

A hint as to what's ahead



Norton city employees began assembling carnival rides in preparation for the Norton County Fair that runs July 22-26. The ride they were working on is the Scrambler. —Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

Pre-fair activities are ready to go

Horse events

Participants interested in the Norton County Fair Horse Events will want to take notice of the date for these events. This year's Fun Day Show will be held on Saturday, July 19, with entry check-in at 8 a.m., and the show beginning at 9 a.m. This will be held at the Equine Facility Arena in Elmwood Park in Norton.

Pre-entries are needed in the Extension Office by 5 p.m., Thursday, July 17. Entrants need only fill out one section of a tri-section pre-entry card.

The show is open to youth and adults of Norton and other counties. The events are showmanship, western horsemanship, trail, reining, poles, barrels and pair sack race. Main Superintendents are Shannon Esslinger and Cindy

County: Road work report given

(Continued from Page 1)

• Tom Brannan, Road and Bridge Supervisor, gave his weekly operations report. Weather and rains continued to delay progress on road maintenance and construction, but crews are proceeding when possible. Mr. Brannan reported that a Bobcat has been delivered to the department for usage on the bridges that have a lot of debris, and that it is working very well. The commission asked Mr. Brannan about getting a quote from New Holland and Case for the skid loader.

• Developmental Services of Northwest Kansas presented their annual budget via telephone conference call. Budget information and request was sent prior to the meeting and during the teleconference Mr. Jerry Michaud, president, informed the commission of a budget request.

• Curt Archibald, County Solid Waste director, delivered his weekly report. BG Consultants will be here this month to discuss the planning for opening another cell at the landfill. Mr. Archibald also submitted his budget for the 2009 operating year, and gave the commission an update on the maintenance of the landfill equipment.

• Joe Berry reported on the Republican Central Committee activities. The committee will have a tent at the fair and Mr. Berry encouraged everyone to stop by the booth.

• Rhonda Keese, Northwest Kansas Domestic Services, spoke about services offered by her firm. She asked the commission for support in the upcoming budget year and assured the commission that all funds from Norton County will stay within the county.

The next meeting will be held on Monday in the commissioners' room on the second floor of the courthouse.

Lowry.

The 4-H and FFA Youth Horse Show will begin at 9 a.m. on Monday, July 21, with entry and check-in at 8 a.m. The show will begin with the halter, showmanship and pleasure classes.

Entry cards are due into the Extension Office by Thursday, July 17. Only two sections of a tri-section per entry are needed.

The 4-H and FFA Horses will be stalled through Thursday of the fair at the Norton County Equine Facility. The "Ranch Rodeo" will be held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, July 23 and the Jackpot team roping, sponsored by the Norton County Horse Council, will be held at 8 p.m. on Thursday, July 24.

Fashion revue

Norton County 4-H members enrolled in the clothing project this year have completed most of their project work. Judging of exhibits of 4-H Clothing and Fashion Revue will be held Tuesday, July 15, beginning with *Clothing Construction* at 1 p.m., followed by *Clothing Buymanship* at 5:30 p.m. All judging will be held at the 4-H Building in Norton.

In the construction phase, 4-Hers will exhibit garments and articles they have constructed and also

model outfits and accessories they have made. The 4-H clothing project also includes two buymanship phases. These 4-Hers select outfits from the ready-to-wear market for their clothing wardrobe.

These outfits will then be modeled at the 4-H Public Fashion Revue on Saturday, July 19 at 7 p.m. at the 4-H Building in Norton. The theme of the fashion revue is "Olympic Style." 4-H members invite you to be present for their fashion revue.

The garments and articles that the 4-Hers have made and modeled will be on display at the 4-H Building during fair week

Pet show

The Norton County 4-H Pet, Cat and Dog Show will be held at the Norton Andbe Home on Monday, July 14. 4-H Members will be on hand to display their hand pets, cats and work their dogs through the obedience and showmanship trials.

The Pet Show will begin at 6:45 p.m., with the cats to follow, then the dog show is set to start at 7:30 p.m.

There will be cats, dogs, various pets and perhaps even aquarium pets!

The public is invited to watch these 4-H members in action

Prison help at landfill discussed

By CYNTHIA HAYNES
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The Norton County landfill has been without prison labor from the Norton Correctional Facility to help sort recyclables and clean up around the area for several weeks.

Last Monday the commissioners and Warden Jay Shelton got together to discuss ways to get the prisoners back at the recycling center and solve the problems the prison had with convicts smuggling tobacco back into the prison from the landfill.

Mr. Shelton suggested that it would help if the landfill became a tobacco-free area. He also asked that the county employees keep a closer watch on the prisoners since it is impossible to have a prison guard out at the landfill all the time.

The commissioners noted that it is illegal for anyone to have tobacco at the prison now.

"That tobacco-free deal the state did on you guys didn't make your life any easier, did it," Commissioner John Miller said.

The warden agreed. "No, that doesn't mean it wasn't the right thing to do, however," he said, adding that the state and penal system spent two years gathering information and looking at policies in other states before

proceeding.

"When we decided to proceed, we gave the inmates and staff a full year notice," he added.

However, he noted, five years later there are still problems but when the inmates are trying to get tobacco they are less likely to be getting other, more dangerous, drugs.

"That's the problem at the landfill," he said.

With the landfill being close to town and the same crew and inmates there day after day its easier for prisoners to make arrangements with outside individuals to do tobacco drops, which can then be smuggled back into the prison.

In the prison, he said, the tobacco is traded for favors and it can lead to assaults on other inmates and other problems.

County Solid Waste Supervisor Curt Archibald admitted that he and some of the other landfill employees smoke but not much during the day.

He said that he thought a smoke ban would not be popular with the employees but would be doable. He said he wasn't so sure how to handle people who came to dump trash.

Mr. Sebelius suggested that the county pass a measure, without criminal penalties, against smok-

ing at the landfill and then post it.

Mr. Miller said that the county will do whatever is needed.

"Our recycling program is truly based on that inmate labor so we have to do what it takes to adjust the schedule," he said.

Mr. Shelton warned the commissioners that the landfill isn't a favorite job.

"I don't think that inmates see digging through other peoples garbage and sorting it as a preferred work assignment," he said.

However, he said he might look at raising the prisoners' pay, which is about 60 cents a day for the work. He said he might be able to look at paying them 45 to 50 cents an hour.

Mr. Archibald said that he thought the inmates working at the landfill already got six days pay for five days work plus coffee in the morning and a soda pop in the afternoons.

Mr. Miller said that he thought the county should look at paying the prisoners to make the job more appealing.

Mr. Shelton said that might cost the county up to \$24 a day but would put the county on the same level as private industry, which is where the top prison jobs are.

"We're willing to do what ever it takes to get them back," Mr. Miller said.

Release land for livestock grazing

Information reaching The Norton Telegram this week says Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres are being released for livestock grazing in counties recently designated as Presidential Disaster Areas due to flooding. Norton is one of those counties affected.

The announcement was made by Bill R. Fuller, Executive Director for USDA's Farm Service Agency in Kansas. The release permits grazing only in counties designated as primary and contiguous disaster areas and only because of flooding.

Other counties involved are Phillips, Rawlins, Decatur, Brown, Doniphan, Jewell, Marshall, Nemaha, Republic, Smith and Washington.

"We have a crisis situation in the Midwest and other parts of the country that calls for drastic action," said Agriculture Secretary Ed Schafer. "Our CRP land is vital to the balance we promote at the USDA between production and preservation. I commit this resource knowing that we must redouble our conservation effort at every future opportunity."

Mr. Fuller added, "Major flood-

ing along the Mississippi River and its tributaries came at one of the worst times for agriculture. Flood waters inundated thousands of acres that cannot be salvaged for production this growing season, and it happened at a time of record crop, food and fuel prices."

To be approved, CRP participants must write their county Farm Service Agency office, obtain a modified conservation plan and receive county office approval before beginning to graze. Participants will experience a 25 percent reduction in their CRP rental payments.

Under CRP, farmers and ranchers enroll eligible land in 10- to 15-year contracts with United States Department of Agriculture's Commodity Credit Corpo-

ration. The Farm Service Agency administers the Conservation Reserve Program on behalf of Commodity Credit Corporation. Participants plant appropriate cover such as grasses and trees in crop fields and along streams. These plantings help prevent soil and nutrients from running into regional waterways and affecting water quality. The long-term vegetative cover also improves wildlife habitat and soil quality.

Gift idea: a subscription to The Telegram

Antiquities Portraits
When: July 25 & 26
All appointments are scheduled in advance. Walk-in appointments are not available.
Where: The Rock, 101 E. Main, Norton, KS
For \$10 you receive a 10X13 Sepia-Tone Portrait.
Antiquities provides clothing and props for the session. 10X13 offer limited to children up to the age of 16.
Contact Jenny Braun or Angie Woodring at (785) 877-3380 ext. 309 or 421 for additional information.
Sponsored by the Norton Correctional Facility, Employee Activity Committee

News? 877-3361, 6908

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