

# \$1 THE NORTON TELEGRAM



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**Tuesday**

**March 23, 2010**

*Briefly*

## Annual Easter Egg hunt is scheduled

The Annual Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for April 3 at the Norton County Courthouse. Pictures with the Easter Bunny will take place at 1 p.m., the scavenger hunt will begin at 1:30 p.m. for children in fourth through sixth grades and the Easter egg hunt will begin at 2 p.m. for children ages infant through third grade.

This event is sponsored by Norton Child Study Club. For more information contact Jennie Patterson at 874-4256 or JaLynn Urban at 877-5623. If you are interested in donating, please contact a member or call Wendy Haresnape at 874-4743.

## Elmwood Park races rescheduled

There will be no play day at the Elmwood Park Speedway on March 27 and no races on March 28 as originally planned. The first race of the season will be at 6 p.m. on April 10 at Elmwood Park Speedway. The full racing schedule will be published April 2 in The Telegram.

## Toy show for good cause



Dan Bainter examined a few of the toys at the 22nd annual Farm Toy and Collectables show. The show is held every year and is organized by the Methodist Men. Proceeds from this event go to fund various Christian

mission trips. This year's show was held Saturday at the Armory. —Telegram photo by Dana Paxton

# More cuts proposed for schools

By ERICA BRADLEY  
[eradley@nwkansas.com](mailto:eradley@nwkansas.com)

This week the House will debate HB 2739, a bill that would change the definition of state financial aid for public schools. The bill will cut millions of dollars from school districts and will require an increase in local mill levies.

Norton Schools Superintendent Greg Mann said \$131 will be cut from base budget, or 3.2 percent. The law would require districts to fund a local foundation budget, meaning 10 percent of the school funding will come from an increase in

the mill levy.

Mann said the Kansas Department of Education is predicting the mill levy for Norton Community Schools would increase by 12 mills.

"Based on the Kansas Department of Education projection, the USD 211 mill levy would increase by almost 12 mills, but at the same time USD 211 funds would be flat in 2010/11 and reduced in 2011/12," he said.

In 2009/10, Norton Community Schools' general fund was \$5,106,752. The general fund for 2010/11 is projected

to be \$4,957,830, based on a base-aid-per-pupil of \$4,055. The current base-aid is \$4,012, down from the mandated \$4,433. The general fund would be reduced by \$148,922.

Mann said the Legislature is willing to let local boards of education increase the mill levy, while they can say they did not raise taxes.

"The plan as being proposed will mandate local boards of education increasing mill levies in most districts. At election time they will be able to say they (the legislature) did not raise taxes," he said.

The reduction for the general fund is expected to be \$148,922 for 2010/11. \$558,316, or 10 percent of the total amount per pupil, will be put into the foundation fund.

The bill:

- Cuts all districts by \$85.9 million, equal to approximately \$131 base budget per pupil, or 3.2 percent. This will lead to further reductions in staff and services to students at a time when educational standards and expectations continue to increase.

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**MARKETS**  
Cash Prices-Norton  
March 23, 2010

**CORN**  
\$3.22

**SOYBEANS**  
\$9.00

**WHEAT**  
\$3.89

**MILO**  
\$2.93

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

## weather forecast

Tonight - A chance of rain before 4 a.m., then a chance of rain and snow. Cloudy with a low around 35.  
Wednesday - Rain and snow likely, becoming all rain after 1 p.m. Cloudy with a high near 41.  
Wednesday Night - A chance of snow. Cloudy with a low around 31.  
Thursday - A 20 percent chance of snow before 1 p.m. Mostly cloudy with a high near 51.  
Thursday Night - Partly cloudy with a low around 29.  
Friday - Sunny with a high near 61.

## Kingham report:

Friday, March 19 ..... Low 31, High 25  
2" Snow, .25 Rain  
Saturday, March 20 ..... Low 17, High 38  
Sunday, March 21 ..... Low 17, High 56  
Monday, March 22 ..... Low 32, High 72  
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm  
9 miles northwest of Norton)

## Prayer

Loving Father, we have witnessed your miracles yet have failed to recognize the work of your hand. Forgive us when we receive good from you and do not give thanks. Amen.



Gary Erlenbusch and Koda, Jerome Foskuhl and Rascal and David Stover and Sadie were three winners of the Fetch for Fitness weight loss competition sponsored by Hill's Pet Nutrition. There were 12 national winners, including the three from Norton.

—Telegram photo by Dana Paxton

## The biggest winners

By DANA PAXTON  
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For the past year, the Norton Animal Health Center took part in a contest that was sponsored by Hill's Pet Nutrition. Entries came from all over the United States, 12 of which came from Norton. Out of the 100 winning dogs, three were from Norton.

The contest was to see which dogs could lose the most weight in a six month

period. The dog owners had to follow the recommended diet plan given to them by their vet, which was Hill's Science Diet. All three winners were put on a reduced diet. The participants had to stay on the food recommended by Amber Nuttycomb, Norton Animal Health veterinarian technician, and Sarah Ketteral White. The contestants had regular weighings for six months. To reward all their hard work (Winners - Continued on Page 5)

## Drug investigation ends with two arrests

By ERICA BRADLEY  
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A six month investigation by the Norton County Sheriff's Department came to an end March 12 with the arrest of two Alma residents.

Norton County Sheriff Troy Thomson said Adam and Charlotte George were arrested after officers found a quarter of a pound of marijuana at their home. Adam was charged with possession of marijuana, sale of marijuana within 1,000 feet of a school, no drug tax stamp and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Charlotte was charged with distribut-

ing certain depressants within 1,000 feet of a school, sale of prescription drugs, possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia, violate control substance laws via communication facility.

Thomson said drug paraphernalia was also seized.

He said Charlotte bonded out on March 14. Adam remains in jail.

Charlotte's preliminary hearing is scheduled for May 14 at 1:30 p.m. Adam's preliminary hearing will be held March 24 at 1 p.m.

"Additional charges may be filed," Thomson said.

## Census important for local funding

By ERICA BRADLEY  
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Census forms have arrived at almost every home in the country, and local officials are out encouraging residents to return the forms in an effort to keep money at the local level.

Yesterday Norton County Commissioner Carolyn Applegate and Lyman Rowh, a resident of Norton, presented information at the Senior Citizens Center. Seniors are more unlikely to fill the

form out because they don't want to give out their personal information. Funds received from the census also fund things like the senior center.

Applegate said the census form is only 10 questions and more information is asked on tax forms and for driver's licenses.

Some residents were concerned about giving out their personal information to the government.

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