

# 4-H building upkeep

By CYNTHIA HAYNES  
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The tables at the Norton County 4-H Building are in a lot better shape since Gil Otter gave them a bleach and scrub brush bath recently.

Mr. Otter told the Norton County commissioners that neither he nor the cleaning person had realized the tables had gotten so bad because they were all stacked back in their racks.

"The tables are clean," he said. "The bathrooms are clean. I took care of that personally."

He said that he also sprayed the building inside and out for bugs.

"I didn't clean the windows, however," he noted.

He said that he doesn't feel he's getting enough help and is tired of the volunteer job.

"Personally, I'm ready to bail

off this thing," he said.

Mr. Otter said that he thought the county needs to be more forceful with those who rent the building and make sure that the tables and bathrooms are cleaned up.

He said there is a problem in the bathrooms since the paper towels available do not fit the dispensers so that a handful comes out and most of them go in the trash.

Commissioner Carolyn Applegate asked if there isn't a check list for renters of the building.

Mr. Otter said yes but he thinks the list should be posted on the door and handed out to renters with the keys to the building.

Mr. Otter said part of the problem is that the tables have a pebble finish and its not that easy to clean them after gunk and food has set up, so when he

realized how bad they were he had to take bleach and a scrub brush to clean them and they're still not perfect.

"They're passable," he said. "But, they're not new."

He told the commissioners that the concrete floor probably needs to be scrubbed and suggested that someone who needs some community service hours be contacted to do that job.

There is also a problem with tape on both the floor and the bottom of the tables that just doesn't come off completely.

"I'll take care of it while I'm here," he told the commissioners about the building, but noted that its all volunteer work and he needs some help.

"I thank you for doing that," Commissioner John Miller said. "Thank you for all your work," County Clerk Robert Wyatt said.

## Coming soon...



New signage was placed on the Dairy Queen Grill & Chill building last week by a company out of Grand Island, Nebraska. If all goes as planned the business will open its doors on November 12.

— Telegram photo by Dana Paxton

# Landfill loader needs fixed

By CYNTHIA HAYNES

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A wheel loader at the landfill is acting up because it's missing some of teeth.

Herman Pfannenstiel, the Norton County road and bridge shop foreman, told the commissioners on Monday that a loader at the landfill is missing several teeth on a flywheel. The starter on the machine was replaced last year, he said, but the machine wouldn't start the other day.

He removed the starter, he said, and tested it and it is fine. He even had someone else test it and it still came out fine. However, he said he checked and four or five and maybe more teeth in a row are missing from the flywheel. If those missing teeth line up with the starter, the machine won't catch.

The motor probably needs to be pulled and overhauled but that will cost thousands and the vehicle may not be worth that much, he told the commissioners.

It has to run for at least 45 minutes after starting it before it will go at all, he said.

He said that he can put the starter back in and hope it will run.

Commissioner John Miller said that the crew could use the Bobcat at the landfill to put up the trash in the building but that it isn't big enough to do all the work. And, he said, the county doesn't want to use the track-loader inside the building because it will ruin the concrete floor.

"I don't know if we can find a cheaper used loader that's in better condition," Mr. Miller said.

He added that it would be great to find one that will fit the foam-filled tires on the present machine. The tires were filled with foam, he said, because they kept going flat.

Mr. Miller wondered if the county could go to a smaller loader with a larger bucket since the stuff that is being moved doesn't have much weight just bulk.

The commissioners decided not to make any decisions on the machine right away but said that they really appreciated Mr. Pfannenstiel, who works for road and bridge but does a lot of maintenance on the equipment at the landfill.

"I've seen in the last month how valuable an employee he is," said commission candidate Charles Posson, who has been attending the meetings. "He's saved the county thousands."

"He gets stuff done," agreed Mr. Miller.

# BB Gun

(Continued From Page 1)

Those who missed the informational meeting and are still interested in participating are invited to attend this Monday's meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the BB Gun Museum.

Jeff will be happy to answer questions at (785) 202-1170 or (785) 874-4382.

**Norton has winning tradition**

Winning performances by Norton BB Gun Teams at the state and national (formerly international) level have earned them an admirable reputation in marksmanship circles.

Norton teams have won 38 Kansas state championships out of 47, including March 13, 2010 in Alma. Norton did not compete in the state shoot in 1982 because there was no Jaycees chapter to sponsor them.

Norton has competed in 43 of 47 international (now national) shoots and has also won eight international championships, more than any other community in the world!

The Norton County team was in the hunt again this year in placing seventh out of 53 teams in the National BB Gun Championship Match in July in Rogers, Ark., the home of Daisy Outdoor Products. The national shoot is the largest junior marksmanship competition in the world!

## Norton gun safety program used

Norton is associated with the beginning of the gun safety program. It is based on a format proposed by the late Norton Jaycees member Duane Winder. This program was adopted nationwide when Daisy and the U.S. Jaycees began the program.

The program was designed to introduce young shooters to the basics of safe gun handling and marksmanship.

About 250,000 young people take part in the program each year.

In recent history, Norton won the international title in 1990, 1991, 1998 and 2000, placed second in 2003 and third in 1996. In 2008, Norton finished runner-up in shooting and fifth overall. Norton placed seventh in 2008 and qualified for but did not compete in the national shoot in 2009 before finishing ninth in 2010 and 2011 and seventh in 2012.

The top three marksmanship teams in each of the three state shoots will qualify to compete in the national shoot.

The Norton County BB Gun Team was originally sponsored by the Norton Jaycees and the Norton Rotary assumed sponsorship when there was no longer a Jaycees chapter in Norton.

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