

Take advantage of the best local guide to what's on TV next week with The Telegram's handy schedule of programming.

## Tuesday

February 14, 2006

Norton, Kansas  
Home of Gary Shearer

### Briefly

## Program to help kids starts soon

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Norton County will begin an after-school program. The program, designed to promote positive development and safe, drug-free living, will start Thursday in Norton and next Tuesday in Alma. In Norton, the children will meet every Thursday after school at the Recreation Center and then go to God's Pantry at Trinity Episcopal Church for snacks, a program and crafts. In Alma the children will meet every Tuesday at the grade school. All of their activities will be at the school. Both groups will be dismissed at 5 p.m. Parents are welcome at any time.

This program is made possible by a grant from the Kansas Governor's Discretionary Portion of the Federal Safe and Drug-Free Schools fund.

For more information, call Mary Kay Woodyard or Jill Lively, 874-4200.

## Time running out to get daffodils

The last day to order daffodils to help benefit the American Cancer Society is fast approaching. Feb. 24 is the deadline to order.

Call Ramona Pabian, 877-5352 to place your request.

## Meeting Monday for girls' fastpitch

Fastpitch softball is coming back to Norton.

All girls 18 or younger, and their parents, who are interested in playing girls American Softball Association fastpitch are welcome to attend a meeting about organizing a Norton fastpitch softball team. The meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 20 at Natoma Corp. on east U.S. 36. Those attending are asked to use the east entrance.

For more information, e-mail Darin Campbell at [soup1@ruraltel.net](mailto:soup1@ruraltel.net), Erin Hill at [EHill@USD211.org](mailto:EHill@USD211.org), or Kirk Foley at [Kirklejj@ruraltel.net](mailto:Kirklejj@ruraltel.net).

### Weather

#### Forecast:

**Tonight** — Partly cloudy in the evening then becoming mostly cloudy with lows in the mid 20s. **Wednesday** — Partly cloudy and much colder with highs in the upper 30s. East winds around 10 mph. **Wednesday Night** — Partly cloudy in the evening then mostly cloudy with a chance of snow and patchy light freezing drizzle after midnight. Lows around 17.

### Prayer

Lord, help us to ask forgiveness and accept the way you work out that forgiveness and reconciliation in our lives. Amen



Advocate Coordinator Judy Cady (left) dunked a piece of fruit into the flowing goodness of the chocolate fountain Saturday at CASA's chocolate auction. Not only was chocolate for sale, a great many items were donated by people and businesses around the area. John Simmelink (above) handed a print to a successful bidder.

— Telegram photos by Veronica Monier

# Chocolate auction does well for advocates

By VERONICA MONIER

The second annual Chocolate Auction, definitely a chocolate lover's dream, was bigger than ever this year, raising twice the amount last year's auction brought in.

The auction, which was held Saturday in Phillipsburg at the Huck Boyd Center, was a benefit for the court appointed special advocate (CASA) program in the 17th Judicial District, which covers Norton, Decatur, Phillips, Graham, Smith and Osborne counties.

The program was started in the district in 1992 with the help of Judge Charles Worden. The program matches a volunteer with a child who needs a voice in a court situation. The case judge decides

whether the child needs an advocate. If so, the advocate meets the child and everyone in his or her life, including doctors, teachers and family members, and then writes a report and sometimes testifies in court as the voice of the child.

Executive Director Kristal Stanton said they raised around \$15,700 from the fundraiser, which included live and silent auctions. About 150 came to show their support for the advocate program, sample the chocolate and bid on the items on display.

"I definitely consider this year's auction a success," Ms. Stanton said. "All of the people who donated, as well as the number of people who showed up to find

out more about us, made it a success."

She said this is CASA's main fundraiser for the year. The money raised, she said, will be used to train volunteers, take on new cases, and maintain old cases and the program as a whole.

In addition to the auction, the first Chocolate Cook-off was held. Winning were: Chocolate Cookies — Deb LeBlanc of Phillipsburg; Chocolate Candy — Edith McClain of Gaylord; Chocolate Pie — tie between Jacqueline Thornton of Osborne and Hazel Nichols of Gaylord; Loaded Chocolate — Maridith Martin of Hays; Best Presentation — Shirley Rodgers of Agra; Chocolate Cake — tie between Connie Johnson of Norton and

Paula Martin of Hays.

Another purpose for the auction was to honor both the volunteers and the judges. The judges honored were District Judge Bill Elliott, Hill City, and magistrate judges Deb Anderson, Norton County; Barbara Stites, Graham County; Jacqueline Thornton, Osborne County; Bonnie Leidig, Phillips County; Mike Kirchoff, Smith County; and John Bremer, Decatur County.

Ms. Stanton said that about 250 donors also made the event possible, giving everything from jewelry, gift baskets and prints to cakes, candies and vacation get-a-ways.

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# Construction to begin soon on city's new sewer plant

By VERONICA MONIER

The City of Norton is getting its ducks in a row with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment so that construction can begin on the city's new sewer plant.

City Administrator Rob Lawson said he and Thaniel Monaco of Miller and Associates, the city's engineering firm, met with health and environment representatives in Topeka on Jan. 31 to talk about the administrative order issued on the sewer plant.

He said the administrative order had a timeline that the city couldn't reasonably

meet and the city had filed an appeal.

"We had a good day," he said about the appeal meeting.

Mr. Lawson said they set up a consent order, which is basically the timeline in which the city has to have the sewer plant completed.

Norton has to begin construction by June 1 of this year, he said. Then, the city must achieve substantial completion of the project by May 1, 2007, he said, and must be able to maintain consistent compliance by Sept. 1, 2007.

If there is a problem getting the plant finished on time because of weather,

equipment delivery failures or other things that are out of the city's control, he said the department of health and environment will meet with the city again to talk about a time extension.

The consent order the council looked at was just a draft, but, he said, the final copy will be sent in a few days. He asked that the council make a motion allowing the mayor to sign it when it gets here so that things can move along.

A pre-hearing conference is set up for Feb. 20, but it wasn't necessary now. If the agreement is accepted before the conference date, then the city can avoid all

hearings and conferences and it would be much better, he said.

City Attorney Chuck Worden said he wanted to talk to the council in closed session before they agreed to approve the consent order.

Mr. Lawson said the city will have to operate under two discharge permits until the new plant reaches compliance and the old plant is removed. The additional permit has been applied for and will cost \$185.

After holding a 15-minute closed session for attorney-client privilege, the

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## A perfect Valentine's Day would be....

A few women were asked to describe their idea of a perfect Valentine's Day.

**Marie Moritz** — "It would start with getting to sleep late. I wouldn't have to cook dinner and my husband would take me out for a meal."

**Lottie Wiltfong** — "Oh, my! My realistic wish would be for my husband to take me dancing again. But, my dream Valentine's Day would be a day of total pampering at a spa."

**Barbara Porter** — "First, I would have the day off. Then, we would have a sitter for the kids and my husband and I would get out to dinner and a movie."

## Little girls will dance for crowd at Hoxie game

Every year the Norton Community High School Dance Team conducts a dance camp for little girls between first and sixth grades.

Last Thursday, the girls held the first of three practices in the gymnasium at Eisenhower Elementary with dozens of eager participants.

By Monday afternoon, most had the routines memorized and ready for their performance tonight during halftime of the varsity boys basketball game against Hoxie.

The first through third grade girls will dance to, "Girls Just Want To Have Fun" while the fourth through sixth graders will dance to, "Tricky". Both groups will come together to perform, "Accidentally In Love". All the girls will be wearing their dance camp t-shirts printed with, "Dance Your Hearts Out".



Dozens of first through sixth graders at Eisenhower Elementary learned dance routines from the Norton high school dance team. They will perform tonight during halftime of the boy's varsity basketball game.

— Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotz