

Friday
September 17, 2004

Arts and crafts fair this Saturday in Logan

By LEE FAVRE, Director

What little town hosts a great big fair? Logan; a farming community of 600.

Nestled in northwest Kansas, on Highway 9, the Hansen Museum sponsors one of the best craft fairs around. Hosting crafters from Kansas and surrounding states, this is a shopper's paradise. Family and friends rally together for this annual event, which is set for this Saturday on the Hansen Plaza Square, Main Street, Logan.

Crafters check in at pre-dawn in preparation for the 10 a.m. opening. Food vendors line two sides of the square along with a Space Walk Tent, Bungee Bull, Parachute Drop, and Mount Neverest.

Even a "Dunk Tank" and "Shoot for Loot" can be found on the adjoining grounds. Bennett Lowry will be there with the Sno-Shack, Gwen Bui with her mouth-watering eggrolls and crab rangoon, the Logan Lions Club will be serving hamburgers and brauts. St. John's Parish will have turkey and noodles and sloppy joes, Elmer and LeAnn Frick will fill the air with the aroma of their kettle corn, and the Logan KAYs will be selling homemade ice cream. The Prairie Dusters will also be here with an information booth, selling tea and lemonade. The Logan 8th graders will have a drawing for a Trojan limestone rock and Trojan t-shirts while the Logan 7th grade will conduct a bake sale.

Bierocks will be on the menu of the Logan Junior High Cheerleaders while the seniors will sell Pizza Hut pizza and pop and the Juniors will sell walking tacos. If you start the day hungry, you won't be for long.

Want to meet a local radio legend? Visit Tad Felts (Tadpole) at the announcement booth. This will be Tad's 29th year as the Master of Ceremonies. Or take a stroll through the museum gallery and awe at the photography now on display in the "Visions for the Next Millennium" exhibition; purchase some folk art or barn woodcraft from our honored "Artist of the Month" Othelia Vacura; or just sit a spell and enjoy the comfort of air-conditioning.

To really get hoppin', "Sinergy" will crank up the north stage at 10 a.m. with some pop rock performed by Miranda McKellips, vocals and percussion; Grant Snider, keyboard and vocals; Billy Soto, lead guitar and vocals; Bo Cameron, bass, and Larry Sanders, drums. This group is out of Wichita and is a returning performance from 2002.

If you prefer a little acoustic groove, head to the south stage at 11:15 a.m. to enjoy the performances of the "OK Sisters Band". This two female/two male band hails from Nebraska and consists of Karen Earhart, bass and lead vocals; Kate Fly, acoustic guitar and lead vocals; Steve (Continued on Page 5)

Norton, Kansas Home of Sandy Husted

Briefly

Cancer survivor postpones talk

Leo Miller, who had planned to share his experiences as an adult stem cell recipient and a cancer survivor, has postponed his presentation, originally scheduled for Saturday, due to the illness and subsequent death of his mother.

Mr. Miller, a brother of Charlene Weskamp, will reschedule his presentation, "Journey In Faith".

Agency transfers responsibilities

Effective Oct. 1, the Farm Service Agency will transfer its administrative responsibilities to the Natural Resources Conservation Service for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program.

Activities affected by this transfer include allocating and maintaining the program's money, determining farmer eligibility, recording and maintaining the electronic contract database, processing and issuing payments and conducting related financial activities.

The natural resources office asks participants to send their bills to their office at 113 N. Norton, Norton, Kan., 67654 no later than Tuesday, Sept. 21.

Donations needed for storm damage

Donations are needed to repair the aftermath of recent hurricanes and tropical storms that have hit several southern states. The Phillips County Chapter of the American Red Cross encourages anyone wanting to send financial aid, to mail checks to their office at P.O. Box 452, Phillipsburg, Kan., 67661. You can also call 1-800-HELP NOW (!-800-435-7669) or go to: www.redcross.org.

Weather

Forecast:

Tonight — Mostly clear with lows in the lower 60s. **Saturday** — Sunny with highs in the upper 90s. South winds 10 to 20 mph with gusts to around 35 mph. **Saturday Night** — Mostly clear with lows in the upper 60s. **Sunday** — Sunny in the morning then becoming cloudy and windy. Highs in the mid 90s with south winds 20 to 30 mph. **Sunday Night** — Cloudy and windy with lows in the upper 60s.

Howell report:

Tuesday High 97, Low 57
Wednesday High 76, Low 51
Thursday High 84, Low 60
Week ago High 94, Low 56
Month ago High 98, Low 59
Year ago High 89, Low 61
September precipitation 1.18 inches
Year-to-date precipitation 17.76 inches
(Readings taken at the Paul and Pat Howell farm 10 Miles North and 1/3 Mile East of Norton)

Prayer

Dear God, you walk with us through gloomy days. Thank you, Father, for your always-present love. Amen



A toy story that has no limits

He might grow older but he refuses to grow up.

That's the philosophy behind the creation of Jeff "Goof" Urban's "Big Boys Toy Museum" that he has built in his garage. He said his fiancé, Sue Brown, has fully supported his brainchild. "But," he added, "She still thinks I'm a little wacky."

Upon entering the museum, visitors are greeted with what appears to be the front porch of an old service station, complete with rocking chair, a hub cap nailed to a porchpost, old license plates and a Skelly gasoline sign. Inside the

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Jeff "Goof" Urban (above) kneels on "Main Street" in his garage turned "Big Boys Toy Museum." Kristine Posson painted the mural depicting important buildings and long-time Norton businesses. Some of Jeff's more than 7,000 Hot Wheels cars (below) are on display.

— Telegram photos by Carolyn Plotts



Skunks leave a bad taste in city's mouth

By VERONICA MONIER

The Norton City Council has decided to let the Norton Police Department lend a hand with a recent skunk problem.

Councilman Ron Briery said it seems like the city has had quite an outbreak of skunks lately and wanted to know if anything could be done.

City Administrator Rob Lawson said he has had several calls about skunks, including one where a Norton woman said she saw 11 skunks in a shed near her house.

He said Animal Control Officer Sherry Hickman is doing the best job she can and that it might be time to get her some help.

Mr. Lawson said the City of Oberlin paid \$40 a pelt in the past to help with their skunk problem. He said that seems to help, but they ended up paying a fairly good size of money to all of the people bringing them in.

Councilman Jerry Hawks said they should give the police department the authority to take whatever steps necessary to help alleviate the problem.

The council agreed.

Police Chief Lynn Menagh said he might know of someone with a furbearer's license who could help with the problem.

In other business, the council:

- Waived the formal second reading of Ordinance No. 1537, restricting parking on the south side of Madison St. starting at the eastern State St. intersection and going west 90 feet.

Mr. Hawks said this is being done because Western Distributing requested it. He said, in the future, perhaps the city should have the person or business making the request pay for some of the costs.

- Appointed City Attorney Karen

Griffiths as a representative to the Governing Board for Northwest Kansas Community Corrections and Northwest Kansas Juvenile Services. The representative was Chief Menagh, who has stepped down from the board.

- Met with new officer Jeff Rydquist. Mr. Rydquist came to Norton not only because of the job opening, but also because his mother and grandparents came from the area.

- Learned that Police Officer Brian Shannon is the employee of the month for September. Mr. Lawson said Officer Shannon has been with the city since Sept. of 2003 and was the newest officer in the department until Mr. Rydquist was hired.

- Heard that the Tourism Committee thanked the city for installing water taps to the "Welcome to Norton" signs.

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Beginning of school going well

By VERONICA MONIER

Things seem to be running smoothly in the Norton School District.

At Monday's school board meeting, the principals gave their start-of-school reports.

Superintendent Greg Mann gave Norton Junior High School Principal Larry Mills' report because he was unable to be at the meeting. Mr. Mann said the junior high has 109 students enrolled. Two new teachers have been hired to cover the vacant positions of an art teacher and an at-risk tutor.

He said the junior high sports teams all have a good number of students involved.

Eisenhower Elementary Principal Larry Hillman said things have gone well so far. He said they have a head count of 351 and a full time equivalency of 326 and are anticipating that number to go to 327.

He said at the same time last year, they had a head count of 366 and a full time equivalency of 330.

Eisenhower has picked up 28 new students, he said. The school has gained one student since school started, but has lost six.

Mr. Hillman said this year's 'welcome back to school' open house was the most successful open house they've had so far. He said 97.7 percent of the students attended and they had favorable comments from parents and staff.

Eisenhower will continue to work on its target goals in math, reading and writing, he said. Last year, the fourth grade class met the "Standard of Excellence" in math and the fifth grade class met the "Standard of Excellence" in reading as well as improving in writing.

"That is a credit to the entire staff," he said.

Norton Community High School Principal Lary Stull said they were down eight students from last year's 256. Almost all of the sports teams are full, but the cheerleading and dance teams are both short one student.

He said they will continue to work on their school improvement program, targeting reading, math and writing. Last year's eleventh grade class met the "Standard of Excellence" and had improvements in writing. The school improvement team has made a few minor changes in the plan, but the overall plan is essentially the same, he said.

This year, the high school has two seniors, two juniors, one sophomore, and four freshmen who are new to the district, said Mr. Stull.

In other business, the board:

- Heard admission prices for all Mid-Continent League and Mid-Continent Elementary League home games will be raised by \$1. Tourney prices will be staying the same. Mr. Mann said the money from home games stays in the district.

- Were presented with the revised math curriculum by Math Chairperson Dale Engelbert and the revised fine arts curriculum by Fine Arts Chairperson David Will. Both curriculums have been put into a new format. The curriculums will be considered for adoption at the Oct. 11 meeting.

- Listened to the revised graduation re-

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Annual crafts fair set for Saturday

(Continued from Page 1) Main, drums and back up vocals, and Martin "Doc" Tilley on the harmonica. These two musical opposites will entertain randomly throughout the day.

On the grounds, the "Stiltwalker" will amaze us with his ability to tower over the fair on his extended wooden legs.

Youngsters will want to head to the Kid's Tent for some face painting by the Logan KAYs and free helium balloons and give-a-ways at 1 p.m. Stick around for Harkey the Clown as "Dr. Well" at 2 p.m. and then "Egg" and "Pillow Case" races at 3 p.m.

Don't forget to purchase or renew your museum membership to automatically get your name in the pot for the \$500 purchase prize drawings held at 12:15 p.m. and

2:15 p.m. Stick around though, you must be present to win.

The highlight of the day will be the selection of 12 new winners (and two alternates) of the coveted "Artist of the Month" award. This year's crafters will be judged by Jana Jordan, Hays, for their uniqueness, quality of craft, and display. Winners will be presented with ribbons and certificates prior to the public announcement and photos at 3:30 p.m.

Come to Logan for the 31st Anniversary of the Hansen Arts and Crafts Fair, Saturday, on Main Street. The fair ends at 5 p.m. so come hungry, bring your wallet, and wear your walking shoes. You'll leave with a smile.

For more information or to be a crafter call 785-689-4846.

City's power contract extended six months

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• Were told that Mr. Lawson met with Carol Wagoner from Sunflower Electric. The company is debating whether to make the city a Class B member or a full member and will be asking for the city's opinion in writing soon. Mr. Lawson said the contract with them has been extended for six months.

• Learned that the Airport Board met Monday. Mr. Hawks said the apron project is finished. It was inspected and all of the deficiencies have been corrected.

• Transferred \$1,200 from the Electric Fund to the Bond and Interest Fund so that a bond and interest payment can be made to the state on the library bond project.

• Distributed the remaining money budgeted to the City/County Airport. The remaining

amount of \$4,798.50 will be the last of the \$29,000 the city budgeted for the airport for operation costs. The county also agreed to give \$29,000 to the airport and will transfer its remaining balance at Monday's Norton County Commission meeting.

• Heard from Councilwoman Elaine Mann that the director of the Norton Manor is doing a good job and is participating in the Leadership Norton County program. She said the director will be sending the council an annual report soon.

Mrs. Mann said the director has concerns about the condition of the curb near the manor and also about people speeding while driving past.

• Paid bills in the amount of \$323,484.62.



Jeff Urban has over 7,000 Hot Wheels cars on display, among other collectibles, in his "Big Boys Toy Museum". Anything pertaining to cars and garages like these hood ornaments are included in this one-of-a-kind museum.

— Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

A guy is never too old to play with toys

(Continued from Page 1) "station" is some of his memorabilia like oil cans, cigarette signs and old tools. He had another room built just for his model car collection.

"I've been wanting to do something like this for years," said Jeff as he sweeps his arm to encompass the entire two-car garage that he has been converting for the last year, into his own version of a toy museum. Larry Urban did all the wiring and Brian Urban did all the carpentry work.

It's a museum with a twist, though. Jeff has a sports card collection numbering over a quarter million cards; approximately 7,000 Hot Wheels cars; 2,000 scale tractors and semis; service station advertising signs; wrenches; hood ornaments; old pop machines; a "Vargas Girl" calendar, dated 1947 and anything pertaining to cars.

Jeff is a native of Norton and has lived here his whole life, graduating from Norton Community High School in 1979. His parents were the late Vernon and Gerry Urban.

Jeff's mother gave him his first Hot Wheels car. He said his first one is dated 1967, even though Hot Wheels didn't, officially, start dating them until 1968. Seven thousand cars later he said, "It's not a collection anymore. It's an obsession."

Like most little boys, Jeff began collecting baseball cards when he was in grade school. Later, when other boys were getting rid of their collections, Jeff was the one buying them. And he kept on buying.

His idea for a toy museum began to take shape when local artist, Kristine Posson, assisted by Stacy Roth, designed and painted a "Main Street" in an alcove of Jeff's garage. She included store fronts of local businesses like Moffet's, Nex-Tech, Norton Sheet Metal, Don's Floor Covering, Hall's Clothing, Norton Appliance, Engel's Used Cars, Kansasland Tire and Norton County Implement. He had her add some businesses that had special significance in his life. He said, "This mural is a flashback to Norton like it was in the '50s."

Part of the display is a working stoplight. Jeff said it took four different lights to get enough working parts to make the one.

An aqua blue Cushman Scooter, in prime condition, occupies a place of honor in the museum. Jeff said he used to have 14 of them and is now down to six. It was a 12-year project to restore the mini-motorcycle, but he said it will do 60 miles per hour on the highway.

"I just love old things," Jeff said. "So many things have just gone to the landfill. I'm trying to preserve a little bit of history."

During the vintage car races at Elmwood Park, many of the exhibitors came to see Jeff's collections. He said, "It was great to see the expressions on their faces. Young and old alike. When I heard those guys say, 'Boy, I had one of those', I'm tellin' you, it was worth every bit of it."

When asked if there was an admission charge, Jeff laughed saying he wasn't in it to make money. He added that he has an old parking meter that he might put outside the door and set it up to accept

quarters. He said if he made any money he would use it to buy more stuff for the museum.

Word of mouth is spreading the news about the museum but there is a chance it will be on a Christmas Tour or promoted somehow by the Norton Arts Council.

Right now, the "Big Boys Toy Museum" is open mostly on weekends.

If you would like to see this unique assemblage of automotive items and receive a tour from the enthusiastic proprietor call him at 785-877-5535.

It's a real "blast from the past".

School board looks at requirements

(Continued from Page 1) requirements for the class of 2009. That class will have to have three math credits and three science credits to graduate, said Mr. Mann. At the moment, the district has left the minimum graduation credits at 21.

"This is a big change," he said. "It's going to affect a lot of students."

The issue will be on the October agenda.

• Purchased the SiPS data management program, instead of Apple's Power School and made

it the official gradebook program for the district. Keith Hauser, technology coordinator, said the SiPS program is similar to Power School, but the price for SiPS is lower. He said it's also easier for parents to use.

Mr. Mann said all of the schools he's talked to have really liked this program. The price is \$9,991 to buy the software and then about \$3,000 annually for tech support.

• Adopted the activity guidelines submitted by the district's coaches. Wording changes were made to the cheerleading and cross

country guidelines. The drama guidelines were changed to allow food and drink in practice and also to make two unexcused absences grounds for dismissal.

• Accepted a revised "Use of School Facilities" form. The new form requires more information.

• Accepted resignations from Debra Jackson as concession coordinator and Lindsey Bailey as the junior high assistant track coach.

• Approved a work agreement for Connie Green as the new concession coordinator.



Tea and Khrianna Van Patten enjoyed the ice cream social which took place last Saturday evening in Almena's City Building. The annual event is a fund-raiser for the Congregational Church.

— Telegram photo by Kristen Brands



Drew Graham, an installer from Graham Construction of Norton, makes the final adjustments on the new sign above the door of the offices of the Norton Area Chamber of Commerce. The new sign, designed and made by Here's Your Sign, includes the website address of the Chamber. The frame, securing it to the building was donated by Nex Tech.

— Telegram photo by Carol Erlenbusch

31ST ANNUAL

Hansen Arts & Crafts Fair

PLAZA LAWN — LOGAN, KANSAS

Saturday, September 18, 2004

FAIR BEGINS AT 10:00 A.M. AND ENDS AT 5:00 P.M.

Crafters, Crafters Everywhere!

- Tad Felts, MC • Purchase Prize Drawings • Food Booths
- Free Helium Balloons • Face Painting • Mount Neverest
- Bungee Bull • Space Walk Tent • Parachute Drop
- Harley the Clown-Performing in the Kid's Tent—2-3 p.m.
- Stiltwalker Throughout the Day

LIVE MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT—

North Stage— "Sineray" • South Stage— "OK Sisters Band"