

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

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Friday
August 12, 2005

Norton, Kansas
Home of Don McClelland

Briefly

Teams to start sports practices

Fall sports practices for football, volleyball, tennis and cross country at Norton Community High School will begin on Monday. Football practice will be without pads until Thursday.

Bazaar planned for Saturday

St. Joseph's Catholic Church will hold the annual New Almelo Bazaar Saturday with a barbecue buffet starting at 5 p.m. Volunteers from the parish will be serving pit barbecued beef and pork with all the trimmings.

There will also be bake sale items, a hamburger stand, fancy work and games for all ages.

At 8 p.m. there will be an auction of handmade quilts.

Don Ammons will play swing music from 9 p.m. until midnight for dancing.

New Almelo is on K-9, seven miles west of Lenora.

Annual picnic set for Tuesday

The public is invited to the annual teachers picnic at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Elmwood Park. Guests will be the faculty and staff of the Norton school district.

This event is sponsored by the Norton Lions Club, Norton Community Schools and the Norton Area Chamber of Commerce. Fried chicken, rolls and drinks will be furnished.

Weather Forecast:

Tonight — Mostly cloudy with a 40 percent chance of thunderstorms. Lows in the mid 60s with south winds 5 to 10 mph. **Saturday** — Mostly cloudy with a 40 percent chance of thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 70s. Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph. **Saturday Night** — Cloudy with a 40 percent chance of showers. Patchy fog. Lows in the mid 50s. Northeast winds 5 to 15 mph. **Sundays** — Cloudy with a 30 percent chance of showers. Highs in the mid 70s. Northeast winds 5 to 10 mph.

Howell report:

Tuesday High 101, Low 67, .03 Prec.
Wednesday High 102, Low 70
Thursday High 96, Low 69
Week ago High 81, Low 62
Month ago High 96, Low 69
Year ago High 79, Low 55
August precipitation06 inches
Year-to-date precipitation ... 13.86 inches
(Readings taken at the Paul and Pat Howell farm 10 Miles North and 1/3 Mile East of Norton)

Prayer

Eternal God, help us to follow where you lead. Even though we can't see where we are going, we put our faith and trust in you to safely guide us.



Norton County Courthouse (above) stood from 1889 until it burned to the ground Dec. 1, 1926. Today's courthouse (below) was built 75 years ago in 1929. Total cost, including furnishings, was \$208,576.20. —Photos from Norton County Clerk's office and by Carolyn Plotts

Courthouse has served for 75 years Old building burned on Dec. 1, 1926

By CAROLYN PLOTTS

The Norton County Courthouse is celebrating its 75th birthday this year. For three-fourths of a century the courthouse has stood in the center of the public square in downtown Norton serving as the hub of the county through the dust bowl, the depression, World War II and Desert Storm.

It houses the legal documents and the judicial offices of the county. Law enforcement offices are in the building, as are the tax collection and the land registration offices.

But, the 75-year old building is the second courthouse built in Norton County.

It is not known where Norton County's first commissioners met on Sept. 16,



1872, since the town consisted of one store and two dugouts.

On July 17, 1873, the commission minutes recorded an arrangement to rent a 12-foot-by-20-foot building for \$72 a year.

In October of 1874, the minutes show a larger building, measuring 16-foot-by-30-feet, was rented for \$8 a month.

Kansas counties are named after Indian tribes, Civil War officers or former political leaders. Norton county's namesake is 15th Cavalry Captain Orloff Norton, who was killed in 1865 at Cane Hill, Ark.

In 1873 there was a short-lived name-change coup when N.H. Billings, a member of the legislature, tried to have the county called Billings. The name was changed back to Norton County in 1874, and has remained since.

At the county commissioners meeting of Feb. 27, 1875, a \$1,200 bond was issued to build a 24-foot-by-30-foot, two-story courthouse.

The deed for the public square was accepted Jan. 14, 1878, but nothing happened. (Continued on Page 5)

New grade school principal begins work

By VERONICA MONIER

Corey Roy, the new principal at Eisenhower Elementary in Norton joined the school's staff this month after Larry Hillman, the previous principal, retired. He came here from Burlington, Colo., where he was the assistant high school principal and athletic director. He was there for six years.

Mr. Roy said he was happy when the job at Eisenhower opened because he and his wife Gail wanted to move closer to their families.

"We're familiar with northcentral Kansas," he said. "This area is where we grew up and we thought it would be a perfect location for our family."

"It really worked out well for us and, hopefully, it will work out well for the Norton schools."

Mr. Roy said he also wanted to return to elementary education, which is where he started. He said he's been in education for 22 years, 18 of which have been as a building administrator.

"I love it," he said. "I love it because I

can work with kids and work with people who work with kids.

"When I was in high school, I was a student aide at the elementary school. I really enjoyed working with young kids. Ever since I can remember, I've liked doing it."

After high school, he said he attended college at Fort Hays State University, where he "found out being a teacher was not that bad of a deal."

"That's why I'm a firm believer in youth programs," he said. "We need as many programs where high school kids interact with younger kids as we can get. Any program where an older kid can be a role model and provide support for younger kids should be strongly encouraged."



Corey Roy

Mr. Roy said he wasn't planning on making any major changes, but would observe, seeing how the programs in place work. He said there are already a lot of wonderful programs and staff in place.

Mr. Roy moved to Norton with his wife, a special education and elementary teacher. She will be working at Eisenhower as an at-risk student tutor.

Their two daughters will be at the junior and senior high school. Katharine, 15, will be a freshman and Bethany, 13, will be an eighth grader.

Mr. Roy said, so far, the move to Norton has been a great experience.

"It's been a nice transition," he said. "Not only for me, but also for my wife and kids. Everyone has been very friendly and helpful."

"I've really enjoyed meeting all the new people and having a chance to get acquainted with the school and school personnel."

"We're looking forward to getting involved in the community."

Schools budget for more

Norton district will have \$140,000 extra for students

By VERONICA MONIER

The Norton School District authorized the 2005-'06 budget at Monday's board meeting.

Superintendent Greg Mann said the district used a three-year average student count to figure the budget. He said they projected a full-time enrollment equivalency of 673 students for the upcoming year, making the average 655.4.

This is not the actual number of students but the number the state uses to count. Kindergarten students count one-half and several other classes, including at risk students, count extra.

He said the district is expecting that the base state-aid per pupil will be \$23,000 more this year and that, when all of the weighting is considered, the general fund should have around \$140,000 more than last year.

Because of an increase in state aid, the supplemental general fund, or local option budget, should generate about \$90,000 more, with no increase in local effort.

Mr. Mann said the activity budget, payments to retirees, vocational money, textbook replacement costs, and expected increases in electricity, natural gas, water and sewer costs have all been put in the supplemental general fund.

As of July 1, there was \$775,227 in (Continued on Page 5)

Farm Bureau honors families of century farms

By CAROLYN PLOTTS

Thursday evening, about 180 Farm Bureau members and guests came to the Norton American Legion for the annual meeting and dinner.

FFA students from Northern Valley and Norton high schools served a prime rib dinner prepared by Gale Hays and board members.

In the absence of President Robby Mapes, Eric Thompson conducted the meeting and announced the recipients of the Century Farm awards.

He recognized Darrel and Alice Barnett, Clayton; Rusty Miller, Norcat; and Patricia (Butts) and Cliff Miller of Pittsburg, Mo. These land owners farm land that has been in their family for 100 years or more.

Jon and Elaine Lofgreen and their youngest son, Bryce, received a natural resources award for their work in water quality protection, farm chemical management, crop grasslands maintenance and participation in conservation programs.

Treasurer Chris Tanner reported that the association had assets of almost \$54,000.

Kansas Farm Bureau President Steve Baccas was the keynote speaker.

He said it is vital that Farm Bureau remain involved in public advocacy. He talked about imminent domain and recent rulings that have taken private land for public use.

Mr. Baccas encouraged ranchers to become knowledgeable about animal identification programs. He said it is coming and cattle raisers have two choices — to sit around the coffee shop and complain or to learn how to profit from the changes.

He said big industry can't be stopped and ranchers need to learn how to adapt.

Overseas customers are demanding verified meat and soon animal identification will be needed to even sell animals at (Continued on Page 5)

'New' courthouse celebrates 75 years

(Continued from Page 1)
 County voters defeated a \$50,000 bond issue for a new courthouse on Nov. 8, 1887, by a vote of 1,414 to 335.

On Jan. 8, 1888, a second petition was presented for a \$25,000 bond. It, too, was defeated, 943 to 625.

The third time the bond issue was presented was at the general election on Nov. 6, 1888, for \$26,000. It passed 1,197 to 1,029.

Kuhn and Waller, Norton builders, were awarded the contract to build the new courthouse for \$24,875.

The courthouse, completed in 1888, served the county until it burned Dec. 1, 1926.

Newspapers accounts said the fire started in the basement in the northeast or northwest corner. The cause was thought to be the steam heat boiler or spontaneous combustion of the coal pile. The cupola portion of the roof was the first to fall, allowing flames to rush throughout the entire building.

Nancy Heaton, who was just a child living on a farm outside of town, remembers the event.

"I remember hearing my parents talk about the courthouse burning," she said. "But, we didn't go to town often and I don't remember anything about the new courthouse. I was married in 1934, and lived in town after that, so it was always there."

Nothing was saved from the clerk, sheriff and attorney's departments.

A Judge Simmons and his wife climbed to his office on a ladder, and threw important documents to bystanders below. The five vaults that stored old records survived with documents intact.

Without a place to conduct county business, the American Legion building was pressed into service and rented for \$100 a month. The sheriff's office was in an office at the back of the First National Bank.

On April 12, 1928, the commissioners met and decided to hold a special election in June to determine whether or not Norton

County would build a new courthouse.

The results of that election were 1,250 voters in favor of a new courthouse, 836 against. It was also decided that the funds would be raised by the issuance of bonds by a vote of 958 to 342. The minority wanted a tax to pay for it.

Gurtler and Co. of Topeka was awarded the general contract for \$148,450.

Noah Garrett of Norton received the contract for the heating and plumbing for \$13,600. Mr. Garrett also won the contract for electrical wiring for \$6,050.

The contract for the furniture, woodwork and vaults went to Lockwood-Hazel Company of Atchison for \$24,996.

The cornerstone was laid May 2, 1929, complete with a Masonic ceremony.

Construction was completed and arrangements were made for the county officers to start moving into the new courthouse at noon, Dec. 20, 1929.

The final cost for the entire construction, furnishings and fixtures was \$208,576.20.

The courthouse, today, is a multi-functional building that has been well-maintained. It should serve the people of Norton County for many more years to come.

County Clerk Robert Wyatt, shared a little-known fact about the courthouse.

"The courthouse has a twin sister," he said. "The courthouse in Bourbon County had the same architect, was built the same year, and is identical to Norton's courthouse."

Mr. Wyatt said the building is comfortable to work in. Especially since the building underwent a complete restoration a few years ago. The exterior was cleaned and polished, the interior was painted, and new windows and carpeting were installed. Central air conditioning was installed two years ago.

He said he hopes people will take the time to really admire the architecture in the building, which he thinks is beautiful.

Mr. Wyatt said the taxpayers of Norton County can be proud of their courthouse.



Keynote speaker at Thursday night's annual Farm Bureau meeting was the organization's state president, Steve Baccas (above). He was presented a hand-crafted pheasant made by Farm Bureau member, Duane Wray. Darrel Barnett, Clayton, (left) admired the sign that had belonged to his father, Lester Barnett. Darrel and his wife, Alice, were recognized as century farmers during the annual meeting.

— Photos by Carolyn Plotts



Farm Bureau honors century farm owners

(Continued from Page 1)
 the local sale barn.

Mr. Baccas also talked about the 2007 Farm Bill issue saying he doesn't think it will look anything like the last two pieces of legislation.

He said major changes are on the way. The 2007 Farm bill will

"be leaner and greener," he said. There will be less money for programs and more emphasis on being environmentally friendly. He urged members to get into the debate.

Mr. Baccas is passionate about the Farm Bureau Association; he believes in it and is proud of its

advocacy program.

Patsy Maddy, local director of the association, said anyone can join.

"You don't have to be a farmer to be a member," she said.

For information about the Farm Bureau Association, call 877-3221.

SCHOOL CALENDAR Schools will have more to spend on education

NORTON
 Sunday — FFA Trail Ride, 1:30 p.m.

Monday — Teachers report; Fall sports begin; SIPS training

Tuesday — Special ed in-service at Phillipsburg; SIPS training, 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Thursday — Football practice with pads; Faculty work day; Eisenhower Elementary School open house, 5-7 p.m.

Friday — First day of school, 8:30 a.m., dismiss at 1 p.m.; Coaches and sponsors meeting, 1:30 p.m.; HSSAC back to school dance, 4-H Building, 8:30-11 p.m.

Monday through Thursday — Teacher work in-service days

Breakfast/Lunch Menus

Friday — No Breakfast served; Lunch: Taco crunch, corn, tossed salad, chocolate cake, milk

NORTHERN VALLEY

Saturday — Defensive driving class, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., FACS room, Alma; High School dance team camp out

Sunday — FFA alumni feed, 4 p.m., practice field in Alma

Monday — Teacher in-service, First day of high school fall sports practice; Preschool parent meeting and open house, 7 p.m., Al-

mena; High school cheerleading practice, 2 to 4 p.m., high school gym; High school dance team practice, 4 p.m., high school gym

Tuesday — Teacher In-service; First day of practice for junior high football; Special ed in service at Huck Boyd Center in Phillipsburg, 8 a.m.-3:15 p.m.; High school cheerleading practice, 10 a.m. - noon, high school gym

Wednesday — Teacher workday; Kindergarten-fourth grade, open house, 6:30-8 p.m., Alma; High school cheerleading practice, 10 a.m.-noon, high school gym

Thursday — First day of school, dismiss at 11:30 a.m.; First day of 4-year-old preschool, 8:30-11:30 a.m.; High school dance team practice, 4 p.m., high school gym

Next Friday — KAY back to school dance, 8-11 p.m., Alma; High school cheerleading practice, 6:15 p.m., high school gym

Breakfast/Lunch Menus

Thursday — Breakfast: Pancake on a stick/syrup, strawberries, cold cereals.

Friday — Breakfast: Cinnamon raisin biscuit, ham, grapes, cold cereals; Lunch: Submarine sandwich, tri-tater; peas, fruit cup.

(Continued from Page 1)

unencumbered cash in capital outlay. For the third year in a row, no levy is being requested. He said \$80,000 has been budgeted in capital outlay to buy a 35-passenger route bus and a replacement suburban. Also, capital outlay projects that need to be considered are track repair and tuck pointing the masonry on the district's building.

He said food service has been budgeted at \$308,981, an increase of about \$23,000 over last year. The district is projecting a year-end balance of about \$25,000.

The year-beginning balance for special education is slightly less than what it was last year, but, he said, the state is paying more to the North Central Kansas Special

Education Cooperative in Glade, so the district will be paying less.

Mr. Mann said the district was estimating there to be between 30 and 35 Lenora contract students this year.

If the district has 32 Lenora students this year, then it will get about \$162,000, which is an increase of about \$13,000 from last year because of the higher base aid per pupil. At least half of the Lenora contract money will be earmarked for technology purchases, which will be made after the first of the year.

The board approved the budget to be published and set a special meeting to hold a budget hearing and to determine what the board's short-term goals will be at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 23.

KANSAS PRIVATE INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIPS

Owning a successful, labor-intensive Kansas business that requires dependable workers who take pride in manufacturing quality products can be an exasperating experience. Over the years it's become harder and harder to find workers who meet those criteria.

Some businesses have left Kansas for Mexico or China. Other companies find that transportation costs, delivery timelines, language barriers and quality concerns keep them from taking that drastic step.

While trying to find a reliable source of dedicated workers in Kansas, one company became aware that Kansas prison inmates who have good conduct records are eligible to work for private businesses both inside and outside Kansas' prisons. Last year, 20 separate private businesses employed 983 Kansas inmates, who worked 960,360 hours performing a wide range of jobs.

During talks with Kansas Correctional Industries (KCI), the idea of employing motivated inmates made more and more sense to this company. Private prison industry jobs enable inmates to repay crime victims, support their families and save for eventual release. The company decided to partner with KCI so that their business could compete effectively and expand. Their business now has a dependable workforce that can be adjusted according to production needs.

Before you send work out of Kansas to other states or overseas, find out more about KCI partnerships by contacting Tom Vohs at (913) 727-3249 or TomV@KDOC.DC.STATE.KS.US.

Paid for by the Kansas Department of Corrections.

OPEN HOUSE

Thursday, August 18
5:30 - 7:30 pm
Colby Community College

Class Starts in Colby September 2005

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ORGANIZATIONAL MANAGEMENT & LEADERSHIP

- Practical applications of management skills & emphasis on people
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PUBLIC NOTICE

Treasurer's Quarterly Report

Published in The Norton Telegram on Friday, August 12, 2005. (17)

STATE OF KANSAS COUNTY OF NORTON TREASURER'S QUARTERLY REPORT AS OF JULY 31, 2005

County Funds Budgeted	Fund Balance
County General	1,289,102.98
Road & Bridge	395,686.85
Special Bridge	37,015.24
Ambulance	49,310.64
Ande Home	1,042.97
Appraiser's Cost	21,502.56
Bond & Interest	134.99
Bridge Bond	188,752.80
Community College	19,220.77
County Health	102,739.17
Economic Development	137,067.37
Election	32,859.28
Employee Benefits	564,505.40
Extension Council	1,656.69
Fair Building	408.16
4-H Maintenance	10,303.78
Historical Preservation	689.10
Hospital Maintenance	5,508.96
Mental Health	277.33
Mental Retardation	191.13
Noxious Weed	76,244.50
Noxious Weed Deficiency	74.06
Senior Citizens	424.75
Soil Conservation	132.11
Airports	2,025.02
Solid Waste	20,874.14
Landfill Closure	10,000.00
Special Liability	.58
Bridge Construction #2	610,214.15
Special Machinery & Equip	37,796.78
Co Health Capital Outlay	120,288.13
Ambulance Capital Outlay	93,706.41
Noxious Weed Capital Outlay	49,585.98
Clayton Cemetery	191.49
Edmond Cemetery	167.18
E 911 Fund	3,100.81
911 Tax	5,091.66
Bridge Construction 2004	581,828.82

Revenue Funds	Fund Balance
Current Tax	119,658.47
Vehicle Tax	115,391.25
RV Tax	1,864.39
Vehicle Rent Excise Tax	122.97
Redemptions Real Estate	5,868.07
Advance Tax	232.45
Escrow Account	7.88
Compensation Sales Tax	11,236.82

City Funds	Fund Balance
Clayton City - General	60.46

School Funds	Fund Balance
USD #211 - General	231.52
USD #213 - General	82.67
USD #326 - General	21.30

Trustee Fund	Fund Balance
Court Trustee - State	1,728.92
Court Trustee - Local	36,681.32
Case Management	19,824.55
Juvenile Just Authority	36,931.27
Juvenile Director	85.21
Parent Training	1,296.95
Family Education	18,750.00
Community Mobilization	19,617.75
JISP	17,294.22
Diversion	26,734.22
Juvenile Intake	20,093.08
Judicial Capital Outlay	14,224.00

County Funds Non-Budgeted	Fund Balance
Co Treas Capital Outlay	22,808.07
Co Clerk Capital Outlay	10,667.26
Dist Court Capital Outlay	10,899.52
Reg of Deeds Cap Outlay	12,989.20
Sheriff Capital Outlay	8,113.31
Appraiser Capital Outlay	2,375.88
Election Capital Outlay	44,566.60
Solid Waste Cap Outlay	232,616.56
Special Drug & Alcohol	15,550.82
Spec Parks & Recreation	7,437.87
Spec Prosecutors Trust	175.00
Auto Fund	4,575.70
Special Auto	14,832.00
Reg Deeds Tech Fund	9,910.14

Miscellaneous Specials	Fund Balance
Irrigation O & M	1,381.10
Irrigation Repay	155.67

TOTAL CASH IN TREASURY 5,437,843.40

I do solemnly swear the above statement is complete, true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, so help me God.
 Cynthia J. Linner, County Treasurer
 Subscribed and sworn before me this 31st day of July, 2005.
 Robert D. Wyatt, County Clerk