



It's a slow process, but that's the way Roger Fuller of Rawhide Iron Works bends iron or aluminum to create custom made, metal scenes and designs. Roger and his wife Linda strive to create exactly the style their client desires. — Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

Iron worker makes decorative pieces

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 tion to details, dimensions and finishing.
 The Fullers moved to Norton a little over four years ago from Steamboat Spring, Colo. Linda was a graphic artist and Roger worked construction.

He knew he wanted to be his own boss and welding was a skill he was good at and enjoyed. It was a logical blend of talents to begin a custom design business.

After Linda and the customer agree on the design, whether it is for a ranch entrance gate, interior railings for a custom home, a western motif floor lamp or side table for the den, she transfers the design to large sheets of brown paper.

This is the point where Roger takes over.
 He tacks the design to the wall of his neatly organized welding shop and begins to bend iron.
 It's a slow process.
 If he is working on a large piece, like a gate, he takes flat iron 1 1/4-inches wide and 3/16-inch thick, measures it to the right length and, using a bender begins to shape the

piece.
 He bends it a little, takes it to the drawing to match the arc or the flare. If it needs more, it's back to the bender.

Back and forth until the iron matches the drawing. Then he dons his welding mask and begins to put the pieces together.

When the piece is finished, he burnishes the welds to smooth them. The piece is then taken to New Age in Norton where it receives a powder coat in the color the customer has selected.

Powder coating is electrically charged particles sprayed onto the piece, then heated. The powder coating turns into a hard, durable finish.

For intricate work, like lettering, He uses a plasma cutter.

A fun item that Roger makes is a party barrel. This is usually a 50-gallon barrel to which he has added three sturdy metal legs. Then, using his plasma cutter he cuts designs, of his customer's choosing, into the sides.

When a fire is lit in the barrel, the design is illuminated by the flames

to make an industrial strength luminary.

A well-known piece of the Fullers' work is the Indian on horseback standing four miles east of Norton on the south side of U.S. 36 on Dean Esslinger's property.

Mr. Esslinger's family commissioned the piece as a Christmas present for him. The piece was pictured in the June 22 edition of *The Norton Telegram*.

Another piece by the Fullers that can be seen locally is the arched gateway to Spring Green and Valley Cemetery, northwest of Norton in the Sappa Creek Valley.

The entrance was dedicated in April of 2003 and a picture appeared in the April 16, 2003, edition of *The Norton Telegram*.

Rawhide Iron Works forms metal into scenes, designs and themes, all guaranteed to be unique and original. If you can imagine it, Roger and Linda Fuller can create it.

For more information call them at 785-877-3729 or check out their website at: www.rawhideiron.com

County fair just around the corner

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 Wednesday.
 The 4-H skill art and crafts will be entered and judged Tuesday from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

The Dog, Cat and Hand Pet show will be an early pre-fair activity on Monday, July 19.

On Saturday, July 24, the 4-H Fashion Revue will be at 7 p.m. and the Fun Day Horse Show at 9 a.m.

The 4-H Horse Show will begin at 9 a.m. Monday, July 26.

Pre-entries are requested for both of the horse shows and are due Thursday, July 22, in the Extension office.

The exotic animal educational exhibit and petting zoo is set for Wednesday, July 28. Pre-entries are requested by Thursday, July 22.

Look again this year for the special school children division. All youth up to 17 years of age can enter exhibits in foods, textiles and handicrafts, quilts, afghans, flowers, plants, collections, sewing, woodworking, photography, and gardening and models.

Other events include the 4-H Food Sale, Porkburger Special, Market Animal Sale, livestock shows, poultry and rabbit exhibits and shooting sports exhibition.

Those entering the open class

canned foods departments are reminded of the guidelines that jars may be opened during judging for jams, spreads, relishes and sauces. For these classes two jars are needed for the exhibit, so one can go to the state fair.

Special programs include a gospel concert featuring The Advocates on Tuesday sponsored by the Ministerial Alliance.

Wednesday evening will be the Jackpot Team Roping, Porkburger Special and a free watermelon feed, sponsored by Jam-boree Foods.

Thursday morning, the Norton Fair Association will hold the 4-H and FFA Challenge of Champions, which offers a \$250 scholarship award sponsored by Kowpoke Supply.

The Round Robin Champion Showmanship and 4-H and FFA Livestock Sale and the Ranch Rodeo will also be on Thursday.

Friday evening's schedule has the youth Pedal Power Pull sponsored by Phillips County Implement, mutton busting and Kid's Ranch Rodeo, sponsored by The Bank, Almena State Bank, United Northwest Federal Credit Union, First Security Bank and Trust, First State Bank and the Norton

fair board.

Also each night (Tuesday-Saturday) the Home-Owned Carnival will be in full swing from 6:30-11:30 p.m. with a special kiddy armband night (1 ticket rides) on Friday and regular arm band night on Saturday.

Some newer rides are available this year — a new kiddy Ferris Wheel and Tubs of Fun. There is also a new kiddy animal character ride and a shuttle tram to offer rides to and from the parking areas.

The carnival rides and games are all a volunteer service and anyone wishing to offer assistance may contact a member of the Norton County Community Service Association.

The fair offers something for everyone. Check out the possibilities and guidelines for each department and plan to participate.

The 2004 Fair Board President is Becky Delimont, Vice President is Spencer Braun, Secretary is Julie Thompson and Treasurer is Kathy Holste. The officers of the Norton County Community Service Association are: President Mick Miller, Vice-President Curtis Eveleigh, Secretary Deanna Nelson and Treasurer Deb Eveleigh.

Clerk plans to serve for four more years

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 to make daily operations easier, going from paper to computers and making accounting, financial records and county dates easier to access.

Mr. Wyatt said he ran for office eight years ago because he was approached by county residents, who asked him to get involved.

He's running this year because he still has a strong interest in county government and in politics.

"I feel that since I've been in office I've made a difference," he said. "I enjoy my job and enjoy working with the people."

He said the clerk's office has tried hard to keep the public informed about what is going on in the county and he encourages county residents to question him at

any time about county government.

"I love it when people call me to find out the truth about something, rather than wondering if something they've heard is true or not," he said.

He said the most challenging thing ahead for the county clerk will be handling the new election laws. He said there are going to be a lot of tough changes for everyone, including the voters.

Mr. Wyatt lives in Norton County with his wife of 24 years. He is a member of the Church of God and the Kansas Clerks Association. He has two children and no grandchildren. In his spare time, he auctions real estate and does bank appraisals.
 Mr. Wyatt's name will be the

only one on ballot in the primary election on Tuesday, Aug. 3 and probably in the general election on Tuesday, Nov. 2.

Deadline coming for students

The deadline for students who live in Norcaturn but attend school in Norton to turn in out-of-district transportation busing applications to the Oberlin School District Office is Thursday, July 15.

The application must be filed in order for Norton buses to be able to pick up students in Norcaturn. All students are required to renew applications annually.

Applications may be picked up at either school district office.

Legislation allows county to charge for civil process forms

Norton County will be charging for the sheriff's office to deliver civil forms, such as divorce papers, small claims and limited action suits and seeing if it can collect money for expenses incurred while holding prisoners in jail.

Norton County Sheriff Troy Thomson said starting yesterday, a \$5 fee will be billed to the plaintiff for each address the civil forms are delivered to.

"This wasn't something we were going to jump into," he said. "It just passed in the legislature and is still relatively new."

Sheriff Thomson said he talked to Sedgwick County Sheriff Gary Steed. Sheriff Steed was one of the originator's of House Bill 2293. The bill covered the \$5 fee, as well as other fees sheriff's offices are

allowed to charge. He said the \$5 civil process fee was the only one Norton County was charging at the moment to deliver civil forms.

The charge for delivering civil work will cover papers coming from civil, district and federal courts, he said. The court clerk will collect the fee and then the money will go into the county's general fund.

All of the money collected this way will stay in the county, Sheriff Thomson said.

Two other things the county is looking at is recovering the cost of medical bills on inmates who are in the Norton County jail and recovering jail fees after a person is convicted.

More information is being gathered on how well recovering these

charges works in other counties, said Sheriff Thomson.

If either is done, then the county will have to decide how to bill them, how to collect and who will collect, he said.

With the medical charges, he said the county will initially pay the bills and then collect payment from the inmate if possible.

There are three ways other counties are dealing with the medical bills, Sheriff Thomson said — getting the owed money from the inmate's tax returns, taking them to court, or just not going after it.

Sheriff Thomson said whatever is done, it will be another book-keeping item for the sheriff's department.

"We just have to see if they are worth it," he said.

County checks out spray-on cover for landfill

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 ers all over the country, but Clay Center was the closest.

He said there is an applicator that can be bought to apply the cover. Clay Center built their own. "I thought I would take off a day and watch them do this," he said. "That way we can see what all is involved."

He said the only time you can't apply it is when it's raining as it won't solidify. Also, it needs to be kept warm when it's cold, but the applicator has a heater.

Mr. Kruse and Mr. Lang told Mr. Archibald to drive to Clay Center to see if Topcoat would be any good.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Talked with Gina Frack, Norton County Health Department director over the phone.
 - Approved the monthly vouchers and payroll.
 - Heard from County Treasurer Cindy Linner that the May sales tax receipts collected were \$20,837.78, making the year-to-date total \$135,822.70.
- Mrs. Linner said she would be taking a two-week vacation start-

ing Monday, but would be checking in periodically.

• Met with Norton County Sheriff Troy Thomson.

Sheriff Thomson said the county will now be charging \$5 per address to serve civil process forms. It will be collected by the court clerk's office and the money will go into the general fund. He said the sheriff's office serves 150 to 175 civil processes a month.

There won't be a charge for criminal papers.

• Spoke with John McClymont, attorney, and Allan Miller of Prairieland Electric. Mr. McClymont and Mr. Miller were in to discuss plans for future construction. They showed the commissioners a possible layout and said they would set up a meeting to talk about it more in a couple of weeks.

Register runs for re-election

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 tion in 1996.

She attended Fort Hays State majoring in business and after college took time off to stay home with her children before taking the deputy position.

She is the Northwest Kansas district president of the Kansas Register of Deeds Association.

Mrs. Vincent is married to Mike Vincent and they have two children: Tabitha, a high school fresh-

man and Heath, a high school junior.

She enjoys singing in the choir at the Church of God and is also a substitute Sunday school teacher.

When she isn't working she likes to read and also enjoys keeping up with her children and their school activities.

Mrs. Vincent is running unopposed in the primary election on Tuesday, Aug. 3 and in the general election on Tuesday, Nov. 2.

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