



The Balloon Baffoon entertained Andbe Home residents during the June birthday party. He was popular with residents, many of whom requested horses and dogs from him.

Vehicle licenses due, treasurer reminds

June 30 is the last day to renew vehicle tags if your last name begins with "H" or "I" or your business name begins with "H" or "I".
New items needed are Driver License number for each owner or Federal Employer Identification number for the business in addition to the insurance. Vehicle business is done from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily.
Driver license renewals can be done Tuesday through Friday from 8 to 4. Remember to bring along your social security card or something that has your social

security number on it for verification.
Instructional permits (IP) and Driver Education restricted licenses can be done in the office by appointment. You will need to bring an original, certified birth certificate, social security card and a utility bill with current address plus the driver license of the parent that brings the child.
If you have questions, please call the office at (785) 877-5795. All CDL renewals need to be renewed at a full service station in Phillipsburg, Hays or Colby.

Horse show scheduled

The Norton County 4-H and Open Horse Show will be held June 28 at the Norton Equine Center.
The entry fee is a donation of a small sack of non-perishable items to God's Pantry.
Early registration is encouraged. Registration on the day of the show will be done at 9 a.m.
The show will start at 10:00

a.m.
Event registration will close when Reining starts.
Trail will run concurrently with the show.
The Norton County Equine Facility and show management are not responsible for accidents.
Stalls and camper hookups are available.

Birthdays celebrated at Andbe Home

By ERICA BRADLEY
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The Andbe Home celebrated the June birthdays on Friday with some local children modeling clothes. Ice cream and birthday cake were also served.
Ethel Miller, Bob Shick, Cheryl Hill and Louis Hildebrand were the honorees for June.
Andbe Home Activity Director Crystal Richards said birthday celebrations are planned each month. They have had various themes in the past, including County Extension Agent Keith VanSlike giving a

presentation about crops last month, musicians, picture shows and even the Norton Police Department has come in to talk about local issues.
Mrs. Richards said the residents like staying connected with local events and enjoy being able to participate in activities.
"They really like a variety of activities," she said.
Mr. Shick enjoyed his birthday with family and at the Andbe Home celebration.
He said he went to his daughter's house for a "good, home cooked meal."
Mr. Shick goes to each month's celebra-

tion.
"I enjoy any of the functions we have. I try to take part in as many as I can," he said.
Mrs. Richards has activities planned every day for the residents including sitercise, nail care, various sporting activities and next month some of the residents will help design entries for the fair.
"We encourage our residents to be active. They are always welcome to make suggestions about activities. We're very proud of them," Mrs. Richards said.

- Telegram photo by Erica Bradley

Firestarters rock downtown Norton

By ERICA BRADLEY
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Living Hope Fellowship hosted a street party for Norton on Saturday featuring the Christian rock band Firestarters.
Free nachos were provided by Graham Construction, First State Bank provided drinks half off to anyone 21 and under and the Living Hope Fellowship donated the food.
Music kicked off at 7:00 p.m. The event was held at South State and West Washington Streets
Living Hope Fellowship Pastor Jerry Cummings estimated 125 community members came to the concert at some point during the night. The church is located one

mile south of Norton on K383 at Road PDRA.
Pastor Pete Thiel, who manages the band, said they love coming to Norton.
"This has been a lot of fun. We are really connected down here."
Community members also enjoyed the concert.
"We look forward to it as a church. It's a fun event," Annete Puent said.
The Firestarters spent the weekend in Norton. On Thursday the band did two sets at the Norton Correctional Facility. Pastor Cummings said about 50 inmates listened to the music.
Mr. Cummings said many people believe faith is important in

rehabilitating the inmates.
"This year especially, many programs have been cut. Anything positive from the outside helps, and the band wanted to touch their lives," he said.
The Firestarters participated in three services at the Living Hope Fellowship; one was held on Saturday and two were held on Sunday, Pastor Cummings said.
Band members spent time in Norton hanging out with children from the church and participated in playing frisbee and going swimming.
The band is from Otter Tail, Minn., and has come to Norton three times in the last two and a half years.

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Seeks rejection of proposal

Congressman Jerry Moran led a coalition of Congressional members, which included Kansas Congresswoman Lynn Jenkins, in requesting that the House Ways and Means Committee reject tax increases on small oil and gas producers recently proposed by President Obama.
The tax increases, which total approximately \$26 billion, were included in the President's Fiscal Year 2010 Budget.
"The President's proposed tax increases would not only drive small energy producers out of business, it would also leave thousands of employees out of work and will cut off investment in companies that are developing America's energy resources," Moran said.
"Many of the taxes the President proposes to increase will not affect large integrated oil companies, but will fall on the many small, independent oil and gas producers here in Kansas.

My colleagues and I disapprove of the President's proposed tax increase and want to reinforce upon the leaders of the House Ways and Means Committee the detrimental effect such a proposal would have," he said.
"Whether it's taxing all Americans through a national energy tax or increasing taxes on small oil and gas producers, at a time when Americans are struggling, this proposal is simply one more example of the Administration's intentions to increase job killing taxes on small businesses and working families," Jenkins said.
"From oil and gas to access to wind, solar, nuclear and biofuels, we have it all right here in Kansas. I urge my colleagues to support an 'all of the above' approach to our energy problem," he said.
Moran's letter urged the Democratic and Republican leaders of the Ways and Means Committee to reject the President's tax proposals should the Committee

consider future energy-related tax policies. The letter outlines that the Administration's tax proposal will result in increased tax liability on small U.S. companies, lost American jobs, increased reliance on foreign oil and gas, and higher fuel costs for consumers.
"It is necessary that we work to develop a comprehensive energy plan to reduce our dependence on foreign oil," Moran said. "The President's proposed polices will only increase the amount of foreign oil imported by the U.S. and will cripple domestic production. Placing a tax on our energy producers here at home would drive us farther from our common goal to reduce our country's dependence and reliance on foreign oil."
Small energy producers generate 68 percent of American oil, 82 percent of American natural gas, and drill over 90 percent of American wells.

Funding to aid two Kansas counties

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack said the U.S. Department of Agriculture will provide nearly \$42.3 million in additional funding to 14 states to improve water quality, increase water supply, decrease soil erosion, and improve fish and wildlife habitat while creating jobs in rural communities as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.
Kansas had two projects selected, one in Morris County and one in Ness County.
"The overwhelming response we received with the first wave of Recovery Act funding shows

the assistance that people and communities need, and we look forward to helping them deliver it by investing in improving local watershed projects."
"Sound investments in flood protection are critical to the economic vitality of rural Kansas," said Eric B. Banks, State Conservationist in Kansas for the Natural Resources Conservation Service.
"As the last two years have demonstrated, flooding can have a profound impact on farms and small communities alike. Lives and livelihoods can be affected, and rebuilding efforts can drain

both public and private coffers," he said.
Once completed, Lyons Creek Site 15 (Morris County) will provide needed flood protection to productive agricultural land and expensive infrastructure, while improving water quality and wildlife habitat.
Money received for the Lyons Creek project totals \$1,248,000.
Wet Walnut Site 53 (Ness County) will now receive repairs to ensure that it will continue to safely deliver flood-control benefits in west central Kansas well into the future. Total received was \$199,000.

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