

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

Page 6

Tuesday  
May 11, 2004

# Elementary art to stay in school

By CAROLYN PLOTTS

Norton students will continue to learn art in elementary school.

The Norton School Board has been trying to decide whether or not to keep the art program at Eisenhower Elementary School.

With the retirement of high school art teacher Peggy Stull, it had been suggested that the elementary school art teacher be moved to the high school and the art program dropped for grade school students.

Monday night, at the Norton School

Board meeting, presented the case for keeping the art program in Eisenhower Elementary School.

"I come as a proponent and an advocate for the arts," Mrs. Stull said. "A lot has changed over the last 26 years (when she started teaching), but public education is still about equal opportunity for all children. Art is hard to define.

"You can't prioritize it. Art can be learned and that's what we (teachers) are all about; teaching."

Mrs. Stull said that art students place

higher on standardized achievement tests. She reminded the board of all the tests the state and federal government require students to take these days.

Norton was ahead of its time in education circles, she said.

During the 1960s when there were no art programs in rural areas, a program was instituted in Norton.

"I would hate to see the light extinguished that we lit so long ago," Mrs. Stull said.

She was not alone in her plea. Parents

and students talked about what the art program had meant in their lives.

Keesha Holste, a junior, and a three-year art student, gave a tearful testimony about how art had given her confidence.

What was said must have struck a chord with the board because, following a 30 minute closed session, they voted to continue the art program at Eisenhower Elementary and to begin the search for a new instructor.

## Norton, Kansas Home of Glenn Bowman

### Briefly

## Lawn mowing clinic planned

If you're a youth entering fourth, fifth or sixth grade and want to take on some lawn mowing either at home or for your neighbors, plan to attend the free Lawn Mowing Clinic on Friday, May 21.

This clinic will be held from 4-6 p.m. at the 4-H Building. Registration is at 4 p.m. and the formal program will start at 4:15 p.m.

Covered will be mower safety, operation of equipment, and how to get and keep a lawn job.

Food will be provided by Pizza Hut. This clinic is co-sponsored by Kansas State University, Norton County Extension and Norton Pizza Hut.

Call the Norton County Extension Office at 877-5755 by Wednesday to sign up.

## Art teacher to be honored

Retiring art instructor, Peggy Stull, will be honored during a recognition ceremony at 2:30 p.m., Thursday, May 20, in the East Campus auditorium. Mrs. Stull is retiring after 26 years in the Norton School District.

The school district will also recognize staff members who will be leaving the district at the end of the year. Refreshments will be served.

## Races rescheduled for Saturday

After completion of the heat races Saturday evening, at Elmwood Park Speedway, the rains came, forcing track officials to postpone the feature races. Double features will be run starting at 7 p.m. on Saturday. The make-up features will be ran first, followed by the regular program.

### Weather

## Forecast:

Wednesday — Partly cloudy with a 40 percent chance of thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the upper 50s. Southwest winds 15 to 20 mph.

## Howell report:

Friday ..... High 86, Low 60  
Saturday ..... High 99, Low 62  
.65 of an inch of precipitation  
Sunday ..... High 90, Low 60  
.05 of an inch of precipitation  
Monday ..... High 78, Low 62  
Week ago ..... High 78, Low 53  
Month ago ..... High 46, Low 32  
Year ago ..... High 52, Low 40  
May precipitation ..... .70 inches  
Year-to-date precipitation ..... 5.93 inches  
(Readings taken at the Paul and Pat Howell farm 10 Miles North and 1/3 Mile East of Norton)

### Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, you speak the message of life. When trouble overwhelms us, help us feel your redeeming power and give us your peace. Amen



Student at Eisenhower Elementary signed a poster to celebrate "Space Day 2004...Blazing Galactic Trails" as a part of Student Signatures in Space to celebrate the space shuttle mission. — Telegram photos by Veronica Monier

## Students sign poster for space program

The students of Eisenhower Elementary joined with more than 500 other schools around the world by signing Student Signatures in Space posters Thursday to celebrate "Space Day 2004...Blazing Galactic Trails."

Student Signatures in Space provides elementary and middle school students with the opportunity to send their digitized signatures into space and feel a per-

sonal involvement with the crew and mission.

"I think this is an excellent opportunity for the students of Eisenhower Elementary to learn more about the space program and to be able to participate in the upcoming space shuttle mission," said Teresa Schulze, Eisenhower's Space Day coordinator.

The space shuttle mission to carry this

year's signatures will be selected after NASA returns to manned flight, which is scheduled for spring of 2005. After the signatures return from space, the poster will be returned to Eisenhower Elementary with a flight certificate and picture of the crew that carried the signatures. Since the program began in 1997, more than 2.5 million signatures have flown in space.

## Ambulance seeks mutual aid agreements

By CYNTHIA HAYNES

The Norton ambulance service wants the county commissioners to sign a mutual aid agreement with Furnas County, Neb.

Acting Ambulance Director Andy Nielsen said that he was told at a meeting he attended that he should have mutual aid agreements with neighboring counties, especially those in other states.

He said that the Norton County ambulance has gone into Furnas County in the past to pick up accident victims.

"We got permission to go up there because we were the closest ambulance," he

said. "If we go up there we are granted a temporary license for Nebraska or Colorado or wherever."

The commissioners agreed that it would be good to have a written agreement but suggested that it be read by both the county attorney and an attorney from the county's insurance company.

"Before you sign anything always have it reviewed by legal help," Commissioner John Miller said.

Mr. Nielsen told the commissioners that there is a new air ambulance service out of McCook.

Kendall David, who used to work for

EagleMed of Hays, has started a service called MedStar with a helicopter.

This will provide another option for the ambulance service, he said, noting that when a Colby basketball player went through a window at the Norton High School gymnasium neither Hays nor Kearney could send an air rescue unit due to the weather.

The ambulance service is planning to celebrate Emergency Medical Services week by taking ambulances to Alma on 8:30 a.m. Monday, to Lenora at 2:30 p.m. next Tuesday and to the Eisenhower EL- (Continued on Page 5)

## Funnel seen near Alma on Saturday

By KRISTEN BRANDS

Possibly the first funnel cloud of the tornado season sent Alma residents to their basements Saturday evening.

Jerry Killingsworth, a meteorologist, with the National Weather Service Center in Goodland, said there were strong rotations in the clouds above Alma, particularly in the northern part of town.

"One of our spotters reported seeing, what was termed a funnel cloud, at the time," he said. "But an informal survey was done the following day, and on Sunday there was no evidence that a true tornado cloud had formed, or at least touched down. Therefore there wasn't any damage on the ground.

"We did, however issue a tornado warning after the spotter information came in, and we could see on the radar here in Goodland very strong rotations in the thunderstorm that night."

Norton County Sheriff Troy Thomson concurred on Monday, saying that a call came into the dispatch office at 8:18 p.m. from a person, who had seen rotation in the clouds while at McDonald's in Norton. A similar call came from the Norton Correctional Facility shortly thereafter, describing the same cloud rotation.

(Continued on Page 5)

## Skateboarders get go ahead to fix up park

By VERONICA MONIER

Norton's skateboards and rollerbladers are on a roll.

On Wednesday, the Norton City Council approved a plan to improve the town's skate park at the request of the city's young rolling athletes.

Tanya Temmel, who is helping the skateboarders organize their plan, said they aren't asking for any money from the city, but needed permission to go through with their plans — extending a concrete slab and adding a rail and a half-pipe.

She said she heard the city might be willing to help out with the concrete.

Councilwoman Elaine Mann said the city crews might be able to help lay the concrete if they have the extra time.

Mayor David Corns told her to contact the Department of Corrections to see if prison labor could be used to help pour the concrete.

City Administrator Rob Lawson suggested she check with Chriss McDuffett to see if anything is available through the Kansas Department of Transportation. He said he didn't know if the county had any park money left, but knew the city didn't have any to spare.

"I think this is a very worthwhile project," said Councilman Ron Briery. "But if we approve this, would you please keep Rob informed of what you're doing before you do it so we don't have any surprises?"

Mrs. Temmel said they would.

Councilman Jerry Hawks suggested (Continued on Page 5)

# Increased fuel costs hit county

By CYNTHIA HAYNES

It will probably cost the county \$30,000 more this year to pay for diesel for the road and bridge department vehicles than three years ago.

Norton County Road and Bridge Supervisor Tom Brannan told commissioners at their Monday meeting that he had checked to see what diesel had cost over the last three years.

In 2001, he said, the county bought seven loads of fuel, which he estimated to contain 7,000 gallons each and paid an average of \$1.13 a gallon.

The price fluctuated from 98 cents to \$1.32 a gallon, he said. The fuel cost the county about \$55,000.

In 2002, the county got nine loads at \$1.03/gallon average. The cost ranged from 87 cents to \$1.24 per gallon.

Last year, Norton County bought eight loads at \$1.18/gallon average. The cost ranged from \$1.14 to \$1.26 per gallon.

So far this year road and bridge has used two loads. The diesel purchased in January was \$1.28 per gallon and that bought in April was \$1.30 per gallon.

However, Mr. Brannan said, he called a supplier who said the cost to the county if diesel was purchased today would be \$1.60 per gallon.

At this rate, he said, it will cost the county an average of \$1.62 per gallon this year or about \$85,000.

"That's a mill increase from 2001 to 2004," Commissioner John Miller said, estimating how many tax dollars would be needed to pay the increases.

"Can't we lock in a price on some of this?" Commissioner Chairman Leroy Lang asked.

"No," Mr. Brannan said.

"I wouldn't do it if I were in their place," Commission Dean Kruse said.

The county also gets a load of gasoline each year, Mr. Brannan said, and commissioners asked him to get the cost of a load since the price has gone up so much over the last few weeks.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Heard that County Road G washed out between E1 and E2 because the drainage tube was not able to hold the water after a heavy rain in the area on Saturday.
- Learned that the county crews are spraying and mowing should start next Monday. Mowing will start a little later than the commissioners wanted so that the weeds, which have just been sprayed, will have a chance to take in the spray and die.
- Were told that the new viaduct should be open on Wednesday and the shoo-fly will be milled off and the milling used on the roads.

# Emergency crew plans open house

(Continued from Page 1)

Elementary school in Norton from 1-3 p.m. Wednesday, May 19.

On May 19 the ambulance service will hold its annual open house. There will be a free barbecue beef and hot dog dinner from 5-6 p.m.

Other events will include a rollover simulator, extrication exercise and finger printing. City police will be giving away gun locks and the sheriff's office will be handing out pencils.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Held a 5 minute closed session to discuss non-elected personnel with Mr. Nielsen and his assistant Ruth Schillig.
- Learned that both Mr. Nielsen and Mrs. Schillig have been accepted to a service director training program in Hays from June 25-26 and in Wichita on Aug. 19-23.

• Heard that the service will have a volunteer leaving on Monday so a third full-time emergency medical technician needs to be hired as soon as possible.



Students at Eisenhower Elementary kicked off National Physical Education Day Wednesday by doing the Hokey-Pokey in the lunchroom. Joan Bolt, physical education instructor, led the exercise which was part of National Physical Fitness and Sports Month.

— Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

# Skaters, boarders plan to improve park

(Continued from Page 1)

that the skaters wait until they had enough money before building, so that there wouldn't be anything unfinished because of lack of money.

Mr. Lawson said the skaters did a good job cleaning up the park after the recent vandalism.

"Kids around here get a bad rap for a lot of things," he said. "I think it's good that there's some good ones out there who don't like what was done and wanted to change it."

Mrs. Temmel also asked about holding a competition either June 19 or 26 from noon until 4 p.m. She said White Chocolate, a skating group from Hays, has agreed to come and help with the competition.

Mr. Lawson said the car race scheduled for the June 19 didn't start until 7 p.m. so if the skaters were finished before 5 p.m., he didn't see a problem. A horse show has been scheduled all day on June 26.

The plan was approved with the stipulation that Mr. Lawson be informed and approve of what was going on before hand and that the project be done in phases. They also approved the skate competition for either June 19 or 26.

In other business, the council:

- Thanked the Department of Corrections for painting the city's dump trucks. Councilman George Jones said they did an excellent job.
- Heard from Mr. Hawks that the draft for the proposed agreement

for the joint ownership and operation of the City/County Airport is workable and that the county has sent it to their attorney for review. He said one change suggested was a clarification about the insurance policy.

- Agreed that the weeds growing in the sidewalks downtown look bad and that the business owners should have more pride and take care of it. Mr. Lawson said the city's weed crews are spraying as fast as they can.
- Heard from Councilman Jim Williams that Airport Board Chairman Ivan Kingham brought the Finance Committee the airport's budget for the rest of the year. He said Mr. Kingham is estimating that the airport will be short about \$9,500. Mr. Williams

asked that the city pay for at least half of the shortfall. The Finance Committee will discuss this.

- Approved the cemetery improvement plan, with the city not contributing financially but possibly helping out by doing some dirt work.
- Were told by Mr. Jones that the swimming pool is almost ready to open and that the public works department will be opening up the line to Larry Enfield's property on KQNK Road after it finished some work at the new animal shelter.
- Approved a proposal from A-1 Track and Tennis to replace the poles at the tennis court when the rest of the repairs are made, using money raised by Jay Holste and other private individuals.
- Paid bills of \$236,876.

# Almena residents help each other get to cover

(Continued from Page 1)

"At 9:22 p.m. our spotters were sent out to watch the storm," the sheriff said, "which by that time was moving northeast toward Almena."

The weather warning sirens in Almena were sounded at 9:38 p.m., the sheriff said.

The Almena Volunteer Fire Department and others moved some older people into a secure basement.

Volunteer fireman Jeff Callaway helped residents of the Wheatridge Apartments to get to the Congregational Church

basement.

"We took 10 to 12 people to the church shortly after 9:30," he said. "We try to make sure that the elderly folks, especially those who are living alone, are notified of the bad weather. We then give them the option of coming to a secure location, usually one of the churches or the school, with a basement."

Volunteers stayed with the senior citizens until the all-clear signal was given, and the residents were taken back home.

There was no damage reported.

# Golf team takes seventh at Hays tourney

By DICK BOYD

Coach David Stover's Norton Community High School varsity golf team placed seventh in the Thomas More Prep-Marian Invitational Golf Tournament on Monday at the Smoky Hill Country Club golf course in Hays.

The Hays junior varsity won the championship with a 335, followed by Thomas More Prep, 342; Phillipsburg, 355; Colby, 359; Goodland, 362; Trego, 365; Nor-

ton, 373; Oberlin, 377; Russell, 391; Scott City, 393; Ellis, 404; Stockton, 422.

Norton's four-man team was sophomore Dane Krizek, 48-44-92; senior Tyler Rutherford, 45-48-93; junior Corey Look, 50-43-93 and senior Keith Ward, 45-50-95. Also playing for Norton and their scores were: junior Nick Evans, 59-50-109 and senior Joel Nielsen, 61-52-113.

Medalists were Matt Mondero,

Oberlin, 78; Jeremy Beyler, Hays junior varsity, 78; Nate Rohleder, Thomas More Prep, 79; Dustin Umbarger, Phillipsburg, 81; David Heyd, Scott City, 81; Christopher Finley, Colby, 84; Nick Schlyer, Hays junior varsity, 84; Brenden Gross, Thomas More Prep, 85; Brandon Karlin, Phillipsburg, 85; and Matt Pfannenstiel, Trego, 86.

"Up and down the lineup, we did not play very good golf," said Coach Stover.

# Give Us A Try And See How We STACK UP!



With The Norton Telegram, you'll get excellent local and area coverage, editorials, feature stories, sports and you'll know what our advertisers have to offer also.

## OUR RATES ARE COMPETITIVE!!

PLUS . . . If you need a gift idea, a new subscription to The Norton Telegram is perfect!!

# THE NORTON TELEGRAM

215 S. Kansas, Norton — (785) 877-3361

PLEASE SEND A GIFT SUBSCRIPTION TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS

PLEASE START A NEW SUBSCRIPTION FOR ME

PLEASE ADD TO THE FOLLOWING SUBSCRIPTION

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE: \_\_\_\_\_

GIFT SUBSCRIPTION FROM \_\_\_\_\_ IS ENCLOSED

MY CHECK FOR \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### SUBSCRIPTION RATES—


NORTON, PHILLIPS, GRAHAM DECATUR & FURNAS COUNTIES:	
1 Year	\$60.00
6 Months	\$32.00
3 Months	\$18.00
ELSEWHERE IN KANSAS AND NEBRASKA:	
1 Year	\$70.00
6 Months	\$37.00
Student (9 Mo.)	\$52.50
Less than 6 Mo. would be \$15 per month	
ELSEWHERE IN US:	
1 Year	\$76.00
6 Months	\$42.00
Student (9 Mo.)	\$57.00
Less than 6 Mo. would be \$15 per month	
TAX IS INCLUDED	

**Cool. Comfortable. Cash.**

Receive up to a **\$1,000 Rebate** when you purchase a qualifying Dave Lennox Signature™ Collection Home Comfort System.



Quiet. Cool. Efficient. It pays to choose a Dave Lennox Signature™ Collection home comfort system. Take advantage of pre-season savings today!

March 22 - May 31, 2004



**Norton Sheet Metal, Inc.**  
109 N. State  
Norton, KS 67654  
**785-877-3211**

Call us today for a free estimate.

A better place™