

\$1 THE NORTON TELEGRAM



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8 PAGES

Tuesday

April 8, 2014

Briefly

Blue Jay Boosters Meeting Wednesday

The first meeting of the Norton Blue Jay Booster Club to focus on the Norton Community High School track and golf seasons will be held this Wednesday, April 9 in the high school cafeteria.

Speaking to fans 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. You do not have to be a member of the club to attend the meetings.

FFA Chapter Banquet will be held Saturday

The 2013-14 Norton FFA Chapter Banquet will be held on Saturday in the junior high gymnasium in Norton. Everyone is invited to view the ag shop projects from 6-6:30 p.m. The banquet meal will begin at 6:30 p.m., followed by the program featuring the current FFA State President Lindy Bilberry as the keynote speaker, presentation of chapter awards, recognition of chapter sponsors and installation of new chapter officers.

State champs will be honored at banquet

Wrestlers, coaches, parents and fans are invited to attend the 2014 Norton Community High School Wrestling Banquet at 6 p.m. this Sunday, April 13 at the Norton junior high gym.

The state champion Norton Blue Jays 2013-14 Wrestling Team will be honored. Coaches will hand out the season ending awards and comment on the successful season.

Those attending are asked to bring their own table service, one main dish and a side dish or dessert for the potluck dinner. Drinks will be provided.

Northern Valley's Prom is Saturday

Northern Valley High School will have its Prom on Saturday. Promenade will be in the lobby at 6 p.m., the Prom Dinner will be in the auditorium at 6:30 p.m., and the Prom will be in the auditorium from 9 p.m. to midnight.

Prom royalty crowned



Norton Community High School Junior - Senior Prom was held on Saturday. At prom they crown royalty by the vote of their classmates. The 2014 Prom royalty are (from left to right) Prince, Branson Addington, Princess, Marisa Maddy; King, Kolton Harting; Queen, Darcy Bainter.

-Photo courtesy of Vicki Bainter

Whitney building up for public review

By MIKE STEPHENS
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The Environmental Review on the Whitney Building, located at 109 E. Main St., was approved by the City Council on Wednesday.

Pam Herl of the Northwest Kansas Planning and Development Commission presented the Review to the council and said the original will be at the City Office and available for the public to view. All comments, positive or negative, must be in writing and signed.

Kristine Knapp, who lives near the building, said more bricks had fallen out recently. Herl said the architect for the project was recently at the site and is aware of the condition of the building. She also said they hope to advertise for bids this fall.

A ribbon cutting ceremony for the new swimming pool has been scheduled for Sunday, May 25 at 1 p.m., contingent upon the project being completed on time. The pool will open at 1:30 p.m., and free admission will be offered on Sunday, May 25 and Monday, May 26 for Memorial Day weekend.

Jeff Urban said he has received a number of complaints about dogs, and has recently been getting complaints about the Norton Police K-9 dog barking. Norton resident Todd Johnson and several of his neighbors were present and said the dog has been barking a lot during the night. Police Chief Pat Morel said they are getting the K-9 a shelter and are hopeful that will solve the problem.

Donna Foley said the Public Works

committee received a letter from Joe Ballinger regarding drainage concerns at the VFW building. Foley said that city staff will discuss possible solutions for the drainage problem with Ballinger, but the City will not be doing any of the work since it is not on city right-of-way or on city property.

Roberta Ryan said the City previously authorized the purchase of two grinder pumps for the sewer plant, but the actual cost was more than was approved. The council authorized an additional \$400 for the purchase of the pumps.

The Lions Club expressed to the council its interest to plant more trees for the City this year, according to Kristine Knapp. She said a few years ago, the City paid for 12 trees and the Lions Club planted and watered them.

Knapp researched the costs and said they would be \$300 per tree with no warranty or \$360 per tree with a warranty, plus \$250 shipping. She said if the warranty is purchased it's recommended the City install a drip system for the trees. Two of the trees planted previously died and will be replaced for free, said Knapp. The council requested the Parks Supervisor research where trees might be needed and report back to the council.

Mayor David Corns said he will not be at the next council meeting which is when he was scheduled to make his appointments. Corns said his appointments will be delayed until the following meeting on May 7.

In other council news:

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Sander Furniture wins small business award

By MIKE STEPHENS
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Sander Furniture and Gifts in Norton was one of 16 businesses honored by the Kansas Small Business Development Center at the 2014 Existing and Emerging Small Business Awards held in Topeka on March 11.

Sander Furniture, owned and operated by Brad and Kim Sander, received the Existing Small Business of the Year Award.

Brad and Kim have owned and operated the store in Norton for 10 years. In that time they've opened and sold branch stores, expanded their inventory, expanded into a second location in Norton, and updated their record keeping system.

The Sanders have made the furniture business the family business. Ten years ago their son, Mike Sander, convinced them that Norton was the place to open a new store. So they rented a building and moved from Cozad, Neb. to Norton.

"My wife and I decided that we would lease a building here," Brad said. "We started from scratch."

Since then they have opened a second location at 118 S. Kansas, which houses the bed and bath store, and is managed by their daughter Starr Garza.

Brad and Kim have four children and

10 great-grandchildren.

Mike Sander lives in Alma, Neb., owns a health store and helps his parents out when he can.

Chadd Sander lives in Gothenburg, Neb. and owns the Sander Furniture store he purchased from his parents two years ago and had operated for them the previous eight years.

Justin Sander lives in Kearney, Neb. and owns his own roofing company.

"It's a family business and a lot of times right here in the store we have our grandchildren with us, and it's also something Kim and I can be together doing," Brad said.

The main store located at 301 W.Holme focuses on living room and dining room sets, carpets and gifts.

"We have several different major brands of furniture and mattresses. We have a small gift line which brings in customers to see our Day Spring cards and other gift items," Brad said.

Despite the success and growth of their business, they've faced many challenges. Ideally the Sanders would like to have the inventory in one location which would reduce costs and reduce lost sales when referring customers to the second location.

Brad contacted the Kansas Small Business Development Center at Fort

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Brad and Kim Sander, owners of Sander Furniture and Gifts, were honored with the 2014 Existing Small Business of the Year Award. The Sanders have owned and operated their store in Norton for the past 10 years.

-Telegram photo by Mike Stephens

Markets

APRIL 2014

Wheat.....	\$6.84
Milo.....	\$4.40
Soybeans.....	\$13.87
Corn.....	\$4.63

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

Weather

Wednesday - Sunny skies with a high of 82. Wednesday Night - A few clouds with a low of 51. Thursday - Generally sunny with a high of 69. Thursday Night - Mostly clear skies with a low of 44. Friday - Mostly sunny skies with a high around 75.

Prayer

Dear God of wisdom, give us a hunger to study your word. Grant us wisdom and help us stay on the right path throughout our lives. Amen.

