

# Church:

Take advantage of the church listings to find out when and where to go.

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Vol. 100, No. 100

75 cents

# THE NORTON TELEGRAM

Be sure to look for the new Christmas On Us winning ticket numbers

Pages 8 & 9

## Friday

### December 14, 2007

Norton, Kansas  
Home of Darin Winkel

## Briefly

### Winter concert set for Monday

The Eisenhower Elementary School will present its Winter Concert at 6:30 p.m., Monday, Dec. 17 at the Wilmeth Kirk Memorial Gymnasium. The fifth and sixth grade bands will play a variety of seasonal carols; grades one through six will perform the vocal portion of the program. The public is invited to attend.

### Holidays close state park office

The Prairie Dog State Park office will close on Thursday, Dec. 20 for the holidays. The office will stay closed through the new year and will re-open on Wednesday, Jan. 2.

### Norcatur to hold potluck

A Norcatur community potluck dinner will be held at noon Saturday in the All-Purpose room of the Norcatur City Building. This will be followed by a bake sale and auction at 1:30 p.m. to benefit the Building Fund. At 2 p.m. the annual Christmas Drawing will be held with a special appearance by Santa Claus.

### Salvation Army offers assistance

The Salvation Army is helping keep families warm this winter. Families in need of emergency assistance may contact Gina Frack at the Norton County Health Department, 877-5745, with questions. Two other numbers that may be called for utility assistance are: Kansas Gift of Warmth, 1-800-336-4547, Ext. 402 and Etmost Energy Assistance, 1-800-336-4547, Ext. 403. Anyone wishing to help support the Salvation Army and its work may make a tax deductible donation by sending it to Mrs. Frack at the Health Department, 801 N. Norton, P.O. Box 403, Norton, Kan. 67654. A receipt will be mailed back to you. Remember, 88 percent of all monies donated in Norton County stay in Norton County.

## Weather

### Forecast:

**Tonight** — Periods of snow, mainly before midnight. New snow accumulation of 1 to 2 inches possible. **Saturday** — A 20 percent chance of snow before noon. **Saturday Night** — Partly cloudy with a low around 10. **Sunday** — Mostly sunny with a high near 37.

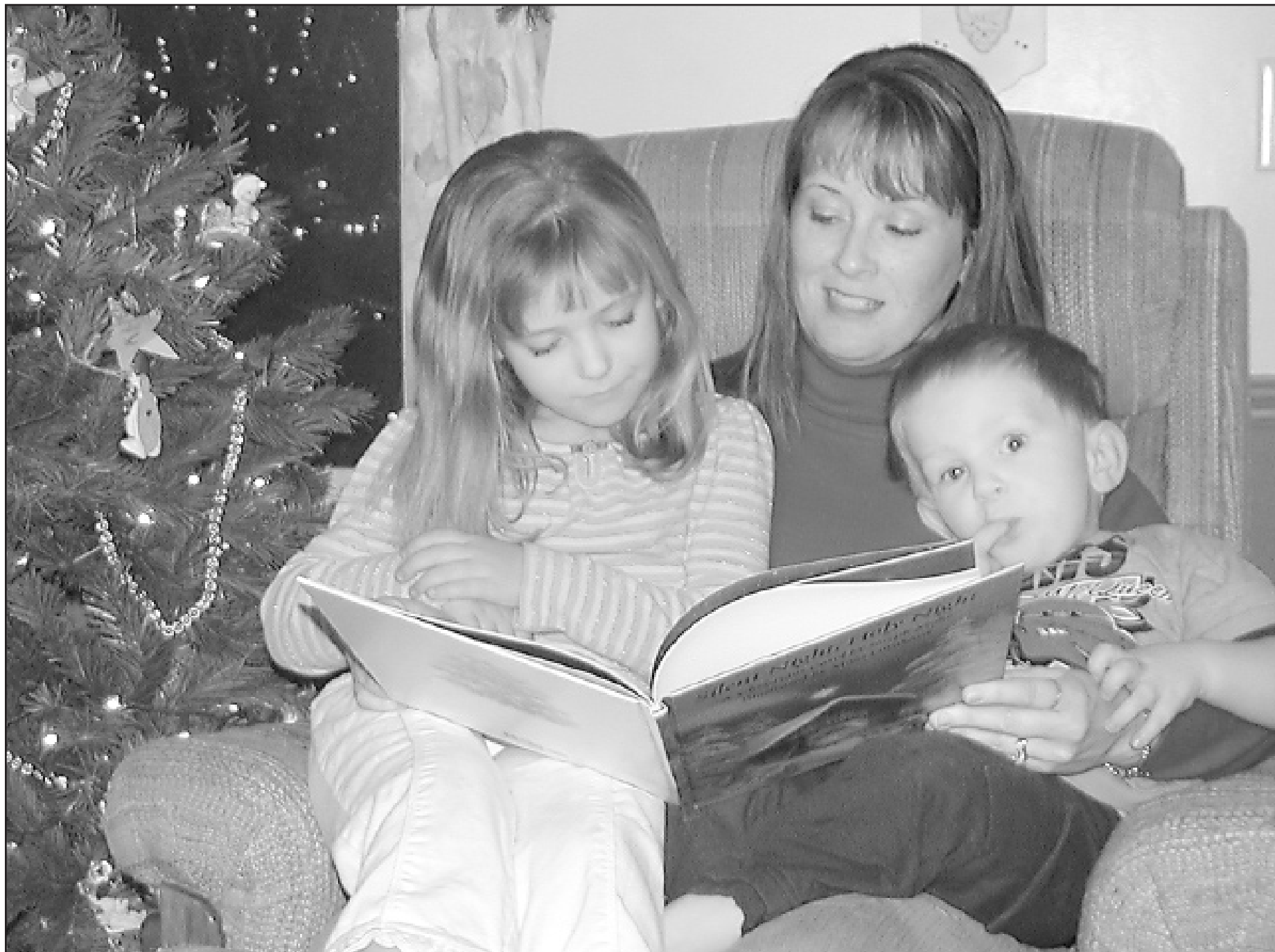
### Kingham report:

Tuesday ..... Low 23, High 30, 1/2" of Ice, 4" Snow  
Wednesday ..... Low 7, High 28  
Thursday ..... Low 14, High 32  
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

## Prayer

Thank you, God, for your Holy Spirit, who knows our true feelings and offers strength and hope, and thank you for all those who show us that you care for us. **Amen**

# New traditions...



Snuggled in, Katelyn, left, and Colby, right, listen as their mother, Sue Ann Skrdlant, reads "Silent Night", a nightly tradition during the Christmas season at the Skrdlant home.

— Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

## Young family making new Christmas traditions

By CAROLYN PLOTTS  
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Christmas at the country farm home of Dan and Sue Ann Skrdlant is almost like a Currier and Ives picture postcard. A cozy front room with smells of supper cooking on the stove; a Christmas tree twinkling in the front window and the children helping their mother assemble greeting cards. All part of their family tradition.

Mr. and Mrs. Skrdlant have been married 13 years. They farm and raise

cattle northwest of Norton and have two children: Katelyn, 6 1/2, and Colby, 2 1/2. Mrs. Skrdlant homeschools the children and enjoys the close relationship she has with them. An old-fashioned country school desk occupies a corner of the kitchen, but Mrs. Skrdlant said a lot of her daughter's schoolwork is accomplished on the kitchen table. The name of their school is "Grace Academy" where Katelyn said she is in first and a half grade (since the school year is half over) and her little brother is studying pre-school

subjects. Katelyn said her favorite subject is learning to tell time — her mother said she enjoys reading, too.

Christmas at the Skrdlants is filled with tradition. First is the Christmas letter. A tradition started by her mother, Mrs. Skrdlant creates the graphics and the script, and writes a "newsy" letter, complete with pictures. The scripture verse she included this year is taken from Ephesians 3:18-19: "May you understand...how wide, how long, how high and how deep His love really is. May you

experience the love of Christ....Then you will be filled with the fullness of life." The children help assemble the letter, gluing a family picture on the front and tucking a CD of Christmas music inside.

Mrs. Skrdlant said, "My mother began writing a newsletter when I was a little girl. A few years ago, she gave me a file with every newsletter from past years. It's like a complete family history — and I wanted to do the same for my children."

Baking and decorating sugar cookies (Continued on Page 5)

## Nativity will depend on weather

By VERONICA MONIER  
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The weather is going to be a big, deciding factor in whether or not the Norton First United Methodist Church is going to hold its Living Nativity Sunday.

Event Coordinator Chuck Look said as of Thursday night, they were planning to combine the normally five or six scenes into one. They are going to put everything together at the stable scene, including the camels and donkeys.

Mr. Look said it just depends on the weather. If it gets too bad, the Living Nativity will be canceled.

"We'll get up Saturday morning and see what it looks like," he said. "It really depends on what it's like Saturday and Sunday, but it is supposed to be sunny Sunday. But, if the weather is bad on Sunday, then there is the concern that people will have to walk or drive on a parking lot that's really slick. We don't want anyone to get hurt or in a fender bender because they wanted to come (Continued on Page 5)

## Lions Club bringing cheer to area families

By VERONICA MONIER  
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Man families in the county will have some much needed help for Christmas this year.

The Norton Lions Club will be delivering Christmas baskets Saturday morning to about 90 families in the county, said Project Coordinator Tom Baumann.

Lions volunteers will gather early

Saturday morning and should have the baskets assembled by 9:30 or 10 a.m. Between 10 a.m. and noon is when they will be making the deliveries, he said.

The community helps a lot with the project, which began in 1954. Mr. Baumann said most of the items for the baskets are donated. Some of the project's biggest supporters are the Norton Thrift Shop and Norton's two grocery stores;

Dollar General is also helping out this year, holding a toy drive. There are a lot of clubs and organizations that help as well, he said. People also donate money for the project, both directly to the Lions Club and by putting money in the donations cans at area businesses.

Each basket is custom built for a particular family, he said. They try to put (Continued on Page 5)



Mary Ahlemeyer, Logan, (center) was one of last week's two Christmas On Us instant winners. She picked up her winning ticket at Sander Furniture, which is where she plans to spend the money as well. She is pictured with Kim and Brad Sander, owners of Sander Furniture. — Telegram photo by Christie Anderson

## Grand prize drawing a week away

By VERONICA MONIER  
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The final week of Christmas On Us is just around the corner and there is still money to be given away.

Only three women claimed their \$50 instant prizes this week. Betty Ambrosier received her ticket by shopping at Hall's Clothing; Pamela Keenan got hers at Norton Shirt Company; and Carol Olliff picked up her winning ticket at Nex-Tech. Each of the women found their ticket numbers hidden in special Christmas On Us ads last Friday. (Continued on Page 5)