

THE NORTON TELEGRAM



Tuesday
March 30, 2010

Briefly

Council elections are approaching

Norton city council elections are around the corner with two candidates running for Ward I, one candidate running in Ward II and three candidates running in Ward III. The general election will be held on April 6 and will determine the outcome of three council seats.

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.

Booster Club sets its next meeting

The Norton Blue Jay Booster Club will hold its Spring Sports Kickoff meeting at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday in the high school cafeteria.

All fans of Norton Community High School sports are invited. Speaking about the upcoming season will be Norton head track coach Jason Jones and Norton head golf coach David Stover.

You do not have to be a member of the club to attend the club's meetings.

MARKETS

Tuesday, March 30	
WHEAT	\$3.69
MILK	\$2.82
SOYBEANS	\$8.99
CORN	\$3.21

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

weather forecast

Tonight - Partly cloudy with a low around 45. Wednesday - Mostly clear with a low around 49. Thursday - Mostly sunny with a high near 81. Thursday Night - A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Friday - A slight chance of rain.

Kingham report:

Friday, March 26	Low 25, High 62
Saturday, March 27	Low 32, High 56
	.50 Rain
Sunday, March 28	Low 28, High 63
Monday, March 29	Low 34, High 78

(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

Generous God, you gave the most precious gift of all — Jesus Christ. Help us to trust in your generosity to us so that we, too, may give to others. Amen



Fire claims several acres south of the Reservoir on Monday

(Above) A grass fire consumed acres of prairie grass on the south side of Sebelius Lake on Monday. (Right) Norton Rural Fire Department and Solomon Valley units responded to the emergency. The cause of the fire was unknown, but the fire was contained yesterday evening. More details will follow as soon as they become available.

Telegram photos by Harriett Gill



Historic district in Norton's future

By ERICA BRADLEY erabradley@nwkansas.com

Developing a historic district in downtown Norton has been an ongoing project and is expected to retain and bring in businesses. Kerry Davis, Sally Schwenk Associates representative, discussed the historic district and completion of the survey on Thursday evening with several community members. Sally Schwenk Associates was hired as the consulting firm last year. The survey process included a field investigation to photograph and determine the historical integrity of each property. Davis also gathered information about the location, architectural character, associated features and documented historical information.

The information gathered was organized into an inventory to determine each property's historical significance. "Being in the register is one tool in the toolbox for stabilizing downtown areas," Davis said. Davis said there are several criteria for listing on the register. A building must:

- Be associated with events that made a significant contribution to historical patterns
- Be associated with the life of a person or persons who were significant in our past
- Embody the distinctive characteristics or a type, period or method of construction
- Have the potential to yield information important in prehistory or history

She said the register opens doors for businesses to get incentives, including tax credits, qualification for

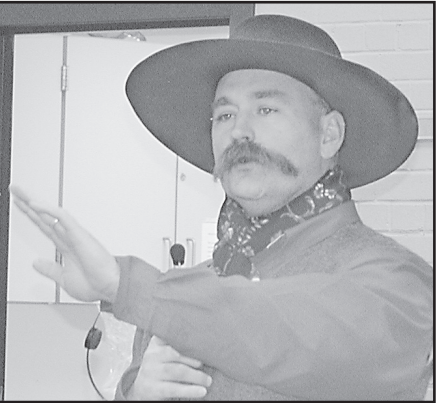
federal and state historic preservation grants and recognition of significant value to the community, state and nation. Davis said 93 buildings were surveyed with 46 percent being eligible. Most of the eligible properties are centered around the courthouse square. Several other properties were considered potentially eligible. "A building not only has to be historic. It has to communicate history. It has to have local significance," she said. She said the First Security building, located at 201 E. Main St., is the oldest building in Norton. The building dates back to the 1893 Sanborn Fire Insurance map, the oldest map to cover Norton. Davis said the building was remodeled in 1949/50. (District - Continued on Page 5)

Rancher discusses a variety of topics

By ERICA BRADLEY erabradley@nwkansas.com

The Norton County Farm Bureau brought a sixth generation Nebraska rancher to town Friday to discuss animal agriculture and food production issues with a large group of Norton County farmers. Trent Loos has a ranch north of Kearney and travels most of the year to attend speaking engagements across the country. He said he often gets questions about how big his ranch is since he spends so much time on the road. He said he and his

wife have horses, cows and goats. "We're as close to Old McDonald as you can get. As big as my wife can handle," he joked. Loos spent most of his time talking about the disconnect between Americans and the agriculture industry. He discussed the claim that animals are mistreated by farmers. He said 9 billion animals are produced each year, and 98 percent are produced in confined quarters. He said a chicken who is kept in a confined space is less stressed because temperature and other factors are



Trent Loos

controlled. "Chickens in cages today are laying an egg every 27 hours," he said. He said a chicken who is stressed by other variables will not lay as many eggs. "You cannot live on this earth without benefiting from animal agriculture," he said. "We are at a time when 360 million Americans take that for granted. Not many people know what we do," he said. (Rancher - Continued on Page 5)

Census forms distributed to homes across the country

The 2010 Census is well underway with the U.S. Census Bureau mailing 2010 Census questionnaires to about 120 million addresses nationwide. The questionnaires arrived March 15-17. Residents are encouraged to complete the 10 question census form when it arrives and to return it in the accompanying pre-paid envelope as soon as possible. "The 2010 Census is easy, important and safe," said Census Bureau Regional Director Dennis R. Johnson.

"It's important for families to take 10 minutes to answer the 10 questions in the 2010 Census because of the impact of the 2010 Census has on our local communities. I encourage everyone to participate," he said. Census Bureau research shows that for every 1 percent increase in households that respond by mail, taxpayers save about \$85 million in operational costs associated with census takers going door to door to follow up with households that did not mail back the

form. In the 2000 Census, 72 percent of households in the nation mailed back their questionnaires. The more than 120 million households that receive the 2010 Census form by mail represent about 90 percent of all residential addresses in the country. Census workers last week started hand-delivering census forms to another 9 percent of addresses in areas where many households lack traditional city-style postal addresses. (Census - Continued on Page 5)