

## Friday

**November 19, 2010** 

## Briefly Triple Delight program Saturday

The Norton County Arts Council will present Triple Delight, a family friendly performance of Dixieland and swing era harmonies, Saturday, Nov. 20 at 7 p.m. in the East Campus Auditorium.

The group Triple Delight is based in Kansas City, and features Cynthia Ziesman, Tammy Heath and Terry Thoelke.

The performance will include music reminiscent of the Andrews Sisters and the McGuire sisters.

Admission is adults \$8, students \$2, 12 and under \$1, reciprocity \$4 and Arts Council members free.

#### Some local offices closed for holiday

The Norton City Offices will be closed Thursday and Friday, Nov. 25 and 26 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

The Norton County Courthouse also will be closed Thursday and Friday, Nov. 25 and 26 for the holiday.

Both will reopen Monday, Nov. 29. The Norton County Commissioners will not meet Monday, Nov. 29. They will meet Tuesday, Nov. 30 instead so they may pay the end of the month bills.

#### Holiday the reason papers to be mailed

The Friday, Nov. 26 edition of The Norton Telegram will be mailed to all subscribers.

newspaper carriers may have Thanksgiving at home with their families.

resume Monday, Nov. 29 as usual.

Also because of the Thanksgiving holiday, the ad deadline for the Friday, Nov. 26 newspaper, is Monday, Nov. 22

The ad deadline for the Monday, Nov. 29 paper is Tuesday, Nov. 23.

### Friday, November 19, 2010

Markets

Soybeans.....\$11.42 

### Weather

Tonight - Increasing clouds with a low around 26. Saturday - Cloudy with a high near 34. Saturday Night - Cloudy, then gradually becoming partly cloudy with a low around 27. Sunday - Mostly sunny with a high near 53. Sunday Night - Mostly clear with a low around 27.

## Kingham Report

Tuesday, Nov. 16 .....Low 26, High 54 Wednesday, Nov. 17 .....Low 25, High 43

Thursday, Nov. 18......Low 24, High 54 (Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

## Prayer

Loving God, thank you for the prayers of others that sustain us in our worst times. Help us to be mindful of others' needs and to remember them in prayer. Amen.



## Natoma Corporation addition almost done

By JUDY SHERARD

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Three years ago the Natoma Corporation was out of space.

So it made sense at the time to apply for a United States Agriculture Department Rural Economic Development Loan through Rural Telephone of Lenora to expand the manufacturing part of the building, said Gail Boller, president of the company.

The zero interest 10 year loan is designed to help expand existing businesses and create economic opportunities for rural residents. The loan to the Natoma Corp for \$740,000, was approved in October 2008, just about the time the economy started going downhill, Boller said.

Faced with a decrease in orders for goods and possible lay-offs, Boller asked to postpone the start of the expansion for a few months. The delay was granted, and construction on the 30,000 square foot addition didn't begin until May of this year.

The new building at the rear of the current structure should be completed some time around the first of next year.

In addition to the \$740,000 loan, the company provided approximately \$775,000, additional funds, making the total amount for the project about \$1,515,000.

Natoma received a similar loan ten

Addition - Continued on Page 5)



Construction on the 30,000 square foot addition at The business received a \$740,000 United States Agthe Natoma Corporation, begun in May, should be complete at the end of the year. Until the interior is fitted for manufacturing, the building will be used for storage.

riculture Department Rural Economic Development Loan through Rural Telephone of Lenora which was approved in 2008.

—Telegram photo by Judy Sherard

# City council approves auditing contract

By HARRIETT GILL hjqill@nwkansas.com

The three year contract with Mapes and Miller for audit services was presented to the Norton City Council at their regular meeting on Wednesday. The contract is for the audit years of 2010, 2011 and 2012 with an ending date of December 2012. The current contract will end December The papers will be mailed so that your 31. Audits are for the prior year which explains the discrepancy between the hearing on the property be continued uncontract year and service year. The con-Home delivery of newspapers will tract was approved by the council.

A building permit was given to F & F Iron and Metal Company to demolish a brick building and steel attachment on the southeast corner of Graves and Washington.

Karen Griffiths said that the property at 401 E. Main was purchased at an auction on Nov. 16. A Dec.1 hearing had been scheduled for the property in the council meeting on Oct. 20.

"The new owner has requested that the containers. til Dec. 15. The notice of the hearing has tee and Norton County Commissionbeen already been published; however,

there should be no problem with the date change." said Griffiths.

Otter said there is a finance commiters meeting set for Dec. 6 at 5:30 p.m. This meeting will review work detail assignments and finances. The Kansas Department of Corrections and economic development also will be invited to attend.

Otter said the finance committee discussed a goal setting meeting for the city council and city administrator. He said the city administrator asked the mayor and council to make a list of 10 goals, so they could be prioritized. No goal setting meeting was scheduled.

## Adding layers



Darren Schmitz of Hi-Tech Interiors works installing insulation in a doorway during construction of the new Doctors Clinic at the Norton County Hospital. — Telegram photo by Judy Sherard

Griffiths said she would contact the Code Inspector regarding this matter. Jeff Otter said the finance committee

had met and discussed storage containers. There is no city ordinance that addresses this issue. The code inspector will research regulations used by other cities on the subject of storage

Donna Foley reported that the Norton Auditing - Continued on Page 5)

### Economic Development Board discusses stands on current issues

By JUDY SHERARD

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Norton City/County Economic Development Director Scott Sproul reported to board members at the November meeting he supports a Kansas Economic Development Alliance initiative to rewrite enterprise zone project sales tax exemptions language. The exemptions are available to retail businesses in unincorporated areas of a county with 10,000 or less and a city with a population of 2,500 or less and create two new jobs.

According to Sproul this is in opposition to revitalizing efforts for downtown business districts of cities of more than 2,500 people. Instead it provides incentives for retail businesses to locate outside city limits.

One solution would change city population criteria to 10,000 or less and leave the county criteria at 10,000 as well. In addition it could include any retail business in a county or city with a county population of 10,000 or less.

Sproul also told the board that the

National Broadband Plan would reduce funding of the rural incumbent local exchange carriers nationally. The funds are meant to offset unrecoverable costs to provide service to sparsely populated areas. However, the plan promotes an industry standard that is 25 times slower than most connections already provided by the rural carriers.

The plan reduces or eliminates funding for rural carriers if 75 percent of their service area has access to broadband internet. Investment into infrastructure could slow or stop. It affects Norton County because Rural Telephone Service, which is headquartered here, and its subsidiaries could lose up to \$80.7 million. It's also important to advance county technology, Sproul said.

The National Congress for Community Development office has sent a letter to Senators in opposition of the plan.

Lisa Brooksher, Treanor Architects, is designing the renovation plans for the Heaton Building. Len Schamber of Damar is the general contractor.

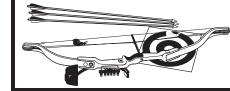
## First Christmas on Us drawing

A total of 2,663 tickets were collected during the first week of Christmas On Us. This year's first week total is an increase from last year when 1,537 tickets were collected during the first week.

So far, no \$50 instant winners have claimed winning tickets. Check for matching ticket numbers in the sponsors' ads every Tuesday. Winners have until

Monday to bring their tickets in to The Telegram office. Prizes are in the form of script money spendable only at Christmas on Us participating businesses. Tickets are picked up every Monday for the instant winner drawing.

The grand prize drawing will be held at the Senior Center on Dec. 16 at 7 p.m. Any unclaimed instant \$50 winners will be drawn at that time, as well.



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