

Principal honored by peers

By VERONICA MONIER
vmonier@nwkansas.com

Norton Junior High Principal Larry Mills was recently honored by the Kansas Association of Secondary School Principals.

Mr. Mills was chosen as the association's Area V Middle Level Principal honoree.

Norton Superintendent



Larry Mills

dent Greg Mann said he nominated Mr. Mills, who was then chosen by his peers as the area V honoree.

Mr. Mann said that the honor is based on work done by Mr. Mills over a period of time. This is the second time he has been chosen for area V, he said.

"We're very proud of him," he said. "We think

he does an excellent job, both as the junior high principal and as the athletic director, and so do his peers, since they chose him for the honor."

The association is an organization of over 500 secondary school principals from across the state of Kansas. Candidates are evaluated on their school leadership, school improvement, dedication, professionalism and service to students.

'Mittens' program helps pets without a home

By CAROLYN PLOTTS
cplotts@nwkansas.com

Christmas is for animals, too.

That, perhaps, is the motive driving Michelle Armbrister to keep sponsoring the Mittens for Kittens (and Pups) benefit to help the Norton Animal Shelter.

This is the fourth year Mrs. Armbrister has headed up the fund drive to help provide medicine, treatments, food, beds and bowls for all the animals that find themselves at the Norton Animal Shelter. This year, however, the event is held in memory of Mary Oswald, who died earlier this year. Mrs. Oswald had helped start the event and was always a big supporter.

A display is located in the lobby

of Norton Animal Health Center and donations, money, pet food, or pet care products may be left at the center.

Mrs. Armbrister has added a new twist this year. She is inviting area children to enter a cookie decorating contest. She has prepared the cookies, all the children have to do is decorate it and enter it before Dec. 22.

Another aspect of the fund raiser is the chance to win a radio-control Mitsubishi Eclipse model car. She is asking a \$1 donation for one ticket and six tickets for a \$5 donation.

Norton Animal Control Officer Sherry Hickman said, "Michelle has always helped us out. She's even helped us rescue and place

dogs before. The money raised by Mittens for Kittens (and Pups) helps us buy much needed supplies — like leashes and collars. When we adopt a dog out, I like to send the animal home to their new owners with a leash and a collar. It's just a nice way to say thank you. It (the donations) help us get toys for the animals that they wouldn't normally get."

Mrs. Armbrister said she will accept new or good used dog and cat items, pet carriers, food, treats, beds, bedding, toys, leashes, colors and medicines.

For more information on the fund raiser or to learn how you can help, call Mrs. Armbrister at 785-877-5451.

Beef, ethanol meeting in Norton Dec. 18

COLBY — Beef and Ethanol in 2008 is the theme of three meetings to be held Dec. 18 and 19 in Hoxie, Norton and Quinter.

The meetings, hosted by K-State Research and Extension, will address some of the unique circumstances currently impacting cattle producers and help position them for profitable production in 2008, said Sandy Johnson, K-State Research and Extension Northwest Area livestock specialist.

Distillers grains, a by-product of ethanol production, can be a useful and cost effective feed-stuff, Johnson said. Because the supply and price of distillers grains is variable, producers need to learn how they can store and feed the product in various

circumstances so they can make a good purchasing decision when the price is right.

Twig Martson, K-State Research and Extension beef specialist, will discuss feeding management and storage of distillers grains at each meeting.

The past cattle cycle has been the longest in history and some have speculated that the cattle cycle as we have known it is gone. Jim Mintert, K-State livestock marketing specialist, will review the market data and address the implications of ethanol, weather and other factors on the cattle cycle, while providing a market outlook for 2008.

While profitability for the cow/calf segment is predicted to be down in 2008, an increasing num-

ber of opportunities to increase the market value of calves are available. Profit-minded producers will be able to learn about the pros and cons of various value added marketing opportunities at the meeting, Johnson said.

There is no cost to attend the meetings, but advanced registration by Friday, Dec. 14 is necessary.

Meeting dates and contact information are:

- Dec. 18 — 9 a.m., Midwest Energy Building, Hoxie, (785) 675-3268;
- Dec. 18 — 2 p.m., 4-H Building, Norton, (785) 877-5755; and
- Dec. 19 — 9 a.m., Q-Inn Conference Room, Quinter, (785) 938-4480.



Ramona Pabian, left, and Evelyn Paden have taken on the task of decorating graves in the south end of Norton Cemetery. Most graves are of those who died in the 1800s like the marker they stand beside. It marks the grave of little Leo Francis Ballew who died April 11, 1880 at the age of 6 months, 15 days. — Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

Women decorate graves as sign of respect

By CAROLYN PLOTTS
cplotts@nwkansas.com

It's all about showing respect. Two Norton women have taken it upon themselves to show respect

to the pioneers who settled Norton County; lived here; died here; and are buried here. Specifically, those buried in the south end of the Norton Cemetery.

Ramona Pabian and Evelyn Paden have had the idea for a couple of years. The idea really came to fruition when they read about a project that placed wreaths on the graves in Arlington National Cemetery.

Earlier this week, the two began placing artificial poinsettias on graves. Mrs. Pabian said, "These people died back in the 1800s and there is no one to care for their graves."

Mrs. Paden said, "It gives us a warm feeling to do this. It is soul-satisfying."

Both agreed they need more flowers to finish the job. They have exhausted their own personal supply and that of most of their friends.

Mrs. Pabian said they would welcome donations of any color poinsettia, red, white or blue. She said anyone wishing to give them flowers could bring them to the Norton Senior Center where she works.

If you would like to talk to her about this project, call her at the center, 877-5352.

Almena man in accident

An Almena man was taken to the hospital after hitting a ditch with his car Friday.

At 10:25 a.m., George W. Griffith, 48, was westbound on K-383 about a mile north of Almena in his 2005 Dodge pick-up truck when he lost control and it went into a roadside skid. The truck then went into the south ditch, coming to a stop in an irrigation ditch.

Mr. Griffith was wearing his seat belt at the time of the accident.

He was taken to Norton County Hospital by the Norton County Emergency Medical Service, where he was later released.

Cookie trays ready to be picked up

Anyone who brought cookies to The Norton Telegram's Christmas Cookie Contest on a plate or tray may come pick them up at the office anytime. The excess cookies were delivered to God's Pantry to be distributed to families who apply for assistance during the holidays.



Haven volunteers Jim Rowh, foreground, Bill Beale, right, and Jim Plotts, partially hidden, worked all day Saturday to build room dividers in the basement of the hospitality house. — Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

Volunteers add privacy, rooms to Haven

By CAROLYN PLOTTS
cplotts@nwkansas.com

The Haven has been filling a need in the Norton community for the last two years. The house offers economical, weekend housing to families coming to visit loved ones at Norton Correctional Facility. The demand for more private rooms at the house has been steadily increasing. Last Saturday, volunteers met for a work day to rectify the problem.

Even though the roads were

extremely icy Saturday morning, several volunteers showed up to build walls, hang sheet rock and run new wiring. Other volunteers made stew and cornbread for the workers.

In just a few short hours, the men had transformed an open basement room into three private suites. This will essentially provide rooms for five more people.

Haven board president Jim Rowh said, "Making improvements to the facility is a never-end-

ing process. It's a lot like any other home — there's always something that needs to be fixed."

Mr. Rowh added that the board is trying to raise enough money to install a tankless water heating system in the house. Weekend demand can be high and the 40-gallon heater in the house can't keep up. He said anyone wanting to help by donating to The Haven could send a tax-deductible contribution to The Haven, 813 N. Grant, Norton, Kan. 67654.

COWBOY JUNCTION
HILL CITY, KS • 421-3005

The legendary classic country music group

"The Ramblin Andy Band"

WILL PERFORM AT THE

COWBOY JUNCTION

IN HILL CITY ON

Saturday, December 15

The Restaurant and Lounge opens at 5:00 p.m. and "The Ramblin Andy Band" takes the stage at 8:00 p.m.

Put on your best duds, dust off your dancing shoes, pickup your best gal and enjoy a great meal at the COWBOY JUNCTION and stay for the dance. Everyone is welcome and there is no cover charge for the dance this Saturday night at the COWBOY JUNCTION on the east side of Hill City at 2649 280th Avenue, next to Prairie Trails Golf Course

Offering individuals with disabilities unique opportunities for growth and independence - that's Developmental Services of Northwest Kansas. One of DSNWK's strengths is its Creative Living program.

Innovative Options for Home and Community Living

Creative Living is a unique residential service model where the needs and desires of the individual receiving services are matched with the most appropriate and independent living possible. Creative Living provides a home environment that is comfortable, safe and promotes the value of living independently.

1-800-637-2229
www.dsnwk.org