

# THE NORTON TELEGRAM



Tuesday  
June 26, 2012

## Cause of landfill fire is unknown

By Carleen Bell  
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The cause of a garbage fire at the Norton County Lanfill is unknown after fire crews responded to the facility Friday morning.

Norton Rural Fire Chief Steve Otter reports that his department was called to the landfill at about 8 a.m. Friday morning because garbage in one of the pits had ignited. Otter said the cause of the fire could have been something combustible in the garbage that had been dumped there or something hot may have been dumped in the garbage. The fire was confined to the pit, but because the trash is deep, the only sure way to extinguish the fire is to cover it with dirt to smother the flames.

A crew of 10 firefighters was on the scene for about three hours. The crew doused the trash pit with water to keep the fire down until it could be covered with a layer of dirt.



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Briefly

### Ribbon cutting set for this Wednesday

Norton Chiropractic Center will hold a ribbon-cutting on Wednesday at 11 a.m. The business is located at 204 E. Washington and the public is invited to attend.

### 4-H/Open horse show is Saturday

A 4-H/Open Horse Show will be held Saturday at the Elmwood Park horse facility. For more information, contact the Twin Creeks Extension district at 785-877-5755.

### Families need to register for busing

For parents of children living in Norcat and attending Norton school next year, the district is issuing a reminder that out of district transportation bus applications need to be sent to the Oberlin school district office. Current statutes allow the Norton buses to enter Norcat to pick up students if the students' applications have been filed with the Oberlin school district. All students are required to renew applications on an annual basis. Applications may be picked up at the unit offices of either district, but must be filed with the Oberlin district.

### Signs banned from highway right-of-way

With an election year in full swing, the Kansas Department of Transportation is reminding citizens that campaign signs are not allowed on any highway right-of-way.

By law, all right of way on state highways is to be used exclusively for public highway purposes. Only regulatory, guide signs and warning signs are allowed on the state highway system. The department has jurisdiction over all interstate, Kansas and U.S. routes on the state's 9,500-mile system. The public should be aware that all political campaign signs or billboards are prohibited on the state right of way.

When department maintenance crews find political or business advertising on state right of way, the signs will be removed immediately without notice. All such signs will then be taken to the nearest subarea office where they can be picked up by the owner with the agreement they will not be placed on state right of way again. All political campaign signs not picked up will be disposed of after the election.

Political campaign advertising is allowed on private property bordering state right of way. However, people erecting signs on private property must first obtain permission from the property owner.

### Activities set for July 4 celebration

By Carleen Bell  
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The annual 4th of July celebration will be held Wednesday, July 4 at Prairie Dog State Park with more activities than ever before.

The day will kick off at 9 a.m. with a 5K Fun-Run. Anyone who pre-registers for the 5K will get a free t-shirt. The entry fee is \$10 per person and pre-registration forms are available at the Norton Area Chamber of Commerce office, at www.discovernorton.com or

via the chamber's Facebook page. The 5K is open to youth, adults, pets, walkers, runners, strollers, rollerblades and bicycles. Proceeds from the 5K will benefit the Norton Theatre.

At 11 a.m., games will be available with prizes and fun for youth of all ages.

From 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 5-7 p.m., hamburger meals will be served and Tim Anthony and The Animals will perform at 7:30 p.m. The concert is sponsored by KQNK and Septic Tech.

A watermelon feed is planned for 8 p.m. and at 8:30 p.m., a flag ceremony will be held.

A fireworks display is planned for dusk to conclude the 4th of July festivities.

While the events will be free and open to the public (the hamburger meal is for purchase), passes will be required for vehicles to enter the park. Passes can be obtained at the park office.

### Commissioners approve fireworks ban

By Carleen Bell  
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In response to extremely dry conditions across the area, the Norton County commissioners approved a resolution Monday morning to prohibit the discharge of fireworks in unincorporated areas of the county without permission from local fire chiefs. The resolution is in addition to a burn ban the county instated two weeks ago.

While the resolution affects unincorporated areas of the county, individual communities within the county have the authority to decide their own regulations for fireworks, such as permissible hours and locations for fireworks discharge. Norton County Emergency Management Coordinator Justina Smith reports that if a city chooses to disallow fireworks at any time, the decision must be made in the form of a resolution.

Anyone who resides in an unincorporated area and would like to discharge fireworks must contact their district fire chiefs for permission.

A permit must be filed with the chief before fireworks can

be discharged.

With the July 4 holiday approaching, the sale of fireworks, by law, can begin June 27 and end July 5 of each year.

For the city of Norton, the sale and discharge of fireworks is allowed during those dates.

Norton City Administrator Rob Lawson reports that for this year, the city will allow the discharge of fireworks from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m., with the exception of the night/morning of July 4 and 5.

During that night, fireworks will be allowed until 1 a.m. on July 5. Lawson did ask that anyone who shoots fireworks from city property clean up afterward, such as picking up paper wrappers and spent fireworks debris.

For the city of Lenora, discharge will be allowed from July 1 through July 4 from 8 a.m. to midnight.

The City of Alma is also following the county's fireworks ban and no fireworks will be allowed to be discharged within the city.

No fireworks are allowed in Prairie Dog State Park except for the public display on the evening of July 4.

### Markets

Tuesday, June 26, 2012

|          |              |
|----------|--------------|
| Wheat    | .....\$6.87  |
| Milo     | .....\$5.94  |
| Soybeans | .....\$14.00 |
| Corn     | .....\$6.49  |

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

### Weather

Tonight - Mostly clear with lows in the lower 70s. Wednesday - Sunny with highs around 108. Thursday - Mostly cloudy in the evening then becoming partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. Friday - Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms.

### Kingham Report

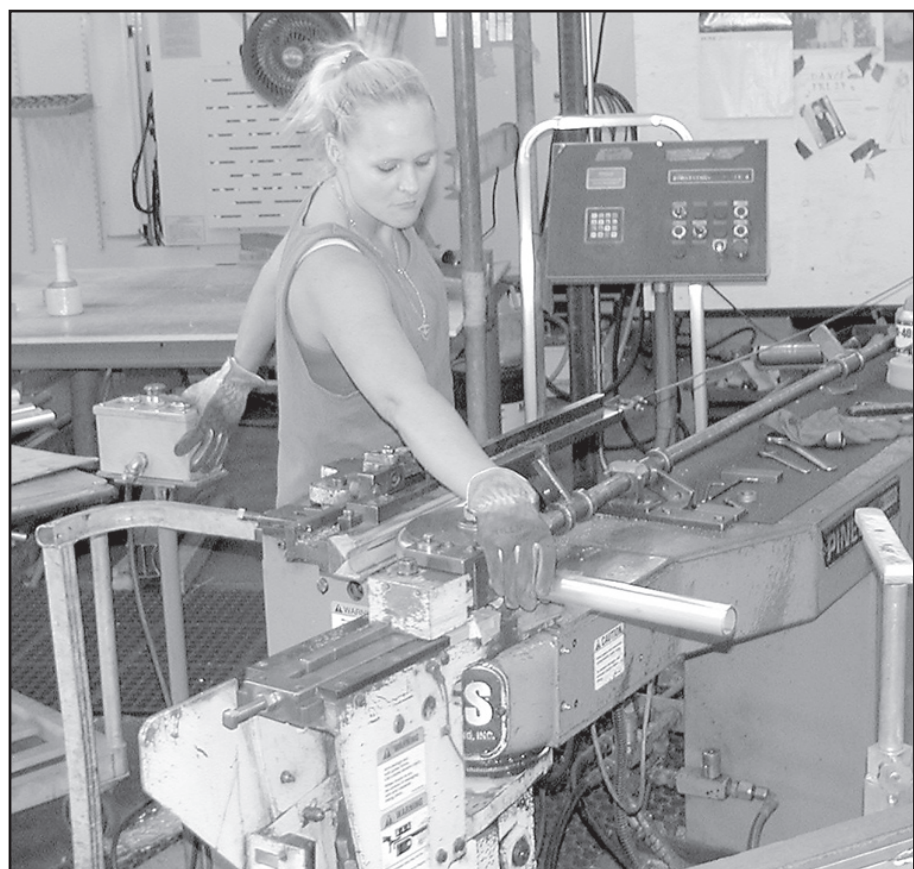
|                   |                       |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Friday, June 22   | .....Low 57, High 94  |
| Saturday, June 23 | .....Low 66, High 106 |
| Sunday, June 24   | .....Low 70, High 112 |
| Monday, June 25   | .....Low 61, High 105 |

(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

### Prayer

Our Father, giver of all good gifts, teach us to respond to your unlimited love by loving others. Amen.

## We've Got Jobs: New Age Industrial



By Carleen Bell  
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As the company expands into new markets and projects, New Age Industrial in Norton is looking to expand its workforce and will be hiring up to 10 new employees over the next few months.

New Age president Larry Nelson explained that the company was founded in 1966 as an aluminum extrusion plant that manufactures custom aluminum parts and products. When Nelson joined the company in 1972, the factory staffed seven employees in a 50x200 square foot facility on the east edge of Norton.

Since then, the company has been growing steadily and now staffs 128 full-time employees in 200,000 square feet of manufacturing space.

New Age manufactures an endless array of aluminum products like food service carts and ATV loading ramps, but thanks to the help of technology, aluminum can be shaped to serve nearly any purpose.

The company gets its aluminum in 60-pound blocks from New Madrid, Mo. and the dyes (templates) from Bad Axe, Mich. The blocks of aluminum go through an extrusion press, which is original to the factory, with a dye that presses and stretches the aluminum

into the desired shape and size. What goes into the press as a block of aluminum about the size and shape of a small rolled-up blanket may come out as 40 feet of 1-inch piping.

After the extrusion process, the aluminum is stretched and straightened, then hardened through a baking process.

Following the baking process, the aluminum is assembled into whatever product it is destined for, perhaps a hand rail or painter's easel.

For the products that require welding, the aluminum goes to a welding line where New Age welders, along with six robot welders, work in 24 different welding stations.

When the products are finished, they are shipped to their destinations all over the country.

Nelson said about half of what his company manufactures is custom order products, but some products, like ATV loading ramps, are kept in stock to meet high demand, especially as consumers might be thinking about hunting season.

In 2011, New Age Industrial extruded 3 million pounds of aluminum, which is down from 2007's 4 million pounds. Nelson blames the economic slowdown for the decrease in production, but now the company is seeing

(New Age - Continued on Page 5)

New Age Industrial employee Brenda Holmes works a bending machine at the factory to bend pieces of aluminum pipe to a specific angle. The company is looking to add up to 10 new employees over the next few months and possibly more depending on production demand.

-Telegram photo by Carleen Bell

