

# THE NORTON TELEGRAM

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10 PAGES



## Friday

March 20, 2009

Norton, Kansas  
Home of Loyal Mapes

### Briefly

#### 'B' tag renewal deadline March 31

March 31 is the last day to renew vehicle tags if your last name begins with "B" or your business name begins with "B". Remember to bring proof of insurance on each vehicle. Vehicle business is done from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily at the office of the Norton County Treasurer in the courthouse.

Driver's license renewals can also be processed Tuesday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Remember to bring along your social security card or something that has your social security number on it for verification. Instructional permits and Driver Education restricted licenses can be processed in the office by appointment. You will need to bring a certified birth certificate, social security card and a utility bill with current address plus the driver license's of the parent that brings the child.

If you have questions, please call the office at (785) 877-5795. All commercial driver's license renewals need to be renewed at a full service station in Phillipsburg, Hays or Colby.

#### Landlords urged to attend meeting

Norton City/County Economic Development will hold a meeting with rental property owners to discuss ways to improve the rental situation. "A local rental owner in Norton suggested a meeting," said Diane Becker, director. "We'll discuss the overall challenges, how rental owners can best protect themselves, and look over ordinances that other cities use." The meeting is Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. in the Economic Development office, 113 N. Norton, Suite B.

### Weather

#### Forecast:

Tonight - A slight chance of thunderstorms after 1 a.m. Patchy fog after 1 a.m. Chance of precipitation is 20%. Saturday - A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1 p.m. Saturday Night - A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Sunday - A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before 10 a.m.

#### Kingham report:

Tues., March 17 ..... Low 36, High 71  
Wed., March 18 ..... Low 39, High 60  
Thurs., March 19 ..... Low 36, High 63  
.02 Rain  
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

### Prayer

Thank you, Lord, for writing your love on our hearts. May we reveal you to others in all we do and say today. Amen.

## Brakes put on wind energy push locally

By BRANDY LEROUX  
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Wind energy was a topic of discussion at Wednesday night's Norton City Council meeting. Councilwoman Elaine Mann said at the last Utilities Committee meeting, Diane Becker, Norton City/County Economic Development director, discussed wind energy within the city limits.

Mrs. Mann said the committee looked over Norton's city ordinances, and did not find anything that did not allow wind turbines within the city limits; however, Mrs. Mann said she did not feel having wind turbines in the city is in the best interests of Norton.

She asked City Attorney Karen Griffiths to draw up a sample ordinance for the committee to review. Mrs. Griffiths said there is no zoning for wind turbines now, and if zoning laws need to be changed, it has to go before the zoning commission.

Councilman Toby Kuhn said he thought the city of Hays had looked into having wind turbines within the city, but he wasn't sure what they had ultimately decided to do.

City Administrator Rob Lawson said there are a lot of legalities to be considered before having wind turbines in the city.

Mrs. Mann invited everyone to the next Utilities Committee meeting (the time and date have yet to be determined). She said the legalities of wind turbines in Norton need to be clarified before they become an issue. Mrs. Griffiths said she would gather ordinances from other cities and bring them to the committee meeting.

In other city council business:  
• Police Chief Pat Morel said Officer Larry Land's last day will be March 31. Mr. Land filled the open sheriff's deputy position. Mrs. Foley asked how long Mr. Land had been with the police department. Chief Morel said about two years.

• Mr. Lawson introduced Dan Sisk, the new lineman for the city. Mr. Lawson said Mr. Sisk was the best person for the job, and thought he would be a good fit.

• Mrs. Mann said at the Utilities Committee meeting, Miss Becker presented information on what incentives the city offers new businesses in Norton. Mrs. Mann said the Heaton building at 111, 112 and 113 South State Street, where The Sewing Box and K & S Center used

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## Football and baseball fields suffer damage

By BRANDY LEROUX  
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Northern Valley School District officials report damage to the football field and baseball fields at Alema on March 5.

No identification has yet been made, but whoever they were drove onto the fields in question, leaving three large circular "donuts" in the turf, covering about a quarter of the fields.

"Vandalism is not acceptable at any time," said George Griffith, superintendent of Northern Valley Schools and also high school principal. "Repairing the damage from these types of acts of disrespect is far more difficult in these tough financial times."

Mr. Griffith said he is not sure how much it will cost to repair the damage to the fields yet.

A reward of \$100 is being offered for information leading to the conviction of whoever is responsible for the damage.

"We hope to find the individuals responsible for doing damage to the Huskies' fields," said Mr. Griffith.

Norton County Sheriff Troy Thomson said, "At this point, we have received tips, and we are looking into them. We are interviewing persons of interest."

To report information, contact the Norton County Sheriff's office at 785-877-5780. The caller can remain anonymous, if they'd like.

## They look like the real thing



Brett Hildebrand spray painted plastic and paper snow geese Wednesday afternoon. Mr. Hildebrand said he will take them to South Dakota for snow goose season and use them as decoys.

- Telegram photo by Brandy Leroux

## Norton linked to Florida triathlon

By TOM DREILING  
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It's probably a good bet that few people in Norton are aware of a Triathlon, linking this community with Tallahassee, Fla.

But there is! There is because a graduate of Norton Community High School is deeply involved. And for personal reasons.

Called the Red Hills Triathlon, it is a project to raise awareness about ALS

(Lou Gehrig's disease,) and also to raise funds for further research in the name of Professor Steven Gey, a gentleman who has become like family to Megan Menagh, a 1999 graduate of Norton Community High School, according to friend Julia Breslin. The disease is claiming the life of the professor.

Despite Megan's schedule as an Orlando-based litigation attorney at the law firm Foley & Lardner, L.L.P., she has found the

time to participate in this triathlon for the past three years, Julia said.

"I am doing the Tri-for-Gey for the third year as a way to play a small part in Professor Gey's daily struggle against this horrible disease," Megan said. When she successfully crossed the finish line for the first time in April 2007, said friend Julia, Professor Gey was still well enough that she was able to drag him across the finish

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## Lots of food, fun at Andbe

By ROSE ANN MILLER  
*Special to The Telegram*

Nearly 90 people enjoyed the potluck supper and bingo party the Eagles Club sponsored at the Norton Andbe Home on Monday. This is an annual affair for that organization.

The prizes for the party were gathered by Eagles member Jeannie Johnson from Norton businesses and some individual Eagles members.

The generous gifts came from the End Zone, Nex-Tech, Moffet Drug, First State Bank, First Security Bank, Mystic Moonstone, Destination Kitchen, Cuts 4 You, Hall's Clothing, United Northwest Federal Credit Union, Dairy Queen, Engel's Sales and Service, Norton Theatre, Caryl Cullen, Wendy Reedy, Burton and Lois Schrum, Floyd and Barbara McKie, and Bill and Doris Nelson.

Mr. Nelson also ably served as the bingo caller.

Good food was enjoyed by all. Residents, families, friends, staff and the Eagles members filled their plates.

One resident said they hadn't found

anything on their plate they didn't like." Activity Director Crystal Richards and Social Service designee Rose Ann Miller

prepared for the event and enjoyed having fun with all who attended the event.



Doris Nelson presented Frances Mosier with one of the many gifts provided from local businesses and individuals during the Bingo Party and Potluck Supper Monday evening at the Andbe Home. The event was sponsored by the Eagles Club.

- Telegram photo by Vicki Henderson



Eagerly awaiting her chance for a winning number was Ethel Miller, a resident of the Andbe Home. She, and the other nearly 90 people on hand, enjoyed a potluck supper prior to playing bingo.

- Telegram photo by Vicki Henderson



Lois Hildebrand raised her hand to signal Bingo! during one of the many games played Monday evening at the Andbe Home. Volunteer Lois Schrum assisted.

- Telegram photo by Vicki Henderson