

\$1 THE NORTON TELEGRAM



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8 PAGES

Friday

January 6, 2012

Briefly

Soccer registration set for this week

Early registration for the AYSO Soccer season will be held today from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. and then again tomorrow from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. The sign up location will be at the Norton Public Library Community Room.

Coupon seminar set for this Tuesday

The Twin Creeks extension district will hold a "Coupon 101" seminar on Tuesday. The program will be held at the Norton County 4-H building at 6 p.m. Family and Consumer Science Agent Karen Shepard will lead the seminar and anyone interested in attending must register by Monday. To register call 785-877-5755. At least five people must register for the seminar to be held.

Credit union sets annual meeting day

The United Northwest Federal Credit Union will hold its annual meeting on Monday, Jan. 16 at 11:30 a.m. at the St. Francis Parish Hall. The cost to attend is \$1 per person. Anyone interested in attending is asked to register by Friday, Jan. 13 to 877-5191.

Meals on Wheels seeking volunteers

The Norton County Meals on Wheels group is looking for volunteers to help deliver meals through Jan. 13. Anyone interested in volunteering can contact Alice Hawks in the hospital's dietary department at 877-3351.

Rural fire district to meet Monday

The Solomon Valley Rural Fire District No. 3 meeting will be held Monday, Jan. 9 at 8 p.m. at the Lenora City Office.

Markets

Friday, January 6, 2012

Wheat\$6.28
Milo\$5.94
Soybeans\$11.18
Corn\$6.25

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

Weather

Tonight - Partly cloudy and colder with lows in the lower 20s. Saturday - Partly sunny in the morning then becoming mostly cloudy. Highs in the lower 40s. Saturday Night - Cloudy with a 20 percent chance of light snow. Sunday - Mostly cloudy with a chance of light snow in the morning.

Kingham Report

Tuesday, January 3Low 21, High 58
 Wednesday, January 4.....Low 28, High 57
 Thursday, January 5.....Low 35, High 69
 (Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

Dear God, thank you for always being ready to hear us and to give us what we need. Amen

Fire destroys truck west of Norton

By Carleen Bell
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A Norton man's vehicle was destroyed Tuesday evening when it caught fire at a farm west of Norton.

Rick McChesney's 2005 Ford pickup truck was parked at his father's home about nine miles west of Norton at about 9 p.m. Tuesday when it caught fire. Norton Rural Fire Chief Steve Otter reported that the fire department was dispatched to the scene, but by the time crews were able to arrive on scene, the vehicle had burned completely and was left with only a frame.

Because it was burned so badly, Otter said, the cause of the fire is unknown, but no injuries were reported in the incident.

Fire crews were on the scene for about an hour and 10 firefighters responded with fire trucks.

(Right) Norton Rural fire department crews were on the scene of a vehicle fire for about an hour Tuesday evening nine miles west of Norton. Rick McChesney's 2005 Ford pickup caught fire at about 9 p.m. The vehicle was a total loss.

-Telegram photo by Dana Paxton



County appoints hospital board members

By Carleen Bell
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During their last meeting of 2011, the Norton County Commissioners appointed two Norton County residents to serve on the Board of Trustees for the Norton County Hospital. The appointees are Shad Chandler and Jill Edgett.

Edgett was appointed to the hospital board to replace Jenny Goldsby, who's term expired at the end of 2011 and chose not to seek re-appointment. Norton County Hospital Administrator Rich Miller expressed his appreciation for Goldsby's service to the hospital and to the community.

"Jenny was a member of the board since 2002 and she has been a part of the renovations and improvements to the hospital," Miller said. "We really appreciate her leadership during that period of time."

Edgett, who was appointed to the board on Goldsby's recommendation, brings a variety of knowledge and experience to the Board of Trustees. She currently operates Jill's Helping Hands based in Lenora and for the past 15 years, has dealt with the elderly population of Norton County. Her business provides in-home care services to the elderly and special needs population of northwest Kansas. That experience,

she said, will serve her well as a member of the hospital board.

"I know (it's) important to have medical services of all kinds locally," Edgett said. "I see the Norton County Hospital stepping up to the plate on this in getting specialized services available here, along with their local staff."

Edgett has lived in Norton County since 1978 and has seen the closing of the Norton State Hospital and the local SRS office, along with the consolidation of the Lenora school district into the Norton school district. Changes like that are what has kept her involved in the community.

"It's hard to live in a smaller community and see things like this happen," she said. "Community involvement has kept Norton County going. I would like to see my time on the Norton County Hospital board be a learning experience and hopefully I can bring in some ideas of my own with the past experiences I have had."

Along with Edgett, the commissioners also re-appointed Shad Chandler to serve on the hospital Board, who has previously served a three-year term after filling a vacant seat.

Chandler was born and raised in Alma and is the current owner and president of the Alma State Bank.

Chandler said he is interested in continuing to serve on the Board because he wants to continue to be a part of positive change for the community.

"I'm interested in preserving quality healthcare in Norton County, which improves the quality of life here," he said. "It takes a lot of work to keep a hospital going in the small community-low population county and I want to be a part of that."

Chandler and his wife, Amy, have a child attending Kansas State University and two children who attend the Northern Valley schools.

Hospital administrator Miller welcomed Chandler and Edgett to the Board, expressing his optimism for the

future of Norton County Hospital.

"Shad has just completed three years on the Board of Trustees and I always say that you have to serve a term before you understand what it's all about. I'm excited that he has interest in serving another term," Miller said. "With Jill's background and experience running her own business, she will bring a new dimension to the board and I'm looking forward to working with her."

The new terms on the hospital board were effective Jan. 1 and along with Chandler and Edgett, board members include Von Fahrenbruch, Steve Berry, Warren White, Reva Benien and Rita Speer.

Eye clinic gets new name

By Carleen Bell
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After the clinic changed ownership this week, the former Prairie Wind Eyecare clinic has now become Cole Family Eyecare.

Dr. Ben Cole, who began working at the clinic late last year, became the new owner of the clinic this week. With the change, the clinic located at 114 N. Kansas Avenue now has a new name and a new sign on the front of the building.

Dr. Cole joined the clinic in October as a licensed Optometrist. He grew up in Russell and graduated from Kansas State University. He then attended Southern College of Optometry in Memphis, Tenn. Prior to joining the clinic, he completed a post-graduate year at the Memphis VA Hospital. Though not specializing in any



Dr. Ben Cole

particular area of Optometry, Dr. Cole has extensive experience with geriatric populations, especially in treatment of glaucoma and macular degeneration.

For more photos, see page 2

City council elections set for Tuesday, April 3

By Carleen Bell
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Ahead of the Jan. 24 filing deadline, the Norton City Council has issued information concerning this spring's election to fill three city council seats.

According to information from Norton City Clerk Darla Ellis, city council positions for Wards One, Two and Three will be up for election in April 2012. Those seats are currently filled by Jeff Otter, Donna Foley and Toby Kuhn, respectively.

Anyone interested in running for any of those positions must reside in the ward for which they are filing and filing deadline is Tuesday, Jan. 24 at noon at the City Clerk's office. The filing fee is \$5.

The general election will be held Tuesday, April 3 and registration books will close at 5 p.m. on Monday, March 19.

If more than three people file for any one position, a primary election will be held Tuesday, Feb. 29. Voter registration books will close at 5 p.m. on Mon-

day, Feb. 13 for the Primary election.

The boundaries for the wards are as follows:

Ward One: everything east of State Street to West Woodsfield, then going west on West Woodsfield to North Second Street, then south to West Washington, then east again to State Street and south.

Ward Two: everything west of State Street, going south to West Woodsfield, then west to West Avenue, north to US 36, and west.

Ward Three: everything south of West Woodsfield and west of Second Street, going west to West Avenue then north to US 36, then west to the west city limit, then south to the south city limit, then east to State Street, then north on State Street to West Washington, then west to South Second Street and North to West Woodsfield.

Anyone interested in running for city council may pick up filing materials at the Norton City Offices Monday through Friday during regular business hours.

City considers parking concerns near school

By Carleen Bell
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After hearing some concerns from citizens in the area, the Norton City Council agreed Wednesday evening to consider some possible solutions to parking and traffic problems near the Eisenhower Elementary building in Norton.

Gloria Cole, who lives on Eisenhower Drive, brought her concerns to the city council Wednesday, specifically in regards to the possible establishment of a home for special needs adults in the neighborhood. Cole said that one of her neighbors plans to sell their home and

Developmental Services of Northwest Kansas would like to purchase the home to establish a home for handicapped adults. The problem with that, Cole said, is that a similar home already exists on that block and when caretakers visit the home, it creates more parking congestion along the street and makes it difficult for residents to get out of their driveways.

"Isn't a home like that considered a business in a residential part of town?" Cole asked. "I don't think we need another business on that block."

(Parking - Continued on Page 5)

