

**Tuesday**  
December 19, 2006

**The spirit of Christmas**

**Norton, Kansas**  
Home of Cherie Keiswetter

*Briefly*  
**Santa will visit**  
**Almena Thursday**

Santa Claus will make his final appearance in Almena at 7 p.m. Thursday at the Almena school. The whole community is invited. There will be drawings and prizes.

**Bus business**  
**slates open house**

A new business to Jennings will hold an open house from 2:00-5:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 6. Bus and Coach International will be showing off its new facility in the remodeled Jennings school building, 307 S. Pennsylvania Ave. Everyone is invited.

**Christmas dinner**  
**open to everyone**

A Christmas Dinner will be held at noon, Monday at the Norton United Methodist Church. It is for anyone who might be alone Christmas Day and would like to spend it with others. This meal is sponsored by the Norton Area Chamber of Commerce. Meat and drinks provided, but everyone is asked to bring two side dishes. For more details call Karla Reed at the Chamber office, 877-2501.

**Country concert**  
**to lift the spirits**

A free gift of a Country Christmas Concert is being given to the Norton community by the singing duo of Larry and Lee Ann. Larry Henderson and Lee Ann Shearer invite everyone to a free concert at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in the East Campus Auditorium. Other entertainers include Troy and Kelly Leiker, Karen Medlock, Al Leiker, Linus Sarver, Kayla (Doering) Tiemeyer and the Atwood High School Show Choir. You will hear country, gospel and Christmas music at the concert sponsored by ThunderChord Guitar.

*Weather*  
**Forecast:**

**Tonight** — Freezing rain. Ice accumulation around one quarter of an inch. Chance of precipitation 90 percent. **Wednesday** — Breezy, snow, sleet, freezing rain in the morning then snow and sleet in the afternoon. snow and sleet accumulation up to 7 inches.

**Kingham report:**

Friday ..... Low 27, High 59  
Saturday ..... Low 28, High 45  
Sunday ..... Low 22, High 37  
Monday ..... Low 20, High 43  
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

*Prayer*

O God, no matter where you take us on the journey, help us to reveal you to those we encounter on the way. Thank you that even in times of trial, we can trust in your love for us. **Amen**



Norton Lions Club president Sue Urban, (right) helped sort out a mountain of canned goods for the club's annual Christmas Food Basket project. Helping fill boxes were (above) Rene Schaefer, Joel Duscher and Tom Brannan.  
— Telegram photos by Carolyn Plotts

**Lions give a helping hand for Christmas**

By CAROLYN PLOTTS

Dozens of Lions Club volunteers turned out early Saturday morning to spread a little Christmas cheer throughout Norton County.

Club president Sue Urban said about 90 households benefited from the group's annual service project.

She said, "The Christmas food basket campaign is a great community project

and the Lions Club is proud to be a part of it. We had a great turn out and a great time."

Tom Baumann is the project chairman. He said this was the 53rd year the club has distributed food baskets.

This year, Nex-Tech/Rural Telephone got involved with the organization and donated new toys to the Lions to deliver to homes with children.



*Gardeners can share the joys of the green thumb*

By KEITH VANSKIKE, County Extension Director

K-State Research and Extension, the Northwest Area office and Norton County Extension are seeking applicants for its Master Gardener Program.

Master Gardeners are K-State Research and Extension volunteers who enjoy volunteering their time and gardens, while sharing their skills and knowledge to help others grow and learn about horticulture topics.

Extension master gardeners receive a basic horticulture course in exchange for hours of rewarding volunteer time. As an Extension Master Gardener you will receive a 40 hour short course,

advance training, a resource manual and participate in field trips.

The training classes will be held in Phillipsburg and are from 9 a.m. to about 4 p.m. each Tuesday, starting Feb. 1 and running through March. Instructors will be state extension specialists and county extension agents. Topics will include general culture, soil fertility, insects, diseases, annual and perennial flowers, trees, vegetable fruits and nuts, household plants, turf and general maintenance and landscape design. Total cost for program registration is \$75; there are educational scholarships of \$50 each offered for up to two people. Master Gardeners can volunteer in one of many activities, tailored to individual

abilities. Some common activities include manning a telephone response line, attending a speakers bureau, hosting a demonstration garden, teaching gardening to children and participating in the county fair, or an educational garden tour.

If you are interested in becoming an extension master gardener, please contact the county extension office at 785-877-5755. Deadline for applications is Dec. 29.

The Norton County Extension Master Gardener program is a cooperative project between Norton County Extension and Kansas State University Research and Extension.

**Congressman beginning his 'listening' tour**

Congressman Jerry Moran has posted the upcoming schedule of his eleventh annual Big First Listening Tour.

He will continue his tradition of visiting communities in each of the 69 counties of the First Congressional District and is beginning his annual tour now due to the uncertainty of the voting schedule for the beginning of 2007 under the new incoming leadership.

"Traveling the state on my annual tour provides a great opportunity to listen to Kansans," Mr. Moran said. "I continue  
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