

THE NORTON TELEGRAM

WEBSITE: nwkansas.com

10 PAGES

Friday

January 13, 2012

Briefly

Schools to be closed for M.L. King Day

The Norton and Northern Valley schools will be closed Monday for Martin Luther King Day. School will resume at regular time on Tuesday.

Night of Adventure planned for Friday

All sixth through eighth grade boys are invited to The Rock today at 4 p.m. for Pure Rock's A Night of Adventure with Doug McCary. Go to www.purerock.com to register.

Pajama party set Saturday at The Rock

The sixth through eighth grade girls are invited to The Rock tomorrow for a Pure Rock pajama party starting at 4 p.m. Go to www.purerock.com to register.

Culture Shock 2012 set for Sunday night

The Pure Rock Culture Shock 2012 event will take place on Sunday starting at 4 p.m. at the NCHS East Campus. All high school students are invited. Go to www.purerock.com to register.

Credit union sets annual meeting

The United Northwest Federal Credit Union will hold its annual meeting on Monday 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 today by calling 877-5191.

4-H Food Show set for Sunday afternoon

Norton County 4-H members will present a Favorite Food show Sunday at the 4-H building in Norton. Members will begin entering dishes at 1:45 p.m. and judging will take place from 2:30-4 p.m. Exhibits will open to the public at 4 p.m.

Markets

Friday, January 13, 2012

Wheat	\$6.05
Milo	\$5.53
Soybeans	\$10.82
Corn	\$5.84

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

Weather

Tonight - Partly cloudy in the evening then clearing. Saturday - Sunny with highs in the lower 50s. Saturday Night - Mostly clear with lows in the mid 20s. Sunday - Sunny with highs in the 50s.

Kingham Report

Tuesday, January 10Low 28, High 56
 Wednesday, Jan. 11Low 32, High 39
 Thursday, January 12Low 8, High 30
 (Readings taken at the Kingham farm
 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

Giver of all good things, we thank you for the opportunities that come with each morning. We thank you for your mercy and compassion made new every day. Amen

University students visit Moffet Drug



A group of eight University of Kansas School of Pharmacy students visited Moffet Pharmacy Thursday afternoon as part of a "road trip" to visit rural pharmacies across the state. The students are spending three days of their semester break touring rural pharmacies and visiting with pharmacists. Stops include pharmacies in Manhattan, Abilene, Ellsworth, Hoisington, La Crosse, Hays, Plainville, Stockton, Phillipsburg, Norton, Oberlin, Colby, Oakley, Scott City, Quinter and Salina. Pictured, Moffet Drug owner Chase Rice (left) talks with university students about his experience as a pharmacist in rural Kansas.

—Telegram photo by Carleen Bell

Nursing program to expand in Norton

Colby Community College has announced a significant expansion of the nursing program located in Norton. The Kansas State Board of Nursing recently approved adding 12 additional practical nursing students and 20 registered nursing students to the Norton program.

To accommodate student schedules, the college will offer a new two-year evening program for the Licensed Practical Nurse and Registered Nurse students. The course of study will be-

gin in June 2012 for both programs. Completion will take six semesters. Ten students will be accepted into each program. In addition, two Licensed Practical Nurse students will be added to the daytime program at Norton, bringing the total from 18 practical nursing students to 30.

The program will be located in a newly-renovated building in Norton.

"Norton City/County Economic Development is in total support of the expansion of the Colby Community

College nursing program," said Norton County Economic Development Executive Director Scott Sproul. "The funding for the building renovations has been secured through the Dane G. Hansen Foundation and the board of Norton County Commissioners. Colby Community College, Norton County Community Foundation, Norton County Hospital and the Norton County Commissioners have all been involved in making this project a reality, and this is a great example of how public-private partnerships can accomplish goals."

Colby Community College has been offering the LPN program in Norton since 1975.

"Nursing is a primary job in northwest Kansas," said Sproul. "The planned expansion of the Norton campus demonstrates the college's ongoing commitment in providing a steady sup-

ply of health professionals to forestall any shortage in northwest Kansas."

The expansion will increase the program from 18 students to 30 over a two-year period.

The renovated large building, the former Doctors Clinic, will include three classrooms equipped with media presentation equipment, wireless internet, cameras and ITV.

The Norton County Hospital has housed the program since 1975.

"We have high regard for Colby's nursing program," said Norton County Hospital Administrator Richard Miller. "Increasing the number of students will certainly be a great help to us in meeting our future nursing staff needs."

For more information about the LPN or RN programs offered in Norton, contact Director of Nursing Ruth Wolfram at (785) 460-5444.

School agrees to conduct community opinion survey

By Carleen Bell
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To better understand the desires and perceptions of district patrons, the Norton School Board approved Monday evening an agreement with the Docking Institute to conduct a phone survey for the Norton Community School District. The decision comes as part of fulfilling the board's goal to address infrastructure situations and educate the community regarding school facilities.

Dr. Gary Brinker of Fort Hays State University's Docking Institute visited with the school board in December to provide information about strategic planning options for the district. Brinker presented options for conducting surveys and creating long-term plans for the school district, especially as the district begins to consider possible capital needs and facility upgrades in the future.

The board asked Brinker to provide a formal proposal for Docking Institute services, which the school leaders con-

sidered Monday evening. According to the proposal, the Docking Institute would provide an "environmental scan" for the school, including an analysis of information from secondary data sources like the Kansas Department of Education. The scan can also include a community telephone survey or an online or e-mail community survey.

Along with the scan, the institute would provide a planning session after the information is gathered and the information is complete and after the session, a final report will be issued to the district.

Though costs vary depending on the extent of services provided, the Norton school board opted Monday evening to have the Docking Institute conduct phone surveys and online surveys to assess the opinions and perceptions of the general public living in the Norton district.

The cost of the agreement will be \$6,000 with the money to be paid from the district's Contingency Fund.

Incubator space adding new business to downtown

By Carleen Bell
 cbell@nwkansas.com

Filling the location with its first tenant, the Norton City/County Economic Development Board of Directors approved Monday evening having a new business move into the organization's incubator space at 104 South State Street.

Economic Development Director Scott Sproul reported that he received a business plan and request for use of the incubator space from Elements of Massage, owned by Ceena Owens. Owens is a Registered Nurse and a

Registered Massage Therapist. Working with her will be Amber Nuttycomb, also a Certified Massage Therapist. The business will offer a variety of massage services, including stretches, LaStone therapy and Chinese Cupping.

Elements of Massage is expected to open Feb. 1 in the former Chamber of Commerce office, which is currently undergoing renovation to serve as a space to help start-up businesses grow in the community. Last fall, repairs were made on the back exterior of the building and work on the interior is expected to be complete by the end of January.

Pamida to become Shopko Hometown store

By Carleen Bell
 cbell@nwkansas.com

Following the recent merger of two major retailers, the Norton Pamida store will get a new name and a branding overhaul in 2012.

According to information from the two companies, the Omaha, Neb.-based Pamida is merging with the Green Bay, Wis.-based Shopko and as a result, most Pamida stores in the nation, including the Norton location, are expected to become Shopko Hometown stores.

Norton Pamida Manager Joel Duscher said Wednesday that he "is not at liberty to discuss" possible changes to the Norton store other than information released last week to local media, but he did emphasize that 2012 will be a year of transition for the Pamida store.

"Every store is on a different timetable, so it's impossible to know when

we will be getting a new name or when those changes will take place," he said. "All I can say is that by January of 2013, the transition is expected to be complete and our store will be a Shopko Hometown store."

The Shopko Hometown format, designed to serve small communities, will be a scaled-down version of Shopko department stores. The stores range in size from 15,000 to 35,000 square feet.

Though definite details are still unknown, Duscher said that as of right now, no major changes are coming to the store other than a new name. Pharmacy and specialized services, along with store personnel, should not change, he said.

"There should be no big changes at the store level," Duscher said. "As we find out more, we can talk about more, but for now, that's all we know."

Ventriloquist to perform in Logan

The Dane G. Hansen Memorial Museum is sponsoring a Bureau of Lectures program on Tuesday, March 6 at 9:30 a.m. at the Logan Grade School. This year's event will feature the talents of ventriloquist Joe Gandelman.

Gandelman's fast-moving show will feature a big cast of wooden and puppet characters. It will have

great audience interaction and participation, with lots of laughs and tips on doing ventriloquism. This show will be a favorite with all grade levels.

This one-of-a-kind show is sponsored through the Hansen Museum and offered to the public at no charge. For more information, call 785-689-4846.

