

\$1 THE NORTON TELEGRAM

WEBSITE: nwkansas.com 10 PAGES



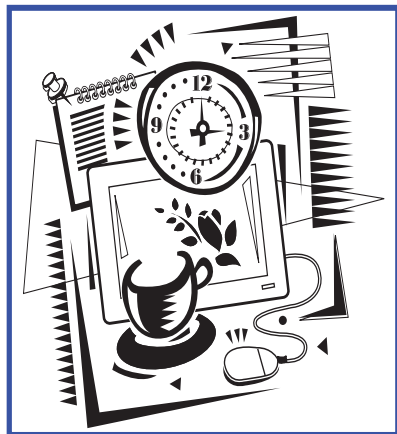
Friday

March 26, 2010

Briefly

Working Women inside today's paper

Working Women



Friday, March 26, 2010 THE NORTON TELEGRAM

Paint the Town will be program offered

The City of Norton is again offering its Paint the Town program, which will run from April 1 through Sept. 15. The program allows eligible homeowners to apply for \$250 of paint for exterior residential structures. Eligible homeowners are people whose income does not exceed 80 percent of the median income for their family size. Proof of income, proof of residency and verification of ownership must be provided.

MARKETS
Cash Prices-Norton
March 26, 2010

- CORN \$3.17
- SOYBEANS \$8.74
- WHEAT \$3.71
- MILO \$2.78

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

weather forecast

Tonight - A chance of showers and thunderstorms, Saturday - Showers likely, mainly before 1 p.m. Cloudy with a high near 44. Chance of precipitation is 70%. Saturday Night - Mostly cloudy with a low around 31. Sunday - Mostly sunny with a high near 59.

Kingham report:

Tuesday, March 23 Low 34, High 57
Wednesday, March 24... Low 34, High 55
Thursday, March 25 Low 22, High 57
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

God of the journey, help us to absorb nourishment in challenging and difficult times so we may continue to grow in you. Amen.



Dollar General construction begins



Construction of the new Dollar General store has started with concrete being poured this week. The new store will be located on east Highway 36 where R&M Motel used to be located. The motel was demolished

several weeks ago to make way for the new store.

—Telegram photo by Dana Paxton

Health care bill is good and bad

By ERICA BRADLEY
ebradley@nwkansas.com

Something that has not been noticed in the health care debate is the effect it will have on public health. The bill will provide funding for prevention and other public health activities.

While it is still preliminary to make any judgments about the bill, Norton County Health Department Registered Nurse/Administrator Gina Frack said the bill could affect both the public health and home health fields. "It affects us in both areas," she said.

She said funding for public health usually ebbs and flows with the economy. Funding has been cut with the economy.

"It will give us a base funding. Public health is hurting right now," she said.

According to the National Association of County and City Health Officials, the Prevention and Public Health Fund will fund prevention, wellness and public health activities.

The bill also includes language that establishes new programs for population-based chronic disease preven-

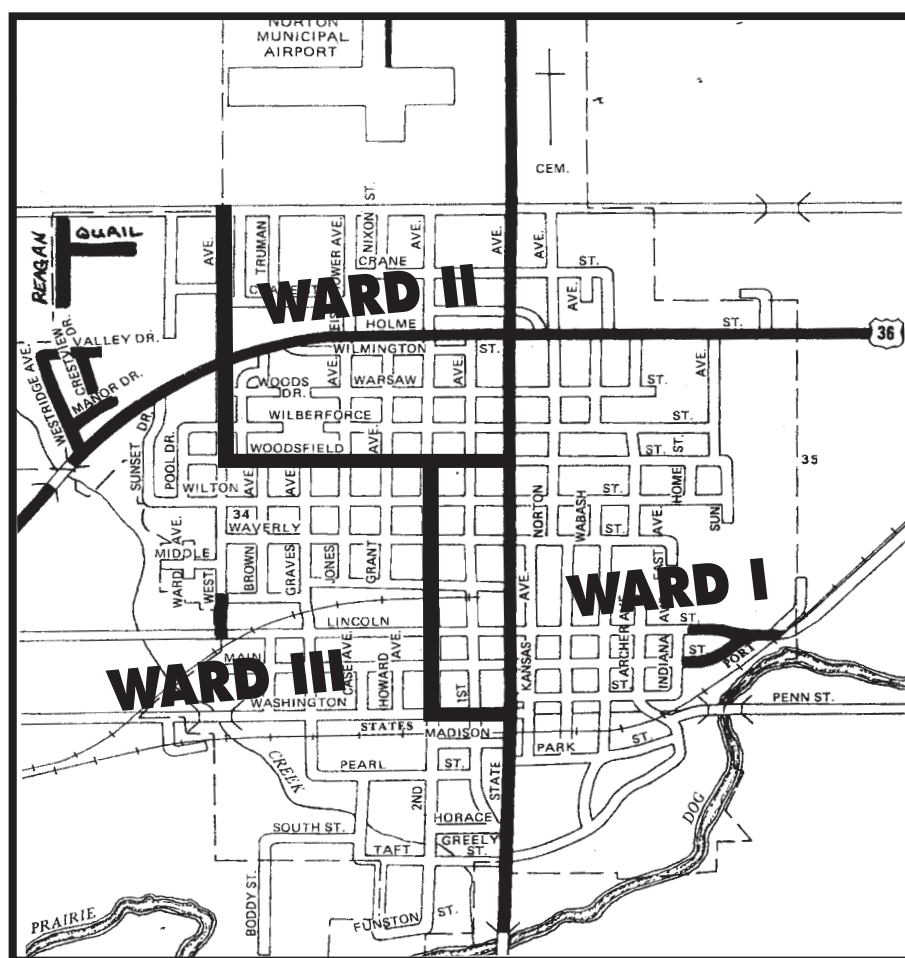
tion, public health workforce development and other programs.

According to The Kansas Center for Assisted Living, the bill is a combination of opportunities and treats for home health care.

Medicare fund is expected to be affected the most. Frack said the bill focuses on preventative medicine, which is cheaper to treat.

"It's much cheaper to educate people about ways we can prevent illness and injury instead of treating it after

(Health - Continued on Page 5)



Council elections coming up

City council elections are underway in Norton with two candidates running for Ward I, one candidate running in Ward II and three candidates running in Ward III.

Jeff Otter and Veronica Monier are running for the Ward I seat. Otter currently holds the seat. Former councilman Ron Briery, Toby Kuhn and Justina Smith are running in Ward III. Kuhn currently holds the seat. In Ward II, Donna Foley is running unopposed.

Ward I is everything from east of State Street to W. Woodsfield, west on W. Woodsfield to N. Second Street, S. to W. Washington and east to State Street

and South. Ward II is everything west of State Street, south to W. Woodsfield, west to West Avenue, north to Highway 36 and west. Ward III is everything south of W. Woodsfield and west of Second Street, going west to West Avenue then north to Highway 36, then west to the west city limit, then south to the south city limit, then east to State Street, then north on State Street to W. Washington, then west to S. Second Street and north to W. Woodsfield.

There will be no primary election for the Ward III seat.

The general election will be held on April 6.

Inmate work crew discussion continues

By ERICA BRADLEY
ebradley@nwkansas.com

The City of Norton is continuing discussion about hiring a prison work crew, and on Monday the mayor of Atwood discussed their work crew with community members.

Mayor Betty Mickey said Atwood has employed an inmate work crew from Norton Correctional Facility since 1989.

The inmates work on various community projects such as building renovation, cutting down trees, mowing and other work.

She said the inmates renovated an old 4-H building, which they now use to store their equipment.

"We were paying \$1,000 a tree. They do hard, hard work. I'm telling you, they

get it done quick. It's a lot of money we're saving," she said.

"There's a lot of little things. There are a lot of really talented inmates. They love coming to Atwood," she said.

There are several options for hiring a crew from the facility.

For a full time crew, a department of corrections guard could be hired or a city employee would be trained to supervise the inmates. Atwood employs a full time guard, at a cost of \$43,000.

The mayor took several questions from Rob Lawson, Norton City administrator, and community members. Joe Leroux, councilman, asked about funding concerns.

"We never, ever felt like they were overcharging us. We couldn't do it without

(Inmates - Continued on Page 5)

Deadline for tag renewals is quickly approaching

The last day for businesses or persons whose name begins with "B" to renew automobile, light trucks, motorcycles and/or motorized bikes tags at the Norton County Treasurer's office will be March 31. When renewing your vehicles remember to include your current proof of insurance. We need to verify the VIN number, policy number and expiration date. In addition to insurance, we need your driver license number or Federal ID number for the business.

Driver license renewals can be done Tuesday through Friday from 8 a.m. to

4 p.m. Instructional permits (IP) and Driver Education restricted licenses can be done in the office by appointment only. You will need to bring an original state issued certified birth certificate, social security card for the applicant 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.