

Let's talk about 'Buy Local Week'

Thanks to the generosity and support of The Norton Telegram and editor/publisher Tom Dreiling, I have the opportunity to update the public on Norton City/County Economic Development (NCCED) projects through a regular monthly column.

This month I would like to highlight the importance of shopping locally by encouraging participation in Buy Local Week to be held February 1-7, 2009.

The purpose of Buy Local Week is to educate the public about the benefits of shopping locally and to show appreciation for the many contributions of our local businesses. Norton County businesses are the cornerstone of our community. They provide jobs, produce local tax revenue, support community organizations and contribute to the overall quality of

Something's Developing

Diane Becker

life by offering goods and services locally.

The foundation of Buy Local Week is an educational campaign. A proclamation declaring February 1-7, 2009 as Buy Local Week and acknowledging the many contributions of our local businesses will be presented to each city council and the Norton County Commission. Norton City/County Economic Development is sponsoring informational advertisements on KQNK radio and in The Norton Telegram, Prairie Dog Press and Lenora Meridian.

In addition to the educational campaign, local businesses will

have special promotions throughout the week and NCCED will sponsor a Scavenger Hunt with a chance to win up to \$250 in Chamber Bucks. To participate in the Scavenger Hunt, pick up an entry form at participating local businesses or online at www.discovernorton.com.

Please take the opportunity during Buy Local Week to explore what Norton County has to offer. Visit a business you never have before or revisit one you have not been to in years. You will be pleasantly surprised to learn more about what our outstanding local businesses have to offer.

Remember to continue to support our businesses throughout the year.

(Diane Becker is director of Norton City/County Economic Development. She can be reached at nortoned@ruraltel.net.)

It's time to salute April Karnopp

As parents we know we can tell our children something, but it always helps to have it reinforced by others. In an ideal world children would learn about life from home, not the kids down the street or the media. Children seek information and they will get it from any source they can, whether it is the tabloid in the grocery line, TV or movies or, simply put, as it has been for centuries, their peers.

A woman in our community realized this. She practices the concept it takes a village to raise children and she became the village leader. April Karnopp had an idea and rather than just talk about it, she took action. She saw a need for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade girls to better understand their bodies, their life and the world around them. April brought together women within the community to teach, befriend and inform these young girls. They covered subjects about

Phase II

Mary Kay Woodyard



the law and drinking, smoking, women's health issues, morals and values. They were pampered with pedicures and beauty tips as well as a free movie.

For girls this age there is no better avenue for trust building than a slumber party and so it was they gathered on a Saturday night, ate together, walked over in the late night in their pajamas to watch a movie and shared information. As with so many things, the true effects of this endeavor may never be known, but, as a parent and grandparent, I know the more informed the better. The girls become armed with new solutions to

age old problems.

An additional benefit of this is the introduction of adult mentors into these young girls' lives. It is true many of the girls have known for years the women who helped with this, but now they see them as advocates for their well being. When troubled with a question they don't see this person merely in a professional capacity, but as a friend. There never can be too many positive adult women in a young girl's life.

I want to commend April and her village helpers. She couldn't have done it without the community support, but it wouldn't have happened without her idea and drive. Many of us talk about "we should do this" or "do that" but that is as far as it goes. I am as guilty as anyone of doing this, so April is a great role model for me. Thank you, April, for rallying the village.

(mkwoodyard@ruraltel.net)

Council: updates requested

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Councilwoman Kim Snyder asked the City Attorney Griffiths to prepare a list of the legislative updates and statutory changes which need to be incorporated into the city code book since the last one was made in 2005. The city office will incorporate new ordinances into the book. Ms. Snyder also asked the city to accept the 2008 utility write-offs, and have the city attorney send out collection notices. Mayor Corns noted that some of the amount can be collected from state tax refunds.

Councilwoman Donna Foley

said there are still at least 30 recycling cans at the city office, available for free to residents of Norton.

Committee meetings were set. The utilities committee will meet on Jan. 26 at 5:30 p.m.; public safety committee will meet on Jan. 26 at 6 p.m.; public works committee will follow on Jan. 26 at 6:30 p.m.; parks committee will meet on Jan. 28 at 5:30 p.m.; and personnel committee will meet on Jan. 29 at 4:30 p.m.

The city paid bills, and with no other business adjourned.

Wool, mohair update given

Wool and mohair producers are reminded that the final date to apply for nonrecourse marketing assistance loans or loan deficiency payments from the Farm Service Agency is Jan. 31, 2009 for their 2008 wool and mohair.

"Producers have until Jan. 31 of the year following the year in which the wool or mohair was sheared to apply for a nine-month marketing assistance loan or loan deficiency payment," said Bill R. Fuller, state executive director of

the Kansas Farm Service Agency. This final deadline also applies to loan deficiency program for unshorn pelts from unshorn lambs slaughtered in 2008.

Producers placing their wool and mohair under loan with the Farm Service Agency receive an established loan rate. National per pound loan rates are set at \$1.00 for graded wool, \$0.40 for ungraded wool and \$4.20 for mohair. Also, unshorn pelts are eligible for loan deficiency payment.

Coach Self among '09 honorees

Native Sons & Daughters to meet January 30

Bill Self, University of Kansas men's basketball coach, will be honored as Distinguished Kansan of the Year at the 91st annual Native Sons and Daughters of Kansas banquet on Friday, Jan. 30 at Maner Conference Center, Kansas Expo Centre, Topeka.

Recognized as Kansan of the Year will be Delano E. Lewis, former United States Ambassador to South Africa and past chief executive officer and president of National Public Radio.

Bob Dixon, mayor of Greensburg, will accept the Distinguished Service Citation, on behalf of the residents of the city of Greensburg.

The event begins with a social hour at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner and program at 6:30 p.m. Membership is not required to attend.

Corporate tables of 10 are available for \$500, individual seating for lifetime members is available for \$40 and new lifetime members may purchase seats for \$50, which includes a membership fee. Tickets may be ordered by calling (785) 235-6245, online at ksnativesonsanddaughters.org or by mail to Native Sons and Daughters, Box 546, Topeka, Kan. 66601-0546.

Tickets will be mailed for all orders received by today (Jan. 23). Ticket orders received after that date may be picked up at the coat check area in the Capital Plaza Hotel, immediately adjacent to the Maner Conference Center, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the day of the event or at the banquet door after 5 p.m.

Native Sons and Daughters was established to preserve Kansas's history, uphold our pioneer ancestors, encourage youth to embrace Kansas ideals and honor outstanding citizens.

Persons not born in Kansas are also invited to join the organization. Lifetime dues are \$10 and may be submitted separately or with the banquet ticket order.

Here is a brief background on the honorees:

Bill Self
In his sixth season at Kansas, Bill Self is 149-33 (.819 percent). Overall, Self is in his 16th season as a head coach with a 356-138 (.721 percent) record.

In his first five seasons as head coach at KU, Self won one national championship, four regular-season Big 12 titles and three league tournament championships. In the past five seasons, all at KU, Self is the winningest coach in NCAA

Division I with an .816 winning percentage (142-32).

He has guided his teams to 10-straight 20-win seasons and 11 overall. He has won eight league crowns in the last 10 years, including four straight at KU.

Anative of Edmond, Okla., Self competed in basketball at Oklahoma State, where he received a bachelor's degree in business in 1985 and a master's degree in athletic administration in 1989. He and his wife, Cindy, have a daughter and a son.

Delano E. Lewis
A native of Arkansas City, Delano E. Lewis was raised in Kansas City, Kan., where he attended Summer High School before going to Lawrence in 1956 to attend the University of Kansas. During the summer months, he worked as a waiter on the Great Northern Railroad from St. Paul, Minn., to Seattle, Wash. He received a bachelor of arts degree in political science and history from KU in 1960 and in 1963 earned a juris doctor degree from Washburn University School of Law.

In 1963, Lewis was appointed as a staff attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice and two years later joined the Office of Analysis and Advice of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. From 1966 to 1969, he served in the U.S. Peace Corps in Africa, holding positions of associate director in Nigeria and country director in Uganda. From 1969 to 1971, he was legislative assistant to Senator Edward Brooke of Massachusetts, and from 1971 to 1973, was administrative assistant to Congressman Walter E. Fauntroy of the District of Columbia

In 1973, he became public affairs manager for C&P Telephone Company, then a subsidiary of AT&T Corporation. In 1984, the company became a subsidiary of Bell Atlantic and in 1988 Lewis was named president of the Washington DC company of Bell Atlantic. In 1990, he was named chief executive officer.

In 1994, Lewis joined National

Public Radio (NPR) as president and chief executive officer, and also served as chairman of the National Public Radio Foundation. The same year, he was appointed by Vice President Al Gore to a two-year term as co-chairman of the National Information Infrastructure Advisory Council.

From 1999 to 2001, Lewis served as the United States Ambassador to The Republic of South Africa, being nominated by President Clinton. In 2006, he became a senior fellow at New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, with the responsibility of establishing an Institute for International Relations.

Lewis is currently seated on the boards of directors of the Meridian International Center, The American Institutes for Research, The Colgate Palmolive Company and Eastman Kodak Company.

Lewis and his wife, Gayle, reside in Mesilla, N.M., have four adult sons and 11 grandchildren.

The City of Greensburg
The city of Greensburg was established in 1886 and was named for stagecoach driver D.R. "Cannonball" Green, who was instrumental in the organization of the town. In 1889, he was elected Kiowa County's first representative in the Kansas legislature.

Greensburg is home to the world's largest hand dug well, designed to provide water for the steam engines of the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe and Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroads.

The well, which was completed in 1888 and measured 109 feet deep and 32 feet in diameter, was used as the town's water supply until 1932. In 1939, the site was converted to a tourist attraction, which included a museum housing a 1,000 pound Pallasite meteorite.

On May 4, 2007, an F-5 tornado leveled the town of Greensburg. As the community strives to remain unified while rebuilding, much attention has been given to their efforts to focus on "green" or sustainable resources.

Update: Five seats up at Clayton

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Clayton City Council:

All five seats are up for reelection, plus the mayor's seat. Currently on the Clayton City Council are:

- Mayor Russell Bird
- Tom Hickert
- Ruby Cook
- Richard Mather
- Michelle Franco
- Mary Arnold

Norton School Board:

#4, currently held by Scott Ellis.

#5, currently held by Craig Renner, who has filed for reelection.

#6, currently held by Elaine Lofgreen, who has said she would not seek reelection. County Clerk Robert Wyatt has filed for this position.

Northern Valley School Board:

#4, currently held by Blaine Marble.

#5, currently held by Glenn Brands.

#6, currently held by Alan Woodside.

Lenora School Board:

#4, currently held by Nicole Rhea.

#5, currently held by De Ann David.

#6, currently held by Jim Nine-mire.

Out in these parts, more people read The Norton Telegram than read The New York Times! Thanks!

Being a member of the local school board is a complex and demanding job. Norton Board members are responsible for an annual budget of over \$5 million dollars, eight buildings which comprise over 185,000 square feet, 700+ students, and 100+ employees. Membership also involves making tough decisions due to many state and federal requirements and local expectations that are often in conflict. Local School Board members are true public servants as they serve for no pay. In fact, local school board members are the only elected officials in Kansas prohibited by Kansas law from receiving any salary for their service. January is School Board Recognition Month in Kansas.

PLEASE TELL YOUR BOARD MEMBERS "THANKS" WHEN YOU SEE THEM

USD 211 Board Members are:
Jennifer Boller, Scott Ellis, Chris Harting, Mark Keilig, Elaine Lofgreen, Jeff Nielsen and Craig Renner

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