

# County looks at covering ideas

By BRANDON GAY

With the landfill application process almost completed Norton County commissioners were trying to figure out how to comply with some state regulations on Monday.

One of the regulations is that the area be covered with dirt or a cover each night so that trash can't blow out onto the neighboring land.

The problem with putting dirt on each night is it cannot easily be scraped off in the morning and will shorten the life of the landfill.

Solid Waste Supervisor Curt Archibald discussed the feasibility of purchasing a Kincaid Agigator, a mulcher-seeder that would be used to spray landfill mulch into the pit. Blocks of mulch are inserted into the machine and then turned into a slurry which is sprayed out through a hose.

Mr. Archibald said he had gone to Clay Center to view their landfill covering system. He reported that the cost there is \$52 per day. However, they take in 20 tons per day and Norton takes in only 7 tons per day.

Mr. Archibald also reported that in a test of six of the landfill's monitoring wells, one well tested positive for Bromoform, a liquid solvent. Mr. Archibald said that Bromoform had not been detected

in previous tests.

The test, performed by GeoCore showed the substance at a level of 0.7 micrograms per liter. A level below 0.5 micrograms per liter is not detectable.

Commissioner John Miller recommended that a second test be done to see if the substance was detected again.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Heard from Mim Tubbs, Almena, about the dumping of trash into Horse Creek at the intersection of County Road E10 and Road H. Mrs. Tubbs said old tires, barrels, animal carcasses, bicycles and bottles had been dumped at the site.

The commissioners said they would put up no dumping signs and ask Mr. Archibald and Road and Bridge Supervisor Tom Brannan to investigate and take pictures. They said the county would also clean up the area.

- Talked with Andy Nielsen, acting Emergency Ambulance Service director, about the pros and cons of building a new ambulance building or purchasing an existing building. If an existing building is purchased, a larger building could be afforded. However, structural concerns make a new building desirable. The new building would cost about \$96,000 more.



With a little bit of persuasion, whether it was a bit of air through a straw or a helping hand swishing the water, Sady and Luke Keilig, Norton, urged their minnows on in the new minnow races at Saturday's Crazy

Day in downtown Norton. Sady's minnow won the first couple of races, but then Luke's little fish finally had his chance in the spotlight.

— Telegram photo by Veronica Monier

# Landfill needs considered at meeting

By VERONICA MONIER

The Norton County Commissioners are looking at the county's equipment and what will be needed at the new landfill.

At Monday's meeting, the commissioners talked about compactors, track-loaders and scrapers for the landfill with Richard Bates of Martin Tractor in Colby and Road and Bridge Supervisor Tom Brannan. Mr. Bates spoke with the commissioners about equipment sizes and weights and how much each one costs. He brought pictures.

He said if it were him, he would go with a scraper and track-loader. Mr. Brannan said the county's

track-loader's undercarriage needs to be rebuilt, but that they have another set of rollers for it.

Mr. Bates said to completely rebuild a track-loader would cost \$30,000. A new one would cost just over \$200,000 with a \$40,000 trade-in.

A used Cat 613 scraper could cost around \$125,000 with a trade-in.

Mr. Brannan said the Cat 613 could also be used for road work.

Commissioner John Miller said it would save the county an amount of money to have Caterpillar come and check-out the track-loader to see what, if any, problems the equipment has and then

just rebuild the undercarriage.

He said it would be much better to spend \$170,000 total on equipment than the \$300,000 that they thought they were going to have to spend.

Mr. Brannan said the only problem the track-loader has is cooling. It might need a new radiator.

Mr. Miller said they would have to train someone to do maintenance either at the beginning of the day or the end of the day. Mr. Brannan said there probably wouldn't be anyone dropping anything off at the beginning of the day and it shouldn't take more than an hour or half-an-hour to check the oil and take care of other main-

tenance.

Mr. Bates said he would bring one of his guys up and look at the county's track-loader and would also check out the scraper, and then would give the county other suggestions

In other business, the commissioners:

- Heard from Mr. Brannan that road crews will begin putting millings down in the south part of the county this week.

- Went into a 30-minute closed session for attorney-client privileges to speak with legal council from the Kansas Association of Counties.

# Motorcyclist leads police on chase through two counties

A Colorado man on a 2004 Yamaha motorcycle led a chase that started in Norton, dodged a roadblock near Sappa Creek, roared through Oberlin and ended just short of Rawlins County — when the biker ran out of gas.

Oberlin Police Chief Wade Lockhart said officers were notified around 11:10 p.m. Saturday

that a state trooper had tried to stop a man on a motorcycle near Norton, but the man outran them and headed west.

Troopers told the Oberlin Police Department about the man and said he might be heading their way.

Oberlin officers set up a road block about one to two miles east of Oberlin on U.S. 36.

The driver, Joel Griffin, 20, of Thornton, Colo., didn't stop, the chief said, but blew right through the roadblock. When he got to town, he turned south and flew down street after street. For a while, he said, it seemed like every street he entered ended with a dead end, but he managed to get away.

Chief Lockhart said Mr. Griffin shot up Penn Avenue and headed west on U.S. 36 with Deputy Richards and Officer Haas on his tail.

The motorcycle ran out of gas just before the Rawlins County line at 11:56 p.m. Officers arrested him for attempting to elude a police officer, reckless driving and

driving with a revoked license.

Chief Lockhart said he wasn't sure how fast Mr. Griffin was traveling in town, but when he was outrunning the troopers, he was exceeding 120 mph.

Mr. Griffin was being held in Norton County, but will be sent to Decatur County when they are finished with him.

backyard ceremony at their home in Hays. Attending were Sharon Smith-Hatfield, Wichita; Nancy Ruspini, Burlingame, Calif.; and Marcelle Allen and Jean Johnson of Norton.

—Steak and seafood night, Thursday 6-9 p.m. American Legion. Members and guests, 8/4

Mr. and Mrs. Keith Gilman, Jessica Pfeifer and her friend, Cara Dick, all of Hays were recent visitors of Marcelle Allen and Jean Johnson, Norton. While here, they attended the Norton County Fair.



# Stiff jams and jellies can still be used or fixed

Runny jam or jelly can be remade, but what about stiff jam or jelly?

Stiff fruit spreads occur from overcooking, using too much pectin, using too little fruit and/or juice, or using too little sugar or under-ripe fruit without adding pectin. It is difficult to reformulate, so how can they be used?

You can heat stiffened jam or jelly (at a low temperature), and use as a glaze.

Stiff jams or jellies can also be

Home ed  
**Tranda Watts,**  
Extension  
specialist



thinned with water or fruit juice. They may or may not form a gel again once they are re-heated, as over-cooking pectin can reduce or destroy its ability to set.

It is best to work with only two or three half-pint jars at one time. Try adding about four tablespoons (1/4 cup) of liquid for each 8-ounce jar.

Over very low heat, melt the stiff jam or jelly in the added liquid, stirring constantly to prevent scorching. Once in solution, raise the heat to medium and bring the mixture to a full boil; stir constantly. Remove from heat and skim foam off jelly if necessary. Fill clean, dry containers for re-

frigerator storage.

It is not recommended to re-process the remade jam or jelly in a canner and store it at room temperature. Jellies and jams thinned in this manner may or may not actually gel, but are likely to provide a mixture that may spread more easily than the stiff product.

Tranda Watts is Kansas State University extension specialist in food, nutrition, health and safety. Call her at 785-443-3663 or e-mail [twatts@oznet.ksu.edu](mailto:twatts@oznet.ksu.edu).

“**Thanks,** for Your Support on August 3  
CYNTHIA JOAN LINNER  
NORTON COUNTY TREASURER  
Paid Pol. Adv. Deena Wentz, Treasurer

**Dan Rasure ad from Goodland**

**I'm Not Deaf!**  
I Just Can't Understand Some Words  
**Free Consultation**  
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Ask About Our Nu-Ear Digital Hearing Aids  
Call My Toll-Free Number For An Appointment 1-800-331-7885  
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**Thank You**  
for Your Support for the Position of Norton County Attorney  
Sincerely,  
**Karen L. Griffiths**  
PAID FOR BY KAREN L. GRIFFITHS

**Fire in the Heartland**  
Living Hope Fellowship presents an **OUTDOOR WORSHIP EXPERIENCE**  
**Saturday, August 7** WITH “UNITED” YOUTH BAND  
*Directly West of White Fields Coffee House*  
State Street and Washington Street in Norton  
Free Hot Dogs and Nachos—7:00 to 8:30 p.m.  
Drinks for Half Price at White Fields for Youth 21 and Under 8:45 p.m. Worship Concert begins with United  
FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL: JERRY CUMMINGS AT 785-877-5657 OR WHITE FIELDS COFFEE HOUSE AT 785-874-4686

**Thank You**  
For Your Support Norton County  
**WANDA VINCENT**  
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