

# \$1 THE NORTON TELEGRAM



WEBSITE: nwkansas.com

8 PAGES

**Tuesday**  
December 24, 2013

## Briefly

### Merry Christmas from the Telegram

The staff of the Norton Telegram would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas!

### Telegram closes early Tuesday

The Norton Telegram office will close at noon on Tuesday, Dec. 24, and will be closed all day on Wednesday for the Christmas holiday. They will also be closed all day January 1 for New Year's.

### Library will be closed New Year's

The Norton Public Library will be closed on Tuesday, Dec. 31 at noon and will be closed all day on Jan. 1, 2014. Regular hours will resume on Jan. 2.

### City will be closed for the holidays

The Norton City offices will be closed Tuesday and Wednesday this week in observance of Christmas. The trash route for these two days will be on Thursday, December 26 instead.

### Tag renewal deadline is next week

Tuesday, December 31 is the last day to purchase tags for those whose names end in "U", "X", "Y" or "Z". Bring current proof of insurance for all vehicles with you. The Treasurer's office will be closed on Dec. 24 and 25 for Christmas and then it will also be closed at 11:30 on Dec. 31 for end of the year balancing.

## Markets

Sunday, December 22, 2013

Wheat.....	\$6.25
Milo.....	\$3.97
Soybeans.....	\$12.60
Corn.....	\$4.17

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

## Weather

Tuesday Night - Clouds will give way to generally clear conditions with a low of 22 and WNW winds at 10-20. Wednesday - A mainly sunny sky with a high of 47 and WNW winds from 10-20. Wednesday Night - Mostly clear with a low of 22 and WSW winds 5-10. Thursday - Partly cloudy skies with a high of 49 and WNW winds 10-20. Thursday Night - Clouds will give way to generally clear conditions overnight with a low of 25 and WNW winds 5-10. Friday - Mainly sunny skies with a high 55 and WSW wind 5-10.

## Prayer

We praise you, God, that in our mourning, we will be comforted and that our pain will turn to glorious joy in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



The high school and junior high choirs, and the Jay Singers held a Christmas concert on Thursday night in the East Campus Auditorium. (Pictured) The Jay Singers opened the concert with "Ring in the Holiday," "No Time to Diet," and "Sparkedlejoylytwinklingly." -Telegram photo by Mike Stephens

# Council gets reports and fills vacancy

By Mike Stephens  
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The Planning Commission board vacancy was filled at the City Council's Wednesday, Dec. 18 meeting. Mayor David Corns said that two names were submitted and the council approved the mayor's appointment of Bill Vacura to fill the vacant position on the Planning Commission, with the term expiring on Nov. 30, 2016.

Council member Roberta Ryan reported that the City of Beloit had removed the parts from the power plant and paid the City of Norton. Ryan said the City of Beloit might come back after the first of the year to determine if there are any more items they might want to purchase.

Ryan also reported that a prison crew refurbished Santa's sleigh, "and it looks really nice," and that approximately 250 people attended the free

movie for the Chamber of Commerce's Christmas promotion. The Chamber board is making preparations for the 2014 annual Chamber banquet, including menu and program.

Council member Harriett Gill reported that the Airport Board will have an independent cost analysis done, which is required by the Federal Aviation Administration for grant funding. A special Airport Board meeting was held on December 23.

Council member Donna Foley reported the Public Works committee discussed the bowling family fun center, which she said is progressing. The Economic Board will also be pursuing a Kansas Department of Transportation enhancement grant for the downtown area, and will come before the council for approval, the second meeting in January. They also discussed the Net-

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# Colby native steps down from position

By HEATHER ALWIN  
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Sheila Sloan Frahm, a Colby native and long-time public servant, marked the end of her weekly or monthly travels to Topeka this month.

She stepped down from her position on the Kansas State Postsecondary Technical Education Authority this month.

The end of her term concludes a public service career that began in 1978 when she won a spot on the Colby

School Board.

Frahm, born into a family that had farmed in Thomas County for generations, graduated from Colby High School in 1963. She attended Fort Hays State University, graduating in 1967, and the University of Texas at Austin before returning to Colby in 1976 after her father-in-law, Albert Frahm, died and she and her husband Ken returned to the family farm.

She ran for the school board position when the family first moved back to

Colby, having two young daughters at the time. She won the primary but lost the general election.

Two years later, she ran again and won, holding her position on the board until 1985.

Frahm said she enjoyed the opportunities for interacting with the community while she was on the school board. She began traveling to Topeka as the board's representative to the Kansas Association of School Boards.

In 1985, she was appointed to the

state Board of Education, winning an election to the board in 1986 and serving as the vice-chairman in 1987. She represented 34 Kansas counties.

In 1988, she was elected to the Kansas Senate for the 40th District, winning re-election in 1992.

Frahm said she remembers going to towns throughout northwest Kansas, knocking on doors, trying to earn votes by talking to each constituent. Some

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# Semi was destroyed in Jennings fire last week



A semi-trailer rig driven by an Illinois man caught fire last Wednesday afternoon as the driver was passing through Jennings, destroying the tractor, sleeper cab and most of the driver's worldly goods.

Joseph McCoy of Centralia, Ill., said he was traveling east on K-383 when he smelled smoke in the cab about 3 p.m. As he turned into the Jennings City Park, he said, the right front tire of the tractor blew out. The noise alerted Paul and Kathy Nauer, who live across the street, and they called the Jennings Fire Department.

Mr. McCoy said he got out of the cab and tried to subdue the flames shooting from under the hood with a fire extinguisher. The sleeper cab and engine compartment were fully engulfed when firemen arrived.

The blaze took about 15 minutes to get under control, said Jennings Fire Chief Kerry Green. While the tractor was a total loss, firefighters were able to keep the blaze away from the trailer and its cargo.

"Almost everything I had was in that truck," said Mr. McCoy, including clothes and a laptop computer, "but I feel blessed that I wasn't injured."

Mr. McCoy said he had been on the road since October. He praised the fire department's quick response.



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