



Jack Frost did more than nip at our toes this week. Ice caused tree limbs to fall (above) and even caused the collapse (bottom left) of a 300-foot tower south of town. Crews (top left) have been out for the past two days trying to repair the damage.

— Telegram photos by Carolyn Plotts, Sherry Hickman and Veronica Monier

Winter storm causes havoc across the northwest

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 KQNK Radio is still functioning on its AM station 1530 and over the Internet.
 But, the Norton area wasn't one that was hit hard.
 Heavy ice accumulation on power lines have caused major, widespread outages throughout northwest Kansas.
 A spokesman for Prairie Land Electric said dispatchers have been working non-stop since midnight Wednesday, directing crews everywhere. She said crews have been sent not only to Norton, but to Oberlin, Phillipsburg, Norcatur and south of Hill City. Thursday evening all of Hill City, Nicodemus and Bogue were with-

out power.
 The sheer weight of ice on the lines, coupled with falling tree limbs and wind has caused lines to snap. She said there are reports of poles breaking, too.
 Barry Madden, member services director at Prairie Land, said 600 to 1,000 homes are still without power as of Thursday evening. He said Prairie Land Electric had brought in crews from Rolling Hills Cooperative in Mankato to help build lines. Since the storm hit, he has put them to work trouble shooting lines and restoring service.
 He said, "Prairie Land crews are working hard trying to get service restored to everyone."

Many businesses to close early for Christmas

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 p.m. Christmas Day.
Movie Theatre
 Norton Theatre will be closed Dec. 24. On Christmas Day it will be showing the movies "Night at the Museum", rated PG, and "Charlotte's Web", rated G, at 7 p.m. Because it is a world premiere for both movies, no movie passes will be accepted.
Discount Stores
 Pamida Discount Store will close at 6 p.m. Christmas Eve and be closed all day Monday.
 Dollar General Store will close at 6:30 p.m. Sunday and be closed Christmas Day.
Pharmacies
 Moffet Drug Store and Pamida Pharmacy are both normally closed Sunday and both will re-

main closed all day Monday, Christmas Day.
Public Offices
 The Norton County Courthouse will be closed Christmas Day.
 Norton City Offices and the Norton Public Library will be closed Christmas Day and Tuesday.
 The United States Post Office will be closed Monday.
 Norton County Commissioners will not meet Christmas Day. They will hold their next public meeting in the courthouse on Friday, Dec. 29.
Health Services
 The Doctors Clinic and the Norton County Health Department will both be closed Christmas Day.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

We hope you have a safe and merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Happy Holidays from
 Tom, Sherry, Veronica, Carolyn, Vicki, Lisa and Dick

THE NORTON TELEGRAM
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