

THE NORTON TELEGRAM



WEBSITE: nwkansas.com

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Norton, Kansas
Home of Lois Dietz

Briefly

Beware of calls from the 'IRS'

If you receive a telephone call from the IRS, hang up. It's not the IRS.

At least one Norton resident told The Telegram Monday that he received a call over the weekend from someone saying they are with the IRS — at 2:18 in the morning. He knew that was an unusual time for a government agency to be calling anyone and he also knew that the IRS doesn't conduct business over the telephone. With this being tax preparation time, residents here and elsewhere are being advised to stay alert to various forms of scammer. This is another one of those scams and usually their targets are the elderly. They want your social security number, bank account and other forms of identification so they can rid you of your holdings. You should also report such incidents to local law enforcement.

—By Tom Dreiling

Booster Club to meet Wednesday

The Norton Blue Jay Booster Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in the high school cafeteria. All fans of Norton Community High School sports are invited to attend and hear reports from head boys basketball coach Doug Reusink, head girls basketball coach Kevin Jilka and head wrestling coach Bill Johnson. You do not have to be a member of the club to attend.

Hospital lock down planned this week

The Norton County Hospital will test its ability to lock down the facility on either Thursday or Friday of this week. No one will be allowed into or out of the hospital during the test, which is expected to last around 30 minutes. During this time, however, emergency room patients will be allowed into the facility and will receive attention and treatment as warranted.

Weather

Forecast:

Tonight - Partly cloudy with a low around 30.
Wednesday - Sunny with a high near 3. Wednesday Night - Partly cloudy with a low around 36.
Thursday - Sunny with a high near 76. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.

Kingham report:

Fri., Feb. 27 Low 9, High 34
Sat., Feb. 28 Low 1, High 35,
1/2" Snow
Sun., March 1 Low 7, High 35
Mon., March 2 Low 8, High 50
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm)

Prayer

Thank you, Lord Jesus, for giving your life for us, to restore our relationship with God. May we never take your forgiveness for granted. Amen

The Bainter brothers bring it home — State Champs!



Blue Jay sophomore Troy Bainter is pictured setting the stage for senior brother Zach as he dominated Riley Hunsicker, Ellis, to win a 6-1 decision in the 112 pound championship match to earn the first of two gold medals for the brothers in the Class 3-2-1A State Tournament on Saturday in Hays.

- Telegram photo by Dick



Norton senior 140 pound wrestler Zach Bainter is shown manhandling John Lynch of Lakin, to win the gold medal at the Class 3-2-1A State Tournament on Saturday in Hays. Zach won a 12-4 major decision over Lynch to score enough points to move Norton into second place in the team standings over Beloit. Zach was the last Norton wrestler, however, and Beloit won two more championships to retake the final runner-up spot.

- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

District Three Engineer eyes retirement

Twenty-five plus years of state service will come to an end March 9 when Chriss B. McDiffett, District Three Engineer at the Kansas Department of Transportation's District Office in Norton, retires. Mr. McDiffett started working for the Kansas Department of Transportation as the Area Engineer at Atwood in 1983. He was promoted to District Construction Engineer in 1987, and then promoted to District Engineer in 1988 — acting as top business manager and supervising approximately 300 transportation department employees in the 18-county Northwest Kansas Region. Mr. McDiffett has served as the District Three Engineer for nearly 21 years, longer than any of his predecessors.

With the nine year Comprehensive Transportation Program coming to completion this year in District Three, and the uncertainty of future transportation programs, Mr. McDiffett thought it is time to turn the helm over to someone else. He plans to enjoy his hobbies, including walking, hiking, hunting and showing and driving his antique vehicles.

Mr. McDiffett and wife Evelyn will remain at their home in Norton, but do plan visits to their children, Greg

(Continued on Page 5)

Extension District agreement signed

By BRANDY LEROUX
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The Norton County Commissioners signed an agreement to form an extension district with Decatur County last Monday.

Keith VanSkike, the Norton County K-State Extension agent, said he does not expect there to be any major changes occurring from the formation of the district.

"Norton County will not lose their extension agent or any staff," said Mr. VanSkike. "Forming an extension district will allow both counties more flexibility in programs and funding from K-State."

Patsy Maddy, the extension board president, said talk about combining two counties into an extension district began about two or three years ago.

"We wanted to do this to have more financial resources and access to more programs," said Mrs. Maddy. "If both counties are holding the same programs separately, it makes more sense to pool the resources together and have both counties hold one program."

"It is much better to collaborate than to have a forced consolidation," said Norton County Commissioner Carolyn Applegate. "There is a big difference."

Norton County Commissioner John Miller said, "It is a good thing, and it will cost the county less money this way."

Mrs. Maddy and Mr. VanSkike both stressed that Norton County's 4-H programs would not change, except to maybe



Byron Hale (left), Decatur County K-State Research and Extension agent, and Keith VanSkike Norton County K-State Research and Extension agent, spoke on the phone Monday afternoon to discuss the two extensions merging to form an extension district. "VanHale-n" has been suggested as a possible name for the new district; however, Patsy Maddy, the Norton County extension's board chairman, said while she thought the blending of the two agents' names was original, she just didn't think it would work out.

- Telegram photo by Brandy Leroux
- Oberlin Herald photo by Kim Davis

work together more with Decatur County; but that neither county would lose any 4-H clubs, nor would the counties' fairs change any.

"4-H is a United States Department of Agriculture youth development program, and the county fair is just that — the

Norton County Fair," said Mr. VanSkike. "K-State Extension helps with those programs, but does not make any decisions regarding the operations of them."

The biggest difference people will see, according to Mr. VanSkike, is the

(Continued on Page 5)

Tastes better than it sounds



Kaleb Stoll, far left, Hannah Widener, Bryndon Wentz, Gracie Campbell and Shelby Harting ate an odd-named lunch at Eisenhower Elementary for Dr. Seuss's birthday, which was celebrated on Monday. The cooks came up with "chickie lickie" (chicken strips), "spud zuds" (mashed

potatoes), "white sticken tight" (gravy), "red treats" (diced beets), "yellow mellow fellows" (peaches), "Dr. Seuss loaf (bread with margarine), and "yotcha gotta" (milk).

- Telegram photo by Brandy Leroux