

\$1 THE NORTON TELEGRAM



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Tuesday State to pay for K-383 improvements

June 7, 2011

By DANA PAXTON
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Gov. Sam Brownback announced on Thursday that the state will be paying to improve the shoulders of Highway 383 in Norton and Phillips Counties.

In October of last year a coalition of

Norton County residents and officials attended a meeting in Hays to see if something could be done about the 26-mile stretch of K-383 from Norton to the Nebraska state line.

People at the meeting included Norton City and County Economic Development Director Scott Sproul, County Commissioner Carolyn Applegate, City Councilwoman Roberta Ryan, Shad Chandler of the Almena State Bank, Brad Hopkins, Deena Wente of KQNK Radio, Rhonda Mees, Norton City Administrator Rob Lawson and Jane Wyatt. The group asked the governor to have this project put on the list in order to improve alignment and widen shoulders.

Thursday in Dodge City, Brownback and Secretary of Transportation Deb Miller announced the list of T-WORKS expansion and modernization projects. The project that so many had fought for was chosen to receive 53 million dollars in funding through the Transportation Department. This project will include adding shoulders, guardrails and illuminate curve markers on K-383. Work is scheduled to start in 2014 and be finished by 2020. The schedule will be announced later this year.

State Sen. Ralph Ostmeyer, whose district includes Norton County, said he attended the announcement reception and was surprised to hear about the Norton project. Ostmeyer said the improvements are needed because the narrow stretch of road was a hazard for drivers.

"The major factor was safety due to it being a major route for oversized superloads, 383 is the main artery of transportation from southern Nebraska to southwest Kansas and this highway has seen a 15 percent increase in traffic from 2006 to 2009," Sproul said. "Infrastructure projects are a higher priority for Economic Development. Projects like these could prove added economic benefits for Norton County."



Seen here is part of a 26 mile stretch of Highway 383 in Norton and Phillips counties that will be up for a makeover in the near future. On June 2, Governor Brownback announced several T WORKS projects that had been approved for funding through KDOT. After a long hard fight, a local coalition of concerned people finally were told that the stretch of road was granted \$53 million dollars to redo. The project is to start in 2014.

— Telegram photo by Dana Paxton

Briefly

Almena to have city-wide garage sale

The City of Almena will be having City-Wide Garages Sales this Saturday. Maps will be available that morning at the gas station and the grocery store.

Vote for building in national contest

Norton Economic Development is asking everyone to vote for the Moulton Drug Store building (the former Sewing Box) in a community challenge that could win the community up to \$25,000 in a grant award toward the renovation of this building.

The building is in the top 10 in the This Place Matters 2011 Community Challenge.

The project with the most votes will win.

Go to www.discovernorton.com for more information on the project.

Library brings in magician Thursday

The Norton Public Library is presenting The Wacky World of Magician Eric Vaughn on Thursday at 10:30 a.m. in the Recreation Center gym.

City reminder to pick up flowers

The City of Norton would like to remind everyone to please pick up their flowers from the cemetery no later than June 9 at 8 a.m.

Markets

Tuesday, June 7, 2011

Wheat	\$7.85
Milo	\$6.37
Soybeans	\$13.18
Corn	\$6.96

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

Weather

Tonight - Mostly clear and cooler with lows around 60. **Wednesday** - Sunny and not as warm with highs in the lower 80s. Partly cloudy in the evening then mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of thunderstorms. **Thursday** - Mostly cloudy in the morning then becoming partly sunny. A 40 percent chance of thunderstorms after midnight.

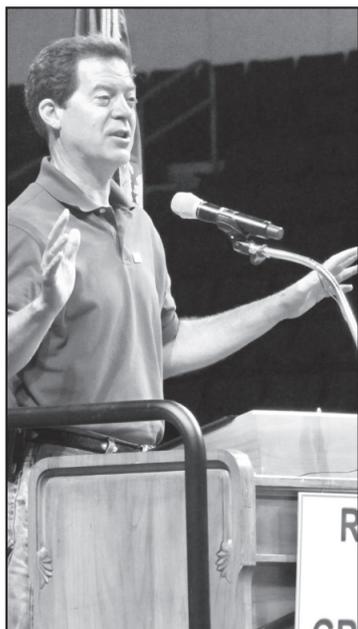
Kingham Report

Friday, June 3.....	Low 67, High 84
Saturday, June 4.....	Low 58, High 85
Sunday, June 5.....	Low 55, High 103
Monday, June 6.....	Low 60, High 100

(Readings taken at the Kingham farm 9 miles northwest of Norton)

Prayer

Dear Lord, help me encourage someone today. Amen



Governor Brownback announced last Thursday that the KDOT, T WORKS program will fund several road construction projects throughout Kansas. One of those is the 26 mile stretch of road from the junction of US Highway 36 and US Highway 383 through Almena, Long Island and to the Nebraska State line. Several people worked very hard to make this happen. — Photo by Kristen Brands, KDOT

City council addresses outdoor issues at meeting

As summer time rolls around, the City of Norton is finding more outdoor items — everything from car races to cemetery monuments — on its agenda.

At its meeting last Wednesday, the city approved Saturday, July 2, as a makeup day for car races that were rained out earlier in the season at Elmwood Park.

The council also authorized the consumption of beer in the grandstand during the races that day and heard from City Attorney Karen Griffiths that there is no ordinance against fireworks, if anyone wanted to have them after the races.

The council discussed a request to the Parks Committee from Carol Erlenbusch that a memorial stone be put up at Roadside Park to honor veterans.

The money for the stone will come from excess contributions made to have the Vietnam Moving Wall in Norton last year.

The council agreed that would be a good use for the leftover money and authorized that the memorial stone be placed at the park.

The Parks Committee also met with Chris Richard who had met earlier with

County contributes to agency

Norton County commissioners have authorized giving the Northwest Kansas Area Agency on Aging \$4,500 for next year.

County Health Nurse Gina Frack told the commissioners at their end-of-the-month meeting last Tuesday that the agency assists with senior meals, in-home services, lifelines, respite care, Medicare Part D counseling, CARE assessment and health promotions among other things.

The money for the agency will come one-half from the Health Department budget and one-half from the county's general budget.

The commissioners also signed a grant request for Frack to the National Association of Counties for health care assessment.

any monument erection requires a permit from the clerk.

This is to aid in record keeping, the council was told.

The council decided that a letter should be sent out to all the funeral homes and monument companies in the area to help get the word out to families using the cemetery. The rules will also be posted at the cemetery.

In other business, the council:

- Heard that the Public Safety Committee would like the city attorney to review the ordinances about posting signs on city poles.
- Learned that the committee would also like to get an ordinance against peeing in public.
- Agreed to a request from Norton County Community Foundation for the parks crew to take over the yard maintenance at the Dr. Lyons house at 212 S. Kansas St. The historic property is being renovated using grant money.



One of the newest additions at the Sunflower Pioneer Power Association showgrounds in Almena is the 1990 pioneer house where the quilts will be on display this year.

Head to Almena this weekend for classic car and tractor show

By VICKI HENDERSON
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Almena will be the place to be this weekend. Fun and entertainment headlines the thirty first Annual Sunflower Pioneer Power Association, Antique Machinery, Threshing, Power and Car Show Saturday and Sunday, June 11 and 12.

The show will begin at 9 a.m. on both Saturday and Sunday on the association's grounds on West Brockton Street. Set up day for all exhibitors is Friday.

Events both days will include a small engine display, saw mill, threshing, corn shelling, hand tie baling, steam engines, cars, trucks, tractors, steam engines, windmill display, a car

show and swap meet on Saturday and a garden tractor pull demonstration on Sunday. Western re-enactments will be held on Saturday.

Breakfast will be served at 6:30 a.m. both days and the food stand will be available both days.

A tractor pull up to 5000 pounds will be held on Saturday.

The Antique Parade of Power will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

Flea Market and Arts and Crafts vendors are welcome.

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