

Babies:

Who will be the first baby born at the Norton County Hospital?

Pages 8 & 9

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75 cents

THE NORTON TELEGRAM

Sports:

Norton and Northern Valley C-team basketball teams play in the Hill City tournament.

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Friday

December 31, 2004

Norton, Kansas

Home of Gweneth Cranmer

Briefly

Free clinic set for babysitters

Norton County Farm Bureau Association is sponsoring a Super Sitters Babysitting Training Clinic from 2-5 p.m. Sunday in the Norton Public Library's community room.

Boys and girls, 9 and older, are encouraged to participate, learning to be better babysitters.

The clinic will cover the responsibilities of parents and sitters, child development and safety. It will also emphasize important needs such as friendship, companionship, understanding and patience.

Students will learn about children, how to relate to them and how to avoid some of the pitfalls that often accompany child care.

There is no registration fee for the clinic, but the association asks that participants register by Friday by calling Patsy Maddy at 877-7262 so that enough materials will be available for everyone.

Certificates will be awarded to those who successfully complete the clinic.

State Park office

to reopen Monday

The Prairie Dog State Park Norton area office has been closed for the holidays, but will re-open Monday.

The 2005 park permits and hunting/fishing licenses went on sale Saturday, Dec. 18. Time is running out on 2004 permits, as they expire on Friday. That includes all 2004 hunting, fishing and furharvesting licenses, state park annual permits and annual trail passes.

Kansas seniors who are 65 and older and handicapped individuals can buy motor vehicle permits at one-half of the regular price.

Call 877-2953 for more information.

Weather

Forecast:

Tonight — Mostly clear with lows around 30. West winds 10 to 15 mph.

Friday — Partly cloudy with highs in the upper 50s. Northeast winds 5 to 10 mph shifting to the east in the afternoon.

Friday Night — Partly cloudy with lows in the lower 30s. East winds 10 to 20 mph. **New Year's Day** — Partly cloudy and cooler with highs in the 40s.

Howell report:

Tuesday High 59, Low 32
Wednesday High 56, Low 47
Week ago High 28, Low 11
Month ago High 31, Low 7
Year ago High 46, Low 23
December precipitation 0.00 inches
Year-to-date precipitation ... 25.75 inches
(Readings taken at the Paul and Pat Howell farm 10 Miles North and 1/3 Mile East of Norton)

Prayer

We thank you, God, that whatever we go through, you understand and are there with us, providing a way out.

Amen



Firemen and emergency medical workers stabilized Wesley Friday, 88, of Norton (above) and removed him from his 2002 Buick Century on Wednesday after an accident involving him and a Colorado family. A Norton emergency worker took care of paperwork as he passed between the wrecked Colorado van and a Norton County ambulance (below).

— Telegram photos by Cynthia Haynes



Vacation cut short by wreck

A Colorado family's Christmas vacation came to a screeching halt a little after 2 p.m. Wednesday afternoon when their Windstar van was hit by a car coming out of a side street in Norton.

Wesley Friday, 88, Norton, failed to yield at a stop sign as he was driving south on West Avenue, according to the Norton Police Department. He drove his 2002 Buick Century into the intersection of West and U.S. 36 and struck the van driven by Mike Combs of Aurora, Colo.

Mr. Combs and his family were on their way home from visiting in Ohio. He, his wife Jane and three daughters, Hannah,

(Continued on Page 5)

Barber keeps on trimming after 55 years

By CAROLYN PLOTTS

A member of Marlin "Bozie" Bozarth's family has been cutting hair in Norton County for the last 95 years.

Since 1909, when his mother's father, began barbering, to his uncle, Carl Gibson, to Bozie himself, there's been a barber in the family.

A kid, fresh out of Norton Community High School in May of 1949, Bozie enrolled in Moler Barber School in Kansas City, Mo., in June.

In those days a student needed 1,700 hours to graduate and he came back to Norton six months later in December, flat broke.

"You don't send a 17-year old kid off to Kansas City with a check book," he said.

Being financially embarrassed led him to accept the first job offered. He began working for Art Collier and has been cutting hair in Norton ever since.

"I have cut the hair of six generations of my own family," he said.

He's seen a lot of changes over the years.

In 1949, there were 16 barbers in Norton County. Now, there are two. There are only 1,300 in the entire state and most of those are concentrated in the cities.

"I'm lucky," he said. "Not everybody gets into a profession they enjoy. But, I enjoy what I do.

"The good Lord knew I didn't want to work for a living so he gave me good arms and good legs."

After 55 years some ask if he's planning to retire.

"I am retired," he said, "I don't work Saturday."

Considering the schedule he used to keep when he would open the shop at 7 a.m. and stay until 10 p.m., he feels retired with his 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. four-day work



Marlin "Bozie" Bozarth gave a trim as he celebrated 55 years as a barber. — Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

week.

His easy manner with his customers proves he likes his work.

"Come on. Let's make you beautiful," he'll say to a man who walks in his door. And the repartee begins.

Quips go back and forth about fishing, wrestling, long hair, girls' sports, the weather and wives.

Bozie and his wife Deloros are the parents of three girls and a son. One daughter

Cindy died of leukemia when she was 10. Their oldest daughter, Marla, died eight years ago of a brain aneurysm.

Cindy's death led the barber to get involved with fund raising for Saint Jude Children's Hospital.

During one 24-hour "Style-A-Thon", he single-handedly raised over \$1,500 and was awarded a plaque from entertainer Danny Thomas.

"That's definitely the highlight of my

career," he said.

Their remaining daughter, Denise Wisman, lives in Plainville and their son, Curtis Bozarth, lives in Norton.

The barber shop is lined with pictures of grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

After 55 years of barbering, Bozie doesn't show any signs of quitting. Maybe he's waiting for the next generation to take over his scissors and comb.

Company gives back \$543,246

Rural Telephone will be giving just more than half a million dollars back to its members.

At the November meeting, the board of trustees approved a \$543,246 refund in capital credits to its members.

"Individuals who had telephone service with the Lenora-based cooperative during the years of 1985 through 2003 will receive a capital credit refund check," said Rural Telephone Chief Executive Officer/General Manager Larry Sevier. "This is the 20th consecutive year in which capital credit checks have been issued to Rural Telephone members."

"Capital credit refunds in the past 20 years have totaled over \$21.3 million."

Director of Finance Diana Smith said the refund checks were mailed to customers the second week of December.

Capital credits provide the financial basis to invest and plan for the future of the organization and to offer broadband and other advanced services to the cooperative's customers, while maintaining a good debt/equity ratio, said Mr. Sevier.

He said, due to competition, Rural Telephone has to continue investing in new and improved services to ensure a strong cooperative future.

"The Board of Trustees is committed to managing funds in a manner which allows the cooperative to return some capital to members while retaining sufficient capital to continue to maintain and improve advanced communications services," he said.



Thelma Simmons, 97, a resident at Beaver City Assisted Living, was buckled in and ready for take-off. Pilot Ivan Kingham, Norton, helped realize one of Mrs. Simmons'

dreams by giving her her first airplane ride on Nov. 11. The spry elder took her first motorcycle ride in August.

—Photo by Joyce Kingham

Woman flies high at age 97

Always up for a new challenge, Thelma Simmons, 97, a resident at Beaver City Assisted Living, had a chance to experience her first airplane ride on Nov. 11.

A family friend and an aviation enthusiast, made arrangements with pilot Ivan Kingham of Norton to give Mrs. Simmons a ride.

Mr. Kingham flew her over Beaver City and over the farmstead north of town where she and her late husband lived for many years. They cruised at 1,000 feet in the four-passenger 182 Cessna at about 150 miles per hour.

Mrs. Simmons is not your average 97-year old. To celebrate her birthday in August, she took her first motorcycle ride.

Family trip wrecked on U.S. 36

(Continued from Page 1) 10; Emily, 9; and Beth, 5, were all wearing their seat belts. Mr. Friday was not wearing his.

When Mr. Combs, who was driving on the inside lane of U.S. 36 westbound, saw the Friday vehicle he swerved but could not prevent the accident. Both vehicles ended up on the northside of the road with debris scattered on the highway.

Traffic on U.S. 36 was held up in each direction for about 20 minutes while members of the Norton Police Department, Norton

County Emergency Medical Service and Norton City Fire Department worked the accident.

The Norton County Sheriff's Department provided traffic control and Second Lt. Doug Griffiths of the Kansas Highway Patrol helped secure the accident scene. Norton Police Officer Jeff Rydquist was the officer in charge.

Mr. Friday was extricated from his car, put on a back board and taken to the Norton County Hospital. Hannah Combs was also transported to the hospital with what her mother described as a

bump on the head.

The Combs family pet, a miniature dachshund named Chloe, was shook up but uninjured.

"Our Christmas presents are all over there," Mrs. Combs said gesturing to a hard-sided object about the size of a car trunk, which lay on the south-side of the highway. "We had a little topper on the top of the car."

Both vehicles were towed from the scene and undrivable. Officials said they believed the Combs family continued their trip home in some other vehicle.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING
**Solomon Valley Rural
 Fire District No. 3**
**MONDAY,
 JAN. 10, 2005**
7:00 P.M.
 at the
**Fire Station
 Lenora, Kan.**

No smoking campaign adopted

In recognition of the many New Year's resolutions to stop smoking, the Norton County Health Department is encouraging people to call the Kansas Tobacco Quitline at 866-KAN-STOP to get free counseling and a free quit kit.

Smoking is the leading preventable cause of death in the U.S. Smokers who quit will, on average, live longer and have fewer years of disability. But you'll also see the benefits of quitting in as little as 20 minutes

- Did you know:
- 20 minutes after quitting your heart rate drops.
 - 12 hours after quitting the carbon monoxide level in your blood drops to normal.
 - One to nine months after quitting your coughing and shortness of breath decrease.
 - One year after quitting your added risk of heart disease is half that of a smoker's.
 - Five years after quitting, your stroke risk is reduced.

A recent report said that counseling smokers to quit was ranked as one of the most cost effective and clinically preventable burdens of disease and injury, second only to vaccinating children.

For more information, call the Norton County Health Department at 877-5745 or contact the Kansas Tobacco Quitline, toll-free at 866-KAN-Stop (866) 526-7867 or go online to: www.kanstop.org.

Veterans' representative to visit Jan. 10

A service representative from the Kansas Commission on Veterans' Affairs will be at the Norton Social Rehabilitation Services Office from 1-2:30 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 10 to assist veterans and their families with matters pertaining to veterans' benefits.

900

The ~~800~~ pound Gorilla

Just got a whole lot bigger!

That's right. The Gorilla has been growing. Already the biggest and most effective advertising medium in the Tri-State Region, **The Country Advocate** has been adding readers all year.

No more 800-pound weakling. Now **The Advocate** is the 900-pound Gorilla of Northwest Kansas advertising!

First, **The Advocate** added nearly 1,550 new home-delivered households in Sherman County

with readers of the all-new, all-local *Goodland Star-News*.

Then, the Gorilla picked up 1,750 new home-delivered households in Norton County when *The Norton Telegram* joined the club.

When you need to sell something, find something or notify someone, the Gorilla is your best friend. Reaching 18,200 households with nearly 42,000 readers across northwest Kansas and eastern Colorado, the Gorilla packs a punch. It can

move your refrigerator or your old car. A house? No problem for the Gorilla. And all at rates that save you money.

And **The Advocate** is nearly all home delivered. Some "shoppers" count on people picking them up at the filling station. It's cheap, but it can't be compared to home delivery reaching nearly every house in the area.

Just try it! The Gorilla will work hard for you. Call today with your ad.



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FREE PRESS**

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Bird City Times

Box 167, Bird City, KS 67731 • (785) 734-2621

The **Goodland Star-News**

1205 Main, Goodland, KS 67735 • (785) 899-2338

THE NORTON
TELEGRAM

215 S. Kansas, Norton, KS 67654 • (785) 877-3361

THE OBERLIN HERALD

170 S. Penn Ave., Oberlin, KS 67749 • (785) 475-2206

The Saint Francis Herald

Box 1050, St. Francis, KS 67756 • (785) 332-3162