

\$1 THE NORTON TELEGRAM



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Friday
April 30, 2010
Briefly
Deadline for tax payment May 10

May 10 is the deadline for paying the second half real estate, personal property, oil, intangible and 16/20M truck taxes at the Norton County Treasurer's office without a penalty. Remember to bring or send your tax payment stubs. You may also pay online at www.kansas.gov/propertytax. You will need your statement number(s) and tax payer id listed on your statements.

Races return to speedway on May 5

Due to heavy rains throughout the week, track officials at Elmwood Park Speedway in Norton were forced to cancel the races scheduled for April 24.

Racing action returns to the 1/2-mile oval on May 8. The regular 5 classes will return to action with the green flag flying at 6 p.m.

For more information on Elmwood Park Speedway, contact Jerry Bantam at 785-877-5353 or e-mail him at frakrstr@ruraltel.net. You can also check the track's Web site at www.nepra.mbmotorsports.com.

Museum to host water aerobics class

The Dane G. Hansen Memorial Museum, Logan, will host a 16 week water aerobics class. Michaela Berg from Logan will be the instructor. Classes will be held June 8, 10, 15, 17, 22, 24, 29, July 1, 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22, 27 and 29 at the Logan Swimming Pool from 7-8 p.m. For more information or to register by phone, call 785-689-4846.

MARKETS	
Friday, April 30, 2010	
WHEAT.....	\$3.87
MILO.....	\$2.91
SOYBEANS.....	\$9.23
CORN.....	\$3.31

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

weather forecast

SCATTERED SHOWERS

Tonight - Partly cloudy with a low around 37. West northwest wind around 15 mph.
 Saturday - A 20 percent chance of showers after 1 p.m. Partly cloudy with a high near 65. West northwest wind between 10 and 15 mph.
 Saturday Night - A 20 percent chance of showers. Partly cloudy with a low around 39. South southwest wind 5 to 10 mph becoming northwest.
 Sunday - A 20 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy with a high near 65.
 Sunday Night - a 30 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy with a low around 40.

Prayer

Dear God, help us each to accept the differences among us and learn to love each other for who we are now. Amen.



Power plant options discussed

By ERICA BRADLEY
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After putting millions of dollars into the water treatment and sewer plants, the City of Norton is reviewing their options for work on the cooling system at the power plant.

Rob Lawson, city administrator, said the cooling system needs to be replaced or repaired, and the city council is looking at the options for the plant.

Staff hours could be reduced, the plant could be closed or the city could pay for the maintenance.

Lawson said it is too preliminary to make any decision about the plant.

"At this point, we don't know," he said.

Joe Leroux, city council member and chair of the utility committee, said the utility committee met Monday at Elmwood Park and discussed proposals from two engineering firms; HDR and Olsson.

Leroux said they looked at the proposals but are not at the stage where they will approve a contract.

The council is looking at different options, Leroux said, such as closing the plant, overhauling it or reducing it to one (Plant - Continued on Page 5)

Touching up Ag Valley



Robert Gibson shoveled cement onto the Ag Valley deck. Ag Valley Co-Op, located at 314 W. North, began replacing the deck and stairs at their elevator at the beginning of the week. Scott Evans Contracting, Norton, started the work Monday.

-Telegram photo by Erica Bradley

Death investigated

Loren Lesh, a 49 year-old Almena resident, was found deceased at a moving strip owned by the state of Kansas on Highway 383 at 9:02 a.m. on April 27. Norton County Sheriff Troy Thomson said an investigation was conducted by the Sheriff's department and county coroner. They ruled the death as a suicide caused by a self-inflicted gunshot.

"There was no evidence of homicide," Thomson said.

Lesh, son of Phillip A. and Carman (Wilttrout) Lesh, was born Sept. 2, 1960, in Norton. He grew up in Norton and attended the Norton Community Schools.

Candidate campaigns in Norton

By ERICA BRADLEY
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Tracey Mann, a native of Quinter, one of seven Republicans running for the seat being vacated by Congressman Jerry Moran in the First District, stopped in Norton Wednesday afternoon to visit with residents about the campaign.

Mann said he is not a politician, something that sets him apart from other candidates in the race.

"I'm not a politician. I just think we need someone with a background in agriculture and in business," he said.

Mann said he grew up on the family farm in Quinter.

He attended Kansas State University, majoring in agricultural economics.

Mann was Jerry Moran's first intern in Washington and returned to Kansas State to finish his senior year.

He served as president of the student body that year.

"Jerry (Moran) really instilled in me a love of Kansas that never really left," he said.

Mann moved back to Washington, D.C. after graduation, where he worked with members of the House of Representatives and the United States Senate to envision, plan and establish leadership



Tracey Mann

conferences and programs throughout the United States for college student leaders. He moved back to Kansas with his wife Audrey after two years, where he started his career in commercial real estate in Salina.

Mann has the Mann Plan, a plan to get the country and congress back on track.

His plan includes: reforming Congress, fixing healthcare, stopping the growth of the federal government, deficits and debt, promoting economic growth, tax relief, agriculture, immigration and preserving Kansas values.

Mann and his wife have been traveling throughout the district meeting people. He said they have been to 36 counties in the last month.

Area resident survives West Nile, begins dancing

By CAROLYN PLOTTS
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Linda (Bean) Beagley, 52, Morland, deserves the title of a medical miracle.

In 2000, Ms. Beagley became extremely ill. Her condition was not immediately diagnosed. As her condition worsened, she reverted back to the level of a two-year old. She couldn't walk or talk and she was blind.

She said, "Doctor's didn't know what to do with me so they did nothing."

Her pain level was excruciating, but she never received any pain medication. Finally, she was referred to a doctor in Colby who prescribed a drug that at least let her begin to walk and talk again. Her vision also returned.

During her quest to find out what was wrong, Ms. Beagley went to the famous Mayo Clinic.

Unfortunately, it was there she contracted the virulent Mersa infection in her skull. For years she had to cut her hair next to the scalp so medications could be applied to her skin.

She couldn't shave her head for fear of a "nick" which would prolong the infection.

Many years after her initial symptoms appeared, Ms. Beagley received the diagnosis of West Nile Virus. She said,

"To put it in simple terms, a 'gate' in my brain got stuck open." When she asked if there was a support group for West Nile survivors she was told, "There isn't one. Nobody has ever survived that had it as bad as you did."

During this time, her muscles began to atrophy. Ms. Beagley devised her own physical therapy: playing scales on the piano. She said that even though she had never written music before, beautiful music just came out.

Next, she started dancing to her own music and then singing.

In 2008 she once again became very sick. She fell, breaking bones; burned herself badly; and suffered short-term memory loss. She began to think she was going crazy and sought psychiatric help.

During her initial visit with a psychiatrist she was told that he couldn't treat someone with encyphelitis, a brain inflammation.

That diagnosis had been in her medical records for years, but she had never been told. Today, Ms. Beagley takes lots of medications but feels she is balanced. She works with a team of health-care professionals: a psychologist; a gen- (Dancer - Continued on Page 5)



The only adult student of Chanda's Dance Illusions Studio, Linda (Bean) Beagley taps to one of her original songs, "Kick It". Ms. Beagley is a West Nile and encyphelitis survivor. Dancing is difficult because of her short-term memory loss.

-Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts