

# Church:

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Vol. 100, No. 12  
75 cents

# THE NORTON TELEGRAM



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## Friday

February 9, 2007

Norton, Kansas  
Home of Jack Ward

### Briefly

## Calling contest is tomorrow

Today is the last day to register for the annual coyote and crow calling contest. Contestants must be registered by 6 p.m.

The contest will be held on Saturday and will begin one-half hour before sunrise and end at sunset. Callers can use any legal means to call and shoot coyotes and crows. Check in time on Saturday will be from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in the parking lot behind O'Brien's, 110 S. State St., Norton. No one will be allowed to check in after 7 p.m.

Price of entry is \$20 for a two-man team. The entry fee includes a meal.

For more information, contact Rick McChesney at 877-2606 or John Baker at 877-3253.

## Meeting hopes to bridge diversity

Jessica Beebe, Sheridan County extension agent, will be hosting a meeting about building bridges within our communities at 10 a.m. on Tuesday at the Norton County 4-H Building.

This lesson allows participants to become more aware of their personal stereotypes and helps participants learn more about reducing the use of stereotypes involving people who have different backgrounds. This fun and witty lesson will help people explore more about different backgrounds, the history of Kansas, and their own backgrounds.

To attend the meeting and learn more about bridging the diversity in our communities, please RSVP to the Norton County Extension office at 785-877-5755 by Monday.

## Pancakes on the menu Saturday

The Almena Community Pride Pancake and Sausage Supper will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. Saturday at the Almena Community Center. Donations will be accepted and proceeds will go towards the proposed new community center and library.

### Weather

#### Forecast:

**Tonight** — forecast here. forecast here. forecast here. **Thursday** — forecast here. forecast here. forecast here. **Thursday night** — forecast here. forecast here. forecast here. **Friday** — forecast here. forecast here. forecast here. **Friday night** — forecast here.

#### Kingham report:

Friday ..... Low 34, High 49, .65 Precip.  
Saturday ..... Low 24, High 64  
Sunday ..... Low 37, High 75  
Monday ..... Low 45, High 79

(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

### Prayer

Thank you, gracious God, that you are with us in all the changes life brings and that you promise us life in eternity with Jesus Christ. **Amen**

# Check out the check-out

## Check-out day celebrates safe affordable food

By PATSY MADDY

Americans spend just 10 percent of their disposable household income annually on food eaten both at and away from home.

The core message of Food Check-Out Day is that food in America is affordable, thanks in large part to America's productive farmers and ranchers.

Food Check-Out Day is celebrated the day of the year when the average American family has earned enough income to pay for his or her family's annual food supply.

While Food Check-Out Day is in early February, Tax Freedom Day, when the average American earns enough to pay the year's tax requirement, is traditionally recognized in May.

Food Check-Out Day originated with Kansas Farm Bureau in 1997 and has since gone national.

Based on Agriculture Department statistics, it takes just five weeks for the average American to earn enough disposable income to pay for his or her family's food supply for the entire year.

Americans must work much longer to earn enough disposable income to pay for health and medical care (52 days), housing and household operation (62 days) and federal taxes (77 days) for the entire year.

Americans enjoy the safest, most affordable food supply on earth. U.S. consumers spend just under 10 percent of their disposable annual income on food! Consumers in other countries spend much more: Japan, 14 percent; Israel, 20 percent; China, 26 percent; Philippines, 38 percent.

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Dozens of loaves of bread were given away Tuesday and Wednesday during National Food Check-Out Days. Tim Becker, left, and Christopher Maddy stacked loaves at Norton Shop and Save in preparation of giving them, free, to grocery shoppers. Jamboree Foods, Almena Market and Country Corner in Lenora also participated in the event. — Telegram photo by Carlyn Plotts



## Small fire doesn't do much harm

By VERONICA MONIER

Two blasts of the Norton emergency siren last night had the Norton Fire Department responding to a small fire.

Fire Chief Mitch Jones said the fire at the home of Daniel and Ciri Eagleburger, 108 S. Graves, was called in at 10:22 p.m. Thursday night.

The fire, he said, was in the attic and was caused by an electrical short. The damage was minimal and contained to the point of origin.

Chief Jones said 18 men in three units responded to the fire and were there for about an hour and 15 minutes.

He thanked the Norton County Emergency Medical Service for being on standby and the Norton Police and Norton County Sheriff's departments for their assistance.

"Everyone needs to keep in mind that in cold weather extra care is needed when using alternative heating sources like space heaters and electric heaters," he said. "They can be dangerous."

## Downtown clean-up well underway

By CAROLYN PLOTTS

Norton City Administrator Rob Lawson informed the city council that clean-up of the rubble from last summer's downtown fire is well underway.

Mr. Lawson said 804 tons of debris had been dumped at the landfill at a cost of \$14,082.

He said, "We can't say 'thank you' enough to the county commissioners for dropping the landfill fees and for all their help with manpower and equipment."

Mr. Lawson said the plan is to fill the hole where the two buildings formerly stood with sand. He said the last foot of fill will be with top soil. The lot will be left to settle until spring when decisions will be made regarding what to do with the

space.

Councilwoman Elaine Mann said, "It has been great to see the cooperation between the City and County."

In a related issue, Economic Development Director Wade Carter informed the council that a Norton business has expressed an interest in buying the lots. No names were mentioned but his comment did spark a discussion of how the city would go about selling the property, commercial codes and some guidelines for selling the property.

In other business the council:

- Met the four new police officers. Assistant Police Chief, Jeremy Hartwell and officers Adam Wahlmeier, Larry Land and Curtis Black.

## County hires new company to write grants

By VERONICA MONIER

Norton County is taking a step in a different direction to get a new ambulance building.

The Norton County Commission met with Janna Pierce and Juanita Brown with Blue Sky Ink, a grant writing service provider out of Phillipsburg, on Monday to discuss what could be done about getting money for a new ambulance building.

After giving a brief history of what they have done for other organizations, Ms. Pierce went over what they can and will do.

"We can help you assess your needs and fine tune or develop your mission statement," she said. "We'll help you deter-

mine your goals and objectives, which are different things entirely. We will design an evaluation plan, construct a budget and produce a sustainability plan, which says what you're going to do in the future to keep it going.

"We will search for funding opportunities, contact funders on your behalf, write the grant application, help with support letters, assemble and submit the grant application package, and suggest things you can do to make yourself more 'fundable'."

It may sound simple, she said, but it is more difficult than it appears. When writing a grant, she said you have to be very careful to follow all of the directions and

requirements to the letter and not leave anything out.

Although the county hasn't hired them yet, Ms. Brown said they have already started doing research into what will be needed for the ambulance service.

The county's best bet, Ms. Pierce said, is to start with government grants, such as community development block grants, and then work on getting smaller grants from private and public foundations.

Because the ambulance service covers such a large area, she said she didn't see much difficulty in showing that the money was needed.

Commissioner John Miller asked how

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