

Take advantage of the church listings to find out when and where to go.

Norton wrestling and Northern Valley girls and boys basketball.

Friday  
December 26, 2003

Norton, Kansas  
Home of Richard Wiltfong

Briefly

Football banquet  
set for Sunday

The annual Norton Community High School Football Banquet will be held at 5 p.m. on Sunday in the 4-H Building in Norton under sponsorship of the Blue Jay Booster Club.

This season's players will be introduced by Coach Bruce Graber and he will present individual awards.

A carry-in meal will precede the presentations. All fans are invited and are asked to bring a meat, vegetable and dessert and their own table service.

Time to sign up  
for plant program

Become a Master Gardener and share your skills with others. Kansas State Research and Extension, the Northwest Area Office and Norton County Extension are seeking applicants for its Master Gardener Program.

Master Gardeners are people who enjoy volunteering their time and gardens, while sharing their skills and knowledge to help others grow and learn about horticulture.

If you are interested in becoming a Master Gardener, contact the Extension Office at 877-5755. Deadline for applications is today.

Speakers available

Clubs and organizations in need of a presentation for their meetings can contact Developmental Services of Northwest Kansas.

The agency has a speakers bureau that would be available to make a presentation to your club.

If you are interested in a presentation, contact Steve Keil at (785) 625-5678.

Weather

Forecast:

Tonight —Partly cloudy and brisk. Low: 24. Wind: SW 10-25 Saturday —Partly cloudy and brisk. High: 47. Low: 24. Wind: SW 10-25. Sunday—Partly cloudy, windy and chilly. Maybe some flurries. High: 40 Low: 16. Monday—Sun and high clouds. Breezy and milder. High: 49. Low: 19.

Howell report:

Wednesday ..... High 50, Low 28  
Thursday ..... High 49, Low 26  
.00 of an inch of precipitation  
Month ago ..... High 50, Low 24  
Year ago ..... High 43, Low 17  
December precipitation ..... 1/2 inches  
Year-to-date precipitation ... 19.33 inches  
(Readings taken at the Paul and Pat Howell farm 10 Miles North and 1/3 Mile East of Norton)

Prayer

Dear heavenly Father, let us every day awake and sing out "Today I will be just like You!" Teach us Your ways. Show us Your truths. Let the world see You in us today. In Your Son's holy name, we pray. Amen. Amen

Youngsters  
offer concert  
for families

On Tuesday the Northern Valley schools held their elementary program and 7-12-grade Christmas concert under the direction of vocal director Pat David and band director Jami Tolle. Closing out the evening the community chorus sang along with the junior high and high school chorus. Earlier in the evening, the elementary students sang (right) while the fourth grade class (below) entertained the audience with their penguin musical. Every year the fourth grade class is in charge of the Christmas play.

— Telegram photos by Susie Marble



Performing as the Up Front Dixieland Band, along with the combined junior high and high school bands, were (from left) Joey Copper, Clarke Nelson, Stanton Nelson, Dave Stuewe and Lindsey Jessup (not shown).

Three youths chosen as 'Carriers of Year'

Caleb Laughlin, Timmy Cummings and David Somers were chosen as *The Norton Telegram's* Outstanding Carriers of the Year for 2003.

To help the newspaper choose which three carriers were awarded this honor, subscribers had the opportunity to vote for their favorite carrier.

Subscribers were encouraged to add comments telling us why they thought their carrier should win.

We also took into consideration their overall conduct and reliability in delivering the papers.

Caleb Laughlin is the son of Bonnie and Terry Laughlin. He delivers the 600-700 blocks of W. Waverly and W. North; 200-300 blocks of West Ave., Ward and Sunset; 800-900 blocks of Middle; and the 800 block of Timbercreek.

He has been a carrier for several years and is very dependable.



Caleb Laughlin



T. Cummings



David Somers

Some of the comments his customers made were he is always very polite and prompt, he puts the paper in easily accessible places, and he is one of the best carriers his customers have had.

Timmy Cummings is the son of Jerry and Sharon Cummings. He delivers the 100-400 blocks of E. Warsaw; 800 block of N. Archer; 400 block of E. Wilmington;

700-800 blocks of N. Norton; 200-300 blocks of E. Wilberforce; and the 700-900 blocks of N. Wabash.

His customers said that he is a great carrier, that he is polite and never walks on the grass, and that they always get their paper.

Timmy is very reliable and the newspaper and subscribers appreciate his hard

work.

David Somers is the son of Robin and Steve Somers. He delivers the 100 blocks of S. Kansas, S. State, W. North and W. Wilton; 200 block of W Waverly; 100-200 blocks and part of the 300 block of W. Lincoln; and the 100-500 blocks of N. First.

David's customers said that he always has a pleasant word and that he is very good about taking care of his customers' papers when they are gone. He is polite and good about making sure his papers get to where they need to be.

The paper is thrilled to have him as a carrier and hopes that he will continue.

All three carriers thank their customers who cast their votes for them and for all their comments.

Caleb, Timmy and David each received cash prizes.

Almena City Council  
hears of disaster planning

Norton County Emergency Management Coordinator Alvin Mapes was at the Almena City Council meeting on Dec. 1 to talk about a mandate from the state to prepare for disasters of all kinds.

Mr. Mapes talked about the Norton County Mitigation 20/20 Task Force, which has been established to develop and maintain a comprehensive plan to lessen the effects of a disaster in the county. The county commissioners have hired Addie Homburg, Ellis, to help organize the planning.

He said Norton County and the cities of Norton, Almena, Clayton, Edmond and Lenora are all involved in the program.

"If we don't do this and we have a disaster, there may be no federal funds available to help us," said Mr. Mapes. "We could be on our own."

The Almena City Council assigned City Clerk Twila Ingram and Councilwoman Kristi Eggers to represent the city on the task force.

Mr. Mapes said that because Almena doesn't have a designated disaster shelter, there might be federal funds available to build one.

Fleta Hanlon said she would ask if anyone from PRIDE would be interested.

In other business, the council: (Continued on Page 5)

Commissioners view trends  
on alcohol, drug, tobacco use

By CYNTHIA HAYNES

Norton County Commissioners learned that students in the county are using less and have less favorable attitudes towards drugs, alcohol and tobacco over the last several years.

Janae Talbott, Hays, from the Smoky Hill Foundation for Chemical Dependency of the Regional Prevention Center of Northwest Kansas visited the commissioners at their meeting on Monday.

She handed out sheets with graphs and information on student attitude and use of illegal substances.

While there are some ups and downs

the trends show students have less favorable attitudes and are using less illegal substances than previously, she said.

Her group is more interested in trends, she told the commissioners, than in individual ups or downs. And overall, Norton students have indicated that they are using less and are looking less favorably on those who do use alcohol, tobacco or drugs.

Some highlights of the Smoky Hill research are:

• The percentage of students who claimed they have smoked a cigarette (Continued on Page 5)