

\$1 THE NORTON TELEGRAM



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Friday
January 20, 2012

Briefly

County conservation sets annual meeting

The Norton County Conservation District will hold its annual meeting Saturday at 6:30 p.m. at the American Legion.

Council election deadline is Tuesday

Anyone interested in running for the Norton City Council must file nomination papers by no later than noon on Tuesday, Jan. 24. The seats to be elected are Wards I, II and III. To pick up the appropriate paperwork to file, visit the Norton city offices during regular business hours.

Program sign-up

extended to Jan. 17

The deadline to sign up for the Conservation Stewardship Program has been extended to next Friday, Jan. 27. A self-screening checklist is available to help producers determine program eligibility at www.nrcs.usda.gov.

Cookie sales will begin this Saturday

Girl Scout cookie sales will begin Saturday. Cookies are available for \$3.50 per box and proceeds support scouting activities in the community. To purchase cookies, contact a local scout or visit www.kansasgirlscouts.org.

Pianist to perform in Oberlin Jan. 28

Pianist and entertainer Ronnie Kole will perform at the Oberlin Gateway Center on Saturday, Jan. 28. The show is set for 7:30 p.m. and tickets are \$12 for adults and \$7 for students. Call 785-475-3557 or 785-470-0218 for more information.

Soccer registration set for Saturday

Final AYSO soccer registration will be held tomorrow from 1-4 p.m. at the Norton Public Library. Cost to register is \$45 per child.

Markets

Friday, January 20, 2012

Wheat\$6.00
Milo\$5.53
Soybeans\$10.95
Corn\$5.87

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

Weather

Tonight - Partly cloudy in the evening then clearing. Saturday - Mostly sunny and breezy with highs in the upper 30s. Saturday Night - Mostly cloudy and not as cold. Sunday - Windy and mostly cloudy with a chance of light rain and snow.

Kingham Report

Tuesday, January 17Low 1, High 22
2 inches of Snow
Wednesday, January 18...Low 9, High 47
Thursday, January 19.....Low 5, High 19
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm
9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

Dear Lord, thank you that you enable us to do what you have called us to do to show others your love. Amen

Youth event draws 11 hunters to park

By Carleen Bell
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Celebrating another year of promoting a hunting tradition, 11 Norton County youth and several volunteers gathered at the Prairie Dog State Park Saturday morning for a youth pheasant hunt.

State Park Manager Toby Kuhn reported that the annual hunt is held each year as a collaboration between the state park and the Norton County chapter of Pheasants Forever as a way to promote hunter education for children in the county. Kuhn said that because no other hunting is held in the state park, the youth who participate have a good chance of taking a bird and learn important hunting skills.

Pheasants Forever provided hats to each of the hunters, along with gift cards to End Zone, breakfast and pizza lunch. Along with the hunt, a trap shoot was held, which Pheasants Forever also provided supplies for.

"We couldn't do this without Pheasants Forever," Kuhn said. "It's a great way to support the hunting tradition and help make sure hunting continues to grow."



Braden Smith (left) was one of 11 youth who gathered at the Prairie Dog State Park Saturday morning for a youth hunting event. Sponsored by Pheasants Forever and state park employees, the hunt is held each year to help promote hunting practices. Braden was hunting with his dad, Dave Smith.

—Photo courtesy of Wally Burton

Commissioners consider purchases of equipment

By Carleen Bell
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Realizing the need to save space at the facility, the Norton County Commissioners are considering the purchase of a waste compactor for the Norton County landfill to replace some current equipment.

Solid Waste Director Curt Archibald recently reported to the commissioners that a Caterpillar track loader, weighing about 35,000 pounds, is currently used to compact garbage into cells at the landfill, but the weight isn't enough to get tight compacting. In addition, the track loader needs some extensive repairs and will be taken to Colby for repairs, which could take up to two weeks.

In order to help save space and get the most compaction at the landfill, the commissioners have been considering the purchase of a replacement compactor and Monday morning, visited with a representative from Al-Jon Manufacturing, based in Ottumwa, Iowa.

Al-Jon representative James Stone reported to the commissioners that the company sells three different compac-

tor models with the smallest weighing about 80,000 pounds and a cost of about \$535,000. Along with new equipment, the company utilizes a re-build program to recondition used equipment. Stone said that a reliable re-built compactor will cost between \$130,000 and \$300,000, depending on size and features.

After recently opening a new "cell" of space at the landfill, the commissioners have been discussing the expected lifespan of a cell and how long a cell should take to fill. Commissioner John Miller reported that a cell should last 20 years, but because the waste isn't being compacted enough and layers of dirt have to be added for wheel loader traction, the lifespan might only be about half the time.

According to Stone, a new compactor could put as much as 2,000 pounds of garbage into a cubic yard of space, which is substantially more than the current compaction.

While no decisions were made on the matter Monday, the commissioners are waiting to receive more bids for the purchase and may make a decision on the purchase Monday morning.

Norton students qualify for honor music festival

Four band students and 10 vocal students from Norton Community High School will be a part of the University of Nebraska at Kearney's annual music festival on Monday, Jan. 23.

The university will host students from three states at its annual festival of honor bands and choruses. The university accepts audition tapes from schools in Kansas, Nebraska and Colorado for students trying out for positions in two bands, two choirs and a girls chorus.

Norton had four students from the Norton Community High School band audition for places in the bands, and 10 students from its choir for spots in the three choruses. Mr. Will and Miss Cochran were very proud that all four band students and 10 choir students were successful. The staff at the University of Nebraska at Kearney music department were very pleased with the over-all quality of the tapes they received from approximately 117 schools.

The NCHS students are: Instrumentalists, Eric Becker, senior, on tuba; Rhees Carlson, senior, on clarinet; Kelsey Mordecai, junior, on tuba; Abbie Smith, sophomore, on bass clarinet. Vocalists, Brae Bigge, senior, alto; Lane Bigge, junior, tenor; Kristen Burge, sophomore, alto; Kurt Douglas, senior, tenor; Mariah Farber, senior, soprano; Alexis Henson, senior, alto; Alec Melvin, junior, alto; Mitchell Shelton, senior, tenor; Landon Slipke, sophomore, tenor; Haley Walingford, sophomore, alto.

The students will gather at the university for rehearsals all day with a concert in the evening. Directing and educating the students will be faculty from University of Nebraska at Kearney and other well-known conductors from the region.

The concert will be held in the Health and Sports Center Arena at 6 p.m. and admission is \$3 per person. The concert is open to the public.

Park schedules set for 2012

By Carleen Bell
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Though summer seems far away, the Norton City Council approved Wednesday evening a tentative schedule for the Elmwood Park Speedway.

According to the tentative schedule, the first event scheduled in 2012 is a Play Day on Friday, March 30 and the first race is scheduled for Saturday, March 31.

The 2012 schedule is as follows:
Friday, March 30: Play Day
Saturday, March 31: sprint cars, IMCA modifieds, IMCA stock cars, IMCA hobby stock and IMCA sport modifieds

Saturday, April 21: sprint cars, IMCA modifieds, IMCA stock cars, IMCA hobby stock and IMCA sport modifieds

Saturday, May 12: sprint cars, IMCA modifieds, IMCA stock cars, IMCA hobby stock and IMCA sport modifieds

Saturday, June 16: sprint cars, IMCA modifieds, IMCA stock cars, IMCA

hobby stock and IMCA sport modifieds

Saturday, July 28: County Fair; sprint cars, IMCA modifieds, IMCA stock cars, IMCA hobby stock and IMCA sport modifieds

Sunday, July 29: County Fair; sprint cars, IMCA modifieds, IMCA stock cars, IMCA hobby stock and IMCA sport modifieds

Saturday, Aug. 11: flat track motorcycle races

Saturday, Sept. 1: vintage, sprint cars and IMCA sport modifieds

Sunday, Sept. 2: vintage, sprint cars and IMCA sport modifieds

Along with the race schedule, the council also approved a variety of other summer activities, including a frisbie golf schedule of Feb. 4 and Aug. 5. The annual Smokin' In the Barn barbecue challenge has also been set for Aug. 24-25. Additionally, the Norton County Horse Council schedule of events was approved for events from May 26 to Sept. 9. Finally, the Norton County Fair schedule was set for July 23-28.

Painting class set Feb. 18-19

The Hansen Museum will again have two certified instructors that teach Bob Ross classes on a regular basis. T.R. Mathews and Sandy Seamone, Arriba, Colo., will be here to entertain and instruct, step by step, revealing how easy and fun it is to paint the Bob Ross way. No previous experience is necessary and anyone can do it.

On Saturday, Feb. 18, the class will be painting "Old Cream Cans" and on

Sunday, Feb. 19, "Wheel Barrel Full of Flowers." The classes will run from 9 a.m.-noon and 1-3 p.m. both days.

This learning opportunity is sponsored through the Hansen Museum Continued Education Program and offered to the public at a reduced rate. For more information call 785-689-4846 or go to our web at www.hansenmuseum.org. All you need to bring is a roll of paper towels. All other supplies are provided.

Earned honors



The Norton Community High School awards assembly was held Tuesday afternoon to celebrate the fall semester achievements of the high school students. Students were recognized for achievements in academics, athletics and extra-curricular activities. Though originally scheduled for the end of the fall semester, the assembly was postponed because of weather. Above, Dorothy Fessler, Hanna Pollack, Jordyn Gosselin and Stephanie Hager examine their awards for participating in the school's drama department.

—Telegram photo by Carleen Bell

