Road and Bridge report

By Dana Paxton

dpaxton@nwkansas.com Sandy Smith of the Norton County Road and Bridge Department addressed the commissioners at last week's meeting in reference to current jobs being worked on by the county staff.

Smith put forth a request to re-word a road permit passed some time ago in reference to the maintenance of low and minimum maintenance roads. She stated that no matter if the road is low or minimum maintenance the same amount of work still needs to be done to repair it. Commissioner Applegate asked if it would change it that much and Doug Sebelius stated that it would not so Applegate moved to re-word the permit, Richard Thompson seconded the motion and it passed.

Smith reported that the Fed-

eral Exchange Fund stood at \$94,106.23 and after ten cents on the dollar was kept out the county still had \$84,000.

Smith also reported that a letter is currently being drafted on the dam project. It is expected that possibly 100 posts will need to be replaced along with the wire between them. The expected response is that the county will replace posts as needed but she will have to wait for the final resolution to see.

The cost to replace posts was questioned and Smith stated that each post could run between \$13 and \$15 each but she is still getting the numbers. Charles Posson questioned why the county is responsible for the repairs on the dam and Smith reported that over 50 years ago an agreement was signed stating that the county would maintain all of the

roads around the lake. It was not up to the Corps of Engineers but Norton County.

The final subject Smith brought up was the Shale Project. This work is taking place on road E12 from Road T to Highway 9 running nine miles and also on Road T from E12 to E14 a distance of two miles.

The project was estimated to cost \$133,275.03 but the actual cost came to \$40,104.63 saving the county \$93,170.40. Smith reported that originally they had not budgeted for the 60,000 gallons of water that would be used on the project but that the county was able to obtain this commodity from Roger VanLoenen at \$10 a thousand. John Miller signed the water agreement and the option to get the water from VanLoenen was passed.

Results

(Continued From Page 1)

Sen. Schmidt, running unopposed in the Democratic Primary, received 1,623 votes.

The district averaged 39.3 percent voter turnout in the pri-

Sen. Schmidt grew up on a dairy farm north of Hays. He attended Thomas More Prep

and the University of Kansas. He served in the Army Medical Service Corps and remained active in the Army Reserve after moving back to Hays to manage his family's dairy. He returned to active duty in 1994, serving in several positions before being assigned as a deputy commander of the Army Reserve Medical Command in Tampa,

Fla. In 2009, he moved back to Kansas.

When he took over the 36th District two years ago, it included Phillips, Smith, Osborne, Mitchell, Ellis, Russell, Rush, Pawnee and Hodgeman counties, along with part of Jewell

Director

(Continued from Page 1)

fund-raiser for a new roof for the Community Center Building. At which time, Segura will be introduced to the community as Senior Center Director.

"This is new for me. I've only been here a couple of weeks but I'm really enjoying it already,"

said Segura. A native of Colorado, Segura moved to Norton on August 1 to

be closer to her aunt Viola.

"Denver is my hometown. I planned on retiring here in Norton but things were getting tough for me in Denver and I fell in love with Norton and wanted to make it my new home. I'm too young to retire," Segura ex-

In Denver, Segura taught bible study at her church, was an usher at her church for 13 years and would visit nursing homes to comfort the elderly.

"I've always loved working with the elderly, taking care of them and talking to them," said Segura. "I would go to nursing

homes and pray with them." The Senior Center's Board of Directors selected Segura from

six candidates. "I'm excited and really want to do this. I'm confident in my

abilities," said Segura. To ensure a smooth transition. Ramona Pabian will stay on at

2013. Pabian has worked at the Center since 2000 and has been its director since 2002. She sited health concerns as

the Senior Center until June 1,

her number one reason for stepping down.

"I can't do what I used to do, so I need someone here to do what I used to do," said Pabian.

She will work for H & R Block for the upcoming tax season and will move to Ravenna, Neb. on June 1.

When asked if she was excit-

ed about retirement, Pabian had mixed emotions.

"Yes and no. I hate to leave Norton but I'm excited to be with my family in Nebraska."

Besides being Senior Center Director, Pabian has worn many hats at the Center, including bus dispatcher, meal site manager and Norton Cares Director.

"Nothing has pleased me more than this job," said Pabian. "My only concern is, I want this community center to prosper and move forward."

will be seeing

patients at the Norton County Hospital



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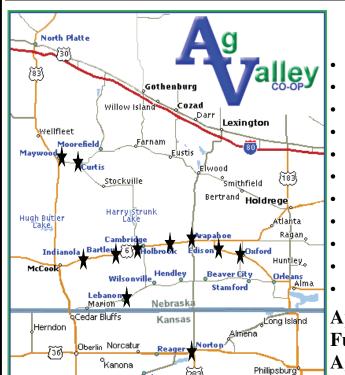
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Piece of history leaves Norton



The Norton airport sold a piece of history; it's old air mail light tower that stood warning pilots for the last 40 years. Roland Gilliam of Carthage, North Carolina heard about the tower and since he owns and runs an airport and airport museum he contacted the Norton airport and purchased the tower. After 1470 miles and three days on the road, Mr. Gilliam made it to Norton. With the assistance of Scott Evans and his crane the tower was cut down, lowered to the ground and then loaded on a big semi. By 4 p.m. Wednesday afternoon the tower was headed to its new home in North Carolina.

- Telegram photo by Dana Paxton

PUBLIC NOTICE PRAIRIE DOG CREEK WTAP SIGN-UP OPEN

The Kansas Department of Agriculture will be ccepting applications for the Water Right Transiion Assistance Program (WTAP) from October 1 to ovember 15.

WTAP is a voluntary, incentive-based program de igned to help restore aquifers and streams in critical areas by retiring water rights. The Prairie Dog Creek Basin is significant in requirements to maintain ompliance in the Republican River Compact with the State of Nebraska. The "high priority" areas of this basin in Phillips, Norton, Decatur, Sheridan and Thomas counties have been determined to be in need of stream restoration and aquifer recovery and are now closed to further water appropriations.

Applicants who are selected for WTAP grants are mpensated by the department's Division of Conser ration in exchange for the permanent retirement of vater rights on irrigated land.

For more information, contact Steve Frost, water conservation program manager, at (785) 296-8964 r Steve.Frost@kda.ks.gov. WTAP rules and regulans, applications, maps and other details are available on the Kansas Department of Agriculture's Division of Conservation website at http://www.ksda.gov

Information and assistance is also available on the ansas Department of Agriculture's Division of Water Resources field office in Stockton at (785) 425-678' or at the Northwest Kansas Groundwater Managemen District No. 4 in Colby at (785) 462-3915.



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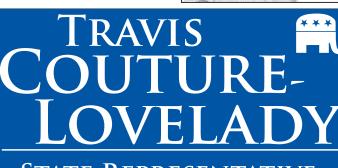
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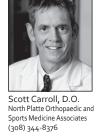


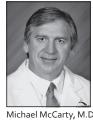
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