

# Thirty-five years in the routine life of a local man

The air is filled with the sound of hoofs pounding on the aluminum floor of a cattle trailer, gates swinging and clanging, men, women and livestock running through alleys and enduring all kinds of weather, whistling and "yippling", the chant of an auctioneer, the calling of pen numbers, and the smell of a long awaited hot home cooked café meal with a glass of milk; this has been part of Clarence Tien's routine now for 35 years.

It all begins with a long week of traveling to look at cattle consignments to build a sale for buyers from a several hundred mile radius and ends with the settlement and loading out of hundreds to thousands of cattle marketed at Norton Livestock, Inc., every Thursday. Even more impressive, Clarence works tirelessly to continue to provide his business services to the community. This important part of Norton County agriculture provides vital income to the people involved in it. The economic structure of this business touches too many people and businesses to mention, and many that you would not even think of.

Clarence was raised and resides in rural Prairie View, KS is married to Bette, they have two sons; Jan also from Prai-

rie View, KS, and Kelly who lives in Long Beach CA. Clarence was involved in farming and raising livestock before he purchased the salebarn and has been there every Thursday since, with few exceptions. Clarence leads his crew of 3 full time and 20 part time employees through a long day of service providing a viable market option for producers in the area. The Tien's attribute their success to their help, "through the years we have been able to find good employees from the area to help us with our business, we appreciate them very much."

The weather has a large impact on producers and livestock markets alike. It is as hard to predict as the market prices, and the significance can be just as profitable as it can be devastating. One can never outguess either, and we all just have to make the best of the circumstances on that day. When asked about concerns for the future of Norton County agriculture, the Tiens, along with every farmer and rancher in this area are firstly concerned with the dry weather. "Hopefully we will receive some good spring rains to get our area pastures going." This certainly will help with viability of those involved in any type of agriculture based business. Another concern is the

amount of capital it takes to start up and maintain a production ag operation. The Tiens give the following advice to people beginning in ag, "Find something you are comfortable with and stick with it, let it come to you over the years, success in an ag related field does not come overnight." So true, and success takes more hard work, dedication and perseverance than most are willing to or able to endure. Thankfully Clarence has stuck it out and continued to be blessed in his business. While the years ahead may be filled with changes and more challenges, Clarence will have left a legacy of endurance and dedication to the ag industry behind him that will be respected for years to come. This Norton County Ag business would not have been successful without the many years Clarence, Jan and their family, along with their employees' hard work, sacrifice and countless hours dedicated to it's operation. Here at Norton County Farm Bureau we wish Norton Livestock, Inc. continued success and appreciate the years they have dedicated to promoting Norton County Agriculture.

Respectfully submitted by Niki Kinderknecht, County Coordinator/Norton County Farm Bureau.

## PALS for life...



The Future Farmers of America held their Valentine's Day party with their third grade PALS on Monday, Feb. 18 at the high school cafeteria. (Pictured) Senior LaNae Dial and third grader Audrey Karabin make a Valentine's Day card. The students also enjoyed eating ice cream and playing bingo.

—Telegram photo by Mike Stephens

## LYLE NEWS

First, I apologize for messing up the item about Chandler and the wrestling. He did real well in his match.

Three year old Skylar was sitting in her little chair, studying my big globe in her lap. There is a tiny bare spot on the map made by showing little ones, "where they live." She knew, within a few hundred miles, where she lived, but was saying, "I do not know where my school is!" I told her, her school is real close to where we live- so now she knows. Her school is the Oberlin Pre-school, a very important place.

Toots Magers said there were 14 at the Lyle Church dinner on Sunday, including Sherry Browning and son. Sherry is the daughter of Martha Scriver, formerly of Lyle. Her son, Robert is in high school in Oberlin, and her daughter, Sarah is in grade school. Keith Anthony and his daughter, Sissy, attended the dinner, also.

Kathy Van Meter and Lloyd Frandsen were in WaKeeney on business, then went to Mar-

tina Zimmerman's 90th birthday celebration in Quinter, Ks. Martina is the mother of Kathy's daughter in law, Jolene. A very nice reception was held. Among those attending were Clinton, Jolene and Kim Nejd, Jolene's sister and five brothers; Carrie and Alan from Pratt, Ks., and others. Kathie and Lloyd then saw her brother, Jim and Marge Hillman in Hoxie and took them to supper.

I saw the specialist on Tuesday. He gave me permission to walk, so I have been doing a semblance of walking, but not very smooth. The worst part was, as soon as I got home, my flu, or whatever I have, had come back, and I spent a couple of days in bed. Everything seems to be about normal now, except that I have to get my strength, appetite, etc., back. I'm grateful to have had my great-granddaughter and children with me as I recuperate. Carol has been an angel, and so many more have helped. Tracey Pershing visited on Saturday.

## Meeting

(Continued from Page 1)

Barbara Brooks from Clayton, Curtis Eveleigh for the county and Aaron Herman for the city. Ms. Grysch said that, while anyone can apply to be on the board, the city and county usually appoints people to serve. Applications are available, she said.

Mr. Sproul also told his board about a group out of Wichita called Angel Investment.

The Angel group, he said, put money in a pool to be invested in a business project.

The investors have the final say on which businesses they put their money into, he said.

He noted that this might be something that Norton would like to look into either working with the Wichita group or form-

ing their own Angels organization.

There have been three investment project opportunities in the county in the last few months, he said.

The group would be facilitated by Economic Development but not run by it. Once it is set up and working, it would be on its own.

Board member Greg Mann thought the idea had merit and would give projects other outlets for financing besides banks, which because of regulator control, cannot always help.

Board member Jerry Jones thought that it might help the Norton group to be affiliated with Wichita in case something big came up and the local group couldn't cover.

"We don't want to take the

place of banks," Mr. Sproul said. "This would be an add on to help them and everyone."

Mr. Jones asked if this would be similar to the revolving loan funds offered by the city and county. Mr. Sproul said it would be similar but not the same.

Mr. Mann said that he would like to know more about the group and Board Member Donna Foley said that she liked the idea.

Mr. Sproul said that he would try to have someone from the Wichita group in to talk to the board.

"There's a definite opportunity here," he said.

Ms. Grysch suggested that the group Google Angel Investments and see if they could find out more about them.

## •PUBLIC NOTICE•

### NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING ALMENA IRRIGATION DISTRICT NO. 5

Published in The Norton Telegram on Tuesday, February 26, 2013

#### NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

The State of Kansas and the Almena Irrigation District No. 5 to all holders of title or evidence of title as defined in Section 42-701 K.S.A. for and located within the boundaries of the Almena Irrigation District No. 5 who are residents of the State of Kansas, and are otherwise qualified electors, and to all other persons concerned. You are hereby notified that the Annual Meeting of the Almena Irrigation District No. 5 will be held in the Irrigation Office in Almena, Norton County, Kansas on the 5th day of March, 2013, at 6:30 p.m. At that meeting one director will be elected and other general business pertaining to the District will be conducted. The polls will be open from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. This notice is given pursuant to Section 42-706 (e) K.S.A.

Norman L. Nelson, President  
Almena Irrigation District No. 5  
ATTEST:  
Craig Ingram, Secretary

Published in The Norton Telegram on Tuesday, February 26, 2013

COUNTY FUNDS BUDGETED.....FUND BALANCE	
COUNTY GENERAL	1,648,841.49
Road & Bridge	748,468.74
Special Bridge	23,273.15
Ambulance	340,625.12
Andbe Home	12,859.57
Appraiser's Cost	77,639.06
Bridge Bond	61,944.55
County Health	31,271.10
Economic Development	118,674.21
Election	14,336.54
Employee Benefits	833,838.47
Extension Council	14,827.99
Fair Building	5,054.02
4-H Maintenance	5,767.95
Historical Preservation	3,134.86
Hospital Maintenance	76,900.95
Mental Health	23,645.23
Mental Retardation	24,329.98
Noxious Weed	103,602.33
Noxious Weed Deficiency	82.46
Senior Citizens	30,943.73
Soil Conservation	5,669.46
Airports	37,206.61
Solid Waste	8,046.12
Landfill Closure	10,000.00
Bridge Construction #2	325,696.83
Special Machinery & Equip	98,450.73
Co. Health Capital Outlay	58,269.97
Ambulance Capital Outlay	167,313.15
Noxious Weed Capital Out	44,474.04
Clayton Cemetery	695.44
Edmond Cemetery	465.47
West Union Cemetery	2,433.75
E 911 Fund	43,735.81
EMS Building Bonds	36,299.43
EMS Building COP Debt	20,947.26
GOB Recovery Zone Bond	16,797.87
Ag Valley-SERIES 2012	1,965,945.09
911 Tax	28,444.98
KELLING FUND	584.70
Bridge Construction 2004	63,849.97
COUNTY FUNDS NON-BUDGETED...FUND BALANCE	
Co Treas Capital Outlay	38,147.56
Co Clerk Capital Outlay	29,945.26
Dist Court Capital Outlay	30,560.78
Reg of Deeds Cap Outlay	13,498.20
Sheriff Capital Outlay	41,151.49
Appraiser Capital Outlay	10
Election Capital Outlay	113,914.20
Solid Waste Cap Outlay	85,877.80
Special Drug & Alcohol	15,894.69
Spec Parks & Recreation	19,052.45
Spec Prosecutors Trust	175.00
DISTRICT CORONER	128.56
Economic Dev Cap Outlay	189,207.88
EMS Memorial Fund	1,134.00
Probation Capital Outlay	7,857.75
Auto Fund	2,513.33
Travel Nation	650.00
Pamida Fund	1,000.00
Norton Co 911 Fee Fund	44,281.39
Special Auto	41,047.30
Reg Deeds Tech Fund	16,091.25
Heritage Trust Fees	380.33
Oil & Gas Depletion Trust	70,053.71
Unclaimed Monies	3,782.71
Strays Sold by Sheriff	555.51
Attorney Fund Cap Outlay	4,275.60
Alcohol & Drug Test Fund	2,933.32
Co Attorney Training	309.81
Co Attorney Diversion	9,437.32
Special Law Enforcement	9,503.93
Worthless Check Admin Fee	2,026.29
Northwest BT Region	11,217.45
DATA PROCESSING CAP OUT	86,431.31
4-H BUILDING CAP OUTLAY	9,592.00
Wireless 911 Grant	4,142.41
Hansen Grant Fund	43,681.57
Change Check Clearing	79.26
Credit Card	44.53
Long and Short	13.73
REVENUE FUNDS.....FUND BALANCE	
Current Tax	123,816.32
Vehicle Tax	13,884.42
RV Tax	12.17
Redemptions Real Estate	4,532.45
Advance Tax	48.23
Escrow Account	32.50
Compensation Sales Tax	36,020.98
CITY FUNDS.....FUND BALANCE	
Clayton City - General	140.04
TRUSTEE FUND.....FUND BALANCE	
Court Trustee - State	3,791.85
Court Trustee - Local	37,691.42
Case Management	40,781.74
Juvenile Just Authority	78,893.31
Parent Training	80.24
JISP	126,572.91
Diversion	23,036.91
Juvenile Intake	14,778.36
Judicial Capital Outlay	44,719.46
Thinking For A Change	7,275.82
TOTAL CASH IN TREASURY.....8,557,295.59	

STATE OF KANSAS COUNTY OF NORTON  
I do solemnly swear the above statement is complete, true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, so help me God

Cynthia J. Linner,  
County Treasurer

Subscribed and sworn before me this 31st day of January, 2012

Robert D. Wyatt,  
County Clerk

## Update

(Continued From Page 1)

ing for board members. Some of these concern Norton County, he said, and it might be a good idea for the commissioners to find out if they can get someone on those boards. Some of the boards that might interest Norton, he said, are those involving juvenile justice, the library system and the State Board of Agriculture.

"We need to get some representation on some of these if possible," he said.

Keeping you informed!