

# THE NORTON TELEGRAM



WEBSITE: [nwkansas.com](http://nwkansas.com)

8 PAGES

Tuesday  
July 22, 2008

Norton, Kansas  
Home of Denise Meyer

Briefly

## Many more events on Fair's schedule

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 23**  
 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m. - 4-H Open Class Entries and Judging  
 3:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m. - Petting Zoo-4-H Ambassadors & FFA  
 5:30 p.m. - 4-H Pork Burger Special  
 5:30 p.m. - Watermelon Feed, Sponsored by Jamboree Foods  
 6:00 p.m. - Larry Henderson and LeeAnn Shearer  
 6:30 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. Home Owned Carnival  
 7:00 p.m. - Ranch Rodeo

**THURSDAY, JULY 24**  
 9:00 a.m. - Shooting Sports Exhibition  
 6:00 p.m. - Market Animal Sale  
 6:30 p.m. - Larry Henderson and LeeAnn Shearer  
 6:30 p.m.-11:30 p.m. - Home Owned Carnival  
 8:00 p.m. - Jackpot Team Roping

**FRIDAY, JULY 25**  
 8:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m. - Check Out Entries  
 6:00 p.m. - Pedal Power Pull for Ages 4-11  
 6:30 p.m. Home Owned Carnival  
 Kiddie Armband Night  
 7:00 p.m. - "Norton Idol" - Sponsored by Area Businesses  
 7:30 p.m. - McClain's Mutton Busting for Kids

## Farmers wanted to serve on committee

The Norton County Farm Service Agency is looking for several farmers to serve on a farmer-elected committee. The agency wants farmers who know the business of farming, who are familiar with farming new or different crops, and those who can bring a different perspective to the the area. Information on the nomination and election process is available at the agency's office, 11640 Pineview Drive, Norton on July 30 at 2 p.m. The Local Administrative Area for the elections is the middle one-third of Norton county. All interested people are encouraged to attend. Nominations will be accepted through Aug. 1. The election will be held Dec. 1.



Brad Hopkins, economic development, Ed Witt from the Lion's Club, Economic Development Director Diane Becker, and Virgil Mock from

the Lion's Club work on painting the old Kent Oil Station.

— Telegram photo by Brandy Leroux

## Visitor's center is group's goal

By BRANDY LEROUX  
[bleroux@nwkansas.com](mailto:bleroux@nwkansas.com)

Saturday morning was a work day for Economic Development Director Diane Becker and several volunteers. Miss Becker, along with the Lions Club, the Downtown Restoration Committee Director Gloria Nelson, City Attorney Karen Griffith, and many other volunteers were all repainting the old Kent Oil Station on South State Street.

"We are in negotiations with the Chamber of Commerce and the county commissioners to turn it into a visitor's center," said Miss Becker.

The Kent Oil Station was built in 1938 by Rex Kent. Sometime before 1972, a cafe was added to the south side. It was last used as an antique store.

In May 2007, the city started the process to condemn the building for health and safety reasons.

An architect deemed the cafe part of

the building to be unsafe, and reported it should be torn down. The service station half of the building was sound, but had been unused for about 10 years.

Because the old tea house behind the service station, including anything within 500 feet of it, is protected by Kansas Historical Preservation Law, there were a lot of legal hoops to jump through to get approval for demolition.

On March 5, 2008, Miss Becker went before the city council to propose the building be used as a visitor's center. The city agreed, and gave her 180 days to demolish the cafe side and have the exterior painted. With the exception of some detail work, the deadline was met.

A fund raiser was held on April 5, 2008 to raise public awareness and money for the project.

The Lions Club sandblasted the exterior on May 20 and 21, and sealant was applied on May 31. June 28 and July 19

were painting days.

Miss Becker said there is still a lot of work to be done on the inside, and volunteers are always welcome.

"We would greatly appreciate any help volunteers could give, including time, supplies, materials or decorative items for the interior. We're hoping to decorate with old rims, gas station pumps, gas station memorabilia, old license plates, maps or pictures from the history of the station, and specifically an old light pole like the ones sold some time ago for \$25," Miss Becker said.

"We still need to have the stucco repaired in some places, which will be done by Jerome Rudolph, hired by the Lions Club; the doors need to be repaired or replaced; a parking lot put in; and the stained-glass window installed by R.W. Yeager," she said.

Miss Becker hopes the project will be completed within a year.

## One-on-one interviews

# Sheriff candidates state their case for Aug. 5 vote

### Thomson

By BRANDY LEROUX  
[bleroux@nwkansas.com](mailto:bleroux@nwkansas.com)

The Aug. 5 primary election will feature a two-man Republican race for Norton County Sheriff. Incumbent sheriff, Troy Thomson, is being challenged by Brent Bohl.

Here is a question/answer interview:

Q: Are you married, and do you have children?

A: Yes, I have a wife, Chriselle, a son at Barton County Community College, a daughter who is a junior in high school, and a daughter who is a freshman in high school.

Q: What unique qualities do you have that makes you the better candidate?

A: I was born and raised in Norton, went to school here, graduated high school here, never left. I've gotten to know the people here, and I've grown to know what style of law enforcement works best here. With the experiences I've had here, I think I'm the better candidate.

Q: What in your work history do you

think makes you the best fit for the job?

A: I started in law enforcement in February 1993. I was full-time for the Sheriff's Office and part-time for the City Police Department. I stopped working for the city in 1996, and stayed full-time

(Continued on Page 5)

### Bohl

By BRANDY LEROUX  
[bleroux@nwkansas.com](mailto:bleroux@nwkansas.com)

The Aug. 5 primary election will feature a two-man Republican race for Norton County Sheriff. Brent Bohl will challenge

incumbent sheriff, Troy Thomson.

Here is a question/answer interview.

Q: Are you married, and do you have kids?

A: I'm not married, but I do have two sons, ages 9 and 14.

Q: What unique qualities do you have that makes you the better candidate?

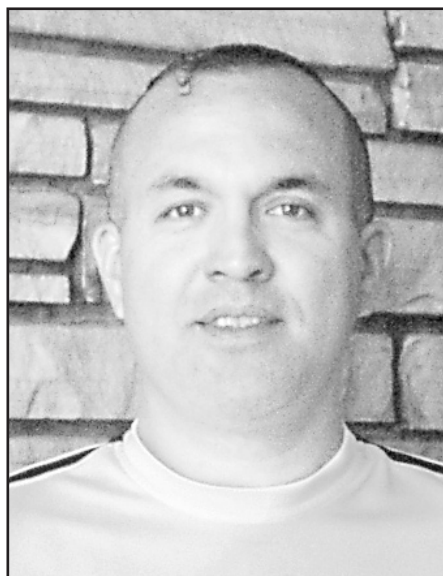
I have 17 years in the military, both active duty and reserve. I've achieved the rank of major. I've been in charge of millions of dollars of equipment and over 600 soldiers at a time. My most recent tour of active duty was in the Middle East as an intelligence officer. I have a Top-Secret Security Clearance. I have worked with Israeli Mossad, Egyptian Intelligence, CIA and FBI. I helped plan exercises in Michigan for the last 3 years with the military police. I coordinated and planned missions with the Army and local sheriff, FBI and fire department. I want to make my home in Norton County. This is where I want to be.

Q: What in your work history do you think makes you the best fit for the job?

A: I have a Bachelor's of Science in



Troy Thomson



Brent Bohl

(Continued on Page 5)

## Weather

**Tonight** — Isolated thunderstorms before 10 p.m. Mostly cloudy with a low around 72. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Wednesday** — Mostly sunny and hot with a high near 97. **Wednesday Night** — Mostly cloudy with a low around 70. **Thursday** — Partly sunny and hot with a high near 97.

## Kingham report:

Friday ..... Low 64, High 83, 1.50" Prec.  
 Saturday ..... Low 66, High 97  
 Sunday ..... Low 63, High 97  
 Monday ..... Low 65, High 100  
 (Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

## Prayer

Lord, thank you for faithfully standing with us in difficult times. We praise you for who you are. **Amen**