

THE NORTON TELEGRAM



WEBSITE: nwkansas.com

12 PAGES

Friday

November 28, 2008

Norton, Kansas
Home of Joan Riemann

Briefly

Flu shots available at Doctor's Clinic

The Norton County Health Department no longer has flu shots left. To get a flu shot, go to the Norton Doctor's Clinic. Bring your insurance card or \$25. There are forms to sign and a nurse will administer the shot. People with egg allergies, history of Guillian-Barre Syndrome, or a severe reaction to flu vaccines will not be able to get a flu shot. Also people who have had a fever or not felt well in the 24 hours prior to getting a flu shot will not be able to get one. For questions, call the Doctor's Clinic at 877-3305.

Wrestling Classic Tuesday evening

All Norton wrestling fans are invited to the annual Blue and Yellow Classic at 6 p.m. Tuesday evening in the Norton Junior High gym. Norton Community High School wrestlers will compete in some of the ranking matches which will determine varsity competitors in Saturday's season opening Hoxie Invitational Tournament. There is no admission charge. Ranking matches will continue throughout the week during regular afternoon practice sessions.

Awards banquet Sunday evening

The annual Norton Community High School Football Awards Banquet, sponsored by the Blue Jay Booster Club, will be held Sunday at 5:30 p.m. in the high school cafeteria. A carry-in meal will precede the presentations by head coach Lucas Melvin. All fans are invited and are asked to bring a meat dish, a vegetable or salad, a dessert and their own table service. Drinks will be provided.

Weather

Tonight - Cloudy with a low around 23. Saturday - Partly sunny with a high near 43. Breezy with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Saturday Night - Mostly cloudy with a low around 27. Sunday - Partly sunny with a high near 42. Windy with a north wind 15 to 20 mph increasing to between 25 and 30 mph. Sunday Night - Partly cloudy with a low around 24.

Kingham report:

Tues., Nov. 25 Low 23, High 52
Wed., Nov. 26 Low 26, High 56
Thurs., Nov. 27 Low 30, High 44
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

Heavenly Father, this day and all days we give thanks to you for our blessings and for your love for us. Help us to take time to remember you in all we do. In Jesus, we pray. **Amen**



Tanya Peters and her little sister, Tamika Peters peeked around Santa's Hut on the courthouse lawn Wednesday afternoon. Santa will be in town tonight from 6:30 to 8:30. Chamber Ambassadors will be serving cookies and hot cocoa. After tonight, Santa will be available on Thursday nights from 6:30 to 8 p.m. until Dec. 18.

— Telegram photo by Brandy Leroux

Long wait ends this evening, Santa's due at 6:30

By BRANDY LEROUX
bleroux@nwkansas.com

The countdown is underway for kids in Norton County. Santa's House is on the courthouse lawn, just waiting for Santa to make his appearance.

The courthouse lights will be switched on, and kids and parents will be waiting in a line leading up to Santa's hut when he arrives at the courthouse this evening from 6:30 to 8:30.

The Chamber Ambassadors will serve hot chocolate and cookies," said Karla Reed, Norton Area Chamber of Commerce executive director.

Every Thursday evening thereafter, until Dec. 18, Santa will be in his hut, ready to talk to the kids.

He will be there from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

"If it gets too cold, Santa will move into the courthouse, or if it's really bad

out, we'll close early," said Ms. Reed. "We've done it before, and we can do it again. Sometimes it's just too cold to be outside, even if its Santa they're waiting to see."

Along with visiting Santa, kids and parents can go on a sleigh ride around the downtown area.

"Don Kaus is pulling the sleigh again this year," said Ms. Reed. "He really seems to enjoy doing it for us."

For those kids too shy (or scared) to see Santa in person, they can write him a letter and put it in the special mailbox outside the chamber office.

The letters will be printed in The Telegram on Dec. 19. The last day the mailbox will be up is Dec. 24.

"Even if a kid doesn't get his letter to Santa in the newspaper, it's okay, we'll still make sure it gets to him," said Ms. Reed.

Firefighters dispatched to grain elevator

By BRANDY LEROUX
bleroux@nwkansas.com

A faulty bearing in the Ag Valley Co-Op elevator brought Norton's fire department out late Tuesday evening.

"Due to age and wear and tear, a ball bearing on the belt that moves grain from the 'boot' (the lower part of the elevator) to the 'leg' (the top of the elevator) got hot, and dripped hot metal onto the grain below it, causing the grain to smolder," said Pete Jepsen, Ag Valley Co-Op Safety and Regulatory Director.

An Ag Valley employee checked on everything before leaving for the night and smelled the smoldering grain. He called 911 to report it.

"The grain never did catch fire," said Mr. Jepsen. "That employee and two other employees stayed at the scene while the fire trucks were there."

The call came into dispatch at 7:39 p.m. Three fire trucks were paged at 7:40 p.m. Norton Fire Department truck #15 arrived on the scene at 7:46 p.m. and Norton Fire Department truck #12 arrived at 7:49 p.m. No arrival time for truck #10 was listed.

According to Norton Rural Fire Department Chief Steve Otter, firefighters had to dig all the smoldering grain out of the elevator.

"The Norton Fire Department has toured our facility and are very knowledgeable about it," said Mr. Jepsen. "They didn't use water to put the smoldering grain out. It could have kicked up the grain dust, and possibly made the situation worse. They carried the smoldering grain out in buckets, instead. The fire department did a great job, protecting the facility and the community and its people."

The fire trucks left between 9:46 and 9:49 p.m.



Rhonda Frack (left), Norton, and Kim Sander, looked at the scrip money Rhonda received for finding her ticket number hidden in a Christmas On Us ad in last Friday's Telegram. Mrs. Frack got her ticket from Sander Furniture. Check today's Telegram for more hidden numbers.

— Telegram photo by Christie Anderson

Time running out to buy game tickets, and hear choir

By TOM DREILING
tom.d@nwkansas.com

Music and \$\$'s are floating around in their heads.

And it has nothing to do with Christmas.

But it has everything to do with a very special song and a couple of basketball games!

Here's the deal:

You buy a ticket to the games and you'll get to watch the Norton Community High School choir sing the national anthem before both contests.

This isn't going to happen at home, but on the road.

And bear in mind that with each ticket sold the choir will be refunded 50 percent of the sale.

The choir is currently selling tickets to the Fort Hays State University basketball Tigers' games on Friday, Dec. 5. They will be playing the University

of Nebraska-Omaha Mavericks in an MIAA conference-season opener. The tickets are good for both the women's and men's games.

The Norton choir members will be singing the national anthem prior to both games.

Game times are 5:30 (women's) and 7:30 p.m. (men's) in Gross Memorial Coliseum.

The university's athletic department will present members of the choir a check at half time of the men's game. The check's amount is a direct result of how many tickets are sold in the Norton area by choir members. Ticket prices are \$7.

Importantly, Monday is the last day to buy a ticket. If you haven't, and plan to, please contact any choir member or call the high school at 877-3338.

The choir and director Tamra Cochran thank you for your support!

Telegram's promotions gain support

By BRANDY LEROUX
bleroux@nwkansas.com

The Norton Telegram is co-sponsoring two holiday promotions — Christmas On Us and the Second Annual Cookie Contest.

"Christmas On Us is off to a good start," said Christie Anderson, Telegram advertising director. "We have new sponsors this year, and we've structured the prizes a little differently."

Last year, there were 10 \$50 instant winners, and one \$1200 grand prize winner chosen at a drawing held on the courthouse steps. This year, there will still be 10 \$50 instant winners. However, instead of one big prize, there will be two \$100 winners drawn as well as a grand prize drawing for \$1,000 at Washington Street Park on Dec. 18, at 7 p.m. The instant winners are drawn weekly at The Telegram, and the ticket numbers are hidden in selected Christmas On Us ads in the paper, all of which appear in a two-page advertisement. Last week was the first drawing for instant winners. The first winner was Deb Terrell, Norton, who got her ticket at Destination Kitchen. The second, Rhonda Frack, Norton, got her ticket at Sander Furniture.

"I have already done all my Christmas shopping, so I'm going to use it for me," Mrs. Frack said.

So far, 5,162 tickets have been given to customers at the sponsoring businesses.

Co-sponsoring Christmas On Us with The Norton Telegram are Ag Valley Co-op, Kellie's Alltel, Rural Tel/Nex-Tech, Sander Furniture/Bed and Bath, Shop and Save, Norton Greenhouse, Destination Kitchen, Stitch Up A Storm, Engel's, Kansasland and Town and Country. All prizes are in the form of scrip money. (Continued on Page 5)

(Continued on Page 5)