

# \$1 THE NORTON TELEGRAM



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8 PAGES

**Tuesday**  
January 7, 2014

## Briefly

### Blood drive to be held Thursday

The American Red Cross will hold another blood drive on Thursday, Jan. 9 at the 4-H Building from noon to 6 p.m.

### Early registration for youth soccer

Early registration for 2014 Norton AYSO Soccer will be Friday, Jan. 10, from 5-7 p.m. and Jan. 11, from 2-4 p.m., at the Norton Public Library community room. For more information call Nicole Rushton at (785) 567-4610 or Deena Wente at (785) 871-0442.

### ACT registration deadline is Friday

Friday, January 10 is the deadline to register for the February 8 ACT testing. AP at EOD@NCHS; EOD@NCHS.

### Geography Bee to be held on Friday

Eisenhower Elementary school will hold its Geography Bee on Friday, January 10 at 2 p.m. in the band room.

### Norton landfill will be open on Saturdays

The Norton County Landfill will now be open from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturdays to better accommodate our customers.

### Booster club's first meeting is Wednesday

The Norton Blue Jay Booster Club's first meeting of the new year will be this Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in the high school cafeteria. High school coaches will speak.

### 4-H Favorite Food Show on Sunday

The annual 4-H Favorite Food Show will be held on Sunday, Jan. 12 at the 4-H Building in Norton. Viewing and tasting open to the public at 4 p.m.

## Markets

Monday, January 6, 2014

Wheat	\$6.22
Milo	\$3.88
Soybeans	\$12.18
Corn	\$4.08

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

## Weather

Wednesday - Cloudy with a high near 30. Wednesday Night - Partly cloudy skies with a low near 15. Thursday - Sunny with a high of 41. Thursday Night - Mostly cloudy with a low of 23. Friday - Partly cloudy with a high around 50. Saturday - Sunny skies with a high of 49.

## Prayer

O God, remind us that even though a situation may seem hopeless, you are the God of eternal possibilities. Amen.

## Old gas station gets a second chance



Kent Oil company built the Scheetz building and gas station south of it in the 1920s. The Scheetz building, located at 119 South First Street, was originally used to house carriages and horses for the customers of the Kent hotel.

-Telegram photo by Dana Paxton

By **DANA PAXTON**  
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The city of Norton has seen a lot of improvements over the last couple of years and it hasn't just been on State Street or Kansas Avenue, but work is also being done on South First Street.

Kent Oil company built the Scheetz building and gas station south of it in the 1920s. The Scheetz building was originally used to house carriages and horses for the customers of the Kent hotel. Later on, the building housed automobiles for the customers. The station was a 24/7 service center. The station closed its doors in 1971 and the Scheetz building closed nine years ago.

These are two very beautiful old

historic buildings in Norton and Mick Miller hated to see them continue to go down hill so in June of 2011 he purchased them from Dick and Warren Heaton with the dream of fixing them up.

To this point, the only work done on the Scheetz Building so far has been to the exterior. New awnings were purchased through Ash Enterprises out of Salina and hung on frames made by New Age Industrial. The original signs painted on the building were brought back to life by Norm of Norm's Signs. New concrete was poured in front of both buildings so that it is safer for people to walk on.

As for the station, that has been a complete makeover. Jacob Hickman repointed all the brick, JD Daffer re-

did all the windows and Overlease Construction tore the roof off, rebuilt it and did all the metal wrapping. Miller said, 'I did the inside work, I tear stuff up and get someone to build it back up.'

Miller hopes to have the station completed by the end of January so that his renter can get moved in. Vicki Bailey of Norton County Title will be located in the office part and half of the station. The rest of the station will house a 1927 sedan with a 50's theme and eventually a moving mannequin that looks as if he is working on the sedan. By spring, Miller hopes to have old gas pumps out front but they will only be used for decor, they will not be functioning gas pumps.

The plans for the Scheetz Building

include turning it into a housing unit for the collectible cars his family has. Miller wants his collection to grow.

Miller said, "I hated seeing the building sit there rotting away and I wanted to help make our city look better. It has been a long road but finally we are getting there." Mick's wife Collette said, "It's a Bill Sharp kind of thing, love of our town." Collette is Bill Sharp's daughter.

So next time you are in downtown Norton drive by and check out all the work that has been done. It's just another proud Norton resident taking pride in his community and willing to put in the time to make it better for us all. Thank you to the Miller family for your dedication to our town.

## City to look into resident's drainage issue

BY **MIKE STEPHENS**

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Norton resident Flint Griffin attended the Norton City Council meeting on Wednesday to discuss a drainage problem at his house at 609 N. Norton. Griffin said there is a large sink hole above one of the drainage tubes, and he has noticed another sink hole is developing. He said there is also massive erosion of his backyard. The council told Griffin that the City would look at the situation, and then have Griffin meet with the Public Works Committee on Jan. 20 at 5:30 p.m. to discuss the matter further.

City Clerk Darla Ellis reported that the filing deadline for anyone wanting to file for the city council seats up for election is Tuesday, Jan. 21 at noon. Council members seats that are up for election are Harriett Gill, Ward 1, Donna Foley, Ward 2, and Ron Briery, Ward 3. The general election will be

held on April 1, 2014.

The Norton City Police Department will be getting a new patrol car in the new year. The council approved the State of Kansas contract bid of \$25,753 through the State contract holder, Shawnee Mission Ford, for a 2014 Ford Utility Police Interceptor patrol vehicle, plus equipment at a total cost not to exceed \$30,000, which is the amount budgeted for the vehicle.

Chief of Police Pat Morel reported the video cameras at Norton Public Library have been installed and are working. Morel also distributed his year-end police department statistics sheet, and said it was a quiet New Year's Eve.

Harriett Gill reported on a special airport board meeting that was held Thursday, Dec. 23. Gill said Burns and McDonald was selected to do an independent cost analysis of the proposed runway. The independent cost analysis is required by the Federal Aviation Ad-

ministration as a check and balance to avoid cost overruns.

Jeff Urban reported that a resident informed him that there was a fresh deer head and deer hide dumped in the City's trash dumpsters. Urban suggested installing a camera to monitor the activity at the dumpsters.

In other council news:

-waived the formal third reading of Ordinance #1652.

-adopted Ordinance #1652, amending Chapter 12, Article 2 of the Code of the City of Norton, concerning grave openings, fees and scheduling of burials, within the City of Norton.

-suspended the three reading rule requirement for Ordinance #1653, by a 4-2 vote, with Briery and Gill voting no.

-waived the formal second and third readings of Ordinance #1653, by a 4-2 vote, with Briery and Gill voting no.

-adopted Ordinance #1653, amend-

ing Chapter 2, Article 2 of the City Code concerning dogs and cats running at-large within the City of Norton, by a 4-2 vote, with Briery and Gill voting no.

-adopted Resolution #1-2014, waiving the annual requirement of generally accepted accounting principles and fixed asset accounting for the calendar year ending Dec. 31, 2014.

-approved Grant Agreement #13-CR-005, between the State of Kansas Department of Commerce and the City of Norton, for the renovation of a commercial property owned by Mark C. Whitney, and located at 109 E. Main Street in Norton, by a 5-1 vote, with Jeff Urban voting no.

-approved Appropriating Ordinance #1 as a whole.

-approved the Dec. 18, 2013, council meeting minutes as written.

-no building permits were presented.

## Renovation housing project underway in Norton

A special renovation project is now underway at a residential location owned by Developmental Services of Northwest Kansas in Norton. Developmental Services is renovating a home located at 1113 Eisenhower, which will replace the home currently being utilized by the organization at 602 N. Grant Street. This replacement group home will provide a living environment for six individuals with intellectual disabilities.

The newly renovated home, which will be called "Our Place," will have six bedrooms on the main floor with a partially finished basement and will sit on a single lot. The accessible floor plan includes two baths, each with a roll-in shower, a large kitchen, living room, laundry room and medicine room. 'Our Place' will be fully accessible and include Fire/Life safety requirements built in the design.

In December, Norton community members gathered at Frontier Develop-

mental Center during a special Chamber After Hours to learn more about Our Place. Attendees had the opportunity to listen to a special presentation by Jerry Michaud, Developmental Services of Northwest Kansas President, and asked questions.

'Our Place', as with all Developmental Services group homes, will be a single family residential location and is designed to blend into the fabric of the neighborhood. The individuals that will reside at 'Our Place' will receive 24 hour visual supervision with awake overnight staff.

(Pictured right) Steve Nelson, general contractor for the project, talks with Developmental Services of Northwest Kansas President Jerry Michaud.

- Courtesy photo

