

THE NORTON TELEGRAM

WEBSITE: nwkansas.com

10 PAGES



Friday

June 26, 2009

Norton, Kansas

Home of Robert Winteroth

HOME RUNS!
FRIDAY, JUNE 26, 2009

featuring teams from . . .

- T-Ball
- Division I and II Softball
- Division I, II III Baseball
- American Legion
- 10 and Under Boys Traveling Team
- 12 and Under Boys Traveling Team
- K-18, 13 and 14 Boys Nebraska Traveling Team
- 14 and Up Girls Norton Thunder Traveling Team

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Play Ball Insert
in today's Telegram

Briefly

Racing Saturday

Racing returns to the Elmwood Park Speedway on Saturday. Pits open at 3 p.m., track iron out is at 4:00, hot laps at 5:00, grandstand opens at 5:30, Pit-drivers' meeting at 6:00, and racing action at 6:30. Additional information available by calling Jerry Bantam at (785) 877-5353.

Meals on Wheels

Trinity Lutheran Church ended their week of delivering Meals on Wheels on Thursday. Community Volunteers delivered today; 20th Century Federated Club will deliver Saturday and Sunday; and Norton Rotary Club will deliver June 29-July 5, contact Gloria Zwickle at 877-3666.

weather forecast



SUNNY

Tonight - A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Increasing clouds with a low around 68. Breezy with a south wind 20 to 25 mph decreasing to between 10 and 15 mph. Saturday — Mostly cloudy with a high near 89. Saturday Night — Partly cloudy with a low around 62. Sunday - Mostly sunny with a high near 88. Sunday — Mostly sunny with a high near 88.

Kingham report:

Tuesday, June 23 Low 65, High 96
40 Precip.
Wednesday, June 24... Low 64, High 101
Thursday, June 25 Low 65, High 97
Friday, June 26 Low 67, .30 Precip.
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

Dear heavenly Father, make us more aware of your surprises all around us.
Amen

Stop... and go!



Rafael Medina got out of his 18-wheeler to check on the resealing progress on U.S. 36 west of Norton this week. Lynn Withington was responsible for stopping traffic while U.S. 283 was also being resealed south of Norton. Pilot cars were used to take vehicles through the construction area.

- Telegram photos by Erica Bradley



Four lane U.S. 36 still goal

Members of the U.S. Highway 36 Association heard details of an economic-impact study being done by the Docking Institute at Fort Hays State University when they held their annual meeting in Atwood this month.

On Friday, June 12, directors and members from most of the 13 counties in Kansas along the highway held their annual meeting near Lake Atwood. The study marks the beginning of a push by the group to have the state consider widening the road to bring more traffic and business to the northern tier of Kansas counties.

Board member Bob Strevey said the group heard reports from the Kansas Department of Transportation about work on the highway that is coming up and what's been done in the last couple of years.

Most major projects along the road are finished, he said, including major rebuilding east of Norcatur into Norton, east of Atwood and either side of Mankato in Jewell County.

From Troy west to the Colorado line, the road has been brought up to modern standards and the surface mostly finished, said Steve Haynes of Oberlin, president of the group.

The group has hired the Docking Institute to do a study of the costs and benefits of widening the highway four lanes across the state. Present to report on the study were Dr. Gary Brinker, director of the institute, and Dr. Preston Gilson of Lebanon, Mo., who did a similar study of U.S. 50 a few years ago.

"As the four-lane highway is completed across Missouri," said Mr. Strevey, "pressures are growing to extend the four lanes across Kansas. We were reminded that in the larger picture, with a rapidly growing population in Colorado, the need for more highway is sure to grow."

U.S. 36 is an Interstate highway (I-72) from Springfield, Ill., to Hannibal, Mo., said Mr. Haynes, and Missouri expects to complete widening its part of the route to four lanes next year. In Kansas, however, only the first eight miles to Wathena have been widened, though the next 15, to the K-7 junction near Troy, are close to saturation.

"We want to know how people along U.S. 36 would benefit from more traffic," said Mr. Haynes. "It seems to make sense to provide a bypass around Kansas City and Omaha, rather than trying to

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Loan program's benefits explained

By ERICA BRADLEY
ebradley@nwkansas.com

Almost every business in Norton County would benefit from a new loan program designed to help established businesses get back on their feet during the current recession.

The America's Recovery Capital loans are for up to \$35,000. They are interest-free to the borrower, 100 percent guaranteed through the Small Business Administration, they have no Small Business Administration fees attached,

and payments are deferred for 12 months after the final disbursement.

Norton City/County Economic Director Diane Becker said she has been in touch with some businesses in Norton who are not having significant hardship now, but she said there are probably businesses that could benefit from the loan.

"It's a good program to get you through the hump until the economy recovers," Ms. Becker said.

She said the loans are only available to viable businesses who are suffering from

immediate financial hardship.

According to the Small Business Administration web site, a viable business is an established, for-profit business with an evidence of profitability for the past two years. The borrower cannot be more than 60 days past due on any loan being paid with the America's Recovery Capital loan.

The Small Business Administration said immediate financial hardship is

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Norcatur kids reminded of busing needs

The Norton School District reminds parents of children who live in Norcatur, and who will be attending the Norton schools in the 2009-10 school year, that out of district transportation busing applications are due in the Oberlin School District office by July 15.

Current statutes allow the Norton buses to enter Norcatur to pick up students providing the student's application has been filed with the Oberlin School District, according to a press notice from the Norton School District.

The notice continues:

"All students are required to renew applications on an annual basis. Applications may be picked up at either school district office, however, they must be filed in the Oberlin office. All applications should be filed on or before July 15."

Easy does it



Billie Pierce drew blood from Kay Hawks during the blood drive on Wednesday. Mrs. Hawks said she likes to give blood because it makes her feel like she is helping someone. The blood drive had donors coming in throughout the day. It was sponsored by the Red Cross.

- Telegram photo by Erica Bradley