

Church:

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THE NORTON TELEGRAM



Friday

October 27, 2006

Norton, Kansas
Home of Karla Reed

Briefly

Pancake supper to be Saturday

The Almena Community PRIDE Committee is sponsoring a pancake and sausage supper from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., Saturday at the Almena Community Center. Proceeds, by donation, will go to purchase additional seasonal banners for Main Street in Almena.

Pumpkin contest for kids planned

Kids get ready — the third annual pumpkin decorating contest is gearing up for another go. Kids ages 5 to 12 need to drop off their decorated pumpkins at Twice Sold Treasures, 105 S. State St., in downtown Norton by 5 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 28, to be eligible for prizes. Winners will be announced Monday, Oct. 30. For more information, call Mary at 877-5362.

Arts, crafts fair set for Nov. 11

The Norton County Arts Council, Inc., will hold their annual Arts and Crafts Fair, Saturday, Nov. 11. This is their one and only fundraiser and one of their main sources of income to finance the council's season. This event was previously held in conjunction with opening day of pheasant season, but because of scheduling problems with the vendors, it was decided to continue holding the craft fair on the second Saturday of November. More information will be available closer to the event.

Safari slide show to be Saturday

Dr. Mark Klein will present a digital slide show of his recent African safari at 8 p.m., Saturday at the Prairie Dog Golf Course. Everyone is invited to attend.

Weather

Forecast:

Tonight — Partly cloudy with lows in the mid 30s. Northwest winds around 10 mph. **Saturday** — Partly cloudy in the morning then clearing with highs in the lower 70s. **Saturday Night** — Mostly clear with lows in the mid 30s. **Sunday** — Mostly sunny with highs in the mid 70s. **Sunday Night** — Mostly clear with lows around 40. **Monday and Monday Night** — Partly cloudy and cooler with highs in the lower 60s.

Kingham report:

Tuesday Low 31, High 62
Wednesday Low 32, High 56
Thursday Low 42, High 46, 2.25 Prec.
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

Loving God, thank you for your presence within us, especially during times when we truly need the peace that only you can provide. **Amen**

Politics ahoy!



Congressman Jerry Moran signed the cast of Norton high school senior Brett Wyatt who broke his arm while tumbling. The congressman visited Brett's government class last Friday.

— Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

Government class gets a visit from congressman

By CAROLYN PLOTTS

Last Friday, Bill Johnson's fifth hour Government class had a special visitor. Congressman Jerry Moran spoke to the class and answered questions like, "What inspired you to go into public service," and "What do you think about graduated income tax?"

Mr. Moran, who is campaigning for reelection from the big First District, told the class that his inspiration to get involved in politics was a former Norton politician, the late Keith Sebelius. He said he met Congressman Sebelius and interned for him during his junior year in college. Congressman Moran told the students

the top five issues of concern to Kansans today are agriculture, healthcare, business, technology and education. He also said the decisions being made today are ones the students are going to have to live with as adults. In regards to partisan politics, the congressman said, "We ought to be working together. There's no particular

science to government — just do your job." Mr. Johnson explained that the students have been studying about voting. He also said that a large percentage of the senior class are registered to vote. Mr. Moran said part of his purpose for visiting high schools was to encourage young people to get involved.

Independent voters outnumber registered Democrats in county

By TOM DREILING

Independent voters registered for the Nov. 7 election in Norton County outnumber registered Democrats. And if you total those numbers, they still fall far short of the number of registered Republican voters, according to information received Thursday from the county clerk's office, which also serves as the county election office.

Here's the breakdown:
• Registered Democrats, 641
• Registered Independents, 789
• Registered Republicans, 2,308
• Registered Libertarians, 9
Total number of registered voters: 3,747

Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the following locations in Norton County:

Almena City and Township, Almena City Hall; Center Precinct No. 1, courthouse lobby; Center Precinct No. 2, courthouse lobby; Harrison, Almena City Hall; Highland Precinct No. 1, Lenora City Hall; All of Modell, Lenora City Hall; Highland Precinct No. 2, American Legion Building; Highland Precinct No. 3, courthouse lobby; Solomon Precinct No. 1, American Legion Building; Old Belle Plain, courthouse lobby; Solomon Precinct No. 2, American Legion Building; Norton City — Ward One, Ward Two, (Continued on Page 5)

Barnett moves ahead of Sebelius

By TOM DREILING

Five more votes were received in *The Telegram's* straw poll with Gov. Kathleen Sebelius receiving 3 and Republican Jim Barnett. 2. Mr. Barnett continues to hold the lead, at 47-45.

A total of 93 votes have been mailed, telephoned, e-mailed or dropped off at the office since the straw poll started in late September.

One respondent decided not to vote for either one, but was counted for taking part in the poll.

The poll concludes Oct. 31. To take part, simply e-mail tom@nwkansas.com, call 877-6908 or 877-3361, mail to 215 S. Kansas Ave.,

Norton 67654 or drop by the office. You may attach a comment if you wish, but it is not required.

The latest comments include: "I'm a party animal. My party has the biggest animal of them all — the elephant. Chalk up another one for Jim Barnett."

"Absolutely for Gov. Sebelius, even though I am a lifelong registered Republican. She is bright, experienced and most important to me not an 'ideologue.' She is not working for the conservatives or the liberals, the Republicans or the Democrats. She is working for Kansas. I think she is probably the best governor we have had for a long time, so let's keep her for another year!"

Candidate wants people's voice heard

By VERONICA MONIER

Richard Thompson wants to be the bridge between the people in District 1 and the Norton County Commission.

Mr. Thompson, who is running for the District 1 seat currently held by Dean Kruse, said several people have asked him to run for office.

"I don't have any special agenda," he said. "But, I thought I would get on the board so the people in this area (District 1) can voice any concerns they have."

This is the first time Mr. Thompson has run for office, but, he said, he has been and is still on several boards. He is or has served on the Farm Bureau board, the Extension Council, the Almena Congregational Church board, the Almena Cemetery board, the Almena State Bank board, and the Soil Conservation board.

Although he said he doesn't have any specific things he wants to change (Continued on Page 5)



Thompson

Efficiency is key to Norton woman's goals

By CAROLYN PLOTTS

Reva Benien is a Norton County native and wants to be County Commissioner from District I. Dean Kruse, who represents District I, has decided not to run for office again.

This is her first attempt into the political arena. She said, "It's a way to represent the residents of Norton County. My goal is to promote an efficient county government."

Ms. Benien said she looks at the whole picture. She said, "It does us no good if we focus on only one aspect and let the rest go by the wayside."

She said that economic development is important to Norton County. She said the county has a lot of advantages with the businesses already here. She wants to bring people to north-west Kansas and specifically, Norton. She said, "We all need to be promoters of Norton County. It's not just the job of elected officials."

Ms. Benien said the importance of (Continued on Page 5)



Benien