

THE NORTON TELEGRAM



Tuesday

February 14, 2012

Happy Valentine's Day from the Norton Telegram!

Briefly

Boosters Club will meet Wednesday

Another winter sports meeting of the Norton Blue Jay Booster Club will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday in the high school cafeteria.

Norton wrestling coach Bill Johnson, girls basketball coach Kevin Jilka and boys basketball coach Doug Reusink will be the speakers.

You do not have to be a member of the booster club to attend the meetings.

Painting class to be held this weekend

The "Joy of Painting" class will be held at the Hansen Museum Community room in Logan both Saturday and Sunday starting at 9 a.m. Certified instructors T.R. Mathews and Sandy Seamon, both of Colorado, will be there to entertain and instruct on the Bob Ross way of painting.

Town hall meeting set for this Saturday

There will be a Legislative Town Hall Meeting with Sen. Ralph Ostmeyer and Rep. Ward Cassidy on Saturday at the Town and Country Kitchen starting at 9:45 a.m.

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 will benefit the Annual Easter Egg Hunt.

Markets

Tuesday, February 14, 2011

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| Wheat |\$6.29 |
| Milo |\$5.83 |
| Soybeans |\$11.66 |
| Corn |\$6.23 |

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

Weather

Tonight - A 30 percent chance of light freezing rain and snow showers after midnight. Wednesday - Mostly cloudy with a chance of light freezing rain and snow in the morning, then a chance of light rain and snow in the afternoon. Thursday - Mostly sunny with highs around 40.

Kingham Report

Friday, February 10Low 15, High 27
Saturday, February 11Low 3, High 18
Sunday, February 12Low 3, High 29
Monday, February 13Low 20, High 38
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

Forgive us, God, for our unbelief. Help us to understand that you are a God of miracles and to bear thankful witness to the miracles of love that you perform daily in our lives. Amen

Sweetheart couple: Love at first sight

By Carleen Bell
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Of 30 nominations for the honor this Valentine's Day, Travis and Mandy Hogan have been named the 2012 Norton Telegram Sweetheart Couple.

The Hogans have been married since April 2009, but their love story started in September 2008. Travis is from Long Island and Mandy grew up in Norton. The couple first met at a birthday party for Travis' sister-in-law, Debbie Hogan.

"It was kind of a set up deal," Mandy said. "It was kind of a blind date at the party, but we both knew about it before hand."

Mandy and Travis both reflect that their meeting was "love at first sight" and have been inseparable since the fateful birthday party. They began dating within a few days and were married on April 25, 2009 in Norton.

Mandy reflects that when she and Travis were dating, she always told him that surprising her would be difficult, so she wanted a potential marriage proposal to be a surprise. Travis took that advice to heart. The couple had recently purchased a home together and were in the midst of painting the house. To propose to his future bride, Travis had painted "Will you marry me?" on the wall for Mandy to see, a surprise she won't soon forget.

Travis and Mandy have three children, including Mason (6), Delila (1) and Karlene (1.5 months). In their free time, they enjoy playing in volleyball and softball leagues together, along with staying active with activities at their church, St. Francis of Assisi.

(Couple - Continued on Page 5)



Travis and Mandy Hogan are the winning couple of this year's Norton County Sweetheart drawing. They were among 30 couples nominated for the honor and will receive prizes from each of the promotion's sponsoring businesses.

-Telegram photo by Carleen Bell

Broken main cuts off water to city of Jennings

By Cynthia Haynes
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It was a little dry in Jennings for two days last week as a broken main forced the city to turn off the water several times.

Mayor Marge Hartzog said that people noticed water bubbling up at the edge of the highway at the intersection of Topeka Avenue and K-383 about 2:30 p.m. last Monday. That is right behind her house, the mayor said.

Contractor Jim Zodrow came out and dug up the area, she said, but stopped when it was discovered that the problem, a hole in the water main, was under the highway. The state Transportation Department was called and gave permission for work to continue on Tuesday morning. The area was dug up and the leak fixed, Mrs. Hartzog said. After about an hour, when there seemed to be no more problems, the hole was filled in.

However, pressure on the pipe when the water was came back on caused another blowout a little north of the first leak, and the area had to be reopened for further repairs on Wednesday morning.

Mrs. Hartzog said that she thought about 14 feet of pipe was replaced.

Water was out both in Jennings and farm homes which use the city system while the leaks were being repaired, she said. The water was turned back on briefly to fill the water tower, but when it ran dry, the water was off again.

When the water came back on on Wednesday, the city's water and wastewater operator, Fred Washburn, took a sample and sent it to Topeka for analysis.

From then until Friday, when Mr. Washburn got the results from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment in Hays, which got them from Topeka, people were asked to boil their water and add bleach to dishwasher to deter any problems due to contamination.

After the problems with the water, Mrs. Hartzog said, she was proud of her town.

"Our community really pulls together."

(Water - Continued on Page 5)

Republican caucus to be held March 10

The Norton County Republican Presidential Caucus will be held March 10 in Norton County.

County Republican party chairman Rebecca Wetter reports that the caucus will give all registered Republicans the opportunity to cast their ballots for the Republican presidential nominee of their choice and help determine which candidate receives the votes of Kansas' 40 delegates at the Republican National Convention.

The caucus will be held at the Norton American Legion.

Doors will open for check-in at 8 a.m. and the voting process will begin at 10 a.m.

In order to participate in the caucus, voters must be registered as Republican by Feb. 17 and must provide a photo identification at the caucus location. After checking in, voters will hear short presentations by representatives of each candidate and then receive a ballot to vote.

For more information, visit www.ksgop.org.

Commissioners consider compliance upgrades

By Carleen Bell
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Trying to bring the building up to date with regulations of the Americans with Disability Act, the Norton County Commissioners agreed Monday morning to install braille signs on the interior of the elevator at the Norton County courthouse.

According to Tom Arpin of B&G Consultants, the cost of adding braille signs and controls to the elevator is about \$400 and must be done to accommodate people with blindness or vision impairment who may be using the elevator.

Along with the braille signs, the commissioners discussed the need to add an emergency phone to the elevator. Arpin reported that the phone must be a monitored line, which automatically places an emergency call when

the phone is removed from its cradle. With emergency dispatchers already located in the courthouse, Arpin said, the phone may be able to ring directly through to the Sheriff's office, which-

(County - Continued on Page 5)

Ostmeyer and Cassidy to stop in Norton

Senator Ralph Ostmeyer, along with Representative Ward Cassidy will hold a town hall meeting in Norton on Saturday, Feb. 18.

The meeting is planned for 9:45 a.m. at the Town and Country Kitchen. Ostmeyer and Cassidy will be talking with residents about issues being addressed in the 2012 Kansas legislature.

Along with Norton, they will be making stops in Phillipsburg, Oberlin, Atwood and St. Francis.

Norton house fire causes minor damage

By Carleen Bell
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Minimal damage has been reported after the Norton Fire department was called to a house fire Sunday afternoon.

Norton Fire Chief Mitch Jones reported that crews were called to a fire at 406 E. Wilberforce at about 3:15 p.m. Sunday afternoon. Owned by Curtis Meier, the home caught fire after some embers from a wood-burning stove had gotten to the subfloor of the home. Jones said the house was occupied at the time, so the fire was reported immediately and damage to the home was limited to the area of the stove.

Responding to the scene were three units and 16 firefighters, who were on the scene for about an hour.

(Right) Norton fire crews responded to a minor house fire at 406 East Wilberforce at about 3:15 p.m. Sunday afternoon. Damage from the fire was minimal and limited to the area of the stove.

-Telegram photo by Dana Paxton

