

TV LISTINGS

Page 6

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THE NORTON TELEGRAM

Sports

Area basketball players chosen for all-area team. Norton junior varsity golf competes at Trego.

Page 8

Tuesday
May 2, 2006

Norton, Kansas
Home of Tom Davis

Briefly

Students put on concert Thursday

"Why We Sing" is the theme of the Norton High School/Junior High concert scheduled for 7:30 p.m., Thursday at East Campus Auditorium.

Valerie Lee, vocal director, said the Jay Singers and some faculty members will also perform. Members of the senior class will be honored.

Physicals start Wednesday

Sports physicals for the 2006-2007 school year have been scheduled to take place Wednesday beginning at 9 a.m. in the Norton Junior High School gymnasium. Students from Northern Valley, Lenora and Norton school districts will all take their physicals the same day.

The schedule is: 9 a.m., Norton, sixth grade; 9:20 a.m., Lenora, sixth grade; 9:35 a.m., Northern Valley; 10 a.m., Norton 11th grade; 10:30 a.m., Norton ninth and 10th grade; and 11 a.m., Norton, seventh and eighth grade.

State park will hold kids day

Outdoor Kansas for Kids Day will be held at Prairie Dog State Park starting at 8:30 a.m. Saturday.

Youngsters can enjoy a fishing clinic, sponsored by the Longspur Chapter of Pheasants Forever, and an archery clinic, sponsored by the Norton Archery Club. There will also be laser hunting and a shooting simulator, which will duplicate many hunting situations and target shooting scenarios.

All kids participating in the day will get a gift and will be registered for prizes. They can also enter an essay contest for a chance to win \$100.

Youngsters should meet at the park office. Anyone interested in sponsoring an event for helping that day can contact the park office at (785) 877-2953.

Weather Forecast:

Tonight — Breezy and partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. Lows in the upper 40s. **Wednesday** — Partly cloudy and much cooler with highs in the mid 60s. **Wednesday Night** — Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and drizzle.

Kingham report:

Friday Low 42, High 60, .50 Precip.
Saturday Low 41, High 64, .10 Precip.
Sunday Low 43, High 67
Monday Low 43, High 75
(Readings taken at the Fred and Carolyn Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

O God, give us the courage to do the things you ask us to do, confident because your Holy Spirit works in us.

Amen

Shots pay off for Almena family



Riley Sides, 5, left, his cousin Trey, 5, and little brother, Bailey, 2, check out the finer points of the stretch limo that took them to Wichita Friday.

— Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

The hurt is eased by winning trip to Wichita zoo

By CAROLYN PLOTTS

The Kevin Sides family of Almena learned it pays to immunize.

Their family was one of twelve in the state to win an all-expense paid weekend vacation trip to the Wichita Zoo. All because they completed the immunizations for their youngest child Bailey,

2.

The Norton County Health Department took part in a statewide project called, "Vaccines For Children Outreach Project" which was started in 2005 by the Kansas Department of Health and Envi-

ronment.

All children ages birth to 24 months, that complete their primary series of immunization by age 2, were entered into a drawing. The Norton County Health Department had three preliminary winners. Those families won either 30 hours of free

long distance telephone minutes or \$500 toward their utility bill or rent/house payment. These three families were the: Holly Kendall family, the Debra Hogan family, and the Suzi Brooks family.

(Continued on Page 5)

Hospital looks at tobacco-free policy

By VERONICA MONIER

The Norton County Hospital board is looking at a potential policy dealing with having a tobacco free campus.

Hospital Administrator Rich Miller gave the board a draft of the policy the tobacco free committee came up with. The committee included non-smoking staff as well as one employee who is a smoker and County Health Director Gina Frack.

Basically, he said, they used what the Kansas Hospital Association guidelines for the policy.

Mr. Miller said if a patient comes in who smokes several packs a day, the medical staff suggested offering nicotine replacement therapy. He said patients will get the medication on the orders of the hospital's physicians.

He said they are looking at having signs made and will be advertising in the newspaper and on the radio. Also, he said, cards will be put out at registration.

The staff, Mr. Miller said, will no longer be able to smoke on break. They won't be able to smoke on campus and have to sign out if they want to leave, making their break unpaid.

Nursing students, he said, seem to be the most frequent smokers.

Board member Steve Berry wasn't sure the policy was a good way to go.

"I can see all sorts of pitfalls with this," he said. "We're going to force people to go across the street. Why? Because it's the P.C. this to do?"

Mr. Miller said he wasn't disagreeing with Mr. Berry, but that he also thought there was a place for this in health care.

"We're not doing anything different from what other hospitals are doing, or thinking about doing, across the state," he said.

Board President Dennis Gilhousen said the policy will be voted on at the May 17 meeting.

In other business, the board:

- Met new Chief Financial Officer Ryan Stover, who replaced Brian Carlton.

- Accepted a low bid from Engel's Sales and Service for a new vehicle for the chief executive officer. Mr. Miller said the hospital received three quotes. He said the 2006 Chevrolet Impala from Engel's was under \$20,000, which is what had been budgeted for the vehicle.

- Discussed "key person" insurance. Mr. Miller said the insurance covers chief

(Continued on Page 5)

Commission hears about noxious weed

The Norton County Commission heard from the Noxious Weed Department at last week's meeting.

Noxious Weed Supervisor Reggie Beckman said they had finished spraying the county bridges, all of the county lots and had begun spraying the state highways. He said the state has talked about the possibility of having the county spray the rocks north and south of Norton on U.S. 283 for weed control.

Mr. Beckman reported on the status of the cost sharing for musk thistle control. The commission set a figure of \$10,000 for cost sharing on musk thistle. He said the county is getting very close to the cost share limit.

The flags that were ordered so land-

owners can mark the ground that needs sprayed, saving noxious weed employees time and expense, arrived last week, he said.

In other business, the commission:

- Approved a tax abatement, which dealt with an error on a vehicle tag. The abatement was for \$57.44.

- Held a 5-minute closed session to discuss non-elected personnel.

- Accepted a bid from Rocky Mountain Life Line for an ambulance unit in the amount of \$103,000. There were three bids total for an ambulance to replace one of the county's that was totaled in an accident several weeks ago. The bids delivered were for demo models, each with 5,000 to 10,000 miles on them. The units

were all looked at by Norton County staff before bids were delivered.

- Talked to Road and Bridge Supervisor Tom Brannan about road repairs being made in the southeast part of the county and road maintenance in the northwest part of the county. They also talked about easement and county right-of-way when road construction and bridge repairs are done. Mr. Brannan said a new form has been designed to help landowners understand right-of-way, which will be signed before construction begins.

- Heard a report from Mr. Brannan on bridge construction and road maintenance projects in the county. A bridge inspection, he said, will be held in the county in

(Continued on Page 5)

Doctor says goodbye to Norton hospital

By VERONICA MONIER

The Norton County Hospital will be losing a long-time doctor to retirement this summer.

Dr. Roy Hartley told the hospital board at its last meeting that he would be retiring on June 30.

"I didn't think I'd ever want to quit," he said. "But I need to spend more time enjoying life. It's been 39 years. I hope the board respects that."

Dr. Hartley said it was a tough decision to make.

He said he won't be taking call through the month of June.

Board President Dennis Gilhousen said the board did respect the decision.

"Not only do we respect your decision, but we respect you and what you've done," he said to Dr. Hartley. "The community will feel the loss. It's something we all knew in the back of our minds was coming, but we didn't know when."

Board member Warren White, who's family has gone to Dr. Hartley for over thirty years, said his family was really going to miss him.

"From all of the staff, we appreciate you and what you've done," said Hospital Administrator Rich Miller.

In other business, the board:

- Heard an update from Carol Eling, pharmacy, and Pam Cuthbertson, information systems.

(Continued on Page 5)