

KDOT plows miles of snow

Kansas Department of Transportation snow crews plowed and treated 565,000 lane miles of highway during last week's snow storm at a cost of nearly \$3 million.

Department of Transportation drivers operated 591 trucks around the clock in 12-hour shifts to treat and clear roads of snow and ice in every region of the state. About 1,100 snow plow operators logged more than 37,000 hours from Feb. 3-6.

The snow amounts, wind and frigid temperatures made this a dangerous storm for our crews.

I can't thank them enough for their hard work and dedication in keeping the roads safe for travel," said Transportation Secretary Mike King.

"I also want to thank the many others at KDOT who supported the storm efforts, including mechanics, office staff and those who helped keep travelers informed of road conditions," he said.

Winter Storm Nika by the numbers:

591 - Dump trucks
565,000 - Miles treated/plowed
37,000 - Labor hours

8,600 - Tons of salt
1,300 - Tons of sand
19,500 - Tons of salt/sand mix
345,000 - Gallons of brine
2,000 - Gallons of magnesium chloride
500 - KDOT postings to Twitter and Facebook
8,200 - Calls to 511 travel information phone line
117,000/895,000 - Visits to and page views on KanDrive travel information website
\$3 million - Cost of storm - about **\$ 1.15** per registered vehicle.

No winner here...



At 3:06 a.m. Monday morning, Timm Justin of Atwood was traveling east on Highway 36 one half of a mile east of Norton when his 1978 Dodge Powerwagon struck a cow crossing at the edge of a bridge. The accident killed the cow and incapacitated the truck. No evidence of impairment was found and no injuries to the driver were reported.

- Telegram photo by Dana Paxton

Amber alert available on Twitter

Kansans can now look out for missing children by receiving Amber Alerts on Twitter, Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt said recently.

"When a child is missing, the public's assistance is crucial to returning the child safely," Schmidt said. "Social media provides us a new way to get information out quickly to the public in the event of an Amber Alert."

A new Twitter account, @AMBERAlert, was launched this week in conjunction with National Amber Alert Awareness Day. The account, managed by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, will provide information on all Amber Alerts issued nationwide.

The Kansas Amber Alert system is coordinated by the Kan-

sas Attorney General's Office and Kansas Bureau of Investigation. When an alert is issued, the media are notified to begin broadcasting the details of the missing child and suspect. Kansans can also receive Amber Alerts on Facebook by liking the Kansas Amber Alert page at www.facebook.com/AmberAlertKS.

The Amber Alert program, named for 9-year-old Amber Hagerman, is a voluntary partnership between law enforcement agencies, broadcasters, and transportation agencies to activate an urgent bulletin in the most serious child-abduction cases. Broadcasters use the Emergency Alert System (EAS) to air a description of the abducted child and suspected abductor. The goal of an Amber

Alert is to instantly galvanize the entire community to assist in the search for and safe recovery of the child.

Since its inception in 1996, this program has successfully brought 679 children home safely. In Kansas, 23 children have been safely returned since 2002.

In addition to the Amber Alert program, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children maintains a list of all missing children from Kansas. That database can be accessed at www.missingkids.com. Anyone with information about the whereabouts of any of these missing persons should contact a law enforcement agency or call 1-800-KS-CRIME.

For more information, visit www.ag.ks.gov/amber-alert.

Cattle inventory down one percent

All cattle and calves in Kansas as of Jan. 1, 2014 totaled 5.80 million head, down one percent from Jan. 1, 2013, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service.

All cows and heifers that had calved totaled 1.55 million head, up six percent from last year.

Beef cows totaled 1.41 million head, up six percent from last year.

Milk cows totaled 136,000

head, up three percent from Jan. 1, 2013.

All heifers 500 pounds and over totaled 1.74 million head, up two percent from last year.

Steers weighing 500 pounds and over totaled 1.77 million head, down 10 percent from last year.

Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over totaled 90,000 head, up six percent from last year.

Calves under 500 pounds totaled 650,000 head, up two per-

cent from Jan. 1, 2013

All cattle on feed fed for slaughter in Kansas feedlots totaled 2.13 million head, down five percent from the previous years.

The 2013 calf crop totaled 1.28 million head, up two percent from 2012.

Find agricultural statistics for your county, state, and the nation at www.nass.usda.gov.

Sweethearts

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now suffers from Alzheimer's and Wilmer stands by her side full of love and takes care of her. He said, "Alzheimer's has taken my wife away from me but she is my jewel and it is a privilege to take care of her. She is such a wonderful person that always sacrificed herself for others. She was a great mom, wife and grandmother."

The couple had three boys and one daughter. They now have added to that, three grand daughters, three grandsons, two great-grand daughters and four great-grandsons. The couple will celebrate 65 years of marriage this May. They traveled

over Nebraska, Kansas and Colorado preaching the word of God and Wilmer still does today. They are God fearing, very loving people that should be celebrated.

This year's sponsors for the contest went above and beyond with their donations and the Telegram and the Severns want to thank them for all the wonderful gifts offered. This year's sponsors included: Pfonz Grill, Garden Gate Florals, Kowpoke Supply, Fit To Go, Studio One 11, Downtown Carwash, Las Canteras, Bodyworx, Town and Country Kitchen, Sander Furniture, the Norton Theatre, Russ' Jewelry and Repair, The Razor's Edge and the Norton Telegram.

Funds

(Continued From Page 1)

asked if the money could be used for a senior citizen bus.

"That would be completely acceptable under this program if that's where you choose to use your money," Mr. Seitz said. "We're real flexible as long as it's transportation."

Mr. El-Aasar said that federal programs don't help pay for steel bridges but that the county could use this money to replace some.

"It allows you to stretch your dollars more," he noted.

The program is a reimbursement, the state people said. You have to pay for the work upfront and then the state will give you your money back.

Ms. Clark passed out a handbook of local programs available through the Department of Transportation.

She said that Norton County would be eligible and should be interested in several of the 21 programs listed including the Highway Safety Improvement Program, the 402 Safety Program and the Off System Bridge program as well as the Federal Fund Exchange.

Mr. Seitz said that the state is really targeting safety and getting as many roads fixed for as low a cost as possible - lots of roads and not too many dollars.

you pretty much just have to apply, Mr. Seitz said. The money can be used for safety-related items such as traffic studies and training.

The Off System Bridge Program is very competitive, he said. Last year the state had 68 applications and was able to do 17 of them.

"We try to do the worst bridges first," he said adding that the department also tries to spread the money around so that one county doesn't get everything. Truss bridges in bad shape float to the top of the list, he said.

If the county applied for help under the Off System Bridges program, he said, it would not affect the \$72,000 from the Federal Fund Exchange program.

Ms. Clark noted that since 1980, Norton County has gotten almost \$3 million from the federal government for transportation projects, mostly for bridges.

"This is just a way to make you aware of some of the programs so you'll have an opportunity to apply," Mr. Seitz said.

He noted that there are 25,000 20-foot or greater bridges in the state. Some 5,000 of those are on state highways but the rest are on county and local roads.

County Clerk Robert Wyatt said that Norton County has 250 bridges that are on its inspection sheet.

Auction For: United Northwest Federal Credit Union

Real Estate Auction

Storm Date, Tues., March 4 Auction Time: 5:30 p.m.

Auction Location: 512 North Jones Avenue, Norton, Kansas

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Home consist of 1,004 square feet of living space, has a main floor living room, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, kitchen and utility room on back porch. Home has central heat and central air. Detached 32' x 24' garage.



512 NORTH JONES AVENUE, NORTON, KANSAS

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Lot Two (2) and a strip of land 10 feet wide and running the full length of the North side of Lot Three (3) in Block One (1) of Ira Wright's Addition to the City of Norton, Norton County, Kansas.

TAXES: 2013 Taxes were \$371.16. Taxes will be prorated to the date of closing.

TERMS: \$1,500.00 down payment day of auction. Balance to be paid upon proof of merchantable title with title insurance and delivery of a General Warranty Deed to the Buyer. Final payment due on or before March 21st, 2014. Title insurance cost will be shared 50% by the Seller and 50% by the Buyer.

POSSESSION: Date of Closing.

AGENCY DISCLOSURE: Weiser Realty and its agents are representing the Seller only and will not be considered agents for the Buyer. Bidders are urged to inspect the real estate and obtain any additional information they deem necessary before purchasing the real estate. The buyer takes the real estate in its present condition "AS IS", Where Is" subject only to the facts of record and without any EPA, mechanical, plumbing or termite inspections. Announcements made day of auction shall take precedence over printed material.

AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: Smaller home in a good location, close to schools. This home would be a good starter home or one to add to your rental inventory. Needs some TLC, has potential for the handyman.

Call Weiser Realty for a viewing appointment.

Auction For: United Northwest Federal Credit Union

Auction Conducted by:

Weiser Realty, Jolene Weiser Broker

Robert D. Wyatt, Auctioneer


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