Friday, July 18, 2008

School board adopts military leave policy

By BRANDY LEROUX bleroux@nwkansas.com

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as recommended by the Kansas Association of School Boards.

Previously, the teacher's contract touched on the subject of military leave, but did not go into any details, and it was not in the school board policy. The new

and the Coast Guard. The policy provides reemploy-

The Norton School District ment rights to military personnel Board of Education adopted a called to duty for the following new policy at its Monday meet- reasons: active duty, active duty ing, dealing with military leave, for training, initial active duty for training, inactive duty training, full-time National Guard duty, and absences from work for an examination to determine a person's fitness for any of the above types of duty.

The policy also covers disabled

recovering from injuries received absent, with the same seniority, during service or training.

The policy states that a person may be absent for up to five years for military duty and retain reemployment rights, and that the person must provide advance written or verbal notice to their employers for all military duty.

The policy also states that a person must be discharged under honorable conditions for that person to be entitled to reemployment policy covers all five branches of veterans, requiring the school rights. A person returning from the military, and their respective district to provide reasonable military service is entitled to be reserve components — Army, accommodations and allow up reemployed in the job that they Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps to two years to return to work if would have had they not been length of service are protected.

status and pay, as well as other rights and benefits determined by seniority. The employer must provide training or retraining that enables the person to refresh or upgrade their skills.

A person performing military duty for more than 30 days can elect to continue employer-sponsored health care for up to 18 months at a cost of up to 102% of the full premium. A person who is on military duty for less than 30 days is covered as if they never left. Others that are a reward for

Late night attack focuses on mosquitoes

your street."

By BRANDY LEROUX

bleroux@nwkansas.com Residents of Norton who stay up late may have seen a truck making its way down their street, towing a trailer with something coming from within. What they are seeing is the city's efforts to curb the fertilizer, to kill the larvae. mosquito population.

BioMist 3+15 is being sprayed every 7 to 10 days. They start open, and kids can still play outin residential and business areas around 9 p.m and usually end a side. throughout the city. The active in- little after midnight. Dan Bainter, gredient is Permethrin, a chemical a city employee, said, "BioMist that kills the adult mosquitoes on is not harmful to people or pets. contact. In the parks, a larvacide No precautions need to be taken is spread on the grass, much like when you see the truck coming up

The truck sprays for mosquitoes

birds. An additional bonus is the spray He said windows can be kept

Location of recycling bins noted

By BRANDY LEROUX

bleroux@nwkansas.com Residents of Norton may not know it, but there are two recycling bins in town.

Park, and the other is at Water currently not recycling glass." Tower Park.

Both are big blue bins.

City Administrator Rob Lawson said, "Paper, aluminum, and might be able to recycle glass, just plastic can all be put into the bins," and Solid Waste employee Curt Foley added, "Glass is allowed in One is located at Elmwood the recycling bins, though they are

> He said landfill employees have to dig the glass out by hand.

"At some time in the future, we not yet." Mr. Foley said.

The paper from the recycling bins goes to Tamko in Phillipsburg, and can be used to make shingles for a house.

A semi from Garden City picks up the plastic and aluminum.

The estimated cost of the gates

Interstate-70 gets new snow gates

Special to The Telegram It may be typical July weather in Western Kansas, but blizzards are on the minds of Kansas Department of Transportation officials this week.

Crews are installing a series Russell to the Colorado line that will enhance safety and efficiency when the inevitable winter storm requires that the road be closed.

The gates, which resemble those at railroad crossings, are being installed along westbound lanes at Russell, Hays, WaKeeney, Oakley, Colby and Goodland. In past years, Kansas Department of Transportation crews have manually placed barricades across

the highway quicker when bliz- tested at the University of Nezards are moving in," said Disbraska and are similar to those used in Wyoming. Travelers will trict Maintenance Engineer Jerry Moritz of the department's Norton be alerted by signs two to three office. "And, it will also be safer miles in advance that the gates are for travelers and our workers." down and the highway is closed.

The gates, which are equipped of gates along Interstate 70 from with warning lights, have been is \$126,500.

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the interstate. In some extreme conditions, the signs could be blown over.

In most situations, a law enforcement officer will continue to be stationed at the gates to allow local traffic to pass through the offset gates, located on either side of the highway, if weather and road conditions allow safe passage.

"This will allow us to close

Girl Scouts figure in Dairy Queen promotion

The Norton Dairy Queen, owned and operated by Randall and Tammy Ball, joined Dairy Queens across the United States as they recognize Girl Scout Appreciation Week.

The week is made even sweeter by the debut of the Girl Scouts Thin Mint Cookie Blizzard treat and cake-available only during the month of July.

Mr. Ball said, "We're proud to be part of this event. We'll be offering the Blizzard the rest of the month."

Thin Mints are the best-selling Girl Scout cookie, while the Blizzard is Dairy Queen's signature treat product.

This is the first time Girl Scouts of the USA and Dairy Queen have come together to create a one-ofa-kind Blizzard flavor.

The Girl Scouts Thin Mint Cookie Blizzard is made with Girl Scout Thin Mint cookie pieces, creamy DQ soft serve and a Crème de Menthe topping.

For more information about Girl Scouts of Kansas Heartland, please call Becky Ayers at 785-259-6743.

Or you can visit www.kansasgirlscouts.org.







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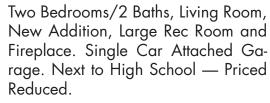




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