

Station's plans to proceed

By ERICA BRADLEY
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The Moffet Station will be restored to the condition it was in before Thursday's accident, said Diane Becker, director of Norton City/Councy Economic Development.

The station on South State Street suffered extensive damage when Donald Peterson of Norton, for an unknown reason, ran a stop sign on Washington and State and drove through the building.

"We're just happy that the driver is OK, and we can continue with the restoration," Ms. Becker said.

Economic Development had planned to turn the old station into the Norton County Business and

Visitors Center.

Mr. Peterson narrowly missed hitting the concrete wall in the center of the building, she said. He also missed hitting the Washington Street Park, where people were gathered for a barbecue, Jim Rowh said.

Mr. Rowh was the first witness on the scene. He said he was working in the back of Pure Prairie Natural Foods when he heard the crash.

"My first thought was I had to get Don out," he said.

He tried to get in through both sides of the truck but couldn't squeeze through. He then tried to use a shovel to knock the front window out, but that wasn't successful either, he said.

Mr. Rowh said he was then going to try to pull the truck out of the station, but the fire department arrived and prevented any more rescue attempts.

"I thought it was really something that the fire department showed up and got him out so fast," he said.

Mr. Rowh said the smoke from the tires was so intense that he couldn't see through it. He said he couldn't think straight for the rest of the day after breathing in a small amount. Mr. Peterson was protected from smoke inhalation because his windows were rolled up, Mr. Rowh said.

"I was just happy to see Don walk out. The whole thing was a miracle."

EMS building status given

By ERICA BRADLEY
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The Norton County EMS will soon have a new home on U.S. 36 across from the Norton Sports Center.

Jane Wyatt, emergency medical services director, told the county commissioners she hopes the building can be completed around the first of the year.

A grant for \$279,971 will be used to help finance the project, said Amy Griffey, who assisted in securing the grant, which will only cover 25-30 percent of the project.

Robert Wyatt, county clerk, estimated the total cost to be around \$967,634.

Low interest revenue bonds from the county will cover the rest of the project, he said.

Mrs. Wyatt said the basement is complete, although the rain did slow construction. The basement will remain unfinished after the

project is completed, she said. The new building has an estimated 4,400 square feet and 2,000 square feet in the basement, she said.

Norton EMS has 26 personnel — two units are in Norton, one is in Lenora and one is in Alma, Mrs. Wyatt said.

Mrs. Wyatt also reported that Norton EMS had their annual inspection by the Kansas Board of Emergency Services on May 28. Mrs. Wyatt said they received a perfect score.

She also said they inspect everything from the tires on the trucks to the protocols that have to be on file in the office.

"They do a very thorough job," she said.

She said Norton EMS checks their supplies and equipment every month, and she said she is sure they could pass a surprise inspection without a problem.

Other business at the meeting included:

- Gina Frack informed the commission that she will be having a site visit on June 10 for bio-terrorism. She also reported on a new study that was recently done by the Kansas Health Institute. Norton County was given a 51 percent rating, which was in the middle of Kansas counties, Mrs. Frack said. Norton County was given positive ratings in weight, violent crimes and not seeking health care. Low fruit and vegetable consumption, divorce rate and commuting to work alone were the negative factors.

- Cynthia Linner, Norton County treasurer, reported that \$26,220.65 was deposited into county funds. She said this is down slightly from last year.

- Judi Carlyle, Norton EMS billing clerk, asked that a write-off be given for \$487. The motion passed

- Vouchers and payroll for May were presented for approval.

FFA members receive state degrees

Special to The Telegram

Six students from the Northwest District FFA, including one from Norton, were awarded their Kansas State FFA Degree on Friday at the 81st Kansas FFA State Convention.

The State FFA Degree is the highest honor the Kansas Association can bestow upon its members. In order to achieve this award members must meet the following requirements: received the chapter FFA degree, been an FFA member and agricultural education student for at least two years, earned at least \$2,000 or worked

600 hours in their Supervised Agricultural Experience program, given a six minute speech about agriculture or FFA, participated in eight different kinds of leadership activities, received a "C" average or better in high school, and show a record of outstanding leadership and community involvement.

Those members who met these qualifications and their respective FFA chapters from the Northwest District were: Cody Cook, Norton; Brandi Herman and Kelsie Nickelson, Hill City; Dustin Aherin, Phillipsburg; and Courtney McKenzie and Jesse Roush,

Smith Center.

FFA is a national youth organization of 507,763 student members preparing for leadership and careers in the science, business and technology of agriculture with 7,439 local chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

FFA strives to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.

Visit www.ksffa.org for more information.

Former resident honored by college

Dr. Louis L. Sherman, formerly of Norton, was named recipient last week of Bethany College's first Lifetime Achievement Award. This recognition was bestowed at the Lindsborg Commencement exercise, for Sherman's unique outstanding achievement and service to society over his lifetime.

Louis Leroy Sherman, now of Louisville, Ky., served as director of choral music at Norton Community High School from 1957-1960.

Accidents

May 19 — An unknown vehicle struck the northeast side of the Norton County Hospital, causing the block to crack in several places. The driver left the scene without reporting the accident.

May 21 — Pennie Delimont's vehicle struck Jeremy Wildeman's vehicle when she backed onto E. Main. Mr. Wildeman had just exited the car wash and was going west on E. Main.

Kathleen Schemper struck Michael Pfannenstiel's parked car while backing out of a parking space at the Norton County Health Department. Mr. Pfannenstiel's car was unattended and legally parked.

May 22 — Lelani Scholte struck Justin Ramsey's car with her vehicle when she backed out of an alley on West Washington Street. Mr. Ramsey's Toyota sustained damage to the rear passenger side. Mrs. Scholte's Pontiac sustained damage to the rear driver's side bumper.

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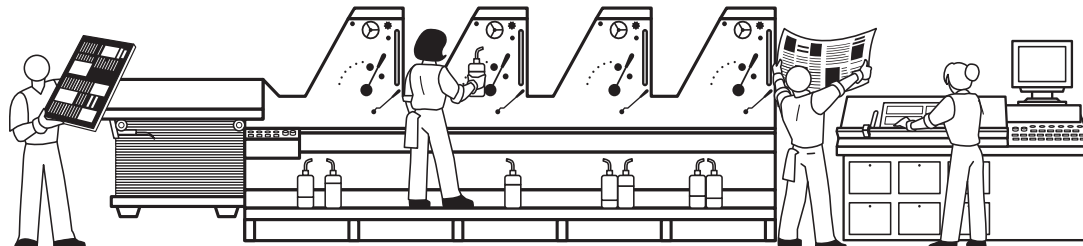


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