

THE NORTON TELEGRAM



Friday

February 7, 2012

Briefly

Bunny shoot set for Saturday, Feb. 11

The Norton Archery Club will host a Bunny Shoot on Saturday, Feb. 11. The cost to register is \$20 per two-person team and teams must be registered by 7 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 10. Recurve, long bow or compound bows are the only weapons that may be used. There will be a 50 percent pay-out to the top three teams and shooting starts one half hour before sunrise on Saturday and check-in will end at 6 p.m. that evening in the south parking lot of Attitudes. For more information or to register, contact John Baker at 877-3253 or Randy West at 877-5269.

Dodgeball tourney planned for Feb. 25

The Norton Child Study Club and the Norton Recreation Center will be holding their First Annual Dodgeball Tournament Saturday, Feb. 25 at the East Campus gym starting at 10 a.m. This is for boys, girls or coed teams ranging in age from first grade to twelfth grade. Sign up by Wed. Feb. 15 by contacting Cheri Brooks or Joan Bolt. All proceeds to benefit the Annual Easter Egg Hunt.

Spelling bee set for this Wednesday

The Norton County Spelling Bee will be held Wednesday at 4 p.m. at the Long Island school. Participating will be students from the Norton and Northern Valley districts who were winners of their school spelling bees. The spelling bee is open to the public.

Ribbon cutting to be held Wednesday

As a new business in town, Elements of Massage will host a grand opening and ribbon cutting on Wednesday at 4 p.m. The business is located on the west side of state street just south of Moffett Drug.

Markets

Tuesday, February 7, 2012

Wheat\$6.61
Milo\$5.88
Soybeans\$11.41
Corn\$6.28

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

Weather

Tonight - Mostly cloudy in the evening then becoming partly cloudy. Wednesday - Mostly sunny with highs in the mid 20s. Wednesday Night - Partly cloudy with lows around 10. Thursday - Sunny and not as cold.

Kingham Report

Friday, February 3Low 35, High 40
	.30 Rain
Saturday, February 4Low 28, High 36
	8 Inches of Snow
Sunday, February 5Low 13, High 33
Monday, February 6Low 13, High 42

(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

Dear Lord, thank you for being generous to us. Help us to share our love, time, and material possessions with those around us. Especially help us to share your word with others who hunger to know you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

First heavy snow comes late in winter



In one of the only substantial snowfalls across the area so far this winter, just under nine inches of snow fell across northwest Kansas, beginning Friday evening and ending late Saturday morning. The snow was wet, heavy and thick, blanketing the region in white and making local children very happy about the opportunity to play outside in the fresh powder.

The hill running down into Elmwood Park from the 4-H Building is always a popular sledding area and Saturday afternoon was no exception. Several children and their families gathered there to race down the hill on sleds of all makes and models. Pictured, Sylence Auker, Lena Shelton and Shelby Tanner, all students at Eisenhower Elementary, laughed and screamed as they raced down the popular sledding hill at Elmwood Park.

-Telegram photo by Dana Paxton

Calling contest nets 42 animals harvested

By Carleen Bell
cbell@nwkansas.com

In one of the only substantial snowfalls this winter, 15 teams checked in Saturday evening after the Norton Archery Club's coyote, crow and bobcat calling contest.

Though 36 teams registered for the contest, the 15 teams to check in after the contest shot 38 crows and 4 coyotes.

The first place winning team for the contest was Dustin Patterson and Ryan Houser, who took 25 crows. Second place were Nathan Blackburn and Ben Versailles, who took one crow and one coyote. Placing third were Milton

Wehrman and Orrin Holle, taking one coyote. Fourth place went to Mat Armknecht and Lon Ninemire, taking one coyote and also winning the prize for the biggest coyote. Finally, taking fifth were Sam States and Adam States, who took one coyote.

Trophies were awarded to the team with the most crows taken and to the team who took the biggest coyote. A cash payout was also awarded to the top five teams. Proceeds from the event go to support youth hunting activities and education in the community.

For photo, see page 5.

Disc golf tournament raises \$540 for charity

Braving the cold, snow and wind, six disc golfers gathered at the Elmwood Park Disc Golf course Saturday for a tournament to support God's Pantry in Norton.

Tournament organizer Don Mordecai reported that the winner of the tournament was Chad Gasper, throwing a 107 for the day, Second was Scott Haynes, who traveled from Hays for the tournament and scored 109. Placing third was Don Mordecai, who shot a 112. Finally, Kent Lockhart took fourth place with a score of 128.

In the amateur division, Jason Majors took his first win with a 122, edging out James Fawcett's 128.

Several Closest-to-the-Pin awards were handed out and those went to

Gasper, Haynes, Mordecai, Fawcett and Majors.

Sponsors of the tournament included Veteran Lawn Service, New Age Industrial, Deanna Braun Insurance, the City of Norton's Travel and Tourism Committee, Bullock, Inc., Jay's Woodworking Shop, United Northwest Federal Credit Union, Don Mordecai, White Fields Coffee House, KQNK Radio, The Norton County Extension Office and the Norton Telegram.

Mordecai reported that \$540 was raised for God's Pantry during the tournament to help provide for needy families in the community.

For photo, see page 2.

Alfalfa meeting set for Feb. 16

On Thursday, Feb. 16, the K-State Research and Extension and Twin Creeks Extension district will hold an informational meeting regarding alfalfa growing and some economics in comparing corn, alfalfa and equitable leases on alfalfa. The meeting will be held at the Norton County 4-H Building at 6:30 p.m. The featured speakers are Jim Shroyer, crop production specialist Dan O'Brien, Ag Economist. Topics to be

covered include production practices, fertility, cutting management, stand establishment, weed control, insects and diseases. Economic topics will include farm management data on alfalfa production versus corn and equitable leasing arrangements.

In order to hold the meeting, at least 10 people must register by Tuesday, Feb. 14 by calling the Norton County Extension office at 785-877-5755.

Commissioners approve E-Community agreement

By Carleen Bell
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Thanks to the sale of tax credits late last year, Norton County will soon have \$125,000 to lend money to new or expanding business through a revolving loan fund.

The Norton County Commissioners approved Monday morning an agreement with the Kansas Center for Entrepreneurship to provide funding for a county revolving loan fund. The funding for the program comes after the county was selected to sell tax credits last fall as a Network Kansas E-Community.

Through the sale of the tax credits, the county raised just under \$167,000 and five percent of that, or just over \$8,000, will be used for program administration.

The NetWork Kansas E-Community designation came about in Norton County when the county assembled a local leadership team of representatives from throughout the county to apply for consideration during the 2011 competition round. The team includes Jon Boxler, Diana Smith, Gloria Nelson, Maggie Ellis, Wally Burton and John Milnes.

To apply, the team submitted a written application in August and after an interview and application approval, Norton County was designated as an E-Community.

The Entrepreneurship (E-) Community partnership, now in its fifth year,

emphasizes development of community resources to create a flourishing entrepreneurial environment. During the first four years of the E-Community partnership, more than \$4.7 million has been raised. These funds are estimated to generate more than \$33 million of investment in rural businesses across Kansas. The E-Community partnership is based on two fundamental principles. In order for rural and distressed communities to survive, they must grow from within by fostering local leadership; and organizations involved in community development need to empower businesses with the assets they need to succeed, including education, expertise and economic resources.

Since 2007, NetWork Kansas E-Communities have loaned or granted \$1.54 million to businesses in their communities through this funding source and leveraged an additional \$9.5 million dollars, for a total investment of more than \$11 million dollars into businesses in E-Communities. This funding has spurred the creation or retention of nearly 350 jobs in these same communities and has immeasurable positive effects on the entrepreneurial ecosystems of these participating areas.

For more information about the revolving loan fund or how to apply, contact Norton County Economic Development at 785-874-4816.

City agrees to sell old power generator engines

By Carleen Bell
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After agreeing in June to stop producing electrical power through the city's power plant, the Norton City Council agreed Wednesday evening to sell the five generator engines from the plant to a licensed scrap metal dealer.

Norton City Administrator Rob Lawson reported that the engines are ready to be removed and now that the city no longer generates power, there is no reason to keep the extra equipment. Lawson suggested that the city sell the

engines as complete units because piecing them out would create more hassles than necessary and reduce the value.

The council agreed to advertise for sealed bids for the engines and accept bids until May 15. The bids should include the cost of each engine or engines, the cost to remove the engines, and the cost to restore the power plant facility after any demolition necessary for removal.

The council agreed 5-1 to advertise bids for the sale with council member Jerry Jones opposing the decision.

