

# \$1 THE NORTON TELEGRAM



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8 PAGES

**Tuesday**  
March 26, 2013

## Briefly

### Early dismissal, then no school

There will be early school dismissal on Wednesday for USD 211. Students will be dismissed at 1 p.m. and then there is no school on Good Friday.

### Courthouse will close early Friday

The Courthouse will be closing at noon on Friday, March 29, for observance of Good Friday. The vehicle computers will be going off at 11:30 a.m. and the driver's license computer will be going off at 11 a.m. on Friday, March 29.

### Easter Egg hunt set for this Saturday

The Norton Child Study Club will host the annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday with the scavenger hunt starting at 1 p.m. and the egg hunt starting at 2 p.m. at the Norton County Courthouse.

### Prairie View to hold an Easter Cantata

An Easter cantata "It Is Finished" will be presented at the Prairie View Reformed Church at 7 p.m. on Easter Sunday, March 31. It is directed by Belinda Thalheim. Soloists are Alex and Michelle Tharman. The public is invited.

### Tag renewals are due by Sunday

March 31, 2013 is the last day to purchase "B" tags from the Norton County Treasurer. Include your current proof of insurance for all vehicles. For trailers, insurance for the vehicle that will pull the trailer is needed. VIN number, policy number and current expiration date needs verified. Office hours are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Driver's license renewals can be processed Tuesday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. You need to have your driver's license and a current utility bill or current bank statement with your name and address for proof of residency. CDL licenses must be renewed at a full service office

## Markets

Tuesday, March 26, 2013

Wheat .....	\$7.09
Milo .....	\$6.98
Soybeans .....	\$13.95
Corn .....	\$7.42

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

## Weather

Tuesday Night - Partly cloudy with a low of 21. Wednesday - Partly cloudy with a high of 52. Wednesday Night - Partly cloudy with fog overnight. Low of 18. Thursday - Partly cloudy with fog early and a high of 61. Thursday Night - Partly cloudy with fog overnight. Low of 32. Friday - Fog early with a high of 59.

## Prayer

Thank you, loving God, for seeking us before we knew that we needed you. Amen.

## Counting on an education...



Eisenhower Elementary School Early Childhood Development teacher Stephanie Kramer works with future student, Michael Urban, at the screening held last Friday. After running several tests, it looks like little Michael will be attending school.

- Telegram photo by Dana Paxton

## USD 211 was honored for music education

As one of the best communities for music education, district 211 has been heralded for its support of music education. The NAMM Foundation recognizes Norton Community Schools for its outstanding commitment to music education with a Best Communities for Music Education designation. USD 211 joins 307 districts across the country to receive the prestigious distinction this year.

In its 14th year, Best Communities for Music Education (BCME) affirms school districts that have demonstrated exceptional efforts toward maintaining music education as part of the schools' core curriculum.

The BCME survey requires districts to answer detailed questions about funding, graduation requirements, music class participation, instruction time, facilities, support for the music program and community music-making programs. Responses were verified with school officials and reviewed by The Institute for Educational Research and Public Service of Lawrence, Kansas, an affiliate of the University of Kansas.

Said Greg Mann, Superintendent of the Norton Schools, "We are pleased to be recognized. We believe the Norton Schools have always been supportive of school music and art programs.

(Music - Continued on Page 5)

## Four running for city council positions



**Jerry Jones**  
Ward 1

By Dana Paxton  
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Jerry Jones is the incumbent Democrat running for a second term as the Ward One Norton City Council seat holder.

Jerry is currently a member of the Economic Development Board, the Chairman of the Public Safety Committee, a member of the American Motorcycle Association and a retired member of the Goodland Vo-Tech Auto Body Advisory Committee. He has held his city council position for two years and is seeking re-election on April 2.

The reason Mr. Jones is running again is that he believes that there are still many things that need to be done for the City of Norton. "Norton is growing, one more time in my lifetime and there are things to do to prepare for the next growth spurt," Jones said.

When asked what he would change (Jones - Continued on Page 5)



**Jon Keiswetter**  
Ward 1

By Dana Paxton  
[dpaxton@nwkansas.com](mailto:dpaxton@nwkansas.com)

Jon Keiswetter is a Republican running for the Ward 1 Norton city council seat against incumbent Jerry Jones. Born in Norton County he has returned to the place of his birth to continue running his business, which gives him experience.

"I want to give the town's people another choice, to be sure that city codes are enforced equally across the board and to see the issues of the curbs, gutters and water system addressed," Keiswetter stated.

Mr. Keiswetter wished more would get involved and go to the meetings. He feels that if people don't like the way things are done, the way the city's money is being spent then they need to change who is on the council.

"I don't know if I can do any better but take public opinion, at least listen. I will try to do what is right for the entire city instead of for certain people," Keiswetter said.



**Jeff Urban**  
Ward 3

By Mike Stephens  
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Jeff Urban, a Republican, is running for City Council in Ward 3. Urban said the number of dilapidated houses and buildings in Norton is a real problem.

"I'm tickled to be in Norton. We need to step up and say these properties need to be cleaned up," said Urban.

He feels Norton has a problem with at-large dogs and cats as well. "We need to take care of the dog and cat problem we have here in town. This issue has been lingering (before city council) for over a year.

"We need to stick to our policies, the ones we already have in place, before we change them."

If elected, Urban said he would like to see the curbs and gutters repaired and an emphasis put on infrastructure, specifically the sewer and water lines.

This is Urban's first time running for city council. "I'd like to see what I can change, if possible," said Urban



**Robert Bowman**  
Ward 3

By Dana Paxton  
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Robert Bowman is running for the Ward 3 Norton City Council seat. He is a Republican who has been a Norton County resident his entire life.

Mr. Bowman has held a city council seat before, eight years ago in Alma. He has been attending the meetings and was approached by Jerry Moritz and asked to run for office so he decided that since he had time and wanted to see change that he would give it a try.

"It won't be an easy task but we have issues that need to be addressed and worked out," Bowman said. He wants to be sure the pool gets put in the right way with no short cuts, see that the pot holes get taken care of, water lines fixed and to listen to the people and work with the council to the best of his ability.

"I won't be a yes man, I will vote for what I believe is right for the public.

## Council hears from several at last meeting

By Mike Stephens  
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At the Norton City Council meeting held on Wednesday, March 20, Mayor David Corns urged all registered voters to go out and vote for mayor and city council on April 2. Mayor Corns is being challenged by Norton businessman Len Coady and parole officer and Norton resident Craig Knapp.

The City also reminded the public that the City sales tax increase will take effect on April 1. The sales tax for purchases within the city of Norton will increase from 7.55 percent to 8.30 percent.

Mayor Corns reported that a member

of the Planning Commission has moved outside of the city limits and therefore is no longer eligible to serve. Corns said Curt Walter had expressed his desire to serve on the Commission once again. The Council voted unanimously, 5-0, to accept the Mayor's appointment of Curt Walter to the Planning Commission, with the term to expire Nov. 30, 2014.

Jerry Jones reported that insurance bids were being requested for the business protection policy for the City. The City requests bids every three years. Boxler Insurance was the only agency that submitted a bid. The Council approved the bid from Boxler Insurance

for the City's business protection policy in the amount of \$110,572.

Roberta Ryan reported the Public Works Commission will review a list of leaks from the two inch water lines, and will consider possible replacement of a section of these lines if time and money is available. It's estimated cost is about \$30,000 per block.

City Administrator Rob Lawson will get cost estimates for repairing or replacing the lift station at Elmwood Park. Lawson will also investigate the cost to upgrade the voltage regulators and the load tap changer at the power plant, since the City is receiving higher loads. This will increase the safety of

the distribution.

Some of the downtown lighting has been installed but Jerry Moritz said the City Highway funds are tight because money is committed for the Highway 36 project. Moritz, however, did say there is money in the electric fund to do the lighting projects.

Donna Foley reported she attended a recent work session in which they discussed mosquito control and potholes. This year, according to Foley, the pot holes will be fixed more permanently by digging out the affected area, filling and compacting them with base mate-

(Council - Continued on Page 5)

