



At their last meeting, members of the Heritage Quilt Guild (above) filled the Christmas stockings they had created. The filled stockings were given to foster children. Stockings (at left) were hung for display.

Quilt club fixes holiday socks

By JANETTE CALLAWAY

For many people the Christmas season can be the most "challenging" time of the year. However, the Heritage Quilt Guild has met that challenge with a Christmas stocking service project.

Every year at their May meeting the guild members are presented with a challenge project to complete over the summer, when the club does not meet.

Sometimes it's a pattern, quilt method or fabric they are challenged to incorporate into a project by the end of the summer.

Club members take turns coming up with the ideas for the challenges. This year Jamie Dreher and Connie Miller challenged the members to create Christmas stockings, which would be donated to foster children during the holidays. Each member was also given red or green fabric, which had to be used in the stocking.

The stockings were to be completed by the September meeting

so they could be displayed at the Kansas Quilter's Organization fall meeting, that was held in Norton.

Forty-two unique and beautiful Christmas stockings were made for this project, making it one of the most successful challenge projects the group has done.

The stockings were appliqued, pieced, embellished and decorated with everything from reindeer to snowmen to a manger scene.

At the Kansas Quilters Organization meeting, visitors were asked to vote for their favorite stocking by placing donations in them.

Jackie Rutherford, whose stocking was a paper-pieced manger scene, won. The money raised helped fill the stockings.

The Heritage Quilters always enjoy Christmas goodies at their December meeting and this year was no exception. Aside from the best quilts, most quilters also boast the best recipes.

Dec. 1, after a short business

meeting and lots of good Christmas treats, it was time for the quilter elves to get busy.

As suggested by Youthville, in Kensington, which Jamie and Connie contacted for help in organizing this project, club members brought gifts for different ages and sexes.

Dentists Mark Klein, Craig Krizek and Lamont Shirk donated toothpaste and toothbrushes. Other gifts such as shampoo, deodorant, colored pens, crayons, soap and small toys were put into the stockings with each guild member filling the stockings they made. Each stocking also got a 2003 Christmas ornament.

The stockings have been sent to Youthville for distribution to foster children in Norton and Phillips counties. It was one of the best challenges the group has ever organized.

There will be some children receiving some very special stockings this year.

City taking in less money, but works to cut expenses

(Continued from Page 1)

discuss the issue. "I think we'll work it out," he told the council. "I just wish the commissioners would talk to us before sending a letter like that," said City Administrator Rob Lawson. "Sometimes people act in too big a hurry," Councilman Hawks observed. In other business, the council:

- Heard from Scott Sproul of Rural Telephone about the changes in Nex-Tech's cable television lineup and that the company will be implementing a \$1 increase in basic rates.
- Learned that engine No. 8 at the power plant is safe. An expert checked it out and, although it has some cracks which need to be watched, it is OK for now.
- "I feel confident about it now," City Administrator Rob Lawson said. "There were a lot of questions asked, but now everyone feels good about it."

duce electricity when the plant is running.

- Asked that people be reminded of the city's snow removal, emergency snow routes and other winter weather ordinances.
- OKed 28-feet of sidewalk replacement for Shila Helterman as long as it is parallel to the street. The council members talked about what to do about some of the bad sections of sidewalk in town that people have not replaced.
- Learned that the city's budget is good and will not have to be republished. The meeting was recessed until 5:15 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 30, to take care of end-of-the-year business and any other needed items.
- Authorized beer licenses renewals for Jamboree Foods, Love's Country Store, Norton Shop and Save and R&C Petroleum for sale but not consumption on the premises and Pizza Hut, Rainbow Lanes and Town and Country Kitchen for sale and consumption on the premises.
- Received a tentative race schedule from promoters Don and Paula Bolt.

Banks, city and county offices will be closed for Christmas

(Continued from Page 1) offices will reopen Monday, Dec. 29.

Norton Theatre
The Norton Theatre will be closed Wednesday for Christmas Eve, but will be open on Thursday for Christmas Day. The cinema will be open for its usual show times Friday through Wednesday.

Norton County Conservation Offices
The Norton County Conservation Offices which includes the Farm Service Agency office will be closed for the Christmas holiday on Thursday and Friday. All offices will reopen on Monday. In

addition, the offices will be closed on Thursday, Jan. 1 for New Year's Day.

Post Office
The Post Office will be closed Christmas Day and New Year's.

United Northwest Federal Credit Union
The Norton Branch of United Northwest Federal Credit Union will close at noon on Christmas Eve. The facility will also be closed on Christmas Day. On New Year's Eve, the credit union will close at 1 p.m., be closed New Year's Day and reopen Jan. 2.

Almena State Bank
The Norton branch of Almena

State Bank will close at noon on Wednesday and be closed Christmas Day and also on Friday.

First Security Bank
First Security Bank will close at noon on Wednesday, be closed Christmas Day and reopen Friday.

The Bank
The Bank will close at noon on Wednesday, be closed Christmas Day and reopen Friday.

First State Bank
The First State Bank will close at noon on Christmas Eve and remain closed through Christmas Day. It will reopen on Friday. The bank plans to adopt the same schedule for New Year's.

Man killed in St. Francis was under police investigation

(Continued from Page 3) was no more information to release. He said the report on the shooting has not yet been filed. A source in Oberlin who asked Mr. Schwab had gone to St. Francis to hire a hit man who turned out to be an undercover agent. The deal had been completed, and Mr. Schwab was shot while trying to flee. Mr. Schwab, said the source, was running from the scene when an officer jumped on his back and the officer's gun went off. The meeting took place in the parking lot of the Dusty Farmer Restaurant, which is on U.S. 36 in St. Francis. Witnesses said at least

one state trooper was parked down the road, apparently waiting for the deal to go down. The source said the officer who accidentally shot Mr. Schwab was having a hard time dealing with it. St. Francis Police secretary Sarah Smith referred all questions to the county attorney. Kyle Smith, with the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, said that the case basically has been put on hold until the end of the year. Mr. Schwab has no existing records in the Decatur County Court files. County Attorney Steve Hirsch said if a record has been expunged at any time, there would be nothing on it.

Heigh Ho, Heigh Ho,
It's Over the Hill
for Cindy Jo
who's turning the
BIG 5-0!
Wish Her Happy
Birthday Dec. 29



Nature's Flu Medicine

- Willow Bark Extract
- Liquid Acidophilus
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Protect Yourself Nature's Way

~ FOR THE HOLIDAY ~

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- Kensington Smoked Pre-Cooked Turkey

Gift Baskets
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108 E. Washington
NORTON, KANSAS
PH (785) 877-3610
1-800-545-7232

PEACE, LOVE & JOY
TO ALL

Thank You

To Local Organizations and
Individuals Who Supported Our
Christmas Basket Project

"SPECIAL THANKS" TO THE:

Norton Valley Hope Patient Group, Valley Hope Association Staff, Russ' Jewelry, Thrift Shop, Jamboree Foods, Norton Shop and Save, Busy Jayhawkers 4-H Club, PEO, City Office Personnel, National Guard, North Dividers FCE Club, The Norton Telegram, United Methodist Women, Norton SRS Office, Lofgreen Farms, New Age Industries, Inc., KQNK Radio, NCHS Kay Club, and the many individuals who donated their time, money, and food to make this a successful community project.

Through Your Generosity, 107 area
needy families will have a more
enjoyable and meaningful Christmas

The Norton Lions Club

CHARTERED MARCH 30, 1930

Firemen called out early

A case of spontaneous-combustion had the Norton Rural Fire Department out of their beds early Sunday morning. Rural Fire Chief Steve Otter said they were called out around 1:10 a.m. Sunday morning to the Glenn Schultz farm. Chief Otter said when they arrived a ground-

up hay pile was on fire. He said the hay had been ground on Saturday and then spontaneously combusted, causing the blaze. Five trucks and 10 men from the Norton Rural Fire Department were at the scene for about an hour and a half.

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