By VERONICA MONIER

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Diane Becker, Norton County

After that, they will look at

Ms. Becker said that if passed,

people who apply for the plan

have the opportunity to get a

rebate on a portion of their prop-

erty taxes. The rebate covers new

construction or improvements to

existing property over \$10,000.

It's important to note, she said,

that it is not \$10,000 worth of

construction costs, but rather

\$10,000 of increased property

value, which is determined by the

Residential property is capped

county appraiser.

passing the plan in the county.



Residents of the Andbe Home entertained guests with an exercise routine called "Ageless Aerobic Arena". In addition to the scarves pictured, they also used paper plates for part of their routine. — Telegram photo by Vicki Henderson

## Residents celebrate with fall festival

By CAROLYN PLOTTS cplotts@nwkansas.com

Monday evening friends and families celebrated the annual Fall Festival with residents of the Norton Andbe Home. The dietary staff prepared homemade chicken and noodle and chili soups along with apple pie and ice cream for dessert.

The evening included a program by the residents called, "Ageless Aerobic Arena". Part of the program featured colorful scarves which the residents moved in a choreographed routine. Another part included paper plates. The audience was invited to participate in another routine called, "Lonesome Trail".

Darlene McEwen, Resident Resource Coordinator, explained to the guests that the routines are part of the residents regular exercise program held on Tuesdays.



Andbe Home administrator Kent Blake put a "dollop" of ice cream on slices of apple pie at Monday evening's Fall Festival at the home. Carrying the serving tray was dietary staff person JoAnn Philippi. — Telegram photo by Vicki Henderson

hour to perform and encourage movement.

Following the program, a drawing was held for an Irish Chain quilt made by the residents. Don McMullen was the winner. Gar-

She said the routines take half an ret Kasl, Topeka, won an afghan made by Pauline Goeken and quilted pot holders were won by Mary Ann Hager.

Proceeds from the evening went to the activity fund at the

at \$50,000 and commercial, agriculture, recreational and in-Norton County is looking at a dustrial property are capped at \$250,000.

County reviews revitalization plan

The rebates are done on a sliding scale for a 10 year period, she said. People meeting the requirements would get a 100 percent rebate on the added value in the first year and a 10 percent rebate in the tenth year. It decreases by 10 percent each year.

For example, she said, in a Norton residential area, taxes on \$10,000 would be approximately \$185 and taxes on \$50,000 would be about \$925. On commercial property, taxes on \$10,000 would be about \$400 and on \$250,000 would be approximately \$10,040. So, for a \$10,000 increase in a residential property value, a rebate in the first year would be about \$185.

The way the rebate works is people will pay their property taxes and then receive a rebate check the following June.

In order for the plan to be enacted in Norton County, it has to be passed by the commission. And then all the taxing entities in the county have to agree to participate, which includes all school boards, cemetery boards, library boards, townships, and

fire districts. If they don't agree but the commission passes the plan, it will still be in effect, but the rebate

will be smaller. "We're really hoping everyone will see the good in this," Ms. Becker said. "In Kansas, there are 53 counties who have some form of the plan. We've thoroughly researched to make sure we have the best possible plan here."

The goal of the plan, which was originally created in 1994, is to increase the tax base in the longterm, she said.

"I think it's going to be great for the county," she said. "It provides an incentive for expansion and revitalization of the entire county.'

For more information, people can view the Neighborhood Revitalization Plan in its entirety at www.discoverNorton.com or they can call Ms. Becker at the economic development office at (785) 874-4816.

### Food to be distributed

The Norton County Senior grape juice and peanut butter.

For more details call Ramona Pabian at 785-877-5352.

Distribution will take place from 2 to 3:30 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 11 at the Lenora Senior Center; from 2 to 4 p.m., Friday, Nov. 9, at both the Norton Senior Library.

Citizens, Inc. will distribute government surplus food next week. Food available at this time includes: corn flakes, apple juice, vegetable soup, dried cherries,

### Center and the Almena Senior Center; and from 2:30 to 3 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 10 at the Clayton

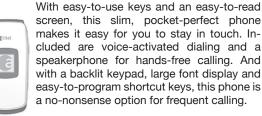
# Students, inmates show support for God's Pantry

erage between four or five people a week, but have gotten more than

People in need of an emergency Mrs. Mann was referring to appointment cancall Mrs. Mann at the first ever Christmas Cookie (785) 877-2019 or Mrs. Johnson

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### donated to help people in need. Mrs. Mann said they usually av-"We really appreciate their

By VERONICA MONIER

vmonier@nwkansas.com God's Pantry has been busy

The Pantry is a service provided by volunteers from the Trinity Episcopal Church and mentioned to me that we're getthe community-at-large. Com- ting low again and needed to put munity members donate food out a plea for help," she said. "At and money to the Pantry, which is the same time, the Northern Valrun by church volunteers, to help people who are in need of a little

have the holidays to get through. Last year, for the whole year, they served 193.

The Pantry, she said, is for emergencies and so people are usually allowed to come in and get food three times in a six-month time frame. But, she said, sometimes there is just problem after problem and, in situations like that, they will make exceptions.

So far this year, she said they have spent \$10,400, which doesn't include the food given to them. Last year, they spent a total of

\$9,400. "Usage is up, but cost of groceries is up as well," she said. "Connie Johnson, who does our shopping for us, does a great job finding bargains and sales. She really makes the money stretch."

Mrs. Mann said they used to

food. But, she said, as soon as the shelves are empty, someone brings in some food and when they need money to buy food, someone brings that in, too.

"Connie (Johnson) recently ley students gave us the proceeds from a dance they had. Also, a letter was sent to me from an inmate Elaine Mann, a volunteer with at Norton Correctional Facility, God's Pantry, said so far this year, who sent us a check for \$25. That they've served 177 people and still came out of his personal account, which took a long time for him

> to earn." She said these are two segments of the population people tend to look down on for causing problems. But, they stepped up and

help," she said. "And now with this thing you guys are doing, we're really blessed."

Contest *The Telegram* is hold- at (785) 877-2039. ing. More information about the contest will be in the Friday, Nov. 9 edition of the paper.

God's Pantry accepts donations of canned and non-perishable food items and cash donations to buy food. They do occasionally accept perishable items as well. The Pantry is open every Sunday at 3 p.m. and stays open as long as people keep coming. They also will make emergency appointments, if someone needs food before Sunday.

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