



Beverly Bethune, Norton, left, stood on the National Mall during a "March for Life" rally held Jan. 22. With Mrs. Bethune, in the stroller, were her two grandsons, Simeon and J.R. Stipp-Bethune. — Photo courtesy of Beverly Bethune

In her own words...

# Norton woman travels to 'life' rally

By BEVERLY BETHUNE

Tens of thousands joined the annual "March for Life" in Washington, D.C. on Jan. 22 which started at the National Mall and ended at the U.S. Supreme Court, in recognition of the 34th anniversary of the landmark Supreme Court decision in the Roe vs. Wade case, legalizing abortion on demand during the entire nine months of pregnancy.

President Bush, in a telephone call broadcast over loudspeakers, told the marchers that he shares their goal of seeing "the day when every child is welcomed in life and protected by law."

The thousands of marchers from across America stood in the ice and slogged through mud and carried pro-life signs protesting the plague of death that has covered our nation through abortion, euthanasia, infanticide, cloning and embryonic stem cell research. The people asked for justice for all, born and unborn.

Nellie Grey, President of the March for Life, said at the Rally on the Mall, "No one owns the inalienable Right to Life of another human, and no one has capacity to intentionally kill an innocent born or unborn human with impunity." Ms. Grey drew from the post-Holocaust principles of the Nuremberg trials, concluding that "abortion and euthanasia are crimes against humanity."

Many speakers presented the pro-life facts and principles including Senator Sam Brownback of Kansas who marched with the thousands, the largest gathering ever at the Mall in Washington on behalf of the Right to Life. Mr. Brownback has thrown his hat into the arena for the presidency of the United States.

On the steps of the Supreme Court, actress, Jennifer O'Neil, and others of "Silent No More" told the stories of their own abortions and the dire outcomes of their actions, expressing the need for people to come to their senses and realize the need to stop the death march in our country and to ask God for forgiveness. They told their stories of their journeys to that forgiveness.

The Reverend Luke J. Robinson, pastor of Quinn Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Frederick, Md., asked what would have happened had Martin Luther King been aborted. Describing partial-birth abortion, in detail, he said, "I know it sounds horrible, but abortion is horrible." His thunderous voice was much like that of Martin Luther King's. He went on to say, "It is a murderous and bloody business."

Many such demonstrations took place across the nation's state capitols, including Topeka.

Among the marchers in Washington were local resident, Beverly Bethune, her daughter, Desiree Stipp-Bethune, Des Moines, Iowa, and Mrs. Bethune's two grandsons, J.R. and Simeon Stipp-Bethune.

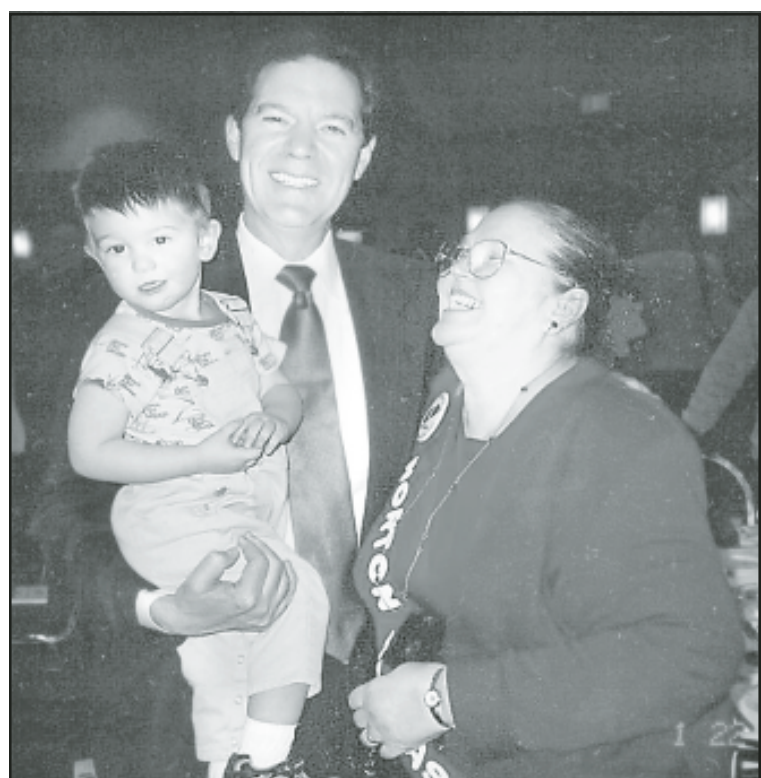
Mrs. Bethune wore a sash stating "Life is the First Right" and touting her residency in Norton.

Mrs. Stipp-Bethune, pushed a stroller with the two boys inside, up Pennsylvania Avenue and Capitol Hill, displayed a poster on her back telling of her support for "The Bill of Rights" — justice for women, men and babies — "with liberty and justice for all."

Returning to Norton Feb. 6,

Mrs. Bethune stated that she was proud to have her daughter and two grandsons accompany her to

represent her gratefulness for the lives of her husband, her three children and seven grandchildren.



Senator Sam Brownback, left, held J.R. Stipp-Bethune, and stood beside the child's grandmother, Beverly Bethune, Norton. They were at the Rose Banquet, the evening of the "March for Life" rally in Washington, D.C. — Photo courtesy of Beverly Bethune

# Applying nitrogen to frozen soils can lead to nutrient runoff

MANHATTAN — Producers may be planning to topdress nitrogen on wheat this winter while the ground is still firm and frozen, and before soils become too wet to accommodate fertilizer applicators.

This practice, however, should be avoided, said Dan Devlin, Kansas State University environmental quality scientist.

Nitrogen should not be applied to frozen soils because of the potential for surface runoff, Devlin said.

"When nitrogen is applied to frozen soils, it remains on the soil surface and on crop residue until the ground has thawed and precipitation moves the nitrogen into the soil," explained the agronomist, who is a specialist with K-State Research and Extension. "If precipitation falls while the soil is still frozen, a high percentage of it could move off the field in runoff water and into nearby surface waters. This causes nitrogen contamination of surface waters, one of the major water pollution concerns in Kansas and nationwide."

Agricultural lands are the source of much of the nitrogen entering surface waters, according to research nationally.

"The nitrogen may be in inorganic forms, primarily ammonium and nitrate ions, and organic forms. Inorganic forms are most immediately available to aquatic

vegetation, but much of the organic nitrogen becomes available over time," Devlin said.

Nitrogen transport to surface waters is largely determined by several factors, he said, including:

- The amount of runoff and erosion from the land. This is determined by the amount of precipitation and intensity of rainfall events, slope steepness and length, soil type, crops grown, and management practices.
- Distance to concentrated water flow or to surface waters. Most of the nitrogen that enters surface waters comes from areas that are near a concentrated water flow. Therefore, fertilizer or manure nitrogen applied within 50 feet of concentrated water flow is more likely to enter surface waters than nitrogen applied more than 100 feet away.

- Whether there are any management practices in place to trap sediments and nutrients carried by runoff and erosion before these enter surface waters. Vegetative filter strips and buffer zones along streams are effective in filtering sediments and nutrients from erosion and runoff to reduce the amounts entering surface waters. Much of the sediment-bound nitrogen can be retained in sedimentation basins and wetlands preventing entry to surface waters.

In addition to avoiding nitrogen applications on frozen ground,

Devlin said that several management options may be considered to minimize nitrogen runoff losses:

- Use tillage practices that minimize the potential for nitrogen loss in runoff and erosion.
- Use the right amount of nitrogen fertilizer. Credit needs to be given to nitrogen from previous legume crops, manure applications, and irrigation water. Guidelines are available for each state for determining the nitrogen application rate.
- Avoid surface application of nitrogen in spring. There tend to be more intense storms in the spring than at other times of the year, and this is when there is the greatest risk for nitrogen loss to surface waters.

When surface waters are enriched with nitrogen or phosphorus, excessive growth of algae and other aquatic vegetation can occur, Devlin said. This vegetation growth depletes the oxygen concentration in the water.

"When the vegetative mass dies and decomposes, oxygen is further depleted and compounds toxic to other aquatic life may be released resulting in eutrophication. Nitrogen in surface waters moves easily in the flow of water in streams and rivers. Much of that in the Mississippi River watershed eventually reaches the Gulf of Mexico where it contributes to the 'dead zone' or the condition of hypoxia," he said.

# Local wireless company gives money to schools

Representatives from Nex-Tech Wireless presented 38 checks totaling over \$1,400 to local schools.

Northern Valley Schools was among the schools presented a check. The local schools receiving checks are enrolled in the School Rebate Program, offered exclusively through Nex-Tech Wireless. The program is designed to help raise additional funds for local schools by allowing Nex-Tech Wireless customers to select the

school of their choice and Nex-Tech Wireless then donates three percent of the customer's monthly service fee to the school. The funds donated by Nex-Tech Wireless may be used as determined by the school and there is no cost to the school or customers to participate.

"The schools were so grateful to receive the additional funding," stated Elton Hart, Sales Manager for Nex-Tech Wireless. "We want to encourage all Nex-Tech Wire-

less customers to sign up for the School Rebate Program. It will not cost you a thing and really helps our local schools."

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**Norton County Weather – Feb. 27<sup>th</sup> – Mar. 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
50/28	40/28	35/20	40/23	45/25

Normal High: 48  
Normal Low: 22  
Sunrise: 7:10 to 7:11am  
Sunset: 6:30 to 6:34pm

**We definitely caught a break this weekend by only getting wind and no heavy snowfall with the blizzard warning that was in place! This week we will have a shot for some snow (1" to 3") Wednesday night and Thursday morning with a passing system. Right behind it temperature will warm-up through the weekend. The extended forecast over the first week of March is leaning towards warmer temperatures and no storms. This may change towards the middle of the month!**

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