

# Scam effort doesn't fly with Norton resident

By CYNTHIA HAYNES  
c.haynes@nwkansas.com

It looked almost too good to be true. For little effort you could make \$200.

But, as self-employed businessman Norman Meyers discovered, when he did a little digging, it was a scam designed to take his money.

Meyers, who washes windows and does painting for a living, received two \$1,000 money orders shipped by U.P.S. next day air from Mason City, Iowa.

A letter sent by e-mail to him instructed him to deposit the money in his account, keep \$200 and send the remaining \$1,800 to a Yu-Lin Wang in Bakersfield, Calif., by Western Union.

Mr. Meyers, suspicious of the whole affair, took the package and e-mailed to the Almena State Bank. At the bank a clerk checked to see if the Money-grams were real.

While the numbers on them seemed to be good, Mr. Meyers, still suspicious, asked her to call the 800 number on the checks to

see what the company said.

While a safety mark on the checks showed them to be genuine, the company said the numbers were fake and they would not be honored by the company. The Money-gram people suggested that he send the bogus checks back to the sender or shred them.

He did neither. He took the problem to the law.

Mr. Meyers said that since he works for himself he gets a lot of e-mails and work-at-home offers. He said that he received an e-mail about three weeks ago from a man saying that he had a job for him.

Then the on Wednesday, Mr. Myers said, he got a call on his cell phone from a number which did not come up on the display. The man at the other end of the line asked if he had received his e-mail as he had sent him instructions for the job.

Mr. Meyers said that he checked his e-mail and it had instructions on how to handle the money orders. Later that day, he said, he received the U.P.S. package with

the Money-grams

He said he was immediately suspicious.

"Why would someone send you money orders and have you cash them," he said in an interview on Thursday. "It just didn't make sense."

After leaving the bank in Almena, he said, he took the funny money to the sheriff's office. Later, he said, he got another e-mail asking why he hadn't yet sent the \$1,800 in. he said that he replied that the money orders were bogus and the sheriff had them and that the sender could just go scam someone else.

Norton Sheriff Troy Thomson said that this is not the first time this scam has been tried in the county.

"Actually it happened to a couple here in town for over \$4,000 and they had to pay the bank back," the sheriff said.

Many people believe that if the bank takes the checks, it is its responsibility, the sheriff said. That, however, is not true.

If the checks don't clear, the party depositing them is responsible.

If Mr. Meyers had deposited the money and sent off the \$1,800, he would have been out all of it, the sheriff said. The bank is not liable for fraudulent checks.

"This is happening daily," Sheriff Thomson said noting that he is told about someone in Norton being approached with this scam about every two weeks. Mostly, he hears it on the street, he said, because most people don't get this far into the scheme.

There are dozens and dozens of Internet scams out there, he said, but the one thing almost all of them have in common is they ask you to send money.

Sending money or giving out your bank account numbers are bad ideas, he said.

One man in Norton came to the sheriff's office with a notice that he had won 2 million pounds in an English lottery. Mr. Thomson said that he asked him if he had ever entered such a lottery and the reply was no.

Other schemes involve people you know asking for help because they are stuck in some foreign land, or the infamous Nigerian scheme, which is similar to the one Mr. Meyers encountered.

If you have a question, the sheriff said, on the legitimacy of an offer, bring it to him or take it to a bank and ask to have it checked out.

"The banks are pretty good," he said. "They're pretty cautious and good about checking into problems."



Sheriff Troy Thomson looked over a mailing a Norton resident received. It turned out to be another scam.

-Telegram photo by Cynthia Haynes

## School reminders

### NORTON High School:

Saturday — State Forensics at Wichita; KSPA at Lawrence

Sunday — FCCLA Adopt-a-Highway Clean Up, 2 p.m.

Sunday through May 5 — FFA State Contests in Manhattan

Monday — Varsity Golf at TMP, 9 a.m.; JAY Singers, A.P.; Jay Singers Tryouts, 4 p.m.; KAY Board, 7 p.m.

Tuesday — NCHS JV Golf Tournament, 3 p.m.; Track at Oberlin, 3 p.m.; Jay Singers Tryouts, 4 p.m.

Wednesday — MCL-NWKL Meeting in Hoxie, 9:30 a.m.; SAC Hats on Day and S.A.C. Meeting, A.P.; Jay Singers Tryouts, 4 p.m.

Thursday — JV Golf at Trego, 9 a.m.; KAY Senior Farewell, A.P.; Varsity Golf at Colby, 3 p.m.; FCCLA Board, 7 p.m.; Vocal Music Concert at East Campus, 7:30 p.m.

Friday — Last Day for Library Check Out; Registration Deadline for June 13 ACT Test; Jazz Band Rehearsal, A.P.; High School Track at Russell, 3:00 p.m.

Saturday — Athletic Combine in Norton, TBA

### Norton Junior High:

Monday — MCEL Meeting at Ellis, 10 a.m.; Stuco, A.P.; Cheer Tryout Practice, JH Gym, 7-8:30 p.m.

Tuesday — Track at Plainville, 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday — TEAM Meeting, 7:30 a.m.; NJHS Cheer Tryouts, JH Gym, 4:30 p.m.; Vocal Concert at East Campus Auditorium, 7:30 a.m.

Thursday — Last Day for Library Checkout; Artist of the Year Selection, A.P.

### Eisenhower:

Monday — Fifth and Sixth Band Concert at East Campus Gym, 7 p.m.

Tuesday — CBMs; Grade 1; KDG Vocal Concert, Cafeteria, 2:30 p.m.; A.R. Meeting, 3:40 p.m.

Wednesday — Faculty Meeting, 3:40 p.m.

Thursday — IEP Day

## Flag burning ceremony OK

By CYNTHIA HAYNES  
c.haynes@nwkansas.com

The American Legion is planning to hold a flag-burning ceremony from 5 to 7 p.m. on Sunday, June 14 south of the parking lot at the American Legion Building.

Legion Commander Jake Durham asked the Norton City Council on Wednesday for permission to hold the ceremony and for the city's fire truck to be on stand by in case of any accidents.

He also requested the city's help to dig a fire pit in which to burn the flags.

Burning old and worn out flags is the only proper way to dispose of ragged, torn and dirty U.S. flags.

The Legion gathers flags from citizens, Mr. Durham said, and has a special ceremony for the burning.

Anyone interested in having a flag destroyed can bring it to the ceremony, Mr. Durham said.

Friday — Grade 4 Field Trip to Kearney, Depart at 8:30 a.m.; Grade 2 Field Trip to Hays, Depart at 8:30 a.m.; KDG Field Trip to Robison Farms, Depart at 9:00 a.m.

### USD 211

Wednesday — Grades 6-11 Sports Physicals, JH Gym, 9 a.m.; Administration Team Meeting, USD Office, 1 p.m.

### NORTHERN VALLEY

Sunday — State CDE's at Manhattan, 5 p.m.

Monday — State CDE's at Manhattan, 5 p.m.; High School Spring Band and Vocal Concert in Almena

Tuesday — High School Track Meet at Logan, noon; High School Golf Meet at Norton, 3 p.m.; State CDE's at Manhattan, 5 p.m.

Wednesday — Fifth and Eighth Grade Class Plays in the Gym at Long Island at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Thursday — High School Golf Meet at Trego, 9 a.m.; Grades Sixth through Eighth Logan Invitational Track Meet, 9:30 a.m.

Friday — High School Track Meet at Rock Hills Invitational at Mankato

### Norton Junior/Senior High Menus:

Monday — Breakfast: Blueberry muffin squares, fruit or juice or toast, choice of cereal, milk; Lunch: Salisbury steak, whipped potatoes and gravy, bread, carrots, fruit or chef salad, milk

Tuesday — Breakfast: Monkey bread, fruit or juice, choice of cereal, toast, milk; Lunch: Ham and cheese rollup, corn, fruit, Snickerdoodle cookie or chef salad, milk

Wednesday — Breakfast: Banana bread square, fruit or juice or choice of cereal, toast, milk; Lunch: Sloppy Joe on a bun, baked beans, carrots, fruit or chef salad, milk

Thursday — Breakfast: Bagel with cream cheese, yogurt, fruit or juice or choice of cereal, toast, milk; Lunch: Taco, lettuce and tomato, bread, peanut butter bar, fruit or chef salad, milk

Friday — Breakfast: French toast stix, fruit or juice or choice of cereal, toast, milk; Lunch: Chicken and noodles, whipped potatoes, carrots, bread, fruit or chef salad, milk

## •PUBLIC NOTICE• MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE JEANNIE S. POAGE DEFENDANT

Published in The Norton Telegram on Friday, May 1, 8, 15, 2009. (3T)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF NORTON COUNTY, KANSAS NATIONAL CITY REAL ESTATE SERVICES, LLC SBM NATIONAL CITY MORTGAGE, INC. FLA NATIONAL CITY MORTGAGE CO., DBA COMMONWEALTH UNITED MORTGAGE COMPANY PLAINTIFF  
Case No. 09CV20 Div. No. K.S.A. 60 Mortgage Foreclosure  
JEANNIE S. POAGE DEFENDANTS

### NOTICE OF SUIT

The State of Kansas to: JEANNIE S. POAGE; JOHN DOE (REAL NAME UNKNOWN); MARY DOE (REAL NAME UNKNOWN); MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC.; HOUSEHOLD FINANCE CORPORATION, III, SERVE; RESIDENT AGENT  
and the unknown heirs, executors, administrators, devisees, trustees, creditors, and assigns of such of the defendants as may be deceased; the unknown spouses of the defendants; the unknown officers, successors, trustees; creditors and assigns of such defendants as are existing, dissolved or dormant corporations; the unknown guardians and trustees of such of the defendants as are minors or are in anywise under legal disability; and all other persons who are or may be concerned.

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed in the District Court of Norton County, Kansas, by National City Real Estate Services, Llc Sbm National City Mortgage, Inc. Fla National City Mortgage Co., Dba Commonwealth United Mortgage Company for judgment in the sum of \$37,646.58, plus interest, costs and other relief, judgment that plaintiff's lien is a first lien on the said real property and sale of said property to satisfy the indebtedness, said property described as follows, to wit:

THE EAST ONE HALF (E/2) OF LOTS EIGHT (8) AND NINE (9) and all of lot Ten (10) IN BLOCK TWO (2) OF HILLSIDE ADDITION TO THE CITY OF NORTON, NORTON COUNTY, KANSAS. Commonly known as 305 E. Wilton St., Norton, Kansas 67654  
and you are hereby required to plead to said petition in said Court at Norton, Kansas on or before the 15th day of June, 2009.

Should you fail therein judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon said petition.

**THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.**

SHAPIRO & MOCK, LLP, Attorneys for Plaintiff  
6310 Lamar - Ste. 240, Overland Park, Ks 66202-4287  
(913) 831-3000; Fax No. (913) 831-3320  
Our File No. 09-101442/sk

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Norton City/County Economic Development is soliciting written statements of proposal from individuals and/or firms qualified to complete a historic resources survey for downtown Norton, Kansas. Please address Request for Proposals and letters of interest to the Director of Norton City/County Economic Development at the following address:

**Diane Becker, Director  
Norton City/County Economic Development  
113 N. Norton Street, Suite B, Norton, Ks 67654**

Sealed proposals must be received in the Norton City/County Economic Development Office no later than 3:00 p.m. on Friday, May 15, 2009. Copies of the complete Request for Proposals (RFP) for this project are available online at <http://www.discovernorton.com> and at the Norton City/County Economic Development Office at the above address. Interested parties may also call (785) 874-4816 or email [nortoneda@ruraltel.net](mailto:nortoneda@ruraltel.net) to request a copy of the RFP.

This project is funded in part with federal funds from the National Park Service, a division of the United States Department of the Interior, and is administered by the Kansas State Historical Society. Norton City/County Economic Development is an Equal Opportunity Employer and shall comply with all applicable Federal, State and local laws, rules and regulations in the awarding of this contract.

For help with your advertising needs please give Dana a call 877-3361

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Tuesday, May 5 at 7:00 pm  
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**Learn About:**  
-Kansas interconnection laws  
-10 steps to a sound decision  
-Estimating wind generating costs  
-Net metering pros and cons  
-Questions to ask vendors  
-Where to find more information

No cost to attend. Please register by calling (785) 874-4816 or emailing [nortoned2@ruraltel.net](mailto:nortoned2@ruraltel.net)

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Colorectal cancer is curable with early detection. For your free screening kit, please call 308-865-7884 or 800-658-5169 weekdays March 23-April 3, 8 am - 5 pm.