

Church:

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

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75 cents

THE NORTON TELEGRAM



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Friday

August 18, 2006

Norton, Kansas
Home of Mona Cochran

Briefly

Free screening set for Aug. 25

Eisenhower Elementary will be conducting a free Early Childhood Screening on Friday, Aug. 25. Children between the ages of 3 and 5 are eligible. The appointments take about 45 minutes and will be scheduled starting at 8 a.m. Children will be tested in the developmental areas of: vision, hearing, speech, motor, behavior and/or reasoning. To schedule an appointment call Joan Hale at Eisenhower Elementary, 877-5113 by Aug. 24.

'M', 'N', 'O' tags due in August

Thursday, Aug. 31 is the last day to renew automobile, pickup, motorcycle and/or motorized bike tags for those whose last name begins with "M", "N" and "O", or businesses whose name begins with "M", "N" and "O".

You must bring in or include proof of insurance for each vehicle, which includes the vehicle identification number, policy number and expiration date.

If you have questions, please call 877-5795.

Jennings gets ready for firemen

Jennings is gearing up for their annual Firemen's Fun Day scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 26. The theme of this year's parade is "Small Towns Pullin' Together". The planning committee invites anyone to bring a float, a group, or a pickup full of friends with a sign identifying your town, business or organization. There are no entry fees nor is there a pre-registration. The parade line up is from noon until 12:30 p.m. Other activities besides the parade include a health fair, a cake walk, kolaches, kid's games, a horseshoe tournament, a hog roast, an auction, and a street dance with a live band.

Weather

Forecast:

Tonight — Partly cloudy, breezy and mild. Chance of storms. **Saturday** — Clouds, some sun, cooler. Chance of showers and storms. **Sunday** — Partly cloudy and nice. Can't rule out a storm or two West. **Monday** — Partly cloudy and hot.

Kingham report:

Tuesday Low 57, High 86
Wednesday Low 64, High 81, .50 Prec.
Thursday Low 66, High 97, .10 Prec.
(Readings taken at the Fred and Karolyn Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

Thank you, God, for the gift of life. Help us to begin each day with thanksgiving, assured that you will be with us and will guide us. **Amen**

Finger lickin' good



Lions Club Past President Tom Brannan (left) licked off his fingers after eating some fried chicken at the annual Teachers Welcome Picnic Tuesday. The picnic is sponsored by the Norton Area Chamber of Commerce, the Norton Lions Club and Norton Community Schools. As a member of the Lions Club, Joel Duscher (above) was enlisted to help serve the hungry crowd.

— Telegram photos by Veronica Monier

School district close to finalizing budget

By VERONICA MONIER

The Norton School District is close to having its budget finalized for the 2006-07 school year.

Superintendent Greg Mann said they used last year's enrollment numbers to figure the budget. A new weighting has been added by the legislature called non-proficient at-risk. The weighting covers students who didn't meet proficient levels in the state math and reading assessments, but don't qualify for free lunches.

The base aid per pupil will be \$4,316, which is an increase from last year's

\$4,257 base aid per pupil.

He said the general fund will be almost \$5 million, which is an increase of just over \$235,000 from last year. However, he said, almost \$114,000 of that increase will go directly to special education, giving the district about \$121,000 more in usable dollars.

The supplemental general fund, or local option budget, will be 19.6 percent of the general fund for \$964,000. This, he said, is an increase of 1 percent, or \$89,000, from last year. Because state aid to the district's local option budget has

increased as well as there being a slight increase in valuation, the local option budget could generate \$65,000 more with no increase in local effort. In fact, Mr. Mann said, even with the proposed increase of \$89,000, the mill levy is projected to decrease by a little more than one mill.

The big change, he said, is bringing back a capital outlay budget. The reason for this, he said, is they are getting concerned that the district will not have the ability to transfer money into capital outlay from the general fund like it has for the

past several years due to increases in operating and special education expenses.

He said the district has the authority to levy 4 mills, but is only requesting 2 mills. Of the \$46,000 the district is requesting, \$19,000 will come from the state.

"We're in a good situation right now state-aid-wise," he said.

The Norton School Board approved the budget for publication and set a budget hearing at 7:30 p.m. for Tuesday, Aug. 22.

In other business, the board:

- Accepted the appreciation plaque

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Nominations needed for program

The Kansas Bankers Soil Conservation Awards Program is looking for people, who have done a good job of stewardship of the land.

"We look forward to public nominations of the awards," said Keith VanSike, Norton County Extension director.

"This Program is being sponsored by the agriculture committee of the Kansas Bankers Association, local banks and the government agencies that cooperate with the District Conservation office. We are asking for nominations to be submitted by Aug. 30."

The purpose of the program is to stimulate a greater interest in the conservation of the agricultural resources in Kansas by giving recognition to those farmers and landowners who have made outstanding progress in the establishment of soil and water conservation on their farms. Included in the awards program are a soil

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Feeding the masses...



Preparing barbecued beef and pork enjoyed by the hundreds of people who attended Saturday's New Almelo Bazaar were, from left, Curt Wahlmeier, Dan Wahlmeier and Cary Wahlmeier. These three young men were giving regulars Linda and Carl Wahlmeier and Cheryl and Tom Diederich a break. A complete story with more pictures will be printed in Tuesday's Norton Telegram.

— Telegram photo by Dick Boyd