

# Relay for life summit

The American Cancer Society has been an active member of Norton County for many years offering a number of patient and family services, cancer support groups, tobacco control programs, lifesaving educational tools and research. The Society continues its mission thanks to the help of generous volunteers and dedicated staff.

The American Cancer Society Relay For Life of Norton County is a community event in every sense of the word. It is a chance for Norton County to come together for one common cause. No matter who you are, there's a place for you at Relay For Life. Each dollar raised will help save lives. How far will you go to make a difference in the fight against cancer?

Your reason for participating in Relay For Life is as unique and special as the story that motivates you. If you've been

affected by cancer in any way, being part of the Relay event empowers you to make a difference and fight back. This is your opportunity to honor cancer survivors, remember those we have lost to this disease, and raise funds and awareness to help end cancer forever.

Event Chairmen, Lee Russell and Karen Wright, invite volunteers to join them on January 11-12, 2013 in Topeka at the Capitol Plaza Hotel, for the 2013 Kansas Regional Summit. The Summit is geared toward training new and experienced Relay volunteers about the different aspects of holding a successful Relay For Life event. Training for Team Captains and members to Committee Chairman is available. For those traveling from Norton County, your hotel on Friday night is free. To register for Summit, go online at: <https://www.secuthere.com/ACS/HPKS0113>. But sign up soon, the registration closes December 12, 2012.

Plans are under way for the annual Relay For Life of Norton County, hosted at the Courthouse Square on June 7-8, 2013, to fight for every birthday, threatened by cancer, in every community, including our own.

Now is the time for individuals, families, organizations, schools, religious groups, corporations and small businesses to build a team and join our fight to reduce the burden of cancer across America. Relay For Life can be the site of a company picnic or family gathering while supporting a great cause.

To sign up to participate or to learn how to form a team, call Stephanie Cookson at 785-202-9133 or visit [www.RelayForLife.org/Nortoncountyks](http://www.RelayForLife.org/Nortoncountyks).

# Price increases at 4-H building

By Cynthia Haynes

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The prices to use the Norton County 4-H building will go up a bit next year to help pay for increasing expenses and some hoped for renovations.

The county 4-H building needs new lights and some curb and gutter work done, Gil Otter, a spokesman for the 4-H Building committee, told the Norton County commissioners on Monday during their weekly meeting at the courthouse.

The old inside fixtures, he said, are obsolete and bulbs will become increasingly hard to get.

Commissioner John Miller noted that the county had a similar problem with lighting in a building at the landfill.

There is nothing left in capital outlay for the 4-H building, County Clerk Robert Wyatt said but money might be obtained from the George Jones Memorial fund for new lights since it is for improvements. However, he said, he wasn't sure without checking how much was left in that fund.

The commissioners suggested getting bids on new light fixtures.

Mr. Otter pointed out that broken curbs outside the building present a safety hazard but the commissioners said that that would have to be taken up with

## Price changes for 4-H Building

Item	Old price	2013 price
Cleanup Deposit	\$100	\$150
Entire Building - Kitchen only	\$50	\$50
All day and evening	\$60	\$100
Family reunions/potlucks	\$60	\$100
Day only 9 a.m.-4 p.m.	\$30	\$50
Evening 4-11 p.m.	\$30	\$50
Auctions - all day and evening	\$100	\$175
out of county groups	\$175	\$225
extra set-up day	\$50	\$100
Fund raising/admission chg. events	\$75	\$125
extra set-up day	\$50	\$100

the City of Norton.

Mr. Otter also presented the commissioners with an updated payment schedule for the building noting that it had been four years since the prices were changed and that the new prices were reached after reviewing the utility, insurance, supplies and janitorial costs for the building.

Commissioner Carolyn Applegate said she thought the new prices were about right.

Mr. Otter said that his group took the expected 2012 costs for the building and divided by 365. They came up with a cost of \$24 a day, he said, whether anything was happening at the building or not.

The building will be used 86 days this year, he said. That means it costs \$101 per day used.

He said it isn't possible to cover the costs of unoccupied days and there are a lot of unpaid useage days when the Norton County Extension, Boy Scouts, Ministerial Alliance or agricultural groups use the building.

Mr. Miller noted that there is a lot of unpaid useage of the building.

"There's a lot of benevolence going on," he said. "There's no way for the paying entities to cover for the non paying."

Mr. Otter said that the guidelines for use of the building will be posted by the door and also given to anyone getting the key. In the past, there have been some problems with cleanup after events.

The commissioners agreed that this was a good idea and authorized the changes for 2013.

# Bus

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antifreeze to spill out all over the motor and under the bus. The bus was sitting over a gas tank (at the co-op) so had to be moved."

A wrecker was called and the bus was moved over to the senior citizens center, she said.

Mrs. Pabian said that she had been checking on getting a backup bus or van but that she couldn't apply for one until April or May and it wouldn't be delivered until 2014.

Commissioner John Miller suggested that she check to see if a 1992 ambulance, which is not being used right now but which the county is keeping for a backup, might be used.

Mrs. Pabian went to check

on the bus after talking to the commissioners but found that it won't accommodate wheelchairs and is probably not big enough for the number of passengers the bus usually carries.

Commissioner Miller asked if the county might sue Lewis as the insurance will not pay for any repairs or replacements since there was no accident.

Commissioner Carolyn Applegate suggested a state-wide appeal for a replacement.

Mrs. Pabian said that she has found some vehicles in Salina and Kearney, Neb., that might work but they run from \$20,000 to \$50,000 and none have lifts although some have ramps that might accommodate wheelchairs.

Mrs. Pabian said that she has three people in Almena in wheelchairs including one who needs to come to Norton three times a week for therapy.

Mrs. Applegate said that the county needs a bus. While it is considered a senior bus, she noted, it is really for everyone. Only about 40 percent of those who use it are seniors, she said. The rest are people without transportation or the disabled.

"Almena and Lenora really rely on the bus," she said.

Mr. Miller said he would call the county's lobbyist in Topeka and see if he could get anything done on the project.

The commissioners also discussed the problem with County Attorney Doug Sebelius.

information before helping.

Finally the dating site scam. Someone goes on to a site hoping to find love. They talk for a while, become friends and possibly exchange phone numbers or e-mails. After a while the predator feels like the victim trusts them and this is when they make their move. They then start asking for large sums of money to help them out of a bad situation. Once again another scam.

We live in the greatest country in the world but yet there are bad people out there

that will not think twice about hurting someone else. If you think for a second that you are being scammed in any way, contact the Norton County Sheriff's Department to have the information verified. Norton County deputy Rich Wenzel has gone through training on just this subject and is able to help determine the validity of a possible scam. It is okay to trust but when it comes to strangers asking for large sums of money it is probably a scam and should be turned in to the proper officials.

# Scams

(Continued from Page 1)

the line impersonates a child or grandchild stating they are in trouble, don't tell their folks and please send a large sum of money to help them out. Sheriff Thomson warned everyone to verify information before sending money at all. This is a scam. This has also been known to happen on Facebook when an account gets hacked.

A third scam is people calling or e-mailing to get assistance due to a natural disaster like the storm Sandy that hit the east coast. Once again, verify

# Running the drills...



Fifth and sixth grade boys participating in Eisenhower Elementary School's after school basketball program are learning the basics of the game and skill acquisition. Curriculum Director Jeremy Hawks will coach the boys on shooting and dribbling fundamentals (Pictured) Zach Rowh practices a dribbling drill as (from left to right) Andrew Gleason, Ryan Lively, Jacob Peterson, Zach McKinley, Tucker Gosselin, Miles Harrington, Brayden Smith, Matthew Gordon and Robbie Wagner wait their turn. -Telegram photo by Mike Stephens

# America's Debt: No laughing matter

By: Rep. Tim Huelskamp

"Are you kidding me?" That was all I could think to myself when I heard that U.S. Treasury Secretary Geithner said that the U.S. "absolutely" should get rid of the debt ceiling, which is the limit on federal government borrowing.

Having served in Congress for two years now I thought that I had heard it all from the Obama Administration, but it appears they have not run out of senseless ideas. At a time when America is more than \$16 trillion in debt - an amount about equivalent to the size of our entire economy - the last thing we need is to remove the cap on America's credit card.

Two years before becoming President, then-Senator Barack Obama declared it "unpatriotic" to raise the debt limit. It was probably one of the few times we have been or ever will be on the same page. Yet, as we come to the conclusion of his first term as President, present and future taxpayers are on the hook for \$6 trillion more debt and are likely to be responsible for at least \$4 trillion more come the end of his second term.

Despite the \$6 trillion more debt in his first term, the Obama Administration will come to Congress in a matter of weeks and ask that we raise the debt limit. Or, apparently as Secretary Geithner has suggested, get rid of it altogether.

The unfortunate reality is that Congress will have to raise the debt limit. That is what happens when Washington borrows 40 percent of what it spends. But, this time the conditions have to be different.

Another deal like the one that was cut by Republicans and Democrats in August 2011 cannot be on the table. Sixteen months after that arrangement, Washington has almost exhausted all of the borrowing, but has not a single cut yet to show for it. The cuts are set to take place on January 1, 2013, but the odds are high that lawmakers on both sides of the aisle will find a way to finagle out of them.

As it was 16 months ago, the problem in Washington is not that we do not take in enough money. No, the problem is still that we spend too much. Perhaps I sound like a broken record writing that month after month,

but Congress and the President have yet to deal with the out-of-control spending.

Voters may have sent mixed messages to Washington by re-electing a Democrat President with a slim 51-percent margin and a Republican-controlled House (where the Constitution prescribes all revenue bills must originate), but exit polls from on Election Day show a pretty clear mandate on the policy direction of Washington: it is time to tackle spending.

Nearly two-thirds of voters said "no" to raising taxes to fix the deficit (meaning spending cuts are the way to go), and by an eight-point margin voters said "government is doing too many things better left to businesses and individuals" rather than "government should do more to solve problems." Americans are not looking for higher taxes and more government; they are looking for less of both.

If the next "debt deal" is anything like the last - guaranteed debt, uncertain spending cuts - I will again ask: "Are you kidding me?" After all, more debt and more spending is no laughing matter.

## No Time To Fill Out Christmas Cards?

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