

Church:

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

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75 cents

THE NORTON TELEGRAM

Sports:

It's summer ball season. Schedules and boys Division II game results.

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Friday
June 4, 2004

Norton, Kansas
Home of Loyal Mapes

Briefly

Free fishing set for weekend

This weekend on Saturday and Sunday fishing licenses will not be required to fish in Kansas.

Each year one weekend is set aside to allow everybody the chance to experience the joy of fishing without having to purchase a license. This will be an excellent opportunity to take a child or friend to the lake in hopes of landing the big one. Take advantage of this weekend and try your hand at fishing.

Genealogists to hold election

The Norton County Genealogical Society will hold election of officers at its next meeting at 7 p.m. Monday at the Norton Library Community Room.

Annual dues of \$8 includes the bi-monthly newsletter.

For more details about joining the society, contact Fleta Hanlon 669-2300 or Ronald Temple, 693-4360.

Phillipsburg holds Riverless Festival

The annual Riverless Festival will be held in downtown Phillipsburg on Saturday.

The celebration will begin with the two-mile walk/run and five-mile run at 8 a.m. All other activities will begin at 10 a.m. and continue until 4 p.m.

Activities will include turtle races, arts and crafts fair, bingo and Show N' Shine.

The Heartland Band will perform live from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Weather

Forecast:

Tonight — Partly cloudy with a 40 percent chance of thunderstorms. Breezy. Some thunderstorms may be severe in the evening. **Saturday** — Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. Highs in the lower 80s. **Saturday Night** — Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. Lows in the upper 50s. **Sunday** — Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs in the mid 80s.

Howell report:

Tuesday High 86, Low 51
Wednesday High 86, Low 49
Thursday High 88, Low 58
Week ago High 90, Low 61
Month ago High 84, Low 53
Year ago High 78, Low 51
June precipitation 0.00 inches
Year-to-date precipitation 7.34 inches
(Readings taken at the Paul and Pat Howell farm 10 Miles North and 1/3 Mile East of Norton)

Prayer

God of compassion, help us to love others without assuming we know what is best for them. May we always trust you to bring healing. Amen

What now for vacant senate seat?

The death of state Sen. Stan Clark on Saturday means the Republican party in his 40th District may need to call a convention to nominate someone to fill his place through mid-January.

Norton County Republican Committee Chairman Jon Lofgreen said the committee hasn't heard anything as of yet.

The filing deadline for the upcoming

election is Thursday, and Clark's death leaves Goodland's Dan Rasure as the only Republican candidate.

Jesse Borjon, communications director with the Kansas secretary of state's office, said he planned to send out notification Monday to William V. Adams, Thomas County Republican chairman. He will receive notice because Thomas County

has the largest number of voters in the 15-county district.

Adams will then be responsible for notifying the other 14 counties in Sen. Clark's district.

The 15 county chairs will notify their precinct committee men and women and a convention will be held.

Mr. Borjon said Adams will have 21

days from notification to hold the convention. As Thomas County chair, he will call the meeting to order. The members will elect a chairman for the convention and adopt rules. Everyone will get a chance to vote by secret ballot.

Mr. Borjon said the quorum requirement to take any action will be a third of (Continued on Page 5)



Swimmin' pool draws a crowd

By CAROLYN PLOTTS

A 71 degree water temperature on Thursday didn't deter the dozens of youngsters swimming at Norton's city pool, which opened Memorial Day.

Pool Manager Kelly Leiker said the pool will be open Monday through Friday from 1-5 p.m. and again from 6:30-9 p.m.; on Saturday from noon until 6 p.m., and Sunday from 1-6 p.m.

Private pool parties can be held from 7-9 p.m., Saturday nights.

The assistant manager is Renee Schaefers. Mrs. Leiker, Ms. Schaefers or one of the substitute managers, Dorla Jones and Anne Otte, will be at the pool whenever it is open.

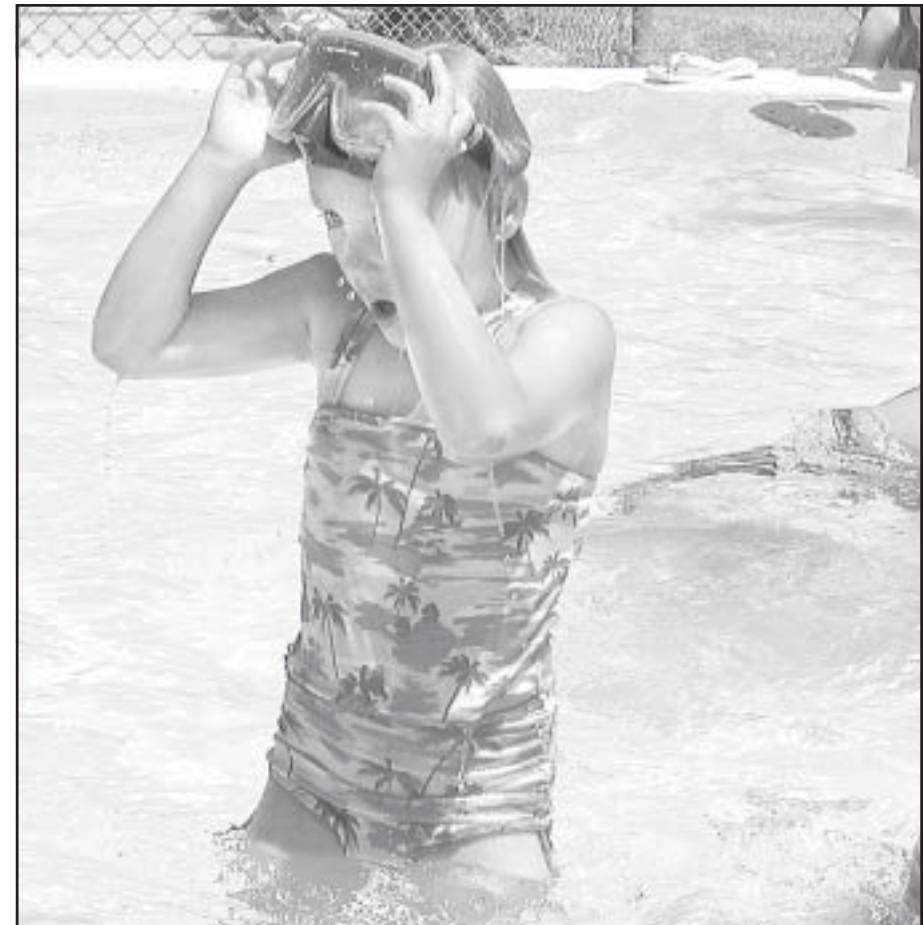
Rick McKenna and Dan Bainter are in charge of pool operations.

Mrs. Leiker credited her husband, Troy Leiker, with a lot of the painting that has been done at the facility. A bright blue and yellow entry greets swimmers.

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Lifeguard, Klaire Mann (above) demonstrates her life saving technique in a simulated rescue at the Norton Municipal pool. Her "victim" is Luke Pfannenstiel, another lifeguard. Meanwhile swimmers of all ages (top and right) enjoyed the water. — Photos by Carolyn Plotts



Ambulance service to hold volunteer class

By BRANDON GAY

To fill a need for more personnel, the Norton County Ambulance Service will begin a first responder class to train new volunteers.

Andy Nielsen, acting director of the Norton County Ambulance Service, said they are not dangerously low on volunteers, but more personnel were always needed.

"During the summer people go on vacation," he said. "So, the more people we have the better chance you can get the call-time covered."

While the need is greatest during the summer, Mr. Nielsen said because the service is 90 percent volunteer-run, more volunteers were always needed.

Anyone with a high school diploma is (Continued on Page 5)

Livestock update to help stockmen, beef producers

By KEITH VANSKIKE, county extension director

A Livestock Update will be held at 7 p.m. Monday, June 14, at the Norton 4-H Building with information for beef and other livestock producers.

With the conditions that have affected the beef industry, this update will provide information to producers and agri-businesses.

Norton County and K-State Research and Extension will sponsor the program. Dr. Larry Hollis, KSU Extension veterinarian will cover issues dealing with bovine spongiform encephalopathy disease and development of the foreign animal disease response plans and why this plan is important to all livestock producers.

On a local level, Dave Cuthbertson, Kansas Animal Health Department

and Alvin Mapes, Norton County emergency manager, will be on hand to explain more about county foreign animal disease plans.

Drought conditions over the past few years have put a stress on windbreak trees and Jim Strine, a Northwest Kansas forester, will talk about the problems that he sees with windbreaks in this area.

Finally, Dr. Sandy Johnson, Northwest Kansas Extension livestock specialist will discuss the U.S. animal identification plan. With the recent spongiform disease discovery, a plan for a national identification system will be up front on the agenda for legislation. Dr. Johnson will give an overview of this plan and implications for livestock producers.

The public is invited.

County plans to clear right-of-ways

By BRANDON GAY

The Norton County commissioners are worried about the county's liability on right-of-ways alongside roads.

Right-of-ways are land alongside highways that the county, state, federal government or railroad has the right to use for roads, ditches and drainage.

Right-of-ways range from 30 to 120-foot wide and average 60 feet.

Kansas statutes make it illegal for anyone to obstruct the right-of-way with materials or crops or by altering the terrain.

Tom Brannon, Norton County Road and Bridge supervisor, said right-of-way violations were an ongoing problem that had typically been overlooked by Norton (Continued on Page 5)



A Norton emergency crew worked to stabilize their patient (above) before moving her to the ambulance (below). The woman was the only one injured in a multi-car accident yesterday on U.S. 36 at the Jones St. intersection. —Photos by Veronica Monier

Volunteers needed for ambulance

(Continued from Page 1)
 eligible for the class. Cardio-pulmonary resuscitation certification is required and will be provided if needed.
 Norton County will pay for the training of anyone willing to volunteer as a first responder for one year. Mr. Nielsen said book fees may also be covered by the county.
 Orientation for the class will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 16, at the ambulance building, east of the hospital.

Class will be held from 6-10 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays from Monday, June 21 through Monday, August 23. A Saturday class will also be held from 1-8 p.m. on August 7.
 First responders access and attend patients and assist emergency



medical technicians. Because they go directly to the patient, first responders are able to reach the patient before the technicians, who must first get the ambulance.
 Volunteers are paid on a per run or time-on-call basis.
 Mr. Nielsen said the service

would like to begin holding the class annually. The service plans to hold a two-month class to train first responders interested in becoming technicians.
 Anyone interested in the class should contact the Norton County Ambulance Service at 877-5784.

Swimming pool offers summer fun

(Continued from Page 1)
 A family pass for the season is \$75; an individual season pass is \$30; a 20-punch card is \$25; and if someone only comes occasionally, admission is \$1.50.
 Red Cross-certified swimming lessons will be offered in two sessions.
 The first is Monday, June 28, through Friday, July 9. The second is Mayday, July 19, through Friday, July 30.
 Enrollment will be from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., and again from 5-7 p.m., Monday, June 14. Cost of each session is \$15. A child must be at least 4 to take Red Cross lessons.

Water aerobics classes are also being offered this summer.
 Connie Glenn's class, offered Monday and Wednesday, started Wednesday.
 Jan Volgamore offers a low-impact class from 5-5:30 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday. Those same nights, Mrs. Volgamore has water aerobics from 5:30-6:30 p.m.
 Residents need to be aware that the pool will be closed if:
 • There are five swimmers or less
 • Lightning, rain or severe storms are in the immediate area
 • The outside temperature is 65

degrees or colder.
 Children 6 and under will be admitted, free, to the baby pool if they are accompanied by an adult. There will not be a lifeguard on duty at the baby pool.
 Lifeguards for this season are Klaire Mann, Amber Engelbert, Clay Madden, Luke Pfannenstiel, Rachael Lentz, Justin Shirk, Derek Volgamore, Melissa Hillebrand, Kayla Fahrenbruch, Jason Green, Elise Engelbert and Mrs. Leiker.
 Concession stand workers are: Elise Engelbert, Ashley Wegener, Abigail Rhodes, Sarah Streck, Naomi Streck and Shelly Annon.

County suffers right-of-way problems

(Continued from Page 1)
 County and other agricultural counties.
 If obstructions limit visibility causing an accident, the county can be found liable for failing to provide safe right-of-ways.
 This can happen if a farmer puts up fences, grows crops, parks farm equipment or leaves bales on the right-of-way or if bulky trash is thrown in the ditches.
 The liability concern was dis-

cussed in the April edition of the Kansas County Association multi-line pool newsletter, which is put out by the group which provides insurance to counties.
 The newsletter indicated that obstructions to right-of-ways is an increasing problem in the state.
 Mr. Brannon said a large percentage of right-of-ways in Norton County were obstructed by farming. He said that the county commissioners and the county at-

torney are trying to decide how to handle the problem.
 Stricter enforcement was one solution but education is also important, he said.
 Mr. Brannon said he thought that better education on right-of-way violations would also reduce the problem.
 The penalty for a right-of-way violation is a fine of not more than \$200 and the cost of restoring the area.

Republican party must decide on senate seat

(Continued from Page 1)
 the precinct committee men and women in the entire Senate district. The nominee who receives the majority of the votes will win.
 He said it will be up to Adams to send the results to Gov. Kathleen Sebelius and then she will make the appointment. Gov. Sebelius will send notification to the secretary of state's office, and the oath and certificate of office will be sent from there.
 Once the oath is taken and signed, everything becomes official. The nominee will serve until

the new Legislature convenes in January, then be replaced by whoever is elected to the seat in November.
 Mr. Borjon said there are some requirements to be a senator. The person must be over 18 years old, a citizen of the United States and a resident of the district.
 Sen. Clark had filed for the upcoming election. He would have met Rasure in the primary on Tuesday, Aug. 3. Mr. Borjon said Monday morning the filing had become null and void under state law.

There is a filing fee and a form to be filled out. Mr. Borjon said candidates filing for the Senate have to do so at the secretary of state's office in Topeka.
 He said he has received several calls about what happens to the seat since Sen. Clark's death.

Airport prospects look good, but more cash will be needed

By CYNTHIA HAYNES
 The Norton County/City Airport is in good shape but will need more cash for next year.

The airport has been between \$6,000 and \$7,000 short each year since 2002 and Airport Board President Ivan Kingham told the Norton County commissioners last week he expects that much again this year.
 While the city and county pay for the maintenance costs, expenses and the salary for one part-time employee, the state has helped with money for major projects like repaving the runway and redoing the apron and taxiway.

"If the state of Kansas hadn't come up with these grants, we'd have a piece of asphalt out there with a lot of holes in it," Mr. Kingham said.
 The commissioners said that they understand that the county needs an airport and that there are a lot of doctors, who fly in to work at the hospital. Valley Hope also uses the airport quite a bit.
 "Most of these little airports out here get very little use except for the health care profession," said Commissioner Dean Kruse

"We get more use than most because of the highway department and the prison with the parole board," Commissioner John Miller said.
 The airport's one part-time worker keeps the office open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. five days a week, mows around the buildings, sprays along the runways, sells fuel and keeps liability insurance on the big hanger, which is used for transient

planes, Mr. Kingham said.
 For these services he receives \$3,879 a year or about \$300 a month plus health insurance, which was \$7,600 last year and will probably go up by as much as 30 percent, next year, Mr. Kingham said. He also gets an office and free utilities for it and his hanger.
 "It's kind of a wash out for him by the time he pays the insurance," Mr. Kingham said.
 Mr. Kingham said that he expects to get more money from the city for this year and feels the airport will be OK but there won't be any money left at the end of the year.

In other business, the commissioners:
 • Discussed the finances of the Extension service. Members of the Extension Council were in last week asking for an increase in its 2005 budget.
 • Heard from Solid Waste Supervisor Curt Archibald that one of the county's test wells has shown traces of paint thinner in a February test. He gave the commissioners a letter dated March 9 outlining the test.
 Commissioner Miller said that

he was unhappy that it has taken this long to get the information to the county and thinks that the test should be redone immediately since that well has never had a problem in the past.

• Learned from Road and Bridge Supervisor Tom Brannon that the county has purchased another 4,000 tons of millings from the state from the removal of the shoofly at the viaduct east of town. The millings cost about \$250 a ton, he said.
 • Held a 10-minute closed session with Mr. Brannon and County Attorney Doug Sebelius to discuss non-elected personnel.
 • Learned that the Chamber of Commerce is moving to the old Computer Remedy Building between Halls and Moffet Drug. Chamber Director Karla Reed asked the county to continue helping with the telephone and other expenses.
 • Were visited by representatives of High Plains Mental Health. The mental health group, which serves Northwest Kansas, is asking for \$30,000 for next year, which is about the same amount the commissioners have allotted the last several years.

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