

# \$1 THE NORTON TELEGRAM

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**Tuesday**  
June 23, 2009

Norton, Kansas  
Home of Regina Beikman

*Briefly*

## Special guest for reading program

This week Thursday's Summer Reading Program at the Norton Public Library features Leona Breeden of Smoky Hills Public Television who will be presenting a fun activity. She will be at the library for both the 10:30a.m. and 2:00 p.m. program times. Come and enjoy a great program. For Teen Night, from 7:30 p.m., also Thursday, a silly supper and movie are scheduled. The library will be closed Friday and Saturday, July 3-4 for the holiday. Kathy McConney is Children's Librarian.

## Reception set for two fire officials

A reminder was issued today of the retirement reception for Lawrence "Sonny" Ruff and Reno Hildebrand, chief and assistant chief, respectively, of the Logan Fire Department. It will be held June 28 from 1-4 p.m. at the Logan City Building. All are invited. Both men will continue to serve with the department, despite their retirements.

## Visitors try water witching

See today's column by Nancy Hagman  
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## weather forecast



**SUNNY**

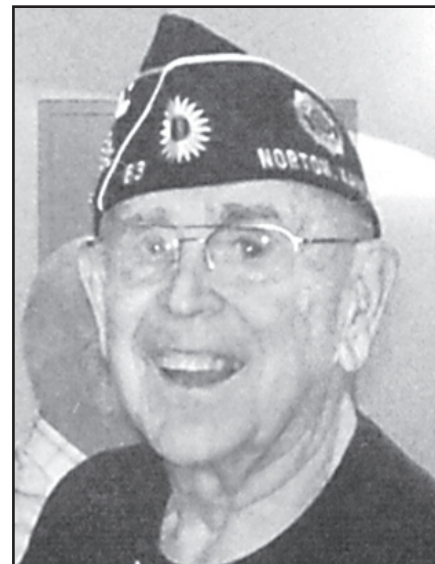
Tonight - Mostly clear with a low around 69. Wednesday - Sunny and hot with a high near 101. Wednesday Night - A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before 1 a.m. Partly cloudy with a low around 70. Thursday - Mostly sunny and hot with a high near 99.

## Kingham report:

Friday ..... Low 62, High 92  
Saturday ..... Low 63, High 70  
.10 Precip.  
Sunday ..... Low 64, High 96  
.05 Precip.  
Monday ..... Low 63, High 98  
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

## Prayer

Lord, teach us to be patient when things aren't going as we want them to. Help us to wait with faith in you. Amen



Eugene Wiltfong of Norton is pictured here in Abilene where he was one of a select group of Kansas World War II U.S. Army veterans who received Certificates of Appreciation from the U.S. Army Freedom Team during the national commemoration of the 65th anniversary of D-Day on June 5-7 at the Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum. On the left is a reproduction of the certificate Eugene received in honor of his military service.

- Courtesy photo

## Norton veteran among Eisenhower Museum honorees

By DICK BOYD  
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Eugene Wiltfong, Norton, was one of 26 World War II veterans from Kansas who were honored on Saturday during the three-day national commemoration of the 65th anniversary of D-Day, held June 5-7 at the Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum in Abilene.

Kansas veterans were honored all three days by the U.S. Army Freedom Team.

Each received a Certificate of Ap-

preciation signed by George Casey, Jr., General, United States Army, Chief of Staff, and Peter Geren, Secretary of the Army.

A member of the Freedom Team presented each certificate along with a lapel pin.

The certificate said:

"For outstanding service to the Nation as a United States Army Soldier. You are being recognized for your patriotism and continued support of the Army family. Your legacy is today's Army and the

values Soldiers exhibit while fighting the Global War on Terrorism. Their efforts are a direct reflection of your service and the United States Army and a grateful Nation thank you."

Many activities were carried out during the three-day weekend, including a Salina Symphony performance, parade, concert, veterans' panel, films, banquet, a USO Dance and USO quartet from New York singing many songs of the 40s.

Also on the grounds were military and civilian re-enactors, vintage military and

vehicle displays and many information booths.

"The highlight of the event on Saturday was a panel presentation by five World War II veterans giving their comments and telling of their experiences during World War II," said Eugene.

"If you haven't been to the Eisenhower Library and Museum recently, I'd recommend you stop in Abilene for a visit."

Eugene's son Douglas accompanied him during the events on Saturday.

## School bus top draw at Lenora event

By ERICA BRADLEY  
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The Lenora Jubilee was a hit this past weekend with a concert Friday night and a parade, other activities and another concert on Saturday. The highlight of the parade was undoubtedly a restored Lenora school bus from the 1950s.

Ed Drees was one of the people who brought the bus to Lenora. He is one of 12 people who purchased the bus. He said it was listed for sale on the Internet and was located in a field outside of Climax Springs, Mo.

The owners found the Lenora lettering when they began taking the paint off.

"We Googled it, and this Lenora is the only one that popped up in the area," Mr. Drees said.

Mr. Drees believes the bus went from Lenora to California to Missouri. He said it had been converted to a blue fishing camper, complete with a stove and couches.

He said they had planned to keep the bus with its original paint and lettering, but it was involved in a fire shortly after they bought it.

The fire damaged one side of the bus, and it was decided that the bus would be fully restored, he said.

New paint, a new transmission, a 454 cubic inch Chevy motor and a '80s GM truck frame were used to restore the bus.

"It's pretty road-worthy. We threw all of the '55 stuff out," Mr. Drees said.

The bus traveled an estimated 300 miles

(Jubilee - Continued on Page 5)



Monica Bebb struggled to grab as much cash as she could in twenty seconds in the Next-Tech green money machine at the Lenora Jubilee. When the wild experience ended, she managed to take home \$30 — \$30 more than she came with.

- Telegram photo Erica Bradley

## Crew's efforts assure fans of Elmwood races

By ERICA BRADLEY  
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Car races at Elmwood Park Speedway almost didn't happen this year due to a lack of funding, but five people have stepped in to raise money to keep racing alive.

Jerry Bantam said his crew has been working to raise money to keep the track open.

There are four community members, including Mr. Bantam, working on raising money, he said.

There are seven events planned for the summer. Rick Schwab, who is working with Mr. Bantam, said finances are tight, but there is definitely enough to hold the next race.

"Most people think this is a money making endeavor. It isn't, it takes more money than people realize," Mr. Bantam said.

Mr. Bantam said the track would have been idle, but he has stepped in to help promote it.

They started planning the races on June 3, and the first race was held on June 13. "The first race went very well. Everything just clicked," he said.

Mr. Bantam estimated that there were 22 drivers in the first race.

"I expect that to double for the next race," he said.

Mr. Bantam said there were also 22 crew members at the track, not including pit crews for the drivers.

He said anyone who is interested can become a driver. There are five classes

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## Portion of U.S. 36 resurfacing includes part of Norton

Resurfacing a portion of U.S. 36 Highway in Norton County was scheduled to get underway this morning, said the Phillipsburg Kansas Department of Transportation Construction Office.

Hi-Plains Sand, Inc., Kanopolis, will place a conventional seal on the portion of

U.S. 36, which begins at the west K-383 junction and moves east 5.7 miles to West Street in Norton.

"The seal operation should only take two to three days, barring inclement weather," said the department's Harold Schleicher, Area One Engineer.

He said the estimated cost is \$230,000.

During daylight hours, traffic will be reduced to one lane and guided by a pilot car.

"Travelers are urged to stay alert and watch for warning signs and construc-

tion workers while driving through the construction zone," he said.

Anyone desiring additional information can contact Kristen Brands, the department's Northwest Kansas public affairs manager at [kristenb@ksdot.org](mailto:kristenb@ksdot.org), or call (785) 877-3315.