

Maybe this is the harvest that goes on and on and on

This might well turn into "The Harvest That Would Not End". Rain continues coming at regular intervals which keeps combines out of the field and stops the cutting action. I told Jim the only

good thing about rain during harvest is that it forces farmers to slow down a bit. When they are

able to cut, they push, push, push; working day and night. And, that's when people get hurt. So, we pray that everyone — farmers, their wives, their hired hands and their children take advantage of these little "time outs" and do what they should do; take a nap.

Speaking of naps — I could sure use one right now. And, it's only 9 in the morning. I stayed up way too late last night watching one of my favorite movies of all time, Hunt for Red October. My favorite line is when Sean Connery says, "One ping and one ping, only." He was so cool as the defecting captain of a Russian nuclear submarine.

Out Back Carolyn Plotts



on the movies. —ob— Jim, and the crew he's working with, are in the wrap-up stages of finishing the house they have been working on for the past six months.

County

(Continued from Page 1) "Logistically it made no sense," she said.

She said people may have to come into Norton to receive the service and would probably do some shopping while they are here, bringing in an increase in sales revenue.

Mrs. Frack said the health department will receive a third vehicle for use in Decatur County, as well as everyday use, such as home healthcare visits.

In other business: •Norton County Treasurer Cynthia Linner reported on the June sales tax. On June 29, \$25,723.20 was deposited into the general fund. She said it is slightly lower than last month.

•Cheryl Scott came to the meeting to discuss a road concern about road E2 near her home. She said there are some maintenance concerns and gravel is not sufficient. She said there are some spots that no longer have any gravel and said any help from the commission

would be helpful.

•Norton County Register of Deeds Wanda Vincent gave a financial report for her office. She said the income has remained steady and some large mortgages have been recorded. Mrs. Vincent also discussed the need for upgrades in her office, including a new copy machine and upgraded computers. She received two bids, and the bid for \$899 from Mortenson Computer services was accepted.

Ms. Vincent also discussed the need to upgrade the office and make additional space available for the public. This would include an area to use a computer and purchase some furniture. The commission agreed to accept the bid from EndZone for \$799.

•Tom Brannan, Norton County Road and Bridge supervisor, delivered his weekly report. He said crews are working maintenance from calls that have come in. He said they are still focused on dirt roads due to the recent rains.

Mr. Brannan also said tractors

and mowers are working in each district of the county. He stated that he will keep the mowers operating on county roads to improve intersection view.

Mr. Brannan said Nebraska By-Products contacted him about using road W6 for an alternative route while they are repairing their trucks. The trucks need to be altered to keep the by-product from spilling. He said he gave permission and notified the sheriff's department.

•The commission discussed the resolution to re-appoint Alan Hale as county appraiser for a four year contract. Vote taken, motion passed.

•The commission viewed an estimate to build a walnut screen cover to match the courtroom door trim. The estimate came in at \$837.56, including material and labor. The commission decided not to proceed with the bid.

•The commission discussed the EMS insurance billing clerk position. The job will be advertised and interviews will be conducted. The job opening was approved by the commission.

I have favorite lines from other movies. "Fiddle-dee-dee. Tomorrow is another day."; "Nobody puts Baby in a corner."; "Outta my

Car show also brings back many memories



The annual Norton Car Show is always an interesting event.

A lot of credit goes to the exhibitors who use their weekend to bring their vehicles to Norton, some from long distances.

When they arrive they work hard at cleaning and polishing their vehicles to make them spot-

less for us to enjoy. Many of us will see a vehicle similar to one that we took pride in owning many years ago.

This brings back many memories.

John Snyder Norton

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Harvest

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what wheat they have to so they can pay their bills and store the rest until the market improves.

He said he has already contracted 40 percent of his wheat at \$6.00 per bushel.

"It's disappointing to see the price go down so fast," he said.

Mr. Lofgreen said the good news is that there is wheat to sell. He said his yields have been around 70 bushels per acre.

"It's probably the best harvest we've had," he said.

He attributed the increased yields to good rains in the last couple of years.

Kem Kindall farms land next to Mr. Lofgreen.

He said yields have been good so far, but he will store his wheat until the market improves.

"The market is going in the wrong direction," he said.

Mr. Kindall farms land with his father.

Melinda Schroeder works with Mr. Kindall. Last weekend, Ms. Schroeder was harvesting part of Mr. Kindall's land and accidentally harvested some of Mr. Lofgreen's.

Ms. Schroeder said, "I just love combines. I love, love love them!" Mr. Lofgreen joked that Ms. Schroeder should have kept going. He said that it is not the first time someone has cut the wrong wheat.

"I could see how it could hap-

pen. I'm just glad the field hadn't burned down," he said.

Mr. Kindall put Mr. Lofgreen's name on the ticket at the elevator, solving the problem.

"She did a good job," Mr. Lofgreen said.

Market wheat prices for conventional farming are on the decline, but organic farming has remained steady.

Jim Rowh grows organic produce on his farm outside of town. He said market prices for organic wheat stay around \$12-15 per bushel.

He said organic prices don't fluctuate as much because buyers don't change. Buyers include stores such as Whole Foods, Mr. Rowh said.

"It doesn't serve their interest to drive the price up or down. It affects their business, they always have to have it," he said.

Mr. Rowh is part of the Kansas Organic Market Co-op. He said they had \$7 million in grain sales in 2008.

He said organic farming is completely separated from conventional farming. There are 15 organic farms in northwest Kansas, he said.

Mr. Rowh said that it is possible to have a large organic farm. He said he helped certify a 50,000 acre farm in eastern Colorado last year.

"It's not true that you can't farm big. You can if it's what you want," Mr. Rowh said.

Students

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"She's doing great. She is a senior this year," he said.

Mr. Patterson said his children started going to school in Alma when his son Joe transferred there after struggling with his grades.

"I love Northern Valley. The teachers there don't just give up on them," he said.

Laquita Smith said her children have attended Northern Valley since they were in kindergarten.

She said she is an alum and wanted her children to attend school in Alma because of the smaller class sizes.

"I went to school there and just love the school system. It's nothing against Norton," she said.

Mr. Griffith said the smaller class size in Alma allows teachers to spend more time with students.

"Some students just need a change. It's not an indication of any school district," he said.

Mr. Griffith said school districts can deny transfer requests after they look into things like the student's background and grade point average.

"You do what is best for students," Mr. Griffith said.

Car show

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the drag races. Local businesses sponsored 45 awards for the show.

The longest distance award went to Rod Martin from Justin, Texas. Mr. Martin drove 650 miles to be at the show.

The Kasson Memorial Award went to Gerald Kail for a 1966 Oldsmobile Starfire.

The Long Memorial Award went to Dale and Donna Mulford for a 1971 Chevy Chevelle.

Samantha Mulford received the youngest entry award for an HD

bicycle. Awards were also given to five motorcycles and 38 top cars.

Red Martin, Daryl Clark, Tad Wicker, Brett Kaw and John Milner received awards for their motorcycles.

Mr. Griffin said there are 20 club members who plan the event year-round. He said they will begin planning again after the first of the year.

"This has probably been our best year in terms of attendance numbers," Mr. Griffin said.

(The complete list of winners will appear in Friday's paper.)

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