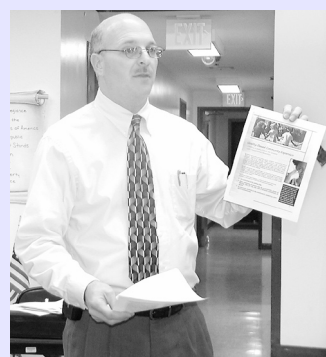


THE NORTON TELEGRAM

Church:

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

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Friday

February 15, 2008

Norton, Kansas
Home of Francis Jones

Briefly

Kids' carnival to be Saturday

The Norton Child Study Club is sponsoring the First Annual Kids' Carnival from 2 to 4 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 16 at the Norton National Guard Armory.

The club will have fun games for all kids 12 and under. The one rule — all children must be accompanied by an adult. Cost is \$5 per child.

Almena hosts pancake supper

The Almena Community PRIDE committee is sponsoring a pancake supper from 5 to 7 p.m., Saturday at the Almena Community Center. Admission is by donation and money raised will be used to help repair damage caused by vandals at the Almena roadside park and to the disc golf course. Almena Junior PRIDE is helping with the supper.

Eagles sponsor art contest

The Eagles Club is holding its 32nd annual "What I Like Best About My Hometown" art contest for third through sixth graders. Young artists entering can use acrylic, watercolor, crayon or pen and ink. In each grade level, there will be a \$200 first place prize, a \$100 second place prize, a \$75 third place prize and a \$50 fourth place prize. There will also be a \$500 Best of Show prize awarded. Entry forms may be requested from Lee Smith, Aerie Secretary, 607 N. State St., Norton or Barb McKie, Auxiliary Secretary, Rt. 3 Box 24, Norton. Entry deadline is May 1. For more information, call Mr. Smith at (785) 874-4841 or Mrs. McKie at (785) 877-3340.

Pancakes raise mission money

The Long Island United Methodist Church will host a pancake supper from 5 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 20. Admission is by donation. Besides pancakes, the church will serve sausage, pie, juice and coffee. Monies raised will be used for missions. Everyone is invited to attend.

Weather

Forecast:

Tonight — Mostly clear with a low around 20. **Saturday** — Mostly sunny with a high near 47. **Saturday Night** — Mostly cloudy with a low around 26. Blustery with a north wind 5 to 10 mph increasing to between 15 and 20 mph. **Sunday** — Partly sunny with a high near 36.

Kingham report:

Tuesday Low 9, High 43
Wednesday Low 24, High 55
Thursday Low 15, High 28
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

God of hope and joy, thank you for loving us as we are. **Amen**



Tom Brannan, aided by Marvin Matchett at KQNK Radio and Karla Reed at the Norton Area Chamber of Commerce, held a hamburger feed Wednesday in the Norton Pamida parking lot to raise funds to send school supplies to his son, Sgt. Jason Brannan, who is stationed in Iraq.

— Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

Banks, courthouse closed on Monday

Presidents' Day is Monday. It is a national holiday, however, in Norton, banks and county offices are the only entities recognizing the day.

All county banks will be closed Monday as well as the Norton County Courthouse, the U.S. Post Office, Norton County Health Department and the Farm Service Agency office.

The Norton City Offices and the Norton Public Library will both be open.

Northern Valley, Lenora and Logan schools will all be closed.

Norton schools will be in session Monday, but will be dismissed Wednesday, Feb. 20.

Norton begins hunt for new principal

By VERONICA MONIER
vmonier@nwkans.com

The Norton School District will once again be on the hunt for a new principal.

At Monday's meeting, the Norton School Board accepted Principal Larry Mills' resignation with thanks and well wishes. Mr. Mills, who has worked for the district for 10 years, is both the junior high principal and the junior/senior high athletic director.

In his resignation letter, Mr. Mills told the board that he was in the process of seeking a superintendent position. He said the Norton school system has set the bar high and has been a big part of his and his family's lives for the past 10 years. Mr. Mills said he has learned a lot and looks forward to using the things he's learned

in his new position.

After accepting Mr. Mills' resignation, the board approved a replacement plan for the principal/athletic director position, which includes advertising the open position, a timeline and the selection process.

The board set March 14 as the deadline for applications and hopes to be able to hire a new principal at the April 14 board meeting.

Included on the interview committee will be two members of the board, two staff members, one site council member, one coach and Superintendent Greg Mann.

The board also hopes to have a meet and greet, so that the district's staff can meet the candidates for the position

In other business, the board:

see the people, especially the children, up close and personal.

Tom Brannan said his son called them last fall and said, "Dad, can you send me some little kids shoes?"

Sgt. Brannan and his men saw little children going barefoot and wanted to help. His parents sent several boxes of shoes which the soldiers put in their backpacks. When they would encounter a shoeless child, they would try to fit him or her with (Continued on Page 5)



Iraqi school children swarmed Sgt. Jason Brannan when he came to their school. Sgt. Brannan has asked his parents, Tom and Cathy Brannan, to send school supplies for the children. — Photo courtesy of Tom and Cathy Brannan

Community comes together to help Iraqi school children

By CAROLYN PLOTTS
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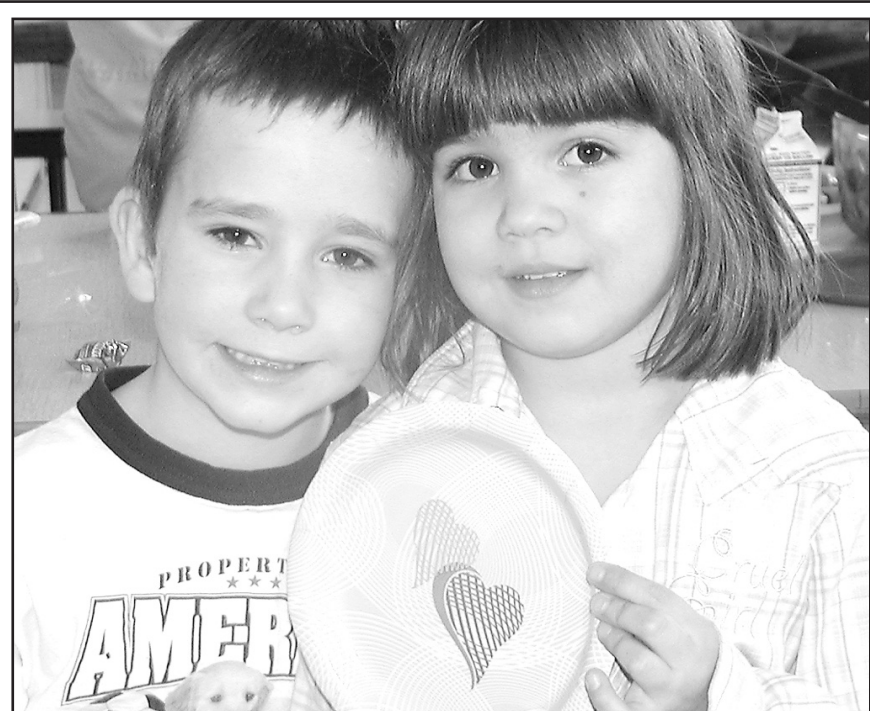
Tom and Cathy Brannan of Norton are acting as helping hands for their son, Sgt. Jason Brannan, who is serving his second tour of duty with the U.S. Army First Division, in Iraq.

Sgt. Brannan is a weapons squad leader in a city just north of Baghdad. That means he is literally, "the grunt on the ground". He and his squad are the ones who conduct foot patrols of the area. They are the ones who

• Approved the 2008-09 academic calendar as recommended by the calendar committee with a 6-1 vote with Board member Elaine Lofgreen voting no. Mr. Mann said it is close to this year's calendar, except it has 178 contact days rather than 177. He said 178 is the traditional number of contact days.

Mrs. Lofgreen said she knew they didn't have a lot of choice in what days to start, but she doesn't like starting on Aug. 15. She said it's really early, especially for farm families.

• Approved a three-year agreement with K-JUMP, a consortium of Kansas schools who hired a professional to buy gas contracts for the school districts involved. Mr. Mann said they pay 14 cents (Continued on Page 5)



William Gassman, 5, and Jazzmin Wahlmeier, 6, had their own private Valentine's Day party. Normally, their kindergarten class at Lenora Elementary School has four students but, Thursday, illness kept two of their classmates at home. The two still had a good time and exchanged Valentines. — Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

Instruments top project list

By VERONICA MONIER
vmonier@nwkans.com

The Norton School Board has chosen three capital outlay projects to work on in 2008.

Both the board and the administrative team ranked the 13 projects on this year's capital outlay list by order of importance. Buying new musical instruments ranked highest on the board's list and tied for second on the administrative team's list. The top ranked item on the administrative team's list was replacing the freezer at the junior/senior high and the concrete north of the junior/senior high kitchen. The board ranked that project fourth.

For the board, replacing the mini-boiler at Eisenhower was second and replacing the concrete in the Stull gym parking lot was third. For the administrative team, buying new tables for the fifth/sixth grade science room tied for second and replacing the concrete in the Stull gym parking lot was fourth. Superintendent Greg Mann said both

the board and the administrative team were very similar in their top choices. When combined, the top projects were: musical instruments, first; concrete and freezer at junior/senior high, second; Stull gym parking lot, tie for third; and mini-boiler at Eisenhower, tie for third; science tables, fifth.

Mr. Mann said he recommended the board buy new musical instruments, replace the concrete and freezer at the junior/senior high, and replace the concrete in the Stull gym parking lot.

He said they just put a new water heater in at Eisenhower, which will last for three to five years. When it goes out, he said he will make plans to replace it with a mini-boiler.

Then, he said, at the end of the year with the money they have left, they should look at buying the science tables and new equipment for both the ag and wood shops.

Those three projects, in addition to the (Continued on Page 5)