

Church:

Take advantage of the church listings to find out when and where to go.

Pages 6 & 7

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75 cents

THE NORTON TELEGRAM

Sports:

Northern Valley teams defeat Alma. Logan basketball girls and boys play games. Norton basketball teams defeat Smith Center.

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Friday

February 3, 2006

Norton, Kansas
Home of Jerry Jones

Briefly

Football party is for youth Sunday

All area high school students are invited to a Super Bowl party Sunday at The Rock Christian Youth Center, Norton. The doors open at 5 p.m. in plenty of time for the Super Bowl game to be played on the big screen television. Students are asked to bring a snack or drinks to share. As always, the event will be chaperoned by approved adult sponsors. For more details see the ad on Page 3 of *The Telegram* or call Trent Richmond at 877-4016.

Quilters meeting on Monday

Members of the Heritage Quilt Club will meet at 6:30 p.m. Monday at the Prairieland Electric basement.

Rhonda Mudloff, Colby, will demonstrate "Toothbrush Hooking." Kits will be provided, but members should bring their own scissors.

Coyotes, crows should beware

Today is the last day to register for the Norton County 4-H Shooting Sports' coyote and crow calling contest. Contestants must be registered by 6 p.m.

The contest will be held Saturday and will begin one-half hour before sunrise and end at sunset. Check in time on Saturday will be from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at O'Brien's rear parking lot, 110 S. State St., Norton. No one will be allowed to check in after 7 p.m.

Price of entry is \$20 for a two-man team, which includes a meal.

For more information, contact Rick McChesney at 877-2606 or John Baker at 877-3253.



Punxsutawney Phil says, "Six more Weeks of Winter"

Weather

Forecast:

Tonight — Partly cloudy with lows in the lower 20s. **Saturday** — Partly cloudy with highs in the upper 40s. Northwest winds around 10 mph shifting to the northeast in the afternoon. **Saturday Night** — Partly cloudy with lows around 19 and southeast winds 10 to 15 mph. **Sunday** — Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of rain or snow.

Prayer

God of grace, help us never to ignore the needs of our neighbors. Move us always to respond to them as you would — with love and compassion.

Amen



Sara Nelson (above) Long Island, was completely surprised to learn she was one of the winners of Norton Farm Bureau Association's Food Check-out Day. Brenda Kaus (right) signs her name on the associaton's giant check for \$50 worth of groceries. Making the pre-

Shoppers get a surprise in line

Thursday commemorated the time of year when the average American will have earned enough money to pay for their entire year's food supply. It takes just 40 days to do that.

To mark the occasion, Norton County Farm Bureau Association, in conjunction with the four county grocery stores, Jamboree Foods, Norton Shop 'n Save, Alma Market and Country Corner in Lenora, gave a \$50 gift certificate to four lucky shoppers. Funding assistance was also provided by the Kansas Farm Bureau Foundation.

Winners were: Sara Nelson, Norton Shop and Save; Brenda Kaus, Jamboree Foods, and Julie Thompson, Alma Market. Country Corner in Lenora held their drawing today.

Mrs. Kaus said, "I'm sure glad I stopped here after work."

To learn more about Food Check-Out Week and the Farm Bureau Association call County Coordinator, Patsy Maddy at 877-3221.



sentations were Chris Tanner, president of the association and Kara (Maddy) Miller, Women's Chair of the County Board.

— Telegram photos by Carolyn Plotts

Gravel pit may be re-opened for county

By VERONICA MONIER

Norton County may be getting a bit more gravel for its roads soon.

Road and Bridge Supervisor Tom Brannan said he talked to Roger Sprick about his gravel pit last week.

Mr. Sprick had talked to the Norton County Commissioners last week about the pit. He had said the county signed a short-term lease with him in 1992 and that, once the lease was up, the county would level and seed the sight. But, he had said, that never happened.

Mr. Brannan said Monday that he has looked at the state core drilling reports on the gravel pit.

"There is some real good sand out there," he said. "But, it's under some finer sand that would need to be cleared away."

He said he asked if Mr. Sprick would be willing to let the county go out and core drill the pit, and then put some numbers together, possibly opening it back up again.

He seemed receptive, Mr. Brannan said. He would be willing to work with the county if the core drilling proved to be positive.

Commissioner Dean Kruse asked where the pit was.

Mr. Brannan said it was two miles east of the Norton/Phillips county line and then about a half a mile north of U.S. 36.

"I think it would be great for the eastern third of the county," he said.

Commissioner Leroy Lang said it would be better not to lose the sand if there was something out there.

"It'll be closed up if no one's interested," Mr. Brannan said. "But if we are, he'll keep it open."

He said no one has used the pit since the county was last in there in 1992.

In other business, the commission:

- Accepted bids from D-C Wholesale for both grader blades and road culverts. D-C was the low bidder on both, Mr. Brannan said. The prices on both have

gone up, but it was to be expected. However, he said, the culverts didn't go up very much this year.

The bids received for the grader blades were: D-C Wholesale, \$15,375; Welborn Sales, Inc., \$15,870; Barco, \$17,295; and Martin Tractor, \$17,500. Placing bids for the culverts were D-C Wholesale, \$42,764.10; Welborn Sales, \$43,471.32; and J & J Drainage, \$47,396.60. Big R and Husker Steel were both asked to submit bids, but didn't.

- Talked to Mr. Brannan about a request for a speed limit sign on Road S. A county resident called the clerk's office to see if a speed limit sign could be put up to slow drivers down, because children were

playing in the area. Mr. Brannan said to put up any kind of black and white speed limit sign, a speed study would have to be done. However, children playing signs could be put up and would probably be more effective. He said he would take care of it.

- Heard from Solid Waste Supervisor Curt Archibald that inmate security training was held this week. The employees taking it will be trained in cardio pulmonary resuscitation. There will be another two days of training in March.

- Spoke with Noxious Weed Supervisor Reggie Beckman about an annual contract with the Kansas Department of Transportation for spraying weeds on the

right-of-way of the state highways. The commission talked about the terms and agreement of the contract, including labor rate, equipment usage and the chemical charge.

- Discussed cost sharing chemicals at the Noxious Weed Department. The commission told Mr. Beckman to look over his budget and see what he can afford to cost share, and then let them know what he thought.

- Heard from Treasurer Cindy Linner that, in January, the county collected \$22,977.50 in sales tax. She said for a four month period, the county average is \$20,139.43, which is up slightly from the previous average.

Animal ID, technology updates to be focus of February meetings

Cattle growers have the ability to track their animal's progress through ear tags and modern technology.

An update on the National Animal Identification System and technology used to implement electronic identification will be the focus of a series of meetings to be held in northwest Kansas Feb. 13-15.

The meetings, sponsored by K-State Research and Extension, will be held in four locations so producers can select the location most convenient for them.

Kansas livestock commissioner George Teagarden will update producers on the status of the National Animal ID System and premise registration in Kansas.

Sandy Johnson, K-State Research and Extension northwest area livestock specialist, will address source and age

verification requirements for export markets and new opportunities to capture value.

Cattlemen will have the opportunity to see the components of an electronic identification system, up close and in action. Dale Blasi, K-State Research and Extension beef specialist and a national leader in radio frequency ID technology, will discuss tag differences. Tag readers will be demonstrated and placement logistics and selection guidelines discussed. Options to use data collected from electronic identification systems will also be discussed.

Time has been allotted for producers to ask questions pertaining to their individual operations.

The meeting dates, times, locations and contact telephone numbers are:

(Continued on Page 5)

Eighth grader spells his way into county bee

Matt Pollock, an eighth grader at Norton Junior High, is the new school spelling champion.

Matt competed against six seventh graders and three other eighth graders in the oral competition round. He won the competition by correctly spelling "substitute" and then "duplicate".

Placing second and third, respectively, were Zach Porter and Cassie Wuest.

The alternate for the Junior High will be Jade Braun.

Others competing in the spelling bee held Wednesday were seventh graders, Melinda Becker, Ryan Blecha, Matt Carlton and Katie Scott; and eighth graders, Sara Porter and Bethany Winkel.

Matt, Zach and Cassie will represent the school at the county spelling bee to be held Feb. 15 in Lenora.