

THE NORTON TELEGRAM



Tuesday
July 9, 2013

Briefly

Library Fun Night set for Thursday

Fun Night at the Norton Public Library on Thursday, July 11 from 6:30-8 p.m., is 'Dirt Cup Night.' Come and make dirt cups and finish the night making duct tape book marks.

Show Choir to perform on Friday

The Show Choir Camp will perform on Friday, July 12 at the East Campus Auditorium at 7 p.m.

Anniversary to be celebrated Friday

Norton Sports Center is celebrating 35 years in business this Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. They will be serving lunch from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. so stop in and check out the new addition and congratulate them.

Lutheran Church bible school set

The Immanuel Lutheran Church will be holding their "Tell It On The Mountain, Where Jesus Christ is Lord" bible school July 14 through July 18 starting at 6 p.m. and running to 8:30 p.m. at the church. Ages four through fourth graders are invited to attend.

Norton Car Show set for weekend

The Norton Annual Car Show will be this Friday and Saturday as well as sidewalk sales. Come show off your car or just to look around and pick something up from one of the local stores. There is one change this year, there will be no drag races on Saturday.

Markets

Monday, July 8, 2013

Wheat.....	\$6.70
Milo.....	\$6.14
Soybeans.....	\$15.03
Corn.....	\$6.71

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

Weather

Wednesday - Partly cloudy in the morning then clear with a chance of a thunderstorm and a chance of rain. High of 95. Wednesday Night - Clear with a chance of a thunderstorm and a chance of rain in the evening then mostly cloudy with a chance of rain. Thursday - Partly cloudy with a 40 percent chance of rain. High of 95. Thursday Night - Partly cloudy with a chance of a thunderstorm and rain. Friday - Mostly cloudy in the morning then clear with a high of 106.

Prayer

Dear God, thank you for offering a way to spend eternity with you. Teach us to love and serve you each day of our lives. Amen

Norton County celebrates Independence Day



The watermelon feed is a popular and long-standing tradition for the Fourth of July celebration at Prairie Dog State Park and is sponsored by Jamboree Foods. Rich Risewick, owner of Jamboree Foods, was a busy man cutting watermelons for the large crowd of people.

-Telegram photo by Mike Stephens



The Norton Area Chamber of Commerce 4th of July Celebration at Prairie Dog State Park culminated with a fantastic fireworks display over Sebelius Reservoir. There were large crowds on hand for all the events throughout the day including the 5K Fun Run, the kite flying contest, barbecue, a concert by Jimmy Dee and The Fabulous Destinations, a watermelon feed, flag ceremony, and, of course, fireworks.

-Telegram photo by Mike Stephens

Interim positions receive pay raises

By Mike Stephens

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Following a twenty minute closed door session, at its regular meeting on Wednesday, the Norton City Council passed a motion to adjust interim City Administrator Darla Ellis' pay scale to 20L and Police Chief Pat Morel to pay range 19J, effective June 23, until their duties change.

The State of Kansas now requires all roofing contractors be registered with the Attorney General's office, according to City Attorney Karen Griffiths. The state will also require contractors provide proof of \$500,000 in general liability insurance and register yearly for a \$500 fee.

The Council also held a hearing for John and Marvina Stielow, to discuss the Notice and Order of Violation issued for 1007 N. Norton St. Code Inspector Jeff Wolf presented pictures showing 72 itemized violations which

were cited in the Notice and Order dated May 31, 2013. The list was reviewed before council to determine which violations had been eliminated.

Stielow said he needed time extension to get the property cleaned up. Griffiths explained, the council would make a finding and then she would prepare a resolution for the next council meeting.

The council followed up by directing the City Attorney to prepare a resolution ordering alleviation of the conditions on the property owned by John and Marvina Stielow at 1007 N. Norton St., and to abate the conditions by Aug. 7. Council member Jeff Urban said the refuge from this property needs to be disposed of properly and not moved to another property within the City limits.

In other council news:

-authorized the signing of the contract between the City of Norton and

Prosser, Wilbert Construction, Inc., for the Norton Swimming Pool project.

-authorized Supervisor Curt Bozarth to contact available sources and the firms that have contacted him in the past to find out if the city can sell any engines, heads, or any parts off the engines at the power plant.

-approved the addendum to the lease agreement with Nex-Tech Wireless, LLC, to allow additional communications equipment be installed on the city's water tower, with an increase in the monthly rental rate to \$450. The total cost of any installation or upgrades will be at Nex-Tech's expense.

-authorized the Public Works department to make repairs to the roof on the public work's storage building at a cost not to exceed \$3,000.

-authorized staff to advertise for a lineman position. Council member Ron Briery reported that the employee was not moved over from the water plant to

the apprentice lineman position, and the Electric Distribution supervisor wants the lineman position advertised.

-approved the Norton American Legion's special events cereal malt beverage license for July 23-27, for consumption on the premises at a confined beer garden at the grandstand booth in Elmwood Park during the 2013 Norton County Fair.

-approved the minutes of the special city council meeting held on June 28.

-approved Appropriating Ordinance #12.

-council member Harriett Gill said the Personnel Committee discussed the chain of command and would like the chart corrected. Staff will check on how other cities handle several other issues and will report back.

-council member Jerry Jones said, in regards to the chain of command, he

(Raises - Continued on Page 5)

Shelter house gets new roof

Inmates from the Norton Correctional Facility replaced the shingles on the shelter house at the roadside park in Jennings.

Former Mayor Marge Hartzog said this is one of the projects in a plan to make the town more presentable.

Mrs. Hartzog said the city received a gift of \$25,000 from the Dane G. Hansen Foundation to use for city renovations. The shingle project will cost around \$4,000.

Some of the Hansen money has already been used on improvements at the library, as well as making the senior center entrance more easily accessible for people in wheelchairs, she said.

Last year, the Norton inmates painted the tables and chairs at the park, Mrs. Hartzog said. They will be part of a future project that includes removing dead timber from the drainage ditch between the park and the railroad.

"We appreciate the inmates volunteering," she said. "They do a lot of hard work."



A Norton Correctional facility truck was ready to haul away the mess after inmate volunteers replaced the roof on the shelter house at the roadside park in Jennings.

- Photo by Marge Hartzog

Road and Bridge Department needs help getting cooled off

By CYNTHIA HAYNES

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It's getting really hot and working in the shop at the Norton County Road and Bridge Department is not much fun.

"It's getting hot down there in that shop," Shop Foreman Herman Pfannenstiel told the commissioners at their meeting on Monday.

Mr. Pfannenstiel brought along some information on used water coolers, which ranged in price from \$1,350 to \$3,000, to help relieve the situation.

While the commissions were sympathetic they said they would like a little more information about the units before authorizing anything. Mr. Pfannenstiel said that a new water cooler would cost between \$3,300 and \$3,900.

Commissioner Charles Posson said that a water cooler would work well unless there was high humidity outside.

Mr. Pfannenstiel also talked to the commissioners about the air compressor in the attic of the county shop. The unit was put in in the 1960s, he said, and tends to go off and on a lot.

He said that he would like to move the compressor from above the office, where it makes a terrible racket, to the shop. Because of the age of the old one, he said, it would probably be a good idea to look at a new compressor and he had checked with several places to find prices. The one that he is looking at - an upright unit with a 120 gallon tank, three-phase electricity and 10

horsepower - will run about \$2,300. However, he is still waiting on at least one more price quote.

Acting Road and Bridge Office Manager Justina Smith asked for the commissioners' approval to get venetian blinds for the office.

She said she checked with Don's Floor Covering, the only place in the county that she knew sold that product, and got a bid of just under \$1,000 for blinds for two long windows, a door and a smaller window.

The long windows are an odd size, she said, and that drives the cost up. However, getting the blinds will help with heating and cooling costs and help the staff work better because now the glare in some rooms makes it almost impossible to work there part of the day. The county crew will install the blinds, she said.

She also noted that there is enough money in the building maintenance budget to buy the blinds.

The commissioners warned her that that budget could disappear real fast if no outside money can be found to rewire the building.

Ms. Smith said that the rewiring project has been taken into consideration in the road and bridge 2014 budget.

She said that the department is also getting some parts for its sign machine. The parts are needed so that the county can make road signs.

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