

# \$1 THE NORTON TELEGRAM



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8 PAGES

**Tuesday**

**August 27, 2013**

*Briefly*

## Blood drive set for this Wednesday

The American Red Cross is having a Norton community blood drive on Wednesday, Aug. 28 from noon to 6 p.m., at the Norton County 4-H Building, 126 East Park Street. Visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) or call 1-800-RED-CROSS to schedule an appointment.

## Canned scrimmage is set for Saturday

Norton Community High School's canned football scrimmage will be at 8:30 a.m. at Travis Field on Saturday. Bring a can of food to donate to God's Pantry and watch the Blue Jays prep for the upcoming football season.

## Tag renewals are due by Saturday

August 31 is the last day to purchase "M", "N" or "O" tags at the County Treasurer's office. Include your proof of insurance. You can now get your Kansas Parks Passports when you get your tags for \$15.50 per vehicle. For trailers you need current insurance for the vehicle that will pull it. VIN numbers, policy numbers and expiration dates will need to be verified. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The courthouse will be closed on September 3 for the Labor Day holiday.

## Weight room soon to be open to public

Beginning Tuesday, September 3 the USD 211 weight room will again be open to the public from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

## Booster club meets next Wednesday

The first meeting of the Norton Blue Jay Booster Club in the new fall sports season will be held next Wednesday, Sept. 4 at 7:30 p.m. in the high school cafeteria.

Meetings will be held each Wednesday evening during the football, volleyball, tennis and cross country seasons with head coaches speaking to fans.

## Markets

Monday, August 26, 2013

Wheat.....	\$7.09
Milo.....	\$5.64
Soybeans.....	\$13.98
Corn.....	\$6.44

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

## Weather

Wednesday - Clear with a high of 99. Wednesday Night - Clear in the evening then partly cloudy with a low of 73. Thursday - Clear with a high of 84. Thursday Night - Clear with a low of 72. Friday - Clear with a high of 97. Friday Night - Clear with a low of 72. Saturday - Partly cloudy with a high of 95. Sunday - Mostly cloudy with a high of 102.

## Prayer

Thank you, God, for your word, which reminds us that you have our benefit in mind even in painful circumstances. Please help us to cooperate with you in the refining process and to be ready to comfort others as you have comforted us. Amen.

## A smoking good time...



The 5th annual Smokin' In the Barn was held last weekend at the livestock barn in Elmwood Park. Nine teams competed in four meat categories and a bean category, but the big winners were the large

crowd of people who enjoyed the award winning food. Approximately 170 people enjoyed dinner 'In The Barn', and CCRG member John Carlin said, "All the teams said they would be back next year." -Telegram photo by Mike Stephens

## School board gains new member

By Mike Stephens  
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The Board of Education, U.S.D. 211, has filled its vacant board position. Superintendent Greg Mann presented a letter to the board from Sean Kats asking for consideration to fill the seat Scott Ellis vacated on July 1. The board voted unanimously, 5-0, to appoint Kats to the position. Mr. Kats took his oath of office and was seated on the board.

Prior to Kat's appointment, the board held its 2013-14 budget hearing. No members from the community were present to discuss the budget and it was approved as published by a 4-1 vote, with Bill Jones voting no.

Superintendent Mann reported that the new school bus had arrived and bus number eight was taken in return. Mann also reported that enrollment is at 685 students and there is an expected 24 in Early Childhood Development

### In other board news:

-declared recommended property to be surplus and gave the superintendent the authority to dispose of the property as allowed by Kansas law.

-accepted the Appreciation Plaque committee's recommendation to add former Norton Community High School band director David Will to the plaque, and thanked the committee for its help.

-approved the transportation requests

as presented by a 5-1 vote, Steve Berry voted no.

-approved Barbara Basinger as junior high and high school assistant cook; approved Deb Kaus as junior high at-risk tutor; approved Kyle Wright as assistant director of maintenance; and approved Mindy Unterseher as assistant high school cheer sponsor.

-approved the Aug. 14, 2013 minutes of the Professional Development Council.

-accepted the consent agenda as presented which consisted of approval of minutes of the July 15, 2013 meeting, approval of bills and transfers, and approval of the agenda.

## Bus routes a concern for commissioners

By CYNTHIA HAYNES  
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Norton County wants to keep its students safe and the county commissioners and road and bridge department are willing, with a little help from a local resident, to make sure the buses have the best routes they can provide.

Road and Bridge Foreman Floyd Richard and office manager Becky Wilson came to the Aug. 19 commissioner's meeting with Norton School District Transportation Director Jim Jackson and USD 211 Superintendent Greg Mann to talk about a problem bus route. Jason McKenna, a parent on the bus route, also attended the meeting.

Mr. Jackson told the commissioners that he has a new bus route near Mr. McKenna's place. To pick up children

on the new route, he said, the bus needs to go to Road 11 and backtrack. Road 12, which is less hilly, has some gravel on it, he said, up to an oil well site. However, after that the road is just dirt.

He said that the bus is picking up children in Clayton at 7 a.m. now and if the bus has to start backtracking, the Clayton students will have to start getting on it at 6:30 a.m., and that's just too early. The state wants no one on a bus for more than an hour, he said, and the school district agrees with that and tries to follow that guideline.

If Road 12 gets gravel on the additional length, it will help make the ride safer and more comfortable for the driver and children, Mr. Jackson indicated.

"Those buses go down a dirt road and the kids can't breath on it," Mr. Jackson said of the dust that boils up

into the vehicle.

The commissioners agreed that help is needed.

"Let's take care of it," Commissioner R.A. Peterson said.

The commissioners asked if that is the only road that is a problem for the buses and Mr. Jackson said that he had had a meeting with his drivers and, aside from some washboard problems, everyone is pretty happy with the state of the roads.

"We don't expect you to gravel the whole county," he said, adding that the bus could still use Road 11 if it became necessary because of snow drifting in the winter.

"Safety first," Mr. Jackson said. "Convenience second."

Mr. McKenna offered to haul gravel for at least part of the road if the county

(Routes - Continued on Page 5)

## Sports pictures are scheduled for this week

By DICK BOYD

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Fans of Norton school sports will have an opportunity to take team and individual pictures of Blue Jay athletes during special times and locations this week.

On Tuesday, the Dance Team will be in the Stull Gym for pictures at 3:30 p.m. Photos of the Volleyball Team can be taken after the dance pictures.

All junior high photos are scheduled for Wednesday in the junior high gym, beginning at 3:30 p.m.

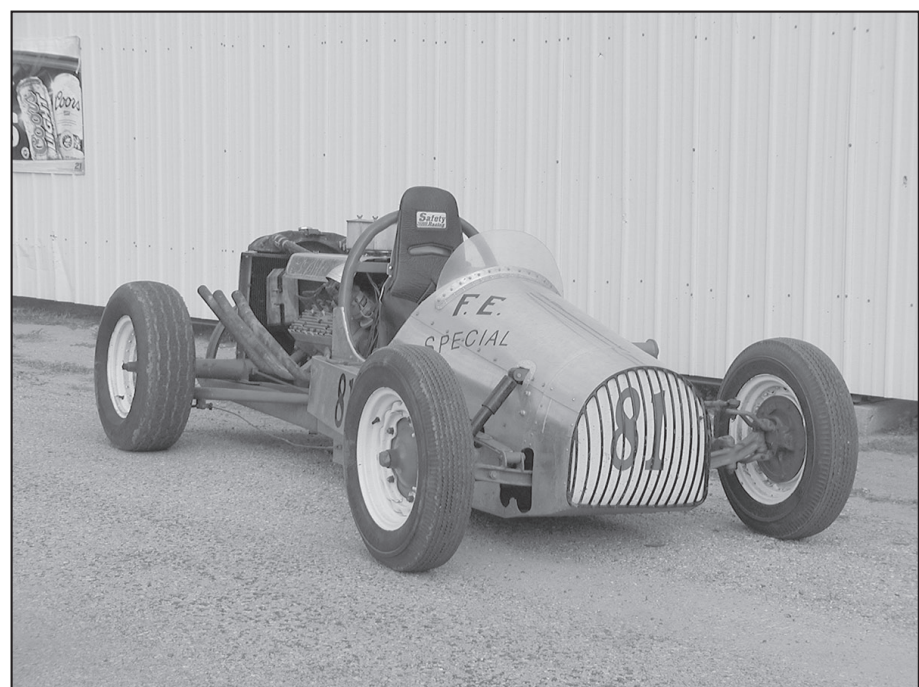
On Friday at 3 p.m., photos can be taken of the Tennis Team at the tennis courts. Donations will also be accepted for the non-profit God's Pantry.

The Prairie Dog Recreation Association Golf Course south of Norton will be the location for photos of the Cross Country Team. These photos are scheduled for 3:30 p.m. on Friday.

On Saturday morning, fans are invited to Travis Field for pictures of the Football Team, beginning at 8 a.m. Fans are invited to remain for the high school and junior high scrimmage to follow.

Fans attending Saturday's football scrimmage are also encouraged to donate a canned good, non-perishable items, laundry or dish soap or deodorant for the non-profit God's Pantry in Norton.

Boxes for donated items will be placed at the entrances to the scrimmage at Travis Field on Saturday. It is important to make sure donated items have not expired.



Old No. 81 is seen here at the Norton Elmwood Park Speedway. The car was driven by two great men, both of whom are no longer living. It will take its last laps around this track this weekend as it will be retired from racing this Sunday.

- Telegram photo by Dana Paxton

## Vintage sprint car will be retired Sunday

By DANA PAXTON

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This weekend MBM Motorsports and the Norton Elmwood Park Racing Association will host the Twelfth Annual Vintage Car Races in memory of lifelong resident and vintage car race enthusiast, Don McMullen. Cars from Kansas, Nebraska and Colorado dating back to the 1930's, 40's and 50's will be put into action both Saturday and Sunday nights at the Elmwood Park Speedway. The URSS 305, IMCA Non-sanctioned winged sprints and IMCA stock cars with vintage and antique race cars will take the track at 7 p.m. Saturday and 6 p.m. on Sunday.

This race is held every Labor Day

weekend but this year it will be the Don McMullen Memorial race. You may ask why if you didn't know Don but those who did certainly will understand why. Twelve years ago McMullen and Jerry Bantam started the vintage races at Elmwood Park Speedway. Car number 81, the 50 plus year old sprint car that was seen on the track every year, will be retired in honor of Don. Some of Don's family members will drive the car on Saturday but on Sunday it will take its last lap.

This car, as well as the two gentlemen have a long racing history together. No. 81 was the first rear engine mounted car in the United States originally built

(Retires - Continued on Page 5)

