

# THE NORTON TELEGRAM



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10 PAGES

## Tuesday

December 10, 2013

### Briefly

#### Booster Club resumes meetings

The first meeting of the Norton Blue Jay Booster Club in the winter sports season will be held Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in the high school cafeteria.

Speaking about the results of their team's season opening competition will be Norton girls head basketball coach George Rossi, Norton boys head basketball coach Doug Reusink and Norton head wrestling coach Bill Johnson.

All fans of Norton Community High School sports are invited to the meeting, which will be held on the first and third Wednesday of the month at the same location.

#### Early dismissal for USD 211 Wednesday

USD 211 will dismiss at 1 p.m. this Wednesday for the teachers to do their continued education. Classes will resume as normal on Thursday.

#### Lighting contest ballots due Friday

Don't forget to pick up your Norton County Arts Council Christmas Lighting Contest ballot at The Almena State Bank, both locations, Nextech, both locations, the Norton Area Chamber of Commerce and the Norton Telegram. Submit your votes to one of these places by noon Friday, December 13.

#### Football Awards Banquet on Sunday

The annual Norton Community High School Football Awards Banquet, sponsored by the Blue Jay Booster Club, will be held this Sunday at 6 p.m. in the high school cafeteria.

A carry-in meal will precede presentations by head football coach Lucas Melvin.

All fans are invited and are asked to bring a main dish and side dish or dessert and their own table service. Drinks will be provided.

### Markets

Sunday, December 8, 2013

Wheat.....	\$6.73
Milo.....	\$3.97
Soybeans.....	\$12.61
Corn.....	\$4.19

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

### Weather

Wednesday - Intervals of clouds and sunshine with a high of 27. Wednesday Night - Clear skies with a low of 16. Thursday - Mainly sunny with a high of 42. Thursday Night - Clear skies with a low of 21. Friday - Mainly sunny with a high of 42 and a low of 21.

### Prayer

Gracious God, we give you praise for your love that sustains us through good times and bad. Amen.

## Lit with holiday spirit...



Corey and Gail Roy of Norton won last year's Norton County Arts Council Christmas lighting contest but let the deadline pass them by to be entered this year. But that didn't stop them from going all out again this year. Corey said that he turns the lights on every night

about 6:30 p.m. and shuts them off about 8:30 p.m. so if you want to see a bright shining display of holiday spirit be sure to drive to the east edge of Norton on Highway 36 and look to the north; you can't miss it.

- Telegram photo by Marcia Shelton

## Road and bridge to get new track loader

By DANA PAXTON  
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The Norton County Commissioners met with Floyd Mulding of the Road and Bridge Department and two gentlemen representing Bobcat in order to discuss purchasing a new Bobcat Compact Track Loader.

The first bid was brought in by Larry Braind of White Star Machinery out of Garden City, Kansas. The bid was for

a T770 Bobcat Compact Track Loader (iT4) at \$68,713.00. Included in the bid was an option package in the amount of \$9,599.00. Three additional items included a roller suspension carriage, radio and the very important Forestry Door Kit totaling \$5,596.47. These totaled together came up to \$83,908.47. Once the discount and trade-in were calculated, the quote total was \$4,390.42.

The second bid brought in was by Neil Coleman for Fairbanks International, Inc. out of North Platte, Nebraska. The bid consisted of \$68,713.00 for the T770 Bobcat Compact Track Loader (iT4) and with the additional roller suspension carriage and radio the total came to \$80,299.00 This bid did not include the Forestry Door the county was wanting. In order to get it, the cost would increase \$3,150.00. When

the discount and trade-in were figured in the total came to \$4,094 excluding the door.

After three years, the county will be able to trade this piece of equipment in to the same company for a new one for the cost of \$3,500.00

After a short time discussing both bids with Mr. Mulding, it was decided to go with the lower bid given by White Star for \$4,390.42.

## Grant awarded for downtown Norton building

The City of Norton and Norton City/County Economic Development are pleased to announce that the CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) Downtown Commercial Historic Rehabilitation Grant for the building at 109 E. Main has been awarded. These funds will be used to stabilize the building in Norton's Downtown Historic District.

The purpose of this CDBG program is to help cities improve the quality of their downtown commercial districts by assisting private property owners in the rehabilitation of blighted structures. A strategic investment of grant funds in a key building would prevent the spread of blighted conditions to other nearby structures. Also, it would encourage other property owners to

make improvements to their buildings, thus starting to reverse the cycle of blight, deferred maintenance and disinvestment.

"The City of Norton is excited to hear that this project has been approved for funding and will be progressing in the near future. Saving this building will be a great improvement to Norton's historic downtown district," said Darla

Ellis, Norton City Clerk.

Scott Sproul, Executive Director, Norton City/County Economic Development, said, "We are glad the grant application was awarded because it means one of the largest buildings in Norton's historic downtown district will be made structurally sound and will continue to contribute to our community's economy."

## Local business leaders support community health

Under a unique health initiative, area business leaders will have an opportunity to undergo in-depth training in mid-January 2014 that will lead to better health for employees and residents of Norton County, Kan.

Hosted by WorkWellKS Champions Gina Frack and Tara Vance, community worksite leaders will be learning how to build successful worksite wellness

strategies within their organizations. The training will take place on January 16th and 17th, 2014 in Norton.

"This is a great opportunity to raise the level of awareness both in our community and among area employers, who are at the front lines of health and wellness initiatives," said Gina Frack of the Norton County Health Department.

WorkWell KS is a statewide worksite wellness initiative administered by the Wichita Business Coalition on Health Care and funded by the Kansas Health Foundation. Through WorkWell KS, local Champions from across the state are challenged to provide leadership in their communities to engage local business and organization leaders to support worksite health and wellness.

Preregistration and a letter of commitment is required by any business that is interested in taking advantage of this local workshop in January, 2014. For more details or to register, please contact either WorkWell KS Champion by any of the means listed. This initiative is for any business in Norton County regardless of the number of employees.



Ryan Brady, Farmer/Rancher from Ingalls, Kansas (on the left) is being interviewed by Ken Rahjes, Ag Specialist. Ryan is a member of the 2013-2015 Kansas Agriculture and Rural Leadership (KARL) program which held their winter conference in Norton on December 4, 5 and 6. Part of this conference was dedicated to learning how to give successful TV and Radio Interviews.

- Courtesy photo

## Leadership meeting held in Norton last week

A meeting for Kansas Agriculture and Rural Leadership that was set to take place in Atwood was moved to Norton last Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.

The 2013-2015 class consists of men and women from the four corners of Kansas. During the 3-day conference the class toured several local industries in addition to covering subjects such as Management Consulting and Training, utilizing new communication tools, and news and letter writing skills.

The KARL program is a two-year course offering intensive study, training and travel for future leaders in agriculture and rural communities. Each class is composed of up to 30 individuals who will be either actively involved

as operators of production agriculture or from agribusiness, related organizations, and rural community leadership roles. Class members are predominantly between the ages of 25 and 55 and have demonstrated leadership ability.

A variety of challenges environmental, economic and political are unfolding and will continue to test agriculture, agri-business and rural communities. Strong, progressive leaders, with a broad base of knowledge, will be necessary to help guide communities and industry as decisions are made. KARL trains these types of leaders to help ensure a bright future for Kansas.

More information about the KARL Program can be found on their website, <http://www.karlprogram.com>.



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