

# \$1 THE NORTON TELEGRAM



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**Friday**

**April 6, 2012**

*Briefly*

**Happy Easter from the staff of the Norton Telegram!**

**Norton schools dismiss for Easter**

The Norton school calendar was changed this fall and the Norton Schools will not be in session on Monday for the Easter holiday.

**Tree sale is now on through April 16**

The Norton County Conservation District is selling trees and shrubs through Monday, April 16. Trees will be available for pick-up on Friday, April 27. For more information, contact the Conservation District at 877-2623.

**Hospital holding community survey**

The Norton County Hospital and Norton County Health Department are collecting more information to complete a Community Health Needs Assessment report. A survey has been posted at the Norton County Hospital's website at [www.ntcohosp.com](http://www.ntcohosp.com) and all residents are asked to respond to the survey.

**Easter Egg hunt set for this afternoon**

The Norton Child Study Club will host an Easter egg hunt on Saturday at the Norton County Courthouse lawn. Beginning at 1 p.m., the Easter Bunny will be available for pictures at 1 p.m. and at 1:30 p.m., the scavenger hunt for students in grades 4-6 will begin in the courthouse lobby. At 2 p.m., the easter egg hunt will begin for children up to grade three.

## Markets

Friday, April 6, 2012

Wheat . . . . .	\$6.08
Milo . . . . .	\$5.98
Soybeans . . . . .	\$13.36
Corn . . . . .	\$6.39

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

## Weather

Tonight - Breezy and mostly cloudy in the evening, then partly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of thunderstorms after midnight. Saturday - Sunny and windy with highs in the lower 60s. Sunday - Sunny with highs around 70. Monday - Sunny with highs in the mid 60s. Tuesday - Mostly sunny with highs around 60 with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. Wednesday - Mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of thunderstorms.

## Kingham Report

Tuesday, April 3 . . . . .	Low 40, High 48
.40 Rain	
Wednesday, April 4 . . . . .	Low 42, High 47
1.40 Rain	
Thursday, April 5 . . . . .	Low 41, High 67
.10 Rain	

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

## Prayer

Dear Lord, thank you for the ultimate sacrifice you made for us on that first Good Friday. Amen

## Sun and sand



The weekend's summer-like weather brought several people out to enjoy the Open House at the Prairie Dog State Park on Saturday. Among them was Madison May Alber of Norcat, who played in the sand at the beach along the water's edge. The high temperatures made the water look inviting but playing in the sand was just more fun. After a long string of summer-like temperatures, the National Weather Service predicts more seasonable temperatures for next week with highs in the 60s.

- Telegram photo by Dana Paxton

**By Carleen Bell**  
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Giving residents the opportunity to dispose of items not usually included in regular garbage collection, county-wide cleanup has been set for April 23 through April 25.

The clean-up will allow residents the opportunity to dispose of items that wouldn't usually be picked up curbside, such as old furniture and construction

waste.

Items that will not be accepted during the clean-up will be electronics, tires, or any appliances that contain freon. Household hazardous waste, chemicals and paint are also prohibited.

The city of Norton will be collecting items within the city limits and city officials are reminding citizens that items should not be put out prior to the evening of Sunday, April 22 because animals and

wind may scatter the items that have been put out.

The city of Norton will also begin yard waste collection on Wednesday, April 25. Yard waste to be accepted includes only grass or leaves that does not contain any twigs or sticks. The waste must be in a solid container or sturdy box that can be dumped and left curbside. Yardwaste will be picked up on Wednesdays and Thursdays throughout the summer and into fall.

# We've Got Jobs: Norton County Hospital

*Editor's Note: The following is part of a series of stories from the Norton Telegram's "We've Got Jobs" feature. The monthly segment features local companies that are growing and expanding the local employee base while supporting Norton County economy.*

**By Carleen Bell**  
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Already one of the largest employers in the county, Norton County Hospital leaders are still looking to the future and the possibility of expanding the hospital's workforce.

Hospital administrator Rich Miller reported recently that Norton County Hospital employs about 135 full and part-time employees, about half of which are in the medical field.

Along with Human Resources Director Shannan Hempler, Miller reported that the hospital is currently recruiting for a respiratory therapist, but isn't actively recruiting for other specific positions. Hempler explained that the hospital has recently filled positions in human resources, billing, housekeeping and support staff. In addition, a new position was recently created for an Information Technology Director, a position that wasn't even a part of the hospital staff until this year.

Even without specific open positions, however, hospital leaders are anticipating needing to add staff in the near future, especially as Norton County Hospital expands its service area.

"We are trying to ensure the availability of nurses because there has been a nursing shortage," Miller explained. "As we continue to build our relationship with Colby Community College, we anticipate hiring nurses who graduate from the college's nursing pro-

gram."

Miller and Hempler emphasized that one of the most appealing aspects of employment at the hospital is stability. Miller said that a majority of the hospital staff have several years of tenure with the facility, but also a good mix of people who are new to the hospital.

"We provide stable employment here, but it's always nice to get fresh ideas and fresh perspectives," Miller said. "We have a nice balance of long-time employees and younger, newer employees."

Miller explained that the hospital is always accepting resumes and job applications for all positions in the hospital and leaders are looking for a few specific characteristics in potential employees. Applicants should be mature,

## City elections held in Norton, Lenora

**By Carleen Bell**  
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With 8 percent of registered voters participating in Tuesday's election, three un-opposed candidates have been elected to the Norton City Council.

The Norton County Clerk's office reported Wednesday that candidate Harriett Gill from Ward I received 43 votes, candidate Donna Foley (incumbant) from Ward II received 49 votes and Ron Briery from Ward III received 46 votes.

The election results will not be official until the Norton County Commissioners canvass the results, which is slated for Monday morning at 9 a.m.

The newly-elected city council mem-

bers will take office at the next city council meeting on April 18 where the new members will take the oath of office.

Along with the Norton city elections, three new members have been named to the Lenora City Council after Tuesday's election.

Of the five at-large council seats in Lenora, three were up for re-election and four candidates filed for those three seats.

Taking those seats were Andrea Day (32 votes), Deborah Anderson (26 votes) and Phillip Rule (23 votes). Carla Burch received 12 votes and 19 percent of the city's register voters turned out for the election.

## Women in Agriculture conference is April 20

**By Carleen Bell**  
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Up until April 13, event organizers are taking reservations for the annual Women In Agriculture conference to be held in Norton on Friday, April 20.

The conference will be held at the Immanuel Lutheran Church and is divided into two tracts. Attendees have the choice of choosing the afternoon tract from 2:30-7 p.m. or the evening

tract from 4:30-9 p.m.

Both sessions include presentations from Crystal Blin, owner of JJB Cattle Company in northeast Iowa. The sessions will also include presentations from Dr. Jeanne Erickson from Kansas Agricultural Mediation Services. Also included will be a presentation from 2011 Miss America Teresa Scanlan.

Dinner will be served for attendees

(Conference - Continued on Page 5)

