



Kirk Griffith, co-owner of White Fields Coffee House in Norton, used special sticks to turn batter into donuts early Saturday morning. Mr. Griffith and his wife, Renee, bought a Daylight Donuts franchise and added its products to their coffee shop. Mrs. Griffith said she really enjoys working with her husband, though getting up at midnight to make donuts for the day is a little rough.

— Telegram photo by Brandy Leroux

Coffee house adds 'twist' to menu

By BRANDY LEROUX
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Renee and Kirk Griffith, owners of White Fields Coffee House in Norton, had been serving Daylight Donuts with their coffees for several years. But now things have changed.

About four weeks ago, they received a phone call from the Atwood Daylight Donuts, where they purchased their donuts.

"She called and said she's quitting the business, and just wanted to give all of her customers a heads-up," said Mrs. Griffith. "Kirk and I talked, and decided to try to buy the franchise from her. We negotiated a price, measured the equipment, and here we are!"

Mr. Griffith trained all night for four nights in a row in At-

wood, to learn how to make donuts.

It only took three days to move all the equipment into White Fields and install it, thanks to Jim Stalder, George Jones and Zack Otter.

Mr. and Mrs. Griffith wake up at 12:30 a.m. to make donuts for the day.

They start at 1 a.m., and make 19 dozen (228) donuts in many varieties, plus an extra 5 dozen (60).

"We may have one or two donuts left at the end of the day, but someone always comes in and buys even those," said Mrs. Griffith. "It's been a really good learning experience for us. I think we're getting a good handle on making the donuts."

Owning a Daylight Donut

franchise means White Fields Coffee House has donuts for customers at 6:30 in the morning, instead of 7:30.

It also means the donuts are fresher.

"I'd say about 99 percent of our customers say the donuts are better and fresher now than they were before," said Mrs. Griffith.

Mrs. Griffith said everyone seems very happy for them, and what they've been able to accomplish.

"I think it's nice that people are so supportive of us, even after five years.

"I want to thank all our customers for continuing to come to White Fields and showing their support," said Mrs. Griffith.

Board fires principal, cites conduct

The Colby School Board agreed to fire the high school principal after a special, closed-door meeting last week, putting the activities director in charge of the school.

After about an hour of discussion, said Superintendent Terrel Harrison, the board voted to accept the resignation of a clerical worker, Kylie Cersovsky.

It then adopted a resolution of intent to terminate the contract of principal Rocky Robbins.

Harrison said Larry Gabel, the high school activities director and assistant principal, would be the acting principal.

He'll probably get some help with his other duties, she added, but it hasn't been decided who might step up to fill the activities job.

He said Cersovsky was a "para-professional," or teacher aide, at the intermediate building and worked in the district office's copy center.

The board's resolution noted that Robbins is entitled to a hearing before the board if he files notice within 15 days.

It says Harrison had placed him on paid leave, and the suspension would continue until further action of the board.

As reasons for the termination, the board cited:

- "Unprofessional conduct, including engaging in acts of moral turpitude."

- "Conduct unbecoming a school administrator, including dishonesty with the superintendent and board...."

- "Mr. Robbins has betrayed the trust and confidence of the board, engaged in unprofessional conduct and is not an appropriate role model."

Robbins had been with the district since July 1, 2005. In a statement to the Colby Free Press, he apologized to the community:

"I would like to take the opportunity to publicly apologize for my actions to the citizens of Colby, including (school) employees and patrons.

"I am deeply sorry that I did not uphold the standards of character needed to continue as the high school principal.

"I am grateful for the opportunity I had to serve the community of Colby since the 2005-2006 school year.

"I would hope that my tenure here would not be defined by this alone, but also that the positive contributions over the past four years are also remembered, and I pray for your forgiveness."

Harrison said school officials had talked with the faculty and staff and with the students, but the district did not plan on sending any notice home.

The acting principal, Gabel, joined the district two years ago at the high school after a long career as the wrestling coach and elementary principal in St. Francis. He was known for winning teams as a coach, and also was the county ambulance director there.

Couple gets award

Darrel and Alice Barnett, Clayton, have been awarded the Kansas State Extension and Research Appreciation award. Mr. and Mrs. Barnett have both served on the Extension Council for a total of more than 16 years, both serving 8 years in a variety of positions. Alice has served as Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary of the Executive Board and has been a member of the 4-H Program Development Committee Group. Darrel has served as Director on the Board and on the 4-H Program Development Committee. Both have served as 4-H Club Leaders and Sheep Project Leaders for about 15 years. They also served on the Porkburger Committee and the Denver Trip Benefit Committee. They have held special interest in the kids' programs around 4-H and related Extension Council Programs for the public.



Greetings At Thanksgiving

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us all to be
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Happy Thanksgiving

*Grooming
by Maritta*

VA to increase mileage pay

Congressman Jerry Moran said this week that the mileage reimbursement rate will increase for veterans traveling to and from Veterans Affairs medical facilities.

The rate is increased from 28.5 cents to 41.5 cents per mile and will not increase the current deductibles.

"I have worked on this issue since first coming to Congress to assist Kansas veterans who must often travel long distances to the nearest VA medical clinic or hospital," Moran said.

"Today's high gas prices have made it difficult for veterans in rural areas to access the care

they need.

"Last year, I offered a successful amendment that increased the mileage rate for the first time in more than 30 years. I was pleased to see this year's VA spending bill included this additional increase that will support our veterans right away.

"It is good to see Congress and the President come together to make improvements in how our nation cares for veterans, especially those living in rural areas," he said.

Last year, Rep. Moran successfully offered an amendment to increase the rate during House consideration of the 2008 VA

funding bill, which was signed into law in December 2007.

It was the first increase in the travel reimbursement rate for veterans since 1978.

Congressman Moran is a senior member of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee where he serves on the Subcommittee on Health.

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