

\$1 THE NORTON TELEGRAM



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Tuesday
March 29, 2011

FFA banquet draws large crowd

by DICK BOYD

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Another very large crowd enjoyed the 2010-11 Annual Banquet of the Norton Community High School FFA Chapter held on Saturday, March 26 in the junior high gym in Norton.

The chapter has had another outstanding year and the 220 members, parents and guests in attendance recognized the FFA Chapter and individual members for their many accomplishments.

Prior to the banquet, those attending were invited to the shop to view many of the projects crafted by the chapter members this year.

Many accomplishments

With many of the District contests completed for the year, the Norton chapter is expected to win the top award in the Northwest District for the fifth time in the past five years! With three contests left for the 26 chapters in the district, Norton is leading in points.

The Norton FFA Chapter has placed second in five, fourth in two, fifth in four and sixth in one District contest.

The chapter finished second in Leadership School, Food Science, Ag Sales, Poultry Judging and Ag Mechanics; fourth in Public Speaking and District Dairy; fifth in District Land and Homesite Evaluation, Job Interview, Meats Judging and Horse Judging and sixth in Dairy Foods.

The chapter also won the championship in the Regional Land Judging, which is a state contest.

The Norton Greenhands have done really well. They were first in their division in the Land and Homesite Evaluation, first in Horse Judging, second in District Dairy and second at the Greenhand Conference.

Garrett Beydler has been Norton FFA Advisor for 27 years. He told the crowd that he will have a record 26 total letter winners this year!

"We have a diverse group of officers this year with a wide variety of interests," Beydler stated.

"We have had another good year. We lost all of our seniors from last year so had some challenges for our younger members but at crunch time they came through.

"Our Greenhands have had a great year, winning or placing second in every contest but one."

Beydler thanked all the FFA members for their dedication to agriculture and their high placings in the contests.

He also thanked the sponsors, the parents and other volunteers who accompany them to contests and help in other ways, the Norton FFA Alumni, Lisa and David Donovan for cooking the food for the steak meal with all the trimmings, the Northern Valley FFA members and Advisor Doug Zillinger for serving.

Mr. Beydler also complimented the 41 Norton FFA members who helped third graders every two weeks through the PALS program.



Above, Norton FFA members had their projects on display prior to the annual banquet. Member R.J. Ellis is shown telling visitors about the loading chute he is building. From left are Dr. Merlynn Colip, Dean Sprigg, Glen Campbell, Tim Schulze, R.J. Ellis, Jay Holste and FFA members Dylan Sprigg and Cassius Dole. During the banquet, Shawn Miller and Charlotte Stephenson were inducted as honorary members of the Norton FFA. Pictured in the photo at right are, from left, Miller, Stephenson, Dylan Sprigg, sentinel; Kegan Vanover, reporter; Dalton Miller, treasurer; Robert Blecha, secretary; Ryan Blecha, president, partially hidden; R.J. Ellis, vice-president. Not pictured, Cody Ellis, historian.

-Telegram photo by Dick Boyd



Briefly

Norton arts council plans get-together

The Norton County Arts Council will be holding its annual meeting Tuesday, April 5 at 7 p.m. in the basement of Norton City Hall

Development board to meet on Tuesday

Norton Economic Development Board meeting for April will be held on Tuesday, April 5 at 5:30 p.m. at the Norton County Economic Development Office.

Get assistance with VA claims Tuesday

Jody Tubbs of the Kansas Commission on Veterans' Affairs will be in Norton from 10:45 until 11:45 a.m. at the City Office to assist Veterans and their dependents with VA claims work on Tuesday, April 5. If you are unable to contact Ms. Tubbs at that time, you may contact her in Colby any Monday, Wednesday or Friday at 785-462-3572.

Christian church plans veterans rally

The Norton Christian Church will be holding a "Yellow Ribbon Rally" this Sunday at 8 a.m. and 10:40 a.m. in honor of our veterans. Come hear Dr. Cecil Todd speak. For more information call 785-877-5217.

Markets

Tuesday, March 29, 2011

Wheat	\$7.17
Milo	\$5.67
Soybeans	\$12.57
Corn	\$6.10

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

Weather

Tonight - Areas of freezing fog after 1 a.m. Mostly cloudy with a low around 28.

Wednesday - A chance of rain and snow before 1 p.m., then a chance of rain. Some thunder is also possible. Mostly cloudy with a high near 49. Chance of precipitation is 40%.

Wednesday Night - A slight chance of rain and snow. Some thunder is also possible. **Thursday** - Partly sunny with a high near 61.

Kingham Report

Friday, March 25	Low 24, High 44
Saturday, March 26	Low 30, High 40
Sunday, March 27	Low 27, High 34
Monday, March 28	Low 28, High 34
Precipitation past three days10

includes snow flurries and rain
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm
9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

Dear God, help us to realize the importance of spending time with you each day. Teach us to love you more in the time we spend together. Help us to love and to trust you in all circumstances. Amen.

Incumbent vs. retired engineer race for Ward III

Ward III in the City of Norton will see the only contested city council race. Justina Smith, incumbent, is being challenged by Jerry Moritz.

Justina Smith

I was born in Norton and raised in Northwest Kansas, I moved back to Norton as I wanted to raise my family in a small and secure community. My roots are with my grandparents, Skeet and Darlene Strickland and my parents, Lee and Sandy Smith, residents of Norton.

My youngest daughter, Piper Lee, is a fifth grade student at Eisenhower Elementary School and my oldest daughter, Epiphany, graduates from Norton Community High School this May. I work for a web-based communications company in direct sales and marketing. I am completing the last few courses of my Master of Arts in Education. This fall, I will complete my PhD in Educational Psychology, Curriculum and Instruction Specialization and begin online Adjunct Teaching for a nationally accredited college.

Since 2010, I have served as a City Council Representative for Ward III. I am the Chairperson for the Utilities Committee, Vice-Chair of the Public Works Committee and Member of the Personnel Committee. Working with members of our community to find solutions to concerns and issues over the last year has been very rewarding.

I volunteer with the Girl Scouts of America and am

a participant in the Norton County Fair and Relay for Life events. I am a member of Norton Eagles Auxiliary #3288.

I am seeking re-election to Ward III so that I may continue to be actively involved in making Norton the community that each of us desires. I believe that my



Justina Smith

previous and current professional background are an asset to the City Council and my out-of-the-box creative and critical thinking skills have proven valuable when faced with issues concerning the city and the community. Having just completed Leadership Norton I have a more in-depth understanding of the unique assets that Norton County and the City of Norton offers to its residents.

My goal is to encourage the citizens in the community to become more actively involved in both Committee meetings and Council meetings.

My prior experience proves beneficial in any dealing within the City of Norton. Over the last City Council term I have learned a great deal of the inner-connectedness that occurs from committee to committee; each issue or concern has the ability to impact many areas and must be looked at from all angles to reach the most effective outcome.

I feel that the Municipal Power Plant and potential

future utility increases is an identified major issue. Improvements and repairs are already in process at the Power Plant to ensure that the City of Norton is capable of producing and sustaining power when required and that the City is also in compliance with federally mandated requirements.

Jerry Moritz

I was born in Ravenna, Neb. and graduated from Ravenna High School in 1964. I attended and graduated from the University of Nebraska in Lincoln with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering in 1970. I worked for the Kansas Department of Transportation for 39 years as a licensed Professional Civil Engineer. I moved to Norton in 1975 to assume the duties of the Resident Engineer and retired from the Kansas Department of Transportation in July of 2009.

I am a member of Rotary; we are involved in the community especially with the students of Norton. I served on the USD 211 school board for 11 years, 1988 to 1999.

I am currently retired from the Kansas Department of Transportation and would like to give back to the community in which I have made home for the last 36 years.

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