

Church:

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

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Vol. 100, No. 8
75 cents

THE NORTON TELEGRAM

Saluting area farmers
for all your soil and water conservation efforts

Norton County Conservation District Annual Meeting and Free Supper Sat., Feb. 3

Photo: January 26, 2007

THE NORTON TELEGRAM

Friday

January 26, 2007

Norton, Kansas
Home of Joe Ballinger

Briefly

Students can learn about aid

A financial aid informational meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Monday in the music room at Norton Community High School. A representative from Education Quest, Kearney, Neb., will discuss the process of applying for Federal Financial Aid.

High school juniors and seniors and their parents are encouraged to attend and parents of college students are also invited. The free application for Federal Student Aid for the 2007-2008 school year will be available at this meeting. To learn more call Shane Miller, 877-3338, at the high school.

Pinewood Derby set for Saturday

The annual Pinewood Derby, hosted by Norton Cub Scout Troop No. 181 is scheduled to begin at 2 p.m. Sunday at The Rock in downtown Norton. Cub Scouts will be racing each other's handmade "cars" down a sloping track. Everyone is invited to watch the racing action. For more details call Kevin Baughman, 877-2678.

Winter concert playing Sunday

The Norton Community High School Band will present their winter concert at 2:30 p.m., Sunday in Stull Gymnasium.

A variety of music will be played including marches, a classic fanfare, a contemporary overture, a classical piece and an American folk song tribute.

Some of the musicians will be recognized for their participation in the Kansas Music Educators Association District Honor Band and the University of Nebraska/Kearney Honor Band.

The public is invited. For those who are unable to attend, the concert will be broadcast on KQNK Radio.

Weather

Forecast:

Tonight — Partly cloudy with lows around 17. **Saturday** — Partly cloudy and colder with highs in the upper 20s. Northwest winds around 10 mph shifting to the north 15 to 20 mph in the afternoon. **Saturday Night** — Partly cloudy and colder with lows around 7. **Sunday** — Partly cloudy with highs in the mid 20s. Northwest winds 10 to 15 mph. **Sunday Night** — Lows around 10.

Kingham report:

Tuesday Low 14, High 38
Wednesday Low 27, High 39
Thursday Low 25, High 40
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

Dear God, remind us that living in your love means accepting help from those who offer to carry part of our load. **Amen**

Tied up in knots



Twisted and turned were pretzels made by Eisenhower Elementary third graders during an Ag in the Classroom presentation by Patsy Maddy, Farm Bureau Association director. Rolling their dough was Taylor Dicks, left, and Carmen Ball. — Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

Deadline brings a few open election seats

By VERONICA MONIER

With the filing deadline past, two of the cities and all of the school districts in Norton County still have vacant positions and will need a few more people to step up and run write-in campaigns.

To run a write-in for both the school and city elections, candidates must be at least 18 and live in the area he or she wants to represent. In the city elections, those who want to run must be a registered voter in the area.

Because a primary election will not be needed, a general election will be held on

Tuesday, April 3, with the voter registration deadline at 5 p.m. on Monday, March 19. People can register at the city offices and the county clerk's office, or they can call the county clerk's office, which will send out a card to be filled out and signed and sent back in.

Two of Norton's incumbents for city council will have a race on their hands. Incumbents Elaine Mann, Ward II, and Kelly Gaer, Ward I, have competition. Charlotte Stephenson filed for the Ward II seat and Harriett Gill filed for the Ward I seat. Also filing for city positions were

incumbents David Corns for mayor and Ron Briery for Ward III councilman.

Incumbents for three of the four open Norton School Board seats filed. Jennifer Terrell, position one; Mark Keilig, position two; and Chris Harting, position seven, are running for re-election. Position three, covering Norton Wards I and II, is still open.

The City of Alma has someone running in all three open positions. Incumbent Gerald D. Wilson is re-running for mayor, while newcomers Kevin L. Largent and Christina Land filed for the

two open city council positions.

The Northern Valley School Board also filled three of its four open positions. Filing were incumbents Doyle Baird and Gale Hays and newcomer Christopher L. Schemper. The position three, district two seat is still open.

In the City of Lenora, three incumbents filed for the three open positions. Raymond Heikes is re-running for mayor, while Edwin Loyd Schoen and Daniel L. Mannel are re-running for their council seats.

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County increases returned-check fee

By VERONICA MONIER

The returned check fee is going up at the Norton County Treasurer's Office.

Treasurer Cindy Linner told the Norton County Commission Monday that her office has been having some bad checks come in, mainly in motor vehicles. She said they charge a \$10 fee for returned checks, but wanted to get the commissioners' opinions on raising the fee.

According to county statutes, Mrs. Linner said they are allowed to charge up to \$30 as long as it is posted in the office. Most businesses around town charge \$30,

she said.

Of the \$10, she said the banks charge the county \$1 or \$2 for each returned check and the county is spending \$4.64 to certify mail it. Also, she said there is the time the employees spend working on them, although most of the time each returned check doesn't take even an hour. Sometimes, she said, they have to send the sheriff out.

Commissioner Richard Thompson suggested that they raise it to \$20. Then it covers the worker's wage, he said.

Commissioner John Miller wanted to

know what Mrs. Linner thought about it.

Mrs. Linner said she thought \$10 was too low, but \$30 was too high.

"So \$20 then, like Richard said," said Mr. Miller.

The commission agreed, but made no motion as it is an administrative matter.

Mrs. Linner said the change will start in February, so that she will have time to get signs posted.

In other business, the commission:

• Discussed whether or not the county could use Bank of the West as one of its

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Extended forecast is in the present

By TOM DREILING

If you need to know what the temperature might be a month or so down the road, the National Weather Service now stands ready to help.

The service, responding to customer demand for climate information at the local level, launched a new local three-month temperature outlook for the continental United States.

Scott Mentzer, meteorologist-in-charge of the Goodland weather forecast office, characterized the new program as "an important capability for the citizens we serve in and around the Tri-State area."

"We expect this to be an increasingly popular product. People want to plan for the future and this is of great value."

The local three-month temperature outlook, accessed on the (Continued on Page 5)

Our survey says: 'You'll have fun'

Almena Congregational Church is planning a night of good food and game show entertainment beginning at 5 p.m. Saturday at the Northern Valley High School.

The 2007 Mexico Mission Team from the church will be serving chili and chicken noodle soups from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Following the meal, there will be a Family Feud style game show.

Pastor Kirk Kasson recently conducted a survey of 100 people in The Valley to provide questions and answers for two

teams that have been assembled for the competition. Topics will include life in the Prairie Dog Valley as well as church related questions.

Volunteer contestants were selected from survey nominations. They include: Bill Lowry, Jean Ann Wilson, Connie Cox, Jim Springer, Chuck Fessenden, Steve Graf, Stanton Nelson, Laverne Graham, Stacy Montgomery and Shad Chandler.

Winners will receive "valuable prizes" while the losing team will receive "lovely

parting gifts". There will be no cost for admission for the meal or the game show.

Donations will be accepted for the meal, and the hat will be passed during the game show for those who would like to support the mission trip to Mexico.

This is the third year for members of Almena Congregational Church to travel to Juarez, Mexico to build a house for a family living in poverty. Last year's team consisted of five church members, and this year's team includes 11 church mem-

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