

\$1 THE NORTON TELEGRAM

WEBSITE: nwkansas.com

10 PAGES



Tuesday

October 20, 2009

Briefly

Legion seeks vets

The Norton American Legion, Post 63, is looking for veterans in and around Norton County, that have served in the military during the Gulf War in 1990 to present. Please send information to: Norton American Legion, PO Box 341, Norton, Ks., 67654 or call 785-877-5662 and leave a message.

Vote for Norton gallery in contest

The They Also Ran Gallery, located inside First State Bank in Norton, is the only gallery of its kind in the nation and is being considered for the 8 Wonders of Kansas for recognizing presidential candidates who came in second. Voting ends Oct. 20 at midnight. Paper ballots must be postmarked by Oct. 20. As of Oct. 17, 9,334 votes have been registered since voting started on Sept. 10.

Booster meeting on Wednesday

All Norton Community High School sports fans are invited to the weekly meeting of the Norton Blue Jay Booster Club on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Fans will be updated on recent competitions by Norton football coach Lucas Melvin, cross country coach George Rossi, volleyball coach Peggy Cox and tennis coach Jim Green. At the end of the meeting, fans will be invited to watch the film of Friday night's win over Ness City-Dighton in the opening District contest.

MARKETS
Cash Prices-Norton
October 16, 2009

CORN \$3.38
SOYBEANS \$9.30
WHEAT \$4.12
MILO \$3.06

Ag Valley
314 W. North Street
Norton, Kansas
785-877-5188

weather forecast

SCATTERED SHOWERS

Tonight - A chance of rain and thunderstorms, then rain after 1 a.m. Low around 44. Wednesday - Rain with a high near 45. Wednesday Night - Rain and snow likely. Thursday - A chance of snow before 1 p.m.

Kingham report:

Friday, Oct. 16 Low 36, High 63
Saturday, Oct. 17 Low 29, High 58
Sunday, Oct. 18 Low 39, High 74
Monday, Oct. 19 Low 42, High 74
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

Remind us, Lord, to help our neighbors, rich or poor, young or old, no matter where they live. Help us to show Jesus to all people. Amen

Economic group seeks youth involvement

By ERICA BRADLEY
ebradley@nwkansas.com

Norton City/County Economic Development is continuing to work their strategic plan, the Moffet building and keeping Norton Correctional Facility in Norton. At their meeting on Oct. 13 they discussed these projects as well as other items.

In an interview after the meeting, Diane Stiles, director, said the strategic planning session identified community strengths and looked at what goals economic development will have for the next five years.

Old goals were downtown development, job creation and housing. The board will retain these goals but will had quality of life. Stiles said the new goal will be to try to attract and retain youth in the community.

"One of the clear suggestions is to better involve youth in economic development," she said.

Stiles said she will meet with students in Norton and Almena to identify issues important to them.

In other economic development business:

- Work on the Moffet building will continue. The damage from the accident was repaired quickly, but a subcontractor has been hired to complete the stucco work. The windows cannot be installed until the work is completed. The subcontractor was scheduled to complete the work last week, but due to weather was unable to finish the work.

Stiles reported the Norton Area Chamber of Commerce is currently considering a proposal to into the building. Their board is still considering it and will vote at the end of the month.

- The Promoting Norton County Initiative was also discussed. Stiles said the best approach is to develop a stronger partnership between the community and the correctional facility. Pinegar, Smith and Associates, the firm hired to lobby for the facility, is making arrangements with

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Helping out on the roof



The Norton High School football team, led by Jim Rowh and Coach Lucas Melvin, volunteered at the Haven House on Saturday, repairing one corner of the roof and performing other maintenance. Pictured are (from left) Melvin, Lane Terrell, Kaid McKenna, Andrew Ellis, John Risewick and Jared Bohl. The Haven House provides temporary housing for visiting families of inmates at the Norton Correctional Facility.

—Telegram photo by Dana Paxton

Tech college offers new programs

By ERICA BRADLEY
ebradley@nwkansas.com

High school seniors have a lot of options to consider when deciding on which college to choose, and Northwest Kansas Technical College in Goodland is offering more programs and majors to its students.

Northwest Kansas Technical College President Ed Mills, Ph.D, presented information to the Norton Board of Education on Oct. 12. He gave an overview of new programs and discussed the challenges of rural schools.

In an interview after the meeting, Mills told The Telegram he wanted to remind all of the districts in his area about the college and what they have to offer.

He said the college will start a wrestling program this year. He said a contract has been extended to a candidate, although it will not be finalized until their next board meeting. He said the wrestling program is the most exciting new program for the school.

The college is adding programs in the hopes of increasing

enrollment.

"Every school district and college in the state is facing challenges," he said.

Mills said they will strengthen health programs including starting an Emergency Medical Technician program as well as a Certified Nursing Assistant program.

They will also start a hybrid technician program, something in high demand with the increase of hybrid vehicles. Mills said hybrid vehicles were donated, and a house was donated which the school plans to use to re-model as a green home. There will also be a new biodiesel program, among other new programs.

"There are a lot of great things going on," Mills said. Mills also discussed challenges of rural schools. He said students leave after graduation to attend college. Many don't come back.

"Schools have educated kids to leave," he said.

He said there needs to be a change of culture in schools, and students need to be educated early about the value of the com-

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Harvest time



The corn harvest began to pick up last weekend with warmer weather. The co-op reported the harvest has barely started due to recent moisture. The soybean harvest and winter Wheat planting are also behind schedule.

—Telegram photo by Erica Bradley

Almena resident wins with tiebreaker

By DICK BOYD

nortontelegram@nwkansas.com

The winner of this week's Pigskin Pick-Em Contest was pretty cut and dried since Alberta Geil, Almena, was one of two fans that missed just one game and was the only one to correctly choose the winner of the tiebreaker contest.

Alberta will receive \$15 in scrip money for her winning entry. Her only miss was Colorado's win over Kansas. Oklahoma State defeated Missouri 33-17 in the tiebreaker game and Alberta picked it 20-14 but the score didn't matter since she was the only one with the right winner.

Receiving second prize scrip money of \$10 will be Heather Simmons, Norton, who missed the Kansas State win over Texas A&M and incorrectly chose Missouri to beat Oklahoma State by 27-7.

Eleven fans missed just two games but only six of them correctly picked Okla-

homa State to win the tiebreaker game. Taryn Graham, Norton, won third prize of \$5 in scrip money by coming closest to the actual scores of each team. She chose Oklahoma State by 28-17 or just 5 points off. Her two misses were the Colorado and Texas Tech wins.

Also missing two contests, choosing Oklahoma State in the tiebreaker and points off on the tiebreaker were: Roger Stutterheim, Almena, 9; David Riemann, Norton, 10; Barbara Brooks, Clayton, 12; Lexie McDowell, Hill City, 13; Nathan Morse, Norton, 15.

Incorrect on two games and incorrectly choosing Missouri to win the tiebreaker were Jasmine Covington, Almena; Nish Millan, Goodland; Regina Beikman, Kollan McMullen, Brittnie Schock, all of Norton.

Correct on all but three games were:

(PIGSKIN - Continued on Page 5)

Appeals court judges to hear cases in Thomas County

By Kevin Bottrell
kbottrell@nwkansas.com

Last year, a panel of three judges from the Kansas Court of Appeals came to Colby to hear appeals cases in western Kansas, and the judges liked it so much, they're doing it again.

Judges Stephen Hill, Nancy Caplinger and Steve Leben will be hearing cases at the Thomas County Courthouse on Tuesday and Wednesday. The docket includes 15 cases, with several criminal appeals, a civil case involving a trust fund dispute and a divorce. The cases are all from counties in western Kansas, including Finney, Ellis, Sherman, Norton and Ford, but none

from Thomas.

The judges will be hearing cases starting at 9 a.m. Tuesday and will continue at 1:30 p.m. that afternoon and again Wednesday morning.

Thomas County Court Reporter Marilyn Bailey said the public is welcome to attend. Last year, several classes from Colby Community College and Colby High School sat in on some of the cases.

Bailey said last year was the first time that judges came to Colby. The area has enough cases in the area to warrant sending three judges rather than have dozens of lawyers make the trip to Topeka. Last time, the judges were Henry Green, Michael Buser and Patrick

McAnany.

The 12-judge Kansas Court of Appeals typically sits in panels of three to hear cases, and normally in Topeka. The judges decide to uphold or overturn the verdict of a lower court based on written briefs – submitted before the hearing – and oral arguments from each party's attorneys. Decisions are not made at the hearing, Bailey said, but discussed and handed down later. They may be appealed to the state Supreme Court.

Appeals judges are nominated by the Supreme Court Nominating Commission and then appointed by the governor. All three judges coming here were appointed

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