

THE NORTON TELEGRAM



WEBSITE: nwkansas.com

12 PAGES

Tuesday
June 24, 2008

Norton, Kansas
Home of Gary Shearer

CONGRATULATIONS



PAGES 6, 7, 8

Briefly

Special note for advertisers, readers

The Telegram will have an altered schedule next week, due to the July 4th holiday falling on Friday. We do not publish on six federal holidays — July 4th one of them — so next week there will be just one issue of The Telegram and that will be Tuesday, July 1.

The deadline for advertisers to put their message in the July 1 issue is Thursday afternoon of this week. Also, those who might have copy that would normally appear on a Friday, will need to have that information in our hands no later than noon Friday of this week.

"We hope this does not inconvenience any of you," said Tom Dreiling, the paper's publisher.

City of Norton helps fund group

Jennifer Follis, Northwest Kansas Domestic & Sexual Violence Services, Inc., Advocate, told The Norton Telegram that the organization has received funding from the City of Norton in the amount of \$500.

"These funds," she said, "will be used to provide direct services to victims of domestic and sexual violence in Kansas, and it is greatly appreciated."

She added, "It is a fortunate community indeed whose governmental officials recognize the need of all of its citizens."

Weather

Forecast:

Tonight — Mostly cloudy with a low around 66. South wind between 10 and 15 mph.



Wednesday — Mostly sunny and hot with a high near 97. **Wednesday Night** — A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before 1 a.m. **Thursday** — A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1 p.m. **Thursday Night** — A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before 1 a.m.

Kingham report:

Friday Low 58, High 85, .12 Rain
Saturday Low 57, High 88, .20 Rain
Sunday Low 54, High 89
Monday Low 61, High 86
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

God, you love all your children. Teach us to give our time as well as our gifts to serve the people in our community. **Amen**

Seventeen graduate at corrections

By CAROLYN PLOTTS
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Parents beamed with pride; children clapped their hands in excitement; teachers gave words of praise as the graduates accepted their diplomas.

It didn't matter to them that their son, father, grandson, brother, nephew or friend was wearing prison blues under their commencement robes. All that mattered was that their loved one had completed a difficult task.

Last Friday afternoon the Medium Visiting Center at Norton Correctional Facility was filled with family and friends waiting to see 17 inmates receive General Equivalency Diplomas (GED) or diplomas in house-building construction.

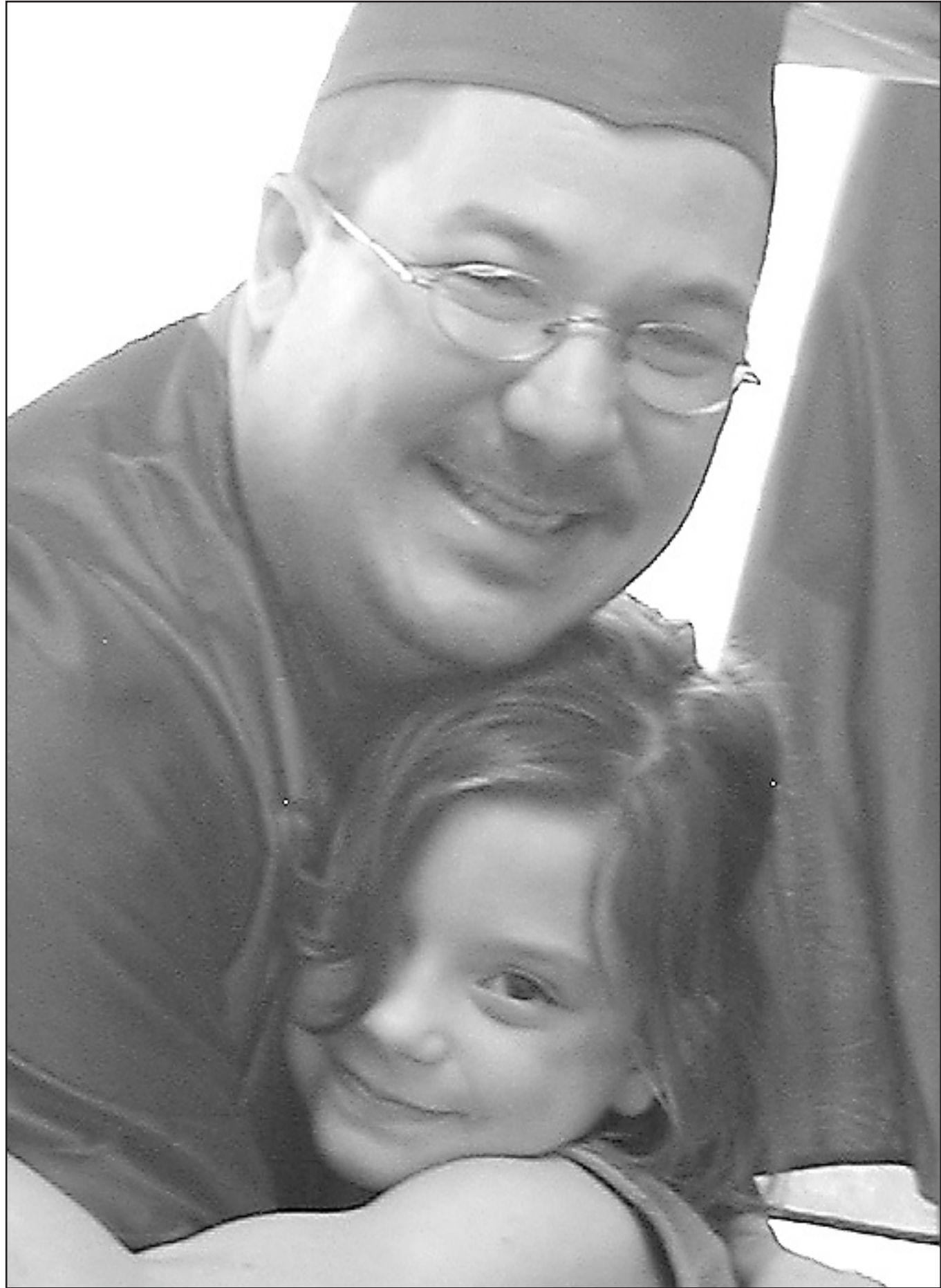
Debbie Smith, lead teacher and head of the education department at the facility, welcomed everyone to the event and praised the students for their hard work. She introduced Ward Foley, author and Norton native, who delivered the commencement address.

Mr. Foley recounted many of the challenges he faced in his lifetime including birth defects and injuries. The message he emphasized to the graduates was to not dwell on what they couldn't do — but focus on what they could do.

Frank Rash, St. Mark's, Kan., came to see his son, David Rash graduate. The senior Mr. Rash also brought his son's daughter, Hope, along to see her father. Mr. Rash said, "I was very impressed (with the ceremony). The teachers were incredible. Mr. Foley said what David and I have talked about before — you can either waste your time or make something positive of it. I'm so proud of my son."

Josh Brown, an inmate from the Kansas City area, said he thought the ceremony was awesome. His mother, Esther Jones, said, "This (her son's graduation) was a long time coming. I'm very proud of him." Also visiting Mr. Brown was his daughter, Rachel Brown, 9, and his sister, Crystal Schirlls.

Kim and Carolyn Moody, Ulysses, (Continued on Page 5)



David Rash, an inmate at Norton Correctional Facility, received a congratulatory hug from his daughter, Hope, 8, who came to see her father receive his General Equivalency Diploma in ceremonies held Friday at the facility. Mr. Rash was among 17 men who received a diploma in education or in house building construction.

— Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

Man power prevails



Norton City policeman Adam Wahlmeier directed traffic Sunday afternoon at the intersection of U.S. Highway 36 and U.S. 283. Power to the entire town went off about 2:30 and remained off about 2 3/4 hours. City employees are unable to give a definite answer as to the cause of the outage.

— Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

Would you believe in excess of 11 inches of rain since May 1?

By TOM DREILING
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What's a little rain among friends? Depends on how you define 'little.'

Going through the Norton area weather records from May 1 through this past weekend, a little turns out to be something like 11.11 inches. The records are maintained for The Telegram by Karolyn Kingham on her farm nine miles northwest of Norton.

In all of that, it is easy to recall the storm in late May when torrential rains, pushed by heavy winds, damaged countless miles of rural roads and many bridges in Norton County and left behind 5-6 inches of puddles, ponds and lakes. May's total alone was 8.17 inches.

And in June, we have had a total of 2.94 inches (though the past weekend).

Ironically, in this time span, winter

also peeked in its out-of-season face, leaving one inch of snow on May 2. Remember?

The June rains have occurred on these dates and left the following deposits: 5th, .20; 6th, .02; 16th, .22; 17th, .70; 18th, 1.50; and 19th, .30.

Three May rainfalls left 1.20 inches, 5.00 and 1.20 to account for 7.40 inches of the 8.17.

The rains have resulted in plush lawns, colorful flowers, in general beautiful scenery. But on the flip side are the damaged roads and bridges, creating a challenge for the county's road and bridge department, which, despite the obstacles, is making headway. Supervisor Tom Brannan and his troops charge ahead.

The conversation now turns to what benefit, or harm, these heavy rains will

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Incumbency straightened out

By TOM DREILING
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John Miller is the incumbent committeeman from Highland #3 on the Norton County Republican Central Committee, and Clarence E. Wetter is issuing a challenge for that seat in the Aug. 5 primary election.

An earlier report by The Telegram had listed Mr. Wetter as the incumbent.

That race is one of only two in the Aug. 5 primary. The other involves incumbent Sheriff Troy M. Thomson, who is being challenged by Brent A. Bohl. Both are Republicans.

Here is the slate for the primary (and all are Republicans):

County Offices — 2nd District Com-

missioner, Carolyn Applegate, incumbent Leroy Lang opted out of seeking re-election; 3rd District Commissioner, John Miller, incumbent; Clerk, Robert D. Wyatt, incumbent; Treasurer, Cynthia Joan Linner, incumbent; Register of Deeds, Wanda M. Vincent, incumbent; Sheriff, Troy M. Thomson, incumbent, challenger Brent A. Bohl; County Attorney, R. Douglas Sebelius.

Township Trustee and Treasurer — Trustee, Almena, Shad Chandler; Treasurer, Abner Williams.

Norton County Republican Central Committeemen and Committeewomen — Ward 2, Ruth Lofgreen and J.C. Berry; Ward 1, Bernice R. Becker and

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