

\$1 THE NORTON TELEGRAM



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Friday

March 23, 2012

Briefly

Pancake feed set for this Sunday night

The Norton County Farm Bureau will host a pancake feed on Sunday from 5-7 p.m. at the Norton Community Center (Senior Center). Free and open to the public, the dinner will also feature prize drawings and informational displays about Farm Bureau.

Legion Riders host breakfast at Legion

The Norton American Legion Riders will host a breakfast on Saturday from 6-11 a.m. at the Norton American Legion. The menu includes pancakes, sausage, bacon, scrambled eggs, potatoes, juice, coffee and milk. The cost is a free will donation with proceeds going to the Legion Riders.

Tag renewal date is at end of March

March 31 is the deadline for the renewal vehicle licenses for anyone whose last name begins with "B." Anyone renewing a license must include proof of current insurance for all vehicles. Renewals can be processed during regular business hours in the Norton County Treasurer's office. The office will be closed on April 5 from 8-9 a.m.

Youth activity form is due by April 2

Norton Recreation Commission softball and baseball registration entry forms are due by Monday, April 2 by 5 p.m., along with registration forms for the Youth Track and Field Day to be held Saturday, May 12. For more information about either activity, contact the Recreation Commission at 785-877-3087.

Arts Council show tickets are available

Tickets are now available for the Norton County Arts Council's Elvis Rock n' Remember Tribute to Elvis. Joseph Hall will perform as Elvis on Sunday, April 15 at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for students and can be obtained at First State Bank or by calling 877-5611.

Markets

Friday, March 23, 2012

Wheat.....	\$6.29
Milo.....	\$5.89
Soybeans.....	\$12.65
Corn.....	\$6.30

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

Weather

Saturday - Sunny and warmer with highs in the upper 70s. Sunday - Mostly sunny and breezy with patchy fog in the morning. Highs around 80. Monday - Windy with a 20 percent chance of rain.

Kingham Report

Tuesday, March 20Low 30, High 58
Wednesday, March 21...Low 39, High 57
1" Rain
Thursday, March 22.....Low 41, High 61
1.10" Rain
(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

Dear God, help us to trust you with the circumstances of our lives. Amen

Fading trade alive and well in Selden



Katie Koerperich of Koerperich Bookbindery, Inc. in Selden works with a large sewing machine to bind a portion of a new book the company is putting together. One of very few old-fashioned book binderies left in the nation, Don and Katie Koerperich operate the business in Selden.

By Carleen Bell
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One of very few businesses of its kind left in the nation, Koerperich Bookbindery, Inc. in Selden is still making and repairing books by hand, a craft not often found in today's digital world.

Now owned and operated by Don and Katie Koerperich, the book bindery was founded in 1969 when Don's parents started the business. Don's parents, Richard and Sandy Koerperich, visited a book bindery in New Mexico to learn the trade, then came home to Selden to launch their own book bindery.

The business started in a garage on the Koerperich farm, and was later moved to downtown Selden and the business has been continually expanding since the relocation.

Don is one of five sons born to Richard and Sandy and all of them worked at the business through their high school years. After high school, Don attended college in McCook, Neb., then returned to Selden to continue helping with the family business along side his parents and his brother, Chris.

When Richard passed away six years ago, Don and Chris began operating the bindery full time and two years ago, Don purchased his brother's half of the bindery, becoming sole owner.

-Telegram photo by Carleen Bell

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City council election is coming up on April 3

Harriett Gill-Ward 1

By Carleen Bell
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As a candidate who has served in the position in the past, Harriett Gill is a candidate for Ward I in the upcoming April 3 Norton City Council election.

Gill reports that she grew up in Colorado Springs, Colo. and moved to Norton about 14 years ago. She moved here because her children were living in Norton and she wanted to be near her family.

Since moving to Norton, she has served in a variety of jobs, including Pamida, the Norton Telegram and most recently, she helps her daughter operate Norton Flowers, Gifts and Greenhouse, a position Gill said is more of a hobby than a job.

From 2001 to 2004, Gill served on the Norton City Council, first filling in for a mid-term vacancy, then winning an election for another two-year term. Gill said she wanted to run for city council again because decision, made for the future are going to affect her children and grandchildren.

"I've got a lot of interest in this town and I want to see it grow," she said. "My children depend on the economy of the community. They are employed here and I have a grandson who goes to school here. The future of Norton is important to my family."

Gill said that city leaders have been grappling with some major issues for a long time, including municipal water and sewer and street/curb and gutter



Harriett Gill

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Donna Foley: Ward 2

By Carleen Bell
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Bringing seven years of experience to the position, Donna Foley is a candidate for Ward II Norton city council member in the upcoming April 3 election.

Running unopposed for the position, Foley has filled the seat since 2005.

Foley reports that she grew up in California, but has lived in Norton for about 14 years. She and her husband, Ward, moved to Norton with their two children after visiting family every summer.

"We came for the county fair every year and we just fell in love with the town," she said. "We could hardly wait to sell our house and get packed up and make the move to Norton."

Foley was elected to the Norton City Council in 2006, but prior to that, she had served on the council for one year to fill a mid-term vacancy on the council. The initial decision to serve on the council, Foley said, was because she wanted to be involved with the then-forming Economic Development Board of Directors, which worked out in her favor because the board needed a city council representative, so she got the opportunity to do both.

During her time on city council, Foley said, city leaders have worked through several issues and projects, particularly revamping the city's public water and sewer facilities. In addition, she cited the



Donna Foley

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Ron Briery: Ward III

By Carleen Bell
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Ron Briery is a candidate for Ward III city council member in the upcoming April 3 election and, like his counterparts seeking seats in Wards I and II, Briery is not new to city leadership.

Briery explained that he grew up in Hoxie and after high school, he moved to Norton to work for the Kansas Department of Transportation. After 43 years of working for the department, he retired and continues to live in Norton and runs a small gun shop from his home.

Until about four years ago, Briery said, he served as a city council member for almost ten years ago. He said he is seeking re-election so he can be a part of the future of the community.

"Things are happening that I would like to be a part of," Briery said. "When I was on the council previously, I was trying to get something done with the streets and curbs and gutters of the town and I think those are still important issues."

The current hot-button topic among city leaders is the potential construction of a new swimming pool, which Briery said may not be the best project for the city to pursue.

"I think the city should look into alternatives before just building a new pool," he said. "I don't know if the citizens will stand for more sales tax. It's not a very good economic time to be raising the



Ron Briery

(Briery- Continued on Page 5)

Council agrees to increase spay/neuter fee for adoptions

By Carleen Bell
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After hearing from state officials that the move was necessary, the Norton City Council approved a final reading of an ordinance Wednesday evening that will increase the fees to adopt a pet from the city's animal shelter.

Norton City Administrator Rob Lawson reported in February that the city has been charging a \$25 spay/neuter fee for cats and dogs adopted from the city animal shelter.

The fee is charged upon adop-

tion, then refundable when the owners provide proof that they have had their animals spayed or neutered.

Lawson explained that the city animal shelter was recently inspected by state officials who instructed the city to increase the fees to better reflect the actual cost of having a pet spayed or neutered.

After three readings of the ordinance and a final approval Wednesday evening, the ordinance will take effect after publication in the newspaper.

Relay For Life team to host a 'Bras for a Cause' fund-raiser

By Carleen Bell
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To help raise money for the American Cancer Society's Relay For Life, Team Nex-Tech will host the first annual "Bras for a Cause and Artsy Undies Show" through May 14.

According to event organizers, the event will feature bras, boxers and briefs that have been decorated with a theme that supports the American Cancer Society's mission to reduce the number of cancer deaths across the nation.

Entries will be accepted through May 3 and winners will be announced on May 14.

All entries, which will be displayed in downtown businesses, must include

tasteful décor. The cost to enter is \$10 per clothing item.

Entries can be submitted to Megan Hawks at 874-8884 or Nicole Rushton at 567-7727.

Relay For Life of Norton County will be held on June 8 - 9 at the Court House Square in downtown Norton. This year's theme is "Camping For a Cure."

Anyone wishing to join a team or to have a team in this year's Relay can contact Sandy Brown at 785-202-0204 or for information Relay For Life of Norton County call Jay or Gayle Walsh at 785-669-7002. You can also find us online at www.relayforlife.org/norton-countyks or on Facebook by searching Relay For Life of Norton County.

