

Take advantage of the best local guide to what's on TV next week with The Telegram's handy schedule of programming.

THE NORTON TELEGRAM

Norton football team members honored at annual banquet

Tuesday
January 6, 2004

Norton, Kansas
Home of Lone Jordan

Briefly

Blue Jay Club to meet Wednesday

The first Blue Jay Booster Club meeting of the new year will be Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in the high school cafeteria. Norton girls basketball coach Kevin Jilka, boys basketball coach Doug Reusink and Norton wrestling coach Bill Johnson will give fans an update on competition by their teams. Refreshments will be served. All fans of Norton Community High School athletics are invited. The other meeting of the Blue Jay Booster Club in January will be on Wednesday, Jan. 21. The dates of the meetings were incorrectly listed in the Community Calendar in last Tuesday's Telegram.

Agency offers disaster assistance

Businesses have until Wednesday, Jan. 14, to file applications for low-interest disaster loans from the Small Business Administration. The agency's economic injury disaster loans are available for businesses dependent on farmers and ranchers sustaining crop losses that occurred after July 1, 2002. Farmers and ranchers are not eligible for these loans. However, nurseries that are victims of drought disasters can apply. Applications can be obtained by calling the administration toll-free at (800) 366-6303 or TDD (817) 267-4688 for the hearing impaired. These loans are intended to assist businesses in offsetting working capital losses which they suffered as a result of the severe weather reducing the crop income of the farmers and ranchers. Small businesses claiming to have been physically injured by the disaster are not eligible.

Weather

Forecast:

Tonight — Partly cloudy and not as cool with lows around 8. **Wednesday** — Partly cloudy and warmer with highs in the mid 30s. **Wednesday Night** — Partly cloudy with lows around 16. **Thursday** — Partly cloudy with highs in the lower 40s. **Thursday Night through Friday Night** — Partly cloudy with highs in the upper 40s. Lows in the lower 20s. **Saturday** — Partly cloudy with highs in the lower 40s.

Howell report:

Friday High 59, Low 26
Saturday High 27, Low 14
3.5" of Snow
Sunday High 25, Low -5
Monday High 12, Low -7
January precipitation 30
Year-to-date precipitation ... 30 of an inch
(Readings taken at the Paul and Pat Howell farm 10 Miles North and 1/3 Mile East of Norton)

Prayer

Guard your steps when you go to the house of God. Go near to listen rather than to offer the sacrifice of fools, who do not know that they do wrong. Amen



Norton youths took advantage of the final day of their Christmas vacation and three and a half inches of snow on Sunday by sledding in Elmwood Park. Austin Danner (below) climbed on a sled for a trip down the hill while Ashley Karnopp and Brianna Karnopp wait for their turn. Hannah Pollock (above) glided down the hill effortlessly after a push from her father, Mike Pollock. —Photos by Brandon Gay.

Snow brings fun, moisture

As the snow fell this weekend, the winter wheat crops and pastures received a little bit of the moisture they so desperately need. But more importantly, with the build up of snow, they got protection from the cold weather. Norton County Extension Director Keith VanSike said the snow was a good thing to have, especially with the oncoming cold weather. "There's some moisture to the wheat," he said. "But the big thing is insulation. It's kind of crazy to think that the cold snow is protecting the crops, but without it, the plants would have a hard time." Mr. VanSike said the snow also protects the soil from blowing away. The Norton Telegram's Weather Correspondent Pat Howell, who is about 10 miles north of town, said Norton got about three-and-a-half inches of snow this weekend. So far this winter, about 10-and-a-half inches has fallen. Mrs. Howell said as far as precipitation goes, Norton's had about an inch, because every 10 inches of snow leaves around one inch of precipitation. However, the snow Norton's had this winter hasn't been very wet, she said. Mr. VanSike said the Norton area typically (Continued on Page 5)



Landfill problem clogs commissions' day

By CYNTHIA HAYNES
Norton County Commissioners were talking trash again last Monday as they went over a letter from the state about a proposed landfill. The state had sent a letter earlier asking the county to answer questions raised by groups looking at the new landfill proposal. The commissioners had talked with BG Consultants, the company it is using to get the landfill paperwork through the state hoops. BG had sent the state information covering the 54 questions. Just before Christmas the commissioners received another letter from the state with 10 issues it didn't feel had been properly covered. Most of the items have been taken care of or can be done. One item, however, said that the county must prove justification for opening a landfill which is 75 miles or less from another landfill. The state pointed out that there are 10 landfills within that distance — Phillips

County Landfill, 30 miles; Decatur County Landfill, 35 miles; Graham County Landfill, 35 miles; Sheridan County Landfill, 55 miles; Rooks County Landfill, 56 miles; Trego County Landfill, 59 miles; Rawlins County Landfill, 60 miles; Smith County Landfill, 62 miles; city of Holdrege, Neb., Prairie Hill Landfill, 63 miles; and Thomas County Landfill, 75 miles. Solid Waste Supervisor Curt Archibald said that he has talked to the BG person who received a copy of the letter from the state, Bruce Boettcher. Mr. Boettcher told him that the county just needs to write a letter to the state telling how expensive it is to move trash to Phillips County, which is what the county is doing now. Commissioner Dean Kruse was unhappy about the state's many requirements and complaints. When we closed the incinerator they said we needed a landfill, he said. "Now they're saying we aren't deserving of a landfill," he said. "Why are they

singling us out?" "When we started this process we were told one thing. Now, the process has just become incredibly more complicated," Commission Chairman John Miller said. This shouldn't have been a surprise to BG Consultants," County Attorney Doug Sebelius said. "And a letter from the county isn't going to satisfy these guys (the state.) I think the average Norton County citizen wants a landfill. On Saturday morning they want to be able to load their stuff up and not go to Phillips County." The only other choice is a transfer station, Mr. Archibald said. "They (Phillips County) want us to get this going," said Commissioner Leroy Lang. "We're filling up their landfill." "We need a serious point-by-point review of this thing with the people who are supposed to help us get a landfill," Mr. Sebelius said. The commissioners decided to ask a (Continued on Page 5)

Emergency medical class set for January

Norton County residents are looking to take an emergency medical class in Phillipsburg so that they can help the ambulance service here. The class, which will be from 7-10 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays, starts on Monday, Jan. 19 at the emergency medical service area of the fire station. The class runs through June 21 with two instructors. While several people, including some Norton City firemen, have expressed interest in taking the class, anyone interested can still sign up. Emergency Medical Ser (Continued on Page 5)