



Plans for the downtown park include trees, pergolas, tables and benches, and brick paths.

Restoration committee gets closer to park

By VERONICA MONIER
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With every passing day, the Norton Downtown Restoration Committee gets closer to its dreamed-of park.

Gloria Nelson, committee chairwoman, said the city has finished putting the dirt in and the stones, which will be the focus point of the park, have been delivered.

The stones, which are white hard sandstone and came from the rock quarry south of Speed, will be set up on their ends and placed

in the middle of the park. S&R Ready Mix will be setting the stones in concrete to hold them. The city, she said, will probably be digging the hole and making braces so they stay up while the concrete is drying.

The park plans also include trees, both imperial locusts and a whoopsie blue spruce.

Hopefully, she said, the trees will be planted in about a week. After that, the city will install a watering system and an electrical system for lights.

Rawhide Ironworks is making

two pergolas for the park. Norton Correctional Facility inmates will be laying brick paths this winter.

She said there will be tables and chairs, which the committee has already bought, under the pergolas.

In the spring, they will be planting grass and flowers.

Mrs. Nelson said the committee wants to have a water fountain in the center of the park, but the fountain they wanted was too expensive. At this point, they will be using the stones as the focal point, but are still looking for a

fountain.

"We're looking for the right one," she said. "One that is safe and in our price range."

Mrs. Nelson said they have about a third of the money needed for the project and are still needing donations.

"We're very excited," she said. "It's fun to see this happen. We've been planning it all summer."

Donations can be made to the Norton Community Foundation, which is listed at www.discover-norton.com.

Council agrees to downtown speakers

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Councilwoman Elaine Mann asked if this would be coming out of the grant money or the city's general fund.

Mr. Briery said it would come from city money, not the grant money. He said the speakers would be a test to see if the idea works. If it does, more speakers could possibly be installed in other areas of downtown.

The council passed a motion to spend \$150 on outdoor speakers out of the general fund.

In other business, the council:

- Waived the formal third reading of Ordinance 1556, granting a contract franchise to Southwestern Bell Telephone Company in a telecommunications local exchange service within the city. The council then adopted the ordinance.
- Waived the formal third reading of Ordinance 1567, vacating a section of Manor Drive in Westridge Acres. The council adopted the ordinance.
- Waived the formal second reading of Ordinance 1570, authorizing the operation of work-site utility vehicles and all-terrain vehicles on city streets.
- Heard from Mayor David Corns that in September, the city sales tax receipts were \$19,556.69 and the county sales tax receipts were \$15,729.38 for a total of \$35,286.07, making the year-to-date total \$353,242.66, which compared to last year's total at this

time of \$327,134.14.

- Learned that Kayla Tacha's term on the library board expires on Nov. 30. Two people have submitted their names for the appointment so far, said Mr. Corns. Also, he said, Kay LeBeau will be retiring in September of 2008. The library is asking for \$5,000 from the city to help pay for her replacement's training, since the budget has already been turned in for next year. The library board will also pay \$5,000.
- Heard from City Attorney Karen Griffiths that the easements for the residents between Lincoln and Main streets have been prepared. The easements will give the city the sewer line, so that the city can maintain it, rather than the property owners. She said two of the residents have signed the easement papers and returned them so far.
- Learned that the property clean-up projects for the Horney, Northern and Hazlett properties will begin soon. Also, Mr. Lawson said city crews will be putting up Christmas lights in the near future, with the exception of the Seasons Greetings banners at the north and south edges of town. He said they are expecting another transformer to come through town and the banners will be put up after that.
- Learned that the city received a letter of resignation from Police Chief Bobby Annon, effective Nov. 16.
- Approved the Immanuel Lu-

theran Church's request to tie on to the city's 8 inch water line for water services outside the city limits.

- Set the Parks Committee meeting for 5 p.m. on Nov. 19 and the Public Safety Committee meeting for 5:30 p.m. on Nov. 19.
- Asked Mr. Lawson to send a letter to Larry Patterson, asking why the port-a-potties in Elmwood Park haven't been cleaned yet.
- Agreed to put up the backstop and fence around Jaycee Field and to do the concrete work for the dugouts as soon as possible. The Norton Recreation Commission asked the city to do these things so that the project can be finished. The commission said it will be taking legal action against the contractor, who was supposed to do it.
- Appointed Floyd J. Maulding, Jr., as a member of the Norton City Fire Department, which brings the department's number up to 20 volunteers. The department is allowed a total of 25 volunteers.
- Watched Mr. Corns sign a proclamation declaring Thursday, Nov. 29 as "Buy Local Day". Economic Development Director Diane Becker said she was asking all of the cities and the county commission to sign the proclamation in support of local businesses. She said the Almena, Clayton and Edmond councils had already signed and she was planning to see the Lenora council at its next meeting.

Christmas give away begins today in Norton

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Etc., Kellie's Alltel, Felton's Ace Hardware, Norton T-Shirt Company, First State Bank, Ag Valley Co-op, and Ruraltel/Nex-Tech.

When you make a purchase you will receive one ticket for every \$10 you spend. If you buy \$50 worth of merchandise, you receive five tickets. If you spend \$1,000 on merchandise or services, you get 100 tickets. And even if you don't buy anything at all, you may still pick up one ticket per week at *The Norton Telegram* office at 215 S. Kansas Ave.

Ten instant winners will receive \$50 gift certificates during the four-week promotion. Tickets will be collected from participating sponsors each week and from

those tickets, numbers will be chosen for the \$50 instant winners.

Ticket numbers will appear in ads in *The Telegram* running on Friday, Nov. 23, Nov. 30, Dec. 7 and Dec. 14. Instant winners will have until 5 p.m. Thursday of the following week to claim their prize by presenting the winning tickets at *The Norton Telegram* office.

All prizes are paid in scrip spendable at participating merchants only.

The last day to collect tickets is Dec. 14. On Wednesday, Dec. 19 the grand prize drawing for \$1,200 will be held. The winning ticket must be presented at the drawing to claim the prize at the time of the drawing.

Lodge is a hunter's dream place to stay

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Stepping into the great room, you know you're in "man country". Everything is camouflage. From the custom coverings on the two sofas and two recliners to the blades on the ceiling fan. It's all camo. Even the cordless telephone is camo. Which, by the way, makes the sound of a bugling elk when it rings.

Trophy deer and turkey line the walls of the comfortable room that is warmed by a wood burning stove. Light fixtures and other decor pieces are made of deer antlers. What looks like a bear skin hangs on the wall of the dining area. The open kitchen features granite countertops with top-of-the-line stainless steel appliances and tile

floor.

Mr. Manuppella made all the furniture in the bedrooms from rough-hewn logs in true hunting lodge style. He has named his retreat Long Branch Lodge.

Mr. Manuppella, his wife and young children enjoy vacationing at the lodge, but most of the year, the lodge is leased out to Mark Beam of Stillwater Outfitters, Brighton, Colo. Mr. Beam hosts up to seven hunters throughout the hunting season. Tyson Garrison, Oberlin, works for Stillwater as a hunting guide during the peak seasons. Hunters come from all across the United States to hunt turkey, deer and pheasant.

Long Branch Lodge is a true hunter's paradise.

Area guard prepares for deployment

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ing priod, Reasoner said. If the training is properly documented and attended, the unit is validated for deployment overseas.

The 170th comprises about 120 men and women under the command of 1st Lt. Wesley O. Topple. The unit, which has armories in Goodland, Colby,

Russell and headquarters in Norton, last went to the Middle East during the first Gulf War.

The western Kansas soldiers trained Tuesday through Thursday, Oct. 16-18, at Fort Riley. Battalion, brigade and state headquarters staff kept a close eye on the soldiers' progress, Reasoner said.

The week included a briefing on Standard Rules of Engagement by the state Judge Advocate General's office, the Army Physical Fitness test, maintenance on major weapons, suicide awareness and prevention and General Orders 1 and 1B of the 1st Infantry Division, among other topics.

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Hays Medical Center welcomes Dr. Robert L. Rosin, MD, Hospitalist, to the medical staff. Dr. Rosin graduated from the University of Kansas School of Medicine and did his residency in Internal Medicine at the University of Kansas School of Medicine – Wichita.

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