

Four teachers honored at retirement ceremony

Four teachers retiring from the Norton school system were honored at a reception Tuesday afternoon in the East Campus gymnasium. Friends, co-workers, family members and the community gathered to wish them well and to thank them.

Karen Cox

Karen Cox began her career in Norton in 1968. She taught junior English and was the KAY sponsor. After a year, she and her husband, Barney, moved back to Minnesota, where she taught for a year. The couple returned to Kansas, where her first child was born. She was a stay-at-home mom for 14 years before returning to the district as the junior high/high school librarian.

Trained to be a librarian, Mrs. Cox said she struggled to become a media specialist.

She said she appreciates the reader friendly environment of the community. She also recognizes the importance of Norton's Public Library and the Northwest Kansas Library System.

Mrs. Cox and her husband have four children, Jen, Brad, Nathan and Karlynn. She said she is looking forward to reading with her eight grandchildren.

Larry Hillman

The first 29 years of Larry Hillman's career were spent teaching sixth-grade science.

During that time he helped organize an Outdoor Wildlife Learning Site. He worked with the Norton Conservation District and local businesses and organizations for contributions and support. He said he is proud that many students come back to Eisenhower Elementary to look at the trees, shrubs and grasses they helped plant there.

Five years ago Mr. Hillman became the elementary principal.

He said there have been some

changes. The fifth and sixth grades were departmentalized and a technology class was added. A handicapped accessible restroom was added to the building. He said he is proud that Eisenhower students do well academically on state and local assessment tests.



Karen Cox



L. Hillman



E. McLallen



M. Moore

He praises Norton for being supportive of him and his family. He said he and his wife, Terry, could not have found a better place to raise and educate their two daughters.

During his time as a teacher at Eisenhower, Mr. Hillman was also in the Kansas National Guard. He had been company commander twice and a battalion commander. He served as a staff officer at battalion, brigade and state levels. He reached his mandatory retirement with the Guard the same year he became principal.

Elvina McLallen

She came from a family of teachers, so it was no surprise that Elvina McLallen chose to become one.

She began her career as a first-grade teacher in Hill City. She said

her former instructors found it hard to believe. They remembered that she had spent a lot of time in the principal's office for her pranks.

She married Jack McLallen during her first year of teaching. After her second year at Hill City, they moved to Norton, where he had been transferred by his job with the Kansas Department of Transportation.

Her husband, a National Guardsman, was activated and deployed to Fort Hood, Texas, for 19 months. Mrs. McLallen and their son Jon, followed.

But as she said, "Every time a car left for Kansas, we were in it."

Following her husband's deployment, the family settled down in Norton, bought a house and welcomed their second child, Sarah.

She had been doing some substitute teaching when she was offered the new Title I position.

Title I was a federal program developed to help children with special needs in math. Eisenhower Elementary Principal Eugene Wilfong offered to help her organize her room and get started.

Mrs. McLallen said the birth of her daughter, Katie, was the biggest surprise in her life.

Her retirement plans include catching up on sleep and spending time with her children and six grandchildren.

Margaret Moore

Graduating from college in 1966, Margaret Moore said education then was very different from today. She said the amount of material was less and the degree of discipline was more.

When she learned that a child in her class had been whipped with a belt by his father after she had commented on the child's report card that he couldn't sit still, she determined to be very careful



Well-wishers including Amie Burge (left) and Linda Burge (middle) congratulated Karen Cox on her retirement from the Norton school district at a party on Tuesday.

— Telegram photos by Carolyn Plotts

about her remarks.

Her teaching career has spanned 39 years and 13 schools from McDonald to Orlando, Fla.

She commends Norton as being among the finest anywhere, praising the teachers here who taught

her two daughters, Janelle and Jennifer, and helped them achieve academic success. Mrs. Moore and her husband Wes also have a son, Kerry.

Mrs. Moore and her husband plan to move to Kansas City to be

closer to their children and to help care for grandchildren who recently lost their mother to cancer.

Mrs. Moore said she considers it a privilege to have taught in such a fine school system and that she will miss everyone.

Ad salesman joins Telegram staff

Rich Meyers has joined the staff at *The Norton Telegram* as advertising representative for the newspaper.

Mr. Meyers was raised here, graduating from Norton Community High School with the class of 1964. His parents are Ruth Meyers, Norton, and the late Harry Meyers.

He married his high school sweetheart, Janet Whitney, daughter of Wesley and Frances Whitney, Norton, and they moved to McPherson where he attended college and worked part-time for Farmer's Alliance Insurance.

He graduated in 1968 with a degree in sociology and worked for a year in Hill City as a welfare director.

In 1969, he and his family moved back to Norton when he became an employee of Farmer's Alliance. During his time in Norton, he was involved with the Jaycees, including serving as president.

In 1973, he went to work for Hartford Insurance and moved to Bettendorf, Iowa. A promotion with the company took them to Denver in 1977.

In 1981, he asked his wife if she would be willing to follow him to the ends of the earth, he said. This move took them to Gillette, Wyo., where he said it wasn't really the ends of the earth, but you could see it from there.

Mr. Meyers opened his own independent insurance agency which he operated until 1997, when he sold it to Talbot Corp. He continued to work for the new owners as sales manager.

The company sold to Hub International, a major insurance broker, in 2003.

However, there was an attraction to move home to Kansas.

Mr. Meyers said, "Selling advertising is totally different than anything I've ever done. But, my old journalism teacher, Doris Ballard, challenged me that I would be involved in newspaper



Rich Meyers

work in some way.

"The last time I sold ads was for the NCHS Nugget. I couldn't spell, do lay-out or write. They wouldn't let me touch the camera, so they made me the ad man."

Mr. and Mrs. Meyers moved back to Norton May 11 and are liv-

ing at his mother's home while they house hunt.

They have a daughter, Tracy and Clint Matthews of Gillette, Wyo., She is selling insurance for the old agency. Her children are Kenan, Landon and Cooper.

They also have two sons, who both work as officers at Norton Correctional Facility. Their family here includes son Travis and Casey Meyers and Zoey, and son Troy Meyers and Lindy, Riley and Kira.

EASTSIDE Memorial Chapel

Wishing to Honor and Respect all the Men and Women in the Military Service

North of US 36 Viaduct
Phone 785-874-4333
Owners ~ Dorothy A. and Tom A. Webb

MEMORIAL DAY SALE

Offer Good May 27 through June 10

Nokia 3587i and Kyocera KX1 Phones

FREE with a Two-Year Contract

OTHER SPECIALS IN THE STORE

Nokia 3587i

Kyocera KX1

Kellie's
107 E. Main
Norton, KS 67654

alltel
wireless
authorized agent

785-874-4718 — TOLL FREE 866-944-5225

The paper you read for the news you need!

THE NORTON TELEGRAM

BRANSON Hotel Deals from \$39^{95*}

Visit our website for these incredible online savings.
*Maximum 4 per room, applicable taxes are in addition.
Shows, Shopping & Dining Within Walking Distance.
www.leisurehotelsbranson.com/ks
Based upon availability. Some restrictions apply.

25th ANNUAL ANTIQUE MACHINERY, THRESHING & POWER SHOW

JUNE 11 & 12, 2005 ALMENA, KANSAS

FRIDAY, JUNE 10TH SET UP DAY
Events Start at 9 A.M. - All Exhibitor Welcome

Bring the Family For A Weekend of Fun & Reminiscing

FEATURING: FORD TRACTORS & MACHINERY

SORGHUM MILL
FLEA MARKET AND ARTS AND CRAFTS VENDORS WELCOME
Contact Roberta Martin (785) 877-5211

NON-DENOMINATIONAL CHURCH SERVICES
9 A.M. SUNDAY

Exhibitors & Vendors Appreciation Meal
Served at 5:30 p.m. Saturday

1916-75 HP CASE STEAM ENGINE
PEDAL POWER PULL
Saturday after parade
Kids must be 5-10 yrs
Must Be Accompanied by an Adult to fill Entry Blank
Trophies to be awarded to WINNERS!

To Be Given Away Sunday, June 12, 2005 (\$1 Donation)

1st 1942 9N Ford Tractor
2ND - HANDMADE CEDAR CHEST
3RD - INTARSIA WOODEN PHEASANT
4TH - \$50.00 SAVINGS BOND
5TH - TRACTOR GUIDE

EVENTS BOTH DAYS

SMALL ENGINE DISPLAY
SAW MILL, THRESHING, CORN SHELLING, HAND TIE BALING, STEAM ENGINES, CARS, TRUCKS, TRACTORS, WINDMILL DISPLAY, TRACTOR PULL, TRACTOR BALANCE

ENTERTAINMENT ON GROUNDS

Admission to Entire Show for Both Days
Adults \$3.00
12 and Under FREE when accompanied by an adult

SUNFLOWER PIONEER POWER ASSOCIATION, INC.
WEST BROCKTON STREET - ALMENA, KANSAS
FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:
Bob Underwood (785) 877 - 3817 Larry McMullen (785) 877 - 3009

The Norton Telegram...

News you need!