

\$1 THE NORTON TELEGRAM



WEBSITE: nwkansas.com

8 PAGES

Friday

August 12, 2011

Briefly

Teacher appreciation breakfast planned

The United Methodist Women annual Back to School breakfast for all USD 211 personnel will be Thursday from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall of the church.

Smokin' in the Barn sign-up ending

Saturday is the last day to sign up to participate in the Third Annual Smokin' in the Barn BBQ contest that will be held on Aug. 26 and 27 in the livestock barn at the Norton Elmwood Park.

Motocross races planned for Sunday

The Nebraska Cornhusker Motocross Association will hold a NCMA points race this Sunday at the Norton MX Track located one mile east on highway 36 and one mile north. Practice starts at 9 a.m. and the races start at 11 a.m.

Motorcycle races set for this Saturday

The Norton Elmwood Park Racing Association will hold the Battle of the Plains Round Two motorcycle races this Saturday at the Norton Elmwood Park Speedway with pits open at 11 a.m., sign up at 2:30 p.m., practice at 4:30 p.m. and heats beginning at 6 p.m. with the main event at 7:30 p.m.

New Almelo Bazaar planned for Saturday

Make plans now to attend St. Joseph's Parish annual New Almelo Bazaar this Saturday. Don't miss the Bar-B-Qued Beef and Smoke Pork Buffet Supper with all the trimmings at 5 p.m. Along with supper, there will be a bake sale, fancy work, bingo, hamburger stand and games for young and old. Quilt auction will be held at 8 p.m. with homemade quilts. Then at 9 p.m. come dance to the music of Dustin Juenemann.

Markets

Friday, August 12, 2011

Wheat	\$7.25
Milo	\$6.30
Soybeans	\$12.51
Corn	\$7.01

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

Weather

Saturday - Mostly sunny with patchy fog in the morning. Highs in the mid 80s. Saturday Night - 20 percent chance of thunderstorms.

Kingham Report

Tuesday, August 9.....	Low 56, High 87
	.30 Rain
Wed., August 10.....	Low 57, High 82
	.80 Rain
Thursday, August 11	Low 59, High 86
Friday, August 12.....	Low 64, .10 Rain

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

Prayer

Heavenly Father, forgive us when we fear giving back to you what is yours to begin with. Help us always to give to you with a cheerful heart. Amen.

Large hail causes extensive damage

By Carleen Bell
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After a series of three severe thunderstorms swept through the region Tuesday evening, residents of Norton County and surrounding areas have reported severe property damage as a result of up to baseball-sized hail from the storms.

Dave Floyd, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service forecast office in Goodland, reported that a series of three supercell thunderstorms swept southeast through the area from the area around McCook, Neb. down to the Hill City area.

Floyd said the supercell storms are very organized with strong updrafts, which allow the storm systems to create hail and hold it for a long time before it is dropped. Because the hail is held, it grows into large pieces before it is dropped.

That large hail caused extensive damage in the path of the storm, including broken windows in vehicles and homes, roof damage on homes and some damage to siding on various buildings.

Among the areas hardest hit were facilities and structures at the Prairie Dog State Park. Park Manager Toby Kuhn reported Thursday that the hail damaged several rv's located at the park, including roof damage, broken vent covers and broken skylights. Kuhn said that permanent buildings at the lake also received damage and fixing the damage will be a long process. Some of the damage won't be repaired before the end of the summer.

Along with state park facilities, Norton County Sheriff's Deputy Larry Land reported Thursday that two county cars sustained damage during the storm. Deputy Bobby Annon was on patrol Tuesday evening and got caught in the hail storm, causing extensive damage to his vehicle. The windshield was cracked enough to cause glass shards to begin falling to the car and the body of the vehicle is covered in large hail dents. Another county cruiser also sustained minor hail damage, but estimates to repair those vehicles has not yet been determined.

While hail caused extensive damage in the area, Floyd reported that wind and rain were not a huge concern during Tuesday evening's storms. Trained weather

(Storms - Continued on Page 5)

(Top) After a hail storm tore through Norton County Tuesday night, a lot of repairs started immediately. Andy Enfield is seen taping up cracks caused by golf ball to baseball size hail that hit the lake RV area. Skylights and air conditioner covers were shattered, leaves removed from trees and severe crop and vehicle damage were a result of the storm.

- Telegram photo by Dana Paxton



(Above) Matthew and Gabrielle Woodyard live nine miles west of Norton on Highway 36 and then back north. They were astonished to see the size of hail stones left in their yard by Tuesday's storm. They were so amazed that they placed a baseball beside the stones to show the sheer size of the hail.

- Photo by Matthew and Gabrielle Woodyard

Norton agrees to purchase technology for classrooms

By Carleen Bell
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To enhance technology in the classrooms for the district, the Norton School Board Monday evening approved the purchase of about \$19,000 in teaching equipment for the district.

Norton Superintendent Greg Mann reported Monday evening that the district has received between \$14,000 and \$16,000 in capital credits from Rural Telephone and that money can be spent however the district chooses.

"We talked last December about what to do with the money," Mann said Wednesday. "We had the option to get the credits back over time or to cash them out, and that's what the board opted to do."

Mann recommended Monday evening that the district

use the money to purchase eight voice amplification systems for the Norton Middle School and 45 document cameras for the district.

The total of those purchases is expected to exceed the capital credits funding for a total of about \$19,000, but Mann explained that the district needs to spend some reserve funds this year that can be used for the purchases.

The voice amplification systems, Mann said, will be used in the middle school classrooms to help teachers project their voices to every student in the classroom. The teachers wear small microphones around their necks and, through flatscreen technology, the system projects their voices throughout the classroom.

"The voice amplification system allows every student

in the classroom to hear at the same level," Mann said. "It isn't a speaker system, so a student's placement in the classroom doesn't matter. Everyone can hear at the same level."

Along with the voice amplification systems, the district will purchase 45 document cameras for teachers to use in their classrooms. The cameras work like projectors, but require the use of a computer. The cameras are able to project images and text onto a wall or white screen to help students in the classroom see visual representations of the material being taught.

The board unanimously approved the purchases Monday evening and the district will move forward with the purchases.

Chamber seeking logo design

By Carleen Bell
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To help promote the mission and image of the organization, leaders of the Norton Area Chamber of Commerce are seeking submissions for a contest to help create a logo design for the Chamber.

Chamber Director Brook Dix reported Tuesday that officials are looking for a logo that will encompass the mission of the chamber, including strengthening Norton's business environment and promoting the economic health of the area.

To help create that logo, Dix explained, the Chamber is enlisting the help of anyone who would like to try to design a logo. When a new logo design is chosen, it will be used in the Chamber's monthly newsletter, letterhead and stationery, and on a banner to be displayed at local events.

Logo submissions can be submitted in any form, including digital or paper, and can be created with any media, like paint, drawing, sketch, or graphic design. Submissions can be e-mailed to nortoncc@ruraltel.net or by mail to PO Box 97, Norton, KS 67654. A prize will be awarded to the creator of the logo chosen and entries must be submitted by Wednesday, Sept. 7

For more information about the Norton Area Chamber of Commerce, or to find membership benefits and information, visit discovernorton.com or see the organization's monthly newsletter.

Norton board fills vacant seat

By Carleen Bell
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Filling the position until the 2013 elections, the Norton school board Monday evening appointed a new member to sit on the Board of Education.

Choosing from three candidates, board members unanimously approved the appointment of Bill Jones for the position.

A native of Norton, Jones graduated from Norton Community High School in 1991 and after college and some time away from the area, he returned to Norton in 2002 as a court services officer. He now serves as the chief officer for the 17th Judicial Court.

Jones' wife, Amye, also graduated from Norton Community High School in 1991 and is a speech pathologist for the school district.

The couple has two elementary-aged children in the Norton district and that connection to the district is part of what

inspired Jones to apply for the position on the Board of Education.

"I've always wanted to be involved in the inner workings of the school district," he said. "I feel like I have a civic duty and if I can help the school in some way, I'm happy to do that. Norton has a very good tradition of having a very fine school system and I want to help keep that tradition going."

Jones was appointed to the board Monday evening after submitting a letter of interest for the position. Along with Jones, other candidates for the position included Ardit Schetz, Len Coady and Virgil Mock. After realizing the size of the candidate pool, however, Coady withdrew himself as a candidate.

Jones' position on the board was vacant because no one ran for the position in the April election. He will serve in the seat until April, 2013 when the seat will be filled by election.



Bill Jones

