



Friday

May 18, 2012

Briefly

Norton graduation is Sunday afternoon

The Norton Community High School Class of 2012 will graduate this Sunday. The ceremony is set for 2:30 p.m. at the high school's Stull Gymnasium.

Band display set for Monday afternoon

Eisenhower Elementary school will host a band display on Monday at 4 p.m. at the school cafeteria. Any students and parents interested in purchasing a musical instrument can view the instruments on that day.

Book fair is next week at the library

The Scholastic Book Fair will be at the Norton Public Library Tuesday through Friday. Hours are 1-8 p.m. and on Friday from 1-6 p.m. There will be books for all ages including adults.

School to host staff recognition Tuesday

Norton schools will host a retirement recognition for school staff who are retiring or leaving the district with the conclusion of this school year. The recognition will be held Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. at the East Campus auditorium.

Veterans memorial will be dedicated

A dedication ceremony for Norton Veteran's Memorial will be held Saturday, May 26 at 11 a.m. at the Roadside Park on Highway 36.

Markets

Friday, May 18, 2012

Wheat	\$6.15
Milo	\$5.76
Soybeans	\$13.42
Corn	\$6.53

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

Weather

Tonight - Breezy and partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms in the evening, then mostly cloudy after midnight. Lows in the lower 60s. Saturday - Partly sunny and not as warm. Breezy with a chance of light showers in the morning, then a chance of light showers and isolated thunderstorms in the afternoon. Saturday Night - Mostly cloudy and cooler with a 20 percent chance of light rain showers in the evening. Sunday - Mostly sunny with highs in the mid 70s. Monday - Sunny with highs in the lower 80s. Tuesday - Mostly sunny with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 80s.

Kingham Report

Tuesday, May 15.....Low 48, High 87
Wednesday, May 16.....Low 44, High 88
Thursday, May 17Low 55, High 93
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

O God, even when we feel desperate, help us to find hope in your great love and never-failing compassion. Amen

Students visit farm for annual field trip

As an annual tradition, the Eisenhower Elementary kindergarten students visited the farm of Rick and Vicki Robison last Friday for a farm field trip. The Robisons began inviting the kindergarten classes out to their farm many years ago and, with the assistance of Farm Bureau and the Norton Community High School FFA, show students around the farm so they can learn about animals and farming. All together, 53 students visited the farm, along with parent and FFA volunteers. The students also got to enjoy lunch and the farm after visiting the animals. The farm visit is partially funded through a Kansas Farm Bureau Foudation for Agriculture grant. Pictured, Eisenhower students (left to right) Trace Ellis, Roy Abel, Thomas Tyrrell and Mia Brooks enjoy petting goats at the farm with the help of Norton FFA student Wyatt Wentz.

-Telegram photo by Carlleen Bell



City asking for feedback on new LED street lights

By Carlleen Bell
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After installing eight units, Norton city leaders are asking for public input on potential new LED street lights for the community.

Norton City Administrator Rob Lawson reported to the city council Wednesday evening that city crews have installed eight LED streetlights in town. Four of the lights are located in front of the city office/post office and four are located on State Street running north from Taft Street near Attitudes restaurant.

Lawson is asking citizens to make a point of driving through those areas at night to see the difference in lighting from the traditional bulbs to the new LED diode lights. The city administrator explained that the light from the LED units is much brighter and sharper, which means increased visibility and safety for pedestrians and drivers.

In addition, the LED lights are much more durable and efficient than traditional incandescent lights, drawing only about 25 percent of the power of traditional lights.

Lawson explained that \$100,000 has been set aside in the city's budget for this year to replace street lighting and LED lights are an option for replacement. If citizens don't like the new lights, however, other options will be explored.

Anyone with input about the LED lights is asked to call or visit the city office during regular business hours to provide feedback. The office can be reached at 877-5000.

Northern Valley forensics team brings home a state medal

On May 5, the Northern Valley High School forensics team competed in the state Forensics competition in Wichita and one student brought home a first place trophy in the competition.

Forensics coach Ken Tharman

reported that senior Gunnar Hays made it through three preliminary rounds of competition and placed first in the state 1A competition.

Preparation for the competition began in January with material selection,

rehearsal and trying new material. At the time, many students were interested in competition, Tharman explained, but with prior commitments and other school activities, only 11 students took on the challenge of talking to walls.

"Believe it or not, that is exactly what it looks like at some of these competitions. To the untrained eye, it looks kind of like a mad house of people standing around talking to walls, portraying many personalities or even behaving like contortionists," Tharman said. "Of course this is all perfectly natural and a very common part of the speech and drama arena. The students are practicing their material before going in to perform for a judge(s)."

There are two different areas in which students can qualify to compete at state. Ame Baird and Dakota Hilburn both qualified to compete at the State Festival competition. Gunnar Hays, Daniel Field, Kenzi Husted, Alex Tharman, Jon Compton and Makayla Smith qualified to compete at the State Championship competition.

Irma and Launa from the school cafeteria sent along a large box of goodies for the team. Ranelle Hays

went along to sponsor the Festival students and Gale Hays and Michelle Tharman represented Northern Valley as judges at the Champs competition.

According to Tharman, the last four years have been difficult for scoring a 1-rating from the festival but Ame Baird and Dakota Hilburn both achieved this feat and received a state medal for their accomplishments. Baird competed in Interpretation of Prose Reading and Hilburn competed in Original Oration.

Alex Tharman competed in both Humorous Solo Acting and Improvised Duet Acting (with Makayla Smith). Gunnar Hays competed in Interpretation of Prose Reading and Extemporaneous Speaking. Jon Compton competed in Improvised Duet Acting (with Kenzi Husted). Makayla Smith competed in Improvised Duet Acting (with Alex Tharman). Kenzi Husted competed in Improvised Duet Acting (with Jon Compton) and Interpretation of Poetry. Kenzi Husted (Poetry) and Gunnar Hays (Extemporaneous) both made it to the semi - finals following three rigorous preliminary rounds. Gunnar Hays made it to the finals and placed first in the state in 1A competition.

Baccalaureate service held for Norton class of 2012



Chance McKinney was the special guest speaker at this year's Baccalaureate for the Norton Community High School Class of 2012, which was held on Mother's Day at The Rock. McKinney asked the graduates what word they would use to describe themselves and then threw out the word "puzzling." He looked at how the events of their lives were like puzzle pieces and how each piece molds who they are, how each person involved in their lives like parents, teachers, siblings, friends and God each holds a piece and, without certain pieces, the puzzle won't come together.

-Telegram photo by Dana Paxton

Commissioners agree to survey, vacate portion of a county road

By Carlleen Bell
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After agreeing to conduct a survey to find property lines, the Norton County Commissioners voted Monday morning to vacate a section of roadway in northwest Norton County.

The section of road to be vacated is Road W10 between Roads H and J.

Prior to Monday's public hearing on the matter, Norton County Clerk Robert Wyatt reported that he had received some phone calls in favor of the decision, but the public hearing brought some questions about the closure.

Marvin Wudtke, who owns land on the east side of the road section, requested that the county conduct a survey to find the center of the road before

returning land to surrounding landowners because a farmer on the west side of the road may be infringing on Wudtke's land.

"I'm not really against closing the road," Wudtke said. "I just want to find out where the center of the road is to keep a good relationship with my neighbors."

While the commissioners reported that a survey would usually be the land owner's responsibility, the county leaders agreed to conduct the survey because the cost is minimal and won't take much time.

The commissioners voted unanimously to vacate the road section, effective immediately.

