

THE NORTON TELEGRAM

WEBSITE: nwkansas.com

8 PAGES

Tuesday,
April 22, 2008

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
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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.

"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-

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 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-

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 Kansas, 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.

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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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

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 VanSkike.

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

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.

Your turn...

Things you might want to know

To the Editor,

We are from Norton and visit there regularly but live in Hays now. We read your column in *The Telegram* last Friday and agree with some of your assessment of patriotism and the little lapel flag pins and such.

Furthermore, we do not think carrying a Bible or even being able to quote a verse or two makes one a Christian. Maybe that is what the commandment about taking the name of the Lord "in vain" is really about.

Also, I don't think being captured and spending some time as a prisoner makes anyone a "saint" I wonder about our future, if the current "popular" candidates for President are the best we can come up with. Did we forget the Keating Five? Did we forget the Clinton penchant for lying? She recently said "I have been a critic of NAFTA from the very beginning." Excuse me? I read that 11,000 Clinton White House documents, which she tried to keep from the public, have been released under the Freedom of Information Act and some show that she was an ardent advocate for NAFTA. She held at least five meetings to develop strategy to win congressional approval of NAFTA.

Did we forget the (potty mouth) tirades from the last decade? Do we know who finished fifth from the bottom of his military academy

class (594 out of 599)? I wonder what the 593 above him are doing today and if they would be willing to run and if they just might be more qualified.

If we are after "change" — as one candidate urges — then why did we not see more in the media about Texas Congressman, Ron Paul? The change is, apparently, not desired to be toward more truth and honesty. What's more, why did the MSM proclaim that he (Ron Paul) dropped out of the race, when he never did such a thing? Perhaps we are not living in a free and truthful society? Maybe it is deliberate, maybe it is a matter of laziness in the media.

Think of all the education (not brainwashing) they could impart to the people on the nightly news if they did not spend so much time with their self-adulation (hype). The 10 o'clock news seems to consume at least 20 minutes with their hype and commercials and a portion of the other 10 minutes is spent telling us some of what they are going to (maybe) tell us later in the news.

Now, I remember being trained in sales and one of the lessons is to get in front of the prospect, make your case and shut up, take the order. These people "doing the news" keep telling us how good they are — okay here I am, prove it, tell me the news, the weather, the sports and quit telling me how good you are — I'm here

aren't I?

If you are trying to get NEW people to listen to your news, then you need to advertise on the "other" channels, not on your own. How stupid are they? How stupid are we? Reminds me of some of the direct mail junk that I get where at the bottom of the page they "instruct" me to go to the next page. Let's see, I know how to read, but I get to the bottom of the page and I don't know what to do? Do they visualize people getting to the bottom and not knowing what to do next? I had good teachers in Norton, for they not only taught me to read but also what to do when I got to the bottom of the page. Miss Ballard might not like my sentence structure or the lack of paragraphs, but she would be proud of my ability to turn the pages, right?

What would happen if my old television set does not work come next February? It must be pretty important to the system since they started telling me about this new regulation months ago and I might need to get a converter box and if I need help paying for it there is a subsidy available to all from the government.

No howling about that expense, but the people worry and complain about the potential damage to the economy from the rebates due out beginning in May.

Richard Henderson
Hays

Bankers Week sets stage for events

To the Editor,

The Community Bankers Association of Kansas has designated the last week in April to celebrate communities and the people who live and work across Kansas. Community Bankers Week will be April 28-May 3 and First State Bank will honor our community and our customers during this celebration.

This year's celebration centers around the theme, "Community Banking...A Timeless Tradition." First State Bank has been owned and operated locally since April 1902. It is our timeless tradition to honor our customers. The deposits entrusted to us augment our ability to reinvest those dollars right here where they can be used to help local businesses, farmers and ranchers, individuals and families. In other words, while the dollars deposited with our bank are work-

ing for you — our customers — they are also working for the local economy.

To help celebrate Community Banking Week, First State Bank will be sponsoring a couple of different events. Stop by and pick up a coloring page for the kids to enter our coloring contest. Coloring pages can be picked up now and must be submitted to First State Bank no later than Friday, May 2, 3 p.m. First, second and third place winners will be picked (in two age categories) the following week and all coloring sheets will be on display in the First State Bank lobby. Great prizes will be awarded, ranging from savings bonds, movie passes and T-shirts.

Then join us April 29 at 7 p.m. in the basement of Prairie Land Electric for an Identity Theft Seminar. The seminar will be packed full

of information as to how to avoid becoming a victim of Identity Theft — something that plagues us in everyday life.

Community banks have been a core part of economic development in Kansas for more than 100 years. We have rich history in the time honored tradition of providing local funding for local projects. Therefore, local reinvestment remains our main focus in guiding bank decisions, policies and our employees who serve customers every day.

Sincerely,

John Engelbert, President,
Employees of First State Bank

Jazz Appreciation Concert coming to area April 29

By DEBBIE SCHWANKE
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Each year in April the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History, International Association of Jazz Education, and a long list of distinguished partners, schools, organizations and jazz greats, band together to celebrate Jazz Appreciation Month.

This international observance encourages people of all ages to discover jazz. Colby Community College will host their Second Annual Jazz Appreciation Month (JAM) Concert on Tuesday, April 29.

Bill Harshbarger and The Jazz Traders will perform at Colby Community College as the featured group along with the college's Jazz Ensemble directed by Brad Herndon.

The Jazz Traders is a quintet led by saxophonist Bill Harshbarger. Harshbarger, a professional woodwind player and music educator, has had extensive experience performing with such artists as Clark Terry, Bobby McFerrin, The Tommy Dorsey Orchestra, and Louie Bellison.

He has performed with Bob Hope, Wayne Newton, Johnny Carson, and Bob Newhart as well as many symphony orchestras.

He is well known as a jazz educator in Kansas and internationally. Harshbarger has played for four U. S. Presidents.

He is former president of the Kansas Unit of The International

Association for Jazz Education and was selected as Wichita's Arts Educator of the Year in 2005.

Bill Glen is featured percussionist for the group. Glen has performed all over the world.

He is in demand as a studio drummer. For the past 20 years he has been drummer for the popular vocal group The Letterman, performing more than 154 shows a year.

Pianist for the group is Beau Jarvis. Jarvis is an accomplished jazz pianist and composer.

He has recently returned to Wichita from performing in Los Angeles.

Guitarist for The Traders is the distinguished composer and performer Randy Zellers.

He is one of the most sought-after guitarists in the Midwest and has extensive experience in the studio. He is very popular as a private guitar teacher.

Miki Masuda from Tokyo, Japan is the talented bassist for the ensemble. She has served as a graduate assistant in the music department of Wichita State University.

She will receive her Master's Degree in Music this spring. She was recently selected by competitive audition to be a staff musician for the acrobatic troupe Cirque du Soliel.

The concert will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Northwest Kansas Cultural Arts Center located on the Colby College campus.

There is no admission charge.

Emergency loans: time to apply

(Continued from Page 1)

Loans covering production losses may be used to buy feed, seed, fertilizer, livestock, or to make payments on real estate and chattel debts. "Funds can also be used for other essential operating and living expenses," Mr. Vogt said. To be eligible for an emergency disaster loan, an applicant must be operating a family size farm or ranch, must be unable to

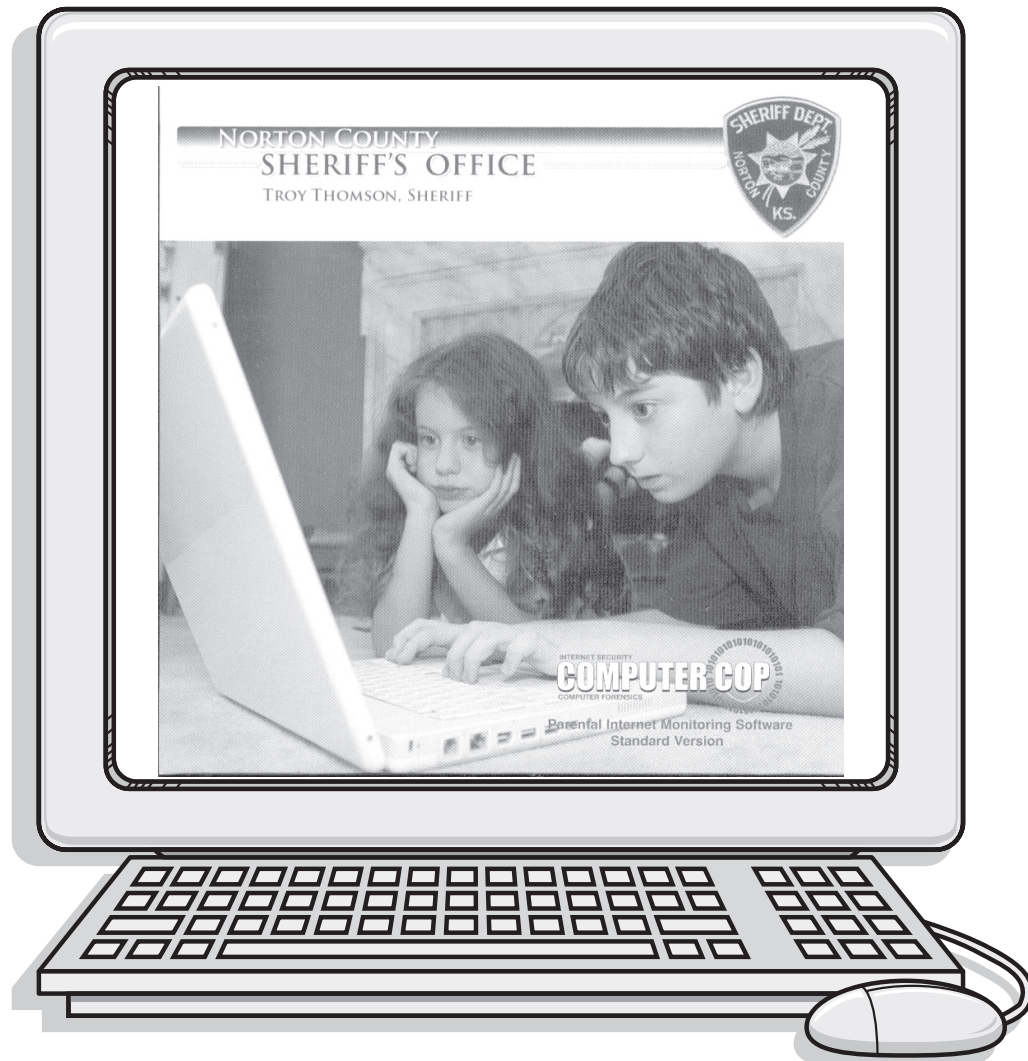
get credit elsewhere, and must have suffered a qualifying physical and/or production loss from the disaster.

Farmers who suffered at least a 30 percent reduction to at least one cropping enterprise, may have a qualifying production loss. Emergency disaster production loss loans cover 100 percent of qualifying losses. Loan availability is limited to \$500,000, less the

outstanding principal balance of any and all prior emergency loans, Mr. Vogt said.

He asked farmers needing farm credit as a result of severe winter storms from Dec. 6, 2007 through Dec. 19, 2007, and who think they are eligible for Farm Service Agency assistance, to make their applications at the Norton office between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

ATTENTION PARENTS!



You can now get software to monitor the use of your computer-- it is available at the Norton County Sheriff's Office for \$5.00 each

If you have any questions please contact the Norton County Sheriff's Office at 785-877-5780

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