

\$1 THE NORTON TELEGRAM



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Tuesday
July 24, 2012

Briefly

Political meet and greet to be held

There will be a meet and greet with local and state candidates at 5:30 on Wednesday evening to be held during the fair at Elmwood Park. This event is sponsored by the Norton County Republican Central Committee and Norton County Farm Bureau.

Feed is set for Wednesday night

The pork burger special sponsored by Husky Hogs and the Norton County 4-H Council and the watermelon feed sponsored by Jamboree Foods will take place at the Norton Fair grounds at 5:30 Wednesday night.

Live market animal sale on Thursday

The Market Animal sale will be held at the livestock barn at 6 p.m. Thursday night.

Three big events set for Friday night

The Pedal Power Pull, McClain's Mutton Busting and Norton Idol will all take place on Friday. The Pedal Pull sign up is at 5:15 with competition at 6:45 p.m. Registration for Mutton Busting is at 7 p.m. then ride at 7:30. Idol will also begin at 7:30.

Carnival runs through Saturday

The Norton Home Owned Carnival will be up and running for public excitement each evening starting at 6:30 p.m. through Saturday night. Friday is Kiddy Arm Band night, for one ticket rides only. Saturday is Arm Band night, which covers any one or two ticket rides but no games.

Markets

Tuesday, July 24, 2012

Wheat.....	\$8.15
Milo.....	\$7.43
Soybeans.....	\$15.51
Corn.....	\$7.78

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

Weather

Wednesday - Increasing clouds with a 40 percent chance of thunderstorms. Highs around 100. Thursday - Sunny with highs in the mid 90s. Friday - Sunny with highs in the upper 90s. Saturday - Partly cloudy with lows in the mid 70s. Sunday - Sunny with highs around 102.

Kingham Report

Friday, July 20Low 68, High 106
Saturday, July 21Low 71, High 109
Sunday, July 22.....Low 70, High 108
Monday, July 23Low 69, High 106
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

Dear God, help us to follow Christ's example. Teach us to forgive others as you have forgiven us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

Fashion Revue at Norton County Fair



The 4-H Club held its annual Fashion Revue on Saturday evening at the 4-H Building.

Pictured (from left to right) are Talia Lowry, Morgan Goss, Miles Goss, Riley Goss, Quentin Wentz, Savannah Rose, Abby Dubois, Madison Dubois, Addison Brooks, Rebecca Wentz, Wyatt Wentz, Amy Wentz and Bryndon Wentz.

The Junior Boys Grand Champion is Brydon Wentz for his dress outfit. Junior Boys Reserve Champion is Miles Goss for his casual outfit. Junior Girls Grand Champion is Amy Wentz for her casual outfit. Junior Girls Reserve Champion is Abby Dubois for her casual outfit. Intermediate Boys Reserve

Champion is Quentin Wentz for his casual outfit. Intermediate Boys Champion is Quentin Wentz for his dress outfit. Senior Boys Reserve Champion is Wyatt Wentz for his formal outfit. Senior Boys Champion is Wyatt Wentz for his dress outfit. Senior Girls Champion is Talia Lowry for best dress outfit. The Junior Division Reserve Grand Champion is Stacie Elliot. The Junior Division Grand Champion is Katelyn Skrdlant. The Intermediate Division Grand Champion is Kylie Kinderknecht and the Senior Division Grand Champion is Talia Lowry.

—Telegram photo by Mike Stephens

Drought conditions have farmers worried

By Carleen Bell
cbell@nwkansas.com

Following an unusually dry and mild winter, spring and summer have followed suit in northwest Kansas and around the midwest, bringing record-drought to the area.

According to information from the National Integrated Drought Information System at www.drought.gov, northwest Kansas was considered as D3 (extreme) drought level, but areas of west central Kansas are listed as D4 (exceptional) drought level. Those classifications were updated on Tuesday, July 17.

With no rainfall forecast for the next several days, worrisome lack of moisture in the nation's breadbasket is of particular concern to farmers and ranchers who are facing parched crops and scorched pasture land, forcing producers to use alternative feeding methods. While some local farmers say they are fine for now, only time will tell how much profit they can expect.

David Kindall, who farms corn, wheat, milo and soybeans, said Friday that his irrigated corn is healthy, but the dry land is showing signs of distress.

"The dry corn is still green, but I don't know how long it will last," Kindall said. "Some of it is pollinated right now, but we need a good rain to help with pollination. We'll just have to wait and see. It may burn up before we get any relief."

Brock Ellis, who has been forced to get creative in feeding his cattle, said Friday that he has been rotating his animals through different pastures and supplementing with feed and, so far, the pastures are recovering well when they aren't grazed. Like other farmers, however, Ellis is worried that unless rain

comes soon, he faces the possibility of selling off some of his herd.

"We hope we don't have to sell off, but we might have to," he said. "We can get through the summer and winter with our feed supply, but if this keeps up next summer, we will need to sell off."

Though harvest is still a few months away, the immediate impact of extremely dry conditions are already affecting some of the decisions farmers make, especially in consideration of what to do with already-suffering crops and livestock.

Joy Johnson of Farm Bureau Financial Services reports that her customers, who are insured through the agency, are at a critical decision-making point and are trying to decide what can be saved and what can't.

"The farmers are at the point where they are asking if they should try to salvage what they can or call it a loss," Johnson explained. "They are trying to decide whether or not to harvest what they can or just let the livestock eat it."

While Farm Bureau can expect to see claims on crop insurance even during high-moisture years, Johnson said, the agency may see an increase in claims of up to 80 percent this year, some of which are already starting to trickle in.

"Farmers aren't in the panic mode yet, but I fear that if we don't get rain soon, it will come to that," Johnson said. "(This week) might be the turning point."

In response to the extremely dry conditions across the region, disaster assistance has been implemented to help producers deal with losses because of the drought.

Just last week, Farm Services Agency announced

that farmers in Decatur, Norton and Phillips Counties who have suffered crop or livestock losses due to drought from January 1, 2012 and continuing may now apply for Farm Service Agency emergency loans.

Loans covering physical and/or production losses may be made at a 3.75 percent interest rate, and are scheduled for repayment as rapidly as feasible, consistent with the applicant's reasonable ability to pay.

Loans covering physical losses may be used to replace installations, equipment, livestock, or buildings (including homes), lost through this disaster.

Loans covering production losses may be used to buy feed, seed, fertilizer, livestock, or to make payments on real estate and chattel debts. Funds can also be used for other essential operating and living expenses.

To be eligible for an emergency disaster loan, an applicant must be operating a family size farm or ranch, must be unable to get credit elsewhere, and must have suffered a qualifying physical and/or production loss from the disaster.

Farmers who suffered at least a 30 percent reduction to at least one cropping enterprise may have a qualifying production loss.

Emergency disaster production loss loans cover 100 percent of qualifying losses.

Farmers and ranchers that think they may be eligible should contact the Norton County Farm Services Agency Office at 11506 Pineview Drive, Norton, Kansas 67654 or call 785-877-5156 for additional information and how to apply.

Crash on Armory Road produces no injuries

By: Dana Paxton
dpaxton@nwkansas.com

At 12:15 p.m. last Friday the Norton County Sheriff's Department was called to a two car wreck with one roll over near road W1 and Armory Road.

According to Norton County Sheriff Troy Thomson, Saraya Penner of Ellsworth, Kan., along with her juvenile passenger, was driving west on Armory Road in her 2007 Chrysler PT Cruiser when she met another vehicle and over corrected sending her vehicle into a slide and eventually flipping into its top in the north ditch.

No contact was made between the two vehicles and there were no serious injuries to the occupants of either car. The occupants of the PT Cruiser did suffer some scratches and bruises and were a bit shaken up but no one was admitted to the hospital.

Loose gravel seemed to be the culprit causing the accident, that and the fact that Miss Penner may have been driving in the center of the road and didn't have time to ease the vehicle over.



Armory Road was the scene of a roll over accident on Friday. The Norton County Sheriff's Department and the Norton County EMS responded. No injuries were reported from the wreck.

—Telegram photo by Carleen Bell

