

\$1 THE NORTON TELEGRAM



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Friday

November 29, 2013

Briefly

Don't forget Small Business Saturday

Don't forget to Shop Small this Saturday for Small Business Saturday. Help support our hometown businesses by shopping locally. Several businesses will have special sales and hours for the day.

Blue and Yellow Classic on Monday

The public will have their first look at the 2013-14 Norton Community High School wrestling team during the annual Blue and Yellow Classic this Monday, Dec. 2 in the Junior High Gym, beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Coach Bill Johnson's wrestlers will have some challenge matches and some exhibition matches for the enjoyment of the fans.

The first dual for the season will be at 6 p.m., Friday, Dec. 6 versus Phillipsburg in Wilmeth Kirk Memorial Gym. First tournaments will be Hoxie Invitational and St. Francis Invitational, both on Saturday.

Free computer classes and help

Mortensen Computer Services will have a Dish representative at the store on Tuesday to answer any questions you may have. Don't forget about the free computer classes every Tuesday starting at 4:30 p.m. Bring your own laptop.

Cookie walk set for Next Wednesday

The First United Methodist Women of Norton will be holding their annual Cookie and Candy Walk Wednesday from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Norton Community Center.

Markets

Friday, November 29, 2013

Wheat.....	\$6.86
Milo.....	\$3.91
Soybeans.....	\$12.71
Corn.....	\$4.11

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

Weather

Friday night - Partly cloudy with fog overnight. Low of 28 and winds from the south at 5 to 10 shifting to the WNW after midnight. Saturday - Clear with a high of 54 and winds 5 to 10 from the NW. Saturday night - Partly cloudy with fog overnight and a low of 25. Winds from the ESE at 5 to 10.

Prayer

Nothing we do can earn what God gives by grace. God wants us to feed those who hunger for love and grace.



Members from the area American Legion Posts met last Thursday in a quest to better help veterans in the area. Pictured in the front row left to right are Walt Pennell, Jake Durham, Rollie Avery, the Oberlin Adjutant, Chad Lowell, the District Vice Commander and Dave Hazelwood, the Department Area West Vice Commander. In the back row are Jim

Miesner, the Oberlin Post Commander, Curt Archibald, Norton's Adjutant, Darren McMullen, Norton's District Commander, Paul Stanford, past Department Commander, Gary Erlenbusch, Norton's Post Commander and Gaylord Sanneman, Department Commander.

— Telegram photo by Dana Paxton

American Legion teams to help area veterans

State headquarters staff from The American Legion were in Norton last Thursday to discuss veteran's benefits and service to the community.

The meeting was held so that all wartime veterans in the area could learn more about The American Legion and veteran benefits. Membership and veteran information staff were available along with members of American Legion Posts in Norton and surrounding areas as they kicked off this community and veteran service campaign.

In keeping with the over 95-year tradition of The American Legion, the rejuvenated American Legion Posts in these areas will focus on community service and assistance to veterans. The scope and nature of the posts' community service will be determined by their

members and inputs from local civic and community officials.

"Service! That's what The American Legion is all about," said Gaylord Sanneman, Commander of The American Legion for the Department (state) of Kansas. "We exist to help each and every veteran, their families and the communities they live in."

"The Norton area is an ideal place to strengthen partnerships between the veterans and the community," Sanneman added. "The people here care about their community and practice good citizenship every day. Now, wartime veterans have a special place from which they can make a difference."

Since its inception in 1919, The American Legion has been a key ad-

vocate for veterans' benefits, children & youth, patriotic American values, a strong national defense and quality-of-life issues for those serving in today's armed forces.

The organization, which spearheaded the original GI Bill, has been advocating reform of the veteran's health care system under its GI Bill of Health. Creation of the federal forerunner of the Department of Veterans Affairs as well as the agency's ascent to cabinet-level status is due in part to The American Legion's advocacy. The American Legion was also instrumental in the establishment of the Veterans Home Loan, veterans hiring preference and just compensation to veterans suffering from illnesses related to their military service, including those whose

ailments stem from exposure to Agent Orange and mysterious Persian Gulf origins.

Equally aggressive are The American Legion's efforts to instill values in young people through numerous programs, including American Legion Boys State, American Legion Boys Nation, Junior Shooting Sports, the National High School Oratorical Contest, American Legion Baseball, Teenage Suicide Prevention, Child Health and a McGruff Safe Kids Program. The American Legion has supported Scouting since 1919. Many American Legion posts also support Junior ROTC high school units, fund-raising for handicapped children, and partnerships with other nonprofit organizations such as Special Olympics.

Court services wants to move into computer age

By Cynthia Haynes
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The officers of the district court, who supervise offenders, are moving into the computer age after years of carrying enormous briefcases of court records from county to county.

Lisa Dusin and Bryce Marble of court services, which is housed in Norton County but covers a six county area, asked the Norton County commissioners for permission to get an Ultrabook laptop/tablet computer to take

with them when they travel.

Ms. Dusin showed the commissioners the oversize briefcase the court service people have to take with them when they are doing background checks or supervising offenders in other counties. She said that the department has the money for two of the combined laptop/tablet computers, which will cost about \$1,500 each, but needs authorization to spend it.

She said that she didn't think there would be any other expenses but phone

lines for the department for the next couple of months, and there is still \$4,700 in its budget.

She said that the computer would not only help by reducing the lugging of files around but would also make the court services personnel more effective by allowing them to work on files during down time such as when someone doesn't show up on time or there is a break between cases. It would also mean, she said, that files that are needed aren't still sitting back at the office

since everything would be available through the computer system.

She said that court services personnel go to the outlying counties once a week. Besides Norton County, they cover Phillips, Smith, Osborne, Decatur and Graham counties, she said.

She said the computers will go a long way toward making their office paperless.

The commissioners agreed that the purchase would be a good one and authorized the expenditure.

Hospital director receives association's highest honor

It is with pleasure that the Kansas Hospital Association presented Richard P. Miller, Administrator and CEO of Norton County Hospital in Norton, with the Charles S. Billings Award. The members of the Kansas Hospital Association presented Miller with the Billings Award on Nov. 14 during the KHA Annual Convention and Trade Show in Wichita.

The Charles S. Billings Award, named after the association's first president, was created in 1971 to recognize distinguished service and outstanding contri-

butions to the field of health care in Kansas. The Kansas Hospital Association reserves this award for those who have shown their commitment, leadership and dedication to that noble pursuit. Miller, the 35th recipient of this award, has certainly demonstrated these qualities during his career of more than 42 years.

Miller began his health care career in 1971 as the assistant administrator at the Norton County Hospital. One of his early accomplishments at Norton County Hospital was bringing in a Licensed Practical Nurs-



Richard Miller

ing Program that was offered by Colby Community College. Miller became the Administrator and CEO at Norton County

Hospital in 1980, making him one of the longest tenured hospital CEOs in the state. Over the years, he has maintained a determined focus for making quality health care available in Norton and is constantly looking for ways to continue this quest.

Miller has been instrumental in numerous successful expansions and remodeling projects which allowed the hospital to expand services and evolve as the health care landscape changed. His diligence in providing a modern facility and up-to-date medical

equipment has been essential. This commitment helped Miller attract a very strong medical staff, as well as a support staff, to Norton. One of the highlights of his career is the recent renovation to the Nursing School done in conjunction with the Norton County Economic Development Division and Colby Community College.

Miller's commitment and dedication to health care reaches far beyond the hospital setting; he has established himself as a leader to his peers and is always

(Hospital - Continued on Page 5)



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