

Your clocks will need attention Saturday

Yippee! Longer lighter evenings are just a matter of days away. At 2 o'clock Sunday morning the time officially changes to daylight-saving time, in our case Central Daylight Time. Simply put, before going to bed Saturday night turn your clocks up one hour — that's UP ONE HOUR. Most of us seem to forget how that works. Just remember that we SPRING forward in April and FALL back in October.

Most of us seem to enjoy the lightness later in the evenings. It gives us more time to enjoy the outdoors. By contrast, when we fall back one hour in October, that brings the day's daylight to an earlier conclusion.

Those who study people's attitudes report more smiles on faces during the daylight-saving time period, and more frowns during the months of Central Standard Time. They also report greater numbers of people suffering depression during those cold, dark winter days.

You also will hear a lot of chatter when we change the clocks. Many people are of the opinion that the clocks should not be tinkered with, that the time should stay the same year round. Of course the preferred time would be daylight-saving.

Mother Nature is starting to awaken all those things that have been sleeping during the winter months. A little green here, a little green there. Trees hinting of budding. Tulips not far from waving "howdy!" Lawn mowers being checked. Garden hoses being untangled. Political yard signs will begin appearing. You name it.

We are ready to greet the time change with all the enthusiasm we can muster. Now, if we can just remember to do Saturday night before going to bed what we have instructed you to do, then it'll all work out Sunday morning.

If not we'll be arriving at church just as everybody else is leaving. That would be sinful.

— Tom Dreiling

Our weekend filled with music

Music, music and more music this last weekend. What a wonderful concert Saturday at the East Campus Auditorium by the Blue Blazers of Gardner Edgerton High School which was directed by Norton Community High School graduate Todd Burd and sponsored by the Norton County Arts Council.

What excitement they showed in their performance. The encore alone was enough to stir your soul.

I understand they were scheduled to sing on Sunday at the United Methodist Church.

The Norton Christian Church also enjoyed a concert Sunday morning by Summit Christian College, Scottsbluff, Neb. singers. One of those singers was Norton's Gabe Bruton.

It certainly is refreshing to hear both of these groups of young singers with a message.

I am sure other people had their hearts stirred by exciting music as part of the worship service they attended.

Students of Norton Community High School are also busy practicing in preparation for their performances at the high school music festival to be held in Oberlin

Memories Sonya Montgomery



on Saturday.

Good music is food for the soul.

Several former Norton graduates are diligently working to advise alumni of the all-school reunion which is planned for Friday, Sept. 1 and Saturday, Sept. 2. They are searching for persons who know the current addresses of classmates.

If you have this information, please contact me, Sonya Montgomery at 785 669-2145. Our goal is to let every graduate know about this event.

We live in such a mobile society, it's difficult to have current addresses, so your help will be appreciated. Some classes connect via e-mail and we need to know who they are.

We look forward to having a large group of alumni in Norton on that weekend.

WRITE:

The Norton Telegram encourages Letters to the Editor on any topic of public interest.

Letters should be brief, clear and to the point. They must be signed and carry the address and phone number of the author. We do not publish anonymous letters.

We do not publish form letters or letters about topics which do not pertain to our area.

We will not publish attacks on private individuals or businesses which do not pertain to a public issue.

Share your thoughts with a letter.

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THE NORTON TELEGRAM

ISSN 1063-701X

215 S. Kansas Ave., Norton, KS 67654

Published each Tuesday and Friday by Haynes Publishing Co., 215 S. Kansas Ave., Norton, Kan. 67654. Periodicals mail postage paid at Norton, Kan. 67654.

Postmaster: Send address changes to Norton Telegram, 215 S. Kansas, Norton, Kan. 67654
Official newspaper of Norton and Norton County. Member of the Kansas Press Association, National Newspaper Association, and the Nebraska Press Association

Nor'West Newspapers

Dick and Mary Beth Boyd
Publishers, 1970-2002

Incorporating the Norton County Champion
Marion R. Krehbiel, editor



State's hidden gun law kicks in July 1

Governor Kathleen Sebelius' veto of the concealed gun bill was slapped down when both the Kansas Senate and House gathered up enough votes to override her action. The law takes effect on July 1, but it's not yet certain when the first permits will be issued, according to a story by The Associated Press.

The new law will allow U.S. citizens 21 and older living in Kansas to obtain a four-year concealed carry permit from their local sheriffs, but it gives the attorney general's office until Jan. 1 to work out the details of the licensing process. Hidden guns will continue to be banned in schools, churches, libraries and court-houses even after the new law goes into effect.

We received a phone call the other day from a gentleman who wondered how our area legislators voted on the veto override. Sen. Ralph Ostmeyer voted yes to the override, as did Representatives Virginia Beamer, John Faber and Jim Morrison. The House vote was 91-33 (seven votes more than the two-thirds needed) and in the Senate it was 30-10 (three votes more than necessary).

March Madness, basketball style, turned into real madness. Here we are just days away from the Final Four showdown and not a #1 seed is anywhere to be found.

Good Evening Norton Tom Dreiling



It certainly made this year's tournament much more exciting. We even have one of those, as they are called *mid major schools*, still in the running for the national championship. That school is George Mason University.

FOX News calls itself, "The most powerful name in news!" After adjusting my hearing aids to tone down their introduction to one of their many news shows the other day (you know the fanfare they utilize), I have come to the conclusion that perhaps they should call themselves, "The nosiest name in news!"

Then I switched over to CNN and it was just the opposite. I was actually yawning through a newscast. The young thing was very attractive but her voice just isn't made for the role she is trying to fulfill.

An e-mailer thought it was time for a blonde guy story. So she (yes, SHE) sub-

mitted the following:

An Irishman, a Mexican and a blonde guy were doing construction work on scaffolding on the 20th floor of a building. They were eating lunch and the Irishman said, "Corned beef and cabbage! If I get corned beef and cabbage one more time for lunch, I'm going to jump off this building." The Mexican opened his lunch box and exclaimed, "Burritos again! If I get burritos one more time I'm going to jump off, too." The blonde opened his lunch and said, "Bologna again! If I get a bologna sandwich one more time, I'm jumping too."

The next day, the Irishman opened his lunch box, saw corned beef and cabbage, and jumped. The Mexican opened his lunch, saw a burrito, and jumped, too. The blonde guy opened his lunch, saw the bologna and jumped as well.

At the funeral, the Irishman's wife was weeping. She sobbed, "If I'd known how really tired he was of corned beef and cabbage, I never would have given it to him again!" The Mexican's wife also wept and said, "I could have given him tacos or enchiladas! I didn't realize he hated burritos so much."

Everyone turned and stared at the blonde's wife. Finally she said, "Don't look at me. He makes his own lunch."

Have a good evening!

Telephone keeps us close together

Jim hasn't worked away from home since the first couple years of our marriage. We had been married little more than a year when he agreed to work for my brother, Bob, helping build a log house for him at Kanopolis Reservoir.

Now, as Jim's carpentry career winds down, his last two major jobs are for out-of-town family.

He just started remodeling the basement in the home of his nephew, Kurke, who lives in McCook. At the same time, he plans to rebuild the roof and put in replacement windows for his sister, Mary, who lives four miles west of McCook.

The mileage combined with the price of gas prompted us to arrange for him to stay in the spare bedroom at Kurke's while he works and come home once during the week. It's kind of new to us, so we don't have the routine down yet.

We don't like the separation, but phone calls will make it easier. Thank goodness for our unlimited long distance phone plan and our mobile-to-mobile cellular plan. 'Cause we can really rack up the air-time talking to each other.

The girls at my office tease me because it takes Jim and I so long to say good-bye to each other. I'll hang up after he calls and

Out Back Carolyn Plotts



Veronica might say, "That's some record, she only said good-bye and that she loved him five times."

Yes, I guess we're still mushy — even after 12 years.

Do telemarketers annoy you, too? Jim gets after me because I'm too polite to them. His advice, "Say NO, and hang up."

I can't seem to do that but I did hear of a novel approach to deter their calling.

A family had just begun their evening meal when the phone rang. The husband answered.

A telemarketer totally mispronounced the husband's name when he asked if Mr. So-and-So was there.

The husband said, "No, he's not. Who's calling? (In an aside voice, he said, "Don't

step in that blood. Have you notified next-of-kin?) Why are you calling this number? Did you know the victim? What is your connection to this murder?"

By this time, the telemarketer is freaking out and trying to hang up, but the husband kept on going.

He said, "We have tracked this phone call and know exactly where you are. Officers are outside your building right now. They want to talk to you about this case."

That's when he heard the phone hit the floor and footsteps running for the door.

Kind of elaborate, but it just might work.

Jim made the observation that the morning show of every major network begins their broadcast with the Iraq death toll for the day.

I think the young men and women serving this country over there are making a difference. Just once, I'd like to hear a reporter say, "Mr. and Mrs. Muhammed Abudabi opened their own business today. Their children went to school without a care in the world."

If you can't (won't) stand behind our troops — please, feel free to stand in front of them.

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