

Senator, Representative comment, field questions

(Continued from Page 1) people's concerns.

Questions and comments from the public:

Mr. Mann thanked Sen. Ostmeier for twice voting against Senate Bill 23, which would mean Norton School District would lose \$66 per student from the budget. Mr. Ostmeier said he represents 26 school districts, and no one in the legislature asked him what his opinion was on the bill. He said it was a vote for the communities he represents.

Mr. Mann said he is frustrated because he feels the Norton School District is efficient and has no excess personnel. He said he feels like the school district has been frugal, and when hard times hit, the school district has to pay for it. He also noted that Norton schools' state assessments are very high.

Sen. Ostmeier said he felt the No Child Left Behind Act was a bad deal, and they're hoping to change it.

Norton County Attorney Doug Sebelius asked the senator and representative to impress upon their colleagues that what is good for the Norton Correctional Facility is good across the state, and asked the two men what they will do to keep the Norton facility open. Mr. Sebelius said the planning needs to start now.

Rep. Faber suggested to everyone there to call the Budget Chairman, Lee Tafaneli, to help hold the legislature accountable,

and he has spoken with his colleagues about the Department of Corrections, and that this is a public safety issue.

Sen. Ostmeier said the legislature is talking about shutting down prisons to solve the budget problems, but that Norton needs the facility it has, and his colleagues are aware of that. He said 300 jobs in Norton County is like 3,000 jobs in Johnson County. He said the prisons and schools have to be a priority, and that this may be the longest legislative session in state history. He also said he has an interest in home-owned carnivals, and will try to protect them, as well.

Rep. Faber said he has talked about taxing the companies that store natural gas in Kansas. There currently is no tax, and if it were to go through, it would bring in between \$80 million and \$90 million. He said they are looking at rolling back sales tax exemptions, but then asked, "Do you really want to pay sales tax on a box of Girl Scout cookies?"

Someone wondered if the legislature had addressed cutting salaries at the prisons instead of shutting them down.

Rep. Faber said there will be a meeting with a public employee lobbying group, and that they want raises across the board for all state employees. He said he didn't think they could cut corrections workers' wages unless the cut was for all state employees, and employees rights and pay are

protected by law.

Sen. Ostmeier said he doesn't want that to be part of a bill, and that it should be done locally as a local decision, and that is something he has mentioned to Warden Shelton.

Someone asked, "How did we get in this situation?"

Rep. Faber said it started in 2001 with 9/11. There were no increases for schools, and over the next years, programs started eating up money, and the stock market plunge last fall accelerated the downfall. He said his fear is that the stimulus package will be used to start growing programs, and that we'll all be in this same situation next year.

Norton County Commissioner Carolyn Applegate said Rep. Faber glossed over the \$58 million in bonds the state had, and then borrowed \$60 million to pay them back.

Norton County Commissioner John Miller said counties will have to increase property taxes to raise money, and that Norton County has one of the lowest property tax rates in the area. Commissioner Miller said Norton also has one of the most stable mill levies in the state. He said the No-Tax Pledge is forcing counties to raise property taxes. He said the state has taken money from counties and municipalities to put in its own coffers. Commissioner Miller said the counties would get 7.2 percent cut from their budgets, and they're already trying to just survive.

Commissioner Miller also said the Norton Correctional Facility is not just a Norton County aspect, that eight counties in northwest Kansas would be affected if it shut down.

Marvin Machett, Norton, Manager of KQNK Radio, gave an analogy on the budgeting issues. He said it's like a bathtub filled with water, and then the plug is pulled out. He said at first, there's a little swirl as the water goes down, but that the lower the water gets, the bigger the swirl gets, pulling more and more, faster and faster until it's all gone. He said we need people elected who will fight for us.

Norton Correctional Facility Warden Shelton voiced his concerns about the facility shutting down. He said since the state has cut rehabilitative programs, the Norton facility will be needed. He said more program providers at the facility will be losing their jobs this coming week.

Rep. Faber said the legislature is trying to get priorities in place, and that they're nowhere near getting the budget passed yet.

Kathy Thibedeau, Norton, and a Norton Correctional Facility employee, said she has heard a lot of comments from people to cut pay and paid holidays. She said most of the facilities' employees work over-time, double-time, and have worked with no pay increases, and many employees at the facility are eligible for food stamps and other state aid. She

said if the prison closes, the county will lose schools and businesses, and raising taxes hurts people on fixed incomes and those with low incomes.

Rep. Faber said he will do everything he can to protect the budget, education, public safety and the Department of Corrections.

Mr. Faber was questioned as to what he gets paid to be a representative. He said last year, his paycheck — that he paid taxes on — was \$9,800, and he received about \$10,000 for mileage. Sen. Ostmeier said he drives about 15,000 miles per year.

Norton County Republican Central Committee chairman,

Steve Berry, closed the meeting saying, "I think Topeka forgets that Kansas goes all the way west to Colorado. We're tired of being frugal in good times and taking cuts in the bad, and taking cuts eastern Kansas doesn't have to."

Telegram:
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● PUBLIC NOTICE ● SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS, EXPENDITURES AND INDEBTEDNESS

Published in The Norton Telegram on Tuesday, February 17, 2009

SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS, EXPENDITURES AND INDEBTEDNESS OF ALMENA AND HARRISON TOWNSHIP NORTON COUNTY, KANSAS FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2008

	General Fund
Total RECEIPTS.....	1440.97
Total EXPENDITURES.....	10,693.00
Total INDEBTEDNESS.....	0.00

Detailed Statement of such receipts, expenditures and liabilities is available for public inspection at the county clerk's office.

I Do Solemnly Swear, that the foregoing is a summary of all moneys received by me and expended together with the indebtedness of said Township, during the year ending December 31, A.D. 2008. So help me God.

Signed Leroy Roeder, Township Treasurer
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 31 day of December, A.D. 2008
Peggy Davis, Township Trustee

● PUBLIC NOTICE ● NUMBER RANGE CHAPTER NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING ALMENA IRRIGATION DISTRICT NO. 5

Published in The Norton Telegram on Tuesday, February 17, 2009

Number Range Chapter NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

The State of Kansas and the Almena Irrigation District No. 5 to all holders of title or evidence of title as defined in Section 42-701 K.S.A. for and located within the boundaries of the Almena Irrigation District No. 5 who are residents of the State of Kansas, and are otherwise qualified electors, and to all other persons concerned. You are hereby notified that the Annual Meeting of the Almena Irrigation District No. 5 will be held in the Irrigation Office in Almena, Norton County, Kansas on the 3rd day of March, 2009, at 6:30 p.m. At that meeting one director will be elected and other general business pertaining to the District will be conducted. The polls will be open from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

This notice is given pursuant to Section 42-706 (e) K.S.A.

Norman L. Nelson, President
Almena Irrigation District No. 5

ATTEST:
Duane Sell, Secretary

● PUBLIC NOTICE ● THE BANK v. ROBERT J. BRITZ, et al.

Published in The Norton Telegram on Tuesday, February 10, 17, 24, 2009

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF NORTON COUNTY, KANSAS

THE BANK, NORTON, KANSAS,)
) Plaintiff,)
 vs.) Case No.)
) 2009-CV-5)

ROBERT J. BRITZ, CYNTHIA E. BRITZ, also known as CYNTHIA BRITZ, ALLEN D. TAYLOR, UNITED NORTHWEST FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF NORTON COUNTY, KANSAS, doing business as NORTON COUNTY HOSPITAL, JOHN DOE (Tenant/Occupant), MARY DOE (Tenant/Occupant), and the unknown heirs, executors, administrators, devisees, trustees, creditors and assigns of any deceased defendants; the unknown spouses of any defendants the unknown officers, successors, trustees, creditors and assigns of any defendants that are existing, dissolved or dormant corporations; the unknown executors, administrators, devisees, trustees, creditors, successors and assigns of any defendants that are or were partners or in partnership; the unknown guardians, conservators and trustees of any defendants that are minors or are under any legal disability; and the unknown heirs, executors, administrators, devisees, trustees, creditors and assigns of any person alleged to be deceased, and all other persons who are or may be concerned,)
 Defendants.)

NOTICE OF SUIT

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO: The above-named defendants and the unknown heirs, executors, administrators, devisees, trustees, creditors and assigns of such of the defendants as may be deceased; the unknown spouses of any defendants; the unknown officers, successors, trustees, creditors and assigns of any of the defendants that are existing, dissolved corporations; the unknown executors, administrators, devisees, trustees, creditors, successors and assigns of any defendants that are or were partners or in a partnership; the unknown guardians, conservators and trustees of any defendants that are minors or under any legal disability; and the unknown heirs, executors, administrators, devisees, trustees, creditors and assigns of any person alleged to be deceased, and all other persons who are or who may be concerned:

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition has been filed in the District Court of Norton County, Kansas, by the Plaintiff, The Bank of Norton, Kansas, praying to foreclose a real estate mortgage on the following described real estate, to-wit:

A tract of land commencing at a point 40 rods and 75 feet South of the Northeast Corner (NE/c) of Section Three (3), Township Three (3) South, Range Twenty-three (23) West of the Sixth Principal Meridian, Norton County, Kansas, running thence West and parallel with the North line of said Section Three (3) 185 feet, thence South about 108 feet, thence East 185 feet to the section line between Sections Two (2) and three (3), thence North 108 feet to the place of beginning LESS a tract of land deeded to the City of Norton as recorded in Deed Record 60, page 150, and described as follows: Beginning at a point on the East line of Section Three (3), Township Three (3) South, Range Twenty-three (23) West of the Sixth Principal Meridian, 735.6 feet south of the Northeast corner (NE/c) of said section, thence West 35.8 feet, thence South 108 feet, thence East 35.8 feet to the East line of said section, thence North along said section line to the place of beginning.

YOU ARE HEREBY REQUIRED to plead to said petition on or before the 24th day of March, 2009, in the District Court of Norton County, Kansas. Should you fail to plead therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon said petition.

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

Shrine Bowl invite

(Continued from Page 1)

head head football coach Lucas Melvin.

"To me, being named a member of the West Squad for the Shrine Bowl is a fantastic honor but, by no means an individual award. It is an accolade that all high school football players hold in very high regard. This is an honor that not only Zac and his family can be proud of but his teammates, the school and community can take pride in this award also.

"Zac has had a great career as a Blue Jay football player with much recognition but is also a fine student and citizen and that is the main reason I am so proud of him. As most of you know, he is involved in many clubs, works and volunteers many hours at the theatre and is always available to help when needed. He is a young man who is disciplined, has high moral character and possesses a good work ethic.

"Zac has also been very fortunate to play with other very good football players who were and are driven to be successful as a team. That is why this award is not a mere individual award but a recognition for the whole team and football family to cherish.

"I firmly believe Zac would not be receiving this recognition without the love and discipline

Pink shows support

(Continued from Page 1)

At the game, the student council will be donating \$1 for every person who wears pink to the game. A match of up to \$150 will be donated by Northern Valley Schools Superintendent and high school Principal George Griffith.

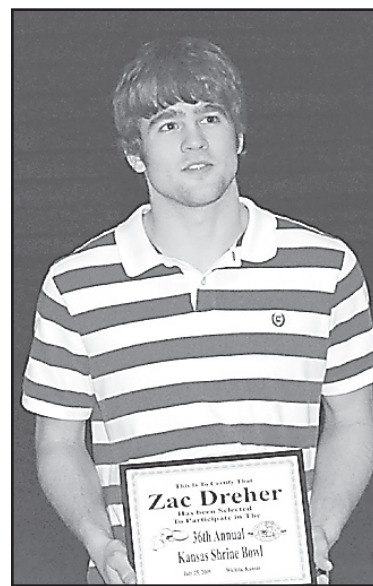
"I feel this is a good cause," said Mr. Griffith. "The school needs to support things like this, and it teaches the students responsibility and community service."

Camille Cox and Nicci Stutman, who co-own Dirthmouth Shirts, have designed special pink shirts for sale and they are also donating a portion of their pink shirt sales to help find a cure for breast cancer.

"It's always more fun to do something like this when we get so much support from our community," said Mrs. Wilson.

"The kids are all excited because they get to wear their pink shirts again on Friday and not just for one day," said Debbie Hogan, Northern Valley High School secretary.

Janette Callaway, Almena, said, "I went up to the school and there was so much pink there it was just awesome."



Zac Dreher, who received his invitation to play in the Kansas Shrine Bowl during a school assembly on Wednesday, spoke to his fellow students and thanked his team and coaches for making the honor possible for him.

- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd from his family, the hard work and dedication of his teammates and the tremendous support from all the Blue Jay fans.

"It is my great honor to introduce to you, Zac Dreher!"

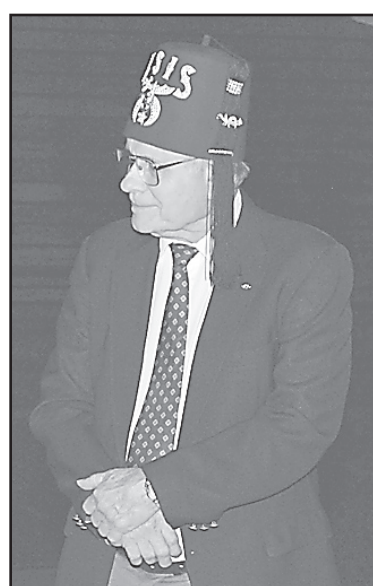
Zac addressed the crowd for a few minutes. "Many thanks to my team and coaches and especially my defensive line for helping me make all those tackles," said Zac.

"Football is a great team sport and, without my team, I wouldn't have gone this far in the sport."

Joe Berry, Norton, member and past-president of the Prairie Dog Shrine Club, presented the framed invitation to play in the Shrine Bowl to Zac.

"This is a great honor for Zac," said Berry. "He had to be recognized by the media from across the state and is one of just 34 players on each team.

"He comes from a community



Norton's Joe Berry, past president of the Prairie Dog Shrine Club, listened while Dave Mize, executive director of the Shrine Bowl, explained the purpose of the all-star football game to the crowd at the assembly in Stull Gym. Berry presented the Shriners' framed invitation to play to Zac Dreher.

- Telegram photo by Dick Boyd that really supports sports. This invitation is recognition for the community, school and team."

Dave Mize, Wamego, executive director of the Shrine Bowl, was present to explain the reason for the Shrine Bowl and show a film of last year's game, which was won by a 29-28 score by the West.

Rudy Perez, Norton Community High School principal, thanked the Shriners for giving the honor to Zac and urged everyone to attend the game and support Zac.

Also present were Denzel Lofgreen, Norton, president of the Prairie Dog Shrine Club and Abner Williams, Almena, who is a member of a Shrine club in Oklahoma.

In the crowd were Zac's parents, Jamie and Ray Dreher; his

grandparents, Linda and Bob Covington, Almena and Linda and Gene Carter, Norton, and his younger brother, Dakota.

The Kansas Shrine Bowl benefits the Shriners Hospitals for Children. Kansas children are treated in Shriners Hospitals for Children absolutely free, regardless of their race, religion, nationality or relationship to a Shriner.


To date, the Kansas Shrine Bowl All-Star Football Game has generated over \$2.25 million profit, all of which has been used for free treatment and/or transportation of Kansas children to Shriners Hospitals for Children.

The Shrine Bowl is the principal hospital fund-raising project of all five Kansas Shrine organizations. It is estimated that Shrine Bowl receipts are 70 percent general public funds and 30 percent Shrine dollars.

Hundreds of Shrine volunteers, ladies of Shriners and community volunteers help make the Kansas Shrine Bowl one of the top high school all-star games in the nation.

Zac is the 23rd Norton Community High School football player to have the honor of playing in this prestigious bowl game. Others have been: John Horesky, 1977; Amos Donaldson, 1978; Dan Pfannenstiel, 1981; John Tacha, 1983; Kelly Barnard, 1983; Stan Wahlmeier, 1984; J.D. Hand, 1986; John Paul Jimenez, 1986; Jerry Sonntag, 1987; James Allen, 1988; Todd Sumner, 1989; Kendall Hahn, 1990; Scott Bohl, 1990; Dustin McEwen, 1991; Mark Wahlmeier, 1991; Justin Bratt, 1992; Jeremy Hawks, 1993; Ryan Manning, 1994; Jeff Boyle, 1997; Jesse Williams, 1997; Neal Philpot, 2000; Terry Petrie, 2003.

Telegram:
877-3361




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