

THE NORTON TELEGRAM



WEBSITE: nwkansas.com

8 PAGES

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Norton, Kansas
Home of Walt Hazlett



Look for the Pre-Fair Special in today's Telegram

Briefly

Crazy Day slated for early August

Norton merchants will hold their annual Crazy Day Sidewalk Sale on Saturday, Aug. 2. The big day of bargain hunting and activity will begin as early as 7 a.m. Sale mania will provide shoppers with bargains that are bigger and better than ever, according to the Norton Area Chamber of Commerce. Not only will you find unbelievable bargains on the sidewalk, but you will also notice substantial bargains on merchandise inside the stores. All non-profit organizations are encouraged to participate and will not be charged a fee to enter but need to contact the office so they can be listed in the advertisement. If you would like to participate or have any questions contact the chamber at 785-877-2501

Water leak fixed at Park, So. State

A city maintenance worker, on his way to work around 8 a.m. Tuesday, saw water running down the hill from the intersection at Park and South State streets. He called it into the shop, which had already been alerted. The shop said it took about five hours to fix the old, rusty line, and that no one was affected by the situation. A partial barricade appears at the intersection.

Norton gas drops to \$3.89, down \$.20

Weather

Forecast:

Tonight — A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before 1 a.m. **Saturday** — Mostly sunny with a high near 96. **Saturday Night:** Partly cloudy with a low around 70. **Sunday** — Mostly sunny and hot with a high near 99. **Sunday Night** — A 10 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms.

Kingham report:

Tuesday Low 68, High 100
Wednesday Low 61, High 92
Thursday Low 69, High 99
Friday Low 64, 1.50" Rain
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

Thank you, God, for being with us through good and bad times and for always loving us. **Amen**

Checking it over



Shoppers look for the best produce in John Geisinger's truck Thursday morning at the Norton Farmer's Market. Mr. Geisinger is one of the largest producers for the market, held Thursdays at Elmwood Park. — Telegram photo by Brandy Leroux

School safety becomes focus

By TOM DREILING
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It won't be long and another school year will be upon us.

Even in mid-July, some Norton parents report their kids getting the *anxious bug*.

They were glad to see the school year end in May, but after nearly two months away from classmates they may not have seen over the summer, they are looking forward to reestablishing those friendships.

What better place than the classroom? The word most used when conversation centers around kids and school is *safety*.

While preparing supplies, schedules, and other back-to-school needs, parents and children also need to think about school bus safety. To ensure school vehicles will load, transport, and unload students with care, Kansas Highway Patrol troopers are inspecting school buses and other vehicles across the state for compliance with safety regulations.

A date to check the Norton School District vehicle fleet has not yet been scheduled, according to a spokesman.

Troopers are visiting each school

district and inspecting nearly 9,000 school vehicles' mechanical conditions and equipment. A bus that passes the inspection will display a yellow sticker of approval in the corner of the windshield. Buses that do not comply with safety regulations cannot be used to transport students until all defects are corrected and a trooper rechecks the vehicle. In 2007, Patrol personnel inspected 9,546 school vehicles.

"Inspecting school buses every year is an important task for the Kansas Highway Patrol, because it helps ensure that children will be transported to and from school in reliable school vehicles," Patrol Superintendent Colonel Terry Maple told The Telegram. "However, it is equally important that parents and children talk about school bus safety, including watching for traffic and safely getting on and off the bus."

The Patrol offers the following safety tips for parents, children, and motorists before the school year starts.

Tips for Children

Do not hurry to get on or off the bus. Get to the bus stop at least five minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive.

When the bus approaches, stand at least five giant steps away from the curb, and line up away from the street.

Wait until the bus stops, the door opens, and the driver says it is OK before stepping onto the bus. Use the handrails to avoid falls. Be careful that clothes, shoelaces, book bags, or other items do not get caught on the handrail or door of the bus.

If you have to cross the street in front of the bus, walk on the sidewalk or along the side of the road at least five giant steps (10 feet) ahead of the bus before you cross in front of it. Be sure the driver can see you, and you can see the driver. Never walk behind the bus, and walk at least three giant steps away from the side of the bus.

Children should stop at the bus's edge and look both ways twice for oncoming traffic before crossing the street. Kids must learn the importance of watching for traffic before getting off the bus or crossing the street, because drivers may not see them.

If you drop something, tell the driver and wait to make sure the driver under-

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August date scheduled for budget hearing

By BRANDY LEROUX
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The Norton School District Board of Education met Monday evening with one of items on the agenda dealing with the budget.

Last fiscal year's budget was \$9,360,981, and his year it is \$10,340,498 with \$4,960,773 coming from state aid.

School Board Clerk Janice Russell said the main reasons for the increase are rising transportation and utility costs.

The board approved publication of the budget. The hearing will be Monday, Aug. 11, at 7:30 p.m. in the Alice Tweed Center.

Board members present for the meeting were Craig Renner, Jennifer Wahlmeier, Jeff Nielsen and Scott Ellis. Absent were Mark Keilig, Chris Harting and Elaine Lofgreen. Also present were Superintendent Greg Mann and Janice Russell, clerk.

In other business, the board:

- Designated *The Norton Telegram* as the official publication for the 2008-2009 school year.
- Approved a three year "participat-

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Questions raised by letter receive explanation

By BRANDY LEROUX
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Diane Becker, Director of Norton City/County Economic Development would like to more fully explain questions that were raised with resident Jake Durham's letter to the editor in the July 8th issue of The Norton Telegram.

In an interview with The Telegram Thursday, Miss Becker said, "We respect and appreciate Mr. Durham's concern and opinion, but some of the information in his letter is not entirely correct. Economic Development has not offered any incentives, tax or otherwise, to Orscheln in hopes they will put a store here. At this point, no incentives have been offered, only general information about the community and possible sites," Miss Becker said.

She continued, "That information packet was sent about a couple of months ago, but there have been talks off and on

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A little dab will do it



Kelly Lyon renews the paint on the Travis Field sign Thursday morning while the weather was cool.

— Telegram Photo by Brandy Leroux