

stress fire safety

In addition to being on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week to fight fires, volunteer firefighters spend a lot of time in the community dealing with fire safety.

At no time is this more evident than during National Fire Prevention Week, Oct. 5-11. This year's theme is "Test Your Smoke Alarms".

The Norton Fire Department is active in fire prevention and prefers to be proactive rather than reactive, City Fire Chief Mitch Jones said.

The department has a prevention program with child education as a high priority.

Chief Jones said they do everything they can to teach children fire safety, such as giving tours to young students, day cares, and Scouts. They also go to the schools to explain a firefighter's job and equipment.

Yesterday and today, Norton firefighters were at Eisenhower Elementary School to talk about their jobs to kindergartners through sixth graders.

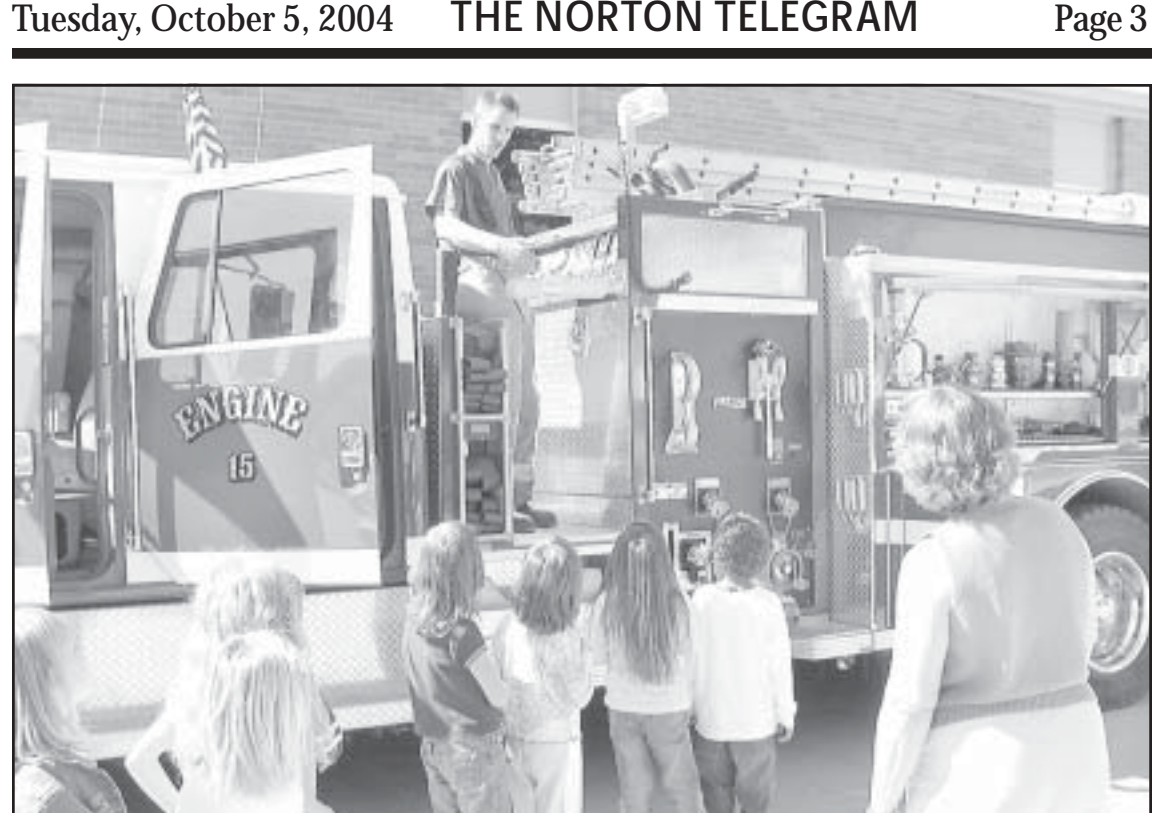
Besides listening to Chief Jones and Rural Fire Chief Steve Otter talk about smoke alarm safety and what to do in case of a fire, the students got to get up close and personal with the department's fire truck and rescue vehicle.

As the youngsters filed back into the school building, they received a packet of fire safety information.

Firefighters are also going to be at the Andbe Home Monday night to give a demonstration on fire extinguishers.

Chief Jones said that having at least one smoke detector, preferably more, in the home was vital and that smoke detectors were the first line of defense for fire safety.

Everyone should replace the batteries in smoke detectors every six months unless ten-year lithium



As a part of National Fire Safety Week, the Norton Fire Department went to Eisenhower Elementary yesterday afternoon to give a presentation on fire safety. Rural Fire Chief Steve Otter (above) explained how the ladder on a fire truck works and Fire Safety Pup, a.k.a. Jeff Wolf, (left) gave a student a high five. — Telegram photos by Veronica Monier

batteries have been installed. Then test smoke alarms at least once a month. Families should have, and rehearse, an escape plan with at least two ways out of every room and a designated place where family members can meet to be sure everyone has escaped.

Everyone should know to get out first, then call 911 for help and to never go back inside until the fire department says it's OK.

The mission of the Norton County Volunteer Fire Department is to protect lives and property by minimizing the frequency and effects of fires.

Chief Jones said that they use public education for prevention, code enforcement, control and training.

He said the departments are committed to utilizing all resources provided by the citizens of Norton and all innovations.

He said that the goal is to respond in a positive and timely manner to protect and preserve life, property, resources and the heritage of Norton.

The Norton City Fire Department went out on 31 runs, including rescue and fire calls and weather watches in the last year.

The Norton County Rural Fire Department has gone on 31 calls since January.

Chief Jones said the 22 members of the Norton volunteer firefighters are also members of the Kansas State Fire Fighters Association.

Chief Jones is a member of the Kansas State Fire Chiefs Association, president of District 2 Fire Chiefs Association, which encom-

passes seven counties, and is a member of the International Fire Chiefs Association and the National Fire Protection Association.

Members of the Norton City Fire Department are Chief Jones, Assistant Chief Kirk Nuzum, Captain Cameron Archer, First Lieutenant Kyle Jones, Second Lieutenant Shawn Gosselin, Safety Officer/Treasurer John Hanlon, Curt Luehrs, John Baker, Larry

Enfield, Lee Russell, Steve Otter, Shawn Mortensen, Ron Rushton, Jeff Wolf, Dan Yost, Terry Smothers, Flint Griffin, Steve Reedy, J.B. Carlton, Jason Dial, and Junior Firemen Andy Enfield and Curtis Black.

Members of the Norton County Rural Fire Department are: Chief

Otter, Assistant Chief Ed Witt, John Baker, Mike Coffey, Jason Dial, Shawn Gosselin, Flint Griffin, Charles Kincaid, Jason Majors, Michael Mascarenas, Jeff Otter, Michael Pfannenstiel, Steve Reedy, Travis Smith, Mike Wente, and Jeff Wolf.

Norton County Weather for October 5th - 11th

Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
69/48	65/45	65/45	73/49	65/41	68/43	71/43

Normal High 70
Normal Low 42
Sunrise 7:34 to 7:40am
Sunset 7:17 to 7:27pm

Nice rains to end September will get the 2005 wheat crop out of the ground in good shape. Those who have not finished planting will be able to take advantage of nice weather this week. There will be chances for scattered storms Wednesday, otherwise sunny skies and near normal temperatures prevail. A second disturbance over the weekend may kick up a few more storms, but we will have to wait until the middle of next week before a shot of colder air drops south out of Canada and changes our weather pattern.

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Valerie Babcock
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Jim Ninemire
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Joe Dawson
John Engelbert
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