

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

Pages 6 & 7

Blue Jay wrestling dual at Hill City last night, junior varsity wrestling action and Norton C-team girls take second.

Friday
February 11, 2005

Norton, Kansas
Home of Dennis Maybon

Briefly

Soup lunch helps Norton baby

A soup lunch, to benefit Colby Menagh, will be held Sunday from noon to 1:30 p.m. It is being sponsored by the Norton United Methodist Church.

Chocolate benefit set for Saturday

Bring your sweet tooth and check book to the first ever Chocolate Auction, a benefit for the court appointed special advocate program. The auction will be from 4-8 p.m. on Saturday at the Huck Boyd Center in Phillipsburg.

There will be silent and live auctions with Monte Jessup, a professional auctioneer from Almena

Tickets are \$5 each and may be bought in advance from either Elaine Mann at 877-2019 or Joan Mann at 877-5618 or can be purchased at the door.

Social services to hold meeting

Representatives from Social and Rehabilitation Services will be at the Norton Senior Citizens Center from 2-3 p.m. on Tuesday to discuss the closing of the Norton County office.

Hays Area Director Robena Farrell, Assistant Regional Director for Community Capacity Marilyn Braun, and Supervisor of Economic Support Services Vicki Garrison will all be at the meeting to talk about the access points and how people can continue to get services.

The meeting is open to the public and everyone is encouraged to attend.

Weather

Forecast:

Tonight — Partly cloudy with lows around 30. Southwest winds 5 to 10 mph. Saturday — Mostly cloudy with a 40 percent chance of rain. Highs in the lower 50s. South winds 5 to 10 mph. Saturday Night — Cloudy with a slight chance of rain in the evening. Lows in the lower 30s.

Howell report:

Tuesday High 31, Low 10
..... 1.5" snow
Wednesday High 46, Low 22
Thursday High 54, Low 23
Week ago High 61, Low 33
Month ago High 31, Low 17
Year ago High 47, Low 32
February precipitation60 inches
Year-to-date precipitation 1.10 inches
(Readings taken at the Paul and Pat Howell farm 10 Miles North and 1/3 Mile East of Norton)

Prayer

Dear God, thank you for your love, your forgiveness, and your lessons in compassion. Help us to learn from our mistakes. We yearn to serve you better. Amen

Norton social services office to close

By VERONICA MONIER

The Norton Social and Rehabilitation Services office is closing this month to make way for a regional center in Phillipsburg.

Hays Area Director Robena Farrell said the Norton office is scheduled to close on Friday, Feb. 25. The seven employees are being transferred to Phillipsburg, along with several Hill City employees from the Graham County office, which is also closing.

The new regional center will have 23 employees, she said.

Ms. Farrell said she believes the Norton people plan to continue living here and drive the 35 miles to and from Phillipsburg every day.

She said the consolidation plan was put into effect because, at the time the decision was made, the state was facing a shortage of money.

"Our funding was dropping," she said. "We had to choose between laying off employees or closing county offices.

"We have always struggled to have our services delivered. We knew we couldn't do it with less staff."

She said there were significant costs with keeping offices in every county open. Many counties, she said, didn't have a lot of people using their services and the offices were only open part of the week.

"We determined this way we could deliver better service to more people, using modern technology like the toll-free number and computer access," she said.

She said that a lot of federal regulations which once required face-to-face meetings have been changed. Now, people can apply over the phone, or by using the com-

puter or mail, and then someone can call them back.

"It all came together in the decision," she said, "but primarily, it was so we could have the necessary staff needed to provide services."

Ms. Farrell said Phillipsburg was chosen for the regional center because more services were being used there, it was a business hub, and it is a more central location to the counties around it. The center will cover Norton, Phillips, Smith, Graham, Rooks and Osborne counties.

(Continued on Page 5)



The business sponsored annual customer appreciation pancake feed was a hit this year as people lined up to devour free pancakes. On the grill was Dan Lauer (above), who would flip the 'cakes onto your plate. Serving up a side of sausage to Jim Railsback were Mark Keilig and Don McMullen (right). In addition to helping serve, some of the sponsoring businesses had booths along the wall. David Bainter (below) helps Merle Hawks fill out a ticket for a drawing from Prairie Land Electric.

— Telegram photos by Veronica Monier



County health and hospital to hold blood testing Tuesday

Want to get a blood test before you go see your doctor or between visits?

Now is the time. The Norton County Health Department and the Norton County Hospital will be holding a blood draw on Tuesday from 7 a.m. to noon at the health department. No appointment is necessary.

Three different profiles will be offered, all of which require fasting after midnight. Profile No. 1 is a health profile and a CBC for \$40. It will check:

- Electrolytes — (Sodium, potassium, chloride and total carbon dioxide). These are major indicators of kidney and hormonal functions.
- Kidney Functions — (BUN, creatinine). These indicators are used to monitor kidney function.
- Liver Functions — (Total albumin,

globulin). These tests can be used in detecting and/or monitoring liver function damage, tissue damage or inflammation.

- Alkaline Phosphate — (Uric acid, calcium, phosphorus). This test is used for detection and monitoring of bone, tissue and parathyroid disease, such as arthritis, gout, bursitis and lupus.
- Glucose — This test is to measure blood sugar levels and is used to help diagnose and monitor diabetes mellitus.
- Cholesterol — (Including HDL, LDL, VLDL, triglycerides and ratios). These are fats produced in the liver that combine with fatty oils in the blood stream.
- CBC — (Complete blood count with differential). This provides information about the hematologic system, immune response and many other organ systems.

(Continued on Page 5)

Norton man serves country at base in Iraq

Sgt. Aaron Hale, son of Alan and Joan Hale and Mary Hale, Norton, and grandson of Donna Hale, is stationed at Camp Anaconda, Iraq.

Sgt. Hale graduated from Norton Community High School in 1996. After graduation he attended Barton County Community College, served as treasurer in student government and received an associate of science degree.

After college he joined the National Guard and attended basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. He received the expert badge in both marksmanship and the grenade. He went on to attend advanced individual training at Aberdeen Proving Grounds, M.D., special-



Sgt. Aaron Hale

izing in chemical equipment repair. He was an honor graduate, squad leader (Continued on Page 5)

Sheriff's office needs employees

By CYNTHIA HAYNES

Sheriff Troy Thomson is looking for help and worried that he will have trouble finding people.

The sheriff has a dispatcher, Carol Carlin, retiring at the end of April and he will have to replace her.

He said that he wants to start advertising for a new person right away because it takes a while to find someone and train them.

Also, he said, he is worried about his budget since he will have to pay out accrued but untaken vacation and sick hours for Mrs. Carlin plus pay the new person.

The position will be midnight to 8 a.m., he said, and pay a little under \$8 an hour plus benefits.

The sheriff said he has also lost a deputy, who is moving to the Kansas City area to be nearer his children.

Sheriff talked to commissioners about hiring problems. It's hard to hire new people because of the pay scale, he said.

"I want to hire someone who will live here for more than a year or two," he said. "I don't want to hire someone who's looking to get his foot in the door."

While the employees get a cost of living increase each year it doesn't include upward movement in pay for many departments. People who would take a job for \$8 an hour a few years ago will not take anything under \$10 an hour now. If someone is hired for that amount it puts them in a higher bracket than those people who have been working for the county in that department for several years.

Shift differential is also a problem, he said. People who work the late shifts get a little bit more at the end of the month but it causes a lot of bookkeeping problems.

The commissioners suggested that the sheriff go ahead and advertise and see how it goes. Sometimes there are people out there who want to live in this area and need a job and sometimes there isn't anyone.

The sheriff said that his department has been busy.

He attended a class in Topeka last week (Continued on Page 5)



The Social and Rehabilitation Services is leasing a newly constructed building in Phillipsburg to house its new regional center. The center will replace several county offices, which have been closed or are closing. — Telegram photo by Veronica Monier

Social services move out of town

(Continued from Page 1)
 In Norton County, she said, in 2003, their most current data, there were 27 families needing temporary assistance, 27 using cash assistance, 17 using child care assistance and five needing general assistance. There were 495 Medicaid beneficiaries and 208 people using food stamp assistance.
 In Phillips county, she said, the case loads were higher, with 713 Medicaid beneficiaries, 227 people using foods and 34 needing child care assistance.
 "The numbers weren't the only thing looked at, though," she said. "Phillipsburg is also a more central location for the

counties needing service."
 Replacing the Norton office will be six "local access points."
 The access points will have different things available, she said, depending on what the businesses who volunteered are willing to allow.
 The Norton County access points are:
 • The Norton Senior Citizens Center, which will have applications, brochures, a telephone, fax and computer access, a copy machine and meeting space.
 • The courthouse, which will have applications and brochures.
 • The Norton City office, which will have a poster, interview space and a meeting space.
 • The county Health Department, which will have a poster.

ment, which will have a poster.
 • The Almena Senior Center, which will have applications, a poster and brochures.
 • The Lenora Grade School, which will have applications and brochures.
 Ms. Farrell will be at a meeting set for 2-3 p.m. on Tuesday at the Norton Senior Center to talk about the access points, what services are available, and how people can access those services. She will also answer questions.
 "We don't want this to be the end of our working with people," she said. "We want to keep working with them to help them get the services they need."

Sheriff looking for dispatcher, deputy

(Continued from Page 1)
 from Monday through Wednesday.
 Things have also been busy at the jail.
 "The jail is packed," he said. "We're full and today is motion day so we may be overfull."
 The officers and others involved in working a head-on collision near Densmore this weekend will be taking part in a debriefing in Logan, the sheriff said. A couple of young people were killed in the

wreck.
 In other business, the commissioners:
 • Found out the county was turned down for a hazard analysis grant from the state. Sheriff Thomson said there were over \$700,000 in applications for about \$100,000 in grant money.
 • Learned that a storm spotter training class is set for the evening of Monday, March 14. The class will be about 2 1/2 hours in the evening.

• Took a 10-minute closed session to discuss non-elected personnel with Road and Bridge Supervisor Tom Brannan and County Clerk Robert Wyatt.
 • Learned that the road and bridge department is ordering culverts. The county uses about 25 24-foot culverts a year, Mr. Brannan said, plus some 18-foot, 30-foot and 36-foot. The cost is about 20 percent more than last year.

Norton soldier serves and protects in Iraq

(Continued from Page 1)
 and qualified as soldier of the month at the company level.
 After his advanced training, he attended the Northwest Kansas Technical College in Goodland in communications. He received an associates in applied science degree, graduated in the top 5 percent of his class and served as class secretary.
 While in Goodland he drilled with the 170th Maintenance Company for two years. He received the Army Achievement Medal for placing second in the Sgt. Majors Physical Training competition in Salina and was honored with the Physical Training award for scoring 290 out of 300 in the physical test.
 After graduating he worked in

Lawrence at Sunflower Broadband as a switch administrator. He continued his military service in Topeka joining the 74th Quartermaster and was promoted to Sgt. E-5. After additional training at Fort Riley, he was deployed to Iraq in November.
 Sgt. Hale serves as assistant squad leader and works at a large outdoor warehouse that receives

and ships supplies throughout Iraq. He is a non-commissioned officer in charge of a group of Iraqis who also work in the warehouse.
 In his off duty time, he enjoys serving in a camp Christian praise and worship band as worship leader, playing guitar and singing.
 Sgt. Hale can receive mail at 74th QM CO, Unit 91702, APO AE 09391.

County holds blood draw Tuesday

(Continued from Page 1)
 Profile No. 2 is a PSA for \$20. The PSA is a test that detects an enlarged prostate, infected prostate and/or prostatic cancer. It can be used to evaluate disease progression and to monitor treatment.

The third profile is a TSH for \$15. The TSH is a test that is used to evaluate thyroid function and detect if there is too much or too little hormone secreted by the thyroid.
 The three profiles can be done individually or can be combined.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

NORTON Monday — Jay Singers, a.p.; Grade 11 State Writing Assessments Tuesday — Jay Singers, 7:30 a.m.; Cheer, a.p.; Grade 11 State Writing Assessments; Junior Varsity and Varsity Basketball at Hoxie, 5 p.m. Wednesday — Jay Singers, 7:30 a.m.; Forensics at Dighton, 7:30 a.m.; Kay Unit Conference at Almena, 8:30-12:30; FFA Ag Mech. at Goodland, 9 a.m.; SAC, a.p.; Site Council, 5 p.m. Thursday — Kays, a.p.; Regional KSAP at Hays; Grade 11 State Writing Assessments; Junior Varsity and Varsity Basketball at Oberlin, 6:30 p.m. Friday — Jazz, a.p.; Grade 11 State Writing Assessments; Regional Wrestling at WaKeeney, 2 p.m.; Post Prom Cafe Raffle; Recognition of 1951 State Boys Basketball Team; Recognition of 2003 State Boys Basketball Team; Junior Varsity and Varsity Basketball vs Ellis, Here, Senior Night, 5 p.m. Saturday — Forensics at Hays, 7:30 a.m.; State Piano Festival at Wichita State University; Regional Wrestling at WaKeeney, 11 a.m. February 20-26 FFA Week Next Monday — Jay Singers, a.p.; Ninth Grade Girls Basketball vs Oberlin, Here, EC Gym, 6 p.m. JUNIOR HIGH: Monday — Jay Day Practice, a.p. Tuesday — Norton County Spelling Bee, Auditorium, 4 p.m.	Wednesday — Jay Day, 1:45-3:30 Thursday — Wrestling vs Hill City and WaKeeney, Here, 4:30 p.m. EISENHOWER: Monday — Early Childhood through Grade 6 Valentine Parties, 2:30 p.m. Tuesday — Norton County Spelling Bee, Auditorium, 4 p.m. Wednesday — Faculty Meeting, 3:40 p.m. Thursday — Grade 5 and 6 Meeting, 3:40 p.m. Friday — Fifth and Sixth Grade Program Practice, Auditorium, 9:45-11:45 Monday — Fifth and Sixth Grade Program Practice, Auditorium, 9:45-11:45; Fifth and Sixth Grade Vocal Concert, Auditorium, 7 p.m. ALL SCHOOLS: Monday — Board of Education Meeting, Alice Tweed Office, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday — Curriculum Coordinating Council, Alice Tweed Office, 7:30 a.m. Junior-Senior High Breakfast/Lunch Menus Monday — Breakfast: Waffle stix with syrup, fruit or juice or cereal, toast, milk; Lunch: Meatballs, whipped potatoes, green beans, hot roll, cherry jubilee or chef salad, milk Tuesday — Breakfast: Breakfast burrito with picante sauce, potato puffs, fruit or juice or cereal, toast, milk; Lunch: Sloppy Joe, peas, coleslaw, strawberry/banana fruit cup, chef salad, milk Wednesday — Breakfast: Yo-	gurt, bagel with cream cheese, fruit or juice or cereal, toast, milk; Lunch: Monte Cristo with roast beef, corn, carrots, pineapple chunks or chef salad, milk Thursday — Breakfast: Cinnamon rolls, fruit or juice or cereal, toast, milk; Lunch: Lasagna, green beans, carnival salad, bread sticks, jello with pears, or chef salad, milk Friday — Breakfast: French toast stick with syrup, fruit or juice or cereal, toast, milk; Lunch: Cheese pizza, combo salad, fruit cocktail. Rice Krispie treat, or chef salad, milk Eisenhower Breakfast and Lunch Menus: Monday — Breakfast: Sausage pancake stick, strawberry fruit cup, milk; Lunch: Taco crunch, corn, tossed salad, chocolate cake, milk Tuesday — Breakfast: Shipwreck, orange juice, milk; Lunch: Ham and cheese, homemade bun, pepper strips, pork and beans, pears, milk Wednesday — Breakfast: Hot ham slice, hashbrown patty, peaches, apple juice, milk; Lunch: BBQ beef, homemade bun, French fries, dill spear, banana pudding milk Thursday — Breakfast: Apple wedge, banana spears, oatmeal muffin square, toast with peanut butter, milk; Lunch: Ham and beans, celery stick, cornbread, applesauce Jell-o, cookie, milk Friday — Breakfast: Yogurt, bagel with cream cheese, milk; Lunch: Tuna supreme, green beans, baby carrots, fruit basket upset, milk
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NORTHERN VALLEY Monday — Northern Valley Cheerleader Valentine Balloon Delivery to Long Island, 8 a.m.; Dance Team Practice; Day at Capitol in Topeka, Mr. Zillinger; Kindergarten through Sixth Grade Valentines Day Parties, 2:30 p.m.; Post Prom Meeting, Almena, Lunchroom, 7 p.m.; School Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Almena, Conference Room Tuesday — Norton County Spelling Bee, 4 p.m., East Campus at Norton Wednesday — NO SCHOOL; KAY Unit Conference at Almena, 8:30 a.m.; Title I Professional Network, Salina, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Spring Area Meeting and District Ag Mechanics at Goodland, 9 a.m. Thursday — GNEC Vocal Clinic at Almena, Practice at 1 p.m., Dance at 5:30 p.m., Concert at 7 p.m.; Dance Team Practice Friday — High School Basketball vs Kensington, 4:30 p.m.; Fourth and Fifth Grade Basketball Game at Long Island, 1:30 p.m., Girls Play First Saturday — High School Forensics Meet at Hays, 8 a.m.; Post Prom Trivia Night, High School Auditorium, 7 p.m.; Ninth through Twelve Grade FFA Dance, Lunch room, 8:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.; Dance Team Lock-In After FFA Dance Next Monday — NO SCHOOL, PRESIDENTS DAY; Post Prom Meeting, Almena, Lunch room, 7 p.m.; Dance Team Practice; Regional Basketball National FFA Week February 21 through 26	Breakfast/Lunch Menus: Monday — Breakfast: Doughnuts, sausage patty, apricots, cereal; Lunch: BBQ Beef on bun, French fries, cauliflower, apricots, honey/peanut butter fingers Tuesday — Breakfast: Breakfast pizza, pears, cereal; Lunch: Hot turkey sandwich, mashed potatoes, peas, chocolate pudding Wednesday — NO SCHOOL Thursday — Breakfast: Egg muffin, hashbrowns, orange juice, cereal; Lunch: Vegetable beef soup, crackers, relish plate, cheese sticks, cinnamon twist Friday — Breakfast: Cinnamon twist, peach half, cereal; Lunch: Grilled cheese sandwich, seasoned potatoes, California blend vegetables, peach half JENNINGS Monday — Kindergarten through Fourth Grade Valentine Parties, 2:30 p.m.; High School	Basketball at Dighton, 6 p.m. Tuesday — High School Basketball with Norton at Hoxie, 6:30 p.m. Thursday — Junior High Girls Basketball vs St. Francis at Oberlin, 4:30 p.m.; Junior High Wrestling at Hoxie, 5:30 p.m. Friday — High School Basketball at Goodland, 6:30 p.m. Lunch Menus Monday — Hot dogs, chili, cheese, salad bar, pears, cookies Tuesday — Sausage patties, mashed potatoes/gravy, corn, salad bar, rolls, strawberries Wednesday — Corn dogs, baked beans, salad bar, fruit cocktail Thursday — Ham patties, mashed potatoes, gravy, peas, salad bar, peaches Friday — Pizza, green beans, breadsticks, salad bar, applesauce
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Public Training on How to Access SRS Services set for February 15, 2005 in Norton County Where SRS Office is Scheduled to Close

NORTON, KANSAS — Public training is scheduled at the Senior Center, 208 W. Main, Norton, Kansas, on Tuesday, February 15, 2005, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. to explain how to access SRS services. The Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services (SRS) will close the Norton SRS Office on February 25, 2005.
 Regional SRS staff worked with community partners in Norton County to establish "access points" for SRS information and services. Partners agreed to help their community access SRS services by offering space for meetings and interviews; providing access to fax, photocopy, telephone, and computer services. Some will display posters, SRS applications, and other information. Not all services are available at all access points. The following partners agreed to help their community access SRS services:

NORTON: Senior Center, 208 W. Main
Norton County Courthouse, 105 S. Kansas
Norton City Office, 301 E. Washington
LENORA: Lenora Grade School, 325 S. Chapman
ALMENA: Almena Senior Center, 508 Main

In addition to setting up access points, SRS implemented a toll-free telephone number so people can reach SRS without long-distance charges. Calls will be answered by staff in the SRS Regional Service Center. The toll-free number is 1-888-369-4777. Also, an internet-based self-assessment tool and application is available at www.srskansas.org; The list of Access Points is also available at www.srskansas.org; click on the Locations button on the left side of the page, then on the county for which you desire information.
 In the last few years, federal requirements to

Phillips County Arts Council
 PRESENTS
Driving Miss Daisy
Tuesday, February 15 ~ 7 P.M.
Huck Boyd Center, 860 Park Street
PHILLIPSBURG, KANSAS
 Adults: \$5 • Students: \$2.50 or Membership
 Exhibits of projects from Phillipsburg High School students will showcase themes from the play as reflected in literature and history

THE NORTON TELEGRAM
 and the Norton Chamber of Commerce welcome
Master's Touch Fitness & Massage
 New Owners, Doug and Jenny Tibbetts,
 to their new location at 126 S. State, Norton

The business was purchased from the former Pace Family Fitness owners and has expanded their services and hours. They offer the PACE fitness circuit by membership plus additional exercise equipment, massage therapy and tanning bed. Their hours are Monday-Thursday, 6 a.m.-8 p.m.; Friday 6 a.m.-7 p.m., Saturday 8 a.m. to noon. Phone 874-4940; Massage appointments 877-2823