

THE NORTON TELEGRAM



Tuesday
March 6, 2012

Briefly

Weather class set for Friday evening

A Weather Spotter training course will be held Friday evening at Prairie Land Electric. Open to the public, the class will be held from 6:30-9:30 p.m. and will train spotters how to spot and report local weather, along with topics to include storm structure, cloud types and weather safety.

E-reader training to be this Thursday

Training for the 3M e-reader services will be held Thursday at 5:30 p.m. at the Norton Public Library. The training at this time will only be for Nook, Sony, i-Pad and other readers. The training for Kindle readers will be at a later date.

Farm meeting set for this Wednesday

Enrollment for the 2012 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program will continue through June.

Landowners enrolled in the program receive annual rental payments and cost-share assistance to establish long-term, resource conserving covers on environmentally sensitive land.

The Norton County Farm Services Agency Office will have an informational meeting to explain the program on March 7 in the conference room at the Norton County Office at 11506 Pinewind Drive in Norton. The meeting will begin at 1 p.m.

Schools to dismiss for a spring break

The Norton Community School District will not be in session all next week for Spring break. School will resume Monday, March 19 at regular time.

Markets

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Wheat.....	\$6.54
Milo.....	\$5.97
Soybeans.....	\$12.27
Corn.....	\$6.39

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

Weather

Wednesday - Mostly cloudy in the morning then becoming partly sunny. Much cooler and breezy with highs in the mid 40s. Wednesday Night - Mostly cloudy and colder with a chance of light snow and possibly mixed with freezing rain and sleet after midnight. Thursday - Mostly cloudy with a slight chance of light snow. Possibly mixed with rain and freezing rain in the morning. Friday - Partly cloudy with highs in the lower 50s. Saturday - Partly cloudy with highs in the lower 50s.

Kingham Report

Friday, March 2.....	Low 23, High 48
Saturday, March 3.....	Low 18, High 47
Sunday, March 4.....	Low 32, High 64
Monday, March 5.....	Low 27, High 72

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

Prayer

Dear Lord Jesus, help us to carry the fragrance of life to those in need today and to everyone we meet. Amen

Parents hold send-off for Blue Jays



To help send the Norton Blue Jay boys' basketball team out of town Thursday afternoon to the Sub-State Tournament in Scott City, basketball parents and other supporters gathered in front of Prairie Land Electric on the west edge of Norton with signs of support. The supporters waved the signs for the boys to see from the bus as the team left town for the competition.

-Telegram photo by Carleen Bell

County agrees to establish cemetery district

By Carleen Bell
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After a public hearing on the matter, the Norton County Commissioners approved a resolution Monday morning to establish a cemetery district in the West Union portion of the county. The district will cover the Densmore, Catholic and Archer cemeteries.

A small group of citizens gathered at the public hearing with the commissioners to discuss the creation of the district and discuss options for caring for those cemeteries. Currently, the cemeteries are not in a district and are under no established procedures for care and maintenance. The establishment of a district, however, will allow

for the creation of a five-member board of directors to manage the cemeteries.

According to the resolution, the township trustee of Solomon Township has 30 days to "call a meeting of all the qualified electors of the newly created cemetery district for the purpose of organizing the cemetery district into an association and for the election of five

directors who shall have the authority to provide for the care and maintenance of the district cemeteries...(and) reside within Norton County."

Though county leaders could levy up to \$6,000 per year to cover the cost of caring for the cemeteries, no decisions were made Monday on how much money would be needed.

Four file for three seats on Lenora city council

By Carleen Bell
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For the upcoming April 3 election, four citizens have filed for three open seats to serve on the Lenora City Council.

According to Norton County Clerk Robert Wyatt, the Lenora City Council consists of five at-large council seats and three of those seats are up for reelection. Filing for the seats are Deborah Anderson, Phillip Rule, Andrea Day and Carla Burch.

Anyone who would like to register to vote in the April 3 election must go

to the Norton County Clerk's Office (Courthouse, 2nd floor) with a photo identification to fill out a voter registration form prior to Tuesday, March 13. Norton County Clerk Robert Wyatt reports that the identification can be drivers license, state issued identification card, government-issued identification or college identification. Regardless of the type, the photo identification must bear a current photo and name of the person registering.

The polling place for the Lenora City Council election will be the Lenora Community Building.

Golf course names new Clubhouse Manager

By Carleen Bell
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Bringing 30 years of experience to the position, Carla Griffin of Norton has been named the new Clubhouse Manager at the Prairie Dog Golf Course.

Griffin grew up in Logan and graduated from high school there and moved to Norton more than 30 years ago.

Since then, she has held a variety of positions, including the Norton State Hospital. From there, she became a bartender at State Street Steakhouse (now Attitudes) and she managed O'Brien's bar for about four years. Her experience also includes working for Jamboree Foods and Norton Flowers, Gifts and Greenhouse.

Griffin began working as a bartender at the golf course in January and was named Clubhouse Manager in February. Her responsibilities as manager include managing the bar, taking money for green fees, supervising staff, scheduling and ordering supplies.

She and her husband, Flint, reside in Norton.



Carla Griffin

Junior high students to 'wig out' for cancer

To help raise money for Norton County Relay for Life, the Norton Junior High Kay Club will "wig out" this week for the cause.

Kay Club sponsor Erin Manning reported that the club is hosting a guest speaker, Joan Hale today (Tuesday), who is going to share about her experience undergoing cancer treatment.

The club is also holding a fund-raiser this week that will culminate in Friday's "Wig out for Cancer" event. Students will attempt to raise money for the cause with different goal levels. "If we hit \$100, Mike Kasson is going to shave his head," Manning said. "The goals go up in \$50 increments

with several male students shaving their heads until we hit \$300. If we raise \$300, Mr. Gordon and Mr. McKinney are going to shave their heads."

Students will also be wearing wigs on Friday in honor of cancer victims and survivors.

The "head shaving" day will be held Friday at 1:35 p.m. at the school. Parents of some of the students will be on hand to shave their sons' hair and Karen Carter from Razor's Edge will also be helping to cut hair. The students will also be collecting donations during the event for the American Cancer Society's Relay For Life.

Northern Valley shows forensic improvement

The Northern Valley forensics team has had a busy season and coach Ken Tharman reports that the team is doing well.

The Hays meet was held on February 25. Tharman reported that 18 schools showed up with over 190 entries.

Gale Hays and Michelle Tharman both accompanied the team down to act as sponsors as well as judges for the tournament.

Those students attending the Hays meet were Gunnar Hays, Alex Tharman, Kenzi Husted, Macy Kasson, Jon Compton, Ame Baird, Matt Stutsman and Morgan Speer. Almost all of them were entered into two events.

"Timing is very important both in the rooms and getting to the rooms before the round ends," Tharman said. "After

three preliminary rounds, Gunnar Hays broke into the finals and took home the first place medal in Extemporaneous Speaking."

On March 3, the team traveled to Ellis for a competition. Ranelle Hays and Connie Cox joined to sponsor the students and judge in the tournament.

Those students attending this meet were Kenzi Husted, Makayla Smith, Gunnar Hays, Daniel Field, Alex Tharman, Jon Compton, Ame Baird and Macy Kasson.

"Every one of the tournaments we have attended so far, minus the League we hosted, these students are up and in a suburban by 5:30 a.m., give or take a little," Tharman explained. "I think that speaks volumes about their dedication and to the amount of fun we have

on these jaunts."

Every performer was able to see improvement as they day went on. At the end of the preliminary rounds, only the top six contestants or duos advance to the finals. Those that made it to the final round, their event, and final placements were Makayla Smith and Alex Tharman - Improvised Duet Acting (2nd place) and Gunnar Hays - Extemporaneous Speaking (1st place).

With only 12 events entered out of a possible 18 total, Northern Valley finished in sixth place out of 14 teams.

The last five tournaments in the area are Phillipsburg (March 22), Smith Center (March 29), Colby (March 31), Oberlin (April 2) and the Western Kansas Liberty League at Rexford (April 4).

New owners take over at Brooks Motel

By Carleen Bell
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After owning the business for nearly 17 years, Ron and Vicki Fisher announced recently that the Brooks Motel is now under new ownership.

Late last year, the Fishers sold the business to the Vasant "Victor" Bhakta family, who took over operation in late December.

Sandy Bhakta, who is operating the hotel with his parents and brother, reported this week that the family came from Arizona, where they had been managing a chain of Motel 8 lodging facilities.

Since taking over ownership of the Brooks Motel, Bhakta said, the family has been working on some upgrades at the business, including adding microwave/refrigerator units to the rooms and adding new television sets to the rooms. The family is also planning future upgrades of adding a new roof to the building.

With the new ownership, Bhakta said, the name of the business will not change and it will still be known as the Brooks Motel.

