

# \$1 THE NORTON TELEGRAM



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**Tuesday**  
March 15, 2011

## Briefly

### Group to celebrate National Quilt Day

The Heritage Quilt Club is observing National Quilting Day this Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Stitch Up A Storm in Norton. Join them for displays and demonstrations.

### BB team going to state tourney

The Norton County Rotary BB Gun team will be going to Alma, Kansas this Saturday to compete in the Kansas State BB Gun Championships. This will be the 46th time the Norton team has attended. Last year the team took first place for the 38th time. So lets support them in going for number 39.

### Tri-state toy show is this weekend

The Tri-State Toy and Collectibles Show will take place this Saturday at the Norton National Guard Armory from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. This is one of the oldest shows of this type in the area, featuring dealers from three states.

### Kellie's is closing Norton location

Kellie's Inc. of Norton will be closing this Friday. Come in from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on this day if you are interested in buying any of the office furniture, file cabinets, chairs or other miscellaneous things. For all of your future needs, the Hill City office is still open at 101 E. Main, 785-421-6345 or toll free at 877-944-5225.

## Markets

Tuesday, March 15, 2011

Wheat .....	\$6.89
Milo .....	\$5.63
Soybeans .....	\$12.44
Corn .....	\$6.02

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

## Weather

**Tonight** - Mostly clear with a low around 35. Northeast wind around 5 mph becoming south. **Wednesday** - Mostly sunny with a high near 73. South wind between 5 and 10 mph. **Wednesday Night** - Mostly cloudy with a low around 42. South wind between 10 and 15 mph. **Thursday** - Partly sunny with a high near 73. **Thursday Night** - Mostly cloudy and breezy. **Friday** - Partly sunny with a high near 58. **Friday Night** - Mostly cloudy with a low around 38.

## Kingham Report

Friday, March 11.....Low 32, High 71  
Saturday, March 12.....Low 28, High 61  
Sunday, March 13.....Low 30, High 42  
Monday, March 14.....Low 28, High 58  
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

## Prayer

Dear God, help us to remember when we feel like we are drowning that you are close at hand to help us. Amen



A very large crowd (left) attended the Farm Bureau pancake feed that was held at the Norton Community Center Sunday. The Norton FFA chapter members (below) cooked and served all of the pancakes and sausage. Featured at left is the Norton County crowd of hungry Farm Bureau supporters. Also pictured below are Dylan Sprigg and Cassius Dole, the main pancake cooks.

—Telegram photo by Dana Paxton

## County Farm Bureau holds pancake feed

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The voice of Agriculture, Norton County Farm Bureau held a pancake feed and membership drive Sunday at the Norton Community Center to kick off Ag Week.

Patsy Maddy, County Coordinator, and the President of the county board, Chris Tanner, greeted people as they entered. Maddy said, "We held this feed to remind people of the benefits members receive and to recruit new members." Tanner said, "We want everyone to know that Farm Bureau isn't just insurance, it's much more."

The Norton FFA Chapter members had the job of cooking serving the pancakes and sausage. Over 200 people attended

the event and out of that some new memberships were started. A yearly membership costs only \$40 and several benefits come with that membership: discounts on health and home improvement costs, insurance programs, cellular and internet discounts, savings on clothing, gifts, supplies, publications and credit cards. Travel and entertainment discounts are also included.

People don't realize what Farm Bureau involves. They are a very active group within our small community. They have the pancake feed, give away bike helmets to those needing them, promote ethanol use, hold a safety poster contest, and a Wacky Day to name a few. They sponsor many local events such as Norton Idol at



the Fair, Story Hour at the library, Food Check-Out Week, Ag in the classroom, Lions Club and Young Farmers and Ranchers.

Farm Bureau was organized in 1919 by a group of farmers to make people aware of what is going on in our community, with local agriculture, health,

safety, education and eminent property. Additional funding for the pancake feed was provided by the Kansas Foundation for ag in the classroom.

"If it impacts farmers, ranchers or rural Kansas communities, Kansas Farm Bureau is involved," stated Patsy Maddy.

## County sales tax collections up \$4,000

Norton County Treasurer Cynthia Linner told the county commissioners that the county had collected \$4,000 more in sales tax this year than last.

Linner told the commissioners, at their final meeting in February, that the county had received \$25,340 that month from the state in sales tax receipts for goods and services purchased in the county in December.

Norton County Health Department head Gina Frack had more good news.

She told the commissioners that she had received a grant to help with chronic disease risk reduction in the county. She said the grant should provide the health department with \$22,000 to \$25,000.

Frack also talked to the commissioners about a program of health awareness for county employees. It was decided that the county safety committee will discuss the idea further.

Norton Economic Development Director Scott Sproul told the commissioners that the meeting featuring Cinda Baxter had been well attended.

Representatives of the Small Business Development Center will be in Norton every Wednesday to work with people, he said. There are several local businesses working with the group, which works out of the economic development offices.

Bob and Shirley Sproul met with the commissioners to discuss the possibil-

ity of the county helping them to build a road on property they have recently acquired.

The commissioners said that they would look at the property and get back with the couple.

Sheriff Troy Thomson told commissioners that installation of new dispatcher equipment was scheduled for the first week of March. The installation was to

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## Greg Mann receives super service award

Norton Community Schools Superintendent Greg Mann has been named the Kansas School Superintendents' Association 2011 Distinguished Service Award recipient.

Mann was recognized by fellow superintendents during the recent Council of Superintendents meeting at the State Department of Education in Topeka on Feb. 23.

Each year, the group recognizes a superintendent for outstanding contributions and exemplary leadership in the organization and to the profession.

Superintendents submit nominations for consideration by the panel of peers.

Mann serves on the board of directors for the superintendents' association and council of superintendents and is an active member of the United School Administrators of Kansas.

Mann has been on a leadership team charged with working to reorganize the superintendents' organization and chaired a work group looking for a plan to increase representation — especially among rural districts.

On the Council of Superintendents, he works with colleagues from across

the state and with the Department of Education on ways to improve student learning.

His colleagues say that as an educational and community leader, Mann is a strong advocate for public education. Whether working with his colleagues in the district, mentoring new superintendents or working with administrators statewide,

He emphasizes the importance of the public in education policy, building support and trust in the community and the importance of putting children first.

One Norton community leader said, "Greg understands that schools are a vital partner [in our community]...they attract and keep business in the community...and that is good for everyone."

"Superintendent Mann is a truly committed and focused leader," said Cheryl Semmel, executive director of the superintendents' association and school administrators' group. "His colleagues respect him—as a person, as an educational leader and as an advocate. Perhaps, the greatest compliment I can pay is that he leads by example, with honesty and integrity."



Greg Mann

## Courthouse in need of handicapped upgrades

Norton County commissioners talked with Steve Berland of BG Consultants about upgrades needed at the courthouse so that it will meet federal standards under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Berland said that the bid to complete the work on the first floor will be \$54,720.

Among things that would be covered are parking lot upgrades; concrete ramps for the west side and the sheriff's office; grab bars and new doors for the main level restrooms; jail remodel including the cells, visitation room and showers; and redoing the appraiser's doorway.

Steve Nelson of NBC Construction provided the commissioners with information and a bid for some of the renovations. He also reported that the elevator project at the emergency medical services building is complete. The

electrical connections were still being finished but were almost complete.

Emergency Medical Service Director Jane Wyatt talked to the commissioners about the summer race schedule at Elmwood Park. She has sent out the schedule to her people and is asking for volunteers to cover the races.

The commissioners said that there would have to be a paid-for-service fee to cover the expenses of having the ambulance at the speedway.

Wyatt also said that the air ducts in the new emergency medical building have a lot of dust and the flooring in the kitchen and classroom has had a lot of construction equipment on it and is scratched. It was suggested that a professional duct cleaning service be contacted to see what the cost would be and that a professional floor cleaner asked

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