

THE NORTON TELEGRAM



Friday

February 22, 2013

Briefly



Blizzard hits home...



The first real blizzard of 2013 hit our little town on Wednesday and by Thursday morning we had nine inches and more than that in other places. Drifting was caused by wind and left Norton buried. With the prediction of 8-10 more inches of snow to come, Thursday could leave Norton under up to 20 inches of snow.

- Telegram photo by Dana Paxton

Norton BB Gun team to shoot at 4-H regionals

By Dick Boyd

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The Norton County Rotary BB Gun Team will begin its 2013 competition this Saturday in the Golden Plains 4-H Shooting Sports Match in Oakley.

It will be a regional shoot with all marksmen shooting at least a 300 score qualifying for the upcoming State 4-H Shoot.

There is no written test of gun marksmanship and safety given for the 4-H shoots whereas that is part of the Rifle Association shoots.

Saturday's regional shoot will be held in the Logan County 4-H Building and will begin at 9 a.m.

In addition to BB gun, competition will also be held in air pistol and air rifle.

Ten young marksmen from the Norton team will compete. The shooters and their ages are: Trenton Sprague, 14; Stacie Elliott, 12; Scott Sansom, 12; Dylan Goss, 12; Miles Harrington, 12; Nick Davis, 11; Riley Goss, 10; Althea Paxton, 10; Morgan Goss, 8; Miles Goss, 8.

The marksmen will compete in four positions: prone, standing, sitting and kneeling.

Four-person team scores will also be kept.

"This shoot will give us much needed experience for future competition," said Norton head BB gun coach Jeff Elliott.

Town Hall meeting set for Saturday

There will be a town hall meeting on Saturday at the Town and Country Kitchen from 2 to 3 p.m. Senator Ralph Ostmeyer and Representative Travis Couture-Lovelady will be there to hear your concerns and to take questions.

Wrestling pictures will be Monday

The Norton junior and senior high school wrestling pictures will be taken at the wrestling room on Monday starting at 3:30 p.m.

Blood screening to be held Tuesday

The Norton County Health Department will hold a blood screening on Tuesday from 7 a.m. until noon at the Health Department.

Early dismissal set for Wednesday

Norton Community school will dismiss at 1 p.m. on Wednesday for teachers continued education classes.

Markets

Friday, February 22, 2013

Wheat\$7.10
Milo\$6.62
Soybeans\$14.39
Corn\$7.01

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

Weather

Saturday - Partly cloudy with fog overnight. Low of 19 with a windchill as low as 10. Saturday Night - Partly cloudy with fog overnight. Sunday - Overcast with a chance of snow in the morning, then mostly cloudy with a chance of snow. Sunday Night - Mostly cloudy with a chance of snow.

Kingham Report

Tuesday, Feb. 19Low 14, High 39
Wednesday, Feb. 20Low 13, High 24
Thursday, Feb. 21Low 16, High 22
18 Inches of Snow
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

Thank you, God, for the gifts you have given each of us. Help us to appreciate them and to value them as you do. Amen.

County looking to fill job opening

By Cynthia Haynes

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The Norton County Treasurer's office has a job opening and has had 18 applicants.

Treasurer Cynthia Linner told the Norton County commissioners on Monday that she has 12 in-county applicants and six, who live out of the county.

She said that her job application did not say that the person has to live in the county but doesn't want to interview out-of-county residents if she can't offer them a job.

County Attorney Doug Sebelius said that there is no rule that says county employees have to live within Norton County and there are several who do not. However, he noted that preference is frequently given to county residents.

Ms. Linner noted that the county has a 3.5 percent unemployment rate so that almost anyone in the county applying for the job will already be employed so that just makes someone else have to look for a new employee.

The commissioners decided that qualifications are more important than residency.

"Hire the most qualified," Commissioner R.A. Peterson said.

The other commissioners agreed.

"Best qualified, no doubt about it," Commissioner Charles Posson said.

Ms. Linner noted that whoever is hired will have to be fingerprinted and have both a financial background and a regular background check.

She also told the commissioners that there is a bill that she is pretty sure will pass that will require county treasurers

to sign a contract with the Kansas Department of Revenue in order to sell motor vehicle registrations. This is because of a poor customer service issue that came up in Shawnee County, she said. It shouldn't be a problem here.

She did note that it takes a little longer to do business these days since her office is selling Kansas State Park permits for \$15 each when people renew their vehicle tags. The permits are for 12 months, she said, and will follow the tag year so those with the last name beginning with As will have both tag and permit expire in February.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Will not meet on Monday but will meet at 9 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 28, to pay bills and deal with any other business of the commission.

• Offered Economic Development Director Scott Sproul ideas on land that might be available for the Governor's Hunt in the fall.

• Heard the there will be a storm spotters class at 6:30 p.m. Monday, March 11, in the Prairie Land basement. Last year about 65 people attended the class, Emergency Management Director Justina Smith said. Also there will be a state-wide tornado drill on Monday, March 5.

• Learned that Ms. Smith will be recording severe weather public service announcements to go on the radio.

• Heard that stored pallets from building the Emergency Medical Services building need to be moved because the landlord wants them gone.

• Learned that a weather station has been installed at the landfill.

Jennings library has an open house

By Cynthia Haynes

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More than 30 people had stopped by for a glass of tea and a cookie by the time the Jennings Library's open house was half over on Sunday.

According to the Jennings Centennial Book-1888 to 1988, the first library was brought to the community by Margaret Underwood, who moved to a homestead near Jennings in 1866 from Galesburg, Ill. She lent her extensive collection of books out to anyone who wanted to read them.

In 1928, the Jennings Community Club was organized and its first project was to start a city library. Until 1931, the library had no tax support and was run on donations and fund raisers.

The first home for the new library was the reception room of Dr. W.H. Liggett's dental office. It is said that the doctor would check out the books for patrons.

In 1936, the library was moved to a private home.

When the new city hall (now the Jennings Community Building) was built in 1936, a room was set aside for a library. The building was done by Works

Progress Administration workers with stone quarried on a farm just a mile east of town.

In 1945, the library moved into its present home and in 1971, the room in which it was housed was extended.

Recently, the Dane G. Hansen Foundation sent the City of Jennings a check for \$25,000 with the suggestion that the money to be used to benefit the community, not just banked, Mayor Marge Harzog said.

The city asked for suggestions on how to use the money and updating the library was one of those ideas.

The city asked for bids, and Rob Papp said he would do the work for \$3,500, she said.

He and helpmate Kristin Ancell did what they said they would do and donated a lot of labor on top of that, Mrs. Harzog said.

A wall was removed and old carpet and tile pulled up. Underneath was hardwood flooring that needed some repair where the wall had been and refinishing. There was also some termite damage that needed repair, the book-



On Sunday, Kristin Ancell (left) and Lynn Tacha looked over some of the books that the Jennings Library will be eliminating from its collection.

- Telegram photo by Cynthia Haynes

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