

THE NORTON TELEGRAM



WEBSITE: nwkans.com

8 PAGES

Tuesday
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Norton, Kansas
Home of Kathy Zimmerman

Briefly

Wednesday's city agenda released

The Norton City Council will come to order at 5:30 p.m., Wednesday, at the City Building. A varied agenda awaits. Building/demolition permits include: The Bank, \$10,000, for a new pole sign, and Curtis Glenn, \$12,000 to demolish east apartment; build garage, and build awning over front porch.

Old business includes third reading of Ordinance #1574, accepting dedication of Timbercreek Drive as a public street; third reading of Ordinance #1575, relating to licensing and insurance for taxicab services in the city.

New business includes: discuss Ordinance #1576, amending court cost fees; city administrator's report; Parks Committee meeting report; Utility Committee meeting report; Public Works Committee meeting report; Public Safety Committee meeting report; and paying bills. The meeting is open to the public.

Rolling Hills people to give program

Rolling Hills Wildlife Adventure, Salina, will present a special program at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, June 5 at the Norton Public Library. Part of the library's summer reading program called, "Catch the Reading Bug," the staff from Rolling Hills will have live animals and insects on display. There will not be a Fun Night Thursday. The first Fun Night will be held at 7 p.m., Thursday, June 12 at the library. It will be Pizza and Board Game Night.

Weather

Forecast:

Tonight — A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy with a low around 64. Calm wind becoming east between 5 and 10 mph.

Wednesday — A 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy with a low around 59. **Thursday** — A chance of showers with thunderstorms also possible after 1 p.m. **Thursday Night** — A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. **Friday** — Mostly cloudy with a high near 83.



Kingham report:

Friday Low 58, High 87, .25 Rain
Saturday Low 58, High 87
Sunday Low 58, High 83
Monday Low 62, High 82
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

God, take away our need for certainty and give us faith that risks loving others and loving you. **Amen**

County roads a big mess

But crews doing the best they can

By CYNTHIA HAYNES
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Storms ripped through Northwest Kansas two weeks ago wreaking havoc on structures, trees and roads.

Norton County Road and Bridge Supervisor Tom Brannan said that after the worst of the storms there was 30 miles of road that had to be closed and 350 miles of roads were damaged. His crews have gotten a lot of that reopened now, he said, but it's an uphill battle against washouts, clogged culverts and water-swept debris.

At the Norton County commission meeting on Friday, he told the commissioners that his crew has been able to get everyone at least one way in or out of their homes.

The commissioners asked Mr. Brannan to log all the work that needs to be done and estimate the damage costs.

Just finding enough dirt to fill in the places that have washed out will be difficult, he told the commissioners

On Monday, Mr. Brannan said that he's still working on figuring the cost but guesses that it will be about one-half million dollars.

Sheriff Troy Thomson, who is also the county emergency management officer, requested the commissioners apply for a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant. The commissioners agreed.

On Monday Mr. Brannan was back in telling the commissioner about the progress his crews have made.

Commissioner John Miller remarked that he hopes the federal government approves the county's request for emergency help. Governor Kathleen Sebelius has signed an order naming most of the counties, including Norton, in Northwest Kansas, as part of a disaster area. Now, it's up to the feds he said, adding that he didn't know what the county would do to make the needed repairs without some help.



Topper Cook of the Norton County Road and Bridge crew inspected a huge wash-out on W-11 and Road N that happened last week during heavy rains. This was just one of the dozens of Norton County roads damaged by flooding.

— Photo courtesy of Tom Brannan



Southern Norton County was hit hard in last week's storms. This bridge, one mile south of the K-9 and Highway 283 intersection (14 mile corner), was completely gone and turned into a logjam haven.

— Photo courtesy of Tom Brannan

Another filing; deadline to get on ballot days away

By TOM DREILING
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J.C. Berry is the latest to file for the Aug. 5 primary election, reports the

office of County Clerk Robert Wyatt. A Republican, he is seeking re-election to the the precinct committeeman's seat from Ward 2.

The deadline to file is noon on June 10. Here is the roster of those who have previously filed:

- Wanda M. Vincent, Republican incumbent, Register of Deeds.
- Cynthia Linner, Republican incumbent

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Norton's God's Pantry stands ready to assist those in need

By CYNTHIA HAYNES
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"Feed the hungry," isn't just a quote from the Bible for the volunteers at God's Pantry; it's a command they take to heart.

The food bank is housed in an old Sunday school building beside the Trinity Episcopal Church on East Waverly in Norton.

Open from 3 to 4 p.m. each Sunday afternoon, staffed by volunteers from the church and stocked by community donations, the pantry serves hungry Norton residents, who don't have the resources to help themselves.

The pantry tries to serve only Norton residents, volunteer Don Johnson said, because all the surrounding towns have their own emergency food banks. However, he admits that transients can get something to tide them over for awhile.

The food bank isn't for long-term assistance, he said. The pantry volunteers always steer people to programs that can help them take care of themselves. One such program is run by the ministerial alliance through the sheriff's department.

Hungry Norton residents can go to the pantry up to three times in six months for help. They are asked to fill out a form, which is kept confidential but which helps

volunteers help them find other, more permanent, solutions to the problems at hand.

The forms, which have simple questions like name, address and number in household, allow the volunteers to help the recipients pick out the types of food they need — enough to feed a hungry family for a week.

Last year the pantry served 212 families. This year there had been 77 in need of help by mid-May. However, because those in need can use the pantry's services up to six times a year there are a lot of repeats, Mr. Johnson noted.

Mr. Johnson, who was the volunteer on duty one Sunday earlier in the month, stressed that although the Episcopal congregation organized and staffs the food pantry, the whole Norton community contributes to its upkeep.

The shelves holding the the boxes, cans and bottles of food were specially made and donated to the pantry by New Age Industrial. Each year the Rotary Club, Boy Scouts, Norton and Almena schools and Pamida hold food drives and Dollar General donates out of season candy. Monetary donations from churches, businesses and individuals buy the rest of the

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It's 'R' time



Dick Hahn, holding the balloon, enjoyed his retirement party on Thursday, May 29 at the Norton City Office. Friends and family gathered to share cake and tea and to wish him well. Mr. Hahn retired after working 24 years for the city as the Water/Waste Water Plant Supervisor. He and his wife, Kaylene, plan to travel and spend time with their family.

— Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts