

**TV LISTINGS**

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# THE NORTON TELEGRAM



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**Tuesday**  
August 21, 2007

**Norton, Kansas  
Home of Roger Hardiek**

## Briefly Annual picnic set for Saturday

The 27th annual Phillips County "Old Fashioned Republican Picnic" will be held at 6 p.m. Saturday at the Hansen Memorial Plaza in Logan.

Keynote speaker will be U.S. Senator Pat Roberts, who will be completing his listening tour throughout the state of Kansas. Other Republican leaders will also be present and speak during the program.

A fried chicken dinner will be served.

Tickets are available from Mapes & Miller CPAs, Rodgers & Associates and Judy Rowland, Phillipsburg or Janene Schneider or Lynn Clements, Logan or Linda McDowell, Agra.

## Congressman coming to town

Kansas Sen. Pat Roberts will be stopping in Norton as part of his statewide tour on Saturday. The senator will be speaking at the Town & Country Kitchen at 1:30 p.m.

## College offering nurse's aide class

A nurse's aide class will be offered at the Andbe Home. Enrollment will be at 6 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 30 at the home. Classes will be from 6 to 10 p.m. Monday and Thursday starting Thursday, Sept. 6. The course requires 23 class sessions. A state exam will be held in Colby after the completion of the course.

Tuition is \$420 (includes testing fees) for five credit hours and approximately \$95 for the textbook and workbook.

Class size is limited to 10. For more information call Joyce Rima, 785-877-366 or 877-5120.

## Weather

### Forecast:

**Tonight** — A 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. **Wednesday** — Scattered showers and thunderstorms after 1 p.m. Partly cloudy with a high near 91. **Wednesday Night** — Scattered showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy with a low around 71. **Thursday** — A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy with a high near 91. **Thursday Night** — A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms.

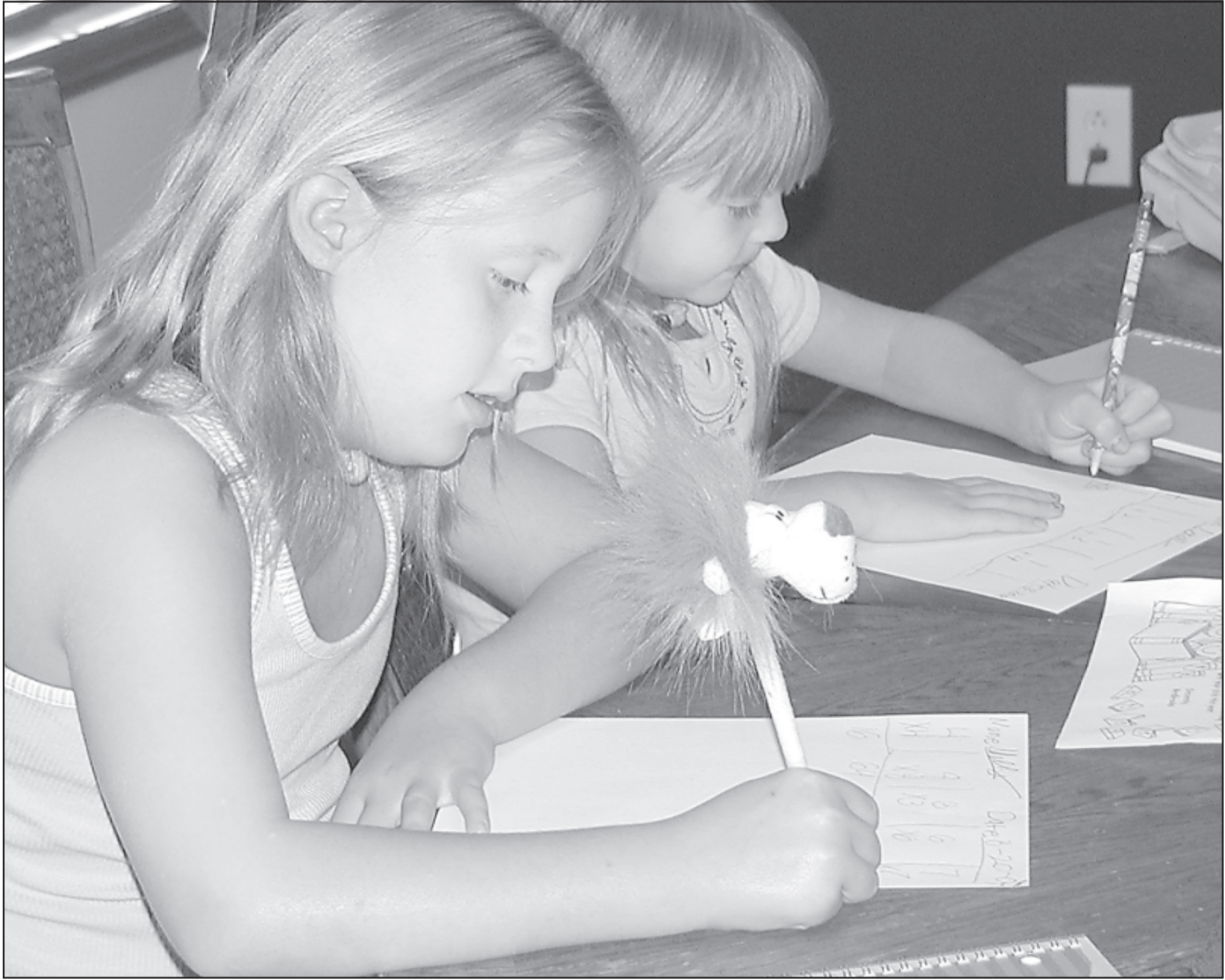
### Kingham report:

Friday ..... Low 66, High 94  
Saturday ..... Low 66, High 93  
Sunday ..... Low 67, High 95  
Monday ..... Low 69, High 102  
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

## Prayer

Thank you, Lord, that you see us and our circumstances. We trust you to provide all that we need. **Amen**

## Hittin' the books...



With the start of school in Norton Monday, Shelby (left) and Samantha Mulford decided to get a head start and practice a little math. Both girls go to Eisenhower Elementary. Samantha is in Cheri Cook's first grade class and Shelby is in Kristen Fahrenbruch's fourth grade class.

— Telegram photo by Veronica Monier

## Taxes may go up with higher valuation

By **VERONICA MONIER**  
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Taxes for residents of Norton may be going up a little bit in 2008.

City Administrator Rob Lawson said in the 2008 budget, the mill levy has stayed the same at 51.176 mills, but the valuation has increased. Last year, a mill was \$10,928. In 2008, he said a mill will be \$11,405. The city doesn't have anything to do with the valuation amount, which is set by the state.

"People's taxes might go up because the valuation went up, even though the mill levy is staying the same," he said.

Mr. Lawson said they increased the amount of the refuse fund to cover rising trash costs.

Councilman Ron Briery asked if there would be any advantage to making recycling mandatory.

"It would help save on tipping fees at the landfill," Mr. Lawson said. "But, you have to get people to do it and if it's mandatory, you have to have someone who

will enforce it."

Mr. Briery said it might be something they should look into.

Councilwoman Elaine Mann said it should go to the Public Works Committee to be studied.

After closing the budget hearing as there were no comments from the public, the council waived the three reading rule and adopted Ordinance 1562, attesting to an increase in tax revenues for 2008, and then accepted the 2008 budget.

In other business, the council:

- Discussed the community room at the Norton Public Library. Mayor Corns said due to water damage, the carpet was turning black and mold was suspected. City crews removed the carpet. Also, he said there is mold in the sheet rock and the plywood in the walls is buckling. Mr. Lawson said he and City Attorney Karen Griffiths met with Connelly and Associates, who will prepare bid specifications to fix the room in addition to repairing the other damage. The specifications will be set up

as alternates, so that if the price goes over the allotted amount, city crews can make some of the repairs. The room will be closed for approximately 90 days.

- Waived the three-reading rule and adopted Ordinance 1561, authorizing an amendment to the loan agreement for the sewer plant project.

- Passed a motion authorizing Mrs. Griffiths to set up demolition agreements with Steve Horney and Patricia Northern, both of whom want the same agreement that the city has with Dan Hazlett. They will demolish everything they can on their properties and then the city crew will finish what they can't and take the debris to the landfill. They will pay all costs involved.

- Heard a presentation from Garrett Beydler on Robert's Rules of Order and parliamentary procedure. Mr. Beydler was there at the council's request.

- Heard that the water plant project is moving slowly and they are, at the mo-

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## Local is an 'old hat' on college board

By **TOM DREILING**  
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Serving on the Northwest Kansas Technical College's Area Advisory Board is old hat for Norton countian Frank Otter. He was just recently re-elected vice chairman, a post he has held five years.

But his years on the advisory board go back much further. In fact they date back to 1990-91 when he represented the Lenora School District.

He continued serving on the board at the tech college in Goodland, under the Lenora umbrella, until around 2001 when the Lenora School District discontinued junior high and high school. Mr. Otter's son, Josh, was in the last graduating class. Lenora continues its kindergarten through sixth-grade curriculum.

Lenora junior high and high school students were then bussed to Norton, and it was at that time Mr. Otter found himself representing the Norton School District on the area advisory board.

How does he like serving the technical college in that capacity? "I enjoy it. I really enjoy serving on that board," he said.

The board, according to Mr. Otter, serves a vast area of western Kansas, "east to Norton and Hill City and south to Syracuse," he said. Twenty-four school districts make up the area advisory board, he said.

Asked if he climbed the chairs, so to speak, to become second in command on the board, he said "not really," mentioning he was serving as Student Welfare Committee chair when the vice chair at that time left

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## Valley Hope celebrates 40th birthday

By **VERONICA MONIER**  
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The Valley Hope Association celebrated its 40th birthday last week, holding its annual meeting Friday afternoon.

John Leipold, the association's executive vice president and chief operating officer, gave the annual operating report. The employees, he said, who work for Valley Hope are dedicated to helping people. In 1967, the association started off with six employees. In 1998, it had 378 and now it has 625. They should be recognized for all they do, he said.

Last year, he said the association had over 147,000 patient bed days, which is over 5,000 more than the previous year. This he said is about a 4 percent increase. There was a 2 percent rise in admissions, which means that patients are staying longer.

The longer a patient stays, he said, the better the chance of recovery.

The association's primary care admis-

sions has also gone up by about 15 percent.

Last year, he said, they had to change family and continuing care. Now, he said, they have to charge for it. But, he said, 1,889 patients bought the continuing care package.

"We're very impressed with these results," he said. "It was our team of 643 that got this done."

He said their mission is to treat as many alcoholics and drug addicts as they can. Valley Hope, he said, has directly treated over 200,000 patients. With their families, they have reached millions.

Mr. Leipold said Valley Hope has been working on several new things, including selling its software to other companies and online therapy. For the past six months, he said, they have been researching online therapy, trying it with patients.

It has been working well, he said, and isn't restricted to what state you're in or where the closest treatment center is.

Ken Gregoire, president and chief executive officer, said there were three things worrying him. First, he said, is evidence based treatment. Valley Hope, he said, has a wonderful treatment system that hasn't changed much since 1967. The reason for that, he said, is because it's a good system, but also because it's a system that works.

People, he said, are constantly doing research studies on other types of treatments. The danger, he said, is using science to tear down treatment methodology that works for treatment that is cheaper. The solution to an alcoholic's or addict's problems is not in a pill. It might help, he said, but it's not a cure.

The second thing that worries him, he said, is that to a lot of new health care plans, treatment is on the bottom of the list. Treatment covered by insurance will be reduced and rationed until it won't be effective anymore.

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