

Business Spotlight

Business Name: Bella Sole
Owner: Kim Snyder
Address: 212 W Pearl St., Norton
Phone: 785-874-4289
Website: www.bellasolespa.com

Type of Business: Tanning Salon/Spa
Date Established: Opened January 21, 2007

Business Description: Tanning, Ionspa Foot Soak, Infrared Sauna, Aqua-Massage, Thermojet Infrared Heated Pad Wraps, MyMyst Skin Spa/Spray Tan

Bella Sole owner Kim Snyder moved to Norton with her husband to care for his great-uncle. After they had been here a couple of years, she wanted to create a place that offered some of the things that she had available in the bigger cities.

They had moved to Magnolia, TX, just prior to moving to Norton but Chad's great-uncle asked if they would consider moving again. After visiting, they decided to move to Kansas to help out.

After living here about 2 years, Kim was looking for something that could be done while caring for Chad's uncle at home. That idea did not work out but she feels that her greatest success is having been able to care for a family member as they promised and in the process, she learned a lot about the history of Norton and the lifestyle that people had to endure to settle and live on the prairie.

The greatest challenge was being called "outsiders" and working to prove that they belonged here.

If Kim could have done something differently, she would have gone to school to be licensed to offer more services in her shop. She is constantly working to learn more about the well-being of others and the new things that are being offered to help make people feel better and be healthier. For example, there are new beds that instead of offering "tanning," offer skin rejuvenation with light therapy as well as body contouring machines and other spa services.

Unfortunately, people are cutting back on the money they spend right now so the future is hard to predict. Kim has worked closely with the Norton City/County Economic Development Office and she appreciates the willingness to listen and explore new ideas.

If people can let go of the fear of competition and allow more opportunities to come to Norton, then we can grow. Growth attracts people and we need to attract people, especially younger people in order to survive.

The most rewarding thing about owning her own business is meeting new people and making new friends.

Kim's advice to other business owners in Norton County is "keep your head up and never give up on your dreams. Times are rough right now and it is a struggle for everyone. If your business survives, keep doing what you are doing and if it fails, do not take it personally, look at it as a chance to do what you want.

Dust yourself off, learn from your mistakes and aim for the moon, again!"

Logan

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new entrants. Complete details will be published as soon as they are available.

Pedal Pull

The Van De Creek State Sanctioned Pedal Pull began at 2 p.m. with 56 entries. Coordinators once again were Leigh and Bill Van De Creek, Abilene, who have been in the pedal pull business for 26 years and have been coming to Logan for about 17 of those years.

They conduct a large number of pedal pulls each year. The Van De Creeks have also been the official pedal pull coordinators at the Kansas State Fair in Hutchinson for over 20 years and alternate years on conducting the national pedal pull in Mitchell, S.D. They expect 800 youth pedal pullers at the state pull this year. The top three boys and girls in each age group from the state fairs qualify for the national pedal pull.

"Kansas girls and boys always do well at the national pull," said Bill.

The top two from each age group at Logan qualified for the state pull. Winners, in order of first, second and third, were:

Hayden Gottstine, Ethan Kruback, Connor Balthazor, three and four year olds; Hayley Spargo, Dylan McClurg, Jesse McClurg, five years old; Ian Sparks, Eva Arment, Nick Schemper, six year olds; Henry Boutwell, Madison Gottstine, Seth Hendrickson, seven year olds; Nick Arment, Michael Daniels, Scott Sansom, eight year olds; Selena Gorsky, Josh Lenker, Danielle Spargo, nine year olds; Chase Archer, Jordan Hudson, Keaton Hofst, ten year olds; Oriana Ratzloff, Jennifer Ortiz, Allison Morgan, eleven year olds; Kristy Archer, Devin Spargo, Courtney Schneider, twelve year olds.

Rural Telephone Service of Lenora sponsored the RTS Express. Ryan Grammon and Michelle Prew were engineers for the miniature train, giving hundreds of youths rides around the golf course from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Prairie Dusters

Prior to their afternoon performance, the local Prairie Dusters Drill Team gave children over 105 rides on their beautiful, talented horses.

A local women's drill team on horseback formed in 1985, the

Prairie Dusters attracted a large crowd of all ages who enjoyed their precision maneuvers and were allowed to pet the horses and talk to their riders following the performance.

"Their demonstration on horseback thrilled the audience of all ages," said Hendrickson.

The Prairie Dusters are the official color guard for Kansas' Biggest Rodeo in Phillipsburg but they also have traveled many miles to do what they love to do, fly the American flag from the back of a horse.

When they are not performing somewhere, they are practicing. Many hours are spent in the practice pen perfecting the precision drill that they perform. Each rider is responsible for her own horse and the equipment they use. Throughout the year, they have fund raisers to help defray some of their expenses. Members of the team who performed Sunday in Logan were: Doris Mulder, Jenny Archer, Allison Pakkebie, Dawn Archer, Whitney Shaw, Jessica Eshbaugh, Kaytie Bliss, Mary Ann Schremmer, Whitney Mulder, Wendy Shaw and Barb

Redeker.

Koshare Indian Dancers

The Koshare Indian Dancers from La Junta, Colo., presented a mini performance at 4 p.m. and a full show at 5:30 p.m. The Koshare Dancers spend countless hours learning and practicing the dances of their Hopi ancestors and create their own regalia. They are members of Boy Scout Troop 232 and Venturing Crew 2230 of the Rocky Mountain Council Boy Scouts of America.

James Francis "Buck" Burshears was the driving force behind the dancers. An Eagle Scout, he devoted his life to furthering the scouting programs and incorporated the Koshare Indians training and activities into his life.

"The Koshare Indian Dancers amazed the crowd with their ceremonial dance steps and colorful authentic costumes," said Hendrickson.

Live entertainment

Live entertainment by "Tim Anthony & the Anamals" took the stage at 7:30 p.m. The popular three piece adult contemporary rock band from Hays played a selection of their own material as well as classic rock songs from the 70s and 80s.

They feature Tim Pfeifer on drums, vocals, harmonica, keyboard and sax; his brother Anthony on guitar, vocals and keyboards and Ray Schmidtberger on bass guitar and backing vocals.

All three are seasoned veterans in the music business and will return to Logan on Saturday, Sept. 19 as part of "Jimmy Dee and the Fabulous Destinations" during the annual Hansen Arts & Crafts Fair.

"We look forward to having the group back at our 36th annual arts and crafts fair," said Hendrickson.

The fantastic fireworks display presented by Rainbow Fireworks of Inman was the grand finale for another tremendous Labor Day celebration in Logan.

Harvey

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a day he goes up those steps," Wilmot says. Up until a year ago, she notes, he would walk a mile around the neighborhood each day.

After her husband died, Marlene began pushing the lawnmower over the large yard. "He was right out there and he'd take that mower away and say, 'I'm going to do a couple laps.' And he would. He was 100."

The next summer, Wilmot hired someone to do the yardwork.

Harvey still pushes the grocery cart at Walmart. He regularly walks laps around Greeley Mall with Wilmot.

When asked about his longevity, Harvey attributes it to hard work and good food.

He comes from a large family, but oddly enough, all 11 siblings passed away decades ago. None of them made it past 80, and his mother died at 55 and his father at 66.

Harvey's life isn't short on years or symmetrical balance. He had two main jobs — foreman of Johnson Fruit Co. in McCook, Neb., and foreman of the Coca-Cola distributing company in Norton (after retiring at age 72, he became a house painter). He's had two favorite hobbies — writing and knitting, the latter of which he learned from his grandmother when he was a boy. He always pairs a Snickers bar with ice cream. He prefers two fried eggs, fried in lard, and bacon for breakfast. He had one wife and one child. He has two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

When he was 12, he met Buffalo Bill, the famous cowboy and showman, who took a liking to Harvey and once showed him a cave in which Buffalo Bill took refuge from Indians. Harvey had his own feat of daring in 1935 when the Republican River flooded and he was called on — because of his strong swimming ability — to dive into the rushing water to save people and pull out bodies. Wilmot later authored, with Harvey's help, three books about the deadly Republican River flood of 1935.

Harvey cut a manly figure. He was a renowned pitcher in the Nebraska baseball circles; his first car was a 1925 Model T Roadster; he's written eight Western novels (never tried to get them published); and the only thing that kept him out of the military was a heart attack at age 30 — the only health setback of his life.

"He was very angry about that," Wilmot said. "He really wanted to (go into the service). So, he knit, I guess."

Harvey was initially very sensitive about how his flair for knitting would be perceived. Dish towels, rugs, afghans — he made them all. He stitched them for the Red Cross (turned in by Freda, under the guise that she had knitted them), and if someone dropped by the house while Harvey was knitting, he'd quickly shove the yarn and sticks under a seat cushion.

One time, unbeknownst to him, Freda entered one of his afghans in the Norton County Fair under his name. When she told him the afghan won grand champion (the first of many), his response was, "It's a joke, right? You're kidding me, aren't you, Freda?"

He likes to laugh. His favorite TV show is "America's Funniest Home Videos." His face brightens when he watches the color and movement of a simulated aquarium his granddaughter gave him last Father's Day.

Up until a regular direct flight to Little Rock, Ark., was canceled a couple years ago, Wilmot and Harvey would make frequent trips to visit her son. They still take regular trips by car to Elkhart, Kan., to visit her daughter.

As soon as they pull out the driveway, Wilmot says, "That finger is going. 'You turn here, you turn there.' He'll tell me where to turn all the way there."

Harvey has given his daughter sage directions, all right. She's learned calmness from his temperament that's as smooth as a layer of grease left on the skillet. She's learned joy from his disposition that's as soft as those dish towels and afghans he still knits daily.

Wilmot worries what might happen to him if she is the first to go. She thinks she has more of her mother's genes.

But none of it worries Harvey — at least not that he shows. The key to living, he has told her over many stitches in time, is to not think about aging.

"I keep on going on," he tells a visitor.

From his chair, Harvey points around the house, then toward the front yard and the back.

"It's maybe more space than we need for the two of us," he says in his mumble, which is easily understood by his relatives.

"But we like it, right?" Wilmot says.

Harvey smiles and answers back, "Yeah."

(Reporter Chris Casey covers immigration, higher education and diversity for The Greeley Tribune. Casey can be reached at 970-392-5623 or by e-mail at ccasey@greeleytribune.com. The Norton Telegram thanks Casey for allowing us to reprint this interview.)



With the 2009 home football season opening tonight, members of the Norton Blue Jay Booster Club painted the colorful Blue Jay Beak on the football field at Travis Field on Wednesday evening. Norton high school will host Oberlin at 7 p.m. Painters are booster club members, from left, Dan Lauer, Dwight Sprigg, Lamont Shirk, Jerry Darling and Brian McKenna. - Telegram photo by Dick Boyd

Budget

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get was down by an estimated \$300,000, but it was almost equal to the 2008/09 budget. He said they have not suffered a budget reduction when comparing the last two years.

"The additional funds we received last year were utilized so we could transfer as much money from last year to this year," he said.

He said further budget cuts concern him.

School districts across Kansas have varied how they are responding to the budget crisis. To help replace dollars lost from state funding, some school boards have increased local mill levies, shifting the cost from the state to local taxpayers. Other districts are at the legal maximum they can raise locally. In addition to property tax increases, many districts have been forced to raise fees paid by families to maintain services previously funded by state dollars.

In June, districts reported plans to the Kansas State Department of Education to eliminate over 2,000 teaching and administrative positions and 1,600 non-licensed positions to save about \$100 million, plus some \$67 million in other cost-saving measures.

The actual budget changes will not be known until later this fall

when the Department of Education analyzes school district budgets being adopted this month, but districts have reported cutting before, after and summer school programs, teacher professional development, student activities and transportation, and closing school buildings.

Supt. Mann said he is 50 percent sure budget cuts will happen in December or January, and he is 90 percent sure the 2010/11 budget will be cut, possibly by a significant amount.

Despite those cuts, school expenditures will increase in certain areas. Districts are expected to receive \$46 million in federal funds, which must be used for programs assisting disadvantaged students.

State contributions for school district employee retirement pensions will increase \$20 million. Local mill levies and state matching aid will increase in districts where voters approved bond issues for school construction or remodeling.

School leaders fear that significant school budget cuts are not over. The Kansas Legislative

Research Department currently estimates the state general fund will face a \$530 million deficit next year. If just half of that were applied to K-12 education, it would double the amount of cuts imposed in the current year, and equal a base budget per pupil reduction of \$417 or nearly 10 percent.

Educators say such a loss of state and federal funds would force school districts to dismantle programs put in place over the past decade to increase student achievement and close the "achievement gap" for low income, minority and disabled students. Scores on state academic tests have increased steadily since 2000, and the state's graduation rate has improved.

Funding cuts will also lead to further district consolidation and the closing of school buildings in rural communities and city neighborhoods, as well as larger class sizes, less student transportation, higher fees and fewer student activities.

The Kansas State Board of Education voted in July to request an additional \$280 million for Fiscal Year 2011 to fund the school

finance system as provided by current law, with no enhancements. Even that level remains significantly below the amount the Kansas Legislative Post Audit Division said is required to meet state academic outcome requirements.

Supt. Mann said budget cuts would impact students through larger class sizes, fewer curricular offerings and possibly fewer extracurricular opportunities.

UPCOMING EVENTS in Kansas

Brought to you in part by Kansas Department of Commerce Travel & Tourism Division

Kansas City Renaissance Festival
 September 5-October 18, Bonner Springs
 Weekends, Labor Day & Columbus Day, 10a-7p 15 minutes & 500 years from downtown KC. Just off I-70 at exit 224, then north on K-7 (800) 373-0357, kcrenifest.com

Collyer Fall Street Festival
 September 12, Collyer
 Quad-Rod-Custom Car & Tractor Show Crafts, Raffles, Inflatables for the kids The fun starts at 10 AM, ends at 5 PM (785) 769-5205 or (785) 769-4268

Haskell Indian Art Market
 September 12-13, Lawrence
 Native American artists from around the country exhibit and sell their art during this outdoor market. Food, entertainment. (785) 843-6830, haskell.edu

Walnut Valley Festival
 September 16-20, Winfield
 World-famous bluegrass and acoustic music festival. Contests, concerts, arts and crafts, camping and more. (620) 221-3250, wvfest.com

Midwest Deutsche Oktoberfest
 September 19-20, Hays
 Join the fun with polka music, dancing, games and entertainment, presentations & wonderful German food and drink. (785) 625-5394, midwestdeutschefest.com

Fredonia Homecoming Festival
 September 24-October 3, Fredonia
 Old Iron Days, talent show, golf tournament, carnival, grand parade, food & craft vendors, dance. (620) 378-3221, fredoniachamber.com

Kansas Championship Ranch Rodeo
 September 25-26, Medicine Lodge
 Celebrate ranching heritage and the American Cowboy! Wild cow milking, doctoring, branding, bronc riding and more. (620) 886-9815, peacetreaty.org

Wagonmasters Chili Cook-Off
 September 26, Wichita
 Public tasting, hot music and activities. State sanctioned ICS event. Fun for everyone! (316) 264-6005, wagonmasterschili.com

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10 mix steers, Ellis	381 . . . 118.25
17 blk steers, Hays	484 . . . 112.00
12 blk steers, Hays	573 . . . 103.00
30 Char x steers, Prairie View	766 . . . 104.00
62 mix steers, Hanston	734 . . . 100.10
50 mix steers, Quinter	750 . . . 100.00
124 blk steers, Hanston	754 . . . 98.35
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