

THE NORTON TELEGRAM



Tuesday

August 28, 2012



The Norton Telegram office will be closed for Labor Day on Monday, Sept. 3. The ad deadline for the Friday, Aug. 31 paper is noon on Wednesday, Aug. 29. The Friday paper will be free to every home and the Monday Extra and the Tuesday, Sept. 4 paper will be combined and delivered on Wednesday, Sept. 5. The Jamboree insert will be in the Aug. 31 edition, not the Sept. 4 edition.

Briefly

Friday is deadline for license renewals

Friday, Aug. 31 is the deadline for everyone with lasts names beginning in M, N, or O to renew vehicle tags with the Norton County Treasurer. When renewing, include current proof of insurance. Office hours are Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

City office will be closed for holiday

The Norton City Office will be closed Monday, Sept. 3. Monday's refuse route will be picked up on Thursday, Aug. 30 and Thursday, Sept. 6 (in addition to Thursday's yard waste route).

VA claims officer coming to Norton

Jody Tubbs of the Kansas Commission on Veteran's Affairs will be in Norton from 10:45 to 11:45 a.m. Tuesday Sept. 4 at the Norton Community Center. She is there to assist Veterans and their dependents with claims work. Ms. Tubbs can also be reached in Colby any Monday, Wednesday or Friday at 785-462-3572.

Markets

Tuesday, August 28, 2012

Wheat\$8.00
Milo\$7.41
Soybeans\$16.70
Corn\$7.76

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

Weather

Tuesday Night - Clear with a low of 63.
Wednesday - Clear with a high of 97.
Breezy with winds from the SSW at 15 to 25 mph. Wednesday Night - Clear with a low of 64.
Thursday - Clear with a high of 91.
Thursday Night - Clear with a low of 61.

Kingham Report

Friday, August 24.....Low 61, High 82
Saturday, August 25.....Low 60, High 83
Sunday, August 26.....Low 59, High 92
Monday, August 27.....Low 60, High 95
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

Dear God, thank you for those who hold us accountable. Open our hearts and minds to accept your loving correction, and make us willing to change. Amen.

Smokin' in the Barn draws 13 teams

By Carleen Bell
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The fourth annual Smokin' in the Barn barbecue challenge was held Friday and Saturday at the Norton County fairgrounds.

The barbecue and smoking cook-off drew 13 teams and at Saturday evening's dinner saw approximately 225 patrons.

In the Beans category, Louis Anderson took first place. Taking second was team On the Sauce and third place went to Shad Chandler and the Rookies.

In the Brisket category, first place went to Team Ram Rod. Second was Tubby's BBQ and third place was Lee Jenkins.

In the Pork category, first place was team Best Butts and second was Lee Jenkins. Third place went to Tony Scarrow.

In the Ribs category, first place winners was the team of The Foreigners while second place was awarded to Shad Chandler and the Rookies. Third place went to Tubby's BBQ.

In the Chicken category, first place winner was Team Ram Rod. Second place went to Tony Scarrow and third place was team On the Sauce.

The People's choice award, chosen through votes from dinner patrons, was awarded to Jedd BBQ.

The reserve champion of the barbecue challenge was Tony Scarrow and the overall grand champion was Team Ram Rod. Finally, the sportsman award went to Allan Hardy.

After the dinner Saturday evening, live music and a dance was provided by Country Highway.

The event is sponsored by Norton Glass, Renew Chic Boutique, J&R Liquor, Don's Floor Covering, Walter Motor Company, Engel's Sales and Service, Moffet Drug, Farm Bureau/Joy Johnson, Agent, Loves, Carquest, First Security Bank and Trust, Almena State Bank, Natoma Corporation, Team Storm, Norton Fuel Service, A&A-Coors/Travis and Cory, American Legion Riders, Nex-Tech, City of Norton, End Zone, NEBRA, McMullen and Wyatt Auctions, Norton Travel and Tourism, Norton Ice, Jason and Chandra McKenna Manure Hauling, Kowpoke Supply, Russ' Jewelry, Destination Kitchen, Garden Gate Floral and Gifts, Mortensen Computer, Whitefields Cafe, New Look Body Shop, Ebke Liquor, Gil's Barbershop, Ag Valley, First State Bank, The Bank, Miltech, New Age Industrial, Jacobs Sales and Service, KQNK, USD 211, Steve Cole and City Parks, Jerry's Body Shop, Mainstreet IGA, Norton Area Chamber of Commerce, Norton Sports Center, Downtown Carwash, Norton County Horse Council, Prairie Dog State Park, Norton Corrections and the Norton Telegram.



The fourth annual Smokin' in the Barn Challenge got underway Friday evening at the livestock barn in Elmwood Park. Challengers were cutting, trimming and prepping before the cooking could begin. (Pictured from left to right) Mike Selvage, Angela Jenkins and Lee Jenkins traveled from Colorado Springs, Colo. to compete in the challenge.

-Telegram photo by Mike Stephens

Pigskin Pick-Em contest is beginning this week

By Dick Boyd

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The 43rd annual Pigskin Pick-Em Contest for area football fans begins in this issue of the Norton Telegram.

Each week during the season, football fans will have a chance to win prizes by guessing who will win high school and college football games.

The weekly prizes will total \$30 in scrip money. First place will be \$15, second, \$10 and third, \$5 in scrip money. The fan who picked the most correct games during the 12-week contest will receive \$50 in scrip money plus an engraved trophy. The defending champion is Taryn Graham of Norton.

The great thing about the Pick-Em Contest, the most popular event ever conducted by The Telegram, is that it's fun and doesn't cost you a cent!

And, even better, the rules are as simple as Hut-One, Hut-Two, Hut-Three!

Turn to the Pick-Em page and find the games listed in the sponsors' ads. Pick the team you think will win each game and write the winners on the entry blank beside the corresponding

sponsor's names. Then pick the score of the tiebreaker game.

Winners will be announced in the following Tuesday's Norton Telegram.

Fans are asked to bring their entries each week to The Telegram office by 5 p.m. on Friday. Of course, those who

mail their entries to The Telegram at 215 South Kansas must make sure they are postmarked by 5 p.m. each Friday and they must arrive at the office with the Monday's mail.

Prizes must be picked up within three weeks.

You are only allowed to enter once per week but extra entry blanks for every member of the family are available at the sponsors' places of business.

Official entry blanks must be used; no reproductions will be allowed.

Entry blanks may be picked up from these 2012 sponsors: Nex-Tech, Almena State Bank, Jamboree Foods, Moffet Drug, Valley Hope Association, Main Street IGA, United Northwest Federal Credit Union and Engel's Sales and Service Center Inc.

Benefit dinner planned for Sept. 8

To help with medical expenses, a benefit hog roast dinner will be held for Eric Kuhlman.

The dinner is planned for Sept. 8 at 7 p.m. at the Norcatat school house all-purpose room. All proceeds from the event go the Eric Kuhlman Cancer Fund to help offset medical and transportation costs as the child undergoes weekly chemotherapy treatments in Omaha, NE.

Eric, 3, is the son of Matt and Brandy Cook Kuhlman and the grandson of Brian and Tami Cook, all of Norcatat. His great-grandmother is Reva Marshall and the late Jim Marshall of Oberlin.

Norton woman celebrating 100th birthday on Aug. 29

By Carleen Bell

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Seeing a full century of a changing world, Vearl Sparkman of Norton is celebrating a monumental birthday on Friday, Aug. 31, when she will turn 100 years old. Even with severe hearing loss and declining eyesight, Vearl's mind is still sharp and conveys some of the adventures she has seen in her lifetime.

Vearl was born on Aug. 31, 1912 in Wapanucka, Okla. and 10 days after her birth, her family moved to a farm near Lindsey, Okla.

"My family took a team and wagon to move to our new farm," Vearl said. "They used the team to drive cattle to where we were going to live."

There on the farm, Vearl lived with her parents and siblings until she was 22 years old, when she married her husband, Knox Sparkman. Knox worked for Magnolia Oil Company in Wewoka, Okla. and together, the couple had three children.

When her husband's job took him to California, Vearl and the children, the youngest just a few months old, rode a train from Oklahoma to move the family to California.

In 1969, however, the family moved back to Oklahoma and took over ownership and operation of a Tastee Freeze restaurant. For eight years, the Sparkmans operated the restaurant, but after Knox became ill, they sold the business.

In 1980, because of health concerns, Vearl and Knox moved to Norcatat.

"Knox was sick and I had a hard time breathing in Oklahoma," Vearl said. "We decided it was time to



move somewhere else."

With all of their children grown, they moved to Norcatat and purchased a home where they lived together until 1986, when Knox passed away.

When Vearl's health started declining and she could no longer care for her home as she once could, she sold the house and moved to Norton. Vearl's daughter, Mary Jo Horesky, said that decision wasn't an easy one for her mother.

"She really hated to leave Norcatat because she knew everyone there and everybody just loved her," Mary Jo said. "It was time for her to move, but she didn't want to."

Vearl and Knox had three children, including Mary Jo Horesky and Alice Jones, along with Kenny Sparkman, who passed away in 2010.

Vearl now has 11 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren and one great-great grandchild. Another great-great grandchild is expected to arrive this week.

After living for a full century, Vearl said she has seen many changes in the world, but what she remembers the most is seeing her friends and family pass away over the years.

"I've lost my husband, my son and many friends," Vearl said. "I'm the only one left in my family."

The near-centurian said she has no plans or desire to live another 100 years, but she is hoping to see her great-grandson graduate from high school next spring.

"My advice is that no one should live to be 100 years old," Sparkman said. "It's no fun."

