

# \$1 THE NORTON TELEGRAM

WEBSITE: [nwkansas.com](http://nwkansas.com)

10 PAGES



## Friday

November 20, 2009

Briefly

### Telegram's holiday schedule released

The Telegram will be closed Nov. 26 for Thanksgiving. The deadline for classifieds and display ads for the Nov. 27 paper will be Nov. 23. The paper will be published as usual on Tuesday and Friday that week.

### Annual worship night scheduled

The Norton County Ministerial Alliance will hold their annual worship and fellowship night at the First United Methodist Church, 805 W. Wilberforce, on Sunday. The event begins at 7 p.m. and will include choirs from several different churches. All churches in Norton County are invited, and the event is open to the public. The church is also taking canned donations for God's Pantry.

### Sub-state football game on Saturday

The Norton Community High School football team (9-3) will host Wichita Collegiate (12-0) in the Class 3A Sub-State championship game at 2 p.m. this Saturday at Travis Field in Norton. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$4 for students K-12. No passes will be accepted. The winner will advance to the Class 3A State championship game versus the winner of the Galena-Marysville sub-state game.

**MARKETS**  
Cash Prices-Norton  
November 20, 2009

<b>CORN</b>	\$3.42
<b>SOYBEANS</b>	\$9.59
<b>WHEAT</b>	\$4.64
<b>MILO</b>	\$3.20

314 W. North Street  
Norton, Kansas  
785-877-5188

## weather forecast

Tonight - Clear with a low around 29.  
Saturday - Sunny with a high near 58. Breezy with a south wind 10 to 15 mph increasing to between 20 and 25 mph. Saturday Night - Mostly cloudy with a low around 32. Sunday - Sunny with a high near 53. Sunday Night - Partly cloudy with a low around 30. Monday - A slight chance of rain and snow.

### Kingham report:

Tuesday, Nov. 17 ..... Low 22, High 50  
Wednesday, Nov. 18 ..... Low 23, High 51  
Thursday, Nov. 19 ..... Low 25, High 49  
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

## Prayer

O God, help us to remember that you love us. Give us strength to pray when times get rough. Help us to remember that you are the good shepherd, always caring for your sheep. Amen



Chris Frack, water plant supervisor, demonstrated the water clarifier at the water plant. All water comes into the tank which removes mud and other debris before the water is purified further. The tank, which is usually full, is empty due to the problems with the clarifier. The issue was discussed at Wednesday's city council meeting.

—Telegram photo by Erica Bradley

## Norton water is still 'safe'

By ERICA BRADLEY  
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Kansas Department of Health and Environment recently cited the City of Norton for by-products of Triamylamine in the drinking water. The issue was discussed at Wednesday's city council meeting with Rob Lawson, city administrator, saying precautionary letters will go out to the public Dec. 4.

In an interview after the meeting, Lawson told The Telegram the issue with Triamylamines will be resolved when the work at the plant is complete. He said the quality of the water has not changed.

"The water is safe to drink," he said. When the final phase is complete, water will be treated for Triamylamine at the water plant.

There were two other violations: the water clarifier is down and the wells are not all up and running.

Lawson said the violations are nothing major.

He said the clarifier filters mud and other sludge from the water.

"It's like a cleaning system," he said.

Lawson said repairs have been done, but the clarifier is not up and running yet.

Three out of five wells have been drilled and drilling for the other two is underway. Lawson said the field is 60 percent complete.

"The well drilling is going well," he said.

The council discussed the work on the well field. One well is not producing as much volume as it should. Lawson said it would save an estimated \$20,000 if

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# Area school facing budget problems

By ERICA BRADLEY  
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Funding for education is expected to be cut again at the end of November, leaving school districts across Kansas hurting. Northern Valley Schools Superintendent George Griffith presented financial information to the board of education during their Nov. 9 meeting.

In an interview after the meeting, Griffith told The Telegram his district will have an estimated \$65,000-150,000 cut for this school year.

He said the cuts are not only due to the recession, it is also due to the failure of the Legislature to plan ahead.

Griffith said they knew there would be a \$426 million deficit in 2009 several years ago but cut taxes last year and this year.

Funding cuts are affecting the education provided to children.

"We're looking at throwing away an entire generation by making these cuts," he said.

Griffith said schools are expected to do more with less. They still have to make adequate yearly progress and meet other standards set by the state.

"What we're expected to do continues to increase. Despite the cuts, our teachers and staff are doing an excellent job. It's a blessing for our students," he said.

Griffith said the district has some money in reserves but not enough to cover the cuts.

"We've been hit by the recession too," he said.

School districts across Kansas are deciding whether to join Schools for Fair Funding, a nonprofit coalition threatening to sue the state over funding concerns.

Griffith said the board was scheduled to vote during a special meeting yesterday.

"It shouldn't be necessary for schools to force the Legislature to fund them," he said.

In other school board business:

• Griffith reported the damage to the football field has been repaired, and the damaged area has been seeded and fertilized.

One of the Northern Valley buses was damaged when it hit a deer. Repairs are being made.

Griffith also said he, Ms. Wilson, Annette Puent and Cindy Lowry took the fourth grade class to Norton's They Also Ran Gallery. The class was also treated to ice cream at Dairy Queen for good behavior. He will treat the third grade class soon for their behavior points.

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## Hanging Christmas



City employees stayed busy on Tuesday hanging Christmas decorations throughout Norton. The displays can be seen along Highway 283 and Highway 36.

—Telegram photo by Dana Paxton

## Christmas On Us kicks off

It's that time of year to start collecting your tickets from participating sponsors. It's the Norton Telegram/Norton Businesses Christmas On Us retail promotion which started November 10. This year we have nine sponsors and there will be a total of \$1,500 given out. Once again there will be ten \$50 instant winners which come from the numbers found in the ads run every Tuesday. Then at the big drawing on Dec. 17 there will be

two \$100 winners, one \$300 winner and one grand prize winner of \$500. Any unclaimed instant \$50 winners will also be drawn at that time.

Due to the recent economy trouble we have all been facing we have decided to spread out the winnings to more people this year. Who couldn't use \$500?

Norton Telegram General Manager Dana Paxton said, "We had a total of

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## Deadline for vehicle tag renewals approaching

Nov. 30 is the last day to renew vehicle tags if your last name begins with "T," "V" or "W" or your business name begins with "T," "V" or "W." New items needed are Driver License or Identification 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. The Treasurer's office will be closed on Nov. 26 and Nov. 27 for Thanksgiving.

Driver license renewals can be done Tuesday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. 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 processed in the office by appointment. You will need to bring a state issued 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.