

### 'C' and 'D' tags due April 30

The deadline for businesses or persons whole last name begins with "C" or "D" to renew automobile, light trucks, motorcycles and motorized bike tags will be Monday, April 30. When renewing your vehicles, remember to bring proof of insurance policy number and expiration date, for all vehicles.

Drivers' license renewals can be processed from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. Social security cards, or something that has your social security number on it, are needed when renewing drivers' licenses. The Norton County Treasurers Office can only renew regular drivers' licenses and issue identification cards.

For more information, call the office at 877-5795.

Weather

### **Forecast:**

**Tonight** — Periods of showers and thunderstorms. Some of the storms could be severe. Wednesday — Showers likely with a high near 52. Chance of precipitation is 70 percent.

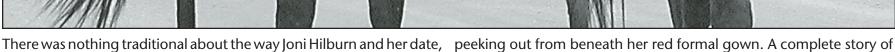
### Kingham report:

Friday	Low 48, High 77
Saturday	Low 56, High 78
	Low 50, High 62, .90" Rain
	Low 44, High 69
(Deedings t	alion at the Kingham farm

(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

rayer

Dear Lord, we love you and trust you to walk with us through our living and our dying. Thank you. Amen



Payton Chestnut, arrived for her prom at Northern Valley High School Northern Valley's prom, with more pictures, will appear in Friday's Saturday. The two rode in on their horses with Joni's cowboy boots Norton Telegram. — Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

# Norton moves forward with water plant

#### **By VERONICA MONIER**

vmonier@nwkansas.com The Norton City Council is moving forward with its water plant renovation.

Chris Miller with Miller and Associates, the city's engineers for the project, said they received two bids for the renovation. The first bid was from Industrial Process Technology with a base bid at \$3,366,700 with an alternate bid for covered clarifiers at \$288,320 for a total bid of \$3,655,020. BRB Contractors turned in the second bid with a base bid of \$3,119,000 and an alternate bid for covered clarifiers at \$150,000 for a total bid of \$3,269,000.

Mr. Miller said his firm recommended the bid be awarded to BRB Contractors. The low bid was about \$259,000 over the

To get the price down, a few changes can be made as change orders.

Councilman Ron Briery said he remembered seeing the estimate at \$3.2 million and wanted to know why it was lower now.

Mr. Miller said the total cost was estimated at \$3.2 million with construction costs set at \$2.9.

Councilwoman Elaine Mann wanted to know if they would have enough money to cover it without raising rates a great deal.

Mr. Miller said they had \$6 million for there would be enough to cover it. He said he came up with some numbers and if the city used the State Revolving Loan Fund

original estimate of \$2.9 million, he said. (SRF), as it is planning to, with a 20-year note, it would cost an additional 99 cents per user a month over what they had estimated. But, he said SRF would be willing to work with the city, allowing them to make a balloon payment before the loan is closed out so that rates wouldn't need to go up anymore.

> He said if the council awarded the bid at that meeting, then they could have a contract ready by the May 2 meeting. After that, BRB could start at the end of May or early June. The project will be finished by December.

The council accepted the low bid of this, Phase I, and for Phase II, and that \$3,119,000 from BRB Contractors for the water treatment plant renovation project. The council, with the advice of Mr. Miller,

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## Mayor makes city council appointments

#### **By VERONICA MONIER**

vmonier@nwkansas.com New appointments have been chosen by Mayor David Corns and confirmed by the Norton City Council.

The council/committee appointments are:

• Finance — Councilman Ron Briery, Councilwoman Donna Foley, and Councilman Jerry Jones;

• Utility — Councilwoman Elaine Mann, Mr. Briery, Mrs. Foley;

• Personnel — Councilman Jerry Jones, Mrs. Mann, Mr. Briery;

• Public Safety — Mrs. Foley, Councilman Kelly Gaer; Councilman Jim Williams;

• Parks/Cemetery — Mr. Williams, Mr. Jones, Mr. Gaer;

• Public Works — Mr. Gaer, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Mann;

• Airport Board – Mr. Briery, Mr. Williams;

 K.M.E.A Council Representative – Mrs. Mann, City Administrator Rob Lawson;

· County Commission Representative — Mr. Jones;

• Bed Tax Representative — Mr. Williams;

 Chamber of Commerce Representative — Mr. Briery;

• Library Board — Mr. Corns;

• 20/20 Emergency Planning — Mr. Gaer;

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## Grant allows hospital to update for bio-terrorism

**By VERONICA MONIER** The Norton County Hospital has a bio-

terrorism grant it needs to spend.

Mary Hicks, chairwoman of the Safety Committee, told the hospital board the hospital received a \$10,000 bio-terrorism grant to update its decontamination unit. The unit is in the ambulance garage on the north side of the hospital and has one shower. They want to put in an additional shower and heat, she said.

Ms. Hicks said they also had \$16,000 from a previous bio-terrorism grant that counts and sent them to the collection they needed to spend. With that money, they bought a portable generator.

vulnerability study, which will need to be updated on a monthly basis.

In other business, the board:

• Approved the employee handbook

with no changes. Shannan Hempler, director of Human Resources, told the board the policy and procedures in the handbook had been reviewed by the Hays Medical Center

 Approved the policy and procedures handbook from the Dietary Department. Alice Hawks, director of the Dietary Department, reviewed the handbook with the board, outlining the areas that needed to be changed.

• Approved the write-off/bad debt acagency

• Heard that a pre-bid conference for the She said the committee is working on a lower level renovation was scheduled for ing along nicely and that the hospital and April 24 and that bids were due May 10. Approved four medical staff applications.

• Reviewed patient surveys.

 Reviewed quality improvement reports for the nursing, radiology, cardiac rehabilitation, infection control, information technology, discharge planning and engineering departments.

 Heard an update from Hospital Administrator Rich Miller about physician recruitment. Mr. Miller said he has hired Rollie Fisher, formerly of Norton, to put together a marketing brochure on the hospital to try and get doctors interested in coming. He said they will be sending the marketing brochure out to a four-state area once it is finished.

· Learned that the evening clinic is comclinic staff are still excited about it.

• Held a 20-minute closed session to discuss non-elected personnel.