

# Church:

Take advantage of the church listings to find out when and where to go.

Pages 6 & 7

Vol. 100, No. 102

75 cents

# THE NORTON TELEGRAM

Be sure to look for the special edition with Santa letters and greetings inserted today

## Friday

December 21, 2007

Norton, Kansas  
Home of Mary Herring

### Briefly

## Newspaper takes Christmas off

Due to the Christmas holiday, *The Norton Telegram* has combined the Monday *Extra* ads into today's paper. Every home in Norton County will receive today's issue. *The Extra* will not be published Monday and so that *Telegram* employees may spend Christmas Eve with their families, there will not be a Tuesday paper. The next *Norton Telegram* will be printed Friday, Dec. 28.

## 'U', 'X', 'Y', 'X' tags due Dec. 31

The deadline for businesses or persons whose last name begins with "U", "X", "Y" or "Z" to renew automobile, light trucks, motorcycles and motorized bike tags will be Monday, Dec. 31. The computers will be shut off at 11:30 a.m. to balance for end of the year. Bring your current proof of insurance, so that the vehicle identification number, policy number and current expiration date can be verified. Computers are shut off at 4:30 p.m. daily for balancing. For more information, call the treasurer's office at (785) 877-5795.

The Norton Treasurer's office will be closed all day Monday, Dec. 24 and Tuesday, Dec. 25 for the Christmas holiday.

Driver's license renewals can be done Tuesday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please bring your social security card or something that has your social security number on it for verification. The Phillipsburg full service driver's license office has new hours. They are Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 7 to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 to 5 p.m. If you are going to Phillipsburg for a license, you need to arrive by 11 a.m. in the morning or 4:30 p.m. in the afternoon. For more information, the Phillipsburg office can be reached at (785) 543-5594.

### Weather

#### Forecast:

**Tonight** — A 50 percent chance of snow. Cloudy, with a low around 20. Blustery, with a north wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 40 mph. New snow accumulation of around 1 inch possible. **Saturday** — Cloudy, then gradually becoming mostly sunny with a high near 29. Blustery, with a north wind between 20 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 40 mph. **Saturday night** — Partly cloudy, with a low around 11. Blustery, with a west wind between 15 and 20 mph.

#### Kingham report:

Tuesday ..... Low 15, High 37  
Wednesday ..... Low 25, High 44  
Thursday ..... Low 22, High 46  
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

### Prayer

Dear God, we know that you are with us in suffering and joy. Help us to find peace and joy in every day.

Amen



On his first try, Alex Auker (left) pulled out the ticket that won Bonnie Laughlin \$1,200 in Christmas On Us money. Mrs. Laughlin, who also won the final \$50 instant prize, and her son, Jared, (above) held up their winnings and the large number of tickets collected by shopping locally at participating merchants. Because they had so many tickets, Jared (below) spent some time looking for the winners.

— Telegram photos by Veronica Monier

## Norton woman wins big with Christmas On Us

By VERONICA MONIER  
vmonier@nwkansas.com

It took 10 tries to find the single remaining \$50 instant winner Thursday night, but only one to find the \$1,200 winner for Christmas On Us. As it turned out, both winners were the same person.

Bonnie Laughlin, Norton, walked away with \$1,250 from the completely random drawings.

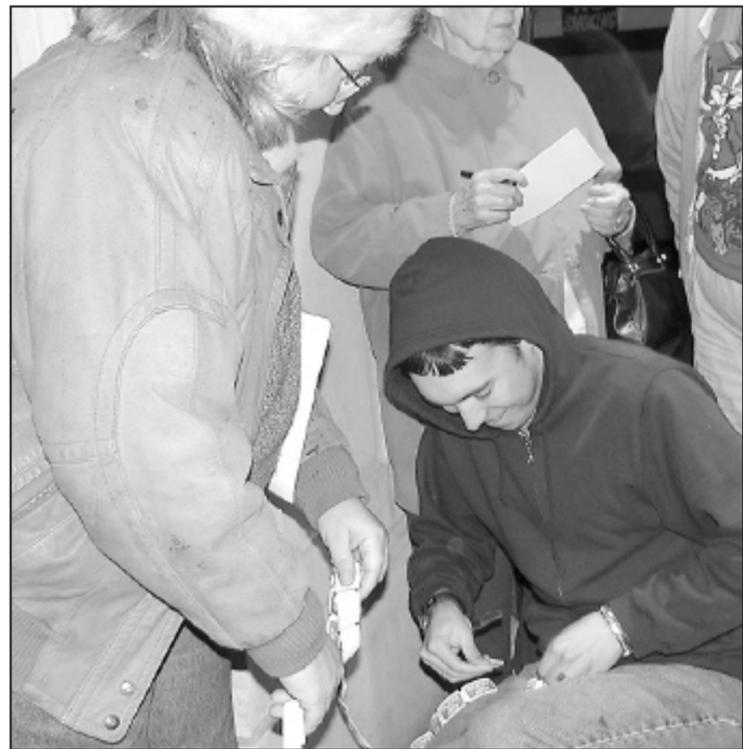
The finale of Christmas On Us started at 7 p.m. at the Norton County Courthouse with Cale Patterson picking ticket No. 583084, which came from Kowpoke Supply, to find the last \$50 winner. When no one claimed it, he drew several more tickets, which were 043472 from Norton Shop and Save, 269480 from Ag Valley Co-op, 257527 from First State Bank, 127872 from Sander Furniture, and 790088 from Sander Furniture.

After six tries and no success, Cale stepped down and Collyn Auker gave it a try. Collyn drew three more tickets — 082868 from Norton Shop and Save, 272636 from Sander Furniture, and 265967 from Norton Shop and Save — before drawing ticket No. 142784 from Kowpoke Supply, which turned out to be the winner.

Jared Laughlin, who was helping his mother with her tickets, stepped forward to say he thought they had the winner. After a little searching, he pulled out the lucky ticket and Mrs. Laughlin collected \$50.

The next ticket drawn, No. 143801, turned out to be the big winner. The ticket was picked by Alex Auker and came from Kowpoke Supply. Jared once again stepped forward to say they had the ticket.

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## Senior citizens give children comfort

CAROLYN PLOTTS  
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Imagine you are a little kid and police officers come to your house because the adults in your home are fighting. Then imagine one of the police officers carrying you out of the house because he says, "It's not safe for you to stay here." Pretty scary, huh?

Now imagine the police officer giving

you a soft, plushy bag with a cuddly Teddy bear, some color crayons, a coloring book and a handmade blanket. Things don't seem so bad as you wrap up in the warmth of the blanket you know is stitched with love.

The Norton Police Department is supplied with these "Comfort Bags" (which are carried in the patrol car) by the women of the Norton Senior Citizen

Center. Sometimes, when an officer is on a domestic call he has to make a decision about removing a child from the home. The comfort bag goes a long way toward easing the child's fears. Assistant Police Chief Jeremy Hartwell said, "Luckily, we don't have to give out many bags in Norton County. But, the Police Department appreciates all the ladies at the center who

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## Town closes down for Christmas

Several area businesses are choosing to be closed Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

#### Banks

All Norton County banks have opted to close at noon Christmas Eve. Bank of the West is the only exception and will be closed all day, both days.

#### Service Stations

Countryside Sales and Service will be closed Christmas Day, but the card controlled pumps will be accessible. The Station in Almena will close at 1 p.m. Christmas Eve and be closed Christmas Day.

Love's and Norton Total are both open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. First Stop will be open regular hours from 5 a.m. to midnight.

#### Grocery Stores

Almena Market and Country Corner in Lenora will both close Christmas Eve at 4 p.m. and be closed Christmas Day.

Jamboree Foods will close at 5 p.m. Christmas Eve and Norton Shop and Save will close at 6 p.m. Both will be closed all day Christmas Day.

#### Restaurants

All restaurants in Norton, Norcatur and Lenora will be closed Christmas Day. K & S Center and The Zone Bar and Grill will both be closed Monday and Tuesday. The Cardinal Bar and Grill will be closed Wednesday, too.

Attitudes and Hidden Dragon are both normally closed Mondays. Christmas Eve closings include: Town and Country Kitchen and The Cardinal Bar and Grill will both close at 2 p.m.; Pure Prairie Natural Foods will close at 3 p.m.; McDonald's will close at 5 p.m.; Pizza Hut/Taco Bell will close at 6 p.m.; and Dairy Queen will close at 7 p.m.

#### Bars

O'Brien's Pit Stop will close at 6 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 23 for a private party; be

open Christmas Eve from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m.; and open Christmas Day from 5 p.m. to 12 a.m.

#### Theaters

The Norton Theatre will be showing the world premier of *National Treasure, Book of Secrets* and holding over *Alvin and the Chipmunks*. Showtimes are: tonight and Saturday night, 7 p.m. and 9:35 p.m.; Sunday, 5 p.m. and 7:35 p.m.; closed Christmas Eve; Christmas Day, 5 p.m. and 7:35 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m. Only premier movie passes will be accepted.

#### Discount Stores

Pamida will be open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Christmas Eve. Dollar General will close at 6:30 p.m. Christmas Eve. Both stores will be closed all day Christmas Day.

#### Pharmacies

Pamida Pharmacy will be closed Saturday, Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. (Continued on Page 5)

## Churches plan special services for Christmas

In observance of the Christmas season, many area churches have special services planned for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

**First United Methodist, Norton**  
Christmas Eve Services at 7 p.m. and again at 11 p.m.

Christmas Day the church Fellowship Hall will be the site of the annual Chamber of Commerce Christmas Dinner at 12 p.m.

**United Methodist Church, Edmond**

Christmas Eve Services, 5 p.m.

**United Methodist Church, Almena**

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services, 8 p.m.

**United Methodist Church, Norcatur**

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services and Children's Program, 4 p.m.

**United Methodist Church, Clayton**

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services with the Christmas Choir, 6 p.m.

**Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran, Norton**

The Children's Christmas Eve (Continued on Page 5)