



Kansas Representative John Faber (left) and Senator Ralph Ostmeyer were in Norton Saturday afternoon to let Norton County residents know what they have been working on. — Telegram photo by Veronica Monier

Faber, Ostmeyer visit Norton

By VERONICA MONIER
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Kansas Senator Ralph Ostmeyer and Representative John Faber were at Town and Country Kitchen Saturday afternoon to talk to Norton County residents.

Rep. Faber said he has been in office for 12 years, 10 of which he has served on the education committee. He said that committee is one of the most frustrating.

"We're losing our voice in rural Kansas for schools," he said. "We're going to have to make a stronger case to keep the school dollars out here."

This, he said, is the last year of the three year finance plan where they have put almost a billion dollars into Kansas schools; something else will need to be put in place when this plan ends.

Another chief concern, he said, is the disabled and organizations that help the disabled, like Developmental Services of Northwest Kansas. He said the organization doesn't have a lot of money, even to pay its employees. They do, he said, have a bill that will help cut down the waiting lists.

Rep. Faber said he is also on the Agriculture Committee. He said it's been a two-year fight to get something worked out between the Department of Agriculture and the Kansas Livestock Association. But, he said, they have worked out a bill that is now being sent to the Senate.

As for the Sunflower Power coal plant in Holcomb, on which the Kansas Department of Health and Environment refused to issue a permit, Rep. Faber said the House and the Senate have come to a compromise and have sent a bill on to the governor. He said it is one of the cleanest plants ever built. Wind energy is great 70 percent of the time, but the other 30 percent of the time it doesn't blow. They need something to keep up with energy usage when the wind isn't blowing.

Sen. Ostmeyer said the issue of regulating farm trucks is far from over. He said they have managed to relax the situation for now, but still have some problems.

"We need to be real careful with putting farmers under the same regulations as commercial trucking," he said. "We need to watch the safety of farm trucks. But, this will just be one more nail in the coffin of farmers."

Something needs to be done on the federal level, he said, because that's where this is coming from. Even through the federal government hasn't threatened funding, he said.

Sen. Ostmeyer said they need the Sunflower coal plant in western Kansas. The issue has become political, he said, and it shouldn't have. There are a lot of things tied to that plant, he said, and he hopes the legislature can get this policy through to get them the permit they need.

The statewide smoking ban, he said, is going through its second year in legislation and he doesn't know if it will even come out of committee. He said he thinks it's a local control issue and would be better if handled locally by individual counties.

The federal government is refusing to take a stand on illegal immigration, he said. He said the state senate has a bill in the works, but it is being opposed by several organizations, including Farm Bureau. He said he doesn't know if it will come out of committee, but the discussion needs to be had.

"It's a fine line here," he said. "We need to get them legal. The bill I signed onto I think fixes a lot of the problems. The legislative process is learning the art of com-

promise. Nothing is being done right now, but we need to be taking baby steps. We need to move on this. There is a legal process and we need to follow that."

Sen. Ostmeyer said veterans have really been shut out this year. To help this, veterans need to contact their elected officials.

The deadline for ordering the March Prairie Land food package is Monday, March 17. To order, call the Norton Senior Center at 877-5352, Lois Schrum, 874-4410, Karen VanSlike, 877-5511; in Lenora, Maxine Mai, 567-4538.

Distribution will begin at 9:30 a.m., Saturday, March 29 at the center.

The March Prairie Pak contains a 1 pound ham steak, 1.79 pounds of chicken drumsticks, 1 pound of organic, sliced meatloaf, 1 pound of bacon, 1 pound of organic beef patties, 1 pound of organic all-beef chili (no beans), plus fresh fruits and vegetables. Everything listed may be purchased for \$21.50 and two hours of volunteer service.

Volunteer work is anything you do, out of the kindness of your

Pancakes help pay for projects

By CAROLYN PLOTTS
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Sponsored by the Norcat Christian Women, the annual Pancake and Sausage Supper was held Saturday evening with 110 attending.

The annual event helps raise money to fund projects sponsored by the Norcat United Methodist Church.

Volunteers helping included: D.J. Ebner and Darrel Barnett who fried the sausage; Denny Leichliter and Monty Hunt fried the eggs; Larry James and Rodney O'Hare flipped pancakes; Nichola O'Hare and Quentin Wentz helped serve; others helping included, Janice O'Hare, Linda Hunt, Alice Barnett, Bob Strevey, Jamie Wentz and Lora Arnold.



Larry James loaded a plate with pancakes for Nichola O'Hare who helped serve at the annual pancake and sausage supper in Norcat. — Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

Food package deadline is Monday, March 17

heart, that you do not get paid for. It can be as simple as being on a prayer chain, being a room mother at school, sharing produce from your garden, taking time to sit and have a cup of coffee with an elderly neighbor or spending time with someone going through a rough time. Anytime you make someone's day a little brighter will qualify you for the Prairie Land Food program.

A Meat Only Package (the meats listed) may be purchased for one additional hour of service and \$12. A Fruit and Vegetable Package costs \$10 and one additional volunteer hour.

A Prairie Pak must be purchased before adding additional packages.

There are three March Specials available. Special No. 1 is "It's a

Roast." For \$16 and one additional hour of service you will receive a 2.5 pound pork loin roast and a 2.5 pound top sirloin roast.

Special No. 2 is "Butterfly Shrimp." It costs \$17 and one additional hour of volunteer service. This special is 5 pounds of oven-ready breaded butterfly shrimp.

Special No. 3 is a "Breakfast Bonanza" for \$17 and one more hour. It features 1 pound of sausage patties, 1 pound of potato home fries, six, 6-ounce breakfast burritos and two, 20-ounce boxes of French toast sticks.

Prairie Land Food is a Kansas based 501 (c)(3) organization.

Learn how to save MONEY and LIVE GREEN while protecting your FAMILY and ENVIRONMENT

THERE WILL BE A FREE PRESENTATION IN A SMALL CONFERENCE Room at the Holiday Inn Express in McCook, Nebraska Saturday, March 15 at 2 P.M. and 7 P.M. Sunday, March 16 at 2 P.M.

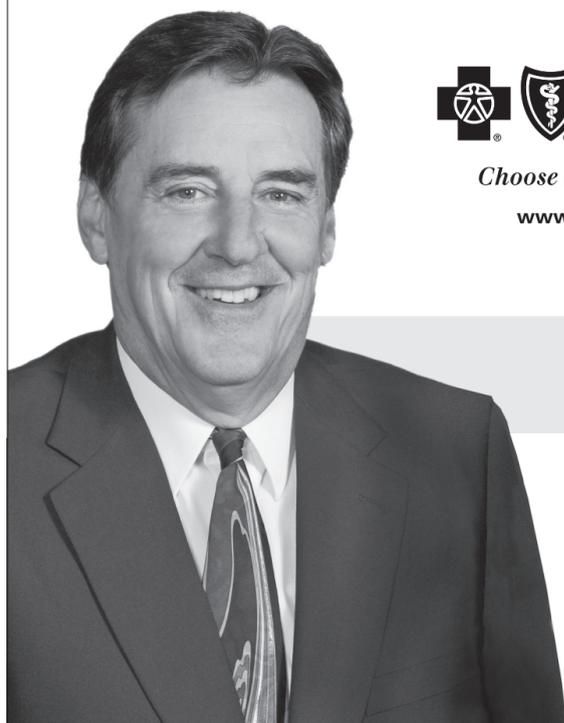
SEATING WILL BE LIMITED SO PLEASE CALL FOR YOUR RESERVATIONS - PHONE 308-345-4377

Meet the 2007 President's Award Recipient

For Charles Krull, going the extra mile is standard operating procedure. He exemplifies our working philosophy at Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas that no amount of effort is too much.

In an elite class of group consultants statewide, Charles was the top producer in 2007.

We are pleased to announce that Charles has earned this year's President's Award for distinguished sales achievement. His dedication and initiative are an inspiration to us all. Our company as well as our customers are the beneficiaries of his winning attitude.



Charles Krull
2007 Recipient,
President's Award

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Toy, card show set for Saturday

The 20th annual Toy and Collectible show will be held March 15 at the Norton National Guard Armory from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dealers from Colorado, Nebraska and Kansas will be in attendance to display old and new farm toys NASCAR, trucks, HotWheels and more. The event is co-sponsored by the Norton Chamber of Commerce and the Norton United Methodist Men. Admission is \$2 for adults and children 12 and under are admitted free. There will be hourly drawings and a food bar featuring sandwiches and homemade pies. Proceeds go to help fund various Christian mission projects.

In order to meet state and federal guidelines for Wireless enhanced 911, Norton County is in the final stages of assigning new addresses for every commercial and residential property in the rural areas of the county. The new addressing will not affect residents in the incorporated city limits of the County.

Planning began in 1998 when public roads were named and signs were installed shortly afterwards.

In 2007, County wide aerial photography was acquired to create accurate maps for the new 911 system. Since then every street and structure have been identified and digitized into the counties (GIS) Geographical Information System. Address guidelines were determined for the County in order to have a consistent numbering system countywide.

When a call is received at the County's 911 Dispatch Center, the caller's address and phone number are matched to a computerized mapping system. The system maps an exact location on the street where the structure is located by using the 911 address number along with the length of that street. Thus giving an exact location for the request for help.

Using and properly posting your 911 address is essential for the County's Emergency System to function properly and efficiently for the safety of the citizens in Norton County.

Norton County sincerely appreciates your cooperation to make this program successful.

Further details will be issued in future articles.

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I Just Can't Understand Some Words

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