

\$1 THE NORTON TELEGRAM



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Friday,
August 27, 2010

Post Fair Insert
in today's issue

Briefly

Junior High to host Parents Night

The Norton Junior High School will host Parents Night, Monday, August 30, at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria. This will be a good time to meet your student's teachers and learn their expectations by briefly traveling through your student's schedule.

Volunteers still needed for the wall

Volunteers are needed for guard duty for the Vietnam Memorial Wall from Sept. 23 to Sept. 27. If you can help, call Jon Wyatt, Director of the American Legion Riders, Post 63, at 785-202-0282.

August tag renewal coming to an end

The last day for businesses or persons whose name begins with "M", "N" or "O" to renew automobile, light trucks, motorcycles and/or motorized bikes tags at the Norton County Treasurer's Office will be August 31, 2010. 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 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 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.

Markets

Friday, August 27, 2010

Wheat	\$5.21
Milo	\$3.32
Soybeans	\$9.36
Corn	\$3.59

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

Weather

Tonight - Clear with a low around 59.
Saturday - Sunny with a high near 92.
Saturday Night - Mostly clear with a low around 62.
Sunday - Mostly sunny with a high near 92.
Sunday Night - Partly cloudy and breezy.

Kingham Report

Tuesday, August 24.....Low 57, High 79
Wednesday, August 25..Low 51, High 87
Thursday, August 26.....Low 52, High 89
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

Dear God, help us to remember to look for you in both the routine tasks and the interruptions of our daily life. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen



Clearing of the property just south of the Norton County Hospital began this week in order to prepare for the building of the new Norton Doctors Clinic. Courtesy photo

New medical clinic underway

By AMY GRIFFEY
Special to the Telegram

The upcoming months will usher in a new look for Norton County Hospital, which is constructing a rural medical clinic adjacent to the southwest side of the existing hospital facility. The \$2.5 million project will consist of the construction of 9,000 square feet of clinic space, the renovation of a small portion of the existing hospital, and the construction of new off-street parking and sidewalk system. Construction began this week, and is expected to be complete in the spring of 2011.

"The expansion and improvements will not only provide patients with a more convenient clinic visit, but the connection of the clinic and hospital facilities will help our medical service providers offer their exceptional care in a more efficient and effective manner," said Rich Miller, Norton County Hospital Administrator.

Currently, there are four physicians, three mid-level health care providers, and many additional health care professionals working from the Doctors Clinic building constructed in 1962 and located one block from the hospital campus. New clinic construction plans were based on the needs for

a physical connection between the clinic and the hospital facilities, additional exam rooms and office space, enhanced accessibility and additional parking.

Once clinic operations begin at the new location, Colby Community College Norton Annex will relocate into a portion of the existing clinic building. There they will have space needed to allow for increased teaching staff and enrollment at their nursing school.

Consulting architects, Health Facilities Group, Wichita, have been working on the clinic design for several months. While working on the design phase, the hospital has been successful in securing a combination of USDA Rural Development and other financing sources for the project.

Murray Company, Overland Park, has been hired to provide Construction Management services for the project. Murray Company has been involved in two previous hospital construction projects.

During construction, the hospital's south parking lot will be closed. Parking for the Physical Therapy and Cardiac Rehabilitation departments will be affected. Throughout the construction phase, all patients and visitors are asked to park in the main parking lot.

Updates for the Norton County Sheriff's Dept.

Norton County Sheriff Troy Thomson wants the county to go from hand-written complaint cards to having daily logs and complaints logged on a computer.

So he went to visit with the Norton County commissioners on Monday to talk to them about a grant application that would allow his office to modernize.

The grant, he said, would help pay for upgrades to the dispatch center and would include computer generated complaint cards, daily log cards and a records management system. At this time, the system is done by hand-generated cards, which is both time consuming and hard to manage.

The grant will be applied for through the state.

Road and Bridge Supervisor Tom Brannan talked about equipment service and repair and gave the commissioners an outline of what he expects in the way of repairs over the next few months and how much each should cost.

Mr. Brannan said that bridge construction is proceeding nicely with OS125 and that work on the bridge itself should be completed next week. The decking, rail and dirt work should be done by the end of the week, he said.

He also gave the commissioners an update on what was happening to a motor grader, which had been damaged by fire. Mr. Brannan said that the grader has been sent off to a larger company facility for repairs.

The West Washington Road work is near completion, he told the commissioners. However, he said, he is not happy with a stretch of the millings and has plans to go back and reduce a section to improve the compaction on the street. Without proper compaction, the street will not hold up as long as it should.

Curt Archibald, Norton County Solid Waste supervisor, reported that Whitney Construction will begin work on a pit extension at the land fill this week. The contract for the extension was approved by the commissioners a month ago, he noted, and will include the construction of a new construction debris pit as well.

Mr. Archibald said that he will also be delivering recycling bins to the school (Logs - Continued on Page 5)

Sick Kentucky horse recovering in Norcatur

By CAROLYN PLOTTS

Rico, the three-year old Tennessee Walker stallion, that is making a cross-country trip with his owner, Don DeMonte, had a close call last weekend. He became "colicky," a shut-down of the digestive tract, and it was feared he might need surgery.

Mr. DeMonte and Rico have been on the road since March 5 when they left Lexington, Ky., headed for Los Angeles. The focus of their trip is to raise awareness for the prevention of child abuse and suicide prevention. The trip is in memory of Mr. DeMonte's 18-year old niece, Felicia Roberson, who committed suicide in 2003. He, himself, endured an abusive childhood, so the cause is a very personal one.

Horse and rider average about 20 miles a day and had expected to be out of Kansas by this time. However, Saturday evening, when they arrived at their scheduled stop in Norcatur at the Jim Plotts home, events took a turn for the worse.

When they arrived, it was discovered the horse had chipped a front hoof and the shoe was very loose. During the night it came off and a local farrier made an emergency house-call Sunday morning. During the day it became apparent that Rico was not feeling well and by night he was obviously in pain. Colic was suspected. It was about midnight when the decision was made to call Dr. Aaron White. Dr. White confirmed the diagnosis and after drenching Rico with mineral oil and giving him some fluids intravenously he recommended walk-

ing him to see if the condition would correct itself. If it didn't, he said the horse might need surgery.

Mr. DeMonte walked Rico all night with no results. So Monday morning, in a borrowed horse trailer, Mr. Plotts drove the two to Kansas State University and the School of Veterinary Medicine. Rico was examined by graduate veterinary students and interns. In an attempt to avoid surgery, he was given an injection to shrink his spleen which would relieve pressure on his intestines. Then the students took turns running Rico up and down an alley-way as fast as they could. That procedure achieved the results they had hoped for and Rico was released.

It was a tired trio that rolled into Norcatur about (HORSE - Continued on Page 5)

Norton Police Department to get drug dog in early 2011

Norton will be getting a drug and tracking dog.

Norton Police Chief Pat Morel announced that his department has been approved for a grant which will be used toward the expenses of a new K-9 officer to assist in drug interdiction efforts, tracking and locating missing persons. The German Shepherd has been specifically selected in Germany, and after undergoing specialized testing criteria and a rigorous training and certification program, will be ready to join forces with the Norton Police Department in Feb. 2011. The canine will be supplied by K-9 Working Dogs International, LLC of Longford, a global supplier of Police Service Canines and Federally Licensed K-9 Training Center.

The dog will be trained and certified to meet National Certification requirements to ensure the highest level of operational

efficiency and "street rediness". The handler, Officer Jody Enfield, and the canine officer will begin their hands-on training course in February.

Officer Enfield, is employed with the City of Norton as a Police Officer II and has been since Dec. of 2008. He has been in law enforcement for about five years.

He began his law enforcement career in 2005 with the Norton County Sheriff's Department under Sheriff Troy Thomson. In the spring of 2008, he became employed with the Kansas Dept. of Wildlife and Parks as a seasonal park ranger in Prairie Dog State Park.

Jodi was born and raised in Norton and attended Norton Community schools.

During his youth, he engaged in activities such as hunting, fishing, camping, and sports. In between his sophomore and junior year of high school he was selected along with 50 other students in the State

of Kansas, to attend the Kansas Highway Patrol Cadet Law Training Program at their recruit training academy in Salina.

After graduating from Norton Community High School in May of 2002, he attended Cloud County Community

College in Concordia, where he majored in Criminal Justice. After attending the school for two years, he transferred to Washburn University in Topeka, where he continued the criminal justice program. (DOG - Continued on Page 5)

Legion bikers plan send-off ride

At noon, on Sept. 5th the American Legion Riders Post #63 will have a "Send off Ride" for Chance and Chase Miller of Almena, sons of Lisa and Allan Miller, Tim Bashford of Norton, son of Michael and Kay Snodgrass and Makayla Nicodemus of Almena.

The four service personnel are with the "778th Transportation Company" of the Kansas Army National Guard

and are being deployed to Kuwait for a year.

The American Legion Riders will honor the heros in a parade starting in Norton. The parade will begin in Elmwood Park, go up State Street and continue to Almena for a parade down Main Street.

Come out, line the streets!! Show your gratitude and support.