

# At the market...



Lee and Siobhan Hanes, owners of the Pinestone in Norton, decided to give something old a new twist. The Hanes opened up the bottom floor of the Pinestone to vendors and invited the public in to shop at their corner market last weekend. Shoppers could find a variety of items from t-shirts and hats to Valentine's Day treats and portraits. — Telegram photo by Veronica Monier

# Hospital updates county on its plans

(Continued from Page 1) know what the commission's plans were for the ambulance building and if it would be for sale after a new facility was built. Mr. Miller said he knew it was a direct question, but that the hospital might be interested in putting the nursing school there if it was for sale. The commission said they didn't know if they wanted to sell the building, since the county needs storage space as well as a secure area to put election equipment.

In other business, the commission met with:

- **Curt Archibald, solid waste supervisor**, who said one of the requirements for participation in the E-Waste program with Osborne County is scale certification. The county's scales, he said, are now certified, but small items being weighed won't register on the scales. Another requirement, he said, is that customers must remove all data from the computers delivered to the waste site. Mr. Archibald and the commission discussed how this will be done and what the process would be if hard drives still have data on them.

Mr. Archibald said Norton city crews delivered the demolition debris from a home in Norton last week. He said the debris totaled 26.41 tons, which is higher than was absolutely necessary because it wasn't sorted. Mr. Archibald said he will speak to City Administrator Rob Lawson about sorting trash.

- **Diane Becker, economic development**, who spoke about an upcoming career fair. The fair, she said, will be held from 4 to 8 p.m. on March 28 in the Norton Junior High School gym. Several business owners from Norton and the surrounding area will be participating.

Ms. Becker also updated the commission on an upcoming meeting to discuss wind energy and how to better use and develop it. The meeting is for the public. She said on Feb. 19, they will be discussing energy audits. She said a firm will come into your facility and conduct an audit to help building owners understand what can be done to conserve energy.

- **Tom Brannan, road and bridge supervisor**, who gave the commission bids for culverts and bands. Three companies delivered bids on the products the county will need to do construction and maintenance work this summer — D-C Wholesale, \$23,199; Welborn Sales, \$22,760; and J&J Drainage Products, \$24,330.41. The commission accepted the bid from Welborn Sales.

Mr. Brannan said he spoke to Chriss McDiffett with the Kansas Department of Transportation about buying a salt-sand mixture. He said the county has no way to store the mixture, since it is now required that it be in an enclosed structure. The county would like to buy it from the department of transportation when its needed and pay for it as weighed and used.

Mr. McDiffett said something could be worked out.

Mr. Brannan said someone has been dumping trash north of Alma. He has looked at the location and said he will take the necessary action.

- **Reggie Beckman, noxious weed supervisor**, who gave an update on what maintenance is being done to the spray equipment. He also said that Clarence Wetter, one of the men in his department, finished his final exam last week for a chemical license. Mr. Beckman gave the commission a list of upcoming meetings he will be going to.

**In other business, the commission:**

- Heard from County Treasurer Cindy Linner that the county collected \$26,223.99 in sales tax for January, making the year to date total \$111,946.93.

- Held a 30 minute closed session to discuss non-elected personnel with Patricia McCartney, medical director for the Norton County Emergency Medical Service. No action was taken as a result of the closed session.

- Discussed a request from BEB and Associates to do survey work for the county. Brian and Edward Berlier, owners of the relatively new company, asked that the county consider them when survey work was needed. The commission agreed to work with the Berliers and let Mr. Brannan know they are available locally.

## Snow in Kansas varies from year to year

With winter still stretching on for several more weeks and with it the prospect of even more snow, some Kansans might be wondering just how much snow can Kansas get?

"Snowfall in Kansas can vary quite a bit, not only from location to location, but year to year," said State of Kansas climatologist Mary Knapp. "The average annual snowfall in Kansas is 19 inches. It ranges from 11 inches a year in Parsons to over 40 inches a year in Goodland."

Knapp, who runs the Kansas Weather Data Library based in Kansas State University Research and Extension, said the greatest 24-hour snowfall recorded in Kansas was on Oct. 26, 1997 when Norcat received 24 inches. St. Francis holds the record for a single season with 99 inches during 1983-84. On the other side of the scale, many stations have years with no snow at all. Even

Goodland has had years of little snowfall, Knapp said.

During 1998, 1999, 2000 and 2001, Goodland saw less than an inch of snow each of those years.

"In contrast, on the national scene, Mount Baker Ski Area, near Seattle, set the U.S. record in the 1998-99 season with 1,140 inches. That's a lot of snow," Knapp added.

## Community room gets a face lift

(Continued from Page 1) ing a light fixture to the electrical room, that weren't in the bid for no charge. I wish I have a few more vendors like him.

"I'm pretty happy with the overall project."

Librarian Mary Luehrs asked when the project was expected to be finished. She said the summer reading program is a big deal and that they needed to know if they wouldn't be able to use the community room. It's starts at the beginning of June, she said.

Mr. Connelly said that was the kind of information he needed to know and that he could put a completion date of May 31 in the bid specifications.

Leslie Bell, Northwest Kansas Public Library System director, said an important meeting was scheduled for May 14 and wanted to know if it could be done before then.

Mr. Lawson said it could be done, but it would increase the cost.

Mr. Connelly said when they knock off a significant amount of

time, it usually requires overtime. But, he said he could specify a May 13 completion date for that one room.

He said he would also be adding penalty clauses.

The council gave Mr. Connelly approval to send out the bid specification packages.

In other business, the council:

- Received floor plans for restroom facilities. Mr. Lawson said the council had spoken of put new restrooms at Elmwood Park, Wayside Park and in the center of the track area. The plans could be used for all three restrooms and could be altered for each site as needed. The Parks Committee will review the plans.

- Heard that the city was only able to get one bid on a fire alarm system for the city building. It will be discussed further at the Public Safety Committee.

- Learned that the Norton City/County Airport Board received notification that an alternative project, which includes a fuel station and turn-around area, has been approved at an approximate

cost of \$31,000. The local share is 5 percent, half of which the city will pay.

- Authorized Mr. Lawson to send BRB Contractors a letter regarding the completion of the sewer plant. Mr. Lawson said they are still holding payment until the project is finished.

- Received a letter from BRB Contractors asking for a time extension and less inspections at the water plant. The council passed a motion to use the terms of the original contract and leave inspection on a daily basis.

## Republicans choose Huckabee

(Continued from Page 1) McCain, 44; Paul, 15; Romney, 8; Keyes, 5; two were uncommitted; and one provisional ballot was sent, unopened, to Kansas Party headquarters.

Helping with registration was Joe Ballinger, Treasurer for Norton County Central Committee; Curt and Norma Archibald handled arrangements at the Legion; and Ruth Lofgreen handed out the

voting stickers.

To learn more about the Republican caucus go on-line to: [www.ksgopcaucus.org](http://www.ksgopcaucus.org).

## CORRECTION

In the Friday, Feb. 8 edition of *The Norton Telegram*, a story on the new teen seat belt law, it was said that the law only applies to those in the driver's seat and the front passenger seat. This is incorrect. The law applies to everyone in the vehicle who is under 18 years old, including those in the back seat.

☆☆☆☆☆  
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## Norton Community High School Students of the Month for December 2007

### Bethany Roy



Parents: Corey & Gail Roy  
Grade: Sophomore

Nominating Staff Members — Lindsay Bailey and Tom Héhn

"Bethany is polite, inquisitive, organized, disciplined, focused and a joy to have in the classroom." — Mr. Héhn

"Bethany is a good student who is a very hard worker." — Mrs. Bailey

#### Factoids about Bethany

- Favorite Class: English
- Favorite Drink: Peach Tea
- Favorite Color: Pink
- Favorite Food: Steak & Potatoes
- Favorite Movie: High School Musical!
- Favorite Saying: "Wisdom is the quality that keeps one from getting into a situation where it is needed."
- Favorite Song: Any High School Musical song
- Favorite Hang out: With my family.
- Personal Hero: My mom
- Future Plans: Go to college & hopefully be a part of Young Americans.

### Zach Mannel



Parent: Dan Mannel  
Grade: Senior

Nominating Staff Member — Mirla Coleman

"Zach is always attentive in class and immediately works to complete assignments. His focus is off of grades and more on participation and learning." — Mrs. Coleman

#### Factoids about Zach

- Favorite Class: Economics & Business Law
- Favorite Drink: Water
- Favorite Color: Green
- Favorite Food: Cheesy potatoes
- Favorite Movie: Monty Python and the Holy Grail
- Favorite Saying: "Take 'em Bill!"
- Favorite Song: "Out to Get You"
- Favorite Hang-out: The Thunderdome, a.k.a. Cox's basement
- Personal Hero: My dad
- Future Plans: Go to College

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