

# THE NORTON TELEGRAM



**Tuesday**  
May 21, 2013

## Briefly

### Staff recognition set for Thursday

On Thursday, May 23 at 1:30 p.m., retiring USD 211 or NCKSEC staff members who are leaving the employ of USD 211 will be recognized. Being honored this year is Mr. Kevin Jilka for 35 years of service in USD 211. The program will be held in the East Campus auditorium and following the program there will be a receiving line in the gym and light refreshments will be served. The public is cordially invited to attend.

### Summer break starts Thursday

The USD 211 2012-2013 school term comes to an end for all students on Thursday, May 23. School will be dismissed for the summer at 11 a.m.

### City offices to be closed on Monday

The Norton City Office will be closed Monday, May 27th for the Memorial Day Holiday. Monday's refuse route will be picked up Thursday, May 23rd and Thursday, May 30th (in addition to Thursday's yard waste route.)

### Telegram closed on Memorial Day

The Norton Telegram will be closed on Monday, May 27 for the Memorial Holiday. The Monday and Tuesday papers will be combined and go out free to everyone like a normal Monday Extra on Wednesday, May 29. The Jamboree and Shopko inserts will be in this issue. Ad deadline for this paper is Noon, Thursday, May 23.

### Veterans assistance will wait until June

Jody Tubbs of the Kansas Commission on Veteran's 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.

## Markets

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Wheat	\$6.97
Milo	\$6.38
Soybeans	\$14.65
Corn	\$6.91

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

## Weather

Wednesday - Partly cloudy in the morning then clear with a high of 79. Wednesday Night - Partly cloudy with a low of 48. Thursday - Partly cloudy with fog early and a high of 77. Thursday Night - Overcast with a chance of thunderstorms in the evening. Friday - Overcast with a chance of rain and a high of 77.

## Prayer

Dear God, help us to remain focused on loving and serving you. Amen

## Our bright and shining future...



The Norton Community High School Class of 2013 held their graduation ceremonies on Sunday with 55 seniors walking across the stage. The graduates entered the gymnasium led by the honor guard while the NCHS band played "Fanfare and Processional". Teslee Nickell gave the welcome followed by Rachel Slipke's speech, "Destiny".

The choir, under the direction of Tamra Cochran, sang "There's A Place For Us" followed by a speech titled, "Don't Just Exist" by Kamilla Jones. The band, led by Jordan Kinsey, then played "Remember" before Principal Rudy Perez presented the class and Superintendent Gregg Mann presented the diplomas.

## County gets outside help

Northwest Kansas Housing in Hill City will be helping the Norton City/County Economic Development group track money spent from a moderate income housing grant for the Kansas Housing Resources Corp..

The Economic Development board was told at its monthly meeting last Tuesday that because the grant money needs to be trackable in case of an audit by the state housing corp, someone else needs to handle the money.

As invoices are received from the contractor, economic development will submit invoices to the Hill City group for payment. Northwest Kansas Housing is doing this at no charge to the Norton group, Economic Director Scott Sproul told his board.

The money will be used to pay for infrastructure at Norton Estates.

Opening for bids for the project is expected to be next Wednesday.

Mr. Sproul said that Penco Engineer-

ing, which is putting together the bid summaries, has had seven companies requesting project information. A special board meeting will be needed to review the bids and make a decision, he said.

Mr. Sproul also told the board that he has talked with people from Rawlins County about their efforts to develop an Angel Investment Group and a group in Omaha, which has been successful in providing mentorship and funding for start-up businesses. The board heard a presentation from Trish Brasted, president of the Wichita Technology Corp - Wichita Technology Ventures at its April Meeting. Ms. Brasted's Angel Investment group helps start-up companies and Norton's economic development group is looking to set up something similar.

Along with the possible investment group, Mr. Sproul said, NewWork Kansas has partnered with the Kansas

Department of Commerce on a pilot program called the Rural Opportunity Zone Business Accelerator program.

Norton County already has 28 approved candidates for the program, he said. Those eligible could get low interest loans to start or expand a business through the program. Because of the large number of Norton applicants, the county is one of four where the program will be tested.

The grant writing committee, which includes Gregg Mann, Aaron Herman and Mr. Sproul, is looking at the Economic Development staff becoming certified to write Community Development Block Grants and federal grants and also be able to charge a fee for writing grants for others. Certification to write the community development grants is only done every two years and the next class is scheduled for 2015.

Another option, Mr. Sproul said, would be to hire a grant writer for the economic development.

The downtown development com- (County - Continued on Page 5)

## County fire department fights two fires

The Norton Rural Fire Department responded to two fires over the weekend. The first fire was Friday evening on U.S. 36, near the Norton Correctional Facility. No-mix bags ignited from heat and residual fuel inside a baghouse, according to Steve Otter, Rural Fire Chief. Otter said accessibility to the fire was an issue. The baghouse is owned by TheVenture Corporation which is doing the road construction on this stretch of US 36. Alemena Rural Fire Department and Norton City Fire Department assisted on the call.

The second fire was caused by a lightning strike a few miles northwest of town on Road D, which burned five acres of Conservation Reserve Program grass, according to Otter. The Rural Fire Department extinguished the fire without any aid needed from other area departments.

## A refreshing drink...



A large crowd gathered as the Norton City Fire Department got in on some fun action Saturday afternoon. The department was asked to give the Carson and Barnes elephants a bath before the afternoon performances that took place under the big-top at Elmwood Park. Isa the elephant was thirsty so firefighter Wes Riley let her drink her fill from the fire hose. - Telegram photo by Dana Paxton

## Jubilee coming in June

The Lenora Jubilee Association is pleased to announce Nashville recording artist, Greg Bates, as the featured performer on Friday, June 14, at the 2013 Lenora Jubilee. Greg Bates' single "Did it for the Girl" was in the top 20 hits for American Country Music and also hit the top-five in radio airplay. Greg Bates made his Grand Ole Opry debut in April of 2012. "We are excited to have Greg coming to Lenora Kansas. It is great to see these emerging artists come to our venue. We are known for finding the best new artists and introducing them to Western Kansas," said Scott Sproul, Lenora Jubilee Chairman.

The Jubilee Staff is committed to bring the best and brightest entertainment to Western Kansas and is actively seeking the opening act for Greg Bates. The theme for 2013 is "Hot Country Nights."

Saturday night's concert will kick off with Hays natives, Chad Stoecklein and Jeremy Schumacher of DoC and will feature Reggie Shaw, current Nashville

Recording Artist hailing originally from Overton, Nebraska. Reggie Shaw has been featured on Galaxy of the Stars Talent Search and the Colgate Country Showdown. He was also one of the top five finalists in the National Texaco Country Showdown in Nashville. "Reggie is making some noise on the music scene. He is a very personable artist that puts on a great show. Reggie will be one to watch in the future," said Kate Otter of the Lenora Jubilee Entertainment Committee

Saturday is packed with fun events for the entire family. Professional Showoff, The Amazing Arthur will be performing in the parade, as well as two shows in the afternoon. Y102 will lead a sanctioned pedal tractor pull. Other activities will include everything from yard sales to bingo to critter races; there is something for everyone. Be sure to visit www.lenorajubilee.com often to get the latest news on the Jubilee, or become a fan on Facebook and join the conversation.

