

# Stitch Up A Storm opens for business in Norton

By **BRANDY LEROUX**  
bleroux@nwkansas.com

Regina Stark of Norton has been teaching at Norton schools for 28 years. She teaches family and consumer science at the junior high, and family social issues at the high school. This past March, her daughter Jamie Wentz, Norcat, got the idea of the two of them opening a sewing/quilting shop together.

"I knew this was something we could do together and would both enjoy," said Mrs. Wentz. Their shop is located in the old Kowpoke Supply building at 113 W. Main Street in Norton. Their hours are: Sunday and Monday closed, Tuesday through Friday 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Saturday 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Mrs. Stark has been sewing since she was 8 years old, and quilting has been more than just a hobby for the past 10 years. Mrs. Wentz handles the more technological side of the business. She is better at using computers and is working on the store's website, and has been sewing since she was 8 years old, though she is only a beginning quilter.

When you first walk into Stitch Up A Storm, the first thing you notice is the very large quilt hanging on the wall. It was made by Mrs. Stark and given to Mrs. Wentz as a gift.

Immediately inside the door, all the way to the right, is the Men's Corner — a comfortable red velvet recliner, a lamp and magazines for the husbands to sit in while their wives shop in the store. Also in



Regina Stark, left, and her daughter, Jamie Wentz (center) helped a customer Saturday afternoon at their shop, "Stitch

Up A Storm." The new business is in the old Kowpoke Supply building on Main Street. — Telegram Photo by Brandy Leroux

the store are two antique sewing machines set around for decoration. One is an 1874 Victor sewing machine, and another is an 1878 New Home sewing machine. Everywhere you look are bolts of fabric in various colors, materials

and patterns.

They looked at several buildings, and decided to rent half of the old Kowpoke building. "We got lucky, and I think we're a good match for the business next door," said Mrs. Stark.

The mother-and-daughter duo bought the inventory from The Sewing Box when Kay Strevey retired. They have since added new fabrics and supplies to the inventory. They are also in the process of getting a long arm

quilter, which will make stitching quilts quicker and easier.

The front of the store is the retail part, where people can choose from a variety of fabrics for their sewing and quilting needs, or they can purchase quilts made by Mrs. Stark.

At the end of October, they are thinking of starting quilting

classes, and possibly basic sewing and garment, if there is enough interest — which will take place in the middle of the store. The classes will be for both beginner and expert quilters, adults and children.

The long arm quilter will go in the back of the store.

Mrs. Stark said, "I've taught sewing for so long, I can teach anyone how to do it — even boys." In general, her junior high sewing classes have been about 50 percent boys.

The store will also be offering embroidery on throws and quilts, and to transfer photos onto them as well.

The longest project Mrs. Stark has worked on is a Sunbonnet Sue quilt she started a month after her daughter, Mrs. Wentz, was born. Four generations have worked on that quilt — Mrs. Stark, her mother, Mrs. Wentz, and Mrs. Wentz's sons. It has grown from a crib-sized quilt to a queen size, and has taken 35 years to complete.

"We have a very good working relationship," said Mrs. Wentz. "We each have different skills, and it takes both of us to run this business."

"Both of our husbands have been supportive of our business all the way," they agreed.

"My grandsons, Wyatt, Quentin and Bryndon have been wonderful about helping," said Mrs. Stark. Mrs. Wentz agreed, adding, "They've helped move furniture and re-label fabric, and they've always been willing to help us out."

For now, they have finished with remodeling the building, but the displays and nick-knacks will be constantly changing.

## School Reminder

### Norton Community High School

Saturday, Aug. 23 — Football Scrimmage @ practice field 10:00 a.m., FFA District Officers Meeting @ Rock Springs

Sunday, Aug. 24 — FFA District Officers Meeting @ Rock Springs

Monday, Aug. 25 — KAY Board Meeting, Pre-Root Word Activity, Jay Singers Auditions, FCCLA Food Drive, FFA/FFA Alumni Softball Game @ Ward Field 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Aug. 26 — Cheerleaders, S.A.D.D., Jay Singer Auditions, KAY Big/Little Party 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday Aug. 27 — National Honor Society

Thursday Aug. 28 — Grades 9, 11 and new students vision and hearing screening

### Norton Community Junior High

Thursday Aug. 38 — Grade 7 and new students vision and hearing screening

### Eisenhower Elementary

Monday Aug. 25 — Hearing/Vision Screening

Tuesday Aug. 26 — Hearing/Vision Screening

Wednesday Aug. 27 — SIT Meeting 7:40 p.m.

ALL SCHOOLS Monday Aug. 25 — PDC @ Unified Office 4:00 p.m.

--- Northern Valley Wednesday Aug. 20 — First Day Of School. Long Island starts

at 8 a.m., Almena starts at 8:15 a.m. This is a full day of school.

Thursday Aug. 21 — HS Dance Team Practice, HS Cheerleading Practice

Monday, Aug. 25 — HS Dance Team Practice

Thursday, Aug. 28 — HS Dance Team Practice, Spirit & Safety Meeting @ Oakley

Friday, Aug. 29 — HS Volleyball VS Lakeside/Tipton @ Almena 4:30 p.m., Post Prom meeting following the volleyball game.

## Area students receive scholarships from Fort Hays

Four students from the Norton area have accepted scholarships to Fort Hays State University for the 2008-2009 academic year.

Zachary Dole, a 2008 Norton Community High School graduate, accepted a \$900 Award of Excellence from the College of Business and Leadership and a \$700 Fort Hays Bronze Academic Award. He was involved in basketball and golf and was on the honor roll. He is the son of Dan and Brenda Dole, Norton. He is planning a career in business management.

Lacy Ellis, a 2008 Norton Community High School graduate, accepted a \$700 Fort Hays Bronze Academic Award and a \$500 Award of Excellence in teacher education. Lacy was involved in the National Honor Society, family, Career and Community Leaders of America, Kansas Association for Youth Services, Student Council, band, yearbook, volleyball, basketball, golf and dance and was on the honor roll. Lacy is the daughter of Ron and Shelley Ellis, Lenora. She plans to major in elementary educa-

tion.

McKenzie Linner, a 2008 Norton Community High School graduate, accepted an \$800 Hays City Silver Academic Award. McKenzie was involved in art and was on the honor roll. McKenzie is the daughter of Randall and Cynthia Linner, Norton. She plans to major in art.

Stephanie Tubbs, a 2008 Northern Valley High School Graduate, accepted a \$1,200 Miller Black and Gold Academic Award and a \$900 Award of Excellence in English. Stephanie was involved

in the National Honor Society, scholar's bowl, student council, choir, volleyball, basketball and track. Stephanie is the daughter of Kevin and Mim Tubbs, Almena, and plans to major in English.

## State Fair offers quality family time

Kansas families are looking for inexpensive, quality entertainment the entire family can enjoy. The perfect opportunity for value-filled entertainment is coming up with the 2008 Kansas State Fair, running Sept. 5-14 in Hutchinson.

Discount gate admission tickets and Midway ride coupons are now on sale at the discounted prices through Sept. 4 online at [www.kansasstatefair.com](http://www.kansasstatefair.com) or at the ticket office in Hutchinson. Dillons stores are also handling the discounted tickets.

"The fair is perfect for the entire family. It truly offers something for everyone and affords families a great opportunity to vacation close to home," said Denny Stoeklein, general manager of the Kansas State Fair.

"The discounted gate and carnival ride tickets allow your family to experience the tradition and unique features of the fair at a significant savings."

While enjoying fair favorites, keep in mind these entertainers: Styx, Kansas, Gary Allan and Blake Shelton, Poison, Alice Cooper, Corbin Bleu and Justin Stein.

Fair visitors can also purchase a 2008 Kansas State Fair season pass for admittance to all 10 days

of fun for \$30 per person, a savings of \$50 off the regular adult ticket price. The season passes are available for purchase at the Kansas State Fair ticket office and

at [www.kansasstatefair.com](http://www.kansasstatefair.com).

The fair is the largest event in the state of Kansas with crowds expected to total more than 340,000.

### 162 Ways To Wing It!

WHAT'S YOUR COMBINATION  
**WingStreet** Come In And Try Our New Items

**WINGS:**  
Sizes - 5, 10, 20, 40, 80 or 120 Wings

**FLAVORS:**  
Buffalo Sauce — Burn 'n' Hot, Medium and Mild  
Cajun, Spicy BBQ, Garlic Parmesan, Spicy Asian and Honey BBQ

**APPETIZERS:**  
Fried Cheese Sticks, Jalapeno Peppers, Chicken Tenders, Wing Street Tators, Spinach Artichoke Dip, and Our Sampler Platter

Pizza Hut - Taco Bell - Wing Street



W. Highway 36, Norton, KS • 785-877-3359

## Norton County Health Promotion Blood Draws WED., AUG. 27

AT: The Norton County Health Department  
TIME: 7:00 a.m.-12 noon  
PROVIDED BY A JOINT EFFORT OF THE NORTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND THE NORTON COUNTY HOSPITAL

Need to be Fasting Before the Test (No Food or Drink After Midnight)

NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY

QUESTIONS? CALL NORTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT AT 785-877-5745

PROFILE #1  
"Health Profile & CBC" — \$40.00  
Health Profile Contains:

**ELECTROLYTES:** (Sodium, potassium, chloride and total carbon dioxide). These are major indicators of kidney and hormonal functions. Electrolytes are essential for the body's acid-base balance and the operation of nerves and muscles, especially the heart.

**KIDNEY FUNCTIONS:** (BUN, creatinine). These indicators are used to monitor kidney function.

**LIVER FUNCTIONS:** (Total albumin, globulin). These tests can be used in detecting and/or monitoring liver function damage, tissue damage or inflammation.

**ALKALINE PHOSPHATE:** (Uric acid, calcium, phosphorus). Used for detection and monitoring of bone, tissue and parathyroid disease, such as arthritis, gout, bursitis and lupus.

**GLUCOSE:** This test is to measure blood sugar levels and is used to help diagnose/monitor diabetes mellitus.

**CHOLESTEROL:** (Including HDL, LDL, VLDL, triglycerides and ratio of LDL/HDL). These are fats produced in the liver that combine with fatty oils in the blood stream. Cholesterol is further broken down and measured as HDL (good cholesterol) and LDL (bad cholesterol). The person who has higher levels of LDL is at greater risk of heart disease. Triglycerides determine the level of simple fats in the blood.

**CBC:** (Complete blood count with differential). This is a series of tests of the blood that provides a tremendous amount of information about the hematologic system, immune response and many other organ systems.

**PROFILE #2 (PSA)—\$20.00**  
PSA—This test detects an enlarged prostate, infected prostate and/or prostatic cancer. It can be used to evaluate disease progression and to monitor treatment.

**PROFILE #3 (TSH)—\$15.00**  
TSH—This test is used to evaluate thyroid function and detect if there is too much or too little hormone secreted by the thyroid.

ACCEPT CASH AND CHECK ONLY! INSURANCE BILLING NOT AVAILABLE!

Competitive current interest rate — guaranteed for two years. Call today.

Current Rate\*  
**4.60%**  
Guaranteed Rate\*  
**2.00%**



Joy Johnson  
205 N Kansas  
Norton, KS  
(785) 877-3221

**FARM BUREAU FINANCIAL SERVICES**  
Insurance • Investments  
[www.fbfs.com](http://www.fbfs.com)

Auto | Life | Business | College | Retirement

\*Based on the Company's 7/1/08 declared interest rate for the Single Premium New Money 2 option of the nonparticipating annuity (Select IV Fixed Annuity). This rate assumes a premium payment of \$100,000 or higher. For premium payments between \$25,000-\$99,999, the rate is 4.35%. For premium payments between \$0-\$24,999, the rate is 4.00%. \$10,000 initial premium requirement. The current rate is guaranteed for 2 years. •The guaranteed rate is the guaranteed minimum for the life of the contract. Any surrender of the policy is subject to a surrender charge; the surrender charge is 4% of the policy's value in the first year, 2% in the second year and 0% in the third year. Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company/West Des Moines, IA. Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company/West Des Moines, IA. •Companies of Farm Bureau Financial Services © 2008 FBL Financial Group, Inc. 116 (7-08) Policy #434-060 series