

Police solve break-ins

Three youths have been charged in connection with a series of burglaries and car thefts in the Norton and Oberlin areas.

Since November the Norton Police Department has investigated three vehicle burglaries and one garage burglary. In two of the three break-ins stereo equipment including compact disks, speakers and amplifiers were taken.

On November 9 and 10 vehicles in the 200 block of W. Woodfield and the 700 block of N. Second were broken into and a third vehicle in the 400 block of W. Wilberforce was broken into with more than \$500 worth of damage done when the thieves tried to remove stereo equipment.

About the same time in the 800 block of N. Jones a purse was stolen from a vehicle in a detached garage and money and personal items taken.

On Nov. 19, a police officer on patrol at 5:30 a.m. in the 1000 block of Truman Dr. discovered two vehicles, which had been broken into. Three compact discs and a wallet containing a small amount of cash was taken.

During their investigations the Norton Police searched two residences. The first was done with consent and the second with a search warrant from the Norton magistrate court. Stolen stereo items were recovered in the searches and two youths were charged.

Justin M. Wilhite, 19, has been charged with three counts of burglary, two counts of felony theft and one count of criminal damage to property.

Alexander Ray Shugart, 17, was charged with three counts of misdemeanor theft, six counts of burglary, three counts of felony theft and two counts of criminal damage to property. In an unrelated incident he has been charged with unlawful sexual relations with a child, who is 14 years old but less than 16.

On Dec. 1 a car was stolen from Norton and driven to Oberlin and abandoned and a van was taken from Oberlin and driven back to Norton and abandoned.

Dustin D. Rhodig, 18, Norton, was arrested on one count of sale or possession with intent to sell marijuana, one count of possession of drug paraphernalia, one count of felony theft, one count of criminal damage to property, two counts of burglary and two counts of misdemeanor theft.

Oberlin man killed in Saintry

A 43-year-old Oberlin man died in St. Francis on Sunday night after a police officer's gun discharged while he was wrestling with the man.

William Joseph Schwab died at the Cheyenne County Hospital from what preliminary reports called an accidental shooting.

On Monday, Cheyenne County Attorney Kevin Berens said there had been an undercover felony investigation on Mr. Schwab by the police department in St. Francis and the Kansas Bureau of Investigation.

He said Mr. Schwab attempted to avoid being arrested on Sunday and as he fled, a St. Francis officer tackled him. The officer's gun went off, striking Mr. Schwab.



Jaynell Matzek and Terry Laughlin start to assemble some of the 50 shoeboxes the Living Word Baptist Church and The Full Gospel Church were planning to fill. Mrs. Matzek, co-ordinator, said this county-wide project will benefit older people in Alma, Jennings, Lenora and Norton. —Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

Late shoe boxes turn into local ministry

By CAROLYN PLOTTS

Five years ago Jaynell Matzek of Norton heard about Franklin Graham's new ministry called Samaritan's Purse and the shoe box program he had started.

The idea was to fill a shoe box with items designated either for a boy or girl and send it to Samaritan's Purse to be distributed to needy children overseas.

Mrs. Matzek marshaled her forces and they filled numerous boxes but when she went to deliver them to the pick-up point, she learned she was a week late.

The boxes were already filled and ready, so she contacted the Norton Social Rehabilitative Services Office and found places for the presents. That is how the shoe box ministry of Living Word Baptist Church came into being.

Now names are referred to them from throughout the county and their focus has shifted to older citizens but the care and concerns are the same.

That first year 20 boxes were filled. Last year 35 boxes were sent out and this year the goal is to fill 50 shoe boxes with a few items to

let someone know they have been remembered during the holidays.

This year since, Living Word Baptist has Terry Laughlin as their interim pastor, the women of Full Gospel Church are involved with the project too. The women from both churches have been assembling items all year. Some are bargain shoppers, some just pick up items every now and then. One woman makes it her duty to see to it that every shoe box has its own handmade dish cloth.

Pastor Laughlin supplies a couple of Christian tracts to slip in

each box and local businesses have donated calendars and pens to include in the boxes. Mrs. Matzek says, "It's a great outreach to older people."

The two churches sponsor an after-school group called "Kid's Club" and they wrapped all the boxes in colorful Christmas paper in preparation for filling.

If you're interested in contributing to the shoe box ministry send money or items to the attention of Jaynell Matzek, in care of Living Word Baptist Church, 308 W. Crane, Norton, Kan., 67654.

Chamber board to get one new member, lose four

By CYNTHIA HAYNES

The Norton Chamber of Commerce Board will have one new and four fewer members when it meets in January.

The board confirmed a by-laws change which will take the board from 15 to 12 members. Since five board members are retiring only one will be needed as a replacement.

While several people were asked if they were interested in running, only two — Kathy Erbert of Valley Hope and Beth Reeves of B&B Liquor — said that they had the time and energy needed to serve. Ballots are being delivered to Chamber members so that they can vote. The new member will take office at the January meeting.

On Wednesday, at the December meeting, the board looked over a proposed director's contract. The contract says the director will receive \$9.50 per hour for a 40 hour week and any additional time required by meetings or holiday work will be reimbursed by time off.

The office is to be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday except for a one-half hour lunch break and on Fridays from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. except for holidays.

The simple one-page agreement will need to be signed by the director and the Chamber president and first vice president to become le-

gal. Scott Sproul of Nex-Tech told the board that he has been trying to get a past or present member of the Kansas City Royals baseball team or coaching staff to speak at the annual Chamber banquet.

He showed the board a letter he has sent out offering a guided hunting trip for turkeys in the spring or pheasants in the fall besides a small honorarium and expenses. Money for the honorarium would be donated, he said.

So far, he has not been successful booking anyone, he said, but he is still trying since a sports figure draws the best crowd.

In the past the Chamber has had John Allen of the Cincinnati Reds, Mitch Holthus, voice of the Kansas City Chiefs and Dr. Edward Hammond, president of Fort Hays State University as its keynote speaker.

In other business, the board:

- Were told that there were 40 merchants participating in the annual 12 Days of Christmas promotion.

• Heard that Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus have enjoyed the experience but will have replacements for the last appearance so that they can take their little ones to see the magic pair.

• Found out that Larry Nelson and Joyce Quinn are providing the horses to pull the Jaycees sleigh this year.

• Agreed to sign up for Nex-Tech's Discover Norton web site. The site will be free for two years but must be kept up, Mr. Sproul said. He, President Carol Erlenbusch and Director Karla Reed formed a committee to set up and maintain the site.

• Heard from Ms. Reed that the newsletter will have a new format. The newsletter itself will come out quarterly starting in January, she said. In between she will put out a copied sheet of what's happening in the community on a monthly basis. Ms. Reed said that she

would need businesses to send her information for both pieces.

• Decided to ask if Fort Hays State University or the University of Nebraska at Kearney have any graduate students interested in doing a market study project.

• Put off discussion of goals and objectives until the new board takes over.

• Set the next meeting for 12:15 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 14, at the Chamber office.

Volunteers appointed to boards

After asking for volunteers to serve on boards and committees, the Norton City Council re-appointed past members.

In an ad in *The Norton Telegram* the city asked for volunteers to serve and said that if present members wanted to continue serving they would also have to apply.

While the city wasn't overwhelmed with volunteers, it got enough people to fill the positions.

Planning Commission: Curt Walter and Mick Miller were re-appointed to serve through November 2006.

Housing Authority: Robert Wyatt was re-appointed to serve through November 2007.

Hank Austerman and Caryl Cullen also offered to serve on the housing authority.

Library Board: Marcia Wiltfong and Kayla Tacha were re-appointed to serve through November 2007. Both have served one term and asked to be re-appointed to a second term.

Andrew Nielsen and Norma Browne also offered to serve on the library board.

Recreation Commission: Terry Petrie, Sr. was re-appointed to serve through November 2007.

Airport Board: Jim Miller was re-appointed to serve through November 2006.

Tourism (Bed Tax) Committee: Bob Millan and Margurite Goud-bout from the lodging industry, Jerry Jones from service and Karla Reed from the Chamber of Commerce were re-appointed to serve through November 2005.

Mayor David Corns thanked everyone who asked to serve on the boards on committees.

READERS

— Come to the NORTON THEATRE Saturday, Dec. 20 at 7:30 p.m. to meet the Cat in the Hat and then enjoy the movie.

— Communal Penance Service, 7 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 21, St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, Norton. 12/16

— Steak and seafood night, Thursday, 6-9 p.m., American Legion. Members and guests.

— PINOCHLE TOURNAMENT, 7 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 21, Norton American Legion. 12/16

Weddings, funerals, engagements, and births. You'll find it all in...

THE NORTON TELEGRAM

Make This An Orange Christmas

The Newest Hit from the Discovery Channel

"AMERICAN CHOPPER"

Wear What Paul Wears

2 Styles of Hats and T-Shirts

Officially Licensed

Hall's Clothing

Open Thursday Nights
Sunday 1-5 p.m.

DOWNTOWN NORTON

Norton County Forecast for December 16th - 22nd

Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
38/19	46/23	53/25	58/28	40/23	35/18	30/15

Normal High 41 Sunrise 7:54 to 7:58am
Normal Low 16 Sunset 5:16 to 5:18pm

A winter storm system brought light snow and windy conditions across the Tri-State area yesterday. Mild air behind the system will have today's temperatures closing in on 40, despite breezy and cold conditions this morning. The rest of the week will continue to be mild for late December, with 50 to 60 degree temperatures. A cool front Saturday followed by a possible 1 to 3" snow Sunday and Monday will be our next chance for moisture. Extending things Christmas looks nice with storm chances the 27th and 28th.

www.decisionweather.com

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Holiday

OPEN HOUSE

Thursday, December 18
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Please join us in celebrating the holiday season. Enjoy refreshments and register for door prizes.

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