

Tuesday
June 6, 2006

Norton, Kansas
Home of Gary Williams

Briefly

Library holding 'Fun Nights'

Seventh through twelfth graders are invited to Thursday Fun Nights, 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Norton Public Library. This Thursday will be Silly Supper night. Students are invited to come ready for fun and food.

Extra Telegram copies available

The Norton Telegram has extra copies of today's issue for sale at its office. The paper will be of special interest to participants in the 2006 Kansas State High School Activities Association Track/Field Championships at Wichita's Cessna Stadium.

"Often times subscribers ask for extra papers that contain special sections to send to family and friends elsewhere, or to include in family scrapbooks," said Tom Dreiling, publisher. "We are acting on your request today."

Report cards can be picked up

Norton Community High School and Junior High report cards are ready. Parents may pick them up at the school offices now through June 8. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.

Veterinarian will read at story hour

Dr. Sarah White, DVM, will read to children during Thursday's 10:30 a.m. Story Hour at Norton Public Library. At 2:30 p.m., Trooper Goheen will bring his K-9 dog to the library. Everyone is invited to attend.

Weather

Forecast:

Tonight — Mostly clear with lows in the lower 60s. **Wednesday** — Mostly sunny and breezy with highs in the mid 90s. South winds around 10 mph increasing to southeast 15 to 25 mph in the afternoon. **Wednesday Night** — Partly cloudy with lows in the mid 60s. **Thursday** — Mostly sunny in the morning then becoming partly cloudy and breezy. Highs in the upper 90s.

Kingham report:

Friday Low 56, High 85
Saturday Low 57, High 89
Sunday Low 60, High 95
Monday Low 59, High 86
(Readings taken at the Fred and Carolyn Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

Thank you, Lord, for taking us up and for being our faithful heavenly Father.
Amen

Protesters code words: Don't go!



A group of protesters lined up in front of the Norton Theatre about half an hour before the 8 p.m. showing of The DaVinci Code Friday. Nine women and one man were part of the peaceful demonstration. They chanted and prayed together, holding signs that said "Jesus is the Son of God" and "I love Jesus." There were also signs showing the book the movie was based on. All who came to the theater continued in to see the movie of their choice with no interference from the protesters. Many people drove by—some laughed, some shook their heads and some even came to a stop to see what was happening. Shortly after the movie started, the group broke up and left.

— Telegram photos by Hypatia Day

Council looks at fixing sewer plant

By **VERONICA MONIER**

The Norton City Council is looking at all of its options where the sewer plant is concerned.

A special council meeting was held last Wednesday to decide whether or not the city was willing to accept a negotiated bid from BRB Contractors to build a new sewer plant. The original bid went over the city's budget and although negotiations brought the price tag down, it wasn't far enough to get it within budget.

Councilman Ron Briery said he didn't like the price BRB came down to in negotiations. He said with the exception of a few things, the sewer plant is in compliance.

"Why can't we just get into compliance with KDHE (Kansas Department of Health and Environment) instead of building a new plant," he asked.

City Administrator Rob Lawson said

that was an option.

"Getting into compliance will let you set back and take a deep breath," he said. "If you did that, then you would have a little more time and would have a little more room to move if you wanted to re-bid (the sewer plant project)."

He said the city could fix the major problems using the money from SRF, which was what was going to be used to build the new plant. He said health and environment could come out, inspect the plant and let the council know what was wrong and what needed to be done to fix it. But, he said, there will probably be a lot of safety issues that will need to be fixed, since the plant is 42 years old.

"I think if you get them (KDHE) out here, you won't make a decision you'll regret in five or six years because you're under pressure now," he said. "In my opinion, that would be best."

Mr. Briery said if they decided to fix the plant, rather than build a new one, the rates might be able to be dropped a little, while still being able to save for improvements.

"It might not be back to where they were, but it would be something," he said. "If the council started saving 20 or 40 years ago, we might not be in the situation we're in now."

Councilwoman Elaine Mann said she was for finding out what the problems were and what it would take to fix them.

Councilman Jerry Jones pointed out that if the council accepted the bid, they would be going over budget and would probably have to raise the rates again to pay for it.

Reed Miller with Miller and Associates, the city's engineering firm, said he thought the council might be on the right track. He said they had several options.

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August primary has June 12 filing deadline

By **VERONICA MONIER**

Potential candidates who want to be on the Aug. 1 primary ballot need to file for office by noon on Monday, June 12.

Those running for local office need to file at the Norton County Courthouse, while state and national candidates need to file with the Secretary of State's office.

At the local level, up for election is the county commission seat for district one.

Also up are the Republican committee men and women and all township trustees and treasurers.

Statewide, offices up for election are governor/lieutenant governor, secretary of state, attorney general, state treasurer, commissioner of insurance, all 125 state representatives, state board of education, two Kansas Supreme Court justices, nine Court of Appeals judges, district court judges and district magistrate judges.

Nationally, all four U.S. representatives are up for election.

Richard Thompson, who lives in the Almena area, is the only one who has filed for the open commission seat. Incumbent Dean Kruse chose not to run again.

For the Republican committee men and women, Joe Ballinger filed for Ward I, Bernice Becker filed for Ward I, J.C. Berry filed for Ward II, Ruth Lofgreen filed for Ward II, Steven Berry filed for Highland I, Joni K. Berry filed for Highland I, and Rebecca Wetter filed for Highland III.

No one has filed for the township positions yet.

In the U.S. House of Representatives, incumbent Jerry Moran, Hays, has filed for the Republican party, while newcomer John Doll, Garden City, filed on the Democratic ticket.

At the state level in the race for governor and lieutenant governor, Kathleen Sebelius, Topeka, and Mark Parkinson have filed for the Democratic party. Republicans who have filed for governor are

Dennis Hawver, Ozawkie, and Bret D. Landrith; William J. LaFalce, Edgerton, and Roger C. Huggins, III; and Richard "Rode" Rodewald, Eudora, and Helen D. Kanzig.

Kay O'Connor, Olathe, filed on the Republican ticket for secretary of state.

Incumbent Lynn Jenkins, Topeka, is re-running for state treasurer as a Republican.

Filing for commissioner of insurance are Bonnie Sharp, Kansas City, Democrat; Eric Carter, Overland Park, Republican; and incumbent Sandy Praeger, Lawrence, Republican.

Incumbent John Faber, Brewster, Republican, is the only person who had filed for the state House of Representatives seat for the 120th District.

Incumbent Debra S. Anderson, Norton, has filed for the district magistrate judge position in Norton County.

Independent nominations need to file by noon on Monday, July 31.

Sebelius lake claims life of 18-year-old

By **VERONICA MONIER**

A young Almena man drowned while swimming at Sebelius Reservoir Saturday afternoon.

Josey Shearer, 18, was swimming with a group of friends on the south side of the reservoir when he went under the water, said Norton County Sheriff Troy Thomson.



Josey Shearer

Nearby campers heard several people calling out for help, he said, and so dove into the water to look for Shearer. They were unable to find him.

The sheriff's department was called at 3:49 p.m. They called in the Plainville Rescue Diving Squad, which found the body at 7:24 p.m.

"Thanks to everyone who assisted in the rescue efforts and recovery of this unfortunate accident," said Sheriff Thomson.

Agencies responding to the scene were the Department of Wildlife and Parks, Prairie Dog State Park rangers, Norton County Emergency Medical Services, Norton Rural Fire Department, Dr. Jeff McKinley, Norton County Road Department, and the Plainville Rescue Squad divers.

See Mr. Shearer's obituary on Page 2.