

\$1 THE NORTON TELEGRAM



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Tuesday

February 8, 2011

Briefly

Almena school to hold benefit

There will be a benefit held for Bailey Thompson, Clint Lowry and Ricci Gutzman on Sunday, February 13 at the Northern Valley School cafeteria from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. A free will lunch will be served and a silent auction will take place. All proceeds will go toward medical expenses. For more information or to donate contact the Almena State Bank at 785-669-2486.

Calling contest will be Saturday

There will be a Calling Contest Saturday, Feb. 12. Everyone must be presented before 6 p.m. Feb. 11 at a cost of \$30 per two man team. This costs includes a meal and puts each contestant's name in for a drawing for a DPMS Model A-15 .223 cal. Call in coyotes, bobcats and crows for points. Trophies awarded. Final check in time will be from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Attitudes the night of Feb. 12. Contest is held for the fun of calling and to support youth shooting. Contact John Baker at 877-3253 or Rick McChesney at 202-2468.

Sen. Jerry Moran in town Thursday

U.S. Senator Jerry Moran will meet with residents in Phillipsburg in the conference room of the Huck Boyd Community Center, located at 860 Park Street, from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Thursday, Feb. 10. Area residents are encouraged to attend.

Primary elections for Norton mayor

A primary election will be held on March 1, in the lobby of the Norton County Courthouse. The polls will open at 7 a.m. and close at 7 p.m.

Four persons have filed for the position of Mayor for the City of Norton. The candidates that will be on the ballot in the primary are: David Corns, incumbent mayor; Ronnie Briery; Sarah Durham; and Allan Taylor.

The General Election will be held on April 5.

Markets

Tuesday, February 8, 2011

Wheat	\$8.23
Milo	\$5.78
Soybeans	\$13.33
Corn	\$6.13

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

Weather

Tonight - A 40 percent chance of snow, mainly before midnight. **Wednesday** - Mostly sunny with a high near 20. **Wednesday Night** - Mostly clear with a low around -2. **Thursday** - Mostly sunny.

Kingham Report

Friday, February 4Low 13, High 47
 Saturday, February 5.....Low 29, High 51
 Sunday, February 6.....Low 27, High 40
 1/2 inch of snow
 Monday, February 7.....Low 11, High 36
 (Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

Dear God, please take our hands in yours as we go through this day. Help us to trust that you will give us strength day by day to follow Christ. Amen.

Twins earn Mr. NCHS title

By HARRIETT GILL
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Norton's East Campus Auditorium began filling with spectators at 2 p.m. on Sunday afternoon to witness the crowning of Mr. NCHS.

There were nine contestants, however, two of the contestants were joined at the hip and competed as one.

David Cressler, Ryan Blecha, Andrew Otter, Justin Griffith, Tanner Morel, Zach Porter, David and Jacob Mizell and Bill Broeckelman were brazen enough to take on the competition and hope to win the coveted prize of Mr. NCHS.

Judges, Mrs. Hale, Mr. Vance and Mr. McKinney, and a motley crew they were, braved the onslaught of foolishness and provided an unbiased judgment and crowned the 4th annual Mr. NCHS. However, it has to be noted that there was some bribery on the part of the contestants. Skittles, candy bars and portraits were handed to the judges and a sack of tortilla chips was seen sliding across the stage floor.

A hit with the audience was the various costumes that Bill Broeckelman displayed. His wide variety of wrestling singlets was the envy of the other participants and worrisome to Mrs. Hale.

After much tom-foolery, a runner-up winner was declared. Andrew Otter was the first runner up. Or should it be said "Who was on first base."

David and Jacob Mizell claimed the crown of Mr. NCHS, and were last seen rushing off the stage with the other contestants in hot pursuit.

The event was intended to be light hearted and fun, but there was a serious side to this year's KAY Club's presentation. A free will donation was collected at the door to benefit the Nan Smith Scholarship Fund. Ms. Smith was a 3rd grade teacher who taught at USD 211 for many years. She was a teacher to many



The Mizell twins, David and Jacob, won the title of Mr. NCHS; don't let the kilts mislead you they really are from Kansas.

- Telegram photo by Harriett Gill

of the KAY club members and some of the talented participants. The KAY club matched donations up to \$250. Donations at the door were \$425.82. A total of \$675.82 was donated to the scholarship fund.

Norton County citizen scammed

A Norton County grandmother was scammed out of cash that she thought she was sending to a grandchild recently.

The Norton County Sheriff's office received a call on Friday from a woman, who said that she had received a call from a man claiming to be her grandson.

The man told her that he was out of the country and had been in a traffic accident and needed money.

Wanting to help a family member, the woman used Western Union to wire the caller money.

Later she became suspicious and contacted the sheriff's office.

Sheriff Troy Thomson said that this type of scam has been reported to the office in the past and wants to warn others of the scam.

Scams often have warning signs to help the people spot them, the sheriff's office said.

- Urgency and the need to act right away.

- Secrecy and the need not to share information with others.

If you get a call from someone claiming to be a relative or friend in trouble and needing financial help, don't panic, the sheriff said.

Check to make sure they are who they say by asking a personal question to which you would both know the answer, such as the name of a favorite pet, a maiden name or the name of another person in the group.

Resist pressure to send money immediately and/or secretly to anyone.

Refuse to send money by wire or overnight delivery.

Always verify any information given before providing money to anyone, even a trusted friend or family member.

If you have suspicions that you are being scammed, call the sheriff's office at (785) 877-5780. You can remain anonymous if you wish.

City discusses zoning, collections at meeting

By HARRIETT GILL
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Changing of the City zoning codes and approval of the 2010 utility and property abatement write-offs and initiating the collection process were items considered at the Norton City Council meeting on Wednesday.

Tony Grysch, Downtown Car Wash owner, commended the city crews for the job of fixing the water leak that had occurred earlier in the day. He said the city had notified him that the water would be shut off in advance.

"They did a great job of quickly fixing the water leak, I think it only took 45 minutes to get the water turned back on. Of course, I really didn't have much car wash business today," Grysch said.

Mayor Corns reported on the sales tax receipts that were received for the month of January. The city collected \$17,793.88. The total for the month of January was below the amount of sales tax collected for January 2010.

Karen Griffiths said she had met with Code Inspector, Jeff Wolf, about some zoning code changes that are needed. They will need to meet with the Zoning Board to discuss the proposed changes.

A motion was made by Jeff Otter and seconded by Roberta Ryan to approve

2010 utility and property abatement write-offs and start the collection process through the City Attorney. It was approved by the full council to start the collection process. The list of names that on the utility and property abatement write off's are:

Baxter, Kathy, 505 N. First, no forward, \$29.88; Bollig, Charles, 610 N. Grant, read out 3-3-10, \$418.61; Bowen, Jason, 906 West, read out 6-3-10, \$305.62; Brill, Justin, 811 N. Archer, No forward, \$42.49; Brill, Mandi, 208 E. Woodfield, bill from 2009, \$335.08; Coffman, Gerald, 307 W. Main and 707 N. Wabash, bills from 2009, \$598.85 and \$209.62; Colvin, Grant, 312 S. Norton, bill from 2009, \$69.96; Davis, Rachelle, 312 N. Graves, read out 6-9-10, \$52.25; Duede, Cameron, 412 N. Wabash, bill from 2009, \$332.18; Franco, Danny, 809 N. First, read out 1-11-10, \$295.37; Garcia, Daniel, 309 W. Holme, Lot 10, read out 7-21-10, \$130.25; Haremza, Kim, 1001 A Kennedy, read out 6-4-10, \$91.86; Harris, Amanda, 1007 A Kennedy, no forward, \$479.29; Hauer, Britnee, 313 N. Wabash, no forward, \$294.71; Horacek, Teresa, 708 W. Woodfield, read out 1-26-10, \$247.26; Howe, Jessie, 120 S. Brown, bill from

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Downtown Norton goes down in history

Norton's downtown area has been designated as a National Historic District.

On November 20, the State of Kansas approved the application to have the area a state historic district.

Now, the National Historical Society has approved downtown Norton for the National Historic Registry.

With this designation, owners of approved buildings in the area, who want to renovate will be eligible for incentives including both state and federal tax credits, and federal and state historic preservation grants.

The district is generally bounded by East Lincoln Street on the north, East Penn Street on the south, South Norton Avenue on the east, and South First Street on the west.

Building owners in the district, which includes most of the downtown area, will be notified of the new designation in the near future.

The Norton County Community Foundation, Downtown Restoration Committee and City/County Economic Development are working to provide resources to rehabilitate the area.

The Heaton Building, formerly the Sewing Box and K&S Center, is in the architectural stage of its renovation. The Norton County Community Foundation will be able to take advantage of the historic designation status by receiving tax credits on the construction costs.

Many downtown districts have suffered from a depressed economy and a migration to big box stores. "Many empty downtown Norton buildings will be renovated to offer space to rent in the downtown area. This partnership with the Norton County Community Foundation, Downtown Restoration Committee and Norton City/County Economic Development will allow us to get startup businesses to locate in downtown Norton without renovation costs," stated Scott Sproul, Norton City/County Economic Development Executive Director.

Any building owner in the district who is considering renovations can contact Norton Economic Development for information. Inquiries can also be made to the Kansas Historical Society at (785) 272-8681 or visit their website, kshs.org.

Scott Sproul said, "We are excited about the future of historic downtown Norton."

Small-business expert to visit town next Tuesday

A nationally known business expert will be in Norton next week to help owners and managers build their bottom line.

Cinda Baxter specializes in helping businesses in small markets, like Norton County, to increase their market share.

Baxter has appeared on or in several national news sources including the Washington Post, Wall Street Journal, CNN, MSNBC, FOX Business and NBC's nightly news.

Although she works with small markets a lot, she is well known for assisting the Chicago Market with ideas for promoting small businesses which resulted in making it one of the largest markets in the U.S.

The presentation will start at 5:30 p.m. next Tuesday at the Norton American Legion building.

This will be an opportunity for business owners and managers to talk to a nationally known expert and ask

questions on how to make their businesses make more money by being a destination for customers and by increasing their customer base.

Businesses can get ways to increase sales, learn effective marketing, perfect personal customer service and come up with regional sales ideas.

When asked what she does, Baxter replies, "I hand Superman capes to small business owners, then teach them to fly."

Norton Economic Development and the Norton Area Chamber of Commerce are covering the costs of the presentation and there will be hors d'oeuvres served at 5 p.m., before the meeting.

Although the meeting is free and open to the public, reservations are needed. Reservations should be made by calling (785) 874-4816 or e-mailing nortoned2@ruraltel.net by Wednesday.



Cinda Baxter

