



THE NORTON TELEGRAM

Sports:

Blue Jay football season comes to an end.

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Tuesday November 6, 2007

Norton, Kansas
Home of Becky Smith

Briefly

City council's agenda released

The Norton City Council will meet Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall. Old business will consist of third readings of Ordinances #1566 (a contract franchise granted to Southwestern Bell Telephone Co.); #1567 (vacating a section of Manor Drive in the Westridge Acres Addition to the city); and #1570 (relating to the operation of work-site utility vehicles and ATV's).
New business includes the city administrator's report; Parks Committee meeting report; Personnel Committee meeting report; consider request for a water line; and Finance Committee meeting report.

Dinner, dance, auction planned

The Big Brothers Big Sisters of Norton County annual Dinner, Dance and Silent Auction will be held Saturday, Nov. 17 at the Norton American Legion. The evening will start at 6 p.m. with a no-host cocktail hour, followed by dinner catered by Phat Boy BBQ at 7 p.m. and dancing from 8 to 11 p.m. with Jam Session. Tickets to this event are \$25. For more information contact Mary Kay or Jill at (785) 874-4200. Tickets for the dinner dance and prize tickets on the smoker can be purchased at the Norton Area Chamber of Commerce at

Scheduled VA visit canceled

The Nov. 12 scheduled visit of a Veterans Service Representative from the Kansas Commission on Veterans' Affairs to Norton will not be held. The Veterans Day observance will be held on that date and residents of the Norton area are encouraged to take part in the events honoring veterans. You may call (785) 625-8532 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

Weather

Forecast:

Tonight — Mostly clear with a low around 25. South wind between 5 and 10 mph. **Wednesday** — Sunny with a high near 66. South wind between 5 and 15 mph. **Wednesday Night** — Partly cloudy with a low around 30. **Thursday** — Mostly sunny with a high near 65. **Thursday Night** — Partly cloudy with a low around 31. **Friday** — Mostly sunny with a high near 69

Kingham report:

Friday Low 34, High 57
Saturday Low 28, High 66
Sunday Low 34, High 77
Monday Low 39, High 52
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

O God, help us to respond to others' needs even when it is not convenient.
Amen

Patriot Guard takes place at local funeral

By CAROLYN PLOTTS
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It sounded like thunder rolling through Norton Friday as the Patriot Guard assembled to pay tribute to a fallen soldier.

The Patriot Guard is a group of individuals who have only one mission — to honor fallen soldiers and support their families. Almost 100 motorcycles and 150 riders came from all parts of Kansas and other states to honor Sgt. Scott Turner, 30, who was killed recently in a training accident at Fort Riley. Sgt. Turner had completed a tour of duty with Operation Iraqi Freedom. He was a decorated soldier who leaves behind a wife, Amy (Roeder) Turner, Manhattan, his parents, Robert and Sharon Turner, Land O' Lakes, Fla., two brothers, grandparents, mother and father-in-law, brother and sister-in-law.

The Guard's secondary purpose, if need be, is to form a barrier between the mourning family and any protesters who might try to disrupt the funeral. It was rumored that Fred Phelps and his congregation from Topeka would make an appearance at Sgt. Turner's funeral. One of the church's web sites indicated that the funeral was on their "picket schedule". It is believed that no one from the Topeka church came to Norton.

Jon Wyatt, Norton, had said the Guard would be there "no matter what."

The Patriot Guard rallied to the family's support after they were invited

to be part of the funeral held in Norton Friday at the Christian Church.

Prior to the funeral, members of the organization, along with many local riders, assembled in the parking lot of the Norton National Guard Armory where local Patriot Guard member, Harold Shinn, was in charge. Mr. Shinn asked Jeff Nielsen, senior minister at the Norton Christian Church, to lead the group in prayer. Mr. Nielsen began by saying, "Lord, I'm sorry these guys have to be here — but, I'm sure glad they are."

Following the prayer, Mr. Shinn asked to see a show of hands of the people involved in their first Patriot Guard mission. It's called a mission when they ride for a funeral. Mr. Shinn has been on 14 rides total. Some were funeral missions, others were rides to welcome home soldiers or to see them off for overseas duty.

To those who were "first-timers", Mr. Shinn admonished them about how they were to conduct themselves in the event "we have company over there". He said, "If they (protesters) show up, you are not to have any verbal exchange; no hand gestures; nothing. They don't exist. Turn your back on them. Your sole purpose is to honor Sgt. Turner and support the family."

With American flags and Patriot Guard flags flying, the motorcycles roared down State Street to the Christian Church. Members of the guard, holding U.S. flags, placed themselves entirely around the church lining State Street, Lincoln Street and Norton Avenue. Their motorcycles

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Paying homage to fallen soldier, Sgt. Scott Turner, bagpiper Charles Liles, Viola, played the plaintive strains of "Amazing Grace" during Sgt. Turner's funeral. Mr. Liles, a member of the Patriot Guard, volunteers to play at funerals for soldiers, policemen and firemen.

— Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts



Friday a caravan of beflagged motorcycles belonging to members of the Patriot Guard, headed down State Street to the Norton Christian Church. The Guard surrounded the church and held flags as a tribute to the memory of Sgt. Scott Turner whose funeral was held that day.

— Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

Long Island resident wins pick'em test

By DICK BOYD
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Football fans who entered the *Telegram's* weekly Pigskin Pick-Em Contest had their toughest week of the 2007 season but Frank Kaiser, Long Island, survived the challenge of a number of upsets to win the \$15 first prize for the second time this season.

Frank and six other fans missed two games and judges went to the tiebreaker game score to decide how to divide the winnings. Frank missed just the Virginia win over Wake Forest and the Iowa State upset of Kansas State. Arkansas won the tiebreaker game by outscoring South Carolina 48-36. Frank picked it 28-24 in favor of Arkansas, or a total of 32 points off the actual scores of each team.

Frank also won the contest in week three.

A drawing had to decide the winners of the second and third prizes. Craig Foley and Mark Scheetz, both of Norton, each missed two games and each was 37 points off on the tiebreaker game. Craig chose Arkansas by 27-20 and Mark picked Arkansas by 24-23. Craig won the drawing and will receive \$10 in scrip money. Mark will receive the \$5 scrip third prize.

Craig and Mark both missed the K-State loss and the Cincinnati win over South Florida.

Also missing just two games and points off on the tiebreaker game were: Georgie Rorabaugh, Norton, 39; Barbara Springer, Hoisington, 40; Lucas Bailey,

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'Dream' enrollment 15,000

By TOM DREILING
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The longest-serving president at Fort Hays State University — 20 years and counting — was in Norton late last week to promote his "Dream" for the university, a dream, he said, that will build on the history of success as it restructures to reach new goals for the future.

Dr. Hammond is taking his dream to all areas of the state. Stopping at Norton wasn't by chance, but choice. The president said Norton County has been very supportive over the years by the number of students enrolled. "Norton County has been very good to us," he said.

His dream includes an enrollment of 10,000 in 2010 and 15,000 by 2020.

There is no doubt Mr. Hammond will reach the 10,000 figure before 2010. The university's enrollment today stands at 9,588.

Accompanying the president on his trip were Debra Prideaux, director of the Alumni Association and Governmental Relations; Kent Steward, former managing editor of The Hays Daily News, former mayor of the city of Hays and for the past several years serving as director of

University Relations; and Tim Chapman, the new President/CEO of the Fort Hays State University Foundation, originally called the Endowment Association.

The president said that even with the remarkable growth that includes Virtual College students in nearly every state, and more than 2,200 students in China, the majority of the university's student body continues to be Kansas residents.

This year's theme for the 105-year old university is, "Dare to Dream."

"(Our) task is to build new forms of social cohesion appropriate to the emerging 'Creative Age,'" Hammond said.

He stressed that he is not proposing to abandon the administration's commitment to the high-tech, high-touch learning environment. "Nor are we changing the mission of the university."

President Hammond said his plan contains seven design elements that are responsive to the explosion in knowledge productivity, the increased specialization in academic disciplines, the rise of entirely new disciplines and the collapse of disciplinary boundaries that have increasingly taken place during the last 20 years.

The seven design elements include:

- Commitment to Growth
- Commitment to Life-Long Learning
- Commitment to Entrepreneurship
- Commitment to Intellectual Fusion
- Commitment to Social Relevance
- Commitment to Global Engagement
- Commitment to Learner Outcomes

Hammond's theme is the result of the work of a committee he appointed last May to review and rethink the structure of the university. The committee, in return, solicited ideas from the entire university community on ways to position the institution for a successful future.

The "Commitment to Entrepreneurship" was of special interest and could, in a few years down the road.. benefit areas like Norton, and other rural communities.

As explained by Mr. Hammond, "the university would be encouraged to own and operate businesses, thereby becoming entrepreneurial in the truest sense of the term. That is, risking its time, money and resources. To accomplish this end, Fort Hays State University will create a

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Norton Fire Department receives Life Safety Award

The Norton City Fire Department has once again achieved a Life Safety Award.

The award for 2006 was given by the Residential Fire Safety Institute.

For 14 years, the Life Safety Achievement Award has recognized the local fire prevention activities that contribute to reducing the number of lives lost in residential fires. The Norton City Fire Department qualified for this award n

2006 because it recorded no fire deaths in structures for the year. Although residential fires in the U.S. account for only 20 percent of all fires, they result in 80 percent of all fire deaths.

The fire safety institute is committed to reducing that number. A total of 675 fire departments received the 2006 Life Safety Achievement Award.

"Experience tells us that fire prevention activity and public education can signifi-

cantly reduce life and property loss from residential fires," said Roy L. Marshall, the director of the institute.

"Prevention and education are very cost effective compared to the traditional approach of relying on fire suppression. The Life Safety Achievement Award recognizes fire departments for their fire prevention efforts and encourages them to continually improve those efforts."