

\$1 THE NORTON TELEGRAM



WEBSITE: nwkansas.com

10 PAGES

Friday

December 11, 2009

Briefly

Contest deadline is approaching

Kids, don't forget to get your coloring contest pictures turned into The Telegram or to Almena Market. Pictures are due Dec. 16.

The winner will be chosen on Dec. 18 and announced in The Telegram Dec. 22.

Contestants can call or stop in to see the results before the paper is published.

Salvation Army accepting cards

The Salvation Army Christmas buckets are now in stores across Norton. Donations can be made in person, by phone or online.

Call 1-800-SAL-ARMY or go to www.salarmy-mokan.org to donate by credit or debit card.

Eighty-eight percent of donations stay in Norton County.

Live nativity to be held this Sunday

First United Methodist Church is scheduled to have their Live Nativity at 6 p.m. on Dec. 13. The nativity was postponed last Sunday due to the weather. Up-to-date information can be found on the church's LED sign west of town on Highway 36.

MARKETS
Cash Prices-Norton
December 11, 2009

CORN	\$3.26
SOYBEANS	\$9.47
WHEAT	\$4.21
MILO	\$3.08

314 W. North Street
Norton, Kansas
Ag Valley 785-877-5188

weather forecast

Tonight - Mostly clear with a low around 7. Saturday - Partly sunny with a high near 32. Saturday Night - Partly cloudy with a low around 11. Sunday - Partly sunny with a high near 33. Sunday Night - Partly cloudy with a low around 10.

Kingham report:

Tuesday, Dec. 8..... Low 9, High 19
8" Snow
Wednesday, Dec. 9..... Low -5, High 8
Thursday, Dec. 10..... Low -5, High 26
Total snowfall this week..... 13"
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm
9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

Dear God, help us to realize that those who are in pain need our compassion. Amen



Going sledding



Kama Mandel, her son Nicholas and her daughter Acacia took advantage of the snow to go sledding in Elmwood Park yesterday afternoon. Many children convinced their parents to brave the cold after two days

of storms left almost a foot of snow.

—Telegram photo by Erica Bradley

Area schools face delayed payments

By ERICA BRADLEY
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School funding took another hit this month when the state announced December payments to schools would be delayed by several weeks. The delay has caused problems for many schools who need the money to meet payroll and other bills.

Norton Schools Superintendent Greg Mann said the state has delayed payments for the last two months. They received a payment at the beginning of November

and December, but those payments did not cover the expected amount. The state makes monthly payments to schools.

Mann said he hopes the other half of December's payment will come in January.

"It affects our cash flow. In Kansas, you can't spend what you don't have," he said.

He said contingency money will be used to offset the delayed state payment.

"We do not have enough money in reserve to fund us

for very long," he said.

"We have also been shorted the full amount for special education," he said.

The state was supposed to make \$75 million in special education payments in December. Mann is unsure when those funds will be sent.

Lenora Elementary School is facing a similar issue. When Gov. Parkinson cut school funding last month Lenora lost an estimated \$40,000. Superintendent Gary

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The Public Works Crew stayed busy throughout the week plowing and then picking up snow. By Thursday they were clearing E. Washington Street.

—Telegram photo by Erica Bradley

Cleanup continues after snow storm

By ERICA BRADLEY
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Much of Norton closed down Tuesday when another snow storm moved into the area dumping almost a foot of snow.

The National Weather Service in Goodland reported 11 inches of snow on Tuesday. On Sunday, 6.7 inches were reported. Winds were reported to be between 25-35 miles-per-hour.

Carolyn Kingham reported five inches falling Sunday and eight yesterday.

Area schools had a one hour delay on

Monday and were closed Tuesday and Wednesday. Many businesses closed early Tuesday.

The storm kept crews busy plowing and clearing roads.

Public Works Supervisor Dan Bainter said cleanup work will continue until early next week.

Wind caused blowing snow to slow the public works crews.

"The wind was nasty," he said.

Norton County Road and Bridge Su-

(Storm - Continued on Page 5)

County launches discount card program

By ERICA BRADLEY
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Underinsured or uninsured Norton County residents now have the option of participating in a discount card program intended to save 20-25 percent on prescriptions.

Norton County is making free prescriptions drug discount cards available under a program sponsored

by the National Association of Counties, which offers average savings of 22 percent off the retail price of commonly prescribed drugs. Savings is based on what kind of prescription is being filled.

Cards will be available at the Norton County Clerk's office, Norton County Courthouse, 2nd floor, or at Norton County Health Department, 801 N. Norton.

They are accepted at Moffet Drug and Pamida Phar-

macy in Norton.

"We'll gladly accept them," said Moffet Drug technician Patty Newell.

Norton County Clerk Robert Wyatt said there is no enrollment form, no membership fee and no restrictions or limits on frequency of use. Cardholders can use the card any time their prescriptions are not covered by

(Program - Continued on Page 5)