

# Church:

Take advantage of the church listings to find out when and where to go.

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75 cents

# THE NORTON TELEGRAM



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Friday  
July 7, 2006

Norton, Kansas  
Home of Lloyd Zierlein

## Briefly

### 'Fiesta' to begin at church here

Vacation Bible School at the Norton First United Methodist Church starts Monday. The theme this year is "Fiesta". It is open to children three years old through sixth grade and will be held through July 14 at the church, 805 W. Wilberforce, from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m..

Children are asked to bring a light-colored, plain T-shirt for a craft project. It is free and snacks will be served. For more information call 877-2196.

### Norton Car Show starts this evening

The Norton Car Show begins tonight with registration from 7 to 9 p.m. at Water Tower Park. Saturday registration moves to the courthouse square from 8 to 11 a.m.; Show and Shine from 9 to 2 p.m.; Road Rally from noon to 3:30 p.m.; Drag Races, 3 to 5 p.m. at Norton City/County Airport. For more information call Chriss McDiffett, 785-877-2216.

### Hospital looking for meals help

Here is another opportunity for those who see volunteerism as a worthwhile way to serve the community.

The Norton County Hospital needs volunteers to deliver Meals on Wheels July 10-16.

If you can help, please call the hospital at 785-877-3351.

## Weather

### Forecast:

**Tonight** — Partly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of thunderstorms. Lows in the mid 60s.

**Saturday** — Partly cloudy. A 40 percent chance of thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs in the lower 90s.

**Saturday night** — A 40 percent chance of thunderstorms. Lows in the mid 60s.

**Sunday** — Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 90s.

**Sunday night** — Lows in the mid 60s.

**Monday** — Highs around 90. Lows in the mid 60s.

### Kingham report:

Wednesday ..... Low 64, High 84  
Thursday ..... Low 59, High 87

Year ago today, high 93, low 68  
(Readings taken at the Fred and Karolyn Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

## Prayer

Lord, please remove all that stands in the way of our serving you and praising your name. Amen

## From trailer...to mouth



Rich Risewick (left), owner of Jamboree Foods and Boomer Hickman, an employee, unloaded watermelons at the Fourth of July celebration at Sebelius Reservoir. Taking a big bite of his melon was Seth Henrickson. — Telegram photos by Carolyn Plotts

## Area businesses win state honors

By TOM DREILING

Several local and area businesses were among those recognized recently by the Kansas Department of Commerce at its annual *Kansas Business Month* awards program. They were cited for their contributions to their communities, as well as the state's economy.

The department's Northwest Regional awards ceremony was held at Phillipsburg. All total, businesses in seven regionals were singled out during the month of June.

At each of the seven locations, one company in each of four categories, received a Regional Achievement Award and the rest received a Merit Award.

The categories are distribution, manufacturing, retail and service.

Among winners, all Merit Awards, were:

- **Manufacturing:**
- New Age Industries, Inc., Norton.
- Otter Inc., Clayton
- **Service:**
- Valley Hope Association, Norton.

- Kiser Ag Service, LLC, Logan.

### Retail:

- Almena Market, Almena.

There were no nominees in the distribution category in the Northwest Regional.

The Regional Achievement Award winners were: Manufacturing, The Hays Daily News; Service, Nex-Tech Inc., Hays; and Retail, Gibson Health Mart, WaKeeney.

Other Regional Merit Award winners from *The Telegram's* coverage area in-

clude:

**Manufacturing** — C&D Enterprises, a division of South Ridge Builders Inc., Quinter; Denning Machine Shop, Inc., WaKeeney.

**Service** — Brooke Corp., Phillipsburg; Trego County-Lemke Memorial Hospital, WaKeeney.

**Retail** — WaKeeney Food Center.

The Kansas Department of Commerce was represented at the Phillipsburg awards program by its Deputy Secretary Steve Kelly.

## Right on target



Norton head coach Cameron Archer checked Dustyna Sprigg's target as she pulled the trigger during the International BB Gun Match Championships. Story details on page eight. - Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

## Revised plans approved

By CAROLYN PLOTTS

The question Norton City Council has had to deal with was: "How can we reduce the cost for a waste-water treatment facility from \$5.4 million to \$3.65 million?"

That question was answered Wednesday night during the council meeting when BRB Construction presented design changes to the council. After much discussion, the council approved the revisions and decided to proceed with the new plan.

Even though radical changes had to be made to the original plan, the contractor said the budget could be met without lowering the quality or functionality of the facility.

The council was guaranteed a price tag of \$3.658 million with a \$250,000 contingency built in to the cost. If the project can be brought-in at or under cost, it would result in a refund to the city.

Richard Hahn, water/waste-water supervisor, said he had visited two water treatment plants in Kansas that BRB Construction had constructed. He said, "I've seen these plants, talked to the operators

and they are good plants."

Other selling points for the new design included compact, automated and easy to operate.

Council members were told the existing plant is operating under a consent order from Kansas Department of Health and Environment and that the new plant would meet the department's standards.

Dirt work is expected to begin by August 1.

In other business, the council:

- Learned fair rides are being put up and more lights are being installed at the race track.

- Heard discussion about making the downtown sidewalk corners handicapped accessible. The council is asking for public input regarding cutting down the trees and moving the memorial plaques to a different location.

- Accepted the resignation of Terry Stevenson as waste water plant operator. The council approved the city administrator to review applications already on file.

- Approved fees for bench warrants and traffic fine increases.

## Hospital board gives budget green light

By VERONICA MONIER

The Norton County Hospital board has set the hospital's budget for the next fiscal year.

Hospital Administrator Rich Miller said they used the same statistics, such as patient days, Doctor's Clinic visits and in- and out-patient procedures, as they did last year.

For 2007, they are estimating total revenue at \$9,304,000. Contractual adjustments are estimated at \$2 million and operational expenses at \$7.76 million.

He said for other income, they estimated \$380,000, which includes a four mill county tax appropriation. Right now,

the hospital is receiving two mills from the county.

For the bottom line, they are estimating a \$23,000 net income.

The board approved the budget as presented.

In other business, the board:

- Approved the risk management and quality improvement reports presented by Lynn Thiele, the risk management quality improvement coordinator.
- Re-appointed board member Von Fahrenbruch as the board's representative to the risk management committee.
- Heard that for the month of May, the hospital had 351 patient days, 68 admis-

sions, 6 births, 25 surgeries, 1,383 Doctor's Clinic visits, and 3,838 out-patient procedures.

- Approved the proposal to have Baird, Kurtz and Dobson complete an audit and Medicare cost report.

- Approved medical staff applications as courtesy staff for Dr. James Werner and Dr. Troy Derby, both in radiology.

- Reviewed architect and design plans for the lower level cardiac rehab and physical therapy area, upper level surgery area, and Colby Community College practical nursing program area. The new designs are in the development stages.
- Reviewed patient surveys for the hos-

pital and clinic.

- Discussed physician recruitment. Mr. Miller said Dr. Brandon Johnke, who is with Docs Who Care, will be working in the clinic and at the hospital covering the emergency room while the hospital looks for a permanent replacement for Dr. Roy Hartley, who is retiring.

- Learned the laboratory department received its COLA certification. During the review to be accredited, the lab had zero deficiencies.

- Held a 60-minute closed session to discuss non-elected personnel. No action was taken when the meeting returned to