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**Tuesday**  
March 7, 2006

**Norton, Kansas**  
Home of Kathy Runnion

*Briefly*

## Meals on Wheels needs volunteers

Community volunteers are needed to deliver Meals on Wheels next week, March 13-19. If you can help, call Norton County Hospital at 877-3351 and ask for the dietary department.

## Norcaturs serving up pancakes, eggs

The Norcaturs United Methodist Church will hold their annual pancake, egg and sausage supper, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday at the Educational Building. A free will donation will be accepted.

## Norton County is under burn ban

Norton County is under a burn ban. The ban, which began Monday, will be in effect until further notice, said Sheriff Troy Thomson. It means, he said, the county is in an extreme fire emergency and all outdoor open burning, fireworks and field burn-off activities are prohibited unless a written burning or discharge permit is issued by one of the county's fire chiefs. However, he said, people can still burn trash in a barrel if extreme caution is used.

## Watcher wanted for newspaper

The Norton Telegram continues its hunt for someone to call in the high and low temperatures each day and also precipitation amounts. Interested parties can call The Telegram office at 877-3361 for details. This has been a longtime public service offered the community and the results appear in the weather box on page 1. "We'll kick in a free subscription to the paper to whomever volunteers," said Tom Dreiling, publisher. Your investment is a rain gauge and thermometer.

*Weather*

## Forecast:

**Tonight** — Partly cloudy with lows in the upper 30s. Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph. **Wednesday** — Mostly cloudy and cooler with a chance of rain in the morning, then a chance of rain and snow in the afternoon. Highs in the upper 40s. **Wednesday Night** — colder and mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of rain or snow in the evening.

*Prayer*

Most holy God, help us to remember that you have empowered us to be your instruments of healing and peace in this broken world. May we more fully serve you by serving others, strengthened for this task by Christ's spirit. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen**



K-State's head football coach, Ron Prince, (above) signed an autograph for Gil Otter at Monday's Norton Chamber banquet. Mr. Prince signed autographs for anyone who wanted one. Mr. Prince

and Chamber Director Karla Reed (below) chatted for a moment after he was finished speaking. — Telegram photos by Veronica Monier



## Wildcat faithful, others meet new football boss

By VERONICA MONIER

The Norton American Legion was full to the point of being almost crowded and no one really lingered over the prime rib dinner, so the utmost attention could be given to the main event — Ron Prince, K-State's newest head football coach and the Norton Area Chamber of Commerce's special guest speaker for its annual banquet Monday night. Mr. Prince was introduced to the crowd by Chamber Board member Doug Ray, who said he was K-State's 33rd football coach, coming from the University of Virginia, where he was the offensive coordinator for the past three seasons and the offensive line coach for the past five years.

"One of the things I'm most proud of is growing up in Junction City," Mr. Prince said. "A lot of people from across the United States came into Fort Riley and I grew up around people of all kinds." He talked about going to Dodge City Community College, playing football for two years and then coaching for one. He said he was shocked when he went to North Carolina. "They were just trying to figure out things that we'd already dealt with," he said. "They really focused on the differences, rather than being a team." When he received his first real coaching job in Alabama, he said he was excited but really had his eyes opened while there. (Continued on Page 5)

## Cemetery survey in the works

By VERONICA MONIER

The City of Norton is taking a look at the Norton Cemetery. Administrator Rob Lawson said at last week's Norton City Council meeting that the old part of the cemetery needs to be surveyed. "We have graves where they aren't supposed to be," he said. "Steve (Cole) is guessing that there are 300 to 400 more lots available." Mr. Lawson said they have \$10,000 budgeted for cemetery improvements. The survey would allow the cemetery crew to accurately measure for the sale of lots and for grave openings. He said the council can either earmark money for it or can get bids. But, he said, he couldn't say what a fair price was if money was earmarked, because he didn't

know. Councilman Ron Briery said bids should be taken to see who is available. The council agreed and told Mr. Lawson to get bids for the survey. The second problem, Mr. Lawson said, is people who want to sell their lots independently. He said he would like the city to have the right of first refusal, so if someone wants to sell, it gets sold to the city. Then, he said, the city can sell it from there. This way, he said, everything would go through the city office and the city would know who owned which lots. City Attorney Chuck Worden said the city could probably change the rules for future sales to include the right of first refusal going to the city. But, he said, he didn't know if that could be done retro- (Continued on Page 5)

## Youth ranch could possibly re-open under new contract

By KIMBERLY DAVIS

By today, a Goddard man plans to decide if he wants to take over the former Sappa Valley Youth Ranch. Dick Kelsey, a state representative for the 93rd district, met with Oberlin's mayor, a member of the City Council, school superintendent, city administrator, Peggy Pratt, director for northwest Kansas juvenile services and others on Friday night. The group toured the facility, owned by the city, and run by Clarence M. Kelley Youth Services for the last seven years, and then had a dinner meeting at the LandMark Inn.

On Feb. 15, the city received a letter from Terry Campbell, vice president of the Kelley group, saying the firm would not renew its lease which is up on April 17. The firm gave staff a two week notice and the boys were moved to other facilities starting the next day. Although there aren't any youths at the ranch, the company is keeping staff on duty around the clock until the lease ends. Rep. Kelsey said he learned about the closing about an hour after the state Juvenile Justice Authority commissioner received the letter. Saturday morning, he met with Rick (Continued on Page 5)

## Program helps with emergencies

By CAROLYN PLOTTS

If you are in a serious accident and cannot speak for yourself, who will tell the medical personnel what drugs you are allergic to or who will let your family know what has happened? A simple plan, conceived by a paramedic in Britain, is growing in popularity in the United States. Cell phone users are urged to put the acronym ICE (In Case of Emergency) before the names of the people they want designated as next of kin in their cell address book.

The Norton County Sheriff's office is urging local residents to follow these suggestions as a way to help local paramedics contact family or friends in an emergency situation. It would save medical personnel valuable time and keep them from looking through wallets and purses for clues. The ICE initiative is available free to the more than 192 million cell users in the United States. For more information about ICE contact Sheriff Troy Thomson at 877-5780.



Norton Theatre Manager Kim Wicker waited for her turn to speak during a town hall meeting on the future of the theater last Thursday. See the editorial on Page 4 for more information on the meeting. — Telegram photo by Hypatia Day