

# \$1 THE NORTON TELEGRAM



WEBSITE: nwkansas.com

10 PAGES

## Tuesday

December 6, 2011

### Briefly

#### Booster Club set to meet Wednesday

The first winter sports meeting of the Norton Blue Jay Booster Club will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday in the high school cafeteria.

Norton wrestling coach Bill Johnson, girls basketball coach Kevin Jilka and boys basketball coach Doug Reusink will be the speakers.

You do not have to be a member of the booster club to attend the meetings.

#### Living Nativity postponed a week

Because of inclement weather, the United Methodist Church's Living Nativity, originally scheduled for this past Sunday, has been scheduled for this Sunday from 6-8 p.m. at the church.

#### Scholastic book fair set at Lenora library

Friends of the Lenora Public Library will hold a Scholastic book fair at the library through Dec. 10. The sale will be held each week day from noon to 5:30 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

#### Volunteers needed for Christmas meal

The United Methodist Church in Norton is looking for volunteers to help serve a community Christmas dinner on Sunday, Dec. 25. The dinner will be served at noon and anyone who would like to volunteer is asked to contact the Norton Area Chamber of Commerce at 877-2501.

### Markets

Tuesday, December 6, 2011

|          |         |
|----------|---------|
| Wheat    | \$6.03  |
| Milo     | \$5.32  |
| Soybeans | \$10.44 |
| Corn     | \$5.69  |

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

### Weather

Tonight - Mostly clear and not as cold. Lows around 6. Wednesday - Mostly sunny and not as cold. Highs around 30. Wednesday Night - Partly cloudy in the evening then becoming mostly cloudy. Patchy freezing fog. Thursday - Mostly cloudy with patchy freezing fog in the morning. Patchy light freezing drizzle in the morning then a slight chance of light snow.

### Kingham Report

Friday, December 2 .....Low 11, High 37  
Saturday, December 3.....Low 12 High 30  
7" Snow  
Sunday, December 4 .....Low 7, High 25  
Monday, December 5.....Low 6, High 25  
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

### Prayer

Dear God, when darkness and grief surround us, help us to turn to the light of your son, Jesus Christ, and help us to mourn with hope and faith, leaning on the promises given in your word. Amen

## Almena crash leads to one arrest



By Carleen Bell  
cbell@nwkansas.com

Following a two-vehicle crash Thursday afternoon near Almena, an Emporia man was booked into the Norton County Jail on charges related to the incident.

Norton County Sheriff Troy Thomson reported Friday that Darrell Lamar Moore, 41, of Emporia was arrested on charges of Suspicion of Driving

Under the Influence, Obstructing Official Duty and Leaving the Scene of an Injury Accident.

According to information from the Kansas State Patrol, Moore was driving a 1996 Dodge Intrepid eastbound on Highway 383 at mile marker 96 at about 3:30 p.m. Thursday. Moore's vehicle left the roadway, entering the right ditch. Moore over-corrected and came back onto the roadway, crossed into the westbound lane and collided with a 2000 Chev-

rolet Suburban, driven by Niki D. Kinderknecht of Almena. Both vehicles ended up in the north ditch of the highway.

Thomson reported that Moore left the scene of the crash and fled from officers investigating the crash, but was quickly caught near the scene of the crash.

Kinderknecht was taken to the Norton County hospital for treatment of injuries from the crash and Moore was booked into the Norton County Jail.

## Norton Pamida store is helping needy families

By Carleen Bell  
cbell@nwkansas.com

To help spread some cheer around the community, a local retailer is participating in the We Care Tree program this Christmas season.

Norton Pamida Manager Joel Duscher reported that in the front of the Pamida store, a Christmas tree is set up with tags representing needy families in the community. Anyone who is interested in helping purchase gifts for the families can visit the Pamida store and pick a tag from the tree.

The helpers are asked to purchase a gift for \$30 or less and return the

unwrapped gift and the tag to the Pamida store. The gifts can be anything, but information like age, gender and clothing sizes are listed on the tag to help choose the right gifts for the families. Some of the most needed items may be clothing, shoes, and winter wear. Duscher said that the program is 100 percent anonymous because the gift-giver and the Pamida store don't see the names of the families or individuals who will be receiving the gifts.

Though the specific date hasn't been determined, the Norton Boy Scout troop will be helping deliver the gifts to the needy families right before Christmas.

Anyone who would like to contribute to the program is asked to pick up a tag and return the gift and the tag to the Pamida store by Tuesday, Dec. 20 so the gifts can be wrapped, sorted and delivered before Christmas day.

Pamida has been participating in the program for 22 years and last year, the Norton store collected 85 tags. It is estimated that the program serves 20-30 different families each holiday season.

## County scores well on state emergency response assessment

By Carleen Bell  
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After a recent assessment on internal communications, Norton County Emergency Management officials reported that the county has scored very well on the state assessment.

Norton County Emergency Management Director Justina Smith reported Monday that the county was required to hold a self-assessment on interoperability communications, essentially how well county communications operate during a wide-spread disaster or emergency. The assessment is required through the Kansas Division of Emergency Management.

Smith reported that on the assessment, Norton county scored 97 out of a possible 100 points based on the state criteria. Some of the criteria included communications equipment, call logs and response time.

For the evaluation, the county chose to use the June 20 tornadoes that struck across Norton County.

"All of our communications were up and running and working properly during that time," Smith explained. "The areas where we didn't earn points were actually in internal communication where the proper notifications weren't always passed to the proper individuals during the emergency situation."

Smith reported that the county will be required to complete the assessment and evaluation on a yearly basis to remain in compliance with state regulations in order to be eligible for state money for emergency response.

"When we have an event like the tornadoes in June, there are going to be glitches along the way," Smith said. "This assessment is a good way to help prepare for those glitches and be as prepared as possible for future emergencies."

## Football banquet set for Sunday

The annual Norton Community High School Football Awards Banquet, sponsored by the Blue Jay Booster Club, will be held on Sunday at 6 p.m. in the high school cafeteria.

A carry-in meal will precede presen-

tations by head football coach Lucas Melvin. All fans are invited and are asked to bring a main dish and side dish or dessert and their own table service. Drinks will be provided

### Deck the halls



After some lengthy contractor delay and displeased county leaders, Christmas decorations are finally installed on the exterior of the Norton County Courthouse. Just in time for the second Santa visit, workers from Charlie's Holiday Lighting, based in Kearney, spent Thursday morning hanging lights and decorations on the east and west sides of the courthouse. (Above) Jon Leal (on the ladder) attached a large wreath to the west side of the courthouse while Charlie Baldwin helped hold the wreath steady.

-Telegram photo by Carleen Bell



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