

THE NORTON
TELEGRAM



WEBSITE: nwkansas.com

10 PAGES

Tuesday
January 27, 2009

Norton, Kansas
Home of David Sheley

Briefly

Meals on Wheels
volunteers sought

The Norton County Hospital is looking for volunteers to deliver Meals on Wheels now through Sunday, Feb. 1. If you would like to volunteer, call 877-3351 and ask for the dietary department.

Retirement open
house scheduled

The Norton Public Library will hold a retirement open house for Librarian Kay LeBeau on Tuesday, Feb. 10 at the library, from 2 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Mrs. LeBeau will be retiring after 33 years of service.

Benefit supper for
resident Saturday

There will be a benefit soup supper for Pam Shearer on Saturday, Jan. 31 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Eagles Lodge in Norton. There will be five kinds of soup, and cakes, cookies and drinks. Free-will donations will be accepted.

What's wrong
with wearing
socks on your
hands?
Page 4

Weather
Forecast:

Tonight - Partly cloudy with a low around 7. Wednesday - Mostly sunny with a high near 39. Wednesday Night - Mostly cloudy with a low around 16. Thursday - Partly sunny with a high near 35. Thursday Night - Partly cloudy with a low around 15.

Kingham report:

Fri., Jan. 23..... Low 27, High 28
Trace of Snow
Sat., Jan. 24..... Low 4, High 21
Sun., Jan. 25 Low 6, High 19
1/2" Snow
Mon., Jan. 26..... Low 6, High 18
1" Snow
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm
9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

Father, remind us to pray constantly for those who are in the midst of worries and trials. **Amen**

'Looks like a size 14!'



When Norton's Ashton Draper and an Ellis player went after the ball on the floor during the Mid-Continent League basketball tourney game on Thursday evening in Ellis, the Blue Jays' all-state football linebacker

Zac Dreher had to react quickly and jump over the two to keep from delivering the crushing blow that is normal for him on the gridiron.

- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

Two students named to State Band

By BRANDY LEROUX
bleroux@nwkansas.com

Two Norton Community High School students learned last Thursday that they were selected to play in the Kansas State Educators Association State Band — senior Jacob VanSike and sophomore Melinda Becker.

On Jan. 10, high school students from all over Kansas met in Salina to try out for the State Band, State Jazz Ensemble and State Orchestra. Judges were middle school, high school, and college band directors as well as private instructors. When performing, the students and the judges were separated by a screen to ensure impartial judging.

"I am ecstatic," said Jacob, who will be playing the snare drum. "It's a great feeling to be recognized as an all-stater. My parents are very happy for me. My mom won't be able to attend, but I think my grandparents from Great Bend will be there."

When asked if he was surprised he made it, Jacob said, "Actually, I was. I didn't feel I did that great, but I kept faith, and I was chosen."

Jacob said he practiced his piece for about an hour a day the week before the audition.

"I'm really excited," said Melinda Becker, who will be playing the clarinet. "My parents are excited for me, too. They will be at the concert, and maybe my sister



VanSike



Becker

will come from KU to see it." Melinda said she was a little surprised when she found out she made it into the band. "I knew I did okay, but it was still kinda shocking." Melinda said she practiced probably five hours the week before the audition,

and a lot more even before that. "There were well over 1,000 students in Salina," said Norton Community High School band director David Will. "They played difficult pieces, from the standard accepted repertoire of those instruments."

There were five judges for State Band. The scores from each judge were averaged to come up with their final score. The scores were posted online on Jan. 15 for students to see whether they made it or not.

Those chosen for State Band will meet in Wichita to rehearse on Feb. 26 and 27 for a concert on Feb. 28.

The concert will be held in the concert hall of the Century II building, and will be led by Richard Saucedo, a world-recognized composer and band leader, and also a high school band director in Indiana.

"The students will play two pieces he composed," said Mr. Will. "He is very intense and he will get a great sound out of the band."

The State Band students will get a certificate of recognition, and memorabilia will be available for the students and their families to purchase in Wichita.

Mr. Will said there are not any specific college scholarships that come from being selected to perform with State Band, but it's a good way for a student to prove their capabilities to colleges, and some colleges might even lower tuition costs.

"I think it is really neat these kids worked so hard and made it," said Mr. Will.

"This will be a very special experience for them and it's something they'll remember all their lives."

Election
update

These filings are current as of Monday afternoon.

Norton City Council

3 seats up for election, plus mayor. Current Norton Mayor David Corns has filed for re-election. Ward 1, currently held by Kim Snyder. Ms. Snyder has filed for re-election. Ward 2, currently held by Elaine Mann. She will not seek re-election. Ward 3, Wally Burton has been selected by the mayor and city council to fill out the unexpired term of Ron Briery. Two others, Joe Leroux and Tim Bashford, have filed for the April election. Mr. Burton had

(Continued on Page 5)

Six top spellers advance

By JIM SPRINGER
Special to The Telegram

A large crowd watched 30 contestants participate in the 2009 Northern Valley Spelling Bee in the Long Island gymnasium.

Grades 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 each had six spellers involved in the competition. At the end, two eighth graders battled it out through such words as "bizarre," "irrelevant," "connotation," "hemoglobin" and "potassium." Regan Simpson came out victorious when Alex Tharman missed "visibility." She spelled that word plus the next, "probability," to secure first place. Advancing to the Norton County Spelling Bee to be held in Norton on Feb. 11 will be: Regan Simpson, 8th grade; Alex Tharman, 8th grade; and Alex Stevens,

7th grade. Hunter Chandler, 7th grade, is the alternate. Also, Macy Kasson, 6th grade, Trey Hall, 5th grade and Brianna Martin, 5th grade will represent the elementary school. Khriassana Van Patten, 6th grade, is the alternate.

Others participating in the Northern Valley Spelling Bee included: Patience Coffman, Brant Cox, Johnathon Towery, Jon Compton, Clint Cole, Ame Baird, Talia Padilla, Camden Cox, Carson Wallace, Kylie Kinderknecht, Drake Shearer, Dakota Hilburn, Sarah Baird, Kade Unterseher, Seth Jeffries, Ashley Jeffries, Crysta Stanton, Brittanie Larrison, Tea Van Patten, Ryan Thrailkill, Ian Vincent and Mike Griffin.

Helping to judge this year's contest
(Continued on Page 5)

Thieves visit
three businesses

By BRANDY LEROUX
bleroux@nwkansas.com

The Norton Police Department is investigating three thefts at area businesses that occurred during the overnight hours.

"These are all open investigations," said Police Chief Pat Morel. "Several officers and I are working on the cases, and we have collected evidence from the businesses."

• **Outdoor Power and Performance** reported a break-in on Friday, Jan. 16 after the owners discovered the back door had been damaged and left open. The owners are not sure what, if anything, was taken.
(Continued on Page 5)