

THE NORTON TELEGRAM



WEBSITE: nwkansas.com

10 PAGES

Friday

September 12, 2008

Norton, Kansas
Home of Jim Underwood

Briefly

Sen. McCain takes big jump in poll

By TOM DREILING
tom.d@nwkansas.com

Sen. John McCain continues to build his lead over Sen. Barack Obama in The Telegram's presidential poll. As of Thursday, McCain has pulled in 52 votes vs. 38 for Obama.

Although that figure totals 90 as the number of participants in the poll to date, the actual number is 92, as Texas Republican Congressman Ron Paul received 1 vote for president, and Gov. Sarah Palin, McCain's running mate, also received 1 vote for president.

Here is the tracking since Sept. 8:
• Sept. 9 — McCain 4, Obama 3
• Sept. 10 — McCain 8, Obama 4
• Sept. 11 — McCain 1, Obama 1
There is still time to 'vote' for your favorite. It's an easy thing to do, just turn to page 4 where a Poll Box appears with the details for participating. The poll will continue for a few more weeks.

Cancer survivors to hear oncologist

The Norton Cancer Survivors' Group will host Dr. George Bascom of Kearney, Neb., at its next meeting, Tuesday, Sept. 16 at 7 p.m. at the Norton County Hospital. The meeting will be held in the new conference room in the basement of the hospital (the old physical therapy area). It is suggested that people attending the meeting park in the south parking lot and enter by the (lower) west door. Dr Bascom is an oncologist who comes to Norton once a month to see patients from Norton and the surrounding area. He will make a presentation to the group and there will be time for questions and answers afterwards.

All area persons who have an interest in the care of cancer patients are invited to hear Dr. Bascom's presentation. A special invitation is extended to all past and present patients of Dr. Bascom. All area cancer patients are invited to attend any of the meetings of the Survivors' Group.

If there are any questions, please feel free to call Bob and Rita Speer, 785-877-5205 or Jane Kersenbrock, 785-877-3445.

Weather

Forecast:

Tonight — A 30 percent chance of showers, mainly before 1 a.m. Cloudy with a low around 5. North wind between 5 and 10 mph. **Saturday** — Cloudy, then gradually becoming mostly sunny with a high near 80. **Saturday Night** — Partly cloudy with a low around 53. **Sunday** — Sunny with a high near 70.

Kingham report:

Sept. 9 Low 44, High 69
Sept. 10 Low 55, High 79
Sept. 11 Low 62, High 73
Sept. 12 Low 57, .80 Prec.
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

Loving God, give us wisdom to know how to share our faith with those with whom we spend our time - at work or at play. **Amen**



Joan Bolt, Eisenhower Elementary's physical education teacher and tooth fairy, checked a loose tooth for Mason Urban Thursday afternoon. Mrs.

Bolt seems to have the magic (and painless) touch.

— Telegram Photo by Brandy Leroux

ouch! Not

By BRANDY LEROUX
bleroux@nwkansas.com

Almost anyone you talk to can tell you a story about their parents tying one end of a string to their tooth and the other end around a doorknob, or their father pulling a pair of pliers out of his back pocket while saying, "This won't hurt a bit...."

And almost every parent can tell you that trying to pull out a child's loose tooth can be like.....well, pulling teeth!

Norton has its own special "Tooth Fairy." She doesn't leave money, but she has found a painless way to pull those little biters.

Joan Bolt, the Eisenhower Elementary School physical education teacher, has been teaching for about 21 years, and has been pulling teeth for students for about 15 years.

"I've had parents of students come to me and tell me they remember me pulling their teeth," she said.

There are rules, though. First and foremost, the child has to ask Mrs. Bolt

to pull the tooth.

"It helps them feel like they are in control of the situation, and it also helps them to build trust in adults," said Mrs. Bolt. "It's a great feeling, knowing the kids trust me so much, that they have that much faith in me."

The second rule is the tooth has to be very loose, for obvious reasons.

"I'll test it to see how loose it is, and if it isn't ready to come out, I tell the student he has to wait for a little bit longer.

"I've had a span of two weeks between the time the student asked for the tooth to be pulled, and the time it was ready to be pulled," she said.

Another rule is the student has to keep his mouth open, and cannot bite.

"It's happened once or twice, but with them concentrating on keeping their mouth open, their mind isn't on their tooth being pulled," said Mrs. Bolt.

The last rule is she will only pull baby teeth.

Part of what makes it a "virtually painless" process is the students take a deep breath in while making sure their mouth

stays open. While they're taking a deep breath in, the tooth is pulled.

"They usually don't feel a thing," Mrs. Bolt said. "It's fun for me when the kids get their first tooth pulled. They get so excited."

Last year, Mrs. Bolt tried to keep track of how many teeth she pulled. Her best guess is she pulled about 100 teeth last year.

"Sometimes it's none in a week, sometimes it's 3 or 4 a day. I'm averaging about 3 a week so far this year," she said.

About four summers ago, Mrs. Bolt got a phone call at home. A family was on their way home from a vacation, and their son had a loose tooth. He wouldn't let his parents touch it, and insisted that only Mrs. Bolt could do it.

"They asked me if they could stop by my house as soon as they got into town so I could pull it. It wasn't the only time I've been called at home, but it is the only time it's happened during the summer break," she said.

The first graders and second graders make up the bulk of students who ask to

have their teeth pulled, though she has had students from all grades ask.

"I had an older student come up to me and tell me that I have pulled six of her teeth," said Mrs. Bolt.

And yes, she's had kids ask her to pull their teeth just so they could get money from the tooth fairy.

"When I first started, I think kids were getting about a quarter for each tooth. Now it's closer to fifty cents to a dollar. The highest has been five dollars," she said.

The students will seek out Mrs. Bolt before school, during lunch or recess and even after school to have her pull their teeth, or to show her that they've pulled it themselves.

"If they pull their own loose tooth out, I will really compliment them and tell them how brave they are."

Mrs. Bolt wants parents to know that she's very conscientious about cleaning her hands. "I always use the hand sanitizers before and after I touch any tooth," she said.

Next?

Logan celebration attracts 1500 people

By DICK BOYD

nortontelegram@nwkansas.com

An estimated 1,500 people from a wide area attended the morning and afternoon festivities, evening musical entertainment and gigantic fireworks display during the 32nd annual Labor Day Celebration on the golf course in Logan on Sunday, Aug. 31.

"It was windy but the beautiful weather made for an enjoyable day," said Shirley Hendrickson, director of the Dane G. Hansen Museum, sponsor of the event.

One of the highlights was the afternoon performance of the Prairie Duster Drill Team. A local women's drill team on horseback formed in 1985, they attracted a large crowd of all ages who enjoyed their precision maneuvers and were allowed to pet the horses and talk to their riders following the performance.

The Prairie Dusters opening drill was a tribute to the American flag. "Our flag says to each man and woman that we have a right to be free," the announcer told the crowd. Then, as the riders closed formation, everyone sang the "Star Spangled Banner".

"Their demonstration on horseback thrilled the audience of all ages," said

Hendrickson.

The Prairie Dusters are the official color guard for Kansas' Biggest Rodeo in Phillipsburg, but they also have traveled many miles to do what they love to do, fly the American flag from the back of a horse.

They have been to Cheyenne, Wyo., five times to the "Daddy of Em All" Rodeo and parade where they have received the Most Outstanding Riding Group Award four times.

They have also performed at the Cowboy Symposium and All American Futurity at Ruidoso, New Mexico. In addition to the Phillipsburg Rodeo, they also performed this year at rodeos in Plainville, Manhattan and Hill City, at the Chassidy Breese Memorial Barrel Race in Logan, Alton's summer festival and rode in the Fourth of July parade in Alma, Neb.

When they are not performing somewhere, they are practicing. Many hours are spent in the practice pen perfecting the precision drill that they perform. Each rider is responsible for her own horse and the equipment they use. Throughout the year, they have fund raisers to help defray some of their expenses.

Members of the team who performed

Sunday in Logan were: Doris Mulder, Jennie Archer, Kadie Hays, Allyson Pakkebie, Dawn Archer, Whitney Shaw,

Jessica Eshbaugh, Nikki Brobst, Kati Bliss and Mary Ann Schremmer. Other

(Continued on Page 5)



Dalton Skinner, Phillipsburg, gave it his all in winning the championship of the 10-year-old division in the Kids Pedal Pull at the Logan Labor Day Celebration.

— Telegram Photo by Dick Boyd