

# \$1 THE NORTON TELEGRAM



WEBSITE: [nwkansas.com](http://nwkansas.com) 10 PAGES

Friday

October 29, 2010

Briefly

## Lions Pancake Feed at senior center

The Norton Lions Club will have their annual pancake feed Sat., Oct. 30 from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Norton Senior Center. Cost is \$4 for adults, and children age 5 and under are free.

## Medicare event scheduled twice

A Medicare educational event on health care reform will be presented twice in Norton. The first will be Sat., Oct. 30 at 1 p.m. at Prairie Land Electric in the community room. The second is Mon., Nov. 1 at 7 p.m. at the Norton County Senior Center.

The educational presentation, sponsored by Norton County Hospital, will outline the impact of health care reform for people on Medicare.

## Keep vehicles locked overnight

Norton Police Chief Pat Morel is reminding citizens to lock their vehicles at night. There have been several reports recently of vehicles being rummaged through overnight.

## Meals on Wheels monthly schedule

Nov. 8 – 14: Community volunteers  
Nov. 15 – 21: American Legion Auxiliary – Marcia Wiltfong 877-2459  
Nov. 22 – 28: Knights of Columbus – Tom Melroy 877-2754  
Nov. 29 – Dec. 5: Midwest Energy – Curt Luehrs 877-5487; Norton FSA Office – Nancy Hager 877-5156; Norton County Hospital – Alice Hawks 877-3351

Each group must have three people with their own car to deliver the noon meal. Volunteers should report at 11:30 a.m. Meals are delivered every day.

Turn in the list of volunteers to Alice Hawks at the hospital by Friday of the week before your group starts its delivery.

## Markets

Friday, October 29, 2010

Wheat ..... \$6.19  
Milo ..... \$4.76  
Soybeans ..... \$11.18  
Corn ..... \$4.99  
Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

## Weather

**Tonight** - Clear with a low around 36. **Saturday** - Sunny with a high near 72. **Saturday Night** - Partly cloudy with a low around 38. **Sunday** - Mostly sunny with a high near 59. **Sunday Night** - Partly cloudy with a low around 36. **Monday** - A 20 percent chance of showers. Mostly sunny. **Monday Night** - Partly cloudy with a low around 34.

## Kingham Report

Tuesday, October 26 ..... Low 39, High 62  
Wednesday, Oct. 27 ..... Low 34, High 57  
Thursday, October 28 ..... Low 31, High 61  
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

## Prayer

Dear Lord, help us to keep our eyes on you through all our trials and hardships. Amen



# Historic cafe relegated to salvage yard

By JUDY SHERARD  
[jsherard@nwkansas.com](mailto:jsherard@nwkansas.com)

A piece of history is being lost as the boards are ripped from the Beacon Cafe.

The Cafe is a Valentine Diner, named after the company started by Arthur Valentine that manufactured it.

According to Jerry Clason, who owned the Cafe and is tearing it down, the Diner portion of the cafe was built in 1955.

The Cafe closed for business in early October when the property was purchased by Norton Hotel, LLC. to build a hotel.

Clason said he purchased the Cafe in 1993 and moved it to the present location at 209 E. Holme Street. He said it had been located west of there when he bought it.

According to a history of the diners on the Kansas Historical Society website, the company began making the pre-fabricated diners in Wichita during the Depression.

Valentine diners were built as small square-sided structures made to be easily moved on flatbed trucks. Owners and operators determined the size, but most were operated by one or two people. Stools were placed around a counter and could accommodate eight to ten diners. Some provided curb service with a walk-up window situated away from the cook and dishwasher, according to the website.

The original Valentine Diner interior of



Jerry Clason, owner of the former Beacon Cafe, tears shingles off the roof. Clason has been tearing down the building after the property was sold. —Telegram photo by Judy Sherard

(Cafe - Continued on Page 5)

# Local, national contests up to voters on Tuesday

By JUDY SHERARD  
[jsherard@nwkansas.com](mailto:jsherard@nwkansas.com)

Election day is Tuesday, Nov. 2. Several local, state and national races will be decided.

Norton County has four polling places. In the city of Norton voters living in Wards 1, 2 and 3, Highland 2 and Solomon 1 and 2 vote at the American Legion; those registered in Center 1 and 2 and Highland 3, vote in the Courthouse lobby. Highland 1 votes at the Lenora Community Center, and voters in Almena go to the Almena City Hall. All of the polls are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

More than 200 had taken advantage of early voting by Wednesday afternoon. Anyone wishing to use early voting must do so as a walk-in at the county clerk's office by noon Monday.

Voters may use paper ballots marked with a pen, or "automark," a machine in which a ballot is inserted and brought up on a screen. Users then touch the screen to vote, said Norton County Clerk Robert

Wyatt. There will be at least one of the machines at each voting place, and two at the larger ones, he said.

Norton County also uses machines called M100s that scan and count ballots, so votes are tallied quickly.

"It really has made it faster," Wyatt said.

Locally those running unopposed are Richard Thompson (R), currently serving as county commission chairman, representing the first district; Debra S. Anderson (R), district magistrate, 17th District, 3rd Position, and Sally Cauble (R), state board of education, 5th District.

Ward Cassidy (R) and Robert Strevey (D) are running for state representative of the 120th District.

There are two national offices on the ballot, United States Senator and Representative of the First District. Contenders for the senate seat include Jerry Moran (R), Lisa Johnston (D), Michael Dann, (L), and Joe Bellis, Reform Party.

Candidates for Representative are Tim Huelskamp (R) Alan Jilka (D) and Jack Warner, (L).

Candidates for governor are Tom Holland (D) and Kelly Kultala (D), Sam Brownback (R) and Jeff Colyer (R), Andrew Gray and Stacey Davis (L), and Ken Cannon and Dan Faubion, Reform Party.

Those entered in the secretary of state race are incumbent Chris Biggs (D), Kris Kobach (R), Philip Lucas (L) and Derek Langseth, reform party.

Candidates for attorney general are Stephen Six (D), the incumbent; Derek Schmidt (R) and Dennis Hawver (L).

Sandy Praeger (R), state insurance commissioner, is running unopposed for reelection.

State treasurer candidates are Dennis McKinney (D), the incumbent, and Ron Estes (R).

Several judges also are listed on the ballot.

Voters will decide two constitutional

amendments, as well.

According to the explanatory statement on the sample ballot, the first amendment is to preserve constitutionally the right of a person to keep and bear arms for the defense of self, family, home and state and for all other lawful purposes, including hunting and recreation.

A vote for the amendment would constitutionally preserve the right to bear arms for the stated purposes. A vote against would provide for no constitutional right of a person to keep and bear arms for the purposes.

The explanatory statement for the second says that the amendment would repeal the authority of the legislature to exclude persons with mental illness from voting. A vote for this amendment would ensure that the right to vote can't be taken away from those with mental illness. A vote against the amendment would continue the current authority of the legislature to take away persons with mental illness.

# Two St. Francis natives join Norton Police Force

By JUDY SHERARD  
[jsherard@nwkansas.com](mailto:jsherard@nwkansas.com)

The Norton Police Department has hired two new patrolmen in recent months.

Police Chief Pat Morel said the two will have a probationary period that includes field training with another officer like all those new to the department.

Ryan Zwegardt has been working in Norton since July. He is a St. Francis native, and graduated from high school there. He wrestled at Colby Community College, and earned an associate's degree in criminal justice.

He's single, but has family in the area. His mother teaches at Colby College, and his brother is a student there.



Zwegardt



Walz

Before moving to Norton, he worked in law enforcement in Hays and at the Sherman County Sheriff's Office.

"I love Norton. I knew the community from wrestling," Zwegardt said.

Terry Reiger, a former state trooper, who lived in Norton, and Jody Enfield, who also works at the police department, were part of the reason he moved here, he said. "It was an easy transition."

In his spare time he works out, and officiates at Little Kids wrestling and high school wrestling matches.

Gabe Walz is the newest addition. He has been with the department since Sept. 20. He also is a native of St. Francis, and graduated from Colby Community College with an associates degree in criminal justice.

His parents still live in St. Francis. He was a wrestler, as well, and he and Zwegardt knew each other from wres-

ting before joining the Norton Police Department.

Before coming to Norton, he worked for the Carbon County Sheriff's office in Wyoming for two years.

"I like the feel of a small town. It's good to know everybody. The people are friendly," Walz said of Norton.

He and his fiancée Danielle Landen, who works as a registered nurse at the Andbe Home, are planning a spring wedding.

Walz is going to the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center in November and will graduate in March.

"I love it so far," Walz said of his job.

# Two local couples purchase former Jennings school building

The former Jennings School building, which had been remodeled as a headquarters and plant for a bus firm, now belongs to two Jennings couples.

The school closed in 2004 and was sold to Bus and Coach International in March 2006.

The California company bought the building from the City of Jennings and the Jennings Heritage Association for \$150,000.

The company planned to establish its headquarters in the former school.

Connie Grafel, marketing director for the Oberlin-Decatur County Economic

Development Corporation, said she hasn't had any contact with anyone from the firm recently.

While she said she had heard some things about what could happen with the building, those apparently didn't come to fruition.

Leonard and Doris Fleckenstein and their son Eric and his wife Melinda bought the old school. Mrs. Fleckenstein said they plan to use it as a shop for their farm and for D&L Trucking.

They are brainstorming ideas for some of the office space, she added.

# Hunting section inside

Nor'West Newspapers' annual fall Hunting Guide is included in today's issue of The Norton Telegram.

The section includes articles on the outlook for hunting pheasants, deer, turkey and waterfowl in this area, where to buy licenses and the rules and regulations for the year.

It also has maps showing where hunters can go for walk-in access to state-leased land in northwest Kansas.

