

# \$1 THE NORTON TELEGRAM



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Friday

November 8, 2013

Briefly

## Closing to honor our veterans

The Norton Telegram will be closed Monday, Nov. 11 from 2-3:30 p.m. for the Veteran's Day Parade.

The Norton City Office will be closed Monday for Veterans Day. Monday's refuse route will be picked up on Thursday, Nov. 7 and Thursday, Nov. 14, along with the normal yard waste route.

The Norton Public Library will be closed on Monday, Nov. 11, in honor of Veteran's Day. There will be no Chess Club as well. The library will resume normal hours on Tuesday, Nov. 12 and the Chess Club will resume on Monday, Nov. 18.

## No meeting for Golden Glow

The Golden Glow meeting, a group for Sr. Citizens, will NOT meet Monday, Nov. 11th.

## Breakfast is served for the hunters

All pheasant hunters are invited for breakfast at the Norton First United Methodist Church starting at 5:30 a.m. Saturday morning. Town and Country Kitchen will also be serving a hunters breakfast Saturday morning at 5:30 a.m. and then again on Sunday morning at 5:30 a.m. Good luck!

## Early dismissal for Monday parade

USD 211 will dismiss school at 1 p.m. Monday so that the students can attend the Veterans Day Parade which will start at 2 p.m. running down State Street of Norton.

## Library hosting event for babies

The Norton Public Library will host "Mother Goose Moments," a special interactive story-time for babies through age 2, on Tuesday, Nov. 12, at 10:30 a.m. Come sing and play with your little ones.

## Markets

Thursday, November 7, 2013

Wheat	.....\$6.97
Milo	.....\$3.87
Soybeans	.....\$11.98
Corn	.....\$4.12

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

## Weather

Friday Night - Clear with a low of 32.  
 Saturday - Clear with a high of 63. Winds from the NNW at 5 to 10 mph shifting to the NNW after midnight. Saturday Night - Partly cloudy with fog overnight. Low of 32. Sunday - Partly cloudy with fog early and a high of 61. Sunday Night - Partly cloudy with fog overnight.

## Prayer

Dear Lord, help us to live humbly and to be your witnesses in all circumstances. Amen.



Two Norton residents, Caleb and Josiah Laughlin, Private Caleb Laughlin, Colonel John Wise, Private Josiah Laughlin, and father, Terry L. Laughlin. (From left to right) - Courtesy photo

## Local soldiers return home

Two local Norton boys, Caleb and Josiah Laughlin, will be returning home from Fort Leonard Wood Army training on Nov. 7, 2013. During basic training, both Caleb and Josiah trained with the A-2-10 Infantry.

Private Caleb Laughlin was squad leader for the 3rd Platoon, received a Marksmanship badge, a Grenade badge and graduated from 88m's school with an Honorary Graduate Award.

Private Josiah Laughlin was squad leader of the 1st Platoon, got a marksmanship badge, and was given the High Rifleman Marksmanship Award.

Caleb and Josiah are the sons of Terry L. Laughlin, Bonnie L. Laughlin (deceased), and step-mother, Penne Laughlin.

Both Caleb and Josiah are planning to walk in the Veteran's Day Parade which is Monday, starting at 2 p.m. down State Street.

# Tech talk with the commissioners

By Cynthia Haynes

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"I talk tech," Shawn Mortensen warned the Norton County commissioners on Monday before going over some ideas for improving the county's computer systems.

"Sometimes," he said, "It just comes down to trust me and that's hard."

However, Mr. Mortensen said the county has the expertise of Alan Hale, the appraiser, who is pretty tech savvy.

Mr. Hale was at the meeting to visit about his department's computer needs and offer his assistance.

The county clerk's office is in pretty good shape for computers, Mr. Mortensen said. However, the apprais-

er's office has four systems that need replacing.

Mr. Mortensen suggested that the county come up with a comprehensive plan for computer replacements so that everything doesn't hit at once.

"We don't have to do anything right now," he said. "We just want to plan for the future."

There are several problems with older computers, he noted. Vendors stop upgrading and supporting the software and parts become difficult to obtain as the machines become obsolete and the manufacturer doesn't support them anymore.

Mr. Mortensen said he thought that the county should buy and run everything from a main server instead of

having individual systems in every office.

He said while this may seem scary, because as County Clerk Robert Wyatt pointed out if the server goes down, everything in the courthouse goes down. However, he said, in reality, the system is working well for others with very few problems. The server would have four hard drives and two power sources. If the county wants, it could also subscribe to two Internet serves so that if one goes down, it will have a backup there, he said.

The cost of a server would be between \$6,000 and \$10,000, he estimated.

He said the county has several options however.

No. 1: Do nothing. Just replace the systems as they fail.

The disadvantages of this is that its cheaper to replace several at once and the machines get slower as they age.

No. 2: Replace all XP systems. This way you can schedule and replace as time and money permit. The county gets about five years out of its IT products now, he said.

No. 3. Install a terminal server and purchase licenses. The advantage of this one is that you don't need to buy as much software and many offices can use minimum equipment.

Mr. Mortensen suggested that the county could get a server and try out

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# Council holds annual achievement banquet

Norton County 4-H members celebrated their "Boots & Bling" Annual Achievement Night Banquet. The room was decorated with boots, colorful bandanas and bling! The annual event is co-sponsored and hosted by the Norton Area Chamber of Commerce which also sponsored the Friend of 4-H Award and the ham and brisket that was served this year. Richard and Marcia Wiltfong, Shirley Erbert, and Beverly Kindler were Chamber Ambassadors that hosted the event. Rose Garrison, Chamber Ambassador Vice President, was the co-host for the program and introduced the Friend of 4-H Award.

4-H members and families were

treated to a covered dish supper with roasted ham & beef brisket provided by the Norton Chamber. Rebecca Wentz, President of the Norton County 4-H Council, served as Master of Ceremonies. Marisa Maddy, secretary of the 4-H Council, gave a response to the Chamber address. Keith VanSkike, Twin Creeks Ag Agent, introduced a variety of guests present.

Keith VanSkike and Patsy Maddy, Twin Creeks Extension District Agents, announced the summaries of each club activities involving the Club Promotion Award. The Prairie Dog Club summary was noted as the Blue Award winner by the judging committee and all 4-H Clubs received their Purple Seal

of Involvement from the State 4-H Office. Each club summarizes their goals, activities, and accomplishments for a review by a separate outside evaluator.

Patsy Maddy, Twin Creeks 4-H Youth Development Agent, and volunteer leaders named various award recipients. These volunteers included Mindy Harting, Joy Johnson, Ann Du-Bois, Jamie Wentz, Darren Wentz, and Carol Griffith. Members of the 4-H Council presented Awards for Record Book Completion to the 4-H Members. Those members were Rebecca Wentz, Marisa Maddy, Molly Maddy, and Skylar Johnson. A special award presented by Kara Miller of Norton County Farm Bureau recognized 4-H Camp Counselors. Rose Garrison, Norton Area Chamber Ambassador Vice President, presented the 2013 Friend of 4-H Award to Pauline Poage of Almena.

Friend of 4-H award is given to an individual or couple who have provided long term leadership in the 4-H program. Long term leadership and involvement might include, but not be limited to, being a club leader, various project leader guidance, support of various programs in 4-H related activities.

This year's Friend of 4-H and her children have been involved with a community club. She was a 4-H Club Leader for about 12 years but has also served as a resource project leader for many years helping with members' sewing, clothing, and fiber arts work.

She also spent 20 years on County Extension Council Committees for 4-H and Youth Program and Family Consumer Sciences Committees. She has worked several years helping the Fairboard Family Consumer Sciences Superintendent with county fair entries. She is interested in helping kids to be able to make their project items and exhibit them and learn from them. She also currently serves on the 4-H Building Committee to help keep up & maintain the 4-H building.

In 2013, she saw the need to brighten the day for someone going through chemo and radiation treatments. Sewing project members, Isabelle Schemper and Kim Lowry are sewing the head scarves made out of a variety of colors and patterns as a way of sharing their care and concern for those who unfortunately

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The 4-H council president Rebecca Wentz sits and listens as council secretary Marisa Maddy addresses the large crowd at last week's 4-H Council Achievement night banquet.

- Telegram photo by Dana Paxton

## Veterans Day parade Monday

The Norton American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars will host the Veterans Day Parade in Norton on Monday, Nov. 11.

All area schools are asked to enter their bands and other school organizations. All fraternal and social organizations are asked to participate, as well as churches, youth groups and businesses.

The parade will begin at 2 p.m. with sign-in beginning from noon until the start of the parade at the east campus on North State Street.

All veterans, active and reserve components are invited to participate (no uniforms required) in the marching veterans group, which will meet in the Christian Church parking lot on State Street, or ride in the parade with cars that will be provided.

Horses dismount east of the practice football field and line up west of the East Campus on North First Street.

Immediately following the parade, the Norton American Legion will hold an open house where lunch will be served for a fee.

