

# \$1 THE NORTON TELEGRAM



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8 PAGES

Friday

June 15, 2012

Briefly

## Lenora Jubilee set for this weekend

The Lenora Jubilee will be held this weekend in Lenora. Friday evening will feature a concert from Frankie Ballard, Brent Dellinger and Tracy Lawrence. Saturday will feature city-wide garage sales, fun run, silent auction, parade, pedal power pull, bingo, trap shoot, Spinmaster Brent Dellinger, creature races, inflatable carnival and Jared Gile and the Jared Daniels Band in concert.

## Races to be held Saturday evening

Elmwood Park Speedway will host races this weekend. The races will feature hobby stock, stock car, sport mod and modified. Gates open at 5 p.m., hot laps are at 6 p.m. and races begin at 7 p.m. In honor of Father's Day, dads attending the races can get a hot dog and Coke for \$2.

## Parents need to file for transportation

For parents of children living in Norcatur and attending Norton school next year, the district is issuing a reminder that out of district transportation bus applications need to be sent to the Oberlin school district office. Current statutes allow the Norton buses to enter Norcatur to pick up students if the students' applications have been filed with the Oberlin school district. All students are required to renew applications on an annual basis. Applications may be picked up at the unit offices of either district, but must be filed with the Oberlin district.

## Markets

Friday, June 15, 2012

Wheat	\$5.95
Milo	\$5.50
Soybeans	\$13.03
Corn	\$6.26

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op



Tonight - Mostly cloudy with a 40 percent chance of thunderstorms. Saturday - Partly sunny in the morning then becoming mostly sunny with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 80s. Saturday Night - Partly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of thunderstorms. Sunday - Sunny with highs in the mid 90s. Monday - Mostly clear with highs in the mid 90s. Tuesday - Mostly clear with highs in the mid 90s. Wednesday - Mostly sunny with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. Highs in the lower 90s.

## Kingham Report

Tuesday, June 12.....Low 51, High 91  
.04 Rain  
Wednesday, June 13.....Low 53, High 99  
Thursday, June 14.....Low 66, High 100  
1.10 Rain

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

## Prayer

Dearest Lord Jesus, you are always in our heart and listen to our every thought. Remind us to talk to you every day. Amen

# Wheat harvest ahead of schedule

By Carleen Bell  
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Well ahead of average timing, wheat harvest is well underway in northwest Kansas with the first load of wheat coming into Ag Valley Co-op on June 6.

Todd Johnson, Grain Accountant at Ag Valley, reported that on Tuesday, the facility took in about 50,000 bushels of wheat and moisture content is running between 12 and 13 percent. Test weight is running at about 62 pounds.

Johnson said that the test weight is a little higher than expected, but the moisture is just right.

"We start docking if moisture is over 13.5 percent," he said. "If we don't get any rain, the wheat will continue to dry out and we've had a few loads come in at 10 to 11 percent moisture."

Johnson said that the June 6 load is about three weeks earlier than usual for the first load of wheat, but the length of harvest will vary depending on weather. For now, though, it's too early to tell how long harvest will continue.

When Ag Valley Co-op is operating at high capacity, Johnson said, they can expect to take in up to 100,000 bushels of wheat per day.

(Right) Ag Valley employee Mark Retke helps empty a load of wheat at the elevator Wednesday afternoon.



# Local business earns top commerce honor

By Carleen Bell  
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After an extensive nomination and selection process, a Norton County business has earned the highest award a business in Kansas can achieve.

Nex-Tech, based in Lenora, was awarded the Governor's Award of Excellence at the Kansas Cavalry Encampment at Kansas State University in Manhattan.

Nex-Tech Chief Executive Officer Larry Sevier reports that the business was nominated by Joan Nech of the Smith Center Chamber of Commerce and Aaron White of the Ellis County Coalition for Economic Development.

From the nominations, Nex-Tech was chosen as one of six regional winners, who each appeared before a panel of judges to give a presentation about why they are deserving of the highest honor.

Along with Chief Operating Officer Jeff Wick, Sevier helped give the presentation on May 2.

On May 12, Nex-Tech was announced as the winner and received a

trophy to go along with the recognition.

Sevier explained that major factors in earning the recognition have been job creation and infrastructure improvements the company is doing.

Nex-Tech is building a major broadband network in western Kansas that will serve 39,000 organizations and individuals. In addition, the company has grown from 26 employees to 380 employees over the last two decades.

Nex-Tech has earned regional recognition three times in the past, but this year marks the first Governor's Award of Excellence, an achievement Sevier attributes to the people who work for the company.

"This is the top award a business can achieve and we owe that to our employees," he said. "We have a tremendous employee base and this award really shows how great they are."

The award is the state's top business honor and is the culmination of Business Appreciation Month, the Kansas Department of Commerce's annual statewide tribute to Kansas businesses

for their contributions to the state.

The event is sponsored the Kansas Department of Commerce and the Kansas Cavalry, a volunteer group of business leaders who promote the state as a desirable business location.

Nex-Tech Training Services is certified as a proprietary school through the Kansas Board of Regents and is registered as a Kansas Service Provider.

Through a partnership with Fort Hays State University, employees and customers can attend classes in Micro-

soft Office applications and earn college or continuing education credit.

The company created a youth services/community development coordinator position in 2011 to administer all of the company's youth programs (internships, educational school presentations, career days and other events), and to serve as a liaison to businesses, schools and communities. Nex-Tech also offers a variety of youth-centered programs

## Farmer's Market begins June 21

The Norton County Farmer's Market will begin on Thursday, June 21. It will be held at 7-9 a.m. and also from 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. on Thursdays. The location for the market will be the main entrance to Elmwood Park, south side of the entrance row of cottonwood trees.

It will be held every Thursday until the first killing frost in the fall. The Farmer's Market allows local produce growers an opportunity to offer their foods to the public. The mission of the market is to encourage private vendors the opportunity to produce and sell locally grown vegetable produce and baked goods.

# Relay For Life far surpasses year's fund-raising goal

By Carleen Bell  
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After being in danger of not being able to host the event last year, organizers of the Norton County Relay For Life report that not only is the event stronger than ever, this year's Relay far exceeded the fund-raising goal.

Event coordinator Gayle Walsh reported this week that just two years ago, the Norton County Relay For Life netted only about \$12,000 and this year, the event tallied almost \$33,000 for the American Cancer Society.

"When we were only bringing in \$12,000, the American Cancer Society wasn't sure it was worth it for us to have a Relay in Norton County," Walsh said. "We decided that regardless of that decision, we would have one anyway and the society gave us another year."

That reprieve for 2011, Walsh explained, paid off well and for 2011, Relay For Life brought in \$26,000. That substantial increase in fund-raising earned Norton County Relay For Life several awards from the American Cancer Society and this year, the event is stronger than ever.

Walsh said that the goal this year was to raise \$26,000 and with the efforts of the 14 teams who helped raise money, the 2012 Norton County Relay For Life

brought in almost \$33,000.

Several individuals were honored at this year's Relay For Life, including the people who raised \$1,000 or more for the American Cancer Society. Those participants are Jessica Gilgenbach, Savannah Hamilton, Christina Rule, Elaine Rule, Ethan Rule, Kevin Rule, Lexi Rule, Maddie Rule and Gayle Walsh.

The team of The Rule Crew was the top fund-raising team this year with a total of \$9,402.60. The team was awarded a traveling trophy for this honor and 2012 was the third year that The Rule Crew has earned this honor.

The top American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network membership recruitment award went to Nicole Rushton of the Nex-Tech team. Rushton was awarded a Relay For Life blanket.

Approximate attendance at this year's Relay For Life was almost 200 people.

(Right) Elaine Rule of Norton had the honor of having her head shaved at this year's Norton County Relay For Life. Elaine issued a challenge to her granddaughter, Jessica Gilgenbach, to raise at least \$1,000 for Elaine to shave her head. Jessica surpassed that goal and Elaine's daughter, Susan, did the honors at Relay.

Telegram photo by Carleen Bell

