



Woman discovers Christmas money in newspaper ad

Lois Rostek had sharp eyes. She found the number of one of her tickets, No. 646143, in an ad for Kellie's in *The Norton Telegram's* Christmas on Us contest in Wednesday's paper almost before the ink was dry.

Norton County Co-op. Those numbers were pulled from a barrel containing thousands of tickets given by the merchants to customers. Tickets drawn this week were given away to shoppers at Walter Motor (2), Jamboree Foods(2), Norton Shop and Save, Moffet Drug Store and Felton's Building Cen-



Lois Rostek

Ms. Rostek brought her ticket into *The Telegram* and received \$50 in scrip spendable at any of the Norton merchants participating in the contest. With her choice of 28 merchants offering merchandise and services, Ms. Rostek said that she would probably spend her money on something special at Norton Shop and Save. She had received the ticket while shopping at Walter Motor Co. There were seven numbers in a special insert in Wednesday's *Norton Telegram*.

Over the next three weeks *The Norton Telegram* will give away \$450 more in spendable scrip. Then on Saturday, Dec. 20 two lucky people will walk away with the grand prize of \$1,500 and a second prize of \$500.

Careful readers found Christmas on Us numbers in ads for Russ' Jewelry, Don's Floor Covering, Walter Motor Co., Kellie's, Norton Homestore, Nex-Tech and

All tickets given out since the first of the contest, with the exception of those pulled as instant winners, are eligible for all remaining prizes. See the insert in today's paper and collect coupons from the participating merchants. Someone will win \$1,500. It might as well be you.



Children help make cookies at Andbe Home

The aroma of baked gingerbread filled the air Monday as volunteers helped residents of the Andbe Home prepare cookies to hang on one of their many Christmas trees. Hannah Park (above left) looks on while Christy Matheson and her brother James Matheson help Mabel Dole make holes in the cookies. Volunteer Ann Gallentine (below) helps Andbe Home resident Ruth Hake. Activity Director Dawn Risewick, resident resource coordinator Darlene McEwen and social services designee Rose Ann Miller helped coordinate the event. Pre-schoolers will come in Wednesday to decorate the cookies with icing and candies and hang them on the tree.

—Telegram photos by Carolyn Plotts

Commissioners hire help to do emergency planning

By CYNTHIA HAYNES

Norton County commissioners hired Addie Homburg of Ellis to help prepare the emergency preparedness plan required by the state. The state has purchased a software package called Mitigation 20-20 to help set up emergency preparedness plans for each county. However, there are some problems. "The whole plan was designed for bigger jurisdictions," Ms. Homburg told the commissioner at a meeting last month. "Some of the stuff in that plan applies to us and some does not. The software has a lot of glitches and I'm being politically correct here." Norton County Emergency Preparedness Director Alvin Mapes, who has been trying to set up the program, agreed with Ms. Homburg. "I figured out the system just by trial and error," Ms. Homburg said, adding that this is the sixth county she has contracted with to do consulting for the program. While she works part time for Ellis County, she said, she does consulting work from her home. Her company is EmerGecon Consulting.

software. "It's a huge document when we get done with it," she said holding her hands about six to eight inches apart. "Ellis County's was 1,800 pages." Ms. Homburg said that because of the time involved she will not be making much money but will be using the experience of working with the various counties as part of her continued education. She has a bachelors degree in human services from Fort Hays State University and hopes to complete her masters degree in fire and emergency management administration from Oklahoma State University next year. She said that Mr. Mapes and his groups should do the leg work required to gather the data and she would put in into the balky program. "It is not user friendly at all," she said. The plan requires each political subdivision in a county to look at its weak spots and decide what it needs to improve to help prevent or mitigate a disaster, whether it be an enemy attack or a tornado. Ms. Homburg said that some

counties are refusing to do the tremendous amount of work required for the Mitigation 20-20 project. However, she said, the state and federal government are looking to tying the project to disaster relief money. County Commission Chairman John Miller agreed. "It's very complex," he said. "But, if we don't comply we're not eligible for federal disaster funds after November 1, 2003." When one of the other commissioners pointed out that that date had already passed, he said, he knew that. Ms. Homburg said that the state has until November 1, 2004, to submit the plans to the federal government. "This is the grace period," she said. "I can get you through this process and I can make it manageable and make it a working document," she told the commissioners. "We have to do this so Norton County residents will qualify for disaster relief," Mr. Miller said. *Minutes of the meeting can be found on the county web site at www.nortoncountyks.org.*

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