



Norton Lions Club members (above) rolled new portable planters into the Andbe Home Tuesday afternoon. Leading the convoy are Tom Brannan (left) followed by Jon Lofgreen, Bud Posson and Ed Witt. A club project, the planters were designed and constructed by Mr. Lofgreen, who made them wheelchair height, easy to move and attractive. Member Kris Posson added a decorator touch by painting vines on the legs. Darlene McEwen (left) talked to resident Dick Rodenbaugh after the planters were presented. Della Connell (right), president of the resident's council, accepted the gift on behalf of the home. — Telegram photos by Carolyn Plotts

Chained pit bulls worry carrier

By VERONICA MONIER
Pit bulls have at least one Norton mail carrier worried. The Norton Public Safety Committee talked about what to do about the animals at its Monday meeting. Councilman Jerry Jones said he received a complaint about several pit bulls bouncing on the end of a chain when people walk past. Councilman Ron Briery said the complaint was made by a mail carrier, who said she was worried that the chains would break. She told him about four places where animals might be a problem. City Attorney Karen Griffiths said those complaints needed to go to the animal control officer. Animal Control Officer Sherry Hickman said she was already aware of the dogs, not because they should be considered vicious, but because she had been working with the owners to stay in compliance. She said she, personally, drove by a house at least once a day and so did a police officer, making sure everything was okay. She said the owners were keeping one of the dogs chained to the porch. She asked them to move the dog and they did. Mainly, the dogs are house dogs, she said.

Mrs. Hickman said the dogs were on heavy chains because that was her recommendation. "Pit bulls by name have a tendency to scare people," she said. She said the owners were keeping the dogs outside only when they were at work, but she recommended they keep them inside for their own protection. She said one woman said one of the dogs attacked her cat. The woman said the cat had bite marks on its head and skin missing from the left side of its face and she had taken it to a veterinarian. But, Mrs. Hickman said, when she contacted the vet, he said he didn't know anything about it and when she set up a time to take pictures of the cat, the woman wasn't home. Later, she said, the woman had been heard threatening to poison the dogs with hamburger and antifreeze, which is why she recommended that the dogs' owners keep them inside. Assistant Police Chief Toby Kuhn said the mailbox is a considerable distance from the porch and that the chains don't go that far. He said he had never had a problem with dogs. Mrs. Hickman said she couldn't

guarantee that nothing would happen with the dogs in the future, but that they were always very people friendly when she had been around. City Administrator Rob Lawson said there was no guarantee with any dog, even small ones. But, Mrs. Hickman said, the owners have been working with her and have been very cooperative. "I haven't had a problem with the dogs," she said. "I don't think, at this time, that they could be considered vicious." She said she talked to the post office and told them that it was their right not to deliver mail to any house if they are worried about a dog. She said she also told them that the vicious dog ordinance would be talked about at the meeting and because it was an open meeting, invited them to come and talk. Mr. Lawson said the postal employee could file a written complaint so it would be on record. In other business, the committee:

- Discussed complaints about muffler noise. Mrs. Griffiths said every muffler has to have a noise suppressor on it or it could be con-

sidered excessive and unusual noise. Officer Kuhn said they have tried to do something with complaints, but no one is ever willing to come in and testify. To have something done, they need someone who is willing to testify. "We would like the public's assistance in this," he said. "It's better to have four or five people come in and testify, rather than just one officer doing it." Mrs. Griffiths suggested those with complaints record the noise from inside their homes, proving the excessive noise.

- Talked about the ordinance on municipal court fines. Municipal Court Judge Jerry Hawks would like the court costs to be raised to \$60, which is what the state is charging. Mrs. Griffiths said the state charges \$55 plus a \$5 emergency fee, but a proposal has been sent to the legislature to permanently raise the costs to \$60. There shouldn't be a problem, she said.
- Heard from Officer Kuhn that the graphics for the new patrol car should be in this week and that the light-bar will hopefully be here next week. Once the light-bar gets arrives and is installed, the car will be ready, he said.

Norton man's name listed in basketball game program

A Norton man was listed in a souvenir program. On Wednesday when Kansas University and Kansas State University met on the basketball court at Allen Field House in Lawrence to celebrate the facility's 50th year, a program from the KU-K-State game in 1954 was reprinted. Norton's Warren Bullock was

listed in that program as one of the Kansas State players. He was not aware the program would be reprinted but said, "I was on the team and got to play some. It was fun." Mr. Bullock was a member of Norton's High School 1951 state championship basketball team and was offered a scholarship to play ball for Kansas State.

Foreign owners must report

Foreign landowners or those with dual citizenship need to report any changes to their holdings within 90 days. Norton County Executive Director Vesta Hobbs said the government requires that holdings, acquisitions, dispositions, leases, and land use changes need to be reported within 90 days by foreign landowners. Forms to report are available from any local Farm Service Agency office. For more information, contact the Norton County Farm Service Agency office at 785-877-5156.

Making extra shells saves kitchen time

Doubling or tripling a recipe for pie crust and freezing the extra pie shells, baked or unbaked, can save time in the kitchen. A baked pie crust can be frozen up to four months and an unbaked crust up to two months. Following are some additional tips to help you with your crusts.

- To freeze *baked* pie shells, prepare pastry dough according to recipe directions. Bake unfilled and cool completely. Leaving the cooked shells in their pie pan to prevent damage, seal in a labeled and dated freezer bag or food storage container. When needed for use, thaw in the freezer bag or container at room temperature.
- To freeze *unbaked* pie shells, prepare the dough and place in pie pan as usual, including trimming and fluting the edges and pricking the shell with a fork. Seal the pastry-lined pan in a labeled, dated freezer bag or container. To conserve space, place a layer of freezer paper between pie pans and stack the shells. To use, bake frozen at 475 degrees until golden brown, or fill and bake according to recipe directions.

Home ed
Tranda Watts,
Extension
specialist



Freezing a complete pie can result in a soggy crust. You may want to try these suggestions. Prepare fruit fillings with instant tapioca, then freeze them separately. To cook, place frozen filling in a frozen pie shell and bake at 450 degrees F for 15-20 minutes, until the crust golden brown and the fruit mixture is bubbly. Making pastry is a skill that improves with experience. With pie shells ready to go, though, preparing a main-dish quiche or a fruit or custard pie is easy. Tranda Watts is Kansas State University extension specialist in food, nutrition, health and safety for Decatur, Gove, Norton, Sheridan, and Trego counties. Call her at 785-443-3663 or e-mail twatts@ozn-et.ksu.edu. For more information, contact the county extension office, 877-5755

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