



Shannon Douglas brought her dog, Amos, to receive a blessing from Fr. Dennis Gilhousen. The Blessing of the Pets was

held Sunday afternoon in Elmwood Park. — Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

Council gives part of grant to horse council

(Continued from Page 1) Energy. The library will be closed Nov. 12 for Veteran's Day.

- Held a 5-minute recess.
- Waived the formal first reading of Ordinance 1567, vacating a portion of Manor Drive in Westridge Acres. City Attorney Karen Griffiths said part of the property east of 907 Manor Drive, which was originally supposed to be a street, has been vacated, but the remainder was not. Curt Walter has been maintaining the property and would like it to be vacated and revert to the property owners.
- Heard from Mrs. Griffiths that she checked the city's dog ordinance to see if it was legal for Roxane Kent to add two dog runs to the Groom Room. She said the ordinance allows for the runs, even though Ms. Kent doesn't live there, and she is free to build her runs with the proper building permits.
- Sent two ordinances dealing with environmental codes and dangerous and unfit structure codes to the Finance Committee for review.
- Authorized BRB Contractors to do the necessary manhole and sewer line work to replace an eight inch sanitary sewer line from New Age Industrial to the sewer plant at an estimated cost of \$10,500, which will be paid for out of the contingency fund.
- Mr. Lawson said if the work isn't done, the sewer main will eventually plug. The motion passed 5-1 with Mr. Briery voting no. Mr. Briery said he was voting against it because the city approved the sewer plant without

a set plan. This probably wouldn't be happening if there had been a plan, he said.

- Approved a bid from Roofmasters Roofing Co. to remove and replace the 12 existing skylights at the Norton Library at a cost of \$5,640 to be paid from the bond issue. The vote passed 5-0 with Mrs. Mann abstaining.
- Passed a motion to get an alternative bid of carpet for the community room in addition to the alternative bid for tile, so that the council can review the costs and make sure they don't go over the amount of the bond issue.
- Heard from Mr. Briery that he has had several complaints regarding the streets and their high curbs. He suggested the city consider buying a core drill and mill off part of the streets. He said the Kansas Department of Transportation might help the city do core drills. Some of the property owners, he said, are willing to have the streets fixed and the cost assessed to their property taxes.
- Approved the request of Trinity Episcopal Church to allow a ceremony at Elmwood Park for the Blessing of the Pets. The blessing was held Sunday.
- Waived the formal first reading of Ordinance 1566, granting a contract franchise to Southwestern Bell Telephone Company for telecommunications local exchange service within the city for two years.
- Approved a motion that all future building and demolition permits must have a reasonable construction cost listed on the permit in order for it to be approved.

Loans for farm storage available to county farmers

Norton County farmers are reminded that Farm Storage Facility Loans (FSFL) are available through the Farm Service Agency (FSA).

"At a time when commercial storage facilities are at maximum capacity and charging premium rates nationwide, on-farm storage provides producers with an attractive alternative," said County Executive Director Vesta Hobbs.

The Farm Service Agency offers seven-year, low-interest loans to grain producers to build new or upgrade existing storage facilities and related essential, permanently affixed drying or handling equipment. Loan opportunities include, but are not limited to:

- New conventional-type cribs or bins, oxygen-limiting and other upright silo-type structures, and flat-type storage structures designed for whole grain storage;
 - Perforated floors, safety equipment, electrical equipment and concrete components considered essential for a fully functional storage facility;
 - Remodeling existing storage facilities.
- Ms. Hobbs said marketing flexibility is the primary benefit gained from on-farm storage facilities. "Privately owned facilities give producers control over where and when they sell their crops, increasing their odds of receiving the best price for their crop," she said.

ing the best price for their crop," she said.

Farm storage facility loans must be approved prior to site preparation, equipment purchase or construction, and must be secured by a promissory note and security agreement. Special provisions apply for loans exceeding \$50,000.

The maximum loan amount will be 85 percent of the net cost of the applicant's needed storage or handling equipment, not to exceed \$100,000 per borrower. A minimum down payment to the supplier or contractor is required to bridge the gap between the net cost of the storage facility and the loan amount.

Fixed interest rates on farm storage facility loans are equivalent to the rate of interest charged on U.S. Treasury Securities of comparable maturity on the date the loan is approved. As of October 2007, the annual interest rate is 4.375 percent.

"Knowing you have on-site storage gives producers peace-of-mind, allowing time to develop progressive, lucrative marketing strategies," said Ms. Hobbs.

For detailed applicant and facility eligibility criteria regarding Farm Storage Facility Loans, and to schedule an appointment to file an application, contact the Norton County office at 785-877-5156 or visit FSA on the web at www.fsa.

Church holds pet blessing to celebrate saint's day

By CAROLYN PLOTTS
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About a dozen dogs and their owners made their way to Elmwood Park Sunday afternoon to celebrate "The Blessing of the Pets".

The blessing, celebrated all over the world, is done in remembrance of St. Francis of Assisi and

his love for all creatures. The blessing acknowledges the important part pets play in people's lives. Some studies show that people with pets experience better health and live longer lives. Fr. Dennis Gilhousen of the Norton Trinity Episcopal Church conducted the service and blessed

all the pets brought to him. He said each pet's name and blessed them in the name of the Father, and the Son and of the Holy Spirit. He asked that the owner and the pet enjoy their life together and find joy with the God who created them. He even gave blessings to several pets that were not present, but whose owners suggested their

names to Fr. Gilhousen. In closing, those gathered read a prayer attributed to Saint Francis. A free-will offering was collected to support the Second Chance Homeless Pet Society and the work they do in helping pets in the Norton community that do not have a home.

Norton students rally for homecoming parade

(Continued from Page 1) ven Brown, Bethany Winkel, Hannah Waggoner, Jordan Voss, sophomores; Kelsie Griffith, freshman.

The Norton Community High School marching band performed a pre-game and half-time show.

On Friday afternoon, students, parents and fans got into the winning spirit with the annual parade and pep rally.

The parade began at the junior high with the marching band heralding the class floats and convertibles in which nominees for king and queen were riding.

The pep rally began where the parade ended on the lawn of the

Norton County Courthouse. The rally began with the cheerleader and dance teams performing.

Guest speaker was Doug Ray, father of senior football player Travis Ray.

He began his speech by recognizing all Norton's fall sports and their coaches: football, volleyball, cross country, tennis along with the cheerleaders and dance team.

Mr. Ray noted that he started with the current football seniors in federated football. "Those little guys thought they were tough but they weren't," he said to the delight of the crowd. He continued by giving very positive

comments about each one of the current senior football players, who now prove their toughness every Friday night.

Mr. Ray further entertained the crowd by reciting quotes from famous coaches. A few of them were: "The guy who complains about the way the ball bounces is the one who fumbled", Lou Holtz; "When you win, nothing hurts", Joe Namath; "Football is a collision sport; dancing is a contact sport", Duffy Dougherty.

Mr. Ray concluded by urging the Norton team to "play tonight as a team, not as individuals".

Everyone enjoyed the humorous skits. The rally ended with the band playing the Blue Jay fight song.

Spirit Week winners were:

- *Best Dressed -- Monday/Pajama Day: David Mizell, Karlynn Kent; Tuesday/Dress-up Day: Travis Ray, Jade Braun; Wednesday/Twin Day: Kaenon Keiswetter and Wes Georgeson; Taylor Rossi and Ashley Colip; Thursday/Super Hero Day: Jared Cox, Blossom Jacobus; Friday/Blue and Yellow Day: Adam Myers, Jessica Gilgenbach.

Downtown Poster Contest -- Karlynn Kent, Cherean Kendell, Jacob VanSkike, "Turn Up The Heat", first; Liberty Stephens, "Got Game", second; Ashley Maybon, Rachael Hickman, "Tame The Tigers", third.

Parade Floats -- sophomore class, first; freshmen class, second; junior class, third; senior class, fourth.

Woman injured in accident

By VERONICA MONIER
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A 22-year-old woman was injured when her vehicle hit an embankment Sunday.

Shawna Black, Norton, was driving her 2000 sports utility vehicle west on U.S. 36, about a mile and a half east of Norcat, when it fishtailed into the on-coming

lane and then back across the road, ending up in the north ditch. Her vehicle hit a dirt embankment and rolled onto its top.

Ms. Black was wearing her seat belt at the time of the accident.

She was taken to the Norton County Hospital and was later released.

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