

\$1 THE NORTON TELEGRAM



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Friday
September 24, 2010

Briefly Limited seating for Moving Wall

There will be limited seating available on the bleachers at the Moving Wall during the ceremonies today through 27 so come early or be sure to bring your lawn chairs.

Long Island Legion will meet Tuesday

American Legion Post #304 will host a meeting for all veterans and their families on Tuesday, Sept. 28th at 6:15 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Long Island Community Building and there will be a potluck supper. Main dish will be provided but you are encouraged to bring a side dish, salad or dessert. Contact Charles M. Younker, American Legion Headquarters for more information. 785-232-9315.

Hear about benefits at meeting Tuesday

American Legion Post #63 will host a meeting for all veterans and their families who wish to learn more about their earned VA benefits on Tuesday, Sept. 28 at 4:45 p.m. Veterans and their family members who have specific questions regarding VA benefits are urged to attend the meeting which will be held at the American Legion Building, Norton.

Contact person: Charles M. Younker, American Legion Headquarters, 785-232-9315.

Farm Bureau plans matinee on Sunday

The Norton County Farm Bureau Association will host a movie matinee at 2 p.m. Sunday at the Norton Theatre. "Marmaduke" and "The Blind Side" will be shown.

Movie goers can view displays highlighting the benefits of Farm Bureau membership before and after the movie. Doors open at 1:15 p.m.

Markets

Friday, September 24, 2010
Wheat\$4.76
Milo\$3.00
Soybeans.....\$9.32
Corn\$3.31
Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

Weather

Tonight - Showers and thunderstorms likely. Mostly cloudy with a low around 68. Northeast wind around 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60%. **Wednesday** - A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy with a high near 90. North wind between 5 and 10 mph. **Wednesday Night** - A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy with a low

Kingham Report

Tuesday, July 30Low 61, High 81
Wednesday, July 31Low 62, High 93
Thursday, August 1Low 67, High 80
Rain: .25 inches
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

God of yesterday, today, and tomorrow, be with those who especially need your courage and strength. Amen

THEY DIED SO WE CAN BE FREE

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO RUSS ECKHART

Norcatour man died from mine shrapnel

His mother held two discolored pieces of newspaper folded up in her hands and a picture of her son in uniform.

One was an article about the training her son was receiving in Marines, the other his obituary.

Juanita Eckhart smiled when she said her son Russ Eckhart always liked baseball. Growing up he played catcher, she said.

He graduated from school in Norcatour in 1965, said Mrs. Eckhart. He was out of school for two years when they, the Marine Corps, got him. She added that she knew they would.

Lance Cpl. Russ Eugene Eckhart went to Camp Pendleton in California. He did a four-week course and received over 200 hours of instruction.

The small newspaper article stated

that after the four week course was basic specialist training in Lance Cpl. Eckhart's field.

"Marines to be assigned to infantry units will be taught infantry sub-specialties such as the machine gun, grenade launch, rifle or mortar. Marines to be assigned to highly technical specialties will be sent to military technical schools for their specialist training," she said

Mrs. Eckhart said her son drove big machinery. That's where they got him.

At home, she said, her son always liked to drive a tractor or farm machinery.

The other part of newspaper, his obituary, states that Lance Cpl. Eckhart spent a month in Okinawa and then was sent to active duty in Vietnam.

"He was an operator of heavy equip-

ment and it was during the battle for Hill 881 that he was critically wounded by the explosion of a land mine. Because of the extent of shrapnel wounds and burns received, he was transferred on May 8 to the Naval Hospital at St. Albans, New York."



Russ Eckhart

Mrs. Eckhart flew to New York to be with her son. She was joined by her son's fiancée, Mary O'Hare.

An article written after Lance Cpl. Eckhart died said the women stayed in New York for two and a half weeks, grabbing sleep in between visits with him.

Mrs. Eckhart said then that the ward was filled with sons, with boys torn up by

No mother can think about war, whether the mother is Vietnamese, Communist, American or whatever... no mother can think of war and not think of her son. Have you ever imagined what it would be like without war? I just cannot accept the killing."

Years later Mrs. Eckhart said she still has no use for the Vietnam War. She just can't understand the killing.

While the Eckharts had another son, Raymond, she said he died at a young age. Her husband, Floyd, died in 1959.

Lance Cpl. Eckhart could have asked for a deferment as a sole surviving son, said Mrs. Eckhart in an article after her son's death, but he knew he had to go; it was the right thing to do.

Funeral services were held for him at the United Methodist Church in Norcatour on June 2 with the Rev. J.O. Baumgartner officiating. Escorting the body home from New York was Marine Cpl. George R. Hedrick. Burial was in the Norcatour Cemetery.

Lance Cpl. Eckhart is one of the many servicemen who will be honored with the traveling Vietnam Wall which arrived in Norton on Thursday and will be on display through Monday.

The Wall has arrived



Kenny Calwalader, Almena and Cameron Hewitt, Phillipsburg, pause in front of The Vietnam Memorial Wall on Thursday. Both servicemen are in the Kansas Army National Guard, 170th Maintenance Company

that is based in Norton. The Moving Wall arrived in Norton and the guardsmen were part of the escort.

-Telegram photo by Harriett Gill

Voice system 'best ever,' says Eisenhower teacher

By HARRIETT GILL
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The USD 211 Board of Education had their regular meeting on Sept. 14 where the new school year was the main topic of business.

Gail Roy, Kindergarten teacher at Eisenhower Elementary, demonstrated the Classroom Amplification system that was recently purchased for the Early Childhood, Kindergarten and First Grade classrooms.

"In my 20 years of teaching, this is the best thing I have ever used," said Roy. "I love it, thank you."

The amplification system allows the teacher to be heard by all the children in the classroom. The rooms were selected as a pilot program as there is critical importance of hearing correct phonetic sounds and pronunciations that directly affect the learning of reading. The systems were purchased by Title I ARRA

funds.

The board approved the purchase of amplification units for all Eisenhower Elementary classrooms, physical education and the library as well as microphones for itinerant teachers using available Title I ARRA funds.

In his superintendent report, Superintendent Mann said there were 90 members in the health insurance group; there are a couple of maintenance problems that will have to be addressed (the overhead door at Ag Shop and electronic shifter on the charter bus); the new staff was at the Unified Office today for training in "Teaching Challenging Students: next week Joe Coles will be here to work with students about bullying and the district's students will be visiting the Vietnam Memorial moving wall on Thursday, Sept. 23 and Friday, Sept. 24. The enrollment figures show 765 students compared to 734 last year. **(System - Continued on Page 5)**

Former Hays news reporter joins Norton Telegram staff

By Dana Paxton
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The Norton Telegram has a new addition to our staff. Judy Sherard has much to offer our newspaper.

She grew up in Plainville and graduated from Fort Hays State University with both a bachelor's and a master's degree in English. She is the daughter of the late Wilbur and Earline Demanett who operated a milk delivery business. They delivered to homes in Plainville, Palco and Damar. She is one of six children, all of whom were girls.

Judy is married to Ron Sherard and together they have three grown children, Jerry Hrabe, Susan Dreiling and

Ronnie Sherard. Judy's husband is currently staying in Maryland where he continues to work. When his work completed in a year, he will join Judy here in Norton. The couple has lived in Maryland for six years, two of which Judy worked at a Hallmark store.



Judy Sherard

Judy and Ron like to travel and in her spare time Judy enjoys reading, crocheting and knitting.

Judy's experience consists of being an English teacher at the Plainville Colby Community College

Outreach. She was then a news editor/reporter at the short lived Ellis County Star and then became the Education and Regional reporter for the Hays **(Staff - Continued on Page 5)**

