

# THE NORTON TELEGRAM



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10 PAGES

Tuesday  
August 19, 2008

Norton, Kansas  
Home of Lester Fredde

Briefly

Wednesday next  
council meeting

The Norton City Council will meet in regular session at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday at the city building. Among business items are an ordinance amending the ATV Ordinance and an ordinance designating a 3-way stop at the intersection of E. Washington and S. Archer. Additionally, a third reading of Ordinance #1577, amending the solid waste collection charges, will be in play. Several reports and payment of bills round out the evening's agenda. The public is always invited to sit in.

GOP picnic on  
Saturday's agenda

The 28th annual Phillips County Old-Fashioned Republican Picnic will be held at 6 p.m. on Saturday at the Hansen Plaza in Logan.

Keynote speakers will be leaders of the Republican Party. A fried chicken dinner will be served.

Tickets are available for \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 12 years of age. Contact any of the following for advance tickets: Lynn Clements, phone 689-4238, Logan; Janene Schneider, phone 689-7571, Logan; Judy Rowland, phone 543-2631, Phillipsburg or Linda McDowell, phone 638-2346, Agra.

An informal discussion meeting will be held at 4:30 p.m. in the Community Room of the Plaza and is open to all.

You are also invited to come early and view the exhibit "Bead International 2006", 54 pieces from jewelry to sculpture and "The Purse & The Person", a look at purses from the inside out.

The Hansen Museum also features a permanent exhibit and Artist of the Month.

Weather

Forecast:

**Tonight** — Patchy fog after 1 a.m. Otherwise, mostly clear with a low around 58.

**Wednesday** — Patchy fog before 10 a.m. Otherwise, mostly sunny with a high near 82. **Wednesday Night** — Partly cloudy with a low around 58.

**Thursday** — Mostly sunny with a high near 86. **Thursday Night** — Partly cloudy with a low around 63.

**Friday** — Mostly sunny with a high near 89. **Friday Night** — A 30 percent chance of showers.

**Kingham report:**

Fri., Aug. 15 ..... Low 58, High 80  
Sat., Aug. 16 ..... Low 56, High 80  
Sun., Aug. 17 ..... Low 57, High 81  
Mon., Aug. 18 ..... Low 55, High 81

(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

Help us, God, to embrace the changes you bring to our lives and to grow through them. **Amen**



Lexi Voss, Dahn Hanlon and James Sturgill, left to right, sat on the new bikes they won in the Norton Public Library Drawing last Friday. The funds for the prizes were provided by Friends of the Library. — Telegram Photo by Brandy Leroux

*They didn't just 'Catch the Reading Bug,' they also claimed new bicycles*

By **BRANDY LEROUX**  
[bleroux@nwkansas.com](mailto:bleroux@nwkansas.com)

Three lucky children and one lucky adult received phone calls from Mary Luehrs at the Norton Public Library on Friday of last week.

Children and adults who completed this summer's reading program, "Catch the Reading Bug," were eligible to win drawings for a girl's bike, a boy's bike, a toddler bike, and \$30.00 gasoline gift certificate from the Norton Co-op. All of the prizes were bought with money donated

from the Friends of the Library.

Lexi Voss won the girl's bike, James Sturgill won the boy's bike, Dahn Hanlon won the toddler bike, and Roberta Ryan won the gasoline certificate.

This year, a total of 172 people participated in the reading program. Twenty-nine adults and 60 youths finished.

"We had a very, very successful summer," said Kay LeBeau, head librarian.

"This is the most we've ever had sign up for and complete the program."

## Blue Jay football coach unveils new player incentive

By **BRANDY LEROUX**  
[bleroux@nwkansas.com](mailto:bleroux@nwkansas.com)

Lucas Melvin, Norton Community High School's head football coach, decided to do something a little different for his football players this season. He heard at a convention that some schools were making football cards for the players, signing them, and then giving them away to grade-school children.

But there is a condition attached: the players and their parents sign a paper agreeing to be held accountable if the players get into trouble with the law or with the school.

It sounded like a good idea, so he took it and made up his own accountability form. "Basically, we're just asking the players to not do things that are illegal," said Mr. Melvin. On the form, it lists

(but is not limited to) use of any form of tobacco (cigarettes or "chew"), illegal drugs, and/or alcohol as violations of the agreement.

Mr. Melvin took the idea before the school administration last spring, and they approved it.

Bridges Group donated the money for the cards to be made, and 14 players signed up for it. Pictures for the cards were made by taking snapshots from the recordings of last year's games.

If a player was on the football team for the 2007-2008 season, and ended last year in good standing with the school system and law enforcement, they are eligible to have the football cards made.

Both the players and their parents had to sign an accountability form before the cards could be made. If a player gets into

trouble with the law or the school system, Mr. Melvin will ask Mr. Roy to gather the grade schoolers who have cards in the gymnasium. The player who got into trouble will ask for his cards back, and explain to his young fans what he did, why he did it, and why it was a bad decision to make.

The kids will get another card from a different player to replace the one that had to be returned. If the player stays out of trouble for the rest of the year, he will be eligible next year to have cards made again.

"We have pretty good kids playing football, but they need to be held accountable for their actions, and I thought the younger kids would like it as well," said Mr. Melvin.

In fact, this is more for the grade school

kids than the high school football players.

"It will show them that we expect more from them than to just play football," Mr. Melvin said.

Mr. Melvin said he will try to do this every year.

If any other kids, up to grade 6, want football cards, there are still some left. "We have about 50 packs of cards left, and they can be picked up after Saturday morning's scrimmage game at the practice field," said Mr. Melvin. The scrimmage starts at 10 a.m. The cards are free, and players will be available to sign them.

Mr. Melvin said, "I wish to thank the parents and community that want the best for our young people and want to hold them accountable together."

## School district OK's students from Norton

Special to The Telegram

Northern Valley School District approved last-minute requests for students to be transported from Norton's school district to Northern Valley schools at their meeting Aug. 11.

The students are Natasha Yost, Shane Cozad, Courtney Cunningham and Kaitana Schillig.

In other matters:  
• Bills were paid as presented  
• The 2008-2009 school budget was approved.  
• The board accepted Josh McClain's resignation as the assistant high school boy's basketball coach.

• Superintendent George Griffith gave his report on inservice training the teachers have been doing to prepare for the start of the school year. His projected enrollment would be a gain of one, and he said that technology is going smoothly.  
• The board updated their Kansas Association of School Boards policies.  
• Math and Reading assessment tests

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## Jennings all set for its 17th Fun Day

The Jennings Firemen's Fun Day, coming up on Saturday, has become the town's largest annual gathering, giving residents, former residents, and friends from nearby communities the opportunity to gather, celebrate the past, look to the future and to raise money for the Jennings Fire Department and other local organizations.

This will be the 17th annual Firemen's Fun Day and money raised will go toward the purchase of a 4000 gallon tanker truck. The fire department is an all volunteer department with a limited number of dedicated volunteers and the new truck will be a big asset to the community.

The Fun Day was started 17 years ago by Fire Chief Kerry Green as an event for kids and, through the contributions of many volunteers and donors, has since grown to include the entire community. With the loss of the Jennings School, the Fun Day provides an important opportunity for friends and neighbors from a large area to gather for a day of reminiscing and fun as well as to remember their Czech heritage by baking and serving kolaches. It also serves the public with the Health Fair.

The activities start sat 8 a.m. Saturday at the Senior Center with a Health Fair (must be fasting for the Hemagram test-

ing). Kolaches also go on sale, a wobble shoot will take place and other fun events for kids and adults follow.

Approximately 100 dozen kolaches will be baked at BCI, the international bus company that purchased and operates out of the Jennings High School building.

Kids' entertainment includes mini-train rides, a dunk tank, a coin search, pony rides, a giant slide and a tractor pull (sanctioned for the State Fair). A drawing will take place for two bicycles — boy's and girl's plus helmets. A cake walk and bingo are also part of the day's activities.

The parade starts at 1:30 p.m. Participants are to gather at the south end of Pennsylvania Avenue at noon. The theme is "Then and Now." There is no registration fee. Parade grand marshals are Bob and Neoma Tacha, longtime residents who have worked tirelessly for the community for years. They serve on the Czech Museum Board and were instrumental in envisioning expansion and growth of the museum. They are currently working on the renovation of the wooden windmill, built for the BiCentennial in 1976, located behind the Jennings Ambulance Barn and Clinic.

The Czech Museum now houses Jennings High School memorabilia and many other new exhibits. It will be open

throughout the day free of charge. Galen Carper, Larry Mizer and Tim Adrian (Colby) will exhibit their collections of Indian artifacts from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

An added feature to Fun Day this year is the Firemen's Fun Day Queen Contest open to everyone of all ages. Please register at the parade site at 12:30 p.m. Participants will be presented to the viewers at the conclusion of the parade and selection will be decided by popular vote. Voting will take place at the speaker's stand from the parade's end to 4:30 p.m. The coronation will be held at 7 p.m. just prior to the auction and the winner will preside over next year's Firemen's Fun Day.

Several drawings will be held with valuable prizes going to the winning ticket holders, such as a Kenmore Gas Grill with proceeds to benefit the museum; Kodak EasyShare Z8128.2 megapixel digital camera, courtesy Building Preservation Committee, to be used to preserve the former Opera House/Masonic Hall; a television, a surround/sound system, and a portable DVD player, courtesy the fire department.

Also look for the Barrel Competition, a whole hog roast and auction of items donated by area businesses and individuals. (Continued on Page 5)