



Deb and Curtis Eveleigh "modeled" one of the motorcycles on the showroom floor of Norton Sports Center where they have done business for 30 years. — Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

Sports center celebrates 30 years

By CAROLYN PLOTTS
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Four years after moving to Norton in 1974, Curtis and Debra Eveleigh opened Norton Sports Center in the location the business is in today on West U.S. Highway 36 on the edge of town.

Mrs. Eveleigh said, "It's a family business. In fact, we built the building. We even poured the concrete floor."

That's how it's been for the last 30 years. The Eveleighs working side by side in the business that sells Yamaha and Kawasaki motorcycles, all-terrain vehicles and dirt bikes; Yamaha scooters and Rhino utility vehicles; Kawasaki utility vehicles; helmets and gear; and Snapper and Country Clipper

lawn mowers. Mr. Eveleigh is the head mechanic, while she takes care of the bookkeeping.

Of their working relationship, he said, "We almost never fight. But, it is different than just seeing someone for a few hours a day." He was quick to add, "She's the best employee I have."

Mrs. Eveleigh had this to say about working with her husband, "It takes a knack. That's what I tell any women who are thinking about working together with their husband. I also think you have to have your time apart."

Some of that apart time comes every day at 3:30 p.m. because Mr. Eveleigh has driven a school bus for the Norton school district for the last 20 years. In addition

to a regular route, he sometimes drives the activity bus. He is also an active member of the Norton Lions Club.

Together, they volunteer to help with the Norton Home-Owned Carnival. He is the organization's president and she's a board member. They have been involved with the carnival since 1991.

In their "spare" time, the Eveleighs also own and operate Sports Center Storage which has 40 indoor storage units and a lot for outdoor storage.

Mr. and Mrs. Eveleigh are the parents of Christine, Nicole and Craig.

They both agreed they enjoy what they do and said they plan to be in Norton for a long, long time.

Kindergarten roundup set for March 3

Eisenhower Elementary School will hold its annual Kindergarten Roundup Monday, March 3. Parents and their kindergartner are invited to drop-in for a visit from 4 to 5 p.m. This is the time they will visit the classrooms and meet the kindergarten teachers.

At 5 p.m. Principal Corey Roy will conduct a meeting in the cafeteria with parents and their kindergartner child. Mr. Roy and the teaching staff will discuss some of the expectations of the kindergarten program and provide some ideas to help parents

prepare their child for school. The school nurse will also be there to discuss what shots are needed for school attendance and any other medical issues.

If you have any questions, call the school at 877-5113.

Development makes offer on building

By VERONICA MONIER
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The Norton County Economic Development Board is making an offer on the LuJon's building in downtown Norton.

The board looked at the building Tuesday before its monthly meeting and met with the building's owner, Mark Wilcox. Mr. Wilcox originally wanted \$65,000 for the building and then went down to \$50,000.

The board is making an offer of \$42,000 and, if the offer is accepted, will pay for it out of its capital outlay fund.

If economic development buys the building, it will be used as business incubator space, said Director Diane Becker. The first floor will be used as a place to house new retail businesses, while the second floor could be used for county storage. She said if they get the building, they will be looking into grants to remodel the second floor.

If the offer is accepted, this will be economic development's first capital outlay project.

Economic development is also

working on finding space for a new industrial park on U.S. 36.

In other business, the board:

- Declined to give the Entrepreneurship Center in Phillipsburg a monetary donation, but will instead advertise the center's classes through the economic development office and offer scholarships to Norton County residents who would like to attend the classes.
- Approved a scholarship application for economic development related classes.
- Will offer the county \$2,850 to offset the cost of the Neighborhood Revitalization Plan and its training.
- Heard Ms. Becker will be putting a proposal together for the Moffet gas station on State Street, which will be presented at the public hearing for demolition at 5:45 p.m. on Wednesday, March 5 at the Norton city building.
- Created a Promoting Norton committee. The committee will have two representatives from Economic Development — board members Deena Wente and Curtis Eveleigh — two representatives

from the Norton Area Chamber of Commerce and two representatives from Travel and Tourism. The committee members will be working together to promote Norton and the county.

- Changed the spring internship. It is now a non-paying position and the intern will research business incubator management, rather than building a website for economic development.
- Teamed up with Northwest Kansas Technical College to offer basic computer courses.
- Learned that Natoma Corporation received OSHA's SHARP designation for meeting the highest standards for health and safety in the workplace. Gov. Kathleen Sebelius signed a proclamation making the designation.
- Heard the Norton Area Chamber of Commerce's annual banquet will be held on March 10 at the Eagles Club. Social hour will begin at 6 p.m. and dinner will begin at 7 p.m. The speaker will be John Allen, the former chief operating officer of the Cincinnati Reds, who was born in Norton.

Crop disaster program deadline is March 15

Farmers are reminded that March 15 is the application closing date for certain crops under the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) with the Farm Service Agency (FSA). Crops eligible for NAP benefits are limited to those not insurable in the county and which are produced for food or fiber.

March 15 is the final date to pay the applicable service fee and obtain NAP coverage for sorghum forage, coarse grains, vegetable and melon crops, Amaranth, chestnuts, cotton, pecans, pumpkins, safflower, sesame, squash and walnuts. The administrative service fee is \$100 per crop per administrative county, not to exceed \$300 per producer per administrative county and a \$900 maximum fee for multi-county producers. If you are interested, you must pay the fee and file form CCC-471, Application for Coverage by the deadline.

This coverage entitles eligible farmers to a payment of 55 percent of an average market price for the commodity if a natural disaster caused a 50 percent, or greater, production loss of an eligible crop.

In the event that a farmer does suffer a loss on their particular

crop, form CCC-576, Notice of Loss, must be filed with the government agency within 15 calendar days after the disaster, or the date the loss becomes apparent to the producer.

There is a limit of \$100,000 in benefits per person per crop year. Crop acres must be certified by

deadlines; must maintain production evidence for three years; not exceed \$2 million gross revenue provisions; and must comply with conservation compliance provisions.

If interested, call Norton County Farm Service Agency at 877-5156.

Registered Nurse Wanted

Seeking a registered nurse with extensive experience in labor, delivery and post-partum nursing cares. Duties will include working with the Director of Nursing and medical staff to coordinate the nursing care in Obstetrics Department.

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Line Department

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720 ACRES CROPLAND, CRP & GRASS LAND AUCTION
ABSOLUTE
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