

\$1 THE NORTON TELEGRAM



WEBSITE: nwkansas.com 8 PAGES

Tuesday

April 5, 2011

Briefly

High schoolers get out early Friday

The annual Norton Community High School Track Meet will be held on Friday, April 8, at Travis Field. Competition will begin at 3:30 p.m. Due to the large number of staff and students involved with this event, Norton Community High School will dismiss at 2:45 p.m. on that day; buses will run at normal times.

Edmond meeting moved to Thursday

The Edmond city council meeting has been changed to this Thursday April 7th instead of the 5th because of elections.

Booster Club will meet Wednesday

The Norton Blue Jay Booster Club will hold its Spring Sports Kickoff meeting at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday in the high school cafeteria.

All fans of Norton Community High School sports are invited. Speaking about the upcoming season will be Norton head golf coach David Stover and Norton head track coach Jason Jones.

The Booster Club will meet every first and third Wednesdays through May at the same time and location.

High school prom is this Saturday

The Norton Community High School will be having their Jr.-Sr. Prom, Saturday. Public viewing of decorations will be from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the junior high gymnasium. Promenade starts at 6:30 in the Stull gymnasium, followed by the banquet at 7 p.m. and dance at 8 p.m. Coronation is open to the public and will take place at 10:30 p.m.

Club to sell pies at town center

The Mid-Century Federated Club will hold their final annual Pie Sale this Thursday starting at 9:30 a.m. at the Norton Community Center. Don't miss out on your last chance to buy a great pie.

Markets

Tuesday, April 5, 2011

| | |
|--------------------|---------|
| Wheat | \$8.17 |
| Milo | \$6.55 |
| Soybeans | \$12.81 |
| Corn | \$6.97 |

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

Weather

Tonight - Partly cloudy with a low around 40. **Wednesday** - Mostly sunny with a high near 62. **Wednesday Night** - A 30 percent chance of showers, mainly after 1 a.m. **Thursday** - A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms.

Kingham Report

Friday, April 1 Low 41, High 66
 Saturday, April 2 Low 37, High 84
 Sunday, April 3 Low 47, High 69
 .05 Rain
 Monday, April 4 Low 28, High 53
 (Readings taken at the Kingham farm
 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

Gracious God, help us not to focus on past hurts but to turn our eyes to you so that we can clearly see and accept your grace. Amen.



Churchgoers rally to support veterans

A Yellow Ribbon Rally was held Sunday at the Norton Christian Church to honor our veterans. Two services were held, the first at 8 a.m. and the second at 10:40 a.m. The Legion Riders stood at attention holding flags at the east entrance and remained there until the services were over. Veterans in attendance were given a small token to honor them.

Cecil Todd, founder and President of Revival Fires Ministry from Branson, Missouri was the featured speaker. He told of the efforts to get our soldiers bibles, how America needs to wake up and get ready for change and the second coming of Christ. How you can't knock down a person who is already on their knees in prayer. He spoke of how religion has been removed from our schools, government and society and that we must fight to keep it strong, we are One Nation Under God.

- Telegram photos by Dana Paxton



County to have emergency plan updated

By CYNTHIA HAYNES
c.haynes@nwkansas.com

It's time to rework Norton County's emergency operations plan.

Sheriff Troy Thomson told the county commissioners at their end-of-the-month meeting that, although it seems as if the plan was just completed, it's been a few years and it's time to re-evaluate it and rework it.

The Northwest Kansas Homeland Security Council has hired a company to check all the emergency plans in the area, he said. The county will receive \$11,000 work of value from the update but will not have to pay for it since it will be paid by the council from federal money.

Thomson also said that he thought he

would have to wait to move the old dispatch console to the basement of the new emergency management building.

The dispatch office had planned to move its old equipment to the new building as a back up, he said, but it will cost about \$3,000 to do so. Most of the cost is for co-axial cable and labor, he said.

His office is having to pay 911 fees and while most of them are reimbursed, the cost of moving the console will have to be borne by the county.

"This may be a situation where we'll just have to wait," he told the commissioners and Emergency Medical Services Director Jane Wyatt.

If there is a problem before the backup can be installed, he said, the service can use portable equipment.

Thomson also told the commissioners that he wants to adopt a policy for social networking, such as the use of Facebook, that has been proposed by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. The County Attorney Doug Sebelius has said the policy looks good, Thomson told the commissioners.

The department doesn't use social networking very often, he said. But it is needed for some cases even though it is never allowed for personal use.

"If that'll work for you," he said. "We'll adopt that as a policy."

The commissioners also visited with Dustin Daniels of Foley Equipment.

Daniels had a bid for \$20,180 to inspect 14 pieces of equipment used by the county road and bridge and solid waste

departments. The equipment, all by Caterpillar, includes motor graders, scrapers, dozers, back hoes and loaders, he said.

For the money, his company will come out and inspect the equipment, check the valves and adjustments and tell the county is any repair work needs to be done.

The cost could go down if the company can do more than one machine each trip, he said, and that is probably what will happen.

If the company does repair work it will be extra but, in many cases, the county should be able to do the work and it will hopefully keep the machines from breaking down and costing many thousands of dollars to repair or replace.

Army National Guard captain shares experience in Afghanistan

By HARRIETT GILL
hgill@nwkansas.com



Captain Dallas McMullen displays some of the equipment used by the National Guard in Afghanistan. The pack on the floor by his feet weighs 40 pounds and is an armored vest. He presented a talk and photo show about Afghanistan.

-Telegram photo by Harriett Gill

Captain Dallas McMullen shared his experiences and photographs from Afghanistan with members of the Norton's community, his family and many friends on March 25, in the community room of the Norton Public Library.

Captain McMullen is with the 2-6 Cavalry Kansas National Guard, Argribusiness Development Team (ADT). He was stationed in Lahgman Province in the northern area of Afghanistan with the job of helping Afghan farmers manage and grow crops.

"The average acreage of a farm in Afghanistan is three acres; fifty percent of the farmers do not have modern equipment. It costs about \$12 a day to rent a tractor," said Captain McMullen. "I told my dad I had purchased a new threshing machine, he was excited until I said it was a scythe."

McMullen said the main crops are wheat, corn, rice, soy beans and alfalfa. The farmers use primitive farming equipment and are dependent on old ways of irrigation to water their crops. Another problem is the seed is of poor quality or it may be old and it doesn't germinate. Many times liquid fertilizer is watered down to five percent. After a crop is harvested, the field is cleaned to the bare ground. Everything is used, there is no organic matter left

to enrich the soil. In answer to a question from the audience as to where the bad seed comes from, McMullen responded by saying the seed and fertilizer comes from Pakistan.

"When I left Norton a year ago, I was given quilts to take to the orphanage. The quilts were from the ladies at the Christian Church," said Captain McMullen, who then showed the audience pictures of the children receiving the quilts from Afghan teachers and elders.

"I don't give anything out personally and will not allow my guys to hand out gifts; it is important for the citizens of Afghanistan to give out the gifts," explained the captain.

Mid-Century GFWC of Norton gave the captain a \$200 donation when he left in 2010 to use to benefit the children of Afghanistan.

"You are probably wondering what I did with the \$200. When I was touring a girls school that had been established, it was discovered that there was no home economics program for the girls. We used the money to purchase kitchen supplies to begin a course in home economics," said Captain McMullen.

Captain McMullen is the son of Cindy and Don McMullen of Norton.

