

\$1 THE NORTON TELEGRAM



WEBSITE: nwkansas.com

8 PAGES

Tuesday

April 29, 2014

Briefly

Blue Jay Boosters meeting Wednesday

The Norton Blue Jay Booster Club will meet this Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in the Norton Community High School cafeteria.

Speaking to fans will be David Stover, head golf coach, and Jason Jones, head track and field coach.

You do not have to be a member of the club to attend the meetings.

Youth forum at The Rock on Thursday

The Norton County Council on Alcohol and Other Drugs will hold a youth forum on Thursday at The Rock for fifth and sixth grade students. The forum and pizza party will be at 5:15 p.m. with a free movie at 7 p.m. at the Norton Theatre.

April 30 is deadline to renew 'C' and 'D' tags

"C" and "D" tag renewal ends on April 30. When renewing your vehicles at the Norton County Treasurer's office remember to bring your current proof of insurance. Kansas Parks Passports are available to purchase when renewing your tags. For trailers, the staff will have to verify the VIN number, policy number and current expiration date. Driver license renewals can be processed Tuesday - Friday; bring your driver license and a current utility bill, vehicle registration or auto insurance card, for proof of residency. CDL licenses must be renewed at a full service office.

Housing meeting set for Wednesday

The Almena Housing meeting is scheduled for Wednesday at the Almena Community Center. The meeting will start at 7 p.m.

Concert scheduled at East Campus

The Norton Community High School and Junior High will present a vocal concert tonight at the East Campus Auditorium at 7:30 p.m.

Markets

APRIL 2014

Wheat.....	\$7.27
Milo.....	\$4.55
Soybeans.....	\$14.18
Corn.....	\$4.95

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

Weather

Wednesday - Partly cloudy skies with gusty winds. High around 55. Thursday - Partly cloudy skies with gusty winds in the morning and a high of 61. Friday - Considerable clouds early with a high of 67. Saturday - Some clouds in the morning with a high of 74.

Prayer

Dear God, help us to plan our lives so that we place our trust in you, rather than in earthly possessions. Amen

Spring is in fashion



A large crowd attended the Spring Fashion Show held Saturday at The Rock. (Pictured) Quentin Wentz escorted Cynthia Washburn down the catwalk as she modeled her spring outfit. There were refreshments, prizes and lots of fun for those who attended. The Fashion Show was moved indoors to The Rock this year, because high winds made the show difficult the previous year. -Telegram photo by Mike Stephens

Norcatour building named an historic site

The former Norcatour City Hall building has been named a National Historic Site by the Historic Sites Board of Review, which is part of the National Parks Service.

The building, the future site of the U.S. 36 Highway Museum, was named a state historic site in February and was one of eight sites across Kansas nominated for the designation as a national historic site.

Bob Strevey, who is heading renovation efforts for the building, said that the nine-person committee in charge of preparing the building to house the U.S. 36 office and museum hopes to apply for state grants to help with cosmetic restoration of the building.

The facility, which has served as a multi-purpose building for the town for much of the past 50 years, was completed in August, 1937 by the federal

Works Progress Administration, Mr. Strevey said, as part of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal programs.

In 1935, Norcatour residents voted 213 to 3 in favor of matching a federal grant of \$26,000 to erect a new City Hall, he said. At the time, the building housed the local government office, jail, fire department and a basement assembly hall, where groups such as 4-H

clubs met and anniversary celebrations and parties were held.

To kick start fundraising efforts a pancake feed will be held from 6 to 7:30 p.m. next Tuesday at the City Building Multi-Purpose Room, Mr. Strevey said, with proceeds going towards the grant application process and repairs to the building.

Annual High Plains ArtFest hosted at Gateway

By LADD WENDELIN
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Painters, sculptors and photographers from across the area converged on The Gateway this past weekend for the 10th annual High Plains ArtFest, providing patrons with an opportunity to enjoy and even purchase one-of-a-kind works of art.

The show included artists from

northwest Kansas, southwest Nebraska and northeast Colorado displaying art in nine categories: watercolor, acrylic, oil, pastel, photography, original hand-formed ceramics, ink or charcoal drawing, other two dimensional (graphics, mixed media, batik, computer generated, etc.) and other three dimensional (glass, sculpture, etc.).

"It's an opportunity for people to

see some quality artwork locally," said Oberlin Arts and Humanities Commission President Mary Henzel. "We had artists come from across the Tri-state area. Several of these are very professional artists."

Mrs. Henzel said that three students from Decatur Community High School and two from Norton Community High School exhibited their art, along with

students from 11 other schools in Nebraska and Kansas. Overall, 270 pieces of student and adult artwork was on display.

Brenda Yarnall, owner of the Art Room 114 art gallery in El Dorado, judged the competition.

There were two divisions for judging, high school art and adult art.

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Norton pioneers celebrate 300 years in America

By MIKE STEPHENS
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The descendants of Norton County pioneers Manley and Minnie Belle (McCabe) Davis will celebrate the 300-year anniversary of the Davis Family in America, May 24-25, at the 4-H Building in Norton.

Current Davis descendants include Norton residents Georgia Rowh, Jim Rowh, Mike Davis, Tom Davis, and Beverly and Jim Burns.

Other Davis descendants that were prior residents of the county were Vernon and Betty Heitman, Maxine (Davis) Brooks, and Rex and Ann (Browne) Davis. Ann Davis lives in Winfield and will attend the celebration.

Denny D. Smith, Ulysses, is developing a Davis family biography and photo album that will be printed and distributed to family members during the Sunday events, and was deeply involved in researching the Davis family history.

"We had good relatives who kept good records," quipped Smith. "All families go through not knowing their ancestry. We didn't know anything

about our family. It was a huge learning experience for all of us, and now a lot of the family is taking interest. It was an eye-opener for all of us."

In 1714, the John and Anna Davis family immigrated to Boston, Mass. from Chatham, England, with five children.

"We went back another 50 years, two generations in England, and the Davis family were British aristocrats. All the family members were Barons, Lords and Mayors, but in 1714 we became a more common family," said Smith.

The five children, four girls and one boy, had very different views of America. The girls were Torrees, British Loyalists to the Crown, and were all married in Boston's North Church. They would flee to Nova Scotia before the war began, according to Smith. The boy, Thomas Davis, however, was a patriot and fought against the British during the American Revolution. At age 66, Thomas Davis along with his 23 year-old son, Thomas Davis, Jr., fought as part of the New Hampshire militia, defeating the British and General John Burgoyne at the Battle of Saratoga in **300 years** - Continued on Page 5)



Norton resident Georgia Rowh is the oldest living Davis descendant and the matriarch of the family. (Pictured) Georgia, Janice and Dorothy Davis in 1929 at Rexford.

-Courtesy photo

