

THE NORTON TELEGRAM

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10 PAGES



Friday

February 27, 2009

Norton, Kansas
Home of Ginne Concannon

Briefly

Energy programs workshop planned

Norton will be the location of one of the United States Department of Agriculture's workshops covering energy programs, on March 12 from noon to 1 p.m. at the Town & Country Kitchen. Purpose of this and the other workshops planned in northwest Kansas is to inform ag producers and for-profit business owners of the funding opportunities for energy projects eligible under USDA Rural Development's Rural Energy for America Program. The workshops are free and open to the public. Call (785) 628-3081 for additional information.

Presentation on wind energy set

The Murphy International Development Corporation will give a presentation on wind energy at the Norton City Council meeting next Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. at city hall. The presentation and the council meeting are open to the public.

Veterans man has sights on Norton

A Veterans Service Representative for the Kansas Commission on Veterans' Affairs will be at the Norton City Office on March 9 from 1:00—2:30 p.m. to assist veterans and their families with veterans' benefits. The Kansas Commission on Veterans' Affairs is a state agency that provides free assistance to veterans and their families with veterans' benefits. Appointments are preferred, but walk-ins are accepted. Call 785-625-8532 for additional information.

Weather

Forecast:

Tonight - A 30 percent chance of snow before midnight. Cloudy with a low around 13. New snow accumulation of less than a half inch possible.

Saturday - Mostly sunny with a high near 39. Saturday Night - Mostly clear with a low around 15. Sunday - Mostly sunny with a high near 48. Sunday Night - Partly cloudy with a low around 23. Monday - Mostly sunny.

Kingham report:

Tues., Feb. 24..... Low 31, High 70
Wed., Feb. 25..... Low 40, High 68
Thurs., Feb. 26..... Low 30, High 48
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

Heavenly Father, help us to remember that you are here with us and that we should have no fear. Help us to trust in you when the storms of life come our way. Amen

Result of small gas leak

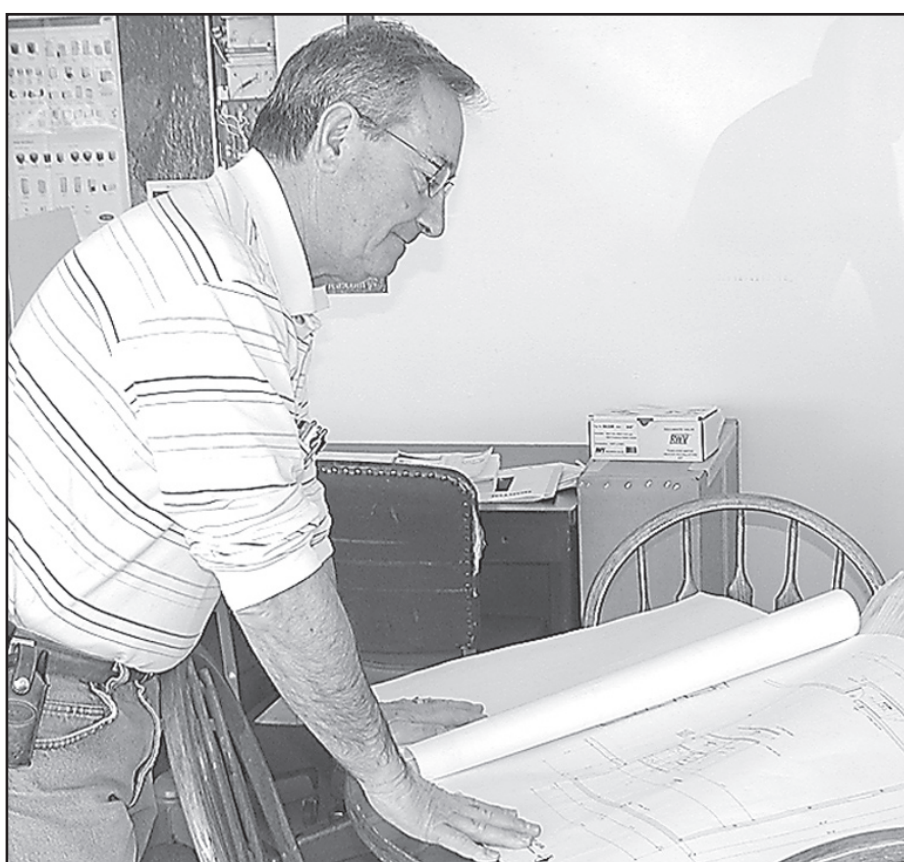


A small natural gas leak next to Marritta's Grooming behind the Carter Building at 215 S. Kansas Ave., required a lot of time to fix for most of the day Tuesday. Midwest Energy was doing a routine check for leaks when this one was discovered. The end result was most of the line had

to be replaced with new piping. Curt Luehrs, who works for Midwest Energy, said the leak was small, and luckily did not get into Marritta's building.

- Telegram photo by Brandy Leroux

New building pretty much local project



Ted Sanko, owner of Garrett Plumbing, Heating and Electric Co., looked over the plans for the new Emergency Medical Services building Thursday morning. Garrett's won the bid for the new building, and will be using mostly Norton County sub-contractors for the work.

- Telegram photo by Brandy Leroux

By BRANDY LEROUX
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Garrett Plumbing, Heating and Electric Co. won the bid for the new Emergency Medical Services building in Norton, coming in at \$901,224.22, at last Monday's county commission meeting.

There was less than 4 percent difference between the high bid and Garrett's. Coal Creek Construction's bid was \$941,100.00 and Deines Construction Company had bid \$929,500.00.

The contract says the project should be completed in 280 days, but according to Ted Sanko, owner of Garrett's, the building will probably be ready sooner. The new facility will be located west of town on U.S. 36 in the Prairie Land Electric area.

"We were really pleased we got the bid," said Mr. Sanko. "We went to all the local contractors in Norton County for the sub-contracting work, and we got good bids from everyone. They all wanted to participate and brought their costs down. Everyone pushed to keep it in Norton." "It is very important for us to know that the bulk of the business, and the money, stays in Norton County," said Commissioner Carolyn Applegate.

Aside from a local company getting the bid for the almost million dollar project, Garrett's has a list of 13 sub-contractors,

nine of which are from Norton County, with the remaining three being from northwest Kansas, and one being from Hastings. The four contractors that are not from Norton County all provide services that are not found in Norton County — commercial garage doors, commercial carpeting, large-scale brickwork and steel beams.

Bob Hawks Construction, Almena, will build; Scott Evans Construction, Norton, and S&R Ready-Mix, Norton, will be doing the concrete work; Nelson Brothers Construction, Norton, will be doing carpentry; Whitney Construction, Norton, will do the dirt work; Norton Glass will do the doors; Garrett's Plumbing, Heating and Electric Co. will do the plumbing, heating, ventilation, air-conditioning and electrical work; Windmill Farms, Almena, will do the landscaping; and Ninemire Fence Company, Lenora, will put up the fencing.

The commissioners accepted options (2), a basement/storm shelter for the building, and (3), installing a concrete parking lot. The building will also include a brick front, a dorm room for on-call personnel, handicap accessible restrooms, a permanent decontamination unit, a meeting and training room, a kitchen, offices, a laundry room, storage rooms and four ambulance bays.

Norton grad lands job at Moran office

By TOM DREILING
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It is always interesting to learn where students, who were educated at Norton Community High School, further their careers.

For a 2000 graduate, it's serving in the Salina office of First District Congressman Jerry Moran.

Kelsey Holste, the appointee, called it, "truly an honor."

Rep. Moran said Kelsey has a good deal of background in agriculture and will be able to use that knowledge in this position to help take care of issues important to Kansans.

The daughter of Jay and Kathy Holste, Ms. Holste said she was excited to assist Congressman Moran as he represents

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Extra awaits Norton's fans at state wrestling

By TOM DREILING
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Norton wrestling fans, attending Saturday's Class 3-2-1A championship matches at Gross Memorial Coliseum on the campus of Fort Hays State University, will have an extra bonus to cheer about.

At 4 p.m., just prior to the start of the championship finals, former longtime owner of The Norton Daily Telegram, Dick Boyd, will be honored by the Kansas State High School Activities Association as the 2009 recipient of the Oscar Stauffer Award for Sportswriting.

When Dick and Mary Beth Boyd sold the newspaper to Steve and Cynthia Haynes in 2002, he stayed on to continue focusing on Norton Community High School athletics.

When the Boyds purchased the newspaper in 1970, Dick's interest in Blue Jay sports caught fire and hasn't been extinguished yet.

The Oscar Stauffer Award for Sportswriting is given annually to a sportswriter in recognition of excellence in covering high school athletics.

Mr. Boyd was nominated for the honor by Norton School Administrators in recognition of his many years covering NCHS athletics and for his consistent high quality of work.

Mr. Boyd will be presented a plaque commemorating this honor late Saturday afternoon as he begins preparing to do what he loves doing most — writing about and shooting photos of still another Norton Community High School Blue Jay athletic activity.

Greg Mann, Norton School District Superintendent, said, "The USD 211 Board of Education congratulates Mr. Boyd on this well deserved honor and thanks him for the tireless coverage of Blue Jay athletics he has provided over the years."

54 couples were named for 'sweet deal'

By TOM DREILING
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The recent announcement that Lyman and Georgia Rowh were picked as Norton County's first-ever Valentine's Day *Sweetheart Couple*, was met with much enthusiasm, and a lot of good words for The Telegram and the co-sponsors of the project.

All total, the names of 54 couples were deposited in the ballot boxes located in the business sponsors. All total, 150 ballots were cast.

Before we mention the names of each couple, it would be important to note who the top vote getters were. Doug and Sherry Strayer and Kyle and Stacy Field, received 12 votes each and David and Virginia Will 11. Numbers of votes received, however, were not part of the (Continued on Page 5)