

THE NORTON TELEGRAM



Tuesday
August 23, 2011

Briefly

Early childhood screening planned

Eisenhower Elementary will be conducting a free Early Childhood Screen on Friday, Aug. 26. If you have a concern in any of the following developmental areas; vision, hearing, speech, motor, behavior and/or reasoning, please call to schedule your child for this screening. Those eligible are children ages 3 through 5. The appointments are approximately 30 minutes, beginning at 8 a.m. To schedule an appointment, please call Eisenhower Elementary at 877-5113 by Aug. 25, and ask for Joan Hale.

BBQ contest slated for this weekend

The 3rd annual Smokin' in the Barn is Aug. 26 and 27 in the Elmwood Park Livestock Barn, Norton. Check in for contestants will be Friday at 6 - 11 p.m.

Jennings Fun Day set for Saturday

The Jennings Firemen's Fun Day will be held this Saturday in Jennings. The theme this year is "Happy Birthday, Kansas-Celebrating 150 Years of Statehood." The event will include a variety of activities beginning at 8 a.m. and will run into the evening.

Blood Drive is planned for today

Norton Community Blood Drive will be held Tuesday, Aug. 23 from noon to 6 p.m. at the American Legion, 1120 N. Norton Ave. Please visit redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (800-733-2767) to schedule your appointment today!

Be sure to eat regular meals and to drink extra fluids prior to your donation. Photo I.D. required.

Markets

Tuesday, August 23, 2011

Wheat	\$7.55
Milo	\$6.46
Soybeans	\$13.01
Corn	\$7.15

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

Weather

Tonight - Partly cloudy in the evening then becoming mostly clear. Wednesday - Sunny with highs in the mid 90s. Wednesday Night - Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. Thursday - Mostly sunny with isolated thunderstorms in the morning.

Kingham Report

Friday, August 19.....Low 65, High 93
Saturday, August 20.....Low 64, High 88
Sunday, August 21.....Low 64, High 94
Monday, August 22.....Low 66, High 93
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

Dear Lord, help us remember to look to you when we feel overwhelmed by circumstances around us. Amen

Alkathon draws 210 guests

To celebrate 44 years of helping people beat addiction, leaders of the Norton Valley Hope held the annual Alkathon and annual meeting over the weekend. Valley Hope has been in operation for 44 years and the Alkathon began in the 1970's.

Saturday featured a "freedom drive" to the Parish Center from Valley Hope and the activities included speakers, award presentations, a sobriety countdown, silent dinner and auction.

Valley Hope is a center dedicated to helping individuals overcome drug and alcohol addiction through counseling, support and resource referrals.

(Right) The Alkathon featured the presentation of the annual Golden Heart award. This year, the designation was presented to Julie Siefers of Norton, who lost a son to drug addiction. Now Siefers dedicates her time to helping others overcome addiction. Pictured presenting her the award is Larry Black, a former Norton Valley Hope counselor.

-Telegram photo by Carleen Bell



County approves revised 2012 budget

By Carleen Bell
cbell@nwkansas.com

After revising some of the line items for the county, the Norton County commissioners approved a 2012 county budget Monday morning.

On July 29, county officials published a proposed budget which includes a tax mill levy of 83.91 mills to comprise an overall budget of \$6,689,347.

The commissioners requested, however, that some of the line items of the budget be revisited and possibly reduced, particularly the county EMS budget and the budget for the office of the county attorney. John Mapes of Mapes and Miller, the accounting firm that assists the county in outlining the annual budget, agreed last Monday to revise the numbers and create a revised version for the commissioners to approve this week.

The revisions, resulting in a budget \$20,000 lower than what was published on July 29, included a \$20,000 reduc-

tion in the EMS budget. That funding was originally intended to purchase an additional vehicle for the department, but the commissioners questioned the wisdom of purchasing another vehicle when the county is facing ever-increasing budget concerns.

"I've been involved in discussion about what's going to happen at the state level," Commissioner John Miller said. "I think we're going to have to take a serious look at where our money goes. I don't know how to get around (budget cuts)."

Along with eliminating the vehicle purchase, the commissioners also asked that the budget for the county attorney remain at \$79,000 instead of increasing.

With those changes, the new budget is set at \$6,669,347, but the mill levy, which was originally set at 83.91 mills, will not change.

With the budget now approved, it will take effect Jan. 1.

City agrees to restrict Crane street parking

By Carleen Bell
cbell@nwkansas.com

With the third and final reading of the ordinance now complete, anyone who parks on Crane Street from now on will have less area to do so.

The Norton City Council approved the final reading of the ordinance Wednesday evening, which restricts parking on Crane Street near the Andbe Home.

To help alleviate traffic congestion and make the area safer for vehicles parked and traveling in the area, a sec-

tion of Crane Street south of the Andbe Home on the south side of Crane Street will be marked as a no parking area. The restriction will help reduce minor accidents for vehicles backing out of the Andbe Home parking along the Street.

To instate an ordinance for the city, the city council is required to hold three readings of the proposed ordinance and publish it for public notice. The parking restriction will become effective after the notice is published.

Sheriff is planning to replace damaged vehicle

By Carleen Bell
cbell@nwkansas.com

After a severe hail storm damaged two Sheriff's Office vehicles on Aug. 11, Norton County Sheriff Troy Thomson has reported that the department is

working toward replacing at least one of those vehicles.

In a storm that dropped tennis ball-sized hail on the vehicles, one of the

(Sheriff - Continued on Page 5)



A new year

Leaders of the Eisenhower Elementary school in Norton held the annual open house Friday evening to welcome students and their families to a new school year. The evening featured the opportunity for students to learn who their teachers are, find their classrooms and get their supplies organized. The evening also featured a Ruby Cook's famous cinnamon rolls for students and their families.

At left, the Wagoner family checks out the student lists posted at the school. Pictured are from left, James, Jana, and Cody.

-Telegram photo by Carleen Bell

