

THE NORTON TELEGRAM



WEBSITE: nwkansas.com

8 PAGES

Friday

August 15, 2008

Norton, Kansas
Home of Warren Heaton

Briefly

Poker Run for Autism Saturday

The Poker Run for Autism is scheduled for Saturday. Registration is 12 noon to 1 p.m. at Elmwood Park. The run starts at 1 p.m. The fee is \$10 for one hand, and \$25 for three hands. All donations go to Autism Research. If you have questions, please contact Kris at (785) 877-3211.

Meals on Wheels volunteers needed

Community volunteers are needed the week of Aug. 18-24 to deliver Meals on Wheels. If you can help in any way next week, please call Alice Hawks in the Dietary Department at Norton County Hospital, 877-3351.

Lenora, Northern Valley set to open

Schools in the Lenora and Northern Valley districts will open next week. Lenora begins its first day of the new school year on Monday, and Northern Valley on Wednesday.

Weather

Forecast

Tonight — A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy with a low around 56. East wind between 5 and 15 mph.



Saturday — A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy with a high near 74. East wind between 5 and 10 mph. **Saturday Night** — A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy with a low around 55. Southeast wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Sunday — A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy with a high near 74. South wind between 5 and 10 mph. **Sunday Night** — A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy with a low around 54. **Monday** — A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy with a high near 77. **Monday Night** — A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms.

Kingham report:

Aug. 12..... Low 58, High 86
Aug. 13..... Low 51, High 88, .50 Prec.
Aug. 14..... Low 54, High 82, .60 Prec.
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

By your grace, O God, help us to truly show your love in all our relationships and actions. **Amen**

Football fever strikes



Dakota Dreher, Norton Blue Jay football player, signed a football card for Carson Tuxhorn (left) and Nicholas Koch Wednesday evening at The Rock in Norton. The youngsters enjoyed going through all the football cards and asking the players to sign them. This is the first year for this program. — Telegram Photo by Brandy Leroux

Email points to Norton as site of speedy harvest

By TOM DREILING
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See photo, page 5

You know the old story about “the fish that got away?”

Well, here in Norton County, we are talking about “the harvest that apparently got away.”

It’s about a wheat harvest on 160 acres using 100 combines and several grain trucks that cleared the field in 10 minutes and 15 seconds — a world’s record! And it happened in Norton, Kansas!

Or supposedly so.

Well, it didn’t happen here!

Somehow, an email with pictures attached about that particular harvest, is

circulating far and wide. The Telegram received e-mails from a number of locations wondering if this really happened. A couple of phone calls were also part of the mix. Contacting us were people from Kansas City, Wichita, Denver, Las Vegas, Goodland, San Jose, Calif., Topeka and Hays.

How this ever came about will probably remain a mystery.

What we were able to come up with via web search, was that the harvest in question did occur, but in Winkler, Manitoba,

Canada in 2006. That site showed the very same photos and information currently circulating on email, claiming Norton, Kansas as the location.

One of the photos shows grain trucks parked near a four-lane highway, quickly disqualifying Norton as the location of the speed harvest.

Keith VanSlike, Extension Director for Norton County, had this to say: “I received this email last month, but it said it had taken place in Winkler, Manitoba, Canada. To my knowledge, this has never happened in Norton County, but farmers in need certainly get help from their neighbors. It’s not uncommon for

farmers to help one another when there’s a need.”

An email visit Wednesday with a blogger from Cimarron in southwest Kansas — midway between Garden City and Dodge City — had his own take on the situation.

“I figured someone from the Norton area thought it would be funny to send it on (recasting Norton for the original location), and regardless where they are from, they are laughing up their sleeves at how ignorant most email forwarders are,” said blogger Jeff Borland.

“I got the same email claiming the (Continued on Page 5)

Storm cripples tree



The tree in Joe and Geneva Berry’s front yard in Norton couldn’t stand up to Wednesday night’s windstorm. The National Weather Service in Goodland received reports of 82 mile per hour straight-line winds in our area. Substantial rains were also reported. — Telegram Photo by Brandy Leroux

School board addresses employee health care costs

By BRANDY LEROUX
bleroux@nwkansas.com

The Norton School Board voted to increase its contribution to employees’ health care costs and add a third coverage option at Monday night’s meeting. Under the old plan, the board contributed \$250 for employees’ health care. Now, due to the increase in health insurance premiums, the board agreed to increase the amount contributed by the board for health insurance premiums to \$298.30 or the cost of the least expensive single plan premium, whichever is less.

The new option added for health coverage has a \$2500/\$5000 deductible.

Superintendent Greg Mann gave his report to the board. He said the concrete in front of the Stull Gymnasium is finished, the new freezer is due to arrive next week, the tankless water heaters are to be installed this week, the football field sod had taken root and should be fine to play on for the first home game Sept. 5. Mr. Mann also said the health insurance premiums will be increased 53 percent.

In other business:
• Football coach Lucas Melvin gave a presentation about the structure and goals of the school-sponsored summer conditioning program at the East Campus weight room. Mr. Melvin said he is always amazed that the kids who come in do it on their own free will, and work hard to

achieve the goals they’ve set.

• Mr. Melvin also recommended that Georgia and Lyman Rowh be recognized for the appreciation plaque for 2007-2008.

• Mort Plunkett, architect, was present to answer questions regarding the cost estimates he had prepared for the capital improvements identified in the facilities studies done previously. The board voted to go ahead with the proposed action plan.

• Keith Hauser was present to answer questions regarding the proposed technology “road map.” No one had questions, so it was approved to move ahead with the plan.

• Another out-of-district transportation request from Northern Valley was approved.

• The board accepted the resignation from Clayton Cox as the head junior high girls’ basketball coach.

• Marianne Wicker’s work agreement as the high school head tennis coach was approved.

• Candace Gay’s work agreement as the Eisenhower Elementary Grade 4 to 6 At-Risk Tutor was approved.

• Cheri Brooks’ work agreement as the head junior high girl’s basketball coach was approved.

• The corrected list of site council mem- (Continued on Page 5)