

# THE NORTON TELEGRAM



Tuesday  
August 2, 2011

## Norton Idol 2011 draws 36 singers

The fifth annual Norton Idol brought adults and children of all ages to the Norton County fairgrounds Friday evening for an evening of musical entertainment.

The show featured a youth division and an adult division with 36 singers performing all together.

In the youth division, 11 children competed for the title of division winner for Norton Idol 2011. The first place youth division winner was Zackary Long of Oxford, Neb. Long won \$75 by performing the song "Fireflies" by Owl City. Second place went to Lauren Mordecai of Norton, who earned \$50. Audrie Burge of Almena took home the People's Choice Award and \$25 from the evening.

After the youth competition, 25 adults lined up to perform music from various genres and styles of music. The initial performances were whittled down to seven contestants who went on to perform a second song for the panel of three judges.

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(Right) Jessica Gooder of Smith Center performs Friday evening for the 2011 Norton Idol. Gooder took home first place out of 25 contestants.

-Photo courtesy of Kara Miller



### Briefly

#### Norton enrollment is set for next week

The Norton Schools will be enrolling for the 2011-12 School Year during the week of August 8.

Monday, August 8: NCHS: Seniors; 9 a.m. - Noon.

Tuesday, August 9: NCHS: Juniors; 9 a.m. - Noon. EES: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Wednesday, August 10: NCHS: Sophomores; 9 a.m. - Noon. NJHS: 8th Grade; 9 a.m. - Noon and 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Thursday, August 11: NCHS: Freshman; 9 a.m. - Noon. NJHS: 7th Grade; 9 a.m. - Noon and 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Friday, August 12: NCHS: New Students & Make-up; 9 a.m. - Noon

Fee & meal information at www.usd211.org.

#### Education with animals at library

The Norton Library will be hosting Rolling Hills Wildlife Adventure Thursday at 10:30 a.m. Join us as we travel the 'world' this summer to offer another fun education program at your library! Rolling Hills wildlife Adventure staff will be sharing animal legends from around the world. Traveling with us will be LIVE animals and biofacts.

#### Chess tournament scheduled Saturday

A Chess Tournament for all school-aged children of any level of expertise will be held at the Norton Public Library Community Room on Aug. 6 from 1 to 5 p.m. The tournament is free to enter and is sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Medals will be awarded. Please register for this event at the Norton Public Library or call the Library at 877-2481.

#### Annual Disc Golf Tourney on Sunday

A disc golf tournament will be held Sunday, August 7 at Elmwood Park.

### Markets

Tuesday, August 2, 2011

Wheat	\$6.90
Milo	\$6.07
Soybeans	\$12.90
Corn	\$7.01

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

### Weather

Tonight - Mostly cloudy with a slight chance of thunderstorms in the evening.  
Wednesday - Mostly cloudy with a slight chance of thunderstorms in the morning then a chance of thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs around 90.

### Kingham Report

Friday, July 29 .....Low 66, High 91  
.70 Rain

Saturday, July 30 .....Low 65, High 101

Sunday, July 31 .....Low 71, High 101

Monday, August 1 .....Low 72, High 103

For the month of July there was a total of 15 days where the temperature was 100 degrees or over.

The rainfall total for the month of July was 5.05 inches.

(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

### Prayer

Loving God, help us to be instruments of your love to those who live around us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

## Credit union responds to litigation

By Carleen Bell  
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Legal counsel for the United Northwest Federal Credit Union released Friday afternoon a statement in response to pending litigation involving a former credit union employee.

Cumis Insurance Group, the credit union's bonding and insurance company, is seeking nearly \$900,000 from former credit union manager Mark Keilig for losses the company incurred because Keilig extended unauthorized credit to customers who later filed for bankruptcy.

Eric Bruce, the credit union's attorney, released the following statement Friday afternoon in response to the pending legal action:

"United Northwest Federal Credit Union is insured by the

National Credit Union Administration and has insurance with CUMIS Insurance Group. The shares/deposits of the credit union are fully protected by the insurance. Any loss occasioned by the actions of management, in the past, or currently are covered by the insurance. The current litigation is being brought not by the credit union, but by the insurance company, as the insurance company paid the credit union for the loss."

Cumis Insurance Society, Inc insured the credit union against "fraud, dishonesty and lack of faithful performance by its employees and officers including (Keilig)." Because Cumis covered the bankruptcy loss for the credit union when Ron and Abigail Delimont filed for bankruptcy in November, 2010, the company is seeking retribution from Keilig in the amount of \$882,502.82.

## School enrollment days planned

With the approach of a new school year, officials with the Norton and Northern Valley School districts have released information for parents who need to enroll their children in either of the districts for the coming year.

### NORTON

The Norton Unified School District 211 will hold student enrollment from Aug. 8 through Aug. 12 with each building holding separate registration times.

The high school student registration is planned for Aug. 8-11. Seniors will register on Aug. 8, juniors will register on Aug. 9, sophomores will register Aug. 10 and freshman will register Aug. 11. Each day includes registration times of 9 a.m. to noon.

Slated for Aug. 12 is registration for high school students of all ages who are new to the district from 9 a.m. to noon with make-up registration planned from 9 a.m. to noon on Aug. 12.

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## Valley Hope to hold Alkathon, annual meeting

On Saturday, Aug. 20, Valley Hope of Norton will hold the 44th annual Alkathon at the Catholic Parish Center at 104 S. Wabash in Norton.

All Valley Hope alumni, friends and family are welcome to attend the festivities, which include award presentations, speakers, fellowship, food and silent auction.

Registration begins at noon at Valley Hope and at 1 p.m., a "freedom drive" will proceed to the Parish Center. Festivities at the Parish Center will kick off

at 1:30 p.m. with the theme of "Valley Hope- Truly a Lifesaver." Along with the Alkathon, Valley Hope will hold its annual meeting on Friday, Aug. 19.

The 44th annual meeting of the association will be held at 1 p.m. at the Catholic Parish Center at 104 S. Wabash.

During Friday's annual meeting, the membership will elect members to the organization's board of directors and receive operation reports. Current local members of the 10-member board of

directors include Ada Arford of Almena, John McClymont of Norton, Doug Sebelius of Norton and Merlynn Colip of Norton.

The Norton treatment center opened its doors in 1967 as Valley Hope's first alcohol and drug treatment facility. Today, the Valley Hope Association operates a network of 18 facilities in seven states.

For more information about the Alkathon or annual meeting, contact Norton Valley Hope at 785-877-5101.

## Carnival mishap injures four youths Thursday evening

By Carleen Bell  
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Four local youths escaped what could have been a tragedy Thursday evening when a portion of a carnival ride broke off and dropped four ride occupants about seven feet to the ground.

According to Curtis Eveleigh, President of the Norton County Community Services Association, the ride known as "The Spider" was full of riders at about 10:15 Thursday evening at the Norton County Fairgrounds when a pipe supporting an arm of the ride broke off from the rest of the ride. The metal support beam was attached to two carts, each holding two school-aged girls.

The four girls fell with the carts about seven feet to the ground below when the support beam broke. Eveleigh reported that the girls each suffered minor injuries and at least one was transported to Kearney for evaluation and treatment of her injuries. Official reports of the girls' injuries were unavailable, but Eveleigh said the injuries were minor.

"To my knowledge, there were no major injuries," he said. "The girls were transported to the the hospital for observation and treatment and other than that, I don't know what the injuries were."

The ride was not fully operating at the time of the incident, but was stopped to load and unload riders. Because the ride

was not operating at full speed, the car carrying the girls dropped straight to the ground instead of flying outward.

While emergency response personnel were working with the injured children, Eveleigh said, other ride patrons were left sitting on the ride for about 45 minutes. City employees brought in bucket trucks to begin evacuating the other riders, but because of the mechanics of the ride, operators were able to evacuate the ride without the bucket trucks.

Eveleigh commended the emergency response personnel for their quick response to the situation and the other patrons who remained calm during the crisis.

"Everyone stayed calm while they had to wait and the other riders were very quiet," he said. "That made it much easier to work through the incident."

The home-owned carnival equipment is owned by the the Norton County Community Services Association and is erected each year by the Norton city employees.

The most recent incident of carnival equipment malfunction has raised the question among concerned citizens about ride inspections and safety, a concern that Eveleigh said fair-goers shouldn't be concerned about.

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A portion of "The Spider" broke off Thursday evening at the Norton County Fair, dropping four school-aged children about seven feet to the ground. The ride was closed for the rest of the fair.

-Telegram photo by Dana Paxton

