

Old and new



The Norton County Arts Council presented an evening of Barbershop, "Then and Now," Saturday night. It featured the Prairie Statesmen Chorus from McCook and The Habitat 4 Harmony Quartet from Kearney. —Telegram photo by Dana Paxton

Vision

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the circus and leftover funds from prior events to buy the vision machine for \$5,152.00.

The new Suresight Portable Vision Scanner was delivered to Eisenhower Elementary at the beginning of the 2010-2011 school year. The machine is smaller than a box of crackers and comes with its own charger and a printer to show results immediately.

It diagnoses three parts of a person's vision, the sphere, to see if a person is near or far sighted, the cylinder, to see if a person has astigmatism and the difference, which checks the balance of the eyes working together.

Children from early childhood through third grade are tested yearly then again in the fifth, seventh, ninth and eleventh grades. "Since over 80 percent of what a person learns at a young age is through vision it is very important that problems are identified early on, for example, if a child has a balance problem and it isn't corrected by the age of eight then

the damage is irreversible," said Mrs. Streck. "This new machine is picking up more eye problems earlier so it gives the eye doctor a baseline to go from."

The Norton School System promotes See To Learn. See To Learn is an innovative, three step preventive health program designed to ensure that kindergarten children entering school can see to learn and to educate parents and teachers about the warning signs of vision problems in all school-age children. This new machine is a great place to start the process.

Norton Rotary Club members, Joy Johnson and Warren White were given a chance to have their eyes checked with the machine. Their group worked hard to raise the money to purchase this piece of equipment so it was nice to see how it worked.

Mrs. Johnson said, "I am so glad we were able to raise the money needed to get the vision machine for the school."

Nurse Streck replied with, "I thank you so much."

LODGE NOTICES

American Legion Harmonson Redd Post No. 63
Second and Fourth Monday 7:30 p.m.
Darren McMullen, Commander
Curt Archibald, Adjutant

Eagles Lodge FOE 3288
Second and Fourth Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
Larry Hawks, President
Secretary, Ron Miller

Sons of the American Legion
Second Monday 7:30 p.m.
Rusty Goss, First Vice Commander
Doyle Brooks, Adjutant

Veterans of Foreign Wars
Reg. 7:00 p.m.
First Mon. of each Month
Curt Archibald, Commander
Joe Ballinger, Quartermaster

I.O.O.F. No. 157
Meet at Eagles Club
First and Third Thursday
Each Month at 7:30 p.m.
Geneva Tier, Noble Grand
Randy Knoll, Secretary

The American Legion Riders Post 63
Meet at 5:00 p.m. at the American Legion Building on the Second Sunday of Every Month
website: www.alr63.org

Council

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Power Administration costs for energy and transmission charges are not part of the proposal that they are presenting, as this is billed to the City separately.

Chuck Look said Prairie Land Electric is one of six owners of Sunflower Electric. Prairie Land has two trustees on Sunflower's Board of Directors and Sunflower generates power for all of its

members.

He said Sunflower is in full support of Prairie Land's offer for a new power supply and capacity agreement. Norton would still maintain its electric distribution system within the City.

Prairie Land and Sunflower Electric are making the proposed contract offer as partners. Beth Looney said Sunflower will not be sending a contract renewal offer, as it would be in competi-

tion with the offer being made by Prairie Land.

Looney said a second part of the proposed agreement would include the accredited generation capacity of the City. Under the current contract, the City is paid for that capacity when Sunflower calls the City and asks them to generate power. Under the proposed contract, Sunflower would pay the City a set price for that capacity every month, whether

the City generates power or not. This would be paid year round and, in addition, Sunflower would reimburse the City for fuel and the operation and maintenance expenses for generating.

City Administrator, Rob Law-

son, asked the City Council to make a decision on how they plan to proceed regarding the power plant by June 15. A decision must be made for budgeting and planning.

Permit

(Continued From Page 1)

on Saturday, July 23. The council approved to allow the use of the city streets of Norton for the Fun Run, contingent upon the City Attorney's approval of the waiver form.

Jerry Jones reported that the new fire truck should be ready in October. He said the Police Chief would like the council members of the Public Safety Committee and Personnel Committee to be included in the hiring process.

In the April 6, City Council meeting, Jerry Jones, had stated the garage sale season had started and he would like to remind people to take down signs after the sale. He asked the police to notify the people if signs are not removed.

Jerry Jones said the council agenda is announced on KQNK prior to the meeting and wondered if it could also be put in The Norton Telegram in advance.

Roberta Ryan reported that there were no current issues to discuss from the Personnel committee.

Jerry Moritz said that when he was running for council, he heard may concerns about curb, gutters and streets. He said he had talked to Kansas Department of Transportation officials regarding the highways through Norton. The City doesn't take KLINK dollars and hasn't gotten geometric funding lately. He said the City might be able to do some partnering with them for the sidewalks, if the City would provide the labor. There is one property downtown that if the curb and gutter were fixed, the adjacent landowner has said he would fix the sidewalk. He stated now would be a good time to pursue projects because the County is working on some things that the State wants done. The State is putting \$6 million in geometric projects and \$6 million in KLINK projects. The maximum sized project that can be let at one time is \$750,000 with the state funding 95 percent of the project and the City funding 5 percent. He stated Penco Engineering did the intersection project, so the City might want them to do a cost estimate to submit a project request. The work would be for 2014, so there would be time to plan for it in the budget. The City would have to put in subsequent requests for future projects.

The Council approved a motion to have the City Administrator contact Kansas Department of Transportation regarding possible partnering with the State for

replacing some curb and gutter along the highway and downtown through Norton. It was also approved to have the City Administrator look into the possibility of a geometric project for improvements on Highway 36 with the Kansas Department of Transportation.

Jeff Otter said the Finance Committee met and discussed the 2012 capital expenditure requests. The committee met with the Electric Distribution Supervisor, Brian Hickman, regarding the bids he received for a reel trailer. It was approved by the council to purchase the trailer from Brooks Brothers of Winfield, Mo. in the amount of \$18,250. The bid was the second lowest, the lowest bid did not meet

the specifications.

The Council will request Economic Development Director, Scott Sproul, look into various state and federal grants on behalf of the City, for the betterment of the City.

Jerry Jones asked if there was any funding available for improvements to Washington Street. He said it was the old highway and was abandoned by the State and it is in bad shape. Rob Lawson said if the prison crew works out, this might be a project they could assist with.

The next City Council meeting is May 18, at 5:30 in the City Building.

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