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# THE NORTON TELEGRAM

Area high school basketball players show off in All Star game in Colby

Tuesday,  
March 23, 2004

## 'Voice of Wildcats' to speak at banquet

By DICK BOYD

Wyatt Thompson, the "Voice of the Kansas State Wildcats", will be the featured speaker during the Annual Banquet of the Norton Area Chamber of Commerce next Tuesday at the Norton Eagles Lodge.

The social hour will begin at 6 p.m. and the dinner at 7 p.m. The prime rib dinner will be catered by the Town and Country

Kitchen of Norton.

Tickets are \$15 per person and may be purchased until 2 p.m. on Friday from the Norton Area Chamber of Commerce office in downtown Norton. Call 877-2501 for information.

You do not have to be a member of the Chamber of Commerce to attend the banquet.

Mr. Thompson is director of sports cast-

ing and public relations at Kansas State University. He is in his second season of handling the play-by-play broadcast duties for the K-State football and men's basketball games and selected baseball games. He also serves as the television host for the weekly Bill Snyder and Jim Wooldridge shows in the fall and winter.

Prior to coming to K-State, Mr. Thompson was executive sports producer and

Broncos studio host at KOA Radio in Denver. He was also the play-by-play announcer for the Colorado State Rams in Fort Collins from 1997 to 2001.

Mr. Thompson grew up on a farm near Solomon and spent 12 years working in Kansas radio markets, including KAYS radio and television in Hays from 1985 until 1989, where he was the play-by-play (Continued on Page 5)

### Norton, Kansas Home of Gordon Fought

### Briefly

### Red Cross issues

### 'call to arms'

The American Red Cross is conducting a blood drive from 9 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. Thursday at the National Guard Armory, Norton.

To make an appointment call (800) 448-3543 or stop in and stick out your arm.

### High school prom will be held April 3

"Reflections of the Sea" is the theme for Norton Community High School's Junior-Senior Prom, set for Saturday, April 3.

The promenade starts at 6 p.m. in the school gymnasium followed by the banquet at 6:30 p.m. Jason Jones will be the speaker.

The dance will follow the banquet with the crowning of the king and queen at 11 p.m.

The public is invited to view the decorations from 1-3 p.m. and the crowning ceremony.

### School to offer

### childhood screening

Eisenhower Elementary School will be conducting a free Early Childhood Screening on Friday.

If you are concerned about your child's speech, vision, hearing, motor skills, behavior and/or reasoning, call 877-5113 by March 25 to schedule an appointment.

Children eligible for screening are those from 2 years, 9 months to age 5, but not enrolling in kindergarten in the fall. A kindergarten screen will be held later in the spring.

### Weather

### Forecast:

Tonight — Partly cloudy and not as cool. Lows in the mid 40s. Wednesday — Partly cloudy with highs in the lower 80s. Northwest winds 10 to 15 mph shifting to the northeast 5 to 15 mph in the afternoon. Wednesday Night — Partly cloudy with lows in the mid 40s. Southeast winds 5 to 15 mph. Thursday — Partly cloudy with highs around 80. Thursday Night — Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms after midnight.

### Howell report:

Friday ..... High 82, Low 40  
Saturday ..... High 63, Low 21  
Sunday ..... High 50, Low 26  
Monday ..... High 64, Low 40  
Week ago ..... High 54, Low 23  
Month ago ..... High 60, Low 26  
Year ago ..... High 72, Low 39  
March precipitation ..... 32 inches  
Year-to-date precipitation ..... 3.42 inches  
(Readings taken at the Paul and Pat Howell farm 10 Miles North and 1/3 Mile East of Norton)

### Prayer

Thank you, Lord, for listening to all our concerns. Increase the faith of those learning to pray, that they may proclaim the greatness of your love. Amen



## State patrol officers teach self-defence class

By LEE FAVRE  
Hansen Museum director

With temperature's reaching the 70s, the first day of spring was a pleasant one for Kansas State Highway Patrol Officers Joe Vajgrt, Salina, and Dennis Dinkel, Hays, to hold a self-defense class at the Hansen Museum community room.

Although the class was sponsored by the museum, it was offered by the Kansas Highway Patrol as a free public service program.

Saturday's class drew 14 students, including myself. From Phillipsburg were Officer Nathan Mathes, Vicki Hanchett and Jayne and Elizabeth Leidig. Participants from Norton were Bob and Ila Virgil, Cindy and Shelbi McKenna, Kayla Farenbruch, Hannah Mills, Janis and Veronica Monier and Mary Beth Boyd.

Class began with Officers Vajgrt and Dinkel pointing out vulnerable areas on the body that could be used in defense if

the need arose. The nose, throat, eyes, jaw, elbow, knees, groin, thigh and instep were among areas mentioned and blows to these areas were demonstrated with the effects of such a blow discussed. Students were allowed to practice some self-defense moves and were given scenarios' to act out.

The importance of maintaining one's balance in a situation was stressed and to keep your head. To protect yourself from an assailant, you must: stay on your feet, hurt them and get out of Dodge.

Students were also taught how to use an assailant's weight or force-in-motion to their advantage.

Even though we live in a farming community where many people don't even lock their doors, it is wise to stay alert, be aware of your surroundings, and don't label yourself as a target.

It was also noted that 911 and \*47 will go through even on a cell phone with no service.



Kansas Highway Patrol Troopers Joy Vajgrt, left, and Dennis Dinkel (above left) demonstrate how to break free from an attacker's grip. Wearing padded protection, Officer Dinkel (above) lets a student practice her newly acquired self defense moves on him.

— Telegram photos by Veronica Monier

## County attorney files for district seat

The Norton County attorney announced Saturday that he will run in the upcoming election for state representative for the 120th district.

Doug Sebelius is a partner in the private practice of Sebelius and Griffiths LLP. His partner, Karen Griffiths, is Norton's city attorney.

Mr. Sebelius will be going up against incumbent John Faber of Brewster.

Mr. Sebelius, a Republican, ran against Mr. Faber in the primary two years ago. Rep. Faber, with strong support in

Rawlins and Cheyenne counties, beat him and Democrat Bob Strevey.

Public service isn't anything new to Mr. Sebelius. He is serving a term on the Kansas Wildlife and Parks Commission and is a member of the Kansas Republican Party state committee. He serves on several boards, including the Valley Hope Association, the Norton Public Library Foundation, Hospice Services Inc., and the Keith G. Sebelius Foundation, named for his father.

He is a lay leader of First United Meth-

odist Church of Norton and a member of the Norton Lions Club.

The federal reservoir west of Norton is named for Keith Sebelius, who served six years as a state senator from 1962-'68 and then 12 years in Congress, where he replaced former Sen. Bob Dole.

Mr. Sebelius said his goal if elected is to bring common sense to the legislative process, focus on building a consensus that produces results and establishing a strong voice in the Legislature for northwest Kansas.

## Hospital board tours renovation project

By KRISTEN BRANDS

The Norton Hospital Board said thank you to Murray Co., the general contractor in charge of the hospital renovation, Wednesday night after it toured the final phase of the 21-month project.

Rob Porter, Murray's project superintendent, reciprocated his appreciation for the support of the board members, the staff, administration, and the community throughout the project.

"I will never forget this hospital and the crew in working on this project," Mr. Porter said. "This is definitely the friend-

liest community that my family and I have ever lived in as we move around with all our projects."

The board voted to pass the salary increase for hospital employees, as recommended by the administration. The annual increase in salaries will total \$80,000. The last increase was in January 2003.

Hospital Administrator Richard Miller reported that the dedication ceremony for the renovation is still planned for Sunday, May 2. He said that invitations have been sent to the governor, senators, and U.S. Rep. Jerry Moran.

An open house and group tours will follow the dedication.

Privacy and Corporate Compliance Officer Janet Jilka asked board members to approve the credentials for 51 practitioners, who must be approved each two years.

Chief Financial Officer Brian Carlton said that in February the hospital had 236 patient days, 32 admissions, one birth, 15 surgeries, 7,780 outpatient procedures, and 1,262 Doctor's Clinic visits. \$486,000 was generated.

(Continued on Page 5)

## Author's life to be celebrated

Plans are underway for a program on author Ralph Moody to be held Sunday, April 25, at The Gateway in Oberlin. Mr. Moody is the author of several books on his life, including "The Dry Divide" which includes memories of when he lived at Cedar Bluffs, north of Oberlin.

The day's activities will begin with a chuck wagon lunch of barbecued brisket, chips, beverages and peach cobbler at 12:15 p.m.

Children will have the opportunity to try to rope "Woody" the steer. Prizes will be awarded and wagon rides will be available.

John Stansfield, storyteller, writer, teacher and Moody historian, will present a program at 2 p.m.

Tickets for the afternoon events will be available on site. Prices will be \$10 for individuals; or \$25 for families. Tickets will include both the meal and program.

Reservations are requested. Call Connie at (785) 475-2400; Mary at (785) 475-3329; or Ella at (785) 475-3557.



Jenna Schuckman, left, and Brianna Karnopp (above) took a day away from their spring break to entertain the resident of the Andbe Home (right) with the song "God Bless the USA". Their duet was one of the entertainments scheduled for the monthly birthday party, where six residents were honored. — Telegram photos by Veronica Monier



## Wellness Fair set for Saturday

By **TRANDA WATTS, Norton County Extension**

The Norton County Wellness Fair is here along with the KQNK Hi Plains Expo. This year's Wellness Fair will be held Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Norton National Guard Armory.

Do you have questions about your child's safety as he rides his bicycle — perhaps without a helmet? You can get those questions answered by the Norton County Health Department.

The department will have bicycle safety helmets available to fit your child.

The Safe Kids Coalition will also have safety tips. They will help you assess the installation of your child's safety seat. The Kansas Highway Patrol will help with this along with demonstrating the need to use seat belts.

In case of a car accident, who will help?

The Norton County Emergency Medical Service will be there with their ambulance. If you haven't had the opportunity to see the vehicle that will come to your rescue, the Wellness Fair would be the

ideal time. You can visit with an Emergency Medical Technician and get your blood pressure measured.

Representatives of the Norton County Hospital will be on hand to answer questions about the hospital and health care in general.

In case you are sent home from the hospital, but still have a need for specialized medical equipment, you can speak to representatives from Med Link Mobility. They will have equipment to demonstrate how it may make your life at home more comfortable.

Ever wonder why the drivers license examiners ask if you would like to become an organ donor? Have you ever wondered how to make sure that you do become a donor if that is your desire?

Ask these questions of the representative from the Midwest Transplant Network.

Several groups will be on hand to teach moderation. Valley Hope Association will deliver its message of hope and steps needed to begin recovery.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly will encourage moderation in eating

and dieting. Finally High Plains Mental Health will encourage moderation and promotion of health mentally, socially, physically and spiritually. Talk with them about the services which they can provide for you.

As we age and as our health declines, individuals sometimes need the Andbe Home or help from a hospice group.

The Andbe Home will show services and emphasize continued usefulness of all individuals while Hospice will teach you about the services which they provide to those who wish to be at home at the end of their lives.

Farm Bureau will continue to emphasize safety in the home and on the farm through their educational booth.

K-State Research and Extension-Norton County will talk about testing your home for unsafe levels of radon gas, and the Family Nutrition Program in partnership with Extension will have an educational display on osteoporosis and calcium.

There will be door prizes and lunch is available.

## Wildcat announcer to speak

(Continued from Page 1) voice at Fort Hays State University.

He then moved to KIIIX radio in Fort Collins in the fall of 1989. He received the Oscar Stauffer Sportscaster of the Year Award in Kansas in 1989 and won the Colorado Broadcasters Association Award for play-by-play excellence in 2002.

Thompson's appearance is being sponsored by Nex-Tech, a division of Rural Telephone Service Co.

Chamber President Carol Erlenbusch will preside at the banquet. Other board members are Scott Sproul, first vice president; Don Kaus, second vice president; Randall Ball, treasurer; and Joel Duscher, Kathy Erbert, Marvin Matchett, Doug Ray and Jolene Weiser.

## Hospital board tours last of renovations

(Continued from Page 1) Mr. Carlton also reported to the board that Dairyland will be making its first visit Wednesday, March 31, to help with the transition to a that company's computer program.

"We have also received our first shipment of new computers, monitors, and modems," Mr. Carlton said.

Mr. Miller said that the accounts that have recently appeared in *The Norton Telegram* were filed by the Account Recovery Specialist, a collection agency, on behalf of the hospital. The agency had not filed suits for a long time.

"We have gotten a lot of calls pertaining to the publication of accounts," Mr. Miller said. "I just wanted to clear that up with the public, because we do try to work with people on this subject."

In other business, the board: • Tabled a decision on the insurance coverage for the property and contents of the hospital until estimates were received from Bridges

Insurance Agency. Boxler Insurance has already submitted its quotes.

• Learned that Shanna Harting was hired to replace Dixie Covington, who took medical retirement, in the business office. Also learned that Kasey Rushton applied for a practical nursing board of regents scholarship to attend Colby Community College.

• Approved the newly proposed dress code for hospital employees.

• Discussed changing part-time health insurance benefits to 20 hours a week, rather than 24 hours.

• Considered that if a therapy pool is installed as part of a wellness center program, the hospital would not receive reimbursements from Medicare if the pool was opened up to the public.

Mr. Miller said that he has heard from several families, who would like to see a pool be part of the hospital, and might help.

• Heard that the staff is preparing the budget and putting together a capital outlay program.



# WELCOME

2004

# KQNK

FM 106.7  
AM 1530

# HI-PLAINS FARM AND HOME EXPO

Saturday, March 27 — 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
Sunday, March 28 — 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
**NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY ON NORTH HIGHWAY 283**

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- Nex-tech • Larry Brown Collectibles • Town and Country Improvements
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- B&C Creations • Hot Shots Photography • Norton Area Chamber of Commerce

**— Saturday Only Health Fair —**

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