

\$1 THE NORTON TELEGRAM

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Tuesday Park cabins offer modern conveniences

October 19, 2010

Briefly

Booster Club meeting at school

All Norton Community High School sports fans are invited to the weekly meeting of the Norton Blue Jay Booster Club at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in the school cafeteria. Speaking about recent results of their team's competition will be tennis coach Jim Green, volleyball coach Peggy Cox, cross country coach George Rossi and football coach Lucas Melvin. Following the speeches, coach Melvin will show the film of last Friday night's 40-9 District win at Goodland. You do not have to be a member of the booster club to attend.

Kay holly sales starting Thursday

The Norton Senior High School Kay Holly sales begin Thursday, Oct. 21 and end Friday Oct. 29. Be looking for KAY members to come knocking! Or, contact Miss Satran or the high school to place an order.

Hospital board meeting this week

The Norton County Hospital board of trustees will meet Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. in the board room.

Agenda items include Nex-Tech equipment proposals for hospital/clinic telephone system and clinic security system, clinic construction progress report, September statistical/financial reports, operating room equipment proposal, employee group health premiums/salary schedule and patient survey summaries

Planning groups hold annual dinner

The 34th annual meeting of the Northwest Kansas Planning & Development Commission and Pioneer Country Development, Inc. will be Wednesday Oct. 27 at the Cowboy Junction in Hill City.

Registration begins at 5:30 p.m. and dinner at 6 p.m.

For reservations call 785-421-2151 or email nwkpdc@ruraltel.net by Monday, Oct. 25.

Markets

Tuesday, October 19, 2010

Wheat	\$5.77
Milo	\$4.57
Soybeans	\$10.77
Corn	\$4.80

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

Weather

Tonight - Mostly clear with a low around 40. **Wednesday** - Sunny with a high near 75. **Wednesday Night** - Mostly clear with a low around 42. **Thursday** - Sunny with a high near 72. **Thursday Night** - A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. **Friday** - A 50 percent chance of showers.

Kingham Report

Friday, October 15Low 40, High 83
Saturday, October 16Low 43, High 71
Sunday, October 17Low 34, High 69
Monday, October 18Low 40, High 67
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

OGod, thank you for your unflinching love. Help us to trust in it and share it today. Amen



By JUDY SHERARD

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It's now possible to savor the outdoors at Prairie Dog State Park while enjoying many of the comforts of home.

Two new cabins were dedicated at the Park on Friday. A large crowd, including members of the Norton Area Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors, was on hand to hear remarks about the program from Kansas Wildlife and Parks Secretary Mike Hayden.

The cabins have been named Prairie Dog and Eagle View, and are cabins 93 and 94 completed by the program, but the first built in the area.

They are the product of the collaboration of the Kansas Wildlife and Parks Department, Greenbush Southeast Kansas Education Service Center, Norton Correctional Facility and Kansas Wildscape Foundation. The Parks Department provides the location and maintenance. Inmates from a correctional facility provide the labor while receiving job training through Greenbush, and Wildscape provides funding. Inmates receive a certified education and hands-on experience in construction. Certification comes from the National Center for Construction Education and Research. The certification also helps them get a post-release job.

Each cabin costs approximately \$70,000 to build, Hayden said in an interview. Of that amount about \$38,000 is for materials. Other expenses to build the cabins include supervision of inmates by the Corrections Department, landscaping and site work.

No tax dollars are used for the program. The Wildscape Foundation borrows money from the Gardner National Bank with a revolving line of credit to buy materials and supplies. The loan is secured with the existing cabins and repaid with



A large crowd, including local and state dignitaries and Kansas Wildlife and Parks employees, attended the dedication and ribbon cutting of two new cabins at Prairie Dog State Park last Friday. Pictured are Mindy Braun, Jim Wray, Gordon Ingram, Brian Haug, Doug Sebelius, Ashley Esslinger, Frank Meyer and Toby Kuhn.

—Telegram photo by Judy Sherard

rent revenues.

It usually take three to five years to pay off the loan, Hayden said.

The Foundation also accepts donations from those who wish to sponsor a particular cabin or help to offset general costs of the program.

Because it is a non-profit foundation, the current economic problems haven't affected the program, Hayden said.

The cabins have modern conveniences, including a microwave, and are handicap accessible. The Prairie Dog State Park cabins are located conveniently close to the boat ramp and the beach. Each one sleeps six. There's a double bed, futon and pull down Murphy style bed. There is a full kitchen with dishes and utensils. Renters need bring only bedding, personal toiletries and towels. However, in

true camping spirit, there is no television, internet or telephone.

Check in time is 2 p.m. and check out time is noon. Guests are asked to leave the cabins clean.

Each cabin rents for \$70 per night. The program usually has about 10 to 12 cabins in construction at a time with

(Cabins - Continued on Page 5)

Almena waiting on bids

By JUDY SHERARD

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The city of Almena is moving forward on plans for a new building to house the city office, library and a meeting room, as well as storage.

The Almena Chamber of Commerce is spearheading the project and initiated fundraising about three years ago, said Glenn Brands, chamber president. A building committee is overseeing the project.

Brands said a new building is needed because the old one is no longer suitable. It's old and beyond repair or renovation. It's also not large enough to meet the new needs, so repairing it and renovation isn't an option, he said.

The new building will be in the same location on Main Street, at the corner of Bryant. Three buildings will be removed

from the site to make room for the building project. Two of the three already have been demolished, and one building will be moved to another location.

The plans call for a new 55 by 125-foot steel fabricated building which will allow room for the needed functions.

Bids for the project are due Wednesday, Oct. 27.

A pre-bid meeting was held in Almena last week, and five or six contractors attended the meeting, Brands said.

In addition to chamber fundraising, the city has received a \$121,850 United States Department of Agriculture Development grant and a revolving loan for \$225,000 through Prairie Land Electric, to help pay for the building. Organizers also are in the process of applying for another grant.

Pigskin Pick-Em has clear winner

By DICK BOYD

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Jasmine Covington, Almena, was all alone on top of the pile of Pigskin Pick-Em entries last week and won the \$15 scrip first prize with just one wrong choice.

Jasmine was the only fan to miss just one game; her miscue was the Smith Center win over Beloit.

Three fans were in the running for second and third prize with just two misses in what turned out to be one of the toughest weeks for those entering. Trey Millan, Norton; Erin Foley, Lawrence and Kelly Sweet, Norton, tied with two misses. Pittsburgh won the tiebreaker game 45-14. Trey and Erin each missed the total scores of the tiebreaker teams by 21 points, making a drawing necessary.

Trey was the winner of the drawing and the \$10 in scrip money for second place. He missed the Logan win over Western Plains and Texas victory over Nebraska.

Erin will receive the third prize of \$5 in scrip money. She was wrong on the Missouri win over Texas A&M and the Texas victory over Nebraska.

Kelly Sweet was the other fan missing two games; she miscued on the Wisconsin win over Ohio State and Texas victory over Nebraska. Kelly missed the tiebreaker score by a total of 24 points.

Correct on all but three games were: Shirley Stutterheim, Almena; Barbara

Springer, Long Island; Brody McDowell, Aaron McDowell, both of Hill City; James Covington, Denver; Kenney Leiker, Hays; Mitch Tegtmeier, Eudora; Jared Foley, Wichita; Nish Millan, Goodland; Patrick Pomeroy, Justis Posson, Steve Vollertsen, Regina Beikman, Tom Baumann, Chase Rice, Tiffannie Blum, all of Norton.

Incorrect on four contests were: Donelle Stewart, Julie Hilburn, Ja'Nee Moore, Alberta Geil, Linda Covington, Joni Hilburn, Brenda Husted, all of Almena; W. Luis Cass, Beaver City; Jim Springer, Long Island; Lexi McDowell, Hill City; Dale Shearer, Edmond; Terry Lipp, Edwardsville; Ann Becker, Lenora; Will Ellis, Cassidy Palmer, Wilma Wiseman, Linc Ostmeier, Craig Knapp, Aden Schillig, Devon Gasper, Dustan Daniels, Nathan Morse, Kerri Ray, Amanda Ray, Doug Ray, Mary Ann Hager, Craig Foley, Jacob Green, LeRoy Newell, Lilly Beikman, LeAnne Beikman, Baylee Miller, Diana Smith, Morgan Baumann, Chriselle Thomson, Misty Nuzum, Keely Millan, Sherri Clark, all of Norton.

Missing five games were: Rodger Stutterheim, Sandi Winchell, both of Almena; Chris Foley, Fairfield, Calif.; Tiffney Yeager, McDonough, Ga.; Barbara Brooks, Clayton; Andrew Lantz, Tom Davis, Laquita Smith, Justin Lindsay, Brett Terrell, Charlotte Gasper, Chad

(Winner - Continued on Page 5)

That's a lot of croc!



SuperCroc fills the main room of the Dane G. Hansen Museum in Logan. The exhibit is at the museum until Nov. 7. Along with the full body replica skeleton, a flesh head model of the largest known crocodile is displayed. The exhibit was created by Project Exploration.

—telegram photo by Harriett Gill

Road grader on wish list

By JUDY SHERARD

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Road and bridge equipment issues occupied much of the Norton County Commissioners meeting Monday morning.

Topper Cook, road and bridge employee, told commissioners the new motor grader he used while his was being repaired was able to handle tasks significantly better than the old one. It's often used to move dirt, but has a tendency to suck up debris into the cooler and cause the temperature to rise.

Commissioners looked at material on a John Deere 772G motor grader, 2010 model with 100 hours. The cash price of that grader is \$278,262. However trades-ins could lower the price significantly.

Currently there are ten graders for the eight districts in the county. Rather than have two extra graders on hand for an as needed situation, commissioners are considering trading in the two oldest that have 12,000 to 14,000 hours, and lease a new grader if one is needed.

They asked the John Deere representative to look at the graders and price them

for trade in. They also will have a CAT representative look at them, and give a bid before considering the purchase at their next meeting.

Cook and Floyd Richards also told them about other pieces of equipment in need of repair.

Curt Archibald, solid waste supervisor, reported that Whitney Construction is finishing up grading and re-compacting the pit at the landfill.

Norton City/County Economic Director Scott Sproul said he's working with a number of local entities to write letters of support to Kansas Department of Health and Environment in support of the Holcomb expansion project of Sunflower Electric. Commissioners suggested Sproul ask for letters of support from Prairie Land Electric and the City of Norton, power purchasers. Local manufacturing companies, the ice plant and Ag Valley also were mentioned as having an impact in the decision.

The commissioners next meeting will be Friday, October 29 for the end of the month bills.