NORTON ELEGRA

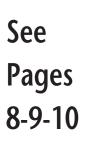


Friday

May 1, 2009

Norton, Kansas Home of Don Goscha

Briefly





Remember: 'Kids Day' is Saturday

A reminder was issued today of the Saturday 9th annual Outdoor Kansas for Kids Day at the Prairie Dog State Park. Events will start at 8:30 a.m. and end around 12:30 p.m. There is no charge. Lunch will be provided.

Butter Braid Bread pick up Tuesday

The Norton AYSO Soccer fund raiser Butter Braid Bread pick up will be Tuesday at 5 p.m. in the parking lot of Redeemer Lutheran Church (W. Highway 36). The organization also thanks all players for their fund raising efforts and congratulates the top sellers: First, Libbi Puga; second, Nicholas Mandl; and third, Breven Sondergaard. The organization also is in need of filling several board posts and urges residents to consider donating their time and talent. More information, call Julie Baugham at 877-2678 or Deena Wente 877-5235.

42-cent stamp to cost 44 cents effective May 11



Tonight - A 40 percent chance of rain. Saturday - A 30 percent chance of rain.



Saturday Night - A 30 percent chance of rain. Sunday - A 20 percent chance of showers. Sunday Night - Mostly cloudy with a low around 41. Monday - Mostly sunny with a high near 66. Monday Night - A 20 percent chance of showers.

Kingham report:

Tues., April 28Low 31, High 61 Wed., April 29 Low 53, High 78 Thurs., April 30Low 49, High 69

> (Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

> > Prayer

Lord, forgive us when we fail to trust you. Remind us that your good plans for our lives will come to pass, no matter what. Amen



March to 100th year underway

Editor's note: One of the greatest assets of our community, the Norton Public Library, has contributed immensely to the quality of life in Norton for nearly 100 years. In recognition of the upcoming 100th anniversary, a Birthday Celebration will be held at the Norton Public Library on June 11. The Norton Telegram is publishing a three part history of the library. Much of this information is taken from a history of the library compiled by the late Lydia Bishop.

Norton Public Library 1909 - 2009 Part 1

To set the stage, let's picture Norton in the year 1909. W.H. Taft had just been inaugurated as the 27th president of the United States. It was in 1909 that Admiral Robert E. Peary discovered the North Pole. The hit tune that year was, "By the Light of the Silvery Moon,"...a barbershop quartet favorite. That was the year of the cyclone in Norton. The well dressed Norton woman could purchase a suit at Browne's Store for \$10.

In February, 1909, a group of dedicated club women held a public meeting for the



Pictured is the Norton Auditorium where the library first opened in 1909. The library was located in the "west room" of the building, which is now the Norton Theatre. Norton will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the library on June 11.

- Photo courtesy the Norton County Historical Society

Crest, Women's Republican Club and tions. The lumber yards gave lumber for nicely furnished with one year's rent paid the WCTU were all active organizations in supporting the idea of a library

On Feb. 19, 1909, the City Federation of Study Clubs held a public meeting in the Christian Church. All persons interested in having a public library in Norton were urged to attend. Dr. Thomas, pastor of the Methodist Church, and Link Drummond, pastor of the Christian Church, were the guest speakers. Dr. Thomas spoke on "Books a Library Should Have" and Pastor Drummond spoke on "The Library Situation."

In May, 1909, Major Conway, editor of the Champion, wrote about the "Library Dream". Conway opposed the library as he wanted a Carnegie Library and knew that Andrew Carnegie was endowing many libraries.

thorough house-to-house canvass was made for memberships at \$1 each. The Women's Club each gave \$2. In all, the The Avon Club, New Century Club, Hill Courier published the entire list of dona- zines were ordered and the room was

shelving and 300 volumes of books were in advance.

was chosen to examine and approve all donated books.

"Norton will not survive materially unless we survive spiritually and we need the right kind of books to do that," was a quote from the book committee consisting of Mrs. Fred Hazelton, Mrs. Joe Ward, Mrs. Edna Guthrie, Mrs. Harry Lathrop and Mrs. Bruner.

In order to raise money for the library, it was decided to have various functions for entertainment. On May 7, 1909, Corena Moulton-Driscoll directed a home talent play, "Five Minutes from Broadway". There was a packed house and Maude the Library Association and served con-Ward was one of the stars.

Every effort was made to open the li-During the month of May, 1909, a brary by June 1, 1909. It was to be housed in the west room of the Auditorium. Three hundred books were ready for shelves, 100 new books were ordered and a trunk donations amounted to over \$500 from of 50 books arrived on June 3 from the purpose of organizing a library in Norton. about 200 contributors. The Norton State Traveling Library. The best maga-

On June 11 and 12, 1909, the formal On May 20, 1909, a book committee opening of the library was held. Everyone was invited to come and bring a book or a donation. In two days, over 200 books were received, most of them "high class"

There was a list of about 100 club women who offered to serve as librarians. Each month the president and secretary of the Library Association made out the list of those who were to work. Many of these names appear in the files of the Norton newspapers. Some of the first to serve as librarians were Mrs. W. R. Aldrich, Mrs. Phil Snyder and Mrs. Charles Kennedy.

Ida Walker was elected president of tinuously as a member of the board from the time it was established until April, 1959...a total of 50 years of community

The following quote is from the Norton Courier, June 17, 1909:

"The Norton Library is now open to the public, and the membership cards are now (Continued on Page 5)

Fire's aftermath





A garage fire and resulting explosion completely demolished a garage on property owned by Louis and Jana Keiswetter on East Lincoln Thursday late. Particulars were not available at press time and will appear in Tuesday's paper. A fireman on scene reportedly suffered burns to his hands and a van inside the garage was destroyed.

-Photos by Sherry Hickman

Adjustment necessary for city council

CYNTHIA HAYNES c.haynes@nwkansas.com

The Norton City Council held it's May 5 meeting in April so the city administrator and city attorney could attend and because a bid price on a new police car would expire before the regular meeting

The city had already purchased a new Dodge Charger for the police department and it is expected to be delivered in 30 days, councilman Jeff Otter said at the meeting Wednesday night. However, the city had budgeted for two new vehicles for the police this year and a bid for a second 2009 Dodge Charger with police package from Odessa Ford Chrysler, which handles state contracts for police vehicles, for \$20,660 expired on Thursday.

The council decided to go ahead and purchase the second vehicle since Mr. Otter said that the department's 2003 Crown Victoria has 118,000 miles on it and is

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Mayor makes appointment

By CYNTHIA HAYNES c.haynes@nwkansas.com

Norton Mayor David Corns appointed Roberta Ryan, a retired school teacher, to fill the unexpired city council term in Ward II left vacant when Elaine Mann did not file for re-election.

No one else filed for the seat and the top write-in vote getter, who received four, declined the position. At that point, City Clerk Darla Ellis said, state law requires that the mayor, with approval of council, appoint a replacement.

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