

# Church:

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

Pages 6 & 7

Vol. 99, No. 104  
75 cents

# THE NORTON TELEGRAM

Businesses wish all a happy New Year's Pages 8 & 9

## Friday

December 29, 2006

Norton, Kansas  
Home of Brad Braun

### Briefly

## Paper will print one day late

The New Year's day holiday will alter the printing schedules for both *The Telegram Extra* and *The Norton Telegram*, said Tom Dreiling, editor/publisher.

He said *The Extra* will be printed on Tuesday, Jan. 2. *The Norton Telegram* will be printed on Wednesday, Jan. 3.

"Thanks in advance for your understanding," Mr. Dreiling said.

## Group meeting to help people

United Resources will meet at 7 a.m. Tuesday at Town and Country Kitchen for their monthly breakfast meeting. The group was organized to pull together service agencies in an effort to help people who sometimes "fall through the cracks".

The speaker will be Wade Carter, director of Norton County Economic Development. There will be a round-table discussion with a question and answer period. Mr. Carter will discuss his vision for Norton County. If you are interested, you are invited to attend.

## Church will show free movie

CrossRoads Church, 313 W. Lincoln, Norton, is sponsoring a free showing of the movie, "Facing the Giants" at 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 31 at the church. To learn more about this family-friendly, faith-filled movie call Terry Laughlin at 877877-2416

### Weather

## Forecast:

The National Weather Service at Goodland told *The Telegram* this morning that the situation in the Norton area will be a mix of rain and freezing rain through late Saturday, with very dangerous driving conditions. They said the ice could be up to 1/4-inch. The weather service said snow probably won't fall in the Norton area until Saturday night, leaving a possible 4-6 inches. Strong winds will accompany the system. Temperatures are expected to range in the lower 30s daytime and upper 20 at night. A return to improving conditions will highlight Monday's weather.

## Kingham report:

Wednesday ..... Low 46, High 24  
Thursday ..... Low 37, High 27  
(Readings taken at the Fred and Karolyn Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

### Prayer

Thank you, Lord Jesus, for the great price you paid for our salvation. Help us surrender every part of our lives in grateful obedience. Amen

## The caroling kindergarten



One of the kindergarten classes (above) from Eisenhower Elementary children acted out the words of "Away In A Manger." They also presented handmade Christmas cards (below) to the residents.

— Telegram photos by Carolyn Plotts



## Jennings bus company ready to roll

By KIMBERLY DAVIS

The Jennings bus plant will unveil its first product, a luxury touring coach, at the beginning of January during an open house in the old school at Jennings and then during a motor coach expo in New Orleans.

Larry Brennan, vice president and spokesperson for Bus and Coach International in Jennings, said the 2007 BCI Falcon 45 Motor Coach will be unveiled during the company's open house, from 2 to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 6, at the firm's plant and showroom in Jennings.

Mr. Brennan said everyone is invited to the open house to see the new bus, see what the company has done to the school and meet some of the employees.

BCI purchased the former Jennings School in August and has been remodeling the building since. One of the first things people might have noticed was a fence that went up around the property.

On the inside, construction workers have been busy putting in new restrooms, dry wall, tiles, painting and more.

One thing the crew left, said Mr. Brennan, was the "Jennings Coyotes" name on the gym floor, which was carefully covered so it wouldn't be destroyed.

This is a new start-up business in Kansas because these coaches were formed to market the new coach design in Jennings, Mr. Brennan said. BCI has related operations in Delaware and Nevada.

Mr. Brennan said the firm has doubled its payroll in the last month, and now has over 20 employees here. He said they have tried to hire as many as they can from the area.

One of the employees is Tom Peter of Selden, who said he has worked at BCI from "day 1," doing construction.

Mr. Peter, said Mr. Brennan, has many talents which are being used at the plant.

This company moving here has been the best thing for the community, said Mr. Peter. It has brought in money for many businesses all around the area.

Mr. Brennan said some of the employees, including the executive team, moved to the area, but all of the latest hiring was

done here. Everyone will be able to meet the executives and other employees and talk with them at the open house, said Mr. Brennan.

In the early part of the next year, said Mr. Brennan, the company will be talking about growing again. BCI, he said, is a Kansas based American company that designs and builds American-style coaches for the North American market.

The buses, he said, are assembled in China with Australian steel, but the coach is designed for the North American market at 102 inches wide and 45 feet long.

The firm, said Mr. Brennan, wants serviceability, value and quality in each of the vehicles.

The coaches hold 56 passengers and boast a restroom. The idea is that the coaches are used for day trips or basically as a tour bus.

After they're assembled, they'll be shipped to the states by ship and brought to Jennings, where each bus will be inspected to make sure everything is ready

(Continued on Page 5)

## Norcatur keeps up Christmas season tradition

By CAROLYN PLOTTS

A tradition that no one knows for sure how long it's been in existence, continued Saturday when the folks of Norcatur gathered for the annual Christmas Drawing.

The last few years an aging population and inclement weather has forced the drawing to move to the multi-purpose room of the former Norcatur Grade School. In years past, it was held outside, on Main Street, no matter what the weather.

The drawing has always been a way for businesses and individuals to give back to their community. Prizes range from turkeys and roasts to gift certificates, oil changes and cheese trays.

(Continued on Page 5)

# Happy New Year

