

Dust

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closed,” Thomson said. No local accidents occurred in the Norton County area due to the winds reported.

Traffic was backed up for several miles, and the Department of Transportation shut down U.S. 83 from the Nine Mile Junction to K-383 and K-23 just east of Selden at 2:50 p.m.. The closure was extended to Oberlin at 3:45 p.m.

The second accident happened when Gary Allen Godeill, 50, of New Haven, Conn., who was driving another semi-trailer rig toward Rexford, stopped almost a half a mile away from the pileup. The patrol reported that Wayne Haberstock, 69, of Alberta, Canada, hit his rig from behind. Godeill was OK, but Haberstock had to be taken to Hays Medical Center.

One fire official said the twisted pile of metal and plastic, with fire burning in the center, was the worst he’d seen in 30 years of rescue work.

County Attorney Steve Hirsch, training officer for the Sheridan County fire departments and the Thomas County department in Rexford, said it was frightening watching the fire rigs disappear into the wind-whipped dust clouds. Fire fighters had to get off the road and drive in the barrow ditch part of the way, he said, not knowing what might be coming at them.

“I couldn’t have been prouder of my people,” he said. “They went into it not knowing what to expect, and at some danger to themselves. They performed admirably.”

Fire crews from Rexford, Selden and Menlo responded to the initial call, and were joined by a rescue crew from Colby. Ambulances came from Selden, Rexford and Colby.

Other accidents were reported across northwest Kansas as blowing dust reduced visibility.

By 5:15 p.m., all had reopened except U.S. 83 between U.S. 24 and Selden, which stayed closed as crews worked to untangle the mess and haul off the burned and battered vehicles. The road finally reopened about 10:45 p.m. By morning, several trailers remained, along with spoiled grain which was being salvaged for feed.

The first accident was reported on U.S. 36, shortly before that highway was shut down. An empty cattle truck rolled over about eight miles west of St. Francis. The Cheyenne County sheriff’s office first reported the rollover at 1:31 p.m. The truck was partially blocking the road until it was removed by 3:51.

At 1:50 p.m., U.S. 36 was shut down from Atwood to the Colorado state line and K-27 from U.S. 36 to Goodland. The transportation department cited high winds and poor visibility as the reason.

Another truck blew over in the wind at mile marker 22 on I-70, just east of Goodland. A Sherman County sheriff’s deputy pulled the truck driver, who was not hurt, out of the cab.

A UPS truck caught fire along the Sherman-Cheyenne County line after tumbleweeds got stuck underneath it. The fire spread to both sides of County Road 80,

burning the truck to the ground and scorching 200 to 300 acres of pasture.

I-70 from Colby to Burlington was closed at 2:50 p.m. One motorist ran around the barricades closing off the freeway about 4:40 p.m. He got a ticket and an escort back to Goodland. Officers reported trucks were still coming south from Nebraska shortly after 3 p.m., and the K-27 closure was extended from St. Francis to the state line at 3:30. These roads were among those opened at 5:15.

Brian James, Sherman County fire chief, said fire fighters slowed down to 10 or 15 mph as they looked for one wreck, because the dust cut visibility down to the point that they couldn’t see the front of their vehicle.

Shortly before the wrecks began, Thomas County road and bridge Supervisor Clair Schrock called his crews in from the county because of the wind. Many went back out to man barricades.

Ambulances, fire rigs and patrol cars had to be cleaned as heaps of dust sifted inside the vehicles. Fire fighters hosing down the blaze were caked with mud as mist and dust mixed and settled on their bunker gear and faces.

Dave Floyd, warning coordination meteorologist with the National Weather Service, said strong winds 5,000 to 10,000 feet above ground mixed down toward the ground when temperatures climbed into the 40s around noon. The winds subsided around 4 p.m. when the temperature got cooler and cloud

When you wish upon a star...



The Norton High School Jay Singers presented “Classic Disney” at the 2014 Java Jive performance on Sunday night. Songs from popular Disney movies were presented to a large audience, everything from “Whistle While You Work” to “I Just Want To Be King”. Seen here, are Landon Slipke and Lauren Mordecai playing and singing “Beauty and the Beast”.
– Telegram photo

cover increased.

Floyd said that earlier in the week, forecasters had predicted the wind. Using computer models, they looked at what the weather might look like higher in the atmosphere and were able to have some idea what this area would see. A High Wind Watch was issued Tuesday, he said.

On Thursday, High Wind and Red Flag warnings went out, meaning that dry conditions and wind would increase fire danger. The service recorded sustained winds of around 45 mph, gusting to 60, in McCook just before

1 p.m, the highest of the day.

Saturday was yet another windy day for the area, with sustained winds around 40 mph and gusts to about 60. No incidents were reported on Saturday.

Norton

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electric distribution department purchasing the materials needed and installing the disconnect.

In other council news:
-adopted Resolution 2-2014, a resolution of support and administration, declaring the eligibility of the City of Norton to submit an application to the Kansas Department of Transportation for use of transportation alternatives funds set forth by the Federal Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act for the Norton Downtown Streetscape project in the City of Norton and authorizing the acting Norton City Administrator to sign the application, all within the City of Norton, Norton County, Kansas.
-approved the purchase of an in-car camera for the new patrol unit, at a cost not to exceed \$4,000.
-approved the following requests for events to be held in Elmwood Park: Jerry Bantam’s request to have vintage car races on Aug. 30-31; Valley Hope’s request to have a Color Run on June 14; N.E.P.R.A.’s 2014 race schedule, including the dates of

April 4-5, May 10, May 31, June 14, July 26, Aug. 16 and Sept. 13; Jamie Amlong’s request to have a Demolition Derby on June 7; Don Mordecai’s request to have a winter disc golf event on Feb. 8 and the annual disc golf tournament on Aug. 3; and John Carlin’s request to have the 5th Annual Smoking in the Barn Barbecue Contest on Aug. 22-23.

-offered the Pool Manager position to Jill Lively and the Assistant Pool Manager position to Erin Terrell.

-City Attorney Karen Griffiths stated the Board of Zoning Appeals met and heard two different cases that wanted a waiver of their setback requirements. DSNWK requested a waiver at 1113 Eisenhower Drive for a large front porch; there was opposition from the neighbors. The request was denied because it did not meet the specific requirements of the code. DSNWK was told they can build a porch but they can’t put a cover over it. They Wyatt Family Trust requested a waiver at 807 Middle Street for a small porch on the front of their house. Because of the size of the lot, the

fact they are on a dead-end street and there were no objections from any neighbors, their request was approved.

-Harriett Gill reported the Airport Board met and received the results of the Burns and McDonald independent cost analysis, which was higher than what Bench had proposed. A master agreement and taxiway scope fee agreement was approved. Norton County is going to remove some trees in the draw to eliminate a runway obstruction.

-Donna Foley reported the Norton Travel and Tourism met and reviewed the 2013 budget and made suggestions for the 2014 budget. They worked on goals for the new year, and also reviewed and approved two grant requests.

Roberta Ryan reported the Chamber of Commerce met and reviewed the success of the Christmas events and promotions. They also elected officers. The annual Chamber of Commerce banquet will be March 11 at the American Legion, and Miss Kansas will be the guest speaker.

-Scott Sproul reported that Norton County Community

Foundation is having structural repairs made to the building at 102 W. Washington, where the corner was moving out from the foundation.

-approved Appropriating Ordinance #2 as a whole.

-approved the Jan. 2, 2014, council meeting minutes as written.

The following building permits were presented:

Cindy Kindall - \$150, replace deck at 605 W. Washington
Brenda Sanders - \$2,500, re-roofing at 314 N. Jones

Norton County Community Foundation - \$45,000, rebuilding east and south walls on structure at 102 W. Washington St.

City of Norton - replace roofs damaged by hail at various city building locations.

Pilot

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nent.

The board was also told by Mr. Sproul that a public meeting on housing in Almena brought out about 20 people.

The town is trying to demolish or rehab old, abandoned and/or dilapidated houses, he said. Putting up duplexes seemed to be more popular than apartments, but no decision has been made.

“They’re ready to move forward rather than be reactive,” Mr. Sproul said of the Almena community.

The Network Kansas Partnership, which sold tax credits, has collected over \$22,000, Mr. Sproul said. This money could go for training or be used for loans to business people who might not qualify for a regular bank loan.

“It’s very flexible,” Mr. Sproul said of such loans. “We’ve had a wide variety of businesses taking advantage of it.”

In other business, the board:

- Will talk about Norton County Day at the legislature during the next meeting. This is when residents go to Topeka and talk

to legislators about how important U.S. 36, the Kansas Department of Transportation, the prison and housing is to the area.

- Decided to tentatively change the March meeting from the second Tuesday of the month to the third, March 18, so as not to conflict with the annual chamber of commerce banquet.

- Were told that the bowling alley project is moving along, not as fast as had been hoped,

but its moving. Equipment, which is new but not brand new, has been secured, he said, and several locations are being considered.

- The 2014 business directory is ready to be published. There will be 460 copies available and they will be distributed around town with some available at the office. The directory is also available on line.

•PUBLIC NOTICE•

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NORTON COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Published in The Norton Telegram on Tuesday, January 14 and Tuesday, January 21, 2014

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NORTON COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

To all qualified electors residing within the boundaries of Norton County Conservation District, notice is hereby given that pursuant to K.S.A. 2-1907, as amended, on the 25th day of January, 2014, at 6:30 p.m., an annual meeting of the Norton County Conservation District will be held at the Norton American Legion.

The meeting agenda shall include the following business items:

ONE: The supervisors of the Norton

County Conservation District shall make full and due report of their activities and financial affairs since the last annual meeting.

TWO: They shall conduct an election by secret ballot of qualified electors there present, of two supervisors to serve for a term of three years from date of said meeting.

The terms of Chris Harting and Michael David are expiring. All in the County of Norton in the State of Kansas.

Greg Otter
Chairperson, Norton County
Conservation District

Attest
Twila Dizmang, Manager/Secretary

"Numbers Game"

Across

- 1 Mascara target
- 5 Toronto ___ Leafs
- 10 Syllables from Santa
- 14 Swedish furniture store
- 15 Atlantic or Pacific
- 16 Each, casually
- 17 When most 6-Downs happen
- 19 Sister of Bart Simpson
- 20 Prefix with athlete
- 21 "___ la vista, baby"
- 22 Strong metal
- 23 African vacation
- 25 Not he
- 26 Middle of a hockey game
- 33 "Nonsense!"
- 36 Shriver or Sharapova
- 37 ___ sauce (used in Chinese cooking)
- 38 Hit the mall
- 39 Matt of movies
- 40 Puzzle with a start and a finish
- 41 Tree gunk
- 42 Leonard or Sasha
- 43 Did some stitching
- 44 He guards against doubles down the line
- 47 Tiny
- 48 Blows, like a volcano
- 52 Coffee that won't keep you up
- 55 African nation whose capital is Accra
- 58 Fish eggs
- 59 Country bordering Iraq
- 60 Time to punt or kick a field goal
- 62 Care one way or the other
- 63 Not on shore
- 64 Iowa city

- 65 ___ precedent
- 66 Taj ___
- 67 Pineapple company

Down

- 1 Raises up
- 2 "Rashomon" director Kurosawa
- 3 Typographical flourish
- 4 Possesses
- 5 Artwork with tiles
- 6 Untouched blasts, in tennis
- 7 ___ Plus (shampoo brand)
- 8 Mauna Loa outpouring
- 9 Compass dir.
- 10 Animal controller
- 11 Mayberry kid
- 12 Garden squirter
- 13 October birthstone
- 22 Former stadium for the Mets
- 24 Quickly
- 25 Go around and around
- 27 Largest city in Nebraska
- 28 John, Jane, Steve, Alice, etc.
- 29 Unmanned aircraft
- 30 "___ Mommy Kissing Santa Claus"
- 31 Seep
- 32 Turned hair a different color
- 33 "Hey you!"
- 34 Former Iranian leader
- 35 Southwest Indian tribe
- 39 "___ quiet!" ("Stop talking!")
- 40 What a waiter hands you
- 42 B-G connectors

- 43 Politician Palin
- 45 "Hotel ___"
- 46 Not physical
- 49 Quick TV spot
- 50 Item needed after a shower
- 51 Get the feeling
- 52 Lowers, as lights
- 53 One of the Great Lakes
- 54 Lacks the power
- 55 "I've ___ bad feeling about this..."
- 56 "Silence!"
- 57 Section
- 60 Relatives, casually
- 61 Papa

