

The reality of what our county commissioners do

By Dana Paxton
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 There was no commissioners meeting on Monday due to several of the commissioners attending a training in Topeka. Many people think that a commissioner's job consists of one three hour meeting a week. That is so very far from the truth. To be a county commissioner it takes certification, 48 hours of certification over two years as well as on the job training. Charles Posson, who will be taking the place of John Miller and who has been attending meetings since the first part of the year, stated, "I think it is very important for a county commissioner to be certified." Carolyn

Applegate, who will be stepping down in January and being replaced by R.A. Peterson as commissioner, has several years experience and added to what Posson said by stating, "By going to the training sessions, it helps to build a network of contacts, which is invaluable." Our county commissioners are always on the job, at home, at work, at the grocery store and, as expected, at the commissioners meetings every Monday morning. The certified training required consists of ten hours in the Introduction to the Commissioners job, five hours of Financial Management, five hours of County Budgeting Basics, five hours of County

Government and the Law and five hours of Leadership for a Productive County Workforce. They are also required to receive five hours of Building an Effective County Team, five hours of Effective Management of Intergovernmental Relations, five hours of Ethical Citizen Commissioners and three hours of Ethical Consideration for County Commissioners. As you can see, it is so much more than people realize. There are training, meetings, trips, time from family and work. Our county commissioners give so much and ask little in return in hopes of making where we live a better place.

Insurance representative reports on county employee policies

By Dana Paxton
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 Charles Krull, a representative from Blue Cross and Blue Shield, addressed the Norton County Commissioners last week. He stated that Norton County currently had 64 employees covered by his company, 40 single policies, two for the employee and their children, 12 for the employee and their spouse and ten policies that covered the whole family. Along with this information, Krull reported that there would not be a refund to the county this year due to a 78.48 loss. With the Healthcare Reform, a summary of benefit coverages must be either emailed or mailed to the county employees no later than December 1 of this year. All benefit summaries should be uniform, and all look alike. Krull stated that there

were no cuts or benefits reduced. He also stated that there will be no co-pay; it all will go toward the deductible and then 100% of the bills will be paid. As for the Health Reimbursement Account, the county can not pay less than 5 percent of what they are paying now and for Preventative Services coverage, 100 percent will be paid. There will be a .4 percent decrease in total premium for next year so to maintain Grandfather status prices of the policies will change, with a single policy going down \$6.48, a policy for the employee and their spouse goes down \$13.98, for an employee and their children it goes up \$18.83 and for a family policy it will also increase \$11.32. Employees should expect their summary of benefits by December 1.

Kansas Department of Health and Environment asking to see updates and upgrades at landfill

By Dana Paxton
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 The final item on the commissioners' agenda last week was a visit with Brian Foster of B&G Consulting. Mr. Foster works with the county helping them with KDHE regulations in reference to the Norton County Landfill. Mr. Foster informed the commissioners that it was time to design a landfill cell since the construction and debris site is almost filled to capacity. In order to do this the commissioners needed to initiate phase four and phase five, and this is to receive new bids for a 260 foot pit and a 220 foot pit that will need to be dug. Foster recommended getting the bids in by February or March which would allow contractors to work the job into their summer schedule instead of having them rushed to get right on the job

and have it done quickly. By allowing the extra time the bids might be lower. Commissioner Carolyn Applegate moved to initiate the designing and planning for phase four and five. Richard Thomson seconded the motion and it passed to start the process. Other items that Foster brought to the commissioners included the fact that KDHE is asking for an update on the construction and debris part of the landfill. The KDHE wants a survey done to update the old one. Foster suggested that this can be done during the planning and designing of phases four and five and that way the survey is included which makes it more cost effective in the long run. Mr. Foster also reported that KDHE was wanting operating plans for the landfill. The current plans are old. He offered to help

Right on target



This year's Norton Longspur Pheasants Forever chapter outdid themselves at last Friday's banquet. There were 25 guns given away, a youth bow, door prizes and several items auctioned off in order to raise money to fund the multiple activities sponsored by the group each year. A group of chapter members look over one of the many guns given out that night. Pictured here in the front is Craig Rogers with Brock Miller behind him, then Brett Gallentine, Austin Brooks, Dan Lauer, Dave Maddy and Jesse Gallentine look on as Wally Burton shows off the weapon. - Telegram photo by Dana Paxton

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-Leota Brown
 (With her pal, Bubbles)

Leota Brown is one busy lady. She's a seamstress, hat maker, cake decorator, cross-stitch designer, and master angler. She's best friend to her dog, Bubbles, too. Leota has better ways to spend her time than driving 75 miles to North Platte for chemotherapy treatments.

Receiving chemotherapy treatments in McCook is so important for busy people like Leota. Our new Oncology Services suite offers leading-edge chemotherapy treatments in a spacious area for infusions, with an area dedicated solely to chemotherapy treatments coming soon.

Leota works with visiting oncologist, Dr. Maria DeVilla of the Callahan Cancer Center in North Platte, and enjoys our certified chemotherapy nurses so much, she thinks of them as family.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

•PUBLIC NOTICE•
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF HELEN L. ROACH

Published in The Norton Telegram on Tuesday, October 30, Nov. 6, 13, 2012 (3T)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF NORTON COUNTY, KANSAS PROBATE DIVISION

In the Matter of the Estate of **HELEN L. ROACH**, Deceased
 Case No. 2012-PR-13

NOTICE OF HEARING

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition has been filed in this Court by Pamela Ballinger, duly appointed, qualified and acting Administrator of the Estate of Helen L. Roach, Deceased, praying that her acts be approved; that her account be settled and allowed; that the claim of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment be allowed and the estate be assigned to the State of Kansas; that fees and expenses be allowed; that the costs be determined and ordered paid; that the administration of the estate be closed; that the Administrator be discharged and that she be released from further liability.

YOU ARE REQUIRED TO FILE your written defenses thereto on or before the 20th day of November, 2012, at 9:15 o'clock A.M. of said day, in said Court, in the City of Norton, Norton County, Kansas, at which time and place said cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

Pamela Ballinger,
 Administrator

R. Douglas Sebelius, #09157
SEBELIUS & GRIFFITHS, LLP
 105 South Norton Street
 P.O. Box 10
 Norton, Kansas 67654-0010
 (785) 877-5143
 Attorneys for Petitioner



THE NORTON TELEGRAM and the Norton Area Chamber of Commerce welcome

Bella Sole is owned by Tara Johnson and is located at 212 S. State Street, Norton, phone 785-874-4014. Their hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, and every other Saturday. Carlie Johnson, beautician, carliejohnson79@yahoo.com. Services provided at Bella Sole include 2 tanning beds, mystic spray tanning, beauty salon, manicures, pedicures, and shellac nails.

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