

# Blue stars offered by vets

The Norton American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars will give a Blue Star Service Flag to any family in Norton County having a son or daughter in the military service, including the National Guard or Reserve.

Contact Commander Gil Otter, 877-2552 or VFW Quartermaster, Joe Ballinger, 877-5626.

*Taken from an article by Lenore Petruso that appeared in the VFW Magazine, June/July 1991.*

Capt. Robert B. Quiesser, who had served along the Mexican border as a member of the Ohio National Guard had two sons who were officers in the Guard in 1917. Knowing his sons could be called up at any time, he created a symbol a mother could use to show her son was serving the country.

Capt. Quiesser designed a flag with a red border, white center and two blue stars, one for each son.

Contrary to what most people believed, neither President Woodrow Wilson nor the government had endorsed the flag. In subsequent months, legislators introduced several congressional bills to make the service flag "official", but none was adopted.

In January 1918, Lt. Col. Nathan W. MacChesney, judge advocate of the Western Department of the army, gave "semi-official" status to the flag and encouraged flying it. He recommended that a blue star represent those serving in the U.S. armed forces; a silver star for those "wounded or invalidated home from overseas, with a gold star superimposed for those who died as a result of such wounds or disease and a gold star alone for those killed in action."

To clarify his recommendations, he said a household could use a service flag to represent a husband, son, father or brother. Business could also display a flag with a blue star and a numeral next to it, to represent the total number of employees in service.

Service stars began popping up, not only on lapel pins, but also on necklaces, earrings, bracelets and



Kathy Brannan, Norton, hung a blue star flag, in the window of her home, symbolizing the two members of her and husband Tom's immediate family serving in the armed forces. One star represents their son Jason Brannan who is stationed at Ft. Bragg, N.C., with the 82nd Airborne. Jason returned from Iraq in April and is scheduled to return in August. The other star is for their daughter, Melissa Loken, who was recently discharged from the Coast Guard. She and her husband were both stationed in Juneau, Alaska. Mrs. Loken is now in the active reserves. — Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

rings. Service members gave "sweetheart jewelry" to mothers, wives, sweethearts and sisters who proudly wore their jewelry in honor — and sometimes in memory — of their loved ones.

Service flags went into mothballs after Armistice Day in November 1918, but quickly reappeared in windows after the bombing of Pearl Harbor in December 1941.

Throughout the war, the Veterans of Foreign Wars actively promoted the display of service stars in the form of cards. Inspired by the service star flag, the window cards were distributed to families with members in the armed forces.

The flag was still unofficial, however. So on Oct. 17, 1942,

Congress passed a bill authorizing the secretary of war to "approve a standard design for a service flag and a service lapel button to be used by immediate family members of a person serving in the armed services."

President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the bill two days later.

It wasn't until July 31, 1968, however, that the Department of Defense issued regulations governing the design, use and purchase of service flags and pins. By then, the Vietnam War was raging and pride in service was a bit more subdued.

Nevertheless, some families continued to carry on this patriotic tradition. William Erdo of Apple Valley Calif., says, "We hung a star

in the window for dad during World War II and one for me during 'Nam. And now he proudly displays a service star for his son serving in the U.S. Navy.

# Landowners question landfill

By VERONICA MONIER  
Norton County residents had 30 days to ask questions about the county's permit for a new landfill but the state received only one letter.

Allen Miller and Richard Miller, Norton, wrote the letter to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment's Bureau of Waste Management to express their concerns as residents of the area and landowners of property adjacent to three sides of the site on which the county's proposed landfill is to be built.

Their worries were that:  
• Blowing trash would be found hanging in their fences and trees and along roadways. The Millers wanted to know if compensation could be expected if damage was done to their harvesting equipment or cattle because of blowing trash and who they would contact if there was a problem.

• Underground water quality might become contaminated. They wanted to know what measures have been put into place that guarantee this won't happen.

• Surface management and water runoff from the site may be neglected, affecting a nearby creek. They said they wanted assurances that this won't have an impact on their property.

• Their property would decrease in value. The Millers wanted to know if a state-wide system, through the appraisal process, would address this issue and if the county appraiser had leeway to make property value adjustments.

• "Prime farm land" is being

considered as a site for waste management. They asked if the productive value of land was ever considered in a decision such as this.

They also asked who was responsible for enforcing the department's regulations and site inspections pertaining to the county's landfill application.

The Bureau of Waste Management's Paul Graves, who is in charge of handling the county's application, said the bureau hasn't responded to the Millers' letter yet. He said they were going to have another comment period from Friday through July 16 and will also hold a public hearing on Wednesday, July 7, before responding to any letters sent in.

After that, the bureau will decide if it needs to gather more information and whether or not to issue the permit, Mr. Graves said.

Norton County Commission Chairman Leroy Lang said Solid Waste Supervisor Curt Archibald spoke with the Millers to try to allay their worries. He said after going over the plans with Mr. Archibald, he thinks the Millers had most of their concerns answered.

**Weddings, funerals, engagements, and births. You'll find it all in...**

**THE NORTON TELEGRAM**

## Community Calendar

### Tuesday

Meals on Wheels, Tuesday-Friday, Knights of Columbus

FFA state convention, Tuesday-Friday, Manhattan.

Norton Junior High and Eisenhower Elementary summer school begins

Lenora Chamber of Commerce, noon, Karen's Cafe.

Women's 12-step Meeting, 5:30 p.m., VFW.

Norton Alcoholics Anonymous, 8:30 p.m., VFW.

### Wednesday

Lenora PRIDE Committee, noon, Karen's Cafe.

Norton City Council, 5:30 p.m., City Hall.

Men's Night Golf, 6 p.m., Prairie Dog Golf Course.

Norton Al-Anon, 8:30 p.m., VFW.

### Thursday

Preschool Story Hour, 10:30 a.m., Norton Library

Ladies Golf, 6 p.m., Prairie Dog Golf Course.

Young adult pizza and game night, 7-9 p.m., Norton Public Library Community Room. Bring your favorite board games.

Narcotics Anonymous, 8:30 p.m., Norton VFW.

### Friday

Norton Alcoholics Anonymous, 8:30 p.m., VFW.

### Saturday

Aluminum can collection at Norton Rural Fire Station.

Races at Elmwood Park Speedway, Norton, 7 p.m.

Norton Alcoholics Anonymous, 1 p.m., VFW.

### Sunday

Meals on Wheels, Immanuel Lutheran Church.

God's Pantry, 3 p.m., Norton Trinity Episcopal Church.

Disc Golf, 3 p.m., Elmwood Park.

Overeaters Anonymous, 4 p.m., Norton VFW.

Good Hope Boosters 4-H Club, 7 p.m., United Parish of Lenora.

### Monday

Norton City/County Airport Board, 5 p.m., terminal. Open to public.

Norton Alcoholics Anonymous, 6:30 p.m., VFW.

Norton Recreation Commission, 7 p.m., School Board room, Alice Tweed Building.

Busy Beavers 4-H Club, 7 p.m., 4-H Building.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly, 7 p.m., Norton County Hospital basement.

Norton Narcotics Anonymous, 8 p.m., VFW.

### Next Tuesday

Women's 12-Step Meeting, 5:30 p.m., VFW.

Sunflower Pioneer Power Association, 7 p.m., Almena Senior Center.

Alcoholics Anonymous, 8:30 p.m., VFW.

### Thursday, June 10

Preschool Story Hour, 10:30 a.m., Norton Public Library.

Ladies Golf, 6 p.m., Prairie Dog Golf Course.

Young adult Jeopardy night, 7-9 p.m., Norton Public Library Community Room.

Norton Narcotics Anonymous, 8:30 p.m., VFW.

**WALTER MOTORS** *Wise* **BUYS**



**LINCOLNS:**

2002 LINCOLN TOWN CAR — Signature Series, deluxe tutone paint, heated seats, power moon roof, keyless entry, auto climate control, CD changer, memory seats and MORE! ONLY 6,880 MILES!

2003 LINCOLN TOWN CAR — Signature Series with premium package power heated seats, moon roof, Cd changer, memory seat and much more! Immaculate, only 7,000 miles.

2002 LINCOLN L.S. — 4 door, V-8, 5 speed, auto., trans., Alpine stereo with Cd changer, power lumbar seats, traction control, gorgeous, only 6,000 miles.

2002 LINCOLN CONTINENTAL — 4 door with every available option, hands free cell phone, exceptionally clean, 38,000 miles. A GREAT BUY!

1996 LINCOLN CONTINENTAL — 4 Door, loaded with extras, metallic pearl white, extra sharp.

1992 LINCOLN CONTINENTAL — Just 90,000 miles on this comfort sedan — NICE!

**FORDS:**

2003 FORD TAURUS — Only 7,000 miles on this upgraded SES 4 door, full power, keyless entry, CD.

2003 FORD FOCUS — 4 door, a beautiful 4 door with many extras, 19,000 miles.



2003 FORD EXPLORER — XLT trim, 3rd seat, trailer tow, AM/FM cassette, Cd, alloy wheels, running boards, keyless entry, just 9,000 miles.

2002 FORD RANGER — Super cab, 4 door, 4X4, off road package, 4.0 litre, V-6, auto, P/W, P/L, CD, cast aluminum wheels, bed liner, SHARP!, 18,000 miles.

2000 FORD MUSTANG — A sporty convertible in Teardor metallic red, leather interior, full power, CD, rear spoiler, just 34,000 miles.

1999 FORD RANGER — Super cab, XLT trim, only 25,000 miles, V-6, automatic.

1999 FORD MUSTANG — A sassy chrome yellow GT convertible, V-8, 5 speed, double sharp! 37,000 miles.

1998 FORD TAURUS SE — 4 door, full power, nice standard size car with 98,000 miles. A GREAT BUY!

1996 FORD F150 SUPER CAB 4X4 — Eddie Bauer trim, P/W, P/L, tilt, cruise, SHARP! 70,000 miles.

1995 FORD MUSTANG CONVERTIBLE — Unbelievably SHARP and ready for summer fun, only 58,000 miles.

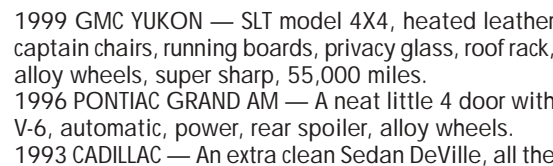
### GM:



2001 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX — Only 23,000 miles on this extra sharp 4 door, rear spoiler, CD

2003 PONTIAC GRAND AM — It's a loaded V-6, 4 door with rear spoiler, alloy wheels, sport bucket seat, center console, P/W, P/L, CD, only 18,000 miles.

2002 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX — A real beauty in metallic burgundy, rear spoiler, full power, just 20,000 miles.



1999 GMC YUKON — SLT model 4X4, heated leather captain chairs, running boards, privacy glass, roof rack, alloy wheels, super sharp, 55,000 miles.

1996 PONTIAC GRAND AM — A neat little 4 door with V-6, automatic, power, rear spoiler, alloy wheels.

1993 CADILLAC — An extra clean Sedan DeVille, all the luxury extras.

### MERCURY:

2000 MERCURY MOUNTAINEER — You'll like this exceptionally clean SUV, roof rack, running boards and many other extras, 59,000 miles.

1999 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS — Lots of comfort in this extra clean 4 door.

1997 MERCURY SABLE GS — 4 dr., full power, 3.0 litre, V-6, extra clean, only 69,000 miles.

1996 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS — Only 71,000 miles and exceptionally clean.

### CHRYSLER PRODUCTS:

2001 CHRYSLER PT CRUISER — LOADED, leather, moon roof, chrome wheels, CD and only 18,000 miles.

1993 DODGE DAKOTA — Extended cab, 4X4, V-8, automatic, P/W, P/L, tutone, only 34,000 miles.

### MINI VANS:



2001 FORD WINDSTAR — A loaded LX 4 door, full power, CD changer and more, 41,000 miles.

2003 FORD WINDSTAR — 4 door, an upgraded LX model, full power, rear air, 11,000 miles, captains chair with 2 rear bench seats.

2001 FORD WINDSTAR — It's the deluxe SEL model with leather quad seating, 4 doors, power sliders

2000 OLDS SILHOUETTE — Exceptionally clean, 4 door, rear air, leather interior.

1999 FORD WINDSTAR — Leather quad seating, keyless entry, SHARP, 71,000 miles.

1995 FORD WINDSTAR SE — 4 door, rear air, GREAT BUY!

**WALTER MOTOR COMPANY**

Two Blocks West of State Street (U.S. 283) on Washington Street

**Norton, Kansas**

**785-877-3112**

**Toll Free: 800-479-3112**

**Norm Walter—877-3159**

**Curt Walter—877-5679**

**Brought to you by**

**THE NORTON TELEGRAM**

215 South Kansas Avenue, Norton, KS 67654

785.877.3361 Fax: 785.877.3732

E-mail: telegram@nwkansas.com