

THE NORTON TELEGRAM

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10 PAGES



Friday

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Norton, Kansas
Home of Dr. Roger Hartman

Briefly

Easter egg hunt Saturday event

The Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be Saturday at the courthouse lawn, starting at 2 p.m. for all kiddies up to age 3; 4 and 5 year olds will start at 2:05; kindergartners and first graders will start at 2:10; and second and third graders will start at 2:15. Fourth, fifth and sixth graders can enter a scavenger hunt, which will begin at 1:30 p.m., also at the courthouse. Photos with the Easter Bunny will be available throughout the event.

Northern Valley class free Monday

There will be no school in the Northern Valley District on Monday due to a teacher in-service. Norton schools will be in regular session.

Meeting set for 6th grade parents

The Norton Junior High will hold a Parent Night Monday at 7 p.m., in the junior high/high school music room for parents of 6th graders, to discuss student transition into 7th grade. There will be a variety of topics discussed, including enrollment, activities, rules, expectations, courses offered, academic guidelines and more. Jeff Wallingford, junior high principal, and Melissa McClain, counselor, will be the presenters.



RAIN
Tonight - Partly cloudy with a low around 33. East wind between 5 and 10 mph. Saturday - a 20 percent chance of showers after 1 p.m. Mostly cloudy with a high near 61. Breezy with a south wind 10 to 15 mph increasing to between 20 and 25 mph. Saturday Night - A 50 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy with a low around 42. Breezy with a south wind between 15 and 20 mph. Sunday - Rain likely. Cloudy with a high near 50. Chance of precipitation is 60%.

Kingham report:

Tues., April 7 Low 18, High 69
Wed., April 8 Low 27, High 68
Thurs., April 9 Low 44, High 53
.10 Rain
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm
9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

Father, help us to discover opportunities in each new stage of life and to live each day rejoicing in your presence. Amen.



The election may be over, but there is still work to be done. Patti Long, assistant to the county clerk, and Betty Pfannenstiel, assistant to the assistant to the county clerk, spent Wednesday afternoon recording all of the votes from the election, including write-in candidates.

- Telegram photo by Brandy Leroux

Voter turnout pegged at 12 percent

By BRANDY LEROUX
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The Norton County voter registration books list 3,709 names. In Tuesday's election, a total of only 441 showed up to vote. That's a 12 percent turnout, said County Clerk Robert Wyatt.

One of the winners declined the office. David Davis, a Ward 2 resident, won with four write-in votes. Mr. Davis said, in a letter he brought to The Telegram: "It is with deep regret that I must respectfully decline the position of City Councilman Ward 2. I feel that this is a very important position in the community, and after my previous service, I have a great respect for the people willing to serve in this role. I feel that with my commitment to my family, church and business that I would be unable to give this position the time and energy that it deserves."

Write-ins Jim Miller, Gary Lacy and Mike Haresnape each had 2 votes. Georgie Rorabaugh, Wally Burton (who is serving on the council by appointment to fill a vacant seat), Jack Barnard, Rick Schawb, Vern Kaiser, Ron Briery, Garrett Willour, Diana Smith, Gilbert Otter, Abi Delimont and Gene Wiltfong each had one write-in vote.

According to Mr. Wyatt, once Mr. Davis formally declined the position, the seat was declared vacant, and Mayor

David Corns will appoint someone to the position and the council will vote on the appointee, much like when Ron Briery resigned from the council in December. Those interested should submit their name to the Norton City office at 301 East Washington Street.

Joe Leroux, who was running against Tim Bashford for the Ward 3 city council seat, received 35 votes. Mr. Bashford received 20.

"I am excited about the opportunity to serve Ward 3 and the city of Norton and thank all of those that voted for me in this past election," said Mr. Leroux. "I also would like to thank Ron Briery and Wally Burton. Ron served as one of the Ward III council representatives for a number of years and we owe him our thanks for that service."

"Wally should also be recognized for his willingness to serve when he did so with no expectation of being elected to the council seat this past election. It appeared he served on the city council simply to represent Ward 3 and to enable the city council to better conduct city business until this past election."

"I also would like to thank all of those that took the time to go vote, no matter who they voted for."

Write-ins for Ward 3 were Wally Burton with 15 votes and Ron Briery with one.

Kim Snyder, incumbent, ran unopposed for Ward 1. She received 37 votes. Write-ins for Ward 1 were Jerry Jones, three votes and Holly Puga, one.

Incumbent Mayor David Corns ran unopposed. He received 170 votes. Write-ins for mayor were Ron Briery, 13 votes; Jerry Jones, 2; and Gary Lacy, John McClymont, Patrick Taylor, Len Coady, James Miller, Kevin Wiltfong and Connie Glenn with one each.

The only other contested race in Norton was for school board position #5. Incumbent Craig Renner ran against Joe Durham. Mr. Renner received 161 votes, Mr. Durham, 62.

"I appreciate people voting for me," said Mr. Renner. "I really enjoy serving on the school board. It is my goal to help keep our school system great."

Norton Schools superintendent Greg Mann said, "I am pleased with the outcome of the election. I think Robert Wyatt will make a great addition to the school board, and Craig Renner will continue to be a valuable board member."

Norton (mayor plus three open city council positions)

- Mayor Corns, incumbent, 170 votes
- Kim Snyder, incumbent, City Council Ward 1, 37 votes
- Joe Leroux, Ward 3, 35 votes

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Big crowd attends travel council meet

A Special Report

Diane Becker, Norton City/County Economic Development director, attended the Northwest Kansas Travel Council meeting recently in Morland. The meeting drew one of the largest crowds in years, with 14 of the 18 counties in the council having at least one representative present.

The 18 counties in the council are: Cheyenne, Rawlins, Decatur, Norton, Phillips, Smith, Sherman, Thomas, Sheridan, Graham, Rooks, Osborne, Wallace, Logan, Gove, Trego, Ellis and Russell.

"The goal of the travel council is to promote what we have here in Northwest Kansas to people who might not know otherwise," said Miss Becker. "We made the final preparations for the Sampler Festival and viewed the video interview for the Airikaree Breaks. We also listened to a presentation from the Hays television station about promoting regional tourism opportunities through commercials. We decided not to do it this year, but formed a committee to prepare for next year."

Miss Becker said the travel council has been focusing on promoting what people are interested in — specifically, hunting, lakes, geology and Native American history.

"But the focus is really on the geology and Native American History," she said.

Marci Penner, the Northwest Travel Council director, plans to have a 2400 (Continued on Page 5)

Waiver allows board to convene

The Northern Valley school board met for a special session March 21. The board members all signed a notice of waiver because they were not given two days' notice of the special session.

Keven Ward, a Trane representative, was invited to give a presentation of information on the Facility Conservation Improvement Program. The board decided to hold any action pending further research.

The board went into executive session for a total of 40 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel.

The board approved a motion to offer the Long Island School secretary position to Shaina Harper, Long Island, for \$8.00 per hour, and the non-certified technology position to Rayleen Shelton, Phillipsburg, for \$11.00 per hour.

There was no further business brought before the board, and the meeting was adjourned.

C-section brings forth first calf

The first calf of the '09 calving season in Norton County came about as the result of a cesarean-section on March 5 by Dr. Aaron White, DVM, Norton.

The Red Angus and Gelbeigh mix calf was delivered at 2:45 a.m. and belongs to Dr. Merlynn and Joann Colip of rural Norton.

It was very cold that night," said Dr. Colip. "She [the heifer] did wonderfully. She didn't make a sound at all."

Interestingly, the calf was born to a heifer who was also a first calf.

As a welcome gift, the Norton Animal Health Center donated a calving kit to the Colips, which includes an O.B. chain, an O.B. handle, a pair of O.B. sleeves, gloves, cotton gloves, leather gloves, needles, syringes, a calving book, iodine spray, a Norton Animal Health Center hat and coffee mug, and "Mountain Dew to help you stay awake during the calving season!"

"We are fortunate to have the two excellent veterinarians, who take wonderful care of our animals," said Dr. Colip. "We want to thank them for the O.B. kit they donated to us."

Dr. White said both the heifer and calf are healthy and doing well.



From left: Andrew 9, Sarah 9, Peter 7, Parker 7, Grace 3 and Avery 2, grandchildren of Dr. Merlynn and Joan Colip, hold up a sign to say thank you to the Norton Animal Health Center for the O.B. kit donated to the first calf of the 2009 calving season in Norton County (in foreground). Andrew, Sarah and Peter are the children of Jim and Susan (Colip) Backer, Valencia Calif., and Parker, Grace and Avery are the children of Michael and Nanette Colip, Fort Collins, Colo.

- Telegram photo by Brandy Leroux