



Dr. Craig Krizek, Norton, stood in front of some of his photography on display at the Dane G. Hansen Museum in Logan. About 40 pieces from Dr. Krizek's collection will be exhibited at the museum through Jan. 2. — Photo by Randy Moll

# Area leaders look to start a youth center in Norton

**By CAROLYN PLOTTS**  
Two years ago several people had a dream to start a youth center for Norton's young people. Now, Trent Richmond, business owner and father of two, along with many others have caught the fever and are making the idea a reality. The decision has been made to create "The Rock" Christian Youth Center in Norton. Attorney, John McClymont is leading the group through the process to become incorporated as a non-profit organization. That status is expected to be finalized within a week. "It has always been our intent for the center to be a stand-alone entity with their own board of directors," Mr. Richmond said. A location for "The Rock" is still

in the planning stages, but the committee members are confident a site will be found soon. The next phase is to raise money. This is a two-pronged effort to generate cash before the end of the year. First, are the initial gifts from individuals and businesses. "The support from the community has just been overwhelming," Mr. Richmond said. The second money-raising effort is through a vehicle donation program asking people to donate cars, trucks, motorcycles, all-terrain vehicles, boats and tractors. The tax laws regarding the donation of vehicles will change dramatically Jan. 1. Kurt Mann, chairman of the vehicle donation effort said, "I believe there are many individuals in the community who have vehicles

they no longer use and would like to support a youth center for the community." "The donor in most cases will benefit significantly by making this contribution before December 31." Vehicles donated to the youth center will be disposed of in a vehicle auction. The money will go to benefit the youth center. There are some criteria the vehicle donor must meet, but their tax advisor can help them. For information call Mr. Richmond, 877-4016; Mr. Mann, 877-3980; Pat Douglas, 877-3125; Bill Johnson, 877-2326; Cody Shepherd, 877-5661; Jim Rowh 877-3610; or John Engelbert, 877-5569. More information is available at [www.discovernorton.com](http://www.discovernorton.com).

# Almena emergency vehicle helps shorten ambulance time

**By VERONICA MONIER**  
Norton County recently upgraded the emergency medical service in Almena by putting an old ambulance there to be used as a first responder vehicle. Acting Ambulance Director Andy Nielsen told the Norton County Commissioners Tuesday that he feels the unit is working well. He said it has been used on two calls since being installed. He said it used to take 15 minutes to get a patient in Almena ready to go to the hospital. With the new unit, the time has been cut significantly, he said. It only took technicians five minutes to get the patient ready during the first call and four minutes for the second. The first responders assess the situation — whether accident or medical problem — and prepare the patient for transport. The emergency medical technicians, coming out of Norton, take the patient to the hospital. Mr. Nielsen said the total call time to Almena has also been cut down since the first responders have the patients mostly ready by the time the technicians arrive. Commissioner Leroy Lang said this is good since time is a big factor when a life is at stake. Mr. Nielsen said that his assistant Ruth Schillig had a baby last week and it will be awhile before she can make calls. However, he said, she might be able to do some part-time office work at the end of December. He said a new quality assurance program has been set up. A review board will go over every fifth run to see if everything follows protocol. He said the committee is going to meet every month so it doesn't get backlogged with calls. Mr. Nielsen said he will be going to trauma training in Wichita

next week. Also, on Thursday, ambulance personnel will be going to the Farm Bureau open house from 12:30-4 p.m. to do blood pressure checks. He said if a call comes in, they will have to leave early. In other business, the commissioners: • Met with Solid Waste Supervisor Curt Archibald. Mr. Archibald showed two samples of netting, which could be used to catch blowing trash at the landfill. One was more rope-like, while the other was made of plastic. Commissioner Dean Kruse said the plain-orange fencing that people use as snow fencing seems to work well also. The commissioners asked how much chicken wire would cost. Mr. Archibald said he didn't know, but would check. • Spoke with Mr. Archibald about trading a Bobcat with either Hoxie Implement for \$5,500 or South Central Bobcat in Hastings, Neb., for \$952.41. Mr. Archibald said the Bobcat from South Central would be exactly like the one the county has now and would include a one-year warranty. He said the county would keep the hard tires they have on their machine and would also keep the bucket. Mr. Kruse said he hated to trade something that wasn't more than a couple of years old, but thought that the one-year warranty made it worthwhile. The rest of the commissioners agreed and decided to buy the Bobcat from South Central. • Went into a 15 minute closed session for attorney-client privileges with County Attorney Doug Sebelius. • Spoke with County Treasurer Cynthia Linner. Mrs. Linner said the county had two certificates of deposit mature. The money is sup-

posed to be used for bridge construction. She said the road and bridge department said it needed \$100,000 to pay for construction costs and asked her to put bids out to for a one-year certificate of deposit for the rest of the money. She said she sent bids out for a one year, \$500,000 certificate. The bids were: The Bank at a 2.55 percent interest rate; First State Bank, 2.28; and First Security Bank and Trust, 2. The commissioners took The Bank's bid. • Heard from Mrs. Linner that the county received \$20,003.65 in sales tax receipts for October. Mr. Miller said he would like to see a breakdown from the state on where the sales tax money is coming from. "We've exceeded both what the state said we would get and what the auditor thought we would get," he said. "I think that it is important for us to try and get this information. It may take a lot of work, but it is something we need to do. If we get a breakdown, it might tell us what areas we need to look at for economic development." • Heard from Weed Department Supervisor Reggie Beckman that his department will have to cost share on all chemicals for noxious weeds, rather than just some of them because his budget is now below 1.5 mills. Mr. Beckman said the department won't have any money to buy chemicals in 2006 if they don't charge landowners for them this next year.

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**THE NORTON TELEGRAM**

# Five people win holiday cash in Christmas on Us contest

Five people saw their numbers and collected \$50 each from *The Norton Telegram* and Norton merchants Christmas on Us contest last week. Angie Chisham got her ticket, No. 3342906, from Countryside Veterinary Clinic and then her sharp eyes found the number in the Computer Pro ad. She said she thought she would stock up on groceries at Jamboree Foods with her winnings. Ward Foley is also going to stock up on groceries at Norton Shop and Save. Mr. Foley found his winning ticket, No. 692678, in the ad for First State Bank. It came from Walter Motor Co. Paul Lueschen doesn't know where he is going to spend his \$50. But, his winning ticket, No. 232441, came from Jamboree Foods, which was also the ad his ticket number was hidden in. Long distance winner Jan Martin got his ticket, No. 234256, from Computer Pro. The number was in the Quizno's ad. Mr. Martin didn't know where he was going to spend his money, but he'll have to come back to town as he and his wife live in Hays. The fifth winner, Mary Worcester, got her ticket, No. 442465, from Felton's Ace Hardware, which is where she'll probably spend her money. However, she said she also got to Jamboree Foods as well. Ms. Worcester found her number in the Dairy Queen ad. All of the ticket numbers on Page 2 of the Christmas on Us special section in last Tuesday's paper were claimed. Only one from Page 3 was claimed, leaving three numbers without winners. On Page 3, the unclaimed numbers were No. 3272462, which could be found in The Sewing Box ad and was given away at First State Bank; No. 8804341, which was in the Countryside Veterinary Clinic ad and came from Nex-Tech; and No. 5361566, which was in the Norton Flowers, Gifts



A. Chisham Worcester Jan Martin P. Lueschen Ward Foley

two from the previous week, the Norton merchants and *The Telegram* have given away \$350. There is still another \$150 in instant cash to be won by the people who find their winning ticket numbers hidden in this week's or next week's ad section. Keep your tickets, even if you aren't an instant winner because you might just win big at the Saturday, Dec. 18, drawing for a \$1,000 grand prize and \$500 second place prize. You must be present to win. All winners must agree to an interview with the paper and to having their picture taken.

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