

# \$1 THE NORTON TELEGRAM



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8 PAGES

**Tuesday**

**April 30, 2013**

*Briefly*

## Booster club to meet Wednesday

The third meeting of the Norton Blue Jay Booster Club for the golf and track and field 2013 seasons will be held on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in the high school cafeteria.

Speaking about their team's recent results will be head golf coach David Stover and head track and field coach Jason Jones.

All fans of Norton Community High School sports are invited to the meetings.

You do not have to be a member of the booster club to attend.

## Group to hold meeting Thursday

The public is invited to High Plains Sustainable Growers on Thursday, May 2 at 7 p.m. at the Living Hope Fellowship. Revitalizing the farmer's market will be the topic of discussion. For more information email Robin Somers at rjsomers@ruraltel.net.

## Relay for Life to show free movies

Relay for Life will be hosting a free will donation movie fundraiser on Sunday, May 5 at the Norton Theatre starting at 2 p.m. The popcorn will be free and the movies showing will include ET: The Extra Terrestrial (PG) and The Swiss Family Robinson (G)..

## Veterans' assistance postponed til June

Jody Tubbs of the Kansas Commission on Veterans' Affairs will not be visiting in Norton during the month of May. Her next visit will be on Tuesday, June 4. If you are unable to contact Ms. Tubbs at that time, you may contact her in Colby any Monday, Wednesday or Friday at 785-462-3572.

## City hydrant flush will be next week

The City of Norton will flush the hydrants on Wednesday, May 8, beginning at 8 a.m. (weather permitting). Please refrain from doing laundry on this day.

## Markets

Tuesday, April 30, 2013

Wheat.....	\$7.23
Milo.....	\$6.43
Soybeans.....	\$14.21
Corn.....	\$6.86

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

## Weather

Tuesday Night - Overcast with a chance of a thunderstorm. Wednesday - Overcast with rain and a high of 45. Wednesday Night - Overcast with a chance of snow and rain. Chance of snow 50 percent. Thursday - Clear with a high of 54.

## Prayer

Faithful God, give us strength to place you first in our lives, above all that we own. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen

## Rounding up the herd...



Don, Curtis and Cindy Lowry held their annual branding on Saturday at the Spring Creek Ranch just east of town. They had plenty of help on hand as they branded, vaccinated and castrated an estimated 340 cattle. —Telegram photo by Mike Stephens

# County sales tax receipts are higher

By Cynthia Haynes  
c.haynes@wkansas.com

Sales tax receipts are up in Norton County from last year, County Treasurer Cindy Linner told the county commissioners at their Monday meeting.

This year April receipts were \$28,776, Mrs. Linner said. Last year, the county brought in \$22,711.

In fact, the sales taxes for the month are higher than they have been for the same period over the last several years. In 2011, the county brought in \$26,373, in 2010, \$21,927; and in

2009, \$23,549.

So far for the fiscal year, which started in October 2012 (seven months), the county has brought in \$2,963,070 in sales tax, Mrs. Linner's figures showed. For the same period last year, that amount was \$2,604,400. Back in 2009, the county had brought in \$1,659,250 during the first seven months of the fiscal year.

The April sales taxes that the county received were remitted to the state in February, Mrs. Linner said.

The new city sales tax, which went

into effect April 1, will not affect what the county brings in, Mrs. Linner said. The tax increase, .75 of 1 percent raised the sales tax of goods and services sold within the City of Norton to 8.3 percent, Mrs. Linner said.

County Clerk Robert Wyatt noted that the county should get a sales tax boost next month when it gets the money remitted in March since those businesses that report their taxes quarterly will be paying it then.

The City of Norton gets 1.25 cents in sales tax for each dollar spent in town

and the county gets three-fourths of a cent for every dollar spent in the county, Mrs. Linner said. The state takes 6.3 cents on each dollar spent.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Heard that the county firetrucks are not owned by the county but by the fire districts. The county does own the ambulances, Mr. Wyatt said.

- Spoke briefly with Norton County Emergency Medical Director Jane Wyatt.

# Leadership graduation ceremonies held

Dan Bainter, Chris Frack, Andrew Horwart, Melanie Mortensen, Pat Pomeroy, Denise Schmitz, Tonya Stover, Tara Vance and Megan Walter are the most recent graduates of Leadership Norton County, an intensive six-month course designed to create a network of community leaders who are informed about the government, public policies, facilities and services of Norton County. The 2013 graduates are the eighth class to complete the program.

During the six-month session, class members were introduced to goal setting, conflict management, parliamentary procedure, leadership development, trust building, personality evaluation and public speaking.

General sessions covered the topics of agriculture, government, education, rural health and economic development.

The class took a two-day trip to the State Capital

where they visited Senator Ostmeyer and Representative Ward Cassidy and Representative Travis Couture Lovelady. They also visited with the Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism, the Department of Corrections, toured the Brown vs. Board of Education Museum and visited the Department of Commerce.

The program curriculum was developed by these members of the planning committee which includes Darla Ellis, (Leaders - Continued on Page 5)

# City of Jennings holds its annual clean-up



The father-son team of Stacy Hartzog, Olathe, left, and Daryl Hartzog loaded recyclable metal on a flatbed trailer during the Jennings city wide clean-up. The metals were sold for over \$1,000 to help support community improvements.

—Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

In its fifth year, the Jennings Citywide Clean-up has become a tradition. Organized by former mayor Marge Hartzog, the event is highly anticipated each spring.

Teams of volunteers show up to help keep the little town looking its best. Several former residents look forward to the clean-up as a good excuse to come home.

Even though it was bitterly cold Saturday morning, about 35 volunteers turned out to give their time and efforts to their hometown. There is nothing too big or too small to be picked up for disposal. Some residents asked for handyman services to nail down tin on a roof or carry heavy items to a garage. Many used the day as an opportunity to work on their own property, knowing the volunteers would help load and haul off any tree limbs or yard debris.

At least 22 locations were on this year's list. Residents called Mrs. Hartzog with their needs and she assigned helpers for each one. If large items like chairs, old televisions and car parts needed to be picked up, she sent a crew of men with a front-end loader and a dump truck; for smaller items or yard debris, a crew with a skid-steer

loader would be dispatched.

Area farmers and construction companies donated the use of dump trucks, flatbed trailers, big tractors with a bucket and lift and skid steers.

Crews used not only the Jennings Landfill, but three truckloads of debris went to the Decatur County Landfill. Two large trailers of recyclable metals went to F & F Iron in Norton, netting the city a check for over \$1,000 to be used for community improvements.

At noon, a potluck lunch was served at the Broken Wheel Bar and Grill in Jennings. Dave and Donna New provided hot dogs, drinks and table service, with salads and desserts brought in by residents who weren't able to help with the clean-up and other volunteers.

After lunch, the volunteers went back to work, winding up the day about 6 p.m. Everyone met back at the Broken Wheel for supper and socializing.

"We could not do this by ourselves," Mrs. Hartzog said. "We really appreciate those people who love their hometown of Jennings and come back every year, and those from the surrounding area who always show up to help. I can't say 'Thank you' enough."

