



Church:

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Friday

January 18, 2008

Norton, Kansas
Home of Ed Glennemeier

Briefly

Almena gathers its community

The Almena Chamber will be holding a community meeting to discuss the fund raising activities for the Community Improvement Plan of Almena. Anyone attending is asked to bring 20 names and addresses of former residents, alumni, or anyone that may have ties to the community. The meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 23 at the Almena Community Center. For more information contact Glenn Brands, 785-669-2486 or e-mail him at glennbrands@ruraltel.net.

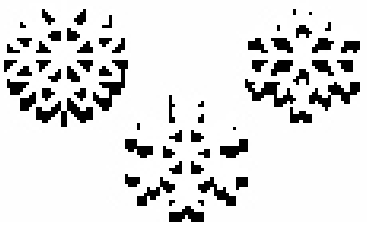
4-H'ers bring out their best

Norton County 4-H members will be preparing their favorite recipe and showing off their best hostess style as they present the Favorite Food Show, Saturday, Jan. 26, at the 4-H Building in Norton.

This program has been a tradition to allow 4-H members an opportunity to try out a favorite recipe and set a place setting with their own touch. The dish the 4-H members may do can range from a simple snack to an entree or a dish as a part of a main course meal.

The 4-H members will begin entering their projects at 12:45 p.m., the consultation judging will be done from 1 to 2:30 p.m. and the exhibits will be open to the public from 2:30 to 3 p.m. 4-H members will visit with the judges about the preparation and serving suggestions with their recipe. They will also share nutritional and food safety topics with the judge.

Weather



Forecast:

Tonight — A 40 percent chance of snow before midnight. Mostly cloudy with a low around 6. New snow accumulation of less than a half inch possible. **Saturday** — Mostly sunny with a high near 26. **Saturday Night** — Mostly cloudy with a low around 12. **Sunday** — Scattered flurries after noon. Mostly cloudy with a high near 26. **Sunday Night** — A 30 percent chance of snow.

Kingham report:

Tuesday Low 12, High 47
Wednesday Low 21, High 30, 3" Snow
Thursday Low 1, High 28
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm
9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

Dear God, give us the courage to make necessary changes in ourselves that bring us closer to others and to you. **Amen**



Students in one of Joan Bolt's Physical Education classes played "popcorn" with the new "Character Building" parachute. The object was to pop the

"popcorn" (plastic balls) off the pan (parachute).

— Telegram photos by Carolyn Plotts

Physical Education class gets a new character twist

Physical Education classes at Eisenhower Elementary School are enjoying a "Character Building" parachute.

The parachute has 18 panels, each depicting a character building vocabulary word — words like respect, commitment, honesty, trust, loyalty, courage and sportsmanship. Before activities with the parachute begin, one of the words and its definition is discussed and reviewed with the class.

Activities using the parachute encourage students to play cooperatively and practice teamwork. The activities include fun games like "mushroom", "colors", "shark", "popcorn" and "waves".

The parachute was purchased from a private donation to the school.

Physical Education teacher Joan Bolt said, "The school is very appreciative of the donations and support received to enhance the students learning experiences."



Norton schools back revitalization plan

By VERONICA MONIER
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The Norton School Board chose to support the Norton County Neighborhood Revitalization Plan at its last meeting.

Economic Development Director Diane Becker said the neighborhood revitalization plan is meant to stimulate economic growth in the county by giving homeowners an incentive to remodel or build new property.

She said the plan would give people who increase their residential property value by at least \$10,000 a tax abatement. The maximum on residential property improvements is \$50,000.

Ms. Becker said those who qualify for the plan would still pay their property taxes, but would get a refund on the new

assessed taxes for the improvements over a 10-year period. The first year they would receive 100 percent back for the increased property taxes, then 90 percent the following year, then 80 percent and so on.

She said the Norton County Commission has adopted the plan, which includes the entire county, but each taxing entity in the county who wants to participate has to approve the plan.

If every homeowner in the county qualified for the maximum rebate, it would total \$5,327 in taxes. The Norton School District's portion of that would be \$1,290.

Superintendent Greg Mann said the plan would have no impact on the district's budget. What the district didn't get

in property taxes would be made up by state aid. He said after the first 10 years is up, if there has been a lot of building, the district's state aid would go down. But, they would have more property taxes.

"I don't see much of a downside," he said. "It's not going to cost the school district money and any new construction in the district will help us in the long run."

The board adopted Resolution 2008-05, approving the district's participation in the neighborhood revitalization plan with a 6-1 vote. Board members Craig Renner, Mark Keilig, Chris Harting, Jennifer Terrell, Scott Ellis and Jeff Nielsen voted yes and Board member Elaine Lofgreen voted no.

In other business, the board:
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Arctic chill brings temperatures in single digits

By CAROLYN PLOTTS
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Weather-wise, the worst is over. Brad Mickelson, meteorologist with the National Weather Service Forecast office in Goodland, said there is no measurable accumulation expected in the next few days for northwest Kansas. He said, "There might be a trace of snow or some very light flurries."

Of the recent snowstorm, Mr. Mickelson said most of western Kansas received about what was expected — from a trace to two inches. He said, "Some bands in the area received two inches of snow. But, the blowing winds made it difficult to measure with any degree of certainty."

He said so far this season, the weather service in Goodland has received 19.3 inches of snow. He said that is close to

being on par with last year when the service received 43 inches during the entire season.

Temperatures, though, are going to take a dip as a cold Arctic outbreak sweeps through western Kansas. Mr. Mickelson said temperatures until recently have been average. This Arctic front, however, will keep daytime highs in the single digits this week and into next week.

Bankers take Monday off for holiday

Martin Luther King Day is a national holiday, however, businesses are not obligated to take it as a day off.

In Norton County, the county and city offices will all be open for business as usual. The U.S. Post Office and Farm Service

Agency offices will, however, be closed.

Norton and Northern Valley schools are both taking the day off and using it as an in-service day. Lenora will dismiss classes early at 12:15 p.m. and Logan schools will have a full school day.

All county banks, except First State Bank, will be closed. United Northwest Federal Credit Union will not be open Monday, but employees will host its annual meeting at 11:30 a.m. at St. Francis of Assisi Parish Hall.

Coyote, crow calling contest will be Feb. 9

It's time to start boning up on your wildlife calls as the annual coyote and crow calling contest is just around the corner.

The contest will be held on Saturday, Feb. 9.

All contestants must be pre-registered by 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 8.

The contest will begin one-half hour before sunrise and end at sunset. Callers can use any legal means to call and shoot coyotes and crows.

Coyotes and bobcats count for ten points, while crows are one point. The team with the most points will be the winner. In case of a tie, the earliest team to check in will be the winner.

A trophy will be awarded to the top team with a 70 percent payback to the top five teams. There will be an award for the largest coyote and an award for the most crows. The remainder of the proceeds will be donated to youth shooting sports.

Check in time on Saturday will be from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at O'Briens rear parking lot, 110 S. State St., Norton. No one will be allowed to check in after 7 p.m.

Price of entry is \$30 per two-man team and includes a meal Saturday night.

Each contestant's name will be put in a drawing for a .243 rifle; contestants must be present to win.

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