

\$1 THE NORTON TELEGRAM

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10 PAGES



Friday

July 10, 2009

Norton, Kansas
Home of Gordon Fought

Briefly

Military ID card service scheduled

Military retirees and dependents won't have to travel to obtain an updated identification card. The service will be offered at the Norton National Guard Armory, 1200 North State Street, on July 21-22-23.

Retirees and their dependents from all branches of the service are welcome. Call (785) 877-5103 to schedule an appointment or for additional information.

Meals on Wheels drivers lined up

Here is the Meals on Wheels schedule for the next two weeks: July 13-19 — (1) Midwest Energy, contact Curt Luehrs 877-5487; (2) Norton Farm Service Agency office, contact Nancy Hager 877-5156; (3) Norton County Hospital, contact Alice Hawks 877-3351. July 20-26 — American Legion Auxiliary, contact Marcia Wiltfong 877 2459.

National Anthem,
Gov. Palin,
Michael Jackson
on today's
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weather forecast

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Kingham report:

Friday Low 34, High 49, .65 Precip.
Saturday Low 24, High 64
Sunday Low 37, High 75
Monday Low 45, High 79
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

Lord, help us to love those we find hard to love. May we work together to spread your love all over the world. Amen.

Honors mount for Norton native

By TOM DREILING
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In 2008, Don Fought, a 1965 graduate of Norton Community High School, received the *National Teacher of the Year Award* from Time Warner Cable.

In 2007, he received the *American Star of Teaching North Carolina Award* from the U.S. Department of Education.

Now, in 2009, Mr. Fought — the son of Gordon and Creta Mae Fought of Norton — received the *Harris Teeter Together in Education Teachers of Excellence Award*. Harris Teeter, Mr. Fought said, is a chain of supermarkets based in



Don Fought

North Carolina that operates 184 stores in eight eastern/southeastern states. The chain is the 93rd largest retailer in the U.S., and through its *Together in Education* program, has awarded funding of more than \$1.3 million to schools in these eight states.

Mr. Fought has a brother Jim Fought and he and his family live in Park City, Utah.

Mr. Fought was born in Norton County Hospital in 1947. He was a student at Norton Community High School from 1961-1965, Fort Hays State University from 1965-1969, the University of Missouri, MBA, 1972, and Salem College, 2004, Masters in Education.

He was in the U.S. Army 1969-1971, RJReynolds/Sara Lee Corporation 1972-2001, and Southeast Middle School, Kernersville, NC. from 2001 to present.

"The community of Norton did a lot to form the values that I still maintain today," he said, mentioning "strong work ethic, friendship, trust in your fellow person, honesty, give as much or more than you take."

He said he remembers fondly his years at the Norton schools; primary, junior high and high school.

"I have fond memories of typing class, geometry, vocational agriculture field trips, athletics...all these experiences blended to form the basis of goals and experiences I have had throughout my life," he said.

At Southeast Middle School — grades 6th, 7th and 8th — Mr. Fought teaches Language Arts and Social Studies. Just completing his eighth year of teaching, he also coaches 7th grade girls basketball, sponsors the school paper and runs

a school-to-school cultural exchange program with middle schools in Romania and Scotland with his classes.

The Harris Teeter *Together in Education Teachers of Excellence Award*, provides public recognition and a financial award to 10 teachers who are furthering excellence in education. Mr. Fought received \$1,000, as did his school.

Fought, in an interview with Ryan Gay, staff reporter for the Kernersville News, said he is going to use the money to further the TV News and Journalism clubs at the school. "I plan on purchasing a new video camera and new digital cameras among other things for the program," he told reporter Gay.

He said the money that goes to the school will be put into the general tech-

(Fought - Continued on Page 5)



Quillen Wright and driving instructor Kevin Jilka prepared to head out on the road. Quillen has been driving nine times since she started the class this summer. Students are also required to pass the classroom portion

of the student driving program underway at Norton Community High School.

—Telegram photo by Erica Bradley

Class: 'Hands on the wheel, eyes on the road'

By Erica Bradley
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The Norton Community High School summer session of driver's education has commenced with an estimated 55 students behind the wheel at any given time..

Kevin Jilka and Doug Reusink are the instructors. Mr. Jilka teaches the classroom portion and some driving, and Mr. Reusink's focus is on driving.

Mr. Jilka said there are two sessions each summer, lasting three weeks each. He said the classroom portion is rigor-

ous with 19 tests during that time. "It goes very quickly. They have to work hard to pass the class. We cover a lot," Mr. Jilka said.

He said the tests are 25 multiple choice questions covering everything from basic driving to emergency situations.

Mr. Jilka said students are required to pass 17 of the tests with an 80 percent average and two with a 90 percent average to pass.

"I think it aides in preparing them. It allows us to talk about situations they may encounter," he said.

Mr. Jilka stressed that driver's education could not prepare students for every situation they could encounter, but it gives them the information they need to know how to react when they are on the road.

Students complete the classroom and driving portions of the program during the three-week period.

The instructors take three students out at one time. "There is no typical day," Mr. Reusink said.

"It's never the same. Sometimes you think you have seen it all, then someone does something different," Mr. Jilka

said. Both instructors said they have had minor incidents with student drivers — like hitting a curb, hitting the gas instead of the break and running off the road.

Mr. Jilka said it was normal, routine stuff for inexperienced drivers.

Mr. Reusink said he had a kid almost go off of a bridge due to bad weather. "He was just inexperienced," Mr. Reusink said.

Students in the class are usually incoming freshmen and are around 14- (Driving - Continued on Page 5)

Accident sends six to hospitals

Six people were injured in a one-car accident on Tuesday when a 15-year-old driver rolled a 2000 Mercury Grand Marquis on K-383 near Almaena.

According to the Kansas Highway Patrol's accident report, Damien Davis was traveling west bound on K-383 when he drove off the north shoulder, then back onto the highway, skidded into the south shoulder and struck the south ditch. The vehicle then rolled once landing on its wheels.

Paul Davis and Peggy Davis were both taken to Norton County Hospital and later transported to Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearny.

(Accident - Continued on Page 5)

Board approves Moffet Station project

By ERICA BRADLEY
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The Moffet Station was the subject of discussion again when the Economic Development Board discussed weather or not to go ahead with the project at its Tuesday meeting.

Director Diane Becker told the board she would not continue if they did not support the project; however, the board agreed to proceed since downtown development is one of their goals.

During an interview Wednesday with The Norton Telegram, Ms. Becker said she believes the station will be good for the community. She said very little taxpayer money is going into the project.

"No local taxpayer dollars have been used, with the exception of my time and the demolition of the south building," she said.

Ms. Becker said grant funds are given out with specific goals in mind and that

Norton cannot use the money for just anything.

She said other communities have used the grant money to buy computers for technological centers; however, Norton already has a center.

Ms. Becker said the grant could be used for another building in Norton, but there are not many buildings in the downtown area that could benefit.

"This is probably the only project that would have worked now," she said.

She said historic preservation is a huge area for grants because people believe it is important for communities and the quality of life for residents.

"There are so many examples of communities who have completed historic projects with huge economic impact," Ms. Becker said.

Ms. Becker listed Hays and Burlington (which is similar in size to Norton) as having successful projects. She said the

project in Burlington includes 26 buildings downtown.

"It's impressive," she said.

Ms. Becker plans to turn the Moffet Station into the Norton County Business and Visitor Center. She said that the creation of the visitor center would create eight jobs in the community.

She had hoped the chamber of commerce would move into the building and said the chamber has been supportive, but no agreement has been reached yet.

In other business at the meeting: •The director updated the board about the Norton Correctional Facility. She said that given the state budget situation it is possible that the corrections department may have their budget cut and closing the Norton facility may come up again. Ms. Becker said she does not believe it will come up in the next legislative session, but she is researching hiring a lobbying (Station - Continued on Page 5)