

# THE NORTON TELEGRAM



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8 PAGES

Tuesday,  
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Norton, Kansas  
Home of Francis Jones

Briefly

## Blue Jay Boosters huddle Wednesday

All fans of Norton Community High School sports are invited to the Norton Blue Jay Booster Club meeting at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday in the high school cafeteria.

Featured speakers will be golf coach David Stover and track coach Jason Jones.

## Moffet Station event called off

Diane Becker, Director, Norton City/County Economic Development, said today the planned hot dog fund raiser for the Moffet Station project, scheduled for Saturday, has been canceled. She said delays in preparing the building necessitated the decision.

## Legion baseball fund raiser set

In preparation for the upcoming season, the Norton American Legion baseball players and coaches will host a Cook Out fund raiser from 12 noon to 6 p.m. at Elmwood Park this coming Saturday.

Smoked ribs, hamburgers, hot dogs, baked beans, potato salad, chips and drinks will be served.

The public is invited to attend this fund raiser, which is being held to help with the cost of fielding this year's team.

## Weather

### Forecast:

**Tonight** — Increasing clouds, with a low around 47. Southeast wind between 5 and 10 mph.

**Wednesday** — A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly after 1 p.m. Areas of fog before 10 a.m. Otherwise, mostly cloudy with a high near 70. **Wednesday Night** — A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy with a low around 57. Breezy with a south wind 20 to 25 mph decreasing to between 10 and 15 mph. **Thursday** — A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly after 1 p.m. Mostly cloudy with a high near 78. **Thursday Night** — A slight chance of rain. Mostly cloudy with a low around 44. **Friday** — A 20 percent chance of rain. Mostly cloudy with a high near 62.

## Kingham report:

Friday ..... Low 30, High 66  
Saturday ..... Low 35, High 75  
Sunday ..... Low 48, High 83  
Monday ..... Low 40, High 66  
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

## Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank you for your love. Help us to treat others the way you taught us to treat them. **Amen**

# Monoliths rising in downtown Norton



Stone pillars in Norton's downtown city park were installed Monday in a bed of concrete. They were braced with wooden supports until the concrete is completely set. Kirk Griffith was one of the installers. — Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

# Norton students learn new form of ABCs

By TOM DREILING  
[tom.d@nwkansas.com](mailto:tom.d@nwkansas.com)

Monday was another 'learning day' for juniors and seniors at Norton Community High School.

But a different kind of learning.

They learned their ABCs from Michelle Kaberline, financial literacy coordinator with the office of Kansas State Treasurer Lynn Jenkins, CPA.

These ABCs, however, weren't as simple as learning the alphabet.

The students, some of whom will become college students in the fall, and others who will join the job market, were taught all about credit cards, including — most importantly — how to properly and responsibly manage them. This all took place in the "ABCs of Credit Card finance" class, a presentation of the state treasurer's office, which acknowledged the support of Principal Rudy Perez.

## Emergency farm loans now available

Farmers in Norton, Rawlins and Decatur counties, who suffered crop or livestock losses due to severe winter storms occurring on Dec. 6, 2007 through Dec. 19, 2007, may now apply for Farm Service Agency emergency loans. John C. Vogt, Farm Loan Manager, told *The Telegram*.

"Loans," he said, "covering physical and/or production losses, may be made at a 3.75 percent interest rate, and are scheduled for repayment as rapidly as feasible, consistent with the applicant's reasonable ability to pay."

Farm Service Agency loans covering physical losses may be used to replace installations, equipment, livestock, or buildings (including homes) lost through this disaster.

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"The seniors will graduate next month and head out into the 'real' world of college or full-time employment," Treasurer Jenkins said. "Regardless of what path they take, they will be learning lessons in finance that will help them for several more years."

"The amount of debt our state's young adults are accumulating is startling," Treasurer Jenkins said. "We hope the Norton students will implement a few things they learned to keep on-track when they encounter detours and speed bumps along the financial path, especially as it relates to credit."

Nellie Mae, a nationally respected student loan corporation, found that:

- One in three high school students carry credit cards, and even more have an ATM card. (*Tomorrow's Money/The Bond Market Foundation*)
- Nearly one-third (32 percent) of col-

# Drafting Team does it again

Something significant has taken place for the Norton Community High School Drafting Team.

They won the recent Northwest Kansas Technical College Drafting Contest for the fourth straight year, winning four of the nine categories to outdistance Hays High. Other teams in the top five were Ellis, Phillipsburg and Oberlin.

Jim Myers, Norton instructor, said "This drafting team is really young, but our kids stepped up and did a really nice job. Other than Nolan Evans, who is a senior but a first year drafting student, the rest of the top placers are sophomores and juniors."

Norton was once again very strong in the pencil drawing areas, winning four of the five categories.

Norton had the top two drawings in the fair with sophomore Adam Myers getting the top drawing, edging out senior Nolan Evans in the voting.

Both were awarded Best of Show awards and \$500 scholarships to the Northwest Kansas Technical College at

lege students, when thinking about their freshman year, admit that they were "not at all" or "not very well prepared" for managing their money on campus. (*Nellie Mae*)

• Studies conducted in 2006 of 3 million young adults in their twenties found that late payments for their debts are rising and they are more likely to be late than other Americans at paying toward their debt. Nearly half of them have stopped paying their debt, forcing lenders to sell it to collection agencies, repossess vehicles and push the young adults into bankruptcy protection. (*USA Today: Young & In Debt Series*)

- Nearly two thirds (63 percent) of college undergraduates acquired their first credit card before age 19. (*Nellie Mae*)
- The American Bankruptcy Institute stated that in 2003 there had been more than a 50 percent increase in bankrupt-

Goodland.

Other top performances were by sophomore Cody Cook, who took the top two places in the Advanced Drafting category, scoring big points for the team. Zac Dreher added first, fifth and sixth places. David Roman, foreign exchange student, came up with a third and a fifth place in the beginning mechanical drafting category. DJ Ebner scored a third and a sixth place in two categories.

Mr. Myers said he wasn't sure if the team would win with Hays bringing 40 drawings and "we only brought 28. But we scored high enough to make up the difference."

Other members of the Norton Drafting Team are freshmen Troy Bainter, Courtney Kaus, John Koch, Kaid McKenna and Caleb Gross; sophomores Grant McClymont, Alex Simoneau and Kerstan Richmeier; and seniors Todd Bolt, Aaron Husted and Luke VanSike.

Here is a breakdown of how things went at the Goodland event:

cies among people under age 25. (*The American Bankruptcy Institute*)

"ABCs of Credit Card finance" is distributed by the Kansas State Treasurer's office and developed by the Center for Student Credit Card Education, Inc., made possible by Citibank Credit-ED.

Treasurer Jenkins, a former State Representative and Senator from Topeka, was re-elected to her second term as Kansas State Treasurer on Nov. 7, 2006.

During her time as treasurer, she has expanded investment options in Learning Quest and oversaw the re-bidding of the program, returned an average of \$9 million a year in unclaimed property to Kansans, initiated multiple financial literacy programs, and eliminated the reliance on state general fund dollars to operate the office.

She is a Certified Public Accountant and former small business owner.

### Team: Norton placed 1st.

Adam Myers was the Grand Champion, best drawing at the contest.

Best of Show awards went to Nolan Evans and Adam Myers (\$500 scholarships for both if they attend the Northwest Kansas Technical College.

**Beginning Mechanical:** 1st, Nolan Evans; 2nd, Zane Perez; 3rd, David Roman; 5th, David Roman; 6th, Jake Romey.

**Advanced Mechanical:** 1st, Cody Cook; 2nd, Cody Cook; 3rd, Hannah Fulton; 4th, Adam Myers; 5th, Scotty Marx; 6th, DJ Ebner.

**Architectural Floor Plan:** 1st, Zac Dreher; 2nd, Nish Millan.

**Auto CAD Mechanical:** 3rd, DJ Ebner.

**Auto CAD Architectural Floor Plan:** 5th, Zac Dreher; 6th, Zac Dreher.

**Pictorial Drawings:** 1st, Adam Myers.

Norton's next contest is May 1-2 at Fort Hays State University's Technology Fair.