

Singers entertain Norton

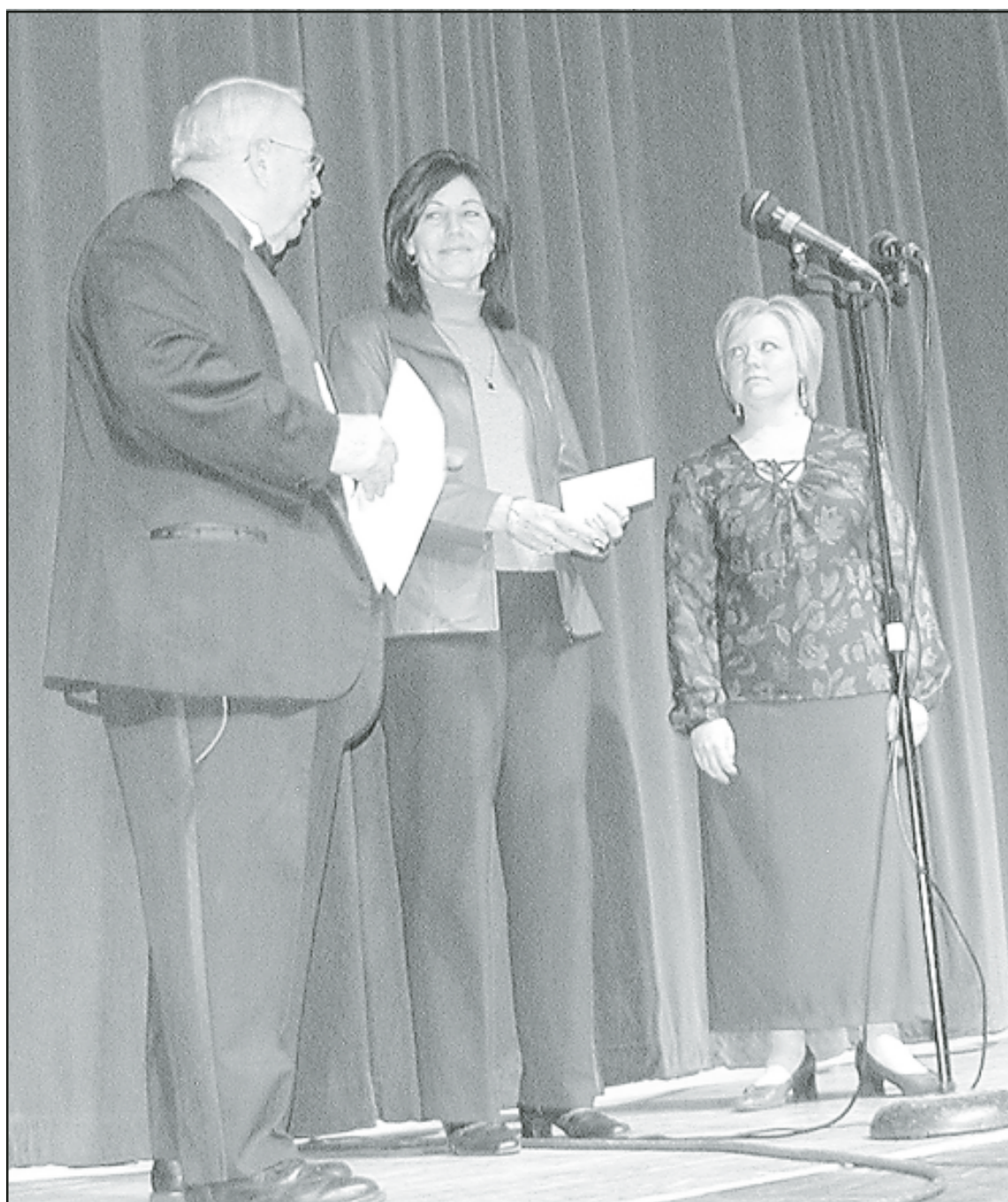
By CAROLYN PLOTTS

Norton was treated to another performance of the combined talents of the Colby Tumbleweed Chorus and the McCook Prairie Statesmen barbershop singers. Sunday afternoon the two groups performed at the East Campus Auditorium, sponsored by the Norton County Arts Council.

In addition to the perfect harmonies, the two choruses joined forces to help Norton students. Vocal teachers Janel Morel and Valerie Lee explained to the crowd that the The Young Americans, will be coming to Norton in March. The Young Americans are a performing group that will spend a full day at the school working with individual students on performance techniques and style. They will also perform in concert for the public, incorporating some local students into the show. The cost to bring the group in is \$42 for each Norton student.

The teachers said the school district will help sponsor part of the expense, but they were raising funds so the cost to the students would only be \$10.

A spokesman for the two groups applauded the two teachers for helping to promote music and presented them with a check for \$250 to help with expenses.



A member of the Prairie Statesmen Barbershop Chorus, left, presented a \$250 check to vocal teachers Janel Morel, center, and Valerie Lee to help offset expenses for The Young Americans performance scheduled in March. —Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

Women's club meeting Dec. 14

Norton After-5 Club invites all area women to attend the December dinner and meeting at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 14 at the Town and Country Kitchen. The cost for the dinner meeting is \$7 per person. Free babysitting is available. For reservations and cancellations, please contact Joan Knoll 877-3042 by Tuesday, Dec. 12.

"Have a Berry Meery Christmas" is the theme for the evening. "Jingle Bears," presented by Tamara Cochran, Almena, is the special music for the evening. She will sing some Christmas favorites

and there will be group singing. The Norton After-5 Club will have as their special speaker for the evening, Bev Paschke, Rapid City, S. D. Ms. Paschke tells her good news of how to be more positive in life's ups and downs as she presents "Beary Good News." A walker, and a scrapbooker, Ms. Paschke also enjoys baking her favorite caramel rolls and will guarantee a fun-filled evening.

The Norton After-5 Club is non-denominational and open to all area women. Part of Stonecroft Ministries, After-5 Clubs are located throughout the United States and Canada.

Food package deadline nearing

The deadline for ordering Prairie Land Food packages is Wednesday. To order, call the Norton Senior Center at 877-5352 or Ermalea Mason at 877-3098.

Distribution begins at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 16 at the center.

The December food package contains 1 pound of chicken breast tenders, 1 pound of popcorn shrimp, 12 ounces of Canadian bacon, 1 pound of unbreaded tilapia, 1 pound of fully cooked Italian sausage with cheese, apples, oranges, tangerines, potatoes, celery, lettuce, carrots and a 10 inch frozen pumpkin pie.

For \$20.50 plus two hours of volunteer service, you can receive this basic food package.

After purchasing the basic food package, you may buy other packages. A meat only package (first 6

items) costs \$12, plus one additional hour of volunteer service.

There are two December Specials. Special No. 1 is 2, 2 1/2 pound packages of smoked pork loin. This may be purchased for \$15 plus one additional volunteer hour.

Special No. 2 is a "surf and turf" package. For \$20 and one extra hour of volunteer service you can have a 2 pound bag of peeled, deveined, tails-off, fully cooked shrimp and 4, 10 ounce, select top sirloin steaks.

The volunteers for Prairie Land Food encourages you to share the joy of giving. Why don't you make a "gift" of a December food package to someone who could use a "hand up" or that special family you want to remember over the holidays.

HUSKY NOTES

The Northern Valley School board met in regular session on Nov. 13 in Almena, where they talked about the community planning committee report, grants and new classes, among other things.

Members present were Gale Hays, president; Drake Gebhard, vice president; Doyle Baird; Glenn Brands; Blaine Marble; Harlan Ponstein; and Alan Woodside. High School Principal Lonnie Brungardt, Superintendent/Elementary Principal Bill Lowry, and Board Clerk Barb Nelson were also present.

Mr. Gebhard called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. with six members present. Mr. Hays arrived at 7:33 p.m.

Adoption of Agenda: Mr. Marble moved and Mr. Woodside seconded a motion to adopt the agenda as amended to add item 8d.

Personal Leave Request: Motion carried 7-0.

Approval of Minutes: Mr. Baird moved and Mr. Ponstein seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the Oct. 9 board meeting. Motion carried 7-0.

Approval of Bills: Mr. Ponstein moved and Mr. Marble seconded a motion to pay the bills as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Hearing of Visitors: Visitors were George Griffith, Julie Thompson, Jason Dibble, Doug Zillinger, Kay Lee, Kristen Brands, Cindy Lowry, Tammi Johnson, Cameron Duede and Alysia Shearer were welcomed. Kirk Kasson arrived at 8:55 p.m.

Tiffany VanDerVeen talked about the structure and organization she uses in her classroom to promote real world teamwork skills, interaction and discussion.

Jason Dibble reported on some of the things his Geography and Civics classes are doing. These two classes are new to the curriculum schedule this year.

Alysia Shearer reported that Student Council had ordered 36 stadium seats to be rented out for games. She gave a report on their treasury. She reported on some of some activities that Student Council is planning.

Community Planning Committee Report: This goal setting session was held on Oct. 21. Cindy Lowry and Tammi Johnson reported on the first two goals. Goal One is to make the school district more financially efficient in transportation. Goal Two is to make the district more financially efficient so that it may be able to increase teacher salaries, which will enable the district to retain and attract quality teachers. Mr. Lowry reported on Goal Three, which is to develop a workable safety plan for the district. Kay Lee reported on

Goal Four, which is to improve parent/teacher communications. Mr. Lowry reviewed Goal Five, which is to provide academic and relationship building resources and opportunities that will equip and challenge students of all abilities for future success. The committee compiled two lists — one was a listing of the district's good points and the other was a listing of problems or concerns. It was suggested that the committee meet again in one year. Mr. Lowry suggested that the board review one topic each month.

Alysia Shearer left at 8:23 p.m. and Cameron Duede left at 8:28 p.m.

KASB 2006 Fall Regional Meeting: Mr. Hays, Mr. Woodside and Mr. Ponstein attended the meeting in Plainville. They shared some of the topics which had been discussed there.

Annual KASB Convention: This convention was Dec. 1-3.

Transportation Report: Mr. Lowry presented a report which compared bus usage and expenses for the last four years. Mr. Gebhard moved and Mr. Woodside sec-

onded a motion to place bus No. 4 up for sealed bids. Motion carried 7-0.

Kirk Kasson arrived at 8:55 p.m.

TEAP Grant: The City of Almena was applied for this grant which was created to help local communities with traffic problems. Kansas Department of Transportation will send a consultant to do a traffic study and make a recommendation. This consultant will be here while school is in session so that problems can be analyzed. The next step will be to create safe routes to school.

Safety Policy: Mr. Marble moved and Mr. Woodside seconded a motion to adopt a policy to keep all doors locked on all buildings except for the main front entrance doors for the hours between 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Motion carried 7-0.

Night Custodian Position: Mr. Marble moved and Mr. Brands seconded a motion to give Andrew Sheley a contract for night custodian for 25 hours per week at \$7 per hour until the end of this school year. Motion carried 7-0.

After School Teacher Position: Mr. Marble moved and Mr. Woodside seconded a motion to pay Tiffany VanDerVeen or her substitute \$20 per hour for the after school program from At-Risk funds. This program is to help students with At-Risk math and other homework. Motion carried 7-0.

Tammi Johnson, Kristen Brands, Cindy Lowry and Kay Lee departed at 9:15 p.m.

Personnel Report: At 9:15 p.m., Mr. Brands moved and Mr. Marble seconded a motion to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters for non-elected personnel; and that the board return to open meeting in twenty minutes in the same location. Motion carried 7-0. Mr. Lowry, Mr. Brungardt and Mr. Griffith remained in the room for this executive session. At 9:30 p.m., Mr. Woodside moved and Mr. Gebhard seconded a motion to extend the executive session for

ten minutes. Motion carried 7-0. At 9:40 p.m., Mr. Baird moved and Mr. Marble seconded a motion to extend executive again for ten more minutes. Motion carried 7-0. At 9:46 p.m., Mr. Marble moved and Mr. Brands seconded a motion to return to open meeting. Motion carried 7-0.

Personal Leave Request: Mr. Gebhard moved and Mr. Woodside seconded a motion to approve Julie Thompson's request to take personal leave Nov. 20 and 21. Motion carried 7-0. Board approval for this leave is required since it is immediately prior to a holiday break.

Administrative Reports: Mr. Lowry reported that the auditors from Mapes and Miller have been here and will probably present the audit report at the next meeting. He reported on recent and upcoming events.

Mr. Brungardt reported on upcoming events. He previewed a

Web-Based Home-to-School Collaboration program, which would give parents access to student information. This product is compatible with the student information system which is already installed in the school's system. Mr. Gebhard moved and Mr. Marble seconded a motion to purchase the Parent Access series. Motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Griffith reported on changes in state assessments.

Board Member Reports: Thanks to Susan Lowry and KAYS for another great Veteran's Day program.

Thanks to Almena Market for their assistance in the program to provide classroom equipment.

A "well done" goes out to Jordan Herman for his third place in the FFA creed competition.

Adjournment: At 10:24 p.m. Mr. Woodside moved and Mr. Brands seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion carried 7-0.

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Town Hall Conversations
Important Water Meeting,
EVERYONE Needs to Attend!!!
What's In Your Water????

The Solomon Valley Resource Conservation and Development Area, Inc. invite all rural and urban residents to attend the Town Hall Conversations

Monday, December 11, 2006

- Quality Inn, 1950 S. Range Ave., Colby, KS 11:30 a.m.
- First State Bank Basement, 101 E. Cherry, Hill City, KS 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 12, 2006

- Lenora City Library 125 1/2 E. Washington, Lenora, KS 11:30 a.m.
- Osborne Sunflower Bank Basement 203 W. Main, Osborne, KS 6:00 p.m.

The Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies (WRAPS) process is your opportunity to voice concerns about the Solomon River Watershed. We will be divided into smaller discussion groups so your voice, opinion and suggestions will be heard. Plan to make it a point to attend one of these sessions to see how you can protect our water resources.

Meals provided at no charge, RSVP's appreciated by December 8, please call (785) 346-2128 Ext. 304 or (785) 425-6647
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