's Alltel wireless
authorized agent

STOP IN TODAY AT ONE OF OUR THREE LOCATIONS:

Hill City	Norton	Plainville
303 WEST MAIN 785-421-6245	107 E. MAIN 785-874-4718	200 W. MILL 785-434-2126

Limited-time offer at participating locations. Requires 2 year service agreement, credit approval and approved handset. \$200 early termination fee applies. Activation fees may apply. Other restrictions apply. Terms and conditions are available at Authorized Agent locations or www.alltel.com

PETS HAVE ARRIVED!

- Reptiles
- Lizards
- Birds
- Tropical Fish
- Small Animals

IN STOCK!!

COME IN AND CHECK OUT OUR NEW LINE OF WHIRLPOOL AND ESTATE APPLIANCES!

FELTON'S BUILDING CENTER

Joe and Janet Felton, Owners

Hours: Mon-Sat.: 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m.; Closed Sundays
415 E. Holme, Norton, KS — 785-877-3070