

\$1 THE NORTON TELEGRAM



WEBSITE: nwkansas.com 12 PAGES

Tuesday

October 26, 2010

Briefly

Halloween events planned this week

Ghosts, Goblins, Witches and other Halloween haunters are welcome to trick or treat at the Andbe Home on "Halloween Sunday" from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The Trick For Can Hayrack Ride will be 2 to 4 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 30. The Junior and Senior United Methodist Youth Fellowship groups will be picking up food for God's Pantry as a service project.

They will meet at the church at 1:45 p.m. People can leave their food items in a bag on their front porch or they can bring them to the church at 805 W. Wilberforce before Saturday.

The Halloween Parade and Wiener Roast will be Thursday downtown. The Norton Volunteer Fire Department and the Norton Area Chamber of Commerce co-sponsor the event.

Parade participants should assemble in the parking lot behind Hall's Clothing at 6 p.m. Sheriff Troy and Chriselle Thomson will divide the children into groups from pre-school to sixth grade.

The parade begins at 6:30 p.m. and moves east along Main Street to State Street, then south to Washington Street and east to the City Hall. After the parade is a free wiener roast held by the Norton Volunteer Fire Department, financed by donations.

Norton County Hospital personnel will hand out trick or treat bags.

All children are invited to participate.

Booster Club meeting reminder

All Norton Community High School sports fans are invited to the weekly meeting of the Norton Blue Jay Booster Club at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in the school cafeteria. Speaking about recent results of their team's competition will be volleyball coach Peggy Cox, cross country coach George Rossi and football coach Lucas Melvin. Following the speeches, coach Melvin will show the film of last Friday night's 63-14 District win over Thomas More Prep-Marian, Hays. You do not have to be a member of the booster club to attend.

Markets

Tuesday, October 26, 2010

Wheat \$5.69
Milo \$4.65
Soybeans \$11.10
Corn \$4.88
Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

Weather

Tonight - Mostly clear with a low around 33. **Wednesday** - Sunny with a high near 58. **Wednesday Night** - Widespread frost after 10 p.m. **Thursday** - Widespread frost before 10 a.m. Otherwise, sunny, with a high near 63. West wind around 10 mph.

Kingham Report

Fri., Oct. 22..... Low 48, High 72, .10 Rain
Sat., Oct. 23..... Low 50, High 64, .05 Rain
Sun., Oct. 24..... Low 42, High 69, .03 Rain
Mon., Oct. 25.... Low 42, High 69, .05 Rain
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

Thank you, Lord, for your faithfulness to us in all the circumstances of our lives. Amen.



Three longtime county employees retire

By JUDY SHERARD
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Three longtime Norton County employees are retiring this fall from the road and bridge department.

Among them they have 81 years of experience, said Sandy Smith, road and bridge department administrative assistant.

Bernard McCormack retired Sept. 30 with 14 years of service. Michael Coffey retired Oct. 15 after 29 years, and October 29 will be L. Elvin Edgett's last day.

County officials hosted a reception Friday recognizing them. Several of the men's family members and friends attended to wish them well, along with a number of county employees and co-workers.

Those attending were asked to write their good wishes on pages set out for the purpose and given to each of them.

Each received a personalized clock plaque presented by Norton County Commission Chairman Richard Thompson.

When asked his plans for retirement, Edgett said he hadn't gotten that far since he still had five days of work left.

However, McCormack and Coffey have given the matter some thought.

McCormack said he was going to tackle a long "honey-do" list that so far had only one item marked off as completed. After that he's looking forward to traveling in his fifth wheel camper. With family in Texas and Arizona, he and his wife will have choices to make to escape the Norton winter if they choose.

Coffey's plans are less definite. He's going to just tinker around a bit and go camping and fishing.



Norton County Commission Chairman Richard Thompson presents gifts to Elvin Edgett, Bernard McCormack and Michael Coffey at their retirement reception Friday. The gifts contained personalized plaques with clocks. — Telegram photo by Judy Sherard

County asks city for letter supporting energy project

By HARRIETT GILL
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In the regular meeting of the Norton City Council Oct. 20, Carolyn Applegate, Norton county commissioner, requested a letter of support for the Holcomb Expansion Project before the Kansas Department of Health and Environment's public hearing Oct. 25.

The Holcomb Expansion Project is a coal-fueled generating facility that promises to deliver low-cost electricity for central and western Kansas.

"Sierra Club protesters are affecting the economics of western Kansas and the

City needs the grid power in the future," said Applegate. "I encourage everyone to send a letter of support to sunflowercomment@kdheks.gov."

City Administrator Rob Lawson said the city is a member of both the Kansas Municipal Energy Agency and the Kansas Municipal Utilities, and these organizations support the Holcomb Plant and represent the member cities regarding this issue.

Mayor David Corns appointed Toby Kuhn and Kim McRoberts to the city board of health. Their terms will expire in April, 2011. The 2010 Northwest Kansas

Planning and Development Commission Annual Meeting will be in Hill City, Oct. 27.

Chief of Police Pat Morel reminded citizens to lock their vehicles at night. There have been numerous reports recently that people's vehicles are being rummaged through during the night.

Lawson said the council members were given an agreement from Kansas Municipal Energy Agency at the last meeting, and asked to review it. The council approved the agreement to provide consulting services in conjunction with Trinity Consultants in implement-

ing the requirements of the national emission standards for hazardous air pollutants for reciprocation internal combustion engines. Lawson also said the power plant is being winterized and normal maintenance is being done.

Hearings will be held at the Norton city building in the city council room at 5:45 and 6 p.m., Dec. 1 on resolutions 12-2010 and 13-2010 regarding the structures at 401 E. Main and 207 E. Woodfield.

Donna Foley reported on the Chamber of Commerce Board meeting. The board discussed the results of the Winner's Cir-

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Curbside shopping spree



Mary Herring and Jennifer Karabin take advantage of the curbside shopping during the Norton City Wide Clean Up this week. Many wonderful treasures and useful items can be found and put to good use. Jennifer wanted this old metal cabinet someone set out for the clean up so she could keep all of her freshly canned goods in it.

— Telegram photo by Dana Paxton

Fort Hays State University officials tour state touting online classes

By JUDY SHERARD
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Thirty-five Norton County residents attend classes at Fort Hays State University in Hays, and 18 more are taking classes without ever stepping foot on campus, according to University statistics.

Long distance learning was the focus of Fort Hays State University President Edward Hammond's visit to the Telegram office Monday. Hammond, who is on a state tour that will include 40 interviews in 14 cities in five days, also spoke to the Rotary Club.

Although the university has a beautiful campus, a total of 4,000 students, 3,000 of them Kansans, never set foot on campus.

The University has offered online degree programs since 1999, and the virtual college is the fastest growing in the state, Hammond said.

"The Virtual College delivers more than 40 degree and certificate programs online," he said.



Dr. Hammond

In the past workers may have spent their working life in one profession. However that isn't always the case now.

To remain employed and progress in the workplace many find it's necessary to return to post-secondary classes, sometimes three or four times. They may be able to attend classes on a campus for the first time, but after that many aren't geographically mobile and find distance learning a viable solution, Hammond said.

Distance learning is accessible for many, and Fort Hays offers high quality distance learning that's efficient and affordable, he said.

The average age of a long distance learner is 37 to 38 years old. Most have some college. Many are working to become teacher certified.

It's a perfect time to update skills in the current economic climate, and someone who has been laid off may be able to receive financial aid, Hammond said.

Perfect score in Pick-Em Contest

By DICK BOYD
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It was another tough week for Pigs skin Pick-Em fans but one person, Tiff Blum, Norton, was still able to enter a perfect paper with all 11 winners correct, including the right winner of the tiebreaker game, which was not needed in this case.

Tiff will receive \$15 in scrip money for first place.

Only two other fans missed just one contest and the tiebreaker did make a difference. Malinda West, Norton, missed just the Baylor win over K-State and had the correct winner of the tiebreaker. In that game, Miami, Fla. defeated North Carolina 33-10.

Malinda will receive \$10 in scrip money for second place.

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