

Church:

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THE NORTON TELEGRAM



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Friday

November 30, 2007

Norton, Kansas
Home of Doris Mizell

Briefly

Cookie walk to be Wednesday

For the second year in a row, the United Methodist Women are sponsoring a Cookie and Candy Walk.

A "Cookie/Candy Walk" is an opportunity for you to select a variety of homemade cookies and candy for your family and/or holiday entertaining — without spending hours in the kitchen.

The "Walk" will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 5 at the H & R Block office, 103 S. State. You are asked to use the west entrance.

Shoppers will be handed a plastic glove and separate boxes for selecting choices of cookies and candy. At the end of the "shopping" line, the boxes will be weighed and paid for by the pound. The committee will also have homemade cinnamon rolls and coffee available for sale.

Proceeds from the "Walk" will go to sponsor missions and ministry work.

Nativity story comes to life

Come see the Nativity Story come to life. Once again the Norton United Methodist Church will present the Living Nativity. It will start at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday in the circle drive of the church at 805 W. Wilberforce.

Volunteers from the church will depict characters in the Christmas story. Live animals will also be part of the production.

Admission is by donation. After viewing the different scenes from Christ's life, guests are invited to enjoy hot chocolate and cookies in the Fellowship Hall.

Rock to hold soup supper

The third annual Benefit Soup Lunch and Silent Auction for The Rock Christian Youth Center will be held Sunday at the center. Lunch will start at 11:30 a.m. and the silent auction will be held from 1 to 2 p.m. All items were donated by area merchants and individuals. Homemade baked goods will also be sold. All proceeds will go to benefit The Rock and its programs that serve the youth of Norton County.

Weather

Forecast:

Tonight — Periods of snow and sleet, mainly after midnight. Low around 24. Chance of precipitation is 80%. New snow and sleet accumulation of 1 to 3 inches possible. **Saturday** — Periods of freezing rain before 10 a.m., then periods of rain. **Sunday** — Mostly sunny with a high near 41.

Kingham report:

Tuesday Low 21, High 55
Wednesday Low 26, High 46
Thursday Low 17, High 50
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

Dear God, thank you for opportunities to help others. Help us to see that each needy person is Christ. **Amen**



Ornaments last through the generations

By CAROLYN PLOTTS
cplotts@nwkansas.com

When Roberta Martin's first grandchild, Jennifer, was born in 1972, she thought it would be fun to make her a Christmas tree ornament. By 1973, she had two grandchildren that each needed an ornament. In 1974, there were three grandkids; in 1975, there were four; in 1981, there were seven; until in 1985, there were 12 grandchildren.

Then the great-grandchildren started coming, until now, when Mrs. Martin has 31 grandchildren, great-grandchildren and two special friends to create ornaments for.

She said, "Every year I make something different. And, I always put the year on it."

This year's creations are snowmen — almost three dozen of them. Made out of polymer clay, each snowman wears a hat and a scarf, has a mouth, eyes and nose, all made of clay. His boots are hinged and dangle jauntily from his body. A hole in his stocking hat allows a ribbon to be threaded through so he can hang from a tree.

Mrs. Martin said, "Each one has a heart to show them Grandma's love and they are carrying a star to show them the way. And, I'm so happy they all know Jesus."

When Mrs. Martin asked her oldest granddaughter if she didn't think she was too old for an ornament, the granddaughter said, "Oh, I'll never be too old for one of Grandma's ornaments."

Over the years she has made ornaments using many different mediums. One year she used rocks on which she painted, "Jesus is the Reason for the Season"; another year she made airplanes; another year she made boots out of salt clay; and another year it was a tiny lighthouse mounted on a small piece of slate. Sometimes they are simple — sometimes quite elaborate.

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Roberta Martin paraded the "snowmen" she made as Christmas ornament gifts for her 31 grandchildren — a tradition she has kept for 35 years.

— Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

Eight instant winners left in promotion

By VERONICA MONIER
vmonier@nwkansas.com

Only one instant winning ticket went unclaimed for the first week of Christmas On Us.

JoAnn Roberts and Teresa Daniels, both of Norton, claimed the first two \$50 instant prizes Monday. Mrs. Roberts won with ticket No. 042751, which came from Norton Shop and Save and was hidden in the ad for Kowpoke Supply in last Friday's edition of *The Norton Telegram*.

Mrs. Daniels' winning ticket, No. 042053, was hidden in the ad for Sander Furniture. Her ticket also came from Norton Shop and Save.

The unclaimed ticket, which as of Thursday at 5 p.m. was no longer valid, was No. 823437. It was hidden in the ad for Norton Shop and Save and was also given away by Norton Shop and Save.

A total of 4,759 tickets were collected for the first week. Another 3,047 tickets were added to the total Thursday evening. Each ticket equals \$10 spent locally, which adds up to approximately \$78,000 spent with participating merchants.

A new batch of instant winning numbers will appear in the special Christmas On Us ads in today's edition of *The Telegram*. Look closely because they will be hidden well.

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County has few cases of deadly infection

By CAROLYN PLOTTS
cplotts@nwkansas.com

Recently, the national media has been full of news about a strain of skin infection. Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus skin infection (MRSA) has even been credited as the cause of death in some cities.

In Norton, however, the three institutions where more people congregate (the schools, the hospital and the state correctional facility) have been on top of the situation for years.

Norton Schools

Superintendent of Norton schools Greg Mann said, "Even before MRSA was a topic of discussion, we (the Norton school system) were doing a good job of communicating the need for hand washing. Plus, I feel we've done an excellent job of keeping our facilities clean." Mr. Mann also said that posters encouraging

hand washing, the top recommended precaution to prevent the spread of the highly contagious skin infection, have been posted in the school buildings.

Norton County Hospital

Reiterating the need for hand-washing, Deb Bowen, RN, and Infection Control Officer at Norton County Hospital, said, "The number one method of preventing infection is hand washing. And, that means soap, hot water and friction." She said it is recommended that you wash your hands for at least 20 seconds.

She said the hospital has seen cases of the infection over the years, but it has never been an issue here. She said the hospital has a policy and procedure plan in place.

Nurse Bowen invited the public to attend a community-based forum to be held from 7:30 to 9 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 12 in the hospital's conference room. It will

be conducted via tele-medicine by Dr. Richard Starlin, M.D., of Good Samaritan Hospitals. Dr. Starlin is in charge of infectious diseases and will be available for questions. Hospital employees and school staff are invited to attend.

Some of the topics Dr. Starlin will address are: What is MRSA; How prevalent is it; Can it be eradicated; What can I do in the community and in my own home to stop the spread; and how is it treated.

Nurse Bowen said, "This is going to be a very good forum." She encouraged anyone wanting to attend to call the hospital at 877-3351 and talk to her or to Julie Campbell, RN, Director of Nursing.

Norton Correctional Facility

A review of medical department records at Norton Correctional Facility (NCF) showed five occurrences of MRSA from July 1 of this year until the present.

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School board amends district policy

By TOM DREILING
tomd@nwkansas.com

The Northern Valley School Board, at its November meeting, amended its out-of-district student policy as recommended by the Kansas Association of School Boards.

The policy states that out-of-district students and their parents will be notified at semester of any problems which the student will be required to improve (such as grades, discipline) over the second semester in order to be accepted in the district next year.

Students not being accepted for the next year will be notified at the end of the school year.

The evaluation of PreKindergarten-8th grade Principal Chris Robertson was discussed in an executive session. Superintendent George Griffith was part of the discussion, and later in the session Mrs. Robertson was invited to join in the dialogue. When the board returned to open meeting, the principal was commended for a job well done.

An additional closed door meeting was held with Mr. Griffith, Mrs. Robertson and Drew Britt. When he was excused from the session, Hannah Ponstein was invited in. When she was excused, the board returned to open session. The nature of the session was not disclosed.

In yet another executive session, the

board and also Mr. Griffith and Mrs. Robertson met for 25 minutes. Upon returning to open session, the board approved a motion to update Manuela Matos' contract to Masters +15.

In other matters:

• The board was given a demonstration on Tiffany VanDerVeen's seventh grade class "brown bag report." They also learned that the eighth graders were involved in "power point" book reports, in which they create graphic organizers.

• Doug Zillinger presented a plan for updating the agricultural education program to meet funding standards. The intent is to focus on careers for students

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