

Five Norton students to benefit from Morgan Trust

The Trustees of the Thomas D. Morgan Trust have selected Nolan Evans, Cherean Kendell, Sara Lentz, Kylie Morel and Valerie Wagoner as recipients of the interest-free student loan program for the 2008-09 school year.

The Trustees stressed that each applicant was an excellent applicant, who qualified under the trust guidelines set down by Mr. Morgan.

Nolan will be attending Bellevue Master's Commission program (an intensive discipleship ministry program) in Bellevue, Neb.; Cherean will be attending

Brigham Young University, majoring in recreational leadership; Sara will be attending the University of Nebraska at Kearney, pursuing a path in insurance; Kylie will also be attending the University of Nebraska at Kearney, majoring in accounting; and Valerie will be attending Kansas State University in Manhattan, majoring in interior design. All of these loans were awarded for up to four years.

There are eight other students receiving interest-free loans from the Thomas D. Morgan Trust for the upcoming school year. Any

recipient of a Morgan Loan could be eligible for loan forgiveness of up to 50 percent if they return to Norton County to work and live.

The interest-free loan was arranged by Mr. Morgan during his lifetime, and is funded by a bequest from his estate. Under the loan program, any Norton Community High School graduate is eligible for the loans set forth under the trust.

The loan program is designed to aid students seeking higher education in accredited institutions including, but not limited to, universities, colleges, vocational

technical schools, trade schools, business schools, and other institutions of higher education. Mr. Morgan expressly directed in his trust that any area of study in higher education was eligible, except for areas relating to medicine or law.

The trust agreement directs that an applicant must have participated in and successfully completed one extracurricular activity during each of his or her four years of high school, and the applicant must have had a grade of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale for five out of the preceding seven semesters. The Trustees were also directed to give consideration to participation

by the applicant in extracurricular activities, church activities, community and civic affairs, morals and citizenship.

The loan proceeds may be used by the recipients for tuition, books and supplies, room and board, and other approved expenses.

The Trustees want to stress to future potential applicants that the application forms and related forms for next year will be available on request from the trust at 785 877-5183 or PO Box 364, Norton, Kan., 67654, or from the Norton Community High School counselor's office. Mr. Morgan was employed by the Kansas Department of Transportation, as an

engineer, and was formerly mayor of the City of Norton.

Mr. Morgan was very interested in science and higher education, and was well aware of the positive effects of his own college education. Mr. Morgan was committed to helping the youth of the city of Norton, and accordingly left the bulk of his estate in trust to be used in furthering higher education for graduates and former graduates of Norton Community High School. The Trustees have the direction and authority to renew these loans for up to an additional three years, as well as making the ongoing loans each year to new applicants.

Good news for town's taxpayers

By TOM BETZ
ntbetz@nwkansas.com

GOODLAND — City property owners will keep a little more green in their pockets next year with a decrease of more than 7.4 percent in the property tax in the proposed budget.

The proposed budget for next year will reduce the property tax level by 1.19 mills and that means for a homeowner with a home appraised at \$75,000, city property taxes will drop \$36.18, and for a commercial business appraised at \$75,000 the tax will drop \$78.66.

The total city budget will increase from \$13,960,733 to \$14,442,754 (3.5 percent), but the city property tax collected will drop from \$1,381,771 to \$1,331,046, a 3.7 percent decrease.

During city budget work sessions July 7-8, commissioners said they wanted to be sure the property tax would go down. They cut transfers to the general fund and decided not to raise utility rates to keep the budget below last year.

The commissioners held a work session at 7 a.m. last Tuesday morning to review the budget figures, and talk about the amount set aside for merit raises for city employees.

During the sessions last month, they had agreed to cut the total salary amount by one-third from \$305,000 to \$203,000 to help bring the property tax down from a proposed drop of 2.2 mills to the 4.19 mills.

At Tuesday's session, Mayor Rick Billinger said he was concerned the total amount of the proposed salary increases was higher than needed and wanted to review the numbers to see if it could be cut any more.

City Manager Wayne Hill said having the merit raises in the budget does not mean all of the money would be spent, but it would give him the flexibility to raise some of the lower-paid and critical jobs to be more competitive.

Billinger said he was more comfortable with a set percentage like the 5 percent that was in the budget last year.

City Commissioner Josh Dechant went through the figures and said it appeared to him that the total for salaries was \$4,000 higher than what was in the budget for this year. The budget for this year had a total salary figure of \$199,000 and the proposed budget for next year has a figure of \$203,000.

City Commissioner Dave Daniels, who attended the meeting via speaker phone, said he had first thought the figures were high, but when everything had been explained, he felt the budget should be adopted as proposed.

City Commissioner John Garcia, however, said he agreed with Billinger that the figures appeared to be too high, and suggested cutting them by another \$50,000.

City Commissioner Annette Fairbanks said she felt the figures were fair, and did not see any reason to change the budget.

Billinger said it appeared there was a consensus to leave the budget figures alone.

No official vote was taken because it was a work session.

Search on for new K-State president

The Kansas Board of Regents reports that Academic Search, Inc. will assist the Kansas State University Presidential Search Committee and the Board in the search for the 13th President of KSU.

"We are pleased to have Academic Search assist the Board and the search committee in recruiting and selecting the next K-State president," said Nelson Galle, Chair of the KSU Presidential Search Committee. "The firm's track record in assisting with large research university presidential searches is truly impressive; its previous work with the Board in the Emporia State University presidential search was also outstanding. We are confident that it will help us to generate a deep and

talented pool of highly-qualified candidates to lead K-State."

Academic Search, Inc., an executive search firm founded in 1976 and based in Washington, D.C., works exclusively with colleges, universities, and related organizations. The firm has assisted over 800 former clients in the past three decades, and in the past ten years alone, has completed 289 presidential searches with 77 percent of the presidents recruited over this period still in office.

Academic Search has completed presidential searches for land grant institutions such as the University of Arizona and the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Other presidential searches include Texas Tech University, the University of Alabama, George

Washington University, the University of Nevada-Las Vegas, and the University of North Dakota. The firm also assisted the Board with the Emporia State University presidential search in 2006. John Hicks will serve as the firm's lead consultant in the KSU search.

The KSU Presidential Search Committee will work closely with Academic Search over the next several months.

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•PUBLIC NOTICE•

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
JOEL MILLER, DECEASED

Published in The Norton Telegram on
Tuesday, July 22, 29, August 5, 2008
(3T)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
NORTON COUNTY, KANSAS

In the Matter of the Estate of
Joel Miller, Deceased

Case No. 2008-PR-28
NOTICE OF HEARING

To All Persons Concerned:

You are hereby notified that a petition
has been filed in this Court by Carol
Miller, praying for a determination
of descent of all property of the
Decedent.

You are required to file your written

defenses thereto on or before August
22, 2008 at 9:30 o'clock a.m. of said
day, of said court, in the City of Norton,
Norton County, Kansas, at which time
and place said cause will be heard.
Should you fail therein, judgment and
decree will be entered in due course
upon said Petition.

Carol Miller, Petitioner
RYAN, WALTER &
McCLYMONT, Chtd.
120 S. State - PO Box 364
Norton, Kansas 67654
785-877-5183
Attorneys for Petitioner

•PUBLIC NOTICE•

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
SUE WILHELMI, DECEASED

Published in The Norton Telegram on
Tuesday, July 22, 29, August 5, 2008
(3T)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
NORTON COUNTY, KANSAS
PROBATE DIVISION

In the Matter of the Estate of
SUE WILHELMI, also known as
SUE WILSON, also known as
NELDA SUE WILHELMI, Deceased.

Case No. 2008-PR-29
NOTICE OF HEARING

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO
ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a
petition has been filed in this Court by
Roberta Heath, as one of the heirs of
Sue Wilhelmi, a/k/a Sue Wilson, a/k/a
Nelda Sue Wilhelmi, Deceased, praying
for the determination of the descent of
the following described real estate:

An undivided interest in and
to the East Half of the Northeast
Quarter (E/2 NE/4) of Section
One (1), Township Five (5) South,

Range Twenty-four (24) West of
the Sixth P.M. in Norton County,
Kansas.

and all other property, real and
personal, or interest therein owned by
the decedent at the time of death; and
you are hereby required to file your
written defenses thereto on or before
Wednesday, August 13, 2008, at 9:30
o'clock A.M. of said day in said court,
in the City of Norton, in Norton County,
Kansas at which time and place said
cause will be heard. Should you fail
therein, judgment and decree will
be entered in due course upon said
petition.

Roberta Heath, Petitioner
R. Douglas Sebelius #09157
SEBELIUS & GRIFFITHS, LLP
105 South Norton Street
P. O. Box 10
Norton, KS 67654-0010
785-877-5143
Attorney for Petitioner



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