

Sheriff candidates prepare to make a stand

Incumbent strives to protect, defend Norton County people

Troy Thomson is running for his second term as Norton County sheriff.

Mr. Thomson was first appointed as sheriff in 1999 when nominated by the Central Republican Committee after the previous sheriff left due to medical reasons.

He said he accepted the nomination because he loved the job and was undersheriff at the time.

Mr. Thomson then ran in 2000 and was elected to the position. He's running this term because he still loves the job.

"Even with all the negative stuff that comes with the job," he said, "the positive far outweighs it. When you're able to help somebody you get a really good feeling."

Mr. Thomson said, if elected again, he plans to continue what the sheriff's office has always done — protect and serve.

He said serving is the Norton

County Sheriff's office's big thing.

"We try and help out in the community whenever we can and not just show up somewhere when we're called," he said.

Some of the things the sheriff's office does are giving rides to doctors and emergency service workers during winter storms, having educational programs for the public like meth forums and Identikid, and putting together booths at post prom and the county fair.

He said he is going to continue to keep the department under budget and wants to take a grant writing course, so that he can help supplement the budget.

Mr. Thomson was born and raised in Norton; his family has belonged to the community for several generations. He has been married for 14 years and has three children.

He is the chairman of the Norton



Troy Thomson

County Council on Alcohol and/or Drugs, governor of the fourth district Kansas Peace Officers Association, and a committeeman on the John Foster Scholarship Committee.

Mr. Thomson will face Travis Smith in the primary election on Tuesday, Aug. 3. The winner of that race probably will run unopposed in the general election on Tuesday, Nov. 2.

Challenger looks to help kids, set up neighborhood watch

Travis L. Smith is running for Norton County Sheriff.

Mr. Smith will challenge incumbent Troy M. Thomson in the Aug. 3 Republican primary.

Mr. Smith, who works for the Kansas Department of Transportation, has served as deputy sheriff, worked for the Norton Police Department and Norton Wildlife and Parks.

He is also a member of the rural fire department.

Mr. Smith said he enjoyed his work in the sheriff's office and wanted to run for the top job to support his community.

He said he has a special interest

in helping children.

"I want to work with the kids in our community and set-up school drug and alcohol programs," he said.

Mr. Smith said he was also interested in community involvement and setting up neighborhood watch programs.

Mr. Smith is married to Laquita Smith and the couple have two children: Makayla, 7, and Jaden, 3.

When he's not working, he enjoys fishing, team roping and spending time with his children.

The winner of the Republican primary will advance to the Nov.



Travis L. Smith

2 general election. There is no Democratic candidate for sheriff.

Deer cause two accidents last month

Deer caused two accidents recently on U.S. 383 in Norton County.

On June 19, Curtis Archibald, Norton, was westbound in his 1999 Chevy pickup on U.S. 383 when he struck a deer that ran out from the north ditch.

Norma Archibald was a passenger. The Archibalds were wearing seat belts and no injuries were reported.

Damages were estimated at over \$500.

On June 22, Roger Linner was driving his 1995 Dodge pickup

westbound on U.S. 383 when he hit a deer that ran out from the north ditch and stopped on the roadway.

Mr. Linner was wearing a seat belt and no injuries were reported.

Damages were estimated at over \$500.

Rangeland school set for August

The Western Prairie Resource Conservation and Development Area will hold a three-day advanced rangeland management school Aug. 25-27 at Methodist Camp Lakeside at the Scott County State Lake.

Educators from Kansas State University, the University of Missouri, the U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service, and ranchers will provide information on developing a range management plan.

The school will be split into classroom and field activities.

The first day will be an overview of rangeland management with registration at 9 a.m. Kit Pharo, an eastern Colorado rancher, will be speaking in the evening.

An intensive one-on-one seminar on planning options will fill the second day. Participants will learn how to identify problems, opportunities and concerns on managing rangeland. They will inventory their resources, evaluate alternatives, and learn how to implement and evaluate a plan.

On the final day, students will be working with range condition calculations, grazing duration and stocking rates, grazing dates, percentages and plotting.

Registration of \$100 per student will cover two nights' lodging, meals and school materials.

To register or for details, call Duane Cheney at (785) 462-2602.

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Community Calendar

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| <p>Today</p> <p>Lenora Chamber of Commerce, noon, Karen's Cafe. Norton City-County Airport Board, 5 p.m., terminal. Women's 12 Step Meeting, Norton VFW, 5:30 p.m. Norton Alcoholics Anonymous, VFW, 8:30 p.m.</p> <p>Wednesday</p> <p>Lenora PRIDE, noon, Karen's Cafe. Norton City Council, 5:30 p.m., City Hall. Men's Night Golf, 6 p.m., Prairie Dog Golf Course. Public Hearing for new landfill in Norton County, 7 p.m., 4-H Building. Norton Al-Anon, 8:30 p.m., VFW.</p> <p>Thursday</p> <p>Almena Blood Pressure Clinic, 8-8:30 a.m., Rural Telephone. Rolling Hills Zoo and Wildlife Museum program, 1 p.m., Norton Public Library. No preschool story time. Ladies Golf, 6 p.m., Prairie Dog Golf Course. Crazy Night, 7-9 p.m., Norton Library Community Room. Dress in wacky clothes (use good judgment). Open to all 7-12 graders. Norton Narcotics Anonymous, 8:30 p.m., VFW.</p> <p>Friday</p> <p>Car Show: Evening Cruise, 7-9 p.m., registration at Water Tower Park. Norton Alcoholics Anonymous, 8:30 p.m., VFW.</p> <p>Saturday</p> <p>Car Show: Registration, 8-11 a.m.; Show & Shine, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., courthouse square; Road Rally, 2-5 p.m.; Drag Races, 3-5 p.m., Norton Airport. Norton Alcoholics Anonymous, 1 p.m., VFW. "Meet The Candidate" Forum, 2 p.m., Decatur Community High School Auditorium, Oberlin. Sponsored by Decatur County Farm Bureau. Meet Dan Rasure, Ralph Ostmeyer, Tim Peterson, Doug Sebelius and Robert Strevey. Narcotics Anonymous, 8 p.m., Norton VFW.</p> | <p>Dance at the Norton Eagles Club, 8 p.m. to midnight. live band.</p> <p>Sunday</p> <p>God's Pantry, 3 p.m., Norton Trinity Episcopal Church. Disc Golf, 3 p.m., Elmwood Park. Overeaters Anonymous, 4 p.m., Norton VFW.</p> <p>Next Monday</p> <p>Senior Citizens Potluck Supper, 6 p.m., Norton Senior Center. Norton Alcoholics Anonymous, 6:30 p.m., VFW. Take Off Pounds Sensibly, 7 p.m., Hospital Basement. Genealogy Society, 7 p.m., Norton Library. Norton Board of Education Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Alice Tweed Center. Narcotics Anonymous, 6:30 p.m., Norton VFW.</p> <p>Tuesday, July 13</p> <p>Women's 12 Step Meeting, 5:30 p.m., Norton VFW. Sunflower Pioneer Power Association, 7 p.m., Almena Senior Center. Norton Alcoholics Anonymous, 8:30 p.m., VFW.</p> <p>Wednesday, July 14</p> <p>Duplicate Bridge, 7:30 p.m., Norton Manor.</p> <p>Thursday, July 15</p> <p>Blood Pressure Clinic, 11:30 a.m.-noon, Norton Senior Center. Chocolate Night, 7-9 p.m., Norton Library Community Room. Bring favorite chocolate treat. Open to all 7-12 graders.</p> <p>Saturday, July 17</p> <p>Races at Elmwood Park, Norton, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Monday, July 19</p> <p>Prairie Powder Packers, 6 p.m., Gun Range, one mile South of Norton Sports Center. For details call 877-3647. Lenora City Council, 7 p.m., City Offices</p> <p>Thursday, July 22</p> <p>Blood Pressure Clinic, 11:30 a.m.-noon, Lenora Senior Center. Dance Night, 7-9 p.m., Norton Library Community Room. Learn some dance moves. Open to all 7-12 graders.</p> |
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