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Storm impacts blood donations Page 2



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Norton, Kansas Home of Myron Bietz

Briefly **Tiger tickets free** for game Jan. 13

Thanks to End Zone Sports and Office Supplies, North Wheatridge Farms and Bridges Group Insurance, Norton, tickets for the women's and men's Fort Hays State University Tiger basketball games Saturday night Jan. 13 are available — free!

The Tiger women and men will be taking on conference foe Missouri Western at Gross Memorial Coliseum on the university's campus. The women take to the floor at 5:30 p.m. and the men at 7:30 p.m.

City, school board filing deadline set

If you are interested in serving on local city or school boards, keep Jan. 23 in mind. That's the filing deadline at noon for potential candidates and those now sitting on those boards who are up for reelection. A more comprehensive report will appear in Friday's Telegram.

High school art exhibit date noted



Parents of the first baby born at Norton County Hospital in 2007 held their son, Krishna K. Kher, in their front room, Monday afternoon. His mother is Mani Kher and his father is Ketan Kher. — Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

Santa's out, stork's in First baby arrives

By CAROLYN PLOTTS

The first baby of 2007 is also the first child for Ketan and Mani Kher, Norton. Their son, Krishna K. Kher, arrived Jan. 3 at Norton County Hospital weighing 5 pounds 1 1/2 ounce. He has a full head of dark hair and brown eyes.

Mr. and Mrs. Kher have lived in Norton for six months, coming from Virginia. He said, "An opportunity came up and we decided to make the move."

They are the new owners of the Hillcrest Motel on US Highway 36.

Mr. Kher said, "I like small-town life."

The new baby and his parents will receive the following gifts from Norton County merchants:

• A floral arrangement from Norton Flowers, Gifts and Greenhouse.

• A day of pampering for the new mom at Bella Sole'.

• A \$15 gift certificate from Felton's Ace Building Center.

• A \$20 gift certificate from Hidden Dragon Chinese Restaurant.

• A \$25 gift certificate from Russ' Jewelry and Repair.

• A Keepsake baby album from Moffet Drug Store.

• A special gift for the baby from United Northwest Federal Credit Union.

• A special gift for the baby or his parents from The Mystic Moonstone.

· A special gift for the new family from Sander Furniture and Gifts.

 A large package of disposable diapers from Norton Shop and Save.

• An Angelstar Angel for the baby from Garden Gate Florals. Etc.

• A package of disposable diapers for the new baby from Almena Market.

· Four rolls of in-stock wallpaper border to help decorate the new baby's room from Norton Glass Co., Inc.

• A teddy bear from American Family Insurance.

• A haircut, style and manicure for the new mother from Bella Villa.

•A six-month subscription to The Norton Telegram.

Black Hawk helicopters aid stranded cattle

The Dane G. Hansen Memorial Museum at Logan today said dates for its 30th annual High School Art Exhibit will be Feb. 2-March 4. The popular exhibit attracts a large number of area high school students who exhibit a variety of forms in watercolor and tempera, ink and scratch board, oil and acrylic, sculptural and 3-D, pencil and drawing, graphic design, jewelry, ceramics, colored pencil, printmaking and pastel, crayon and charcoal.

Schools invited to participate this year are Norton, Palco, Stockton, Smith Center, Logan, Phillipsburg, Hill City, Grainfield, Ellis, Osborne, Plainville and WaKeeney.

Weather

Forecast:

Tonight — Mostly clear with lows in the lower 20s. Wednesday — Sunny with highs in the upper 40s. Wednesday Night — Mostly clear with lows in the lower 20s. **Thursday** — Much colder and partly cloudy in the morning, then mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of freezing drizzle and light snow.

Kingham report:

| Friday | Low 29, High 34, .10 Rain |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Saturday | Low 12, High 33 |
| Sunday | Low 13, High 29 |
| Monday | Low 17, High 41 |
| (Readings taken at the Kingham farm | |

9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

Father, we thank you that in Christ we find a cord of love that binds us to you and to all believers. Bless our brothers and sisters, our family that stretches around the world. Amen

By TOM DREILING

If you saw something out of the ordinary in the skies over northwest Kansas the past couple of days, chalk it up to help from the Kansas National Guard to feed stranded cattle resulting from the Dec. 28-29 winter storm.

The Guard put a couple of Black Hawk helicopters up above to accomplish that mission.

Sharon Watson, Public Affairs Director in the Kansas Adjutant General's Department, said ranchers who have stranded cattle and are unable to get feed or water to them, are asked to contact Kansas Emergency Management at 785 274-1446, or they can go to www.ksready.gov by clicking on the Ag Emergency icon.

"We have been working diligently to ensure that the people of western Kansas have what they need and we also want to make sure we protect the state's economic interests," said Maj. Gen. Tod Bunting, Kansas adjutant general.

Two Black Hawk helicopters from the 1st Battalion, 108th Aviation flew from Goodland to move hay in the Wallace, Logan and Cheyenne county areas The 137th transportation Company was also involved in hauling hay to affected areas using flatbed trailers and other large ve-

Breaking news...

jor disaster exists in Kansas and ordered federal aid to supplement state and losevere winter storm during the period Dec. 28-31.

and eligible local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations on a cost-sharing basis in the affected counties, which include Norton, for debris removal and emergency protective measures, including direct federal assistance.

funding is available on a cost-sharing

hicles, according to information filed by lery, 169th Corps Support Battalion; 69th Public Affairs Director Watson.

A number of other Kansas National Guard units assisted with power restoration and other missions across the affected areas, she said. These units include the 891st Engineer Battalion; 778th Transportation Company; 1st Battalion, 635th Armor, 1st Battalion, 161st Field Artil-

President Bush today declared a ma- basis for hazard mitigation measures statewide.

R. David Paulison, Director of the cal recovery efforts in the area hit by a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Department of Homeland Security, named Thomas J. The White House press release said Costello as the federal coordinating offederal funding is available to Kansas ficer for federal recovery operations in the 44-county area.

> The agency said that damage surveys have been scheduled and more counties and additional forms of assistance may be designated after the assessments are completed.

Mr. Paulison said additional informa-The release also said that federal tion is available by calling FEMA at (202) 646-4600.

> Troop Command; 287th Sustainment Brigade; 995th Maintenance Company; 235th Regiment, 170th Maintenance Company; 184th Air Refueling Wing, 134th Air Control Squadron; and the 190th Air Refueling Wing.

> Watson said approximately 134 Kansas National Guard personnel were in

volved in these missions, and that additional personnel were coordinating these efforts at the State Emergency Operations Center in Topeka.

The Kansas National Guard also provided emergency generators and operation personnel to some communities to provide power to water treatment plants and other critical facilities. These generators are being moved to other locations as power is restored.

The State Emergency Operations Center will remain activated to coordinate the response and recovery needed by local governments impacted by the storm.

Gov. Kathleen Sebelius has requested a federal declaration and an agricultural declaration of disaster for a 44-county area. A state declaration was issued Dec. 30, and amended to include additional counties as the storm progressed.

The counties in the disaster declaration include: Cheyenne, Clark, Comanche, Decatur, Edwards, Ellis, Finney, Ford, Graham, Grant, Gray, Greeley, Gove, Hamilton, Haskell, Hodgeman, Jewell, Kearny, Kiowa, Lane, Logan, Meade, Morton, Ness, Norton, Osborne, Pawnee, Phillips, Rawlins, Rooks, Rush, Russell, Scott, Seward, Sheridan, Sherman, Smith, Stafford, Stanton, Stevens, Thomas, Trego, Wallace and Wichita.

Hospital step closer to banning concealed weapons

By VERONICA MONIER

The Norton County Hospital board is looking into a policy banning concealed weapons.

Hospital Administrator Rich Miller said the policy wouldn't allow anyone to bring a concealed weapon into the hospia license to carry one. He said they would be allowed to leave them in the car, or could possibly check them at the door.

The hospital, he said, will post signs stating the rules. "I don't think there will

On the inside...

be a problem with it," he said.

Board member Steve Berry said he didn't think guns should be allowed into a hospital. "There's no reason for it," he said.

The law allowing licensed people to carry concealed weapons went into effect for a permanent doctor to replace Dr. Roy tal, regardless of whether or not they have Jan. 1. The board tabled approving the Hartley, who retired. policy until the Jan. 17 meeting, so each member could look it over.

In other business, the board: • Heard in November, the hospital had 261 patient days; 51 admissions; 2 births;

10 surgeries; 3,953 outpatient proce- cal Therapy, Cardiac Rehabilitation, and dures; 1,210 Doctor's Clinic visits; and 633 inpatient procedures.

• Approved three medical staff applications

• Heard that the hospital is still looking

insurance plan.

• Reviewed patient surveys.

• Reviewed quality improvement reports from the Nursing, Radiology, Physi-

Housekeeping departments.

· Heard from Mr. Miller that the hospital employees sent the board a thank you card for the extra holiday benefit day.

· Increased mileage reimbursement to 48.5 cents per mile, the federal rate.

 Held a 5-minute closed session to dis-• Discussed the employee group health cuss the confidential risk management report. Once back in open session, the board approved the report.

• Held a 15-minute closed session to discuss non-elected personnel.

 Blue Jay wrestlers win tournament, page 8

 Top local stories for 2006, pages 3 and 5

 Commissioner Dean Kruse retires, page 5